

Play Integer 25!



To play this game, you will need a group of two – four students and a deck of regular playing cards.

Dealing Out the Cards

Have one person deal out all the cards from the deck to the players so that each person has an equal number of cards. If there are two of you, each person will have 26 cards. If there are four of you, each person will have 13, and so on. If there are cards left over, put any extra cards aside.

The Value of the Cards

Every black card in your pile of cards represents a positive number. Every red card represents a negative number. In other words a black seven is worth +7 (seven), and a red three is worth -3 (negative 3).

The face cards have their own values. Aces = 1, jacks = 11, queens = 12, and kings = 13. Remember the red face cards mean negative numbers! If you want to, you can make the game easier by removing all the face cards and dealing out the cards again.

Beginning the Game

To begin the game, each player places his or her cards in a stack, face down. The player to the right of the dealer turns up one card and says the number on the card.

For example, if the player turns up a black eight, he or she says "8."

Continuing the Game

Continue from one player to the next in a clockwise direction. The second player turns up a card, adds it to the first card, and says the sum of the two cards aloud.

For example, if the card is a red 9, which has a value of -9, the player says " $8 + (-9) = (-1)$."

The next player takes the top card from his or her pile, adds it to the first two cards, and says the sum.

For example, if the card is a black 2, which has a value of +2, the player says " $(-1) + 2 = 1$."

Winning the Game!

The game continues until someone shows a card that, when added to the stack, results in a sum of exactly 25. The player whose card makes 25 first, wins!

Hint: To make the game go quicker, or to make it a little easier, you might want to make the final total be less than 25. Just pick another number, like 15, and agree on it!

Game adapted for students from

http://www.education-world.com/a_tsl/archives/03-1/lesson001.shtml

Lesson on integer card game was submitted to Education World by Pam Harper, Rockville Jr/Sr High School, Rockville, Indiana