

Go Fish

The rules on one page

Players

2 to 6. Best with 3 or more.

You need

A standard 52-card deck, without the jokers

Goal

Collect the most books. A book is all 4 cards of one kind, such as the four 7s.

Game ends

When all 13 books have been laid down. The player with the most books wins.

Setup

1. Use a standard 52-card deck with the jokers taken out.
2. Choose a dealer. One way is to deal 1 card face up to each player. The lowest card deals, and aces are high.
3. The dealer shuffles and deals the cards face down, one at a time, starting with the player on their left. With 2 or 3 players, deal 7 cards each. With 4 or more, deal 5 cards each.
4. Put the rest of the deck face down in the middle of the table. This pile is the pool.
5. Pick up your cards and keep them hidden from the other players.

How to play

1. **Ask one player for a rank.** The player on the dealer's left goes first. On your turn, choose any one player and ask for a rank. The rank is the number or letter on a card. You must already hold at least 1 card of that rank. Ask out loud, for example "Leo, do you have any 7s?"
2. **Hand over every card of that rank.** If the player you asked holds any cards of that rank, they must give you all of them. You then take another turn. You can ask the same player or a different one, and you can ask for the same rank or another rank in your hand.
3. **Go fish.** If the player has no cards of that rank, they say "Go fish." Draw the top card of the pool and add it to your hand. If it is the rank you asked for, show it to everyone and take another turn. If it is any other rank, your turn ends. The player on your left goes next.

4. Lay down each book. A book is all 4 cards of one rank, such as the four 9s. As soon as you hold a book, show it and lay it face up in front of you. Those cards are out of play for the rest of the game.

5. If you run out of cards. If you have no cards on your turn, draw the top card of the pool and then ask a player for that rank. If the pool is empty too, you are out of the game. You keep your books, and they still count at the end.

6. Play on until all 13 books are made. Keep playing after the last card is drawn from the pool. Nobody can fish now. If the player you ask has none of the rank, your turn ends and the player on your left goes next. The game is over when all 13 books are on the table.

When you get another turn

What happened	Another turn
The player you asked gave you cards	Yes
You fished and drew the rank you asked for	Yes, after you show the card
You fished and drew a different rank	No
You fished a different rank and it completed a book	No. Lay the book down, and your turn ends.
The pool is empty and the player you asked had none	No

Scoring

The game ends when all 13 books have been laid down. The player with the most books wins.

