

HEARTS

Classic Family Card Game

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Coffee Break Series



Villa Crespo Software

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HEARTS is one of the world's most popular card games. Now you can play this family favorite even if you can't round up three other players. Take on six different computer opponents, each with different playing strategies. Ask the on-line tutor for your best play. Analyze previous plays to calculate your best strategy. With statistically accurate strategy and sophisticated gameplay, this is the finest computer hearts game around!

INSTALLING HEARTS

For best results, we recommend that you copy HEARTS to your hard disk before playing the game. HEARTS can be played right out of the box from a diskette, but may run slower due to the large amount of information that must be loaded from the diskette during game play.

If you play from a diskette, keep the original safe by copying it onto another diskette, then use the duplicate. Use the DOS copy command to make the duplicate.

NOTE: If you are a WINDOWS™ user, please do not run this game from within Windows. Run it directly from a DOS prompt. Running HEARTS from within Windows may create unexpected results.

To play the game from a diskette:

1. Boot up your computer normally using DOS.
2. Insert the HEARTS disk in drive A: or B:.
3. Change the current DOS prompt to the desired drive.
4. Type CBS21 to begin playing.


To install the game on a hard drive:



1. Create a directory called CBS21 on your hard drive.
2. Copy the contents of the diskette to this directory using the DOS copy command.


To play the game from a hard drive:

1. Change the DOS prompt to the CBS21 directory on the appropriate drive.
2. Type CBS21 to begin playing the game.

STARTING HEARTS

NOTE: Throughout this manual, we will tell you to “click on” different cards or icons. Keyboard users can execute these functions by using the arrow keys to move the cursor to the appropriate item and pressing .

When you boot up HEARTS, you will see the title screen. Press any key to begin. If you'd like to change your character from a male to a female, press  or click on **YOU**. Then type in your name and press . Click on **PLAY** to proceed.

Click on **THEM** to choose your opponents. Use the mouse or the arrow keys to move the cursor over a player. The tendencies of the highlighted player will be displayed below the players. To select an opponent, click on the player. To deactivate a player, simply click on the player a second time. After you have selected three opponents, click on the **DONE** icon or press .

You and your three opponents will be shown in the upper two-thirds of the game screen, with your player in the lower left corner.

PLAYING HEARTS

The Deal

The deal rotates clockwise around the table, with the player in the upper right corner dealing first. Each player is dealt 13 cards from a standard 52-card deck. Each player then passes three cards to either the player to the left, the player across the table, or the player to the right. Every fourth deal, no cards are passed.

The Play

The object of HEARTS, with one significant exception, is to avoid taking tricks. The player to the left of the dealer may lead with any card other than a heart. Every other player must play a card of the same suit if that player has such a card in his or her hand. If a player cannot follow suit, he or she may play a card of any other suit, including hearts. When you are prompted, play a card by clicking on it. (The computer will not allow you to play an illegal card.) The player who plays the highest-ranking card in the suit led takes the trick.



The player who takes the trick leads the next round. Hearts may be led anytime after any one player has played a heart after being unable to follow suit. Play continues until each player has played all 13 cards.

Finally, the computer tallies up the score for the hand. Fourteen cards score points in HEARTS: Each heart, of any rank, is worth **1 point**, and the Queen of Spades is worth **13 points**.


There is one situation where it's to your advantage to take tricks with scoring cards. If you think that you might be able to take all of those cards, you can try to "shoot the moon." When a player takes all 13 hearts and the Queen of Spades, **26 points** are *subtracted* from that player's score.


Next, the computer redeals 13 cards to each player and the whole procedure begins again. The game ends when one player has scored more than 100 points *at the end of a hand*. The player with the fewest points is the winner.

DOCUMENTATION

HEARTS includes extensive on-line documentation. To call it up at anytime, press  or click on **DOCS**. Then click on the subject you want to learn more about. To return to the game press  or click on **DONE**.

HELP, TUTOR, AND ODDS

If at some point during the game you get confused and don't know what you're supposed to be doing, click on **HELP** or press . The computer will explain what's going on.

Click on **TUTOR** or press  to get the tutor's advice before making a play. Two places where the tutor really wants to help you are when you are passing cards to another player as well as any time you need to play a card.

If you access the tutor just before a deal, the computer will give you some longer-term strategy.

The Odds screens are helpful in determining strategy, particularly toward the middle and end of a deal. Click on **ODDS** or press **F7**. The Odds screens display a review of the current hand: the cards that have been played on each trick, the cards that have been played (represented by —) and unplayed (represented by ●), and the cards that you have passed and received. Click on **NEXT** or press **PG↓** to move to the next Odds screen. (Clicking on **PREV** or pressing **PG↑** takes you to the previous Odds screen.) The other Odds screens show you the Various Odds Estimates, including the chance of an opponent being void in each of the four suits and the chance that each opponent is holding the Queen of Spades. Also shown are the dangerousness of your holding cards in each of the four suits, as well as the chances that you can shoot the moon. Press **ESC** or click on **DONE**.

CHANGING RULES AND SETTINGS

To change the rules and settings of the game, click on the **RULES** icon or press **F8**. Move the cursor to the item you want to change and click the mouse button or press the **ENTER** key to cycle through options. Here are the options you will be offered:

Sound board: **Sound Master**, **Covox Voice Master**, **Covox Speech Thing**, **Sound Blaster**, **Ad Lib**, or **PC Speaker**.

Sound level: **None**, **Misc** (no music or voices), **Voice** (no music), or **Full**.

Play speed: 1 (slowest)-10 (fastest).

Between tricks: **Prompt** (computer asks you to press "Continue" after each play) or 1-5 second delay.

Must play Q♠: **Yes** (player must play Q♠ the first time he or she cannot follow suit) or **No**.

Back design: **Standard** or **Alternate**.

Music: **None**, **Background**, **Theme**, or **Full**.

Your Portrait: **Male** or **Female**.



End game: **20**, **100**, **200**, or **500** points, or **No limit**.

Auto advice: **Yes** (computer automatically gives advice on each play) or **No** (you must ask for advice).

2♣ must lead: **No** (player to dealer's left leads after deal) or **Yes** (player with 2♣ leads after deal).

To save the new settings, click on **SAVE** or press **F2**. To load previously saved settings, click on **LOAD** or press **F3**. To return to the default settings, click on **INIT** or press **F4**. To return to the game, click on **DONE** or press **ESC**.

QUITTING AND SAVING GAMES

To quit a game of HEARTS, click on the **QUIT** icon. To save your game, press  or click on **SAVE**. Click on **NEW** to start a new game, **RESTORE** to load a saved game, or **QUIT** to return to DOS. To end the game without saving, click on **DISCARD**. To return to the game, click on **PLAY**. To restore a saved game, press  or click on **RESTORE** on the screen in which you are asked for your name. Then click on the button with the name of the game you want to load.

BOOT-UP OPTIONS

HEARTS will automatically detect your graphics format as well as your sound card. To boot up using different settings, type **cbs21** followed by a space and one of the following suffixes:

color	Color monitor attached to display
mono	Monochrome monitor attached to display
cga	CGA graphics board
ega64k	Old 64k EGA board
ega	EGA board
vga	VGA board
svga	512k VGA board
novesa	Ignore VESA driver if detected
silent	Turn off all sound
sysinfo	Display information about this computer system