

Rep Decks™

Orchestral Series:

POKER HAND REFERENCE GUIDE

Rep Deck Orchestral Poker

SKILL LEVEL Very Challenging

OF PLAYERS 2–6

OBJECTIVE Acquire the best poker hand or bluff your way to victory.

Rep Deck Orchestral Poker is a way of playing any number of poker games (e.g., Five Card Draw, Seven Card Stud, Texas Hold'em, etc.) using one's knowledge of music repertoire to substitute for card ranks and suits.

DEAL Distribute the cards as normal for whatever poker game you decide to play.

PLAY The list below describes options for what a player must hold in their hand to achieve the familiar poker hands. They are listed from lowest ranking to highest.

High Card – An excerpt by a composer with the oldest birth date

A Pair – Two excerpts by the same composer, or
– Two excerpts for the *exact* same instrument, or
– Two excerpts with the same key center (Major and minor modes can be disregarded. For example, B-flat major and B-flat minor are a pair. However, enharmonic key centers don't count. For example, D-flat major and C# minor is not a pair. Also, half-step displacements don't count. For example, *B-flat* major and *B* major are not a pair.)

Two Pair – Two pairs as described above

Three of a kind – Three excerpts by the same composer, or
– Three excerpts for the *exact* same instrument, or
– Three excerpts with the same key center (Major and minor modes can be disregarded. However, enharmonic key centers or half-step displacements don't count. For example, an excerpt in B-flat major plus two in B-flat minor are three of a kind. However, an excerpt in *B-flat* major and two in *B* minor is only a pair.)

Straight – Five excerpts for five different instruments that are engraved in a standard full orchestral score on consecutive staves without gaps (fl, picc, ob, Eng hn, cl, bs cl, bsn, contra bsn, hn, crnt, trp, tbn, euph, tba, timp, tuned perc, untuned perc, hrp, cel, pno, org, chorus, featured solo instrument, vln, vla, vc, cbs)
– Five excerpts with different composers whose lives overlapped chronologically, or
– Five excerpts in ascending or descending key centers (major and minor modes can be disregarded) with no repeated or skipped letters. For example, E–F–G–A–flat–B is a straight. Enharmonically spelled key centers don't count.

Flush – Five excerpts within the same instrumental family (Keyboard and harp excerpts are categorized with the percussion family.)

Full House – Three of a kind with a pair

Four of a kind – Four excerpts by the same composer, or
– Four excerpts for the *exact* same instrument, or
– Four excerpts with the same key center (Major and minor modes can be disregarded. However, enharmonically spelled key centers or half-step displacements don't count.)

Straight Flush – Any five excerpts that create both a straight and a flush

High Straight Flush – A straight flush containing an excerpt by a composer with the oldest birth date

Five of a kind – Five excerpts by the same composer, or
– Five excerpts for the *exact* same instrument, or
– Five excerpts with the same key center (Major and minor modes can be disregarded. However, enharmonically spelled key centers or half-step displacements don't count.)