

# Straight Dominoes Basic Overview

---

**Number of Players:** 2-4

**Type of Dominoes Used:** Double 6

**Type of Game:** Blocking Game

One of the most popular of all domino games. Educational and easy to learn for children. Straight Dominoes is the game usually played at old-fashioned domino halls in small towns throughout Texas and other southern states.

**Players:** Two, three or four may play the game of Dominoes. If four are playing the game, it may be played as a partnership (the two players sitting opposite one another are partners).

**The Shuffle:** To begin the dominoes are placed face down and "shuffled." Players draw one domino. The player drawing the highest double or if no double, the highest domino plays first. Re-shuffle and then begin drawing the first hand.

**Drawing:** Each player then draws seven dominoes for his hand. The remaining dominoes (the boneyard), if any, are left face down on the table to be drawn later if a player is unable to play from his hand.

**Begin Play:** The player who drew the highest double or the highest domino plays first, playing any domino he wishes from his hand.

**Object of the game:** The object of the game is to be the first player to domino. (In matching and scoring games, to be the first player to play the last tile in his hand, and therefore, win that hand. Also called "go out." In Blocking games, The person playing the last remaining domino in his hand.)

**The game of Block and the game of Draw are identical with one exception:** In the game of Draw you draw extra dominoes from the boneyard if you are unable to make a play. In the game of Block, you do not draw extra dominoes from the boneyard if you are unable to make a play. This seems to be the most widely used description of the difference between the game of Block and the game of Draw. However, in some places, the rules for a game called "Block" are that players draw from the boneyard when unable to make a play.

The game of Block is also known as Block Dominoes, the Block Game, and Allies (Block with Partners). The game of Draw also goes by the names Draw Dominoes, Draw Game, the Draw or Block Game, Block Dominoes with Buying, and even Domino Big Six, and Double-Six Dominoes.

**Blocking games** are played by matching dominoes in a line. Scoring is done only at the end of each hand. The player (or team) who plays all the dominoes in his hand first, or "dominoes," scores the total count of the tiles still held by his opponent(s). In the event of a blocked game, the player or team who has the lowest count scores the total count of the tiles still held by his opponent(s).

- One set of double-6 dominoes (28 pieces) is used.

**Blocking the Game:** If during the game it is impossible for any of the players to play, the game is "Blocked." The player (or partners) having the least spots in his (or their combined) hand(s) scores the

total of the spots in the opponents' hands (rounded to the nearest five). The score of 250 points is usually considered a game. The first person (or partnership) to score this amount wins the game. Shuffle and begin a new game. The player who won plays first.