

# What Card Should I Discard in Euchre?

<http://EuchreInfo.webs.com/discarding.pdf>

## Some Terminology Used:

1. **Going Alone (Loner/ Lone Call)** – “opting to play without your partner on a particular hand.” \*\*see endnote #1.
2. **Green (Green Suits)** – “either of the two suits that are the opposite color of trump.” \*\*see endnote #2.
3. **Next** – the other suit of the SAME color as trump. ie: If CLUBS are trump, then the “next” suit is SPADES.
4. **Order up** – declaring the trump suit.
5. **Side Ace (Off-Suit Ace)** – any ace that is not in the trump suit.
6. **Singleton** – you are holding only ONE card in a particular suit.
7. **Up-card (Turn-card)** – the top card from the kitty which has been turned face-up. The up-card is offered as the trump suit in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of bidding. If the up-card is ordered up, it goes to the dealer and he discards one card.
8. **Void** – having no cards in a particular suit.

## Discarding When You Are the Dealer:

You must discard one card if the up-card is ordered up to you (in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of bidding.) \*Note: You do not get to discard a card if the trump suit is ordered up in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of bidding.

1. Do not discard a trump suit card if you can help it.
2. Do not discard a side ace if you can help it.
3. Discard to create a void in a suit if you can.
  - a) Discard when you only have one card in a side suit (discard it as long as it's not a side ace.)
    - 1) 1<sup>st</sup> choice is to create a void in a “green” suit (the suits opposite in color to trump.) \*\*see endnotes #3 & #4.
    - 2) 2<sup>nd</sup> choice is to create a void in the “next” suit (the other suit of the same color as trump.) \*\*see endnote #3.
    - 3) “Your last priority should be to eliminate the lowest card.” \*\*see endnote #3.

### **Example:**

- You are the dealer.
- Your left hand opponent ordered you to pick up the 10 of Spades.
- **You hold:**
  - Diamonds – A, 9
  - Hearts – Q
  - Clubs – 10
  - Spades – 9
- Discard the Queen of Hearts (instead of the 10 of Clubs.) It's a higher priority to void yourself in a “green” suit than it is to keep a Queen vs. a 10. \*\*see endnote #3.

## Some Things to Keep In Mind:

1. If opponents catch on to the fact that you are consistently discarding a “green” suit, then mix it up and

discard the “next” suit. Becoming predictable to your opponents could be setting your team up for a euchre or be preventing your team from euchring your opponents.

2. When you are the dealer and you are “going alone”/ attempting a “loner”, sometimes it does make sense to discard a side ace. “When you are holding 3 trump and are making a lone bid, if you have to choose between holding two Aces or keeping an Ace-King combination, discarding the single ace tends to be the better choice. This limits the opponents’ opportunities to trump or over-trump a suit.” \*\*see endnote #4.

**Example:**

- You are the dealer.
- You order the up-card, a King of Clubs, to yourself.
- You declare a loner.
- **You hold:**
  - Clubs – J
  - Spades – J
  - Diamonds – A
  - Hearts – A, K
- Discarding the singleton Ace of Diamonds (vs. the King of Hearts) “tends to be the better choice. This limits the opponents' opportunities to trump...a suit.” \*\*see endnote #4. You now have only ONE suit they can trump instead of TWO.

**endnotes:**

1. [OhioEuchre.com](http://OhioEuchre.com) – see “Euchre Terminology” section – Going Alone
2. [OhioEuchre.com](http://OhioEuchre.com) – see “Euchre Terminology” section – Green Suits
3. [Euchre Strategy](#) – “Euchre Quiz – What Should You Discard?” - the 'Answer' section – last paragraph.  
\*If the page doesn't load, [click here](#).
4. [OhioEuchre.com](http://OhioEuchre.com) – “Learn how to play Euchre – Lesson 4. Let’s learn about the proper discard.” see paragraph #7.

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Document courtesy of krazykaren, lucky13 and SardineBreath – three big Euchre addicts!