

American Mah Jongg Set Images, Video Links & Play Information



YouTube Video Links:

<https://youtu.be/SrOY40SxDVw?si=pqKhb4E92eE82210>

<https://youtu.be/IOhF8EZHolg?si=6Mw6EhrT7BUScFOf>

Number of Players: 2-4 Players (Best: 3)

Ages: 12 and Up

Play Time: 45 minutes

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American Mah Jongg Set: Mah Jong (or Maahj, as it is often called) is a fascinating, rummy-like game played with tiles rather than cards. The game originated in China but its exact origins are shrouded in story and myth. Some claim it was the game of Chinese royalty, played in secret to keep the knowledge to themselves. Others claim it was invented by a Chinese General to amuse his troops during long months of battle. More recent investigations point to early versions of this popular tile game appearing as recently as 150 years ago in China as a variant of card games. Whichever story you choose, there is general agreement that the game we play and love originated in China, and popularized in the United States by Joseph Babcock at the beginning of the 20th century. There are several versions of Maajh, but each fall under two broad categories: American Mah Jongg and Chinese Mah Jongg. American Maajh differs from International Maajh in several ways:

- It uses a card of Standard Hands, against which all games are played; these cards are changed annually.
- It uses more tiles, notably the Joker.
- The game is started with "Charleston", or the passing of 3 unwanted tiles from one player to another.
- It uses Jokers to complete quints and sextets in several combinations of hands.

Source: <https://nationalmahjonggleague.org/game.aspx>