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In Riichi Mahjong, tiles are drawn and discarded to create a valid hand consisting of four *melds* (three-of-a-kind or sequence of three) and one pair. Win by drawing or calling the needed 14th tile!

SUITS É É É S S S III M III

Suits comprise of pin (dots), so (bamboo), and man (characters). There are also four separate suits of winds and three suits of dragons. Each meld may comprise of only one suit.

HANDS ÉÉÉ !! M !!! !! M !!!

A hand must meet the criteria for a yaku. Combine different yakus or aim for difficult hands to earn greater han, or points. Examples include a flush, all triplets, or three matching dragons.

GAMEPLAY & S

Draw and discard tiles each turn. Open a hand to call needed tiles by saying pon for a three of a kind, or chi for a sequence. If a player discards a winning tile, say ron! If drawing a winning tile, say tsumo! Points are based on the hand, dora, dealer status, and whether ron or tsumo was called.

Features Unique to Riichi Mahjong:

Yaku: A valid hand needed to win. Can be stacked for big scores.

Dora: Bonuses! Each dora is worth an entire point (han).

Furiten: Players can't call tiles they discarded to win. Defense!

Riichi: A bet! And the name of the game. Commit to a closed hand when one tile away from winning (tenpai). This yaku unlocks additional dora.

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SIMILAR TO





Difficult hands (e.g., all melds same suit) are rewarded with more points.

SIMILAR TO... SPADE / HEART / CLUB / DIAMOND









Different suits can make up a hand, but not a meld.

SIMILAR TO... 3-OF-A-KIND / STRAIGHT











Unlike some western card games, each suit has four of each tile.

HELPFUL HANDS

ALL SIMPLES

Every meld contains only tiles 2-8.



This example also gets points for having a red dora.

SET OF HONOR OR TERMINAL

Each meld contains at least one terminal (1 or 9) or honor (dragon or wind).



This example also gets points for having a set of dragons.

MATCHING SEQUENCES

Two matching sequences of the same suit, in a closed hand.



This example also gets points for having only one suit in combination with honors.