

Discarding Tips #5



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A comparison of these discard options to your own crib provide an interesting and widely unexpected result. The 5-6 averages 6.76, while the 5-K has a lower average of 6.72. These averages are based on recorded discards. The 5-6 has been discarded 486 times and the 5-K has been deposited to my own crib 1,428 times. It should be noted that only the 5-5, 2-3 and the 5-J attain a higher average.

When viewing the 5-6 and 5-K in a broad sense, they are very similar with the 5-6 showing a slight advantage.

7 or Fewer Points	8 or More Points
5-6 - 59.87 %	5-6 - 40.13 %
5-K - 61.63 %	5-K - 38.37 %

In a more definitive view, some differences do emerge:

5-6

-	2 Points	3-7 Points	8-11 Points	12-15 Points	16 or More
6.76 Avg.	25	286	136	30	9*
486 Discards	5.14 %	58.85 %	27.99 %	6.17 %	1.85 %

*(None over 16 Points)

5-K

-	2 Points	3-7 Points	8-11 Points	12-15 Points	16 or More
6.72 Avg.	37	869	426	65	31**
1.428 Discards	2.59 %	60.86 %	29.83 %	4.55 %	2.17 %

**(1 of 17 points)

How can the 5-6 have a higher average that the 5-K given the above figures? The 5-6 to your own crib provides connecting cards for opponent's discard of 7-K, 7-Q, 7-J, 7-10, 4-K, 4-Q, 4-J and 4-10 and works reasonably well with two 10-point discards.

Also, what happens in the "3-7" column and the "8-11" column more than compensates for the 5-6 tendency to produce a larger number of two-point cribs. The 5-K often tallies 4 or 6 points while the 5-6 predominately totals 5 or 7 points. The same advantage appears in the "8-11" range, with the 5-K frequently attaining 8 points while the 5-6 is commonly at 9 points. Have you noted that the 5-6 is 35% more likely to produce a crib of 12-15 points?

By the way, the 5-6 does even better when compared to the 5-Q or 5-10. Either of these discard choices is excellent. Give the 5-6 greater consideration and you will benefit by that choice. When comparing these two, it's easy to forget that the 5-6 is also worth a minimum of two points in your crib.



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