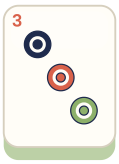
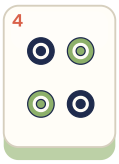
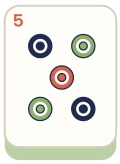
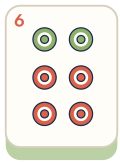
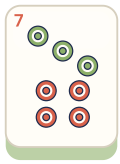
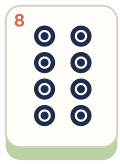
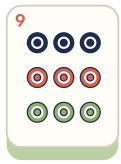
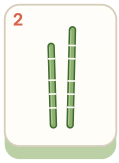
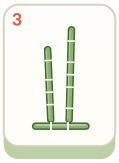
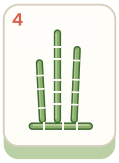
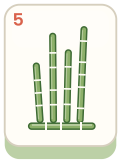
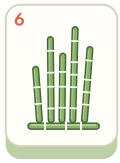
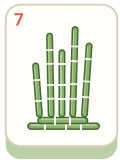
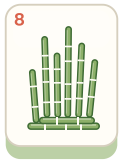
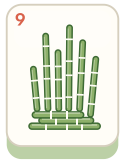
every tile, drawn and named

Every Mahjong Tile, Named

Mahjong Tilework
Updated October 3, 2026

The three suits

four of every tile, 108 in all

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dots circles, coins									
Bams bamboo, strings									
Craks characters, 萬	一 萬	二 萬	三 萬	四 萬	五 萬	六 萬	七 萬	八 萬	九 萬

The honors, and the extras

winds and dragons, four of each



East	South	West	North	Red	Green	White	Flower	Joker	Blank
東	南	西	北	中 center	發 from "get rich"	Soap	eight per set	American play	a spare

What the suits are pictures of

- Dots are coins, the smallest of the three denominations.
- Bams are strings of a hundred coins. The bumps are the coins, not bamboo knots.
- Craks count in myriads: 萬 on every one means ten thousand.
- The 1 Bam began as a bent string of cash. Why it became a bird, no source we read can say.

Reading a set with no letters

- Dots and Bams: count the coins or the sticks.
- Craks: a Chinese numeral on top, 萬 underneath.
- Winds: 東 南 西 北, in seat order east, south, west, north.
- Dragons: 中 red, 發 green, blank or bordered white.

Flowers and seasons

- Eight bonus tiles: four flowers, four seasons.
- Numbered 1 to 4 for East, South, West and North.
- American sets print a different four, and play treats all eight as one tile.
- The artwork varies from maker to maker.

How many tiles

- Every style shares the same 136: suits, winds and dragons.
- American play: 152, adding eight flowers and eight jokers.
- Chinese and Hong Kong: 144 with the bonus tiles, 136 without.
- Japanese riichi: 136, and often a red five in each suit.

Our own drawings and our own words, checked against published sources listed at mahjongtilework.com/mahjong-tiles/. Nothing here is from the National Mah Jongg League's card.