



**SPECIAL CATEGORIES**

**DRAGONS**

The next special category is Dragons. They are stamped with Dragon-like figures and denoted by color: White Dragon which is commonly referred to as Soap, Green Dragon (called Green), and Red Dragon (called Red). In older sets they are stamped with the Chinese characters. There are four of each for a total of 12 tiles. *Please note: Soaps can be used as zeroes when putting together certain hands.*

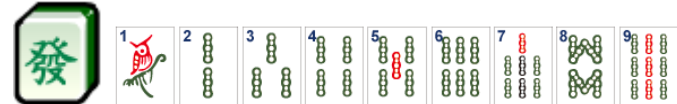


**Matching Dragons**

Even though Dragons are a separate entity, each Dragon is associated or matches a certain suit. Dragons are like cousins to the suits. They come to visit on certain occasions, but are not part of the suit's nuclear family and are never used in place of the matching suit.



**CRACK MATCHES RED**



**BAM MATCHES GREEN**



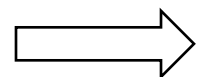
**DOT MATCHES SOAP**

**FLOWERS**



Examples of Vintage Flower Tiles

There are eight flowers. The newer sets depict the seasons and have numbers in the corner. The older sets often have pictures of flowers and people. The numbers and or seasons are irrelevant. Flowers are the only tiles that "match each other" without looking identical.



## SPECIAL CATEGORIES (cont.)

### WINDS

4 Easts, 4 Souths, 4 Wests, 4 Norths totaling 16 tiles



### JOKERS or Wild Tiles

Jokers can substitute for any tile in a **Pung** (3 identical tiles), **Kong** (4 identical tiles), **Quint** (5 identical tiles). They cannot be used to substitute a tile in a **Pair** (2 identical tiles) or any single tile.



## COMBINATIONS

Combinations are made by grouping matching, identical tiles together. These combinations are the basic building blocks of all hands and are going to be part of every Mah Jongg hand you play. Matching tiles are identical tiles of the same suit and number, or same dragon, or same wind. Flowers are put together in combinations but are the only group that don't have to match one another.

Two matching tiles are a **Pair**, three matching tiles are a **Pung**, four matching tiles are a **Kong**, and five matching tiles are a **Quint**.



PAIR



PUNG



KONG



QUINT



Jokers can be used as a Pung, Kong, or Quint without needing a pure tile.

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