

# Secrets Of Winning Online Poker

Provided By: <http://www.PokerSecretsSchool.com>

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## Intro:

Thanks to the internet, the game of Texas Holdem has become one of the most popular poker games to date. Players from around the world can compete online in the comfort of their own homes and enjoy playing poker 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. With the increasing number of players comes an increasing amount of competition and weak players thus making it easier to win on a consistent basis. [Party Poker](#) currently has the largest amount of players. [Party Poker](#) is great for begginers and advanced players. With the information provided here you can become a better online Texas Holdem poker player regardless of your experience. Beginners and veterans alike will benefit from the table tested techniques presented in this document and in the FREE poker E-Class available at: [www.PokerSecretsSchool.com](http://www.PokerSecretsSchool.com)

Check Out the Artical Below about online poker strategy software and cheating?

## Featured Article:

### “Are Online Poker Players Using Strategy Software, While Playing, Cheating?”

New poker strategy software has come out in the poker world for use while playing online poker. The software actually plays "*with*" you and "*watches*" you and other players play. A lot of players agree that software like this can give players an "*unfair*" advantage but is it so "Unfair" that it's cheating?

I took a look at 2 different strategy programs that run, and give advice, while you play poker online. One is called [Texas Calculatem](#) and the other, [PokerOffice](#). On the [Texas Calculatem](#) website they say that the software "Gives advice on how you should play your hand given probabilities of you vs. your opponent" they also say that the software gives players "additional info, including odds of making certain hands, odds of one of your opponents making certain hands, # outs, pre-flop hand strength & Sklansky score"

It seems that the software, [Texas Calculatem](#) does give players an advantage, but is it "un-fair"? I sent an e-mail to 3 different "large" poker sites and asked them what they thought of the software. I was surprised to hear that none of them had any problems with the [Texas Calculatem](#) software. It seems that they don't find that it gives players an "un-fair" advantage at all. Each poker site agreed that the software was, in fact, very fair.

The next strategy software on my list is [PokerOffice](#). This software seems a bit more powerful. The makers of the software claim that "[PokerOffice](#), tracks all of your opponents actions as well as your own game" This software seems to really get into your opponents head, It keeps track of how many hands your opponents play, how aggressive they play, and even how much money they win.

On the [PokerOffice](#) site it says the software can "Track every player you have ever played against and see how often they see the flop, raise pre-flop, check-raise, win at showdown, play bottom pair on the flop, and much more."

The [PokerOffice](#) has to be crossing a line somewhere, its actually watching other peoples play, even getting into there “personal” business. Well to my surprise again after asking 3 “large” poker sites it seems that none of them believe this software to give any player an “un-fair” advantage. In fact it seems that the poker sites recommend that players use the software.

I guess the best thing to do is see it for yourself. [Texas Calculatem](#) has a demo of the software for people to see on their site. You can see it by [Clicking Here](#).

[PokerOffice](#) offers a free trial to any poker player that wants one. You need to check out this software, it’s amazing. Get your free trial by [clicking here!](#)

## Starting Hand Strategy:

A good starting hand is the first and foremost key to winning at online Texas Holdem poker, period. The majority of the online poker community tends to overlook this crucial element essential for winning *consistently*. Sure, anyone will get lucky every now and then with a 7-2 off suit, but to win consistently you must condition yourself to play only hole cards with the best possible winning percentages.

So what is a good starting hand? Ace/Ace - Ace/King Suited - King/King? There are numerous [poker books](#) and resources on the internet that will give you an ANTICIPATED good starting hand along with the win percentages for each, but here is what they don't tell you:

The strength of a good starting hand depends greatly on the number of players left in the game AND the number of callers. If there are 10 people seated at the table, then a good starting hand will be quite different from a good starting hand with only 3 players sitting at the table.

David "Einstein" Sklansky was the first author to have both ranked every 2-card starting hand and group them along with recommendations on how to play them. The top 16 ranked starting hole cards are fundamental to solid play. They constitute about 7% of all hands you will be dealt.

Table 1 - Sklansky's Group 1 hands

AA   KK   QQ   JJ   AKs

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Ace/Ace and King/King are substantially more powerful than the Queen/Queen.

Table 2 - Sklansky's Group 2 hands

TT	AQs	AJs	KQs	AK
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The overall power of Ace/King is actually slightly greater than that of King/Queens, so I would reverse the order of these two hands within this Group.

Out of the 10 hands in these two groups your decision to raise should not be treated equally based upon the following:

- Raising Ace/Ace, King/King, Queen/Queen, and Ace/King should be aggressive before the flop because these cards can lose their value in large multi-way pots.
- Raising Ace/King, Ace/Queen, Ace/Jack, and King/Queen should be moderate because they do play well in multi-way pots.
- Raising Jack/Jack should only be done on a tight tables in order to run out hands such as Ace/Nine. This type of hand can also lose value in multi-way pots.
- Raising Ten/Ten is generally not recommended.

Always consider the fact that your starting hand strength also depends on your table position, or how many people bet before and after you do. As a general rule, you should stick to the conventional best starting hand percentages when there are 8 to 10 players with 2 to 3 callers. When the field is narrowed down to 5 players or less, you should play your starting hands more aggressively. For example, the Ace/King suited is often considered to be the second best starting hand with a full table. If there are less than 5 players left, any Ace hole card with a decent kicker can give you the same winning percentages as the Ace/King suited would have. The concept is very simple, you are playing the mathematical odds implied via the 52 cards in the deck along with the probability that fewer players will equal less chances that someone will draw an Ace. In short, the fewer number of players holding cards at a table, the greater your chances of winning are.

If you are in a late position at a full table and have seen one player wager a large bet, and there are one or two callers, most often you can

bet at the very least ONE of them is holding a strong starting hand with high win percentages (such as an Ace with a high kicker, suited sequence cards, or heavy pocket pairs, etc).

If, at any given point of the game, you have five or more players seeing the flop, then a good starting hand can often times change to small sequence cards such as a five/six or a small suited pairs. Reason? When over half of the players at a table call a hand, the high cards such as Aces, Kings, and Queens are usually tied up as hole cards thus not showing up on the flop, turn or river. This is an excellent opportunity for small pairs, lower straights, or any flush draw to win a big pot.

As a general rule, you should never bet the minimum when you have an excellent starting hand unless you intend to "limp in" and get more callers for the hand. There are times when limping in can win you some big pots, but you shouldn't let slow playing become a dominant strategy. It is good to bet at least 3 to 4 times the minimum in order to run out any possible draw hands or players who rely on luck and chance to win a big pot early in the tournament.

Once you have mastered the basic concept of good starting hands for every scenario, you will become a better Texas Holdem player regardless of when, where, or who you play. The [Poker E-class](#) will provide you with much more information on the subject.

You can also purchase [poker books](#) from [amazon.com](#), They offer the best prices and largest selection.

## How to Play Pairs:

Pairs are always good hole cards, but you should play them wisely. Everyone loves to see a pair in the hole. One of the most anticipated pocket pairs are the pocket Aces which tend to cause amateurs to bet the whole farm thinking they cannot lose. If you do not comprehend anything else in this guide, comprehend this...pocket Aces are not ALWAYS a winner. Yes, they are indeed the best starting hand you can theoretically be dealt, but I have seen way too many players lose all of their chips with the "all-in" pocket Aces.

Having said that, let's start with the idea of "slow playing" your pocket Aces. There are a few things that you should consider before doing so. If you choose to slow play the Aces you should be at a table that has players who are unlikely to call a pre-flop raise from an early position, very loose players, or one or more players who are frequently stealing the blinds. Keep in mind that slow playing with any hand should not become a dominating strategy but rather a technique used sparingly.

Now suppose that you come out strong with your betting and you get multiple callers or even a raise. If it comes to the turn or river card and you do not improve your hand you should typically lay down. More often than not, you will lose a substantial amount of chips - especially if there is a possible straight or flush hand showing on the board. Remember, it is better to save your stack and live to play another hand than to foolishly take chances.

Other pocket pairs such as the Deuce/Deuce is not as strong as many would think at ANY point during the game. I would recommend never holding this small pair (unless you are a blind and can check through to the next card). All it takes is someone holding a single Three card and then seeing another Three show up on the flop or turn to win the hand. In general, the Five to Nine pair are usually not good pocket pairs to bet on - but can be a good hand to see the flop on if the betting is not beyond your comfort level or if you are a blind and have the option to check. If you don't hit at least three of a kind on the flop, it is best not to hold these low pairs unless you can continue to check the hand. The best advice I can give for playing pocket pairs on the Internet is to watch which pairs have recently won, and which ones have recently lost. Keep a mental record of the "wins" versus "losses". I say this for the simple fact that if King/King in the hole has won three times during the

tournament, odds become favorable that they will not win the fourth time BEFORE at least one bad beat. This one observation alone can save you a lot of money - especially in large multiplayer tournaments. Many online casinos state that they use random number generators when dealing or determining cards (I'm not saying they don't) but after countless hours of real game time, one will begin to wonder just how "random" anything can be.

ALWAYS, ALWAYS be aware that when any pair is showing on the board, a full house is possible. A full house Threes full of Twos will beat Ace/Ace or trip Aces every time. Whenever you see someone betting hard on board pairs, you should at the very least be holding an Ace or King with the pair, and it is recommended not to play against a high wager unless you already have trips with the possibility of hitting the full boat yourself.

## Position Strategy:

Position is a very important part of Texas Holdem!

The dealer position is valuable due to the fact that you have the opportunity to see how many players are still in on the hand and how strongly they feel about their hand. Since Texas Holdem is played in a clockwise manner, those to the right of the dealer have less information to base their decisions on thus having a perceived disadvantage. Early betting positions are always subject to being raised by other players after you. Any time you are in the dealer position with multiple callers AND you have a good starting hand, then you can usually increase the minimum bet with a slight guarantee that everyone will call. This is a wonderful way to increase the winning pot size.

While I will not argue or try to belittle the dealer position, I will say that many online poker tournaments have been won by those who truly understand how to make the most out of the "blind" positions. Consider that you play a blind position 2-1 over the dealer position during a tournament. The "blinds" are what you would call an "early" position. You have no feedback from the other players as to what type of hand they think they have, and how much they are willing to wager on their hands. Unless you start out with strong hole cards, you need to be very conservative and check your hand. If you do not have good starting cards, simply do not raise, do not call, do not fish, and do not take the chance, end of story. Often I see those in the big or small blind position take a gamble based upon the idea that they already have half of the ante in the pot, so why not gamble and call the other half. Why not? Because it is still truly a gamble and foolish. Especially when the blind stakes are high. Those who can resist this temptation are those who end up saving a good bit of chips for when they actually have a hand and need to use them. Remember, good players win with a solid game plan; they do not rely on luck or chance.

While speaking of position, it is always a good time to introduce the art of bluffing. Believe me when I say this, bluffing is truly an art. Compare it to the abilities of a skilled artist whose brush dances around the canvas as if it had a mind of its own - a competent holdem player can bluff his way around the table just as easily. While you can always bluff one player easier than you can 9 players, position is a critical factor. If

you know many of the players at the table are tight players and you feel the timing is right, then a blind position is the absolute best time to bluff a bad hand like no other. I say this for two reasons. One, there are no cards on the table, so even if an opponent has Ace/Ace in the hole, they have absolutely no idea if you have Ace/Ace also. When bluffing from a blind position before a flop the mindset should be "my cards are just as good or better than yours and I'll prove it with my wager". But keep this in mind; if you raise a substantial amount on the bluff, and you get more than one caller, one of them will usually have a very strong hand they are proud of. If this is the case, back off of your bet and fold. There is no harm done here, do not be a victim of playing your ego. When bluffing from the blind position you are really only concerned with "stealing the other blind" and nothing more.

Now consider the post-flop bluff from a blind position assuming you have one or more callers. If an ace (or any strong possible combination such as 3 sequence cards etc.) shows on the board, you have the option of slightly raising the bet again to see if your opponents are actually holding anything of value. If not, they will most likely fold their hand fearing that their king or queen will not hold up to your "supposed" ace and so on. With callers on the table this is effectively the opposite of "blind stealing" and a tactic used by many of the best online poker players. Nothing is more powerful than bluffing the blind stealer. I would advise that you use this tactic with caution, and do not over play it. It is much more effective if you do not overplay it. The more experienced players will catch on to you if you abuse it.

## Online Tells:

Obviously there are not as many tells when playing on the internet as there are when playing in person. You cannot see the other player in order to read his/her expressions and emotions. But believe it or not, there are times when you can pick up on the playing habits of another player online. For instance: Players that frequently push the check/fold button before their turn. This is very common among NOVICE or uneducated players. This is an easy tell, they have no hand worth playing and only hope to see free cards - or fold if a raise is made. A GOOD player will take some time off of the clock even when they have nothing. This keeps the other players guessing at all times. Sometimes it will even frustrate an experienced or frequent player causing them to make a hasty decision. If you see someone checking quickly hand after hand, play them aggressively, unless of course you know the player and they are using this as a method to fool their opponents.

Some veteran players will try to use the clock as a "timing" tool to their advantage. For example, a player may take the full "time out" before they make their decision to check/fold/raise. If they use a large amount of time to simply check, odds are they have nothing. Slightly raise the stakes to keep them in check. If they come back with a large raise or an all-in raise – watch out! Unless you know this player very well it is wise to be cautious and back down. Regardless of the outcome use it to your advantage by taking mental note of the player's style and use this knowledge for the next showdown. A novice player will consistently play their hand the same way every time.

Remember not to rely on Online tells to much, Just learn how a player plays and take notes!

## Online Poker Chat:

Some players like to use chat very often. This is no different than the lounge player who likes to “trash” talk during the game and keep you distracted. Sometimes they will remark only to anger you, trying to get you to play to their hand. Other times they will befriend you, hoping that you become less aggressive in your betting towards them.

If you are serious about winning online Texas Holdem, turn off the chat, don't even open yourself up to the distraction. If you really want to talk and have a good time getting to know people, visit a designated CHAT room and save your money. Remember, if you are focusing your attention on the talk, your not focusing your attention on the players and the cards they play.

If you must chat (my wife can't help it - she loves to talk) then never disclose the truth about your previous hand. If someone asks you...LIE. Whatever winning hand they had, you had one better. If you had the nuts and couldn't be beat, then tell them you bluffed their socks off! The point is this, if they are analyzing your style (and they will) you have an opportunity to throw them off. Always keep them guessing. You do not want to be a predictable player.

## Know When to Folding:

Believe it or not, many poker players will tell you that folding is an art just like bluffing is. This section will definitely raise a lot of eyebrows, but all I can say is don't knock it until you try it. It is possible that if you folded every hand and never played a flop (except for the forced blinds), you could finish in the top 1/2 of most internet tournaments. Yes, you read that right. Try it for yourself, play a money game with 9 other people with the intention to fold every hand, and often times you will end up in the top 1/2. How is that for an instant improvement in your game?

I simply call it conservative play and if you haven't figured it out by now, it is one of the biggest secrets to winning consistently online. Remember when I said that you do not have as many physical tells when playing online? It is because of this that you must condition yourself to play your cards more often than you play the other people at your table. Believe me, I know how hard it is to lay down an Ace/King with a big pot show - but when a tight player is betting heavy on the board low straight - I save my chips and fold. It is human nature to want to think a bluff is going down and nothing will beat MY good cards. But I can't see him. I can't see the shift in his eyes, the nervous finger tapping, the smirk on his face. I can't hear the tone of his voice. The only thing I can do is bet on the value of my cards in relationship to the cards on the table.

Most online casinos have a stat tracker showing you how many times you fold (and when), how many times you see the flop, how many times you win, etc. When your fold percentage is high, you will more often than not get the cards you need to win that hand you have been waiting patiently for. Remember the motto? Minimize loses. Fold when in doubt and never chase cards - especially when the stakes are high. Players who continually chase cards unless the pot odds are in your favor!

## **Flush on the flop:**

I included this section apart from the others for a good reason. Unless you have at least one suited HIGH card to go with the flush, simply do not wager high on this type of hand. Get out while you can if there is any heavy betting action.

Keep in mind, loose players will often chase the flush if they are holding only one suited high card and they see 3 more on a flop. If you are going to chase cards, then this is the only time I would recommend it. Typically you should hold nothing less than a suited Ace, King, or Queen if there are 8 players or more, Queen to Ten when there are 5 or less. I have talked to a number of great players about the “bad beats” they have taken, and a flush draw is one of the favorites. As stated earlier, this is usually how the pocket Aces end up getting “shoved”.

## **When to Bluff:**

It is harder to bluff on the internet than it is in person. Because of the limited tells, more often than not, players will play their hand rather than the person they are playing. This is not to say that it is impossible to bluff an internet holdem game, but be very selective when you do. Many players will only bluff bad hands, but I want to introduce to you the art of bluffing a good hand (commonly know as slow playing). Let's say that you make a significant raise and you get a caller. Assuming that you have the nuts (a hand that cannot be beat) check or bet the minimum on the next card. Very often, this will provoke an even bigger raise than you would have gotten had you bet heavy again. In this way you are bluffing your opponent with a winning hand and - maximizing your winnings.

If you are attempting to bluff with a losing hand, it is wise to do so pre-flop and post-flop only. Continuing a bluff on the turn or river card is very dangerous unless you see a weakness in the caller. If you haven't bluffed them out by the turn card, chances are you're not going to.

I will say it again, conservative players win consistently when playing online. Believe this and bluff less.

## **Tournament Basics:**

As a general rule you should play very tight/aggressive in the beginning of a tournament. This is for two reasons. First, many beginners will hold and bet on nothing until they are eventually put out. Secondly, the blinds and minimum bets are very low allowing you to see more cards on the flop without losing much of your stack. If you are going to chase cards (which you very seldom should), do it at the beginning of a tourney, but never, NEVER at the end of a tourney.

Be aware that other players will use this same tactic also. If you find yourself at a table where everyone seems to be using this same strategy, play the opposite and take advantage of a loose table. The ability to constantly change up your playing style during a game is what separates the champions from the wanna-be's.

## ***10 Tips on How to Improve Your Tournament Play!***

**1.** Want to improve your end game? Want to build your level of experience in playing final tables? Want to learn how to 'close the deal' and win an event? Play a single table satellite! And when you do, pretend you are at the final table of the World Championship. Remember, every chip is precious. Playing single-table tournaments is great practice for the end game of multi-table tournaments. The strategies are very similar; with the biggest difference being single-table tournaments usually take less than an hour to play, where the multi-table tournaments take over 4 hours to play.

**2.** A good basic strategy for the single-table tournaments is to play solid, playing only premium hands in the first three rounds. After that, open up and play more hands, becoming more aggressive the higher the blinds get, and the shorter handed the tournament becomes.

**3.** Be a bettor, not a caller. Remember, the bettor has two chances to win, the first being you might be able to show down the best hand, and secondly, if everyone folds, you win an uncontested pot!

**4.** When your chip stack gets less than five times the size of the big blind in a no-limit single-table tournament or a multi-table tournament, consider moving all in with any two cards as long as you are the first one in the pot. In these situations you are just betting that no one has a hand that they can call you with. If you do get called and have the worst hand, you might get lucky and draw out on them. If you aren't the first one in, you are joining a pot with automatic competition.

**5.** In the late stages when you have a large stack of chips and it's one or two spots from the money, it's easy to rob players that are desperately trying to make the money. Play more aggressive in that spot, reduce your starting requirements, and pick up some extra chips!

**6.** When you have an opponent who is overly aggressive, use it against them. Let them think you have a weak hand when you really

have a strong one. Check into them so they will bet. You will then have the option to checkraise and take advantage of their aggressiveness. In the case of a real monster, check it a second time, and then pop it up!

**7.** Play Real Money games to practice for the early rounds of multi-table tournaments. The play here is very close to the same because you aren't under pressure from the blinds. So play real money games anytime you have the time to improve your play for the early rounds. Play solid poker.

**8.** Have a game plan for your tournament. Decide if you are going to start out playing tight in the early rounds, or if are you going to play fast and try to accumulate chips early. Consider adjustments you might make if you get short of chips, if you get a large stack, or how you might adjust to different types of opponents styles. Be prepared for everything!

**9.** When you are playing, always observe your opponents and pick out who will and who wont, defend the blinds. The higher the blinds get, the more valuable this information becomes. Remember the tight players are easier to rob. Be ready to take advantage of them.

**10.** Save the best for last. Play your own tournament! That's right, your own little event that starts and ends when you want. You are the tournament director and can play any form of poker you'd like. Sit in the smallest game you can find. The rounds are 20, 30, 40 minutes, anything you want, so set an alarm clock. When the clock goes off, you must get up and move to the next highest game. Keep going and see how much you can accumulate and how far you can go. Get to the biggest game and you win the trophy. Of course, in this tournament, you can quit at any time and cash in your checkers. Good Luck!

## **Short Stacks:**

Call or bet against players with small chip stacks frequently. All-ins are common due to frustration coupled with the fact that they have very little to lose and very little to play for. Many times even a semi decent hand will beat someone in this situation. Watch the player carefully to determine if they are in fact acting out of desperation. If you have noticed that they have either checked or folded a number of hands while holding a low stack, this would lead you to believe that when they do finally bet the last of their chips, they have something pretty good to go with. If they go all-in right after a big loss, chances are they are ready to leave the table and just want to get it over with.

## **Finding The Right Table:**

You want to find a table with loose players. Look for tables where the players see the flop at least 50% of the time or better. The worst table to be at is one that has nothing but tight players seeing the flop 35% or less. Very tight tables lend to very small pots. When there are big pots involved you better have the cards and plenty of chips because it is almost impossible to bluff a tight table. Since you are learning to becoming a conservative player your mission is to find all of the loose gamblers!

When you have found a good table to play, watch a number of hands go around before you sit down. This gives you an opportunity to observe the playing styles of your opponents and will lend to some of the online tells I discussed earlier. Targeted the tight players, play more sequence straights and aggressively steal more blinds. When you see loose players in on a hand then YOU should tighten up - slow play, bait and trap, etc. Let them have the smaller pots and then hit them heavy with an all-in winner. Again, know your opponent, study his habits, and you will stand a better chance of taking all of his chips.

## **Final Advise:**

The best advice I can give to anyone who wants to play Texas Holdem online or offline is to stay within your comfort zone. You should never play for more chips than you are comfortable losing because the pressure will simply be too great for you to play effectively. Poker is a mind game. If you stay within your mental limits, the risk becomes less of an issue and you will play Holdem poker as it was meant to be played – as a FUN game where you are in control of your emotions and your emotions are not in control of you.

Often times I see players who enter big money tournaments that they had no business being in to begin with. Quite simply the larger tournaments with the bigger payouts attract the better players. If you are not at that same level of play as your opponents, you are simply donating your time and money for a lesson learned. If you cannot consistently win at a \$20 buy-in table, then why should you loose more money at the \$50 tables? Always know your limits and always play responsibly.

There you have it. Countless hours of internet Texas Holdem have been played in order to bring you these game winning observations. Many of the principles I have covered in this eBook may simply be regarded by some as common poker sense, but I feel the need to stress these principles once again due to the fact that so many Texas Holdem players on the internet tend to abandon them. You can effectively eliminate the majority of your competition online simply by following these guidelines. Create your own unique style of play and mix it up frequently, and I WILL see you at the final table!

On the next page I have added a list of links that are MUST visits for any poker player!

## **Best Poker Rooms:**

All Poker rooms offer special Promotions, Please click them to find out more!

See Reviews for the top 10 Poker Rooms Below:

**Party Poker - 20% deposit Bonus, 5000 dollar freeroll**

**Royal Vegas Poker - \$10 dollars FREE, 40% bonus**

**Poker World - 50% bonus, 2 Freerolls**

**Gaming Club poker - Deposit \$20 get up to \$300 Free**

**7 Sultans Poker - Deposit \$20 Get upto \$200 Free**

**Empire Poker - 25% bonus, \$5000 dollar freeroll**

**Pacific Poker - 25% bonus**

**Caribbean Sun Poker - 100% bonus + \$40 dollars each month**

**Piggs Peak Poker - get \$75 dollars every month**

**Check N' Raise Poker - 25% deposit bonus**

**InterCasino Poker - 100% bonus up to \$90 each month**

**Pokerroom - 20% bonus...works on macs**

**Bet365Poker - \$50 dollar bonus, \$30,000 freeroll**

**Prestige Poker - 25% bonus**

**Island Poker - 30% bonus**

**Poker Champs - upto 50% rake back**

**Absolute Poker - 35% bonus**

**Bugsys Club Poker - 20% bonus**

**Celeb Poker - 25% bonus**

**Full Tilt Poker - 100% bonus**

**True Poker - 30% bonus, plus 4 freerolls**

**Paradise Poker - 25% bonus**

**Planet Poker - 25% bonus**

**Tiger Gaming - 100% bonus**

## Other Links:

[Texas Holdem Poker Secrets](#): Best Winning Strategy Guide!

[Texas Calculatem](#): Best play-along software. CHECK THIS ONE OUT!

[Poker Office](#): Great Software, Reads Opponents play!

[Hypnotic Poker](#): Great poker e-book!

[The Pokalyzer](#): Comprehensive Texas Hold'em analysis program.

[We Do It All Vegas](#): Gaming super store!

[First Place Poker Forum](#): Talk about poker and more!

## Poker Secrets School

## Party Poker Review



### Summary-

[Party Poker](#) is currently the largest online poker room. Right now they have over 60,000 active players! [Party poker](#) is also one of the best online poker rooms. With the most players you can expect to find a lot of bad players as well as many pros. You will always be able to find a game running at almost any limit.

For awhile [Party Poker](#) lacked good promotions but now they offer new player freerolls, a 20% deposit bonus, and a comp points program. They also on occasion have other loyalty promotions and re-deposit bonuses.

On [party poker](#) tournaments are running 24 hours with a few tournaments starting every hour. Most tournaments get quite a few players and some having over a thousand players! For people who don't like to spend 4 hours playing a tournament they have speed tournaments where the blind go up every three minutes.

### Pros-

- Most Players, Ring games, and tournaments
- Comp Point loyalty program
- Live 24 Hour Support
- Fast Software
- Buddy Program

### Cons-

- High rake and fees
- Not the best game selection
- Not the best sign-Up bonus
- No mini-limit games

### Deposit Bonus-

[Party Poker](#) offers a 20% deposit bonus up to \$100 dollars. New players also receive a free entry into a \$5,000 dollar freeroll. Bonus Code: **PSS25**

### Re-deposit Bonus-

Some times [Party Poker](#) offers a re-deposit bonus from 15-25%. In my experience they also sometime put some free money into your account!

**Comp System-**

[Party poker](#) offers a point comp system. With your points you can buy Party Poker gear or entries into special tournaments.

**[Click Here to Visit Party Poker Now!](#)**

## Royal Vegas Poker Review



### Summary-

[Royal Vegas poker](#) is the top site in the prima poker network. It combines its players with a good number of other poker sites to make it a very populated poker room. They have several pro poker players that take part in the games, such as Lou Krieger, Bob Ciaffone and Mike Cappelletti.

[Royal Vegas](#) is the best poker room in the Prima network due to their promotions, freerolls, and service. Currently they offer a 40% deposit, 4 daily freerolls, and \$10 free with no deposit required. They also have high hand jackpots, magic hand jackpots, and a poker league. Every month they give back \$40,000 dollars between the top players of the month. It's known as the Poker point's challenge.

[Royal Vegas](#) has a lot of great guaranteed tournaments and boast \$1,000,000 in tournament prizes every week! On top of that Gambling Online Magazine rated [Royal Vegas Poker](#) the 2004 top poker site of the year. They also awarded it the editors pick of the year.

### Pros-

- Lots of loose players
- On going promotions
- Free \$10, No Deposit
- Lots of freerolls

### Cons-

- Not the best software
- Not the best graphics

### Deposit Bonus-

[Royal Vegas Poker](#) offers a 40% deposit bonus up to \$100 dollars plus \$10 dollars free no deposit. At the time of writing this new players also received an entry into a \$100,000 dollar freeroll.

**Re-deposit Bonus-**

At this time I don't believe [RVP](#) offers a re-deposit bonus.

**Comp System-**

The top players of the month share in \$40,000 dollars. Players also receive entries into daily freerolls.

**[Click Here to Visit Royal Vegas Poker Now!](#)**

## Ultimate Bet Review



### Summary-

[Ultimatebet](#) has been dealing cards online since 2000. [Ultimatebet's](#) software was built by poker pros and respected poker authorities, the State-of-the-Art software features ultra fast, smooth game play and unique features like four color decks and mini-view for simultaneous play at up to three different tables.

[Ultimate bet](#) also offers a 40% deposit bonus as well as a loyalty comp points program which is the best online. You can use your points for anything! Including buy-ins into any of the available tournaments, poker books, software, clothes, and even trips to Las Vegas!

With [Ultimate bet](#) you get access to the world's top Poker professionals for advice, free seminars and even the chance to play a friendly game with the pros! [Ultimate bet](#) is one of the best poker rooms I have played on; they have great action, loyalty programs, and software. Every poker player should check out [Ultimate Bet](#) and everything they have to offer.

### Pros-

- Best comp point loyalty program
- Good 40% deposit bonus
- Micro-Limit games
- Fast and smooth Software
- Buddy Program
- High hand jackpot

### Cons-

- No phone support
- Not much sit N go traffic

### Deposit Bonus-

[Ultimatebet](#) offers a 40% deposit bonus up to \$200 dollars. You get \$1 for every 10 ultimate points you earn.

**Re-deposit Bonus-**

Some times [Ultimatebet](#) offers a re-deposit bonus from 20-25%.

**Comp System-**

[Ultimatebet](#) offers the point comp system online. With your points you can buy everything like clothes, TVs, Trips, watches, and more! You can also use your points to buy-in to any available tournament!

**[Click Here to Visit UltimateBet Now!](#)**

## Paradise Poker Review



### Summary-

[ParadisePoker](#) is one of the leaders in online poker. They have great software and lots of traffic. The site is considered to offer the best online poker experience but many players claim that they have "hard to beat" competition. [Paradise poker](#) has great customer support and game security. They also offer great game selection.

The drawbacks of playing at [Paradise poker](#) would be the stiff competition and no loyalty bonuses. They have lots of good tournaments but most of the big ones offer re-buys and add-ons. This is something a lot of players may try to avoid.

### Pros-

- Great Software
- Fast e-mail support
- Good statistics functions
- Detailed lobby information

### Cons-

- Very tough competition
- Not the best game selection
- Few promotions
- No comp system

### Deposit Bonus-

[Paradise Poker](#) offers a 25% first time deposit bonus.

### Re-deposit Bonus-

No known re-deposit bonuses.

### Comp System-

No Comp system.

[Click Here to Visit Paradise Poker Now!](#)

## Pacific Poker Review



### Summary-

[Pacific poker](#) is a favorite poker room to many online players looking for loose games and lots of promotions. This is a great site for players that are looking for an "easy" game. They offer a lot of freeroll and added money tournaments so players can get a good bang for their buck. [Pacific poker](#) is part of the world largest online casino so a lot of casino players, that can't play poker, flow into the poker room. This means lot of weak players at the tables.

[Pacific pokers](#) software is a bit below average and needs some improvement. The main problem is the graphics, they are dark and boring. Other downfalls could be the tournament set up, the blinds go up fast and you don't get many chips to start with. Other than that [Pacific Poker](#) offers great game play and easy competition.

### Pros-

- Lots of loose players
- On going promotions
- Good e-mail support
- Lots of free rolls

### Cons-

- Not the best software
- Not the best graphics
- Tough Sign-up Bonus Rules

### Deposit Bonus-

[Pacific Poker](#) offers a 25% deposit bonus up to \$100 dollars.

### Re-deposit Bonus-

At this time I don't believe [Pacific Poker](#) offers a re-deposit bonus.

### Comp System-

Bonus Points that can be converted to cash.

**[Click Here to Visit Pacific Poker Now!](#)**

## Pokerroom Review



### Summary-

[PokerRoom](#) is the world's leading no-download poker room, with a unique and sleek design and good traffic. There is a download version as well which has very nice graphics. [PokerRoom.com](#) is the best choice for Mac-users, who can play without any special installs. Their traffic is very concentrated to the Holdem and tournament section.

Real money player statistics - 2300-2700 ring game players at peak hours, 4000-6000 tournament players at peak hours. Pokerrooms software is widely regarded as one of the best. They have clean, sleek and reliable graphics and software. They also have a few casino games that can be played with real money in your poker account. No-download needed.

[Pokerroom](#) offers a 20% deposit bonus and a free multi-table tournament ticket for new players. They also hold one of the largest buy-it tournaments online. It costs \$1000 dollars to enter, you start with 10,000 in chips and the tourney lasts 2 days. You can win an entry for as little as \$11 dollars. It's like the WSOP in the online community.

### Pros-

- Fast reliable software, Great graphics
- 3 daily freerolls
- 24/7 Telephone support
- Easy note taking/ tagging functions
- Good statistic functions
- The GRAN tournament

### Cons-

- Scattered Lobby info.
- Few game choices

**Deposit Bonus-**

[Pokerroom](#) offers a 20% deposit bonus up to \$100 dollars plus a free multi-table tournament entry.

**Re-deposit Bonus-**

They sometimes offer 15% re-deposit bonuses.

**Comp System-**

The top 50 casino and poker players share \$1000 daily. Players earn poker points that can be used to enter a \$3,000 and \$6,000 dollar tournament each week.

**[Click Here to Visit PokerRoom Now!](#)**

## Absolute Poker Review



### Summary-

In its first year [Absolute Poker](#) quickly became the "rising star" of online poker with over 10,000+ players online at peak hours. With great customer support, fast cash outs, and good promotional offerings. [Absolute Poker](#) won Gaming Online Magazine's Top New Poker Site award of 2004 as voted by the reader's of this popular industry magazine.

[Absolute poker](#) offers a full menu of games and limits, including 6 player max tables, great micro limit games and no limit games. From \$25/\$50 all the way down to .02/.04 games, Absolute Poker has the action you're looking for along with over 10,000 players at peak times to keep the games going around the clock.

[Absolute Poker](#) is one of the very few online poker sites to offer Private tournaments to its real money players. The sit & go no limit Holdem fun tourneys are extremely popular with lots of players. One of their best features is the 18 daily freeroll tournaments available. For new players they offer a 50% neteller deposit bonus and a 35% bonus for non-neteller deposits.

### Pros-

- Fast e-mail support
- 18 daily freerolls
- Great game variety
- Lobby Info. Is detailed

### Cons-

- No telephone support
- No comp system
- Few ongoing promotions

### Deposit Bonus-

[Absolute Poker](#) offers a 50% neteller deposit bonus up to \$500 dollars, 35% non-neteller bonus up to \$350 dollars.

**Re-deposit Bonus-**

No known re-deposit bonus.

**Comp System-**

None.

**[Click Here to Visit Absolute Poker Now!](#)**

## InterPoker Review



### Summary-

[InterPoker](#) is a very popular online poker room managed by the second largest casino online – InterCasino. Since a lot of the players at [InterPoker](#) come from the casino you can expect to find a lot of bad players making the games very profitable. If you are looking for a lot of loose players, like everyone else is, [InterPoker](#) is a great place to find them.

Their player volume is growing very fast and has doubled since 2004. The software and graphics are about average but runs smoothly. They offer a 100% bonus every single month as well as a “Proposition Player” program where you get paid an hourly wage to play on certain tables. They also offer a lot of other promotions but these promotions change every month.

Since [InterPoker](#) offers a bonus every month there is no need Hunt out new bonuses. They have great live support and have won a few awards. I enjoy playing at [InterPoker](#), the games are loose, the promotions are great, and cash-outs are fast. I highly recommend trying out inter pokers software.

### Pros-

- 100% Bonus each month!
- Invitations to Get paid to play
- Great extra promotions
- Live support
- Easy to win tables

### Cons-

- Not many games, focused on Holdem
- Not the best software

### Deposit Bonus-

[Interpoker](#) offers a 100% deposit bonus up to \$90 dollars EVERY MONTH. They also have a lot of extra promotions and give invitations to get an hourly wage

when playing!

**Re-deposit Bonus-**

100% bonus each month!

**Comp System-**

Playing in ring games get you points you can use to enter special tournaments.

**[Click Here to Visit InterPoker Now!](#)**

## Full Tilt Poker Review



### Summary-

[Full Tilt Poker](#) is a newer site launched in July 2004. It is backed by 9 pro-players such as Howard Lederer, Chris Ferguson, Phil Ivey, John Juanda and Erik Seidel, that come and play often. Most of the action seems to be at lower NL tables and mid limit games. The graphics are nice with cartoon style avatars. The software is good and different but I can't say it's the best.

With the cartoon avatars the game has a new kind of look and feel, some people really like it and others have no opinion. The main thing that brings in the players is large \$600 dollar bonus as well as other loyalty promotions.

Right now [Full Tilt Poker](#) doesn't have the most players but is looking pretty good for how long they have been around. The software seems to be fast and reliable; I have had no problem while playing there. Full tilt is definitely worth looking at; you may fall in love with the cool avatars.

### Pros-

- Nice look and feel
- Large \$600 dollar bonus
- High action play money tables
- Good comp system

### Cons-

- Most traffic plays No-Limit
- Tough competition
- Withdrawal Options are limited

### Deposit Bonus-

[Full Tilt Poker](#) offers a huge 100% bonus up to \$600 dollars.

### Re-deposit Bonus-

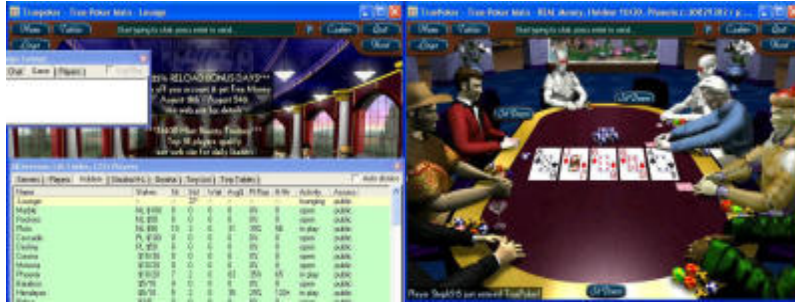
At the time of writing this they were offering a 50% re-deposit bonus.

**Comp System-**

[Full Tilt Poker](#) gives you points to buy clothes and other items.

**[Click Here to Visit Full Tilt Poker Now!](#)**

## True Poker Review



### Summary-

[True Poker](#) is the world's only 3D poker room; it has the best and most realistic graphics on the web. You need to see this one for yourself. They also now offer the best rake back program at 27%. This means every month you will get a cash refund of 27% your rake. On top of that they give new players a 30% deposit bonus and 4 free sit and go entries.

[True poker](#) is a must for players looking for that live game look and feel. If you're on an old computer you may have problems running the software due to the 3D graphics. The promotions seem to be getting better at [True poker](#) and the 27% rake back program is great. They also have great customer support and the fastest cash-outs around. I received my cash out within minutes of cashing out and it was my first cash-out!

[True Pokers](#) software is extremely safe and they have top-notch security. They also have a nice loyalty program where you can earn points to buy stuff at the [True Poker](#) store. If you are looking a great poker playing experience you need to try True Poker out!

### Pros-

- Only 3D Graphics Site
- 27% Rack Back Program
- Detailed lobby information
- Hand Statistics Function
- Closest thing to playing real poker

### Cons-

- No 7 card stud
- You have to play in 3D, Some people may not like it

### Deposit Bonus-

[True Poker](#) offers a 30% deposit bonus and new players also receive 4 free sit n go tournament entries. They also give players 27% of their rake back. This can be a lot better than any other bonus for most players.

**Re-deposit Bonus-**

True poker sometimes offers a 20% re-deposit bonus.

**Comp System-**

[True Poker](#) offers players True Points that can be used to bet merchandise.

**[Click Here to Visit True Poker Now!](#)**

# Poker Dictionary

## A

**Aces Full:** A full house with three aces and any pair.

**Ace-High:** A five card hand that contains one Ace, with no straight or flush or a hand with no pair in it.

**Aces Up:** A hand that contains two pairs, one of which is Aces.

**Action:** Checking/Betting/Raising. A game in which players are playing a lot of pots is considered an "action" game.

**Active Player:** Any player who is still in the hand.

**Add-on:** A purchase of more chips (optional) at the end of the re-buy period in a tournament.

**All-In:** When a player bets all his/her chips.: In online poker, you may be deemed "All-in" when you are disconnected (even if you have chips remaining).

**American Airlines:** Two Aces.

**Ante:** Money placed in the pot before the hand is begun.

## B

**Bad Beat:** When a hand is beaten by a lucky draw.

**Belly Buster:** A draw and/or catch to an Inside Straight.

**Bet:** To place chips into the pot.

**Bet the Pot:** When a player bets the amount of the pot.

**Bicycle:** A straight that is A-2-3-4-5.

**Big Blind** A designated amount that is placed by the player sitting in the second position, clockwise from the dealer, before any cards are dealt. (Players joining a game in progress must post a Big Blind, but may do so from any position.)

**Big Slick:** A hand that contains an A-K.

**Blind:** The bet(s) that must be made by the two players sitting directly to the dealer's left which will start the action on the first round of betting. The blinds are posted before any cards are dealt. (A "Blind" bet is one that is made in the dark without looking at your cards.)

**Blind Raise:** When a player raises without looking at his hand.

**Bluff** To make other players believe that one has a better hand than he/she might otherwise have by betting or raising when they do not have the best hand.

**Boardcards:** The cards that are dealt face-up in a poker game for all players to see. In flop games, five cards are dealt face-up in the center of the table. In Seven Card Stud, four cards are dealt face-up in front of each player.

**Bottom Pair:** When a player uses the lowest card on the flop to make a pair with one of his own cards.

**Broadway:** An Ace high straight (A-K-Q-J-10).

**Bring-In:** The forced bet made on the first round of betting by the player who is dealt the lowest card showing in Seven Card Stud and Stud 8 or Better. In Razz (Lowball) it is the highest card showing

**Bring It In** To start the betting on the first round.

**Broomcorn's Uncle:** A player who antes himself broke.

**Bullets:** A pair of Aces.

**Bump:** To raise.

**Button:** Also known as the dealer button, it is a small round disk that is moved from player to player in a clockwise direction following each hand, to theoretically indicate the dealer of each hand.

**Buy-In:** The minimum amount of money required by a player to sit down in a particular poker game.

## C

**Call:** When a player chooses to match the previous bet.

**Call Cold:** To call both a bet and raise(s). </P< **Cap:** To take the last of the maximum amount of raises allowed per round of betting.

**Cardroom:** The room or space in a casino where poker is played.

**Case Chips:** A player's last chips.

**Cash Out:** To leave a game and convert your chips to cash.

**Check:** When it's a player's turn to act and there has been no action in front of them and he opts not to bet, he "checks."

**Check-Raise:** When a player first checks and then raises in a betting round.

**Chop:** To return the blinds to the players who posted them and move on to the next hand if no other players call. It also means to "split the pot".

**Collusion:** When two or more players conspire to cheat in a poker game.

**Community Cards:** Cards that are face-up and used by all players.

**Cowboys:** Two Kings.

## D

**Dead Man's Hand:** Two pair - Aces and Eights (Wild Bill Hickock was shot in the back while playing this hand).

**Door Card:** This is the first exposed card, or "up" card, in a player's hand in Stud games.

**Down Card:** Hole cards. Cards that are dealt face down.

**Doyle Brunson** It's a Holdem hand consisting of a 10-2 (Brunson won the world championship two years in a row on the final hand with these cards).

**Draw Lowball:** Form of poker where each player is dealt five cards with the option of discarding one or more and replacing them with new ones and the low hand wins.

**Draw Poker:** Form of poker where each player is dealt five cards down with the option of discarding one or more and replacing them with new ones to attempt to make a better hand.

**Drop:** Fold.

**Ducks:** A pair of Twos.

**Deuces:** A pair of Twos.

## E

**Early Position:** Position on a round of betting where the player must act before most of the other players at the table. (It's considered the two positions located to the left of the Blinds. )

## F

**Fifth Street:** Also known as the "river" card. In flop games, this represents the fifth community card on the table and the final round of betting. In Stud games, this is the fifth card dealt to each player and represents the third round of betting.

**Five-card Draw:** A poker game in which the player is dealt five cards down.

They have one draw to replace them and the best high hand wins the pot.

**Five-card Stud** A poker game in which each player is dealt five cards, one down and four up, with betting after 2, 3, 4, & 5 cards.

**Flat Call:** Calling a bet without raising.

**Flop:** In Hold'em and Omaha, the first three community cards that are dealt face-up in the center of the table all at one time. The "flop" also indicates the second round of betting.

**Flop Games:** Poker games (Hold 'em and Omaha) that are played using community cards that are dealt face up in the center of the table.

**Floorman:** An employee of the cardroom who makes rulings and decisions.

**Flush:** Any five cards of the same suit.

**Flush Draw:** When a player has four cards in his hand of the same suit and is hoping to draw a fifth to make a flush.

**Fold:** To throw your hand away when it's your turn to act. **Forced Bet:** A required bet that starts the action on the first round of a poker hand.

**Four of a Kind:** Four cards of the same number or face value ("quads").

**Fourth Street:** In flop games, it is the fourth community card dealt (also known as "the turn") and represents the third round of betting. In Stud games, it is the fourth card dealt to each player and represents the second round of betting.

**Full House:** Any three cards of the same number or face value, plus any other two cards of the same number or face value.

## G

**Gut Shot:** To draw to and/or hit an inside straight.

## H

**Hand:** A player's best five cards.

**High-Card:** To decide the first dealer in the flop tournaments each user is dealt a single card and the player with the highest card (based on the card and the suit order - of spades, hearts, diamonds & clubs) becomes the theoretical dealer.

**High-Low:** Split pot games.

**Hold 'em:** Also known as Texas Hold 'em, where the players get two down cards and five community cards. See our complete Hold 'em rules in our Game Rules section.

**Hole Cards:** These are the Down Cards in front of the players.

**House** The casino or cardroom that is hosting the poker game.

## I

**Inside Straight:** Four cards which require another between the top and the bottom card to complete a straight. \ Players who catch this card make an Inside Straight.

## J

**Jackpot Poker:** A form of poker in which the cardroom or casino offers a jackpot to a player who has lost with a really big hand (usually Aces full or better).

**Jacks-or- Better:** A form of poker in which a player needs to have at least a pair of jacks to open the betting.

## K

**Kansas City Lowball:** Form of lowball poker in which the worst poker hand (2, 3, 4, 5, 7 of different suits) is the best hand. It's also known as Deuce to Seven.

**Keep Them Honest:** To call at the end of a hand to prevent someone from bluffing.

**Key Card:** A card that gives you a big draw or makes your hand.

**Key Hand:** In a session or tournament, the one hand that ends up being a turning point for the player, either for better or worse.

**Kicker:** The highest unpaired side card in a players' hand.

**Kick It:** Raise.

**Kill Pot:** A method to stimulate action. It is a forced bet by someone who has just won a pot(s).

**Knock:** Check.

**Kojak** A hand that contains a K-J.

## L

**Ladies:** Two Queens.

**Late Position:** Position on a round of betting where the player must act after most of the other players have acted (usually considered to be the two positions next to the button).

**Lay Down Your Hand:** When a player folds.

**Lead:** The first player to bet into a pot.

**Limit Poker:** A game that has fixed minimum and maximum betting intervals along with a prescribed number of raises.

**Limper:** The first player who calls a bet.

**Limp In:** To enter the pot by calling rather than raising. (The usual concept of "Limp In" is when the first person to speak just calls the Big Blind.)

**Live Blind:** An instance where the player puts in a dark bet and is allowed to raise, even if no other player raises. It's also known as an "option".

**Live Card(s):** In Stud Games, cards that have not yet been seen and are presumed to still be in play.

**Live Hand:** A hand that could still win the pot.

**Live One:** A not so knowledgeable player who plays a lot of hands.

**Look:** When a player calls the final bet before the showdown.

**Loose:** Is a player who plays a lot hands.

**Lowball:** Is a form of draw poker in which the lowest hand wins the pot.

## M

**Main Pot:** The center pot. Any other bets are placed in a side pot(s) and are contested among the remaining players. This occurs when a player(s) goes all-in.

**Make:** To make the deck is to shuffle the deck.

**Maniac:** A very aggressive player who plays a lot of hands.

**Middle Pair:** In flop games, when a player makes a pair with one of his/her down cards and the middle card on the flop.

**Middle Position:** Somewhere between the early and late positions on a round of betting (the fifth, sixth and seventh seats to the left of the button).

**Muck:** To discard or throw away your hand. It's also a pile of cards that are no longer in play.

**Minimum Buy-In:** The least amount you can start a game with.

**Monster:** A very big hand. In a tournament, a player who begins to accumulate chips after having a small stack is considered to be a monster.

## N

**No Limit:** A game where players can bet as much as they like (as long as they have it in front of them) on any round of betting.

**Nuts:** The best possible hand at any point of the game. A hand that cannot be beat.

## O

**Odds:** The probability of making a hand vs. the probability of not making a hand.

**Offsuit:** Cards of a different suit.

**Omaha:** A game in which each player is dealt four down cards with five community cards. To make your hand, you must play two cards from your hand and three from the board.

**Open:** To make the first bet.

**Open-ended Straight:** Four consecutive cards whereby one additional (consecutive) card is needed at either end to make a straight.

**Open Card:** A card that is dealt face-up.

**Open Pair:** A pair that has been dealt face-up.

**Option:** An option is a Live Blind made in the dark before the cards are dealt. If no one raises, the "option" player may raise the pot.

**Out Button:** A disc placed in front of a player who wishes to sit out a hand(s) but remain in the game.

## P

**Paints:** Face or picture cards (Jack, Queen and King).

**Pair:** Two cards of the same face or number value.

**Pass:** To fold.

**Pay Off:** To call on the final round of betting when you may or may not think you have the best hand.

**Picture Cards:** Face cards (Jack, Queen and King).

**Play Back:** To raise or re-raise another player's bet.

**Playing the Board:** In flop games when your best five card hand is all five of the community cards.

**Pocket:** The down cards or hole cards.

**Pocket Rockets:** A pair of Aces in the pocket or hole.

**Position:** Where a player is seated in relation to the dealer, therefore establishing that player's place in the betting order.

**Post:** When you post a bet, you place your chips in the pot. (You must post the Blinds.)

**Pot:** The money or chips in the center of a table that players try to win.

**Pot Limit:** This is a game where the maximum bet can equal the pot.

**Prop:** A person hired by the cardroom to work as a shill.

**Push:** When the dealer pushes the chips to the winning player at the end of a hand. It's also when dealers rotate to other tables.

**Put Down:** To fold a hand.

## Q

**Quads** Four of a kind.

**Qualifier** In High-Low games, it is a requirement the Low hand must meet to win the pot.

## R

**Rack** A tray that holds 100 poker chips in five stacks of twenty chips each.

**Rail:** The rim of a poker table or a barrier outside a poker area.

**Railbird:** Someone who hangs around a poker room who watches the games and/or is looking to get into action.

**Raise** To increase the previous bet.

**Rake:** Chips taken from the pot by the cardroom for compensation for hosting the game.

**Rank:** The value of each card and hand.

**Rap:** When a player knocks on the table indicating that he/she has checked.

**Razz:** Seven Card Stud where the lowest five cards win the pot.

**Re-buy:** The amount of money a player pays to add a fixed number of chips to his/her stack in a tournament.

**Re-raise:** To raise a raise.

**Ring Game:** A "live" game that is not a tournament.

**River:** This is the last card given in all games. In Hold'em and Omaha, it is also known as 5th street. In Stud games, it is also known as 7th street.

**Round of Betting:** This is when players have the opportunity to bet, check or raise. Each round of betting ends when the last bet or raise has been called.

**Rounders:** Guys who hustle for a living. This is also the name of a popular poker movie starring Matt Damon and Ed Norton.

**Royal Flush:** This is an Ace high straight (A-K-Q-J-10) of the same suit. It is the best possible hand in poker.

## S

**Satellite:** It is a mini-tournament to gain an entry into a larger tournament.

**Scoop:** To win the entire pot.

**Seating List:** A waiting list. A player would put his or her name on this list if there were no seats at the table at which they wish to play.

**Second Pair:** In flop games, when you pair the second highest card on the board.

**See:** To call.

**Seven-card Stud:** A well-known poker game in which players get three down cards and four up cards. You play the best five of those seven cards. [Click here for information on Seven-card Stud.](#)

**Seventh Street:** This is the final round of betting in Seven Card Stud and Stud 8 or Better.

**Shills:** Shills are paid props who help start and maintain poker games.

**Showdown:** At the end of the final betting round, it's when all active players turn their cards face-up to see who has won the pot.

**Side Pot:** A separate pot(s) which is contested by remaining active players when one or more players are all-in.

**Sixth Street:** In Seven-card Stud, this is the fourth "up" card dealt to the player (their 6th card). It is also the 4th round of betting.

**Solid:** A fairly tight player (and reasonably good).

**Small Blind:** The amount put in the pot by the person immediately to the left of the dealer "button" prior to the cards being dealt.

**Speed Limit:** A pair of fives.

**Split:** Tie.

**Stack:** A pile of chips.

**Stay:** When a player remains in the game by calling rather than raising.

**Steel Wheel:** A five high straight (A-2-3-4-5) of the same suit.

**Straddle:** A straddle is a Blind bet which is usually double the size of the Big Blind (and that player may raise when the action gets to him).

**Straight:** Five consecutive cards of any suit.

**Straight Flush:** Five consecutive cards of the same suit.

**Structure:** The limits put on the blinds/ante, bets, and raises in any particular game.

**Stud Games:** Games in which players get down cards and up cards.

**Stuck:** A player who is losing in a game.

## T

**Texas Hold'em:** This is also the name for Hold'em, the most popular form of poker.

**Third Street:** In Seven Card Stud and Seven Card Stud 8 or Better, this is the first betting round on the first three cards.

**Thirty Miles:** Three tens.

**Three of a Kind:** Three cards of the same number or face value ("trips").

**Tight:** A player who doesn't play many pots. A tight game is one that doesn't have much action.

**TOC:** Tournament of Champions.

**Top Pair:** In flop games, when the player pairs one of his down cards with the highest card on board.

**Treys:** A pair of threes.

**Trips:** Three of a kind.

**Turn:** In flop games, this is the fourth card dealt. It is the third round of betting.

**Two Pair:** A hand consisting of two different pairs.

## U

**Up Card:** A card that is dealt face-up.

## V-W

**Walking Sticks:** A pair of sevens.

**Wild Card:** A card that can be played as any value.

**Worst Hand:** A losing hand.

**WSOP:** World Series of Poker.

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