

Learn How To Play Poker Like A Pro

If you've ever wanted to learn how to play poker, then this great e-report will give you the ideal introduction to playing, winning plus lots of resources to help you improve your game!



Official poker rules

Basic Poker Terms:

Hand: Hand represents to the particular combination of cards held by the player.

Play: A single game, from one shuffle to the next is called a play.

Pot: The accumulation or pool of money bet by players during the game is referred to as pot. The game is a contest for a pot of money, which builds in the course of play of each hand.

Hand Tie: If two players have the same hand then they divide the pot between them. When the pool is not exactly divisible then the left over amount goes to the player who called the highest bet.

Ante: Money the players put into the pot before they see their cards. Antes are also called **blind bets**.

Rake: It is a commission charged by the poker rooms as a small amount of the total pot won at the end of most hands. This is their only source of revenue.

Showdown: The final act of determining the winner of the pot after all the betting has been completed.

Betting Rules:

Call: A bet exactly equal to the highest bet made by the preceding player to stay in the play. Call is often known as "**stay in**".

Fold: A player discards his hand and gives up his chance of winning the pot in this play. A player who folds is considered inactive and also forfeits his previous bets. Fold is also referred to as "**drop out**".

Raise: A bet equal to the highest bet made by any of the preceding players plus some extra amount. The additional amount is that by which he raises the bet. Every other player in the game must either then call (bring his bet up to the raised amount), fold, or raise again.

Check: It's like pass, where a player doesn't bet any amount and still stays in the play.

Also see how **limit, no limit and pot limit poker rules** affect your betting.

Hand Rankings:

Know the order of cards, from low to high **2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Jack (J), Queen (Q), King (K) and Ace (A)**. The ace (A) can usually double as the lowest card when necessary. There is no ranking between the suits - so for example the king of hearts and the king of spades are equal. Poker ranks are always based on five cards only.

Familiarize yourself with the definitions and values of different hand. The hands are in order of increasing value: **One Pair, Two pair, Three of a kind, Straight, Flush, Full house, Four of a kind, Straight flush and Royal flush**. A given hand beats all hands listed before it.

1. **One pair** refers to two cards out of five cards with the same numerical value **Ex: A-A-K-7-6 (or) J-J-8-5-3**. If the pairs are equal, compare the highest ranking odd cards from each hand; if these are equal compare the second highest odd card, and if these are equal too compare the lowest odd cards. So **A-A-7-6-5** beats **A-A-7-3-2** because the **6** beats **3**.

2. **Two pair** refers to two different pairs of cards and one another card. **EX: A-A-K-K-5 (or) J-J-10-10-7**. If the higher pairs are equal, the lower pairs are compared, so that for example **A-A-K-K-5** beats **A-A-J-J-3**. Finally, if both pairs are the same, the odd cards are compared, so **A-A-10-10-5** beats **A-A-10-10-4**.
3. **Three of a kind** refers to three cards of the same numerical value and two other cards. **EX: A-A-A-3-2 (or) 5-5-5-K-J**. If you have to compare two threes of a kind where the sets of three are of equal rank, then the higher of the two remaining cards in each hand are compared, and if those are equal, the lower odd card is compared, so **K-K-K-A-10** beats **K-K-K-A-9** because **10** beats **9**.
4. **Straight** refers to five cards in the sequential order of different suits. **EX: 6-5-4-3-2 (or) Q-J-10-9-8**. **5-4-3-2-A** is the lowest kind of straight, 5 being the top card. Where **3-2-A-K-Q** is invalid since cards cannot turn the corner.
5. **Flush** refers to five cards in non-sequential order of the same suit. **EX: A-9-7-5-2 (or) K-J-8-6-3**. If the highest cards are equal then the second highest card is compared; if those are equal too, then the third highest card, and so on. Here **J-9-7-5-2** beats **J-9-7-4-3** because **5** beats **4**.
6. **Full House** refers to three cards of the same numerical value and a pair **EX: A-A-A-5-5 (or) 6-6-6-2-2**. If the threes of a kind were equal, the rank of the pairs would decide the outcome.
7. **Four of a kind** refers to four cards of the same numerical value and any other card. **EX: A-A-A-A-3 (or) 5-5-5-5-7**.
8. **Straight Flush** refers to five cards of the same sequential order of the same suit. **EX: 7-6-5-4-3 (or) 9-10-J-Q-K** all spades. Remember **Q-K-A-2-3** is usually not allowed. Since cards cannot turn corner.
9. **Royal Flush** refers to **10-J-Q-K-A (or) A-K-Q-J-10** of the same suit. It's nothing but the best straight flush. As all suits are equal, all royal flushes are equal.

10. Now what happens when the five cards do not form any of the

combinations listed above. That's when **High Card** comes in to play. When comparing two such hands, the one with the better highest card wins. If the highest cards are equal the second cards are compared; if they are equal too the third cards are compared, and so on. So **A-J-9-5-3** beats **A-10-9-6-4** because the **J** beats **10**.

Types of Poker

Texas holdem

Texas holdem is one of the most popular and by far the best game of poker. It can be played with as little as two players, up to ten players. The game is well-liked both in the US and abroad, due to its fast paced play and simple game rules. The game consists of four betting rounds. Texas holdem is played with each player receiving two private cards face-down and five community cards face-up placed in the center of the table, to be shared by all the players. Player with the highest hand at the showdown wins the pot.

Texas holdem rules

1. A small dealer button identifies a player as a dealer. The dealer button moves left in a clock wise fashion to the next player, after every hand.
2. Before any cards are dealt to the players, the pot is formed through bets known as blind bets or ante.
 1. First player to the dealers left puts the first blind bet called small blind.
 2. Second player to the dealers left puts the second blind bet called big blind.
 3. The first blind bet is smaller then the second blind bet that's why we call them the small blind and the big blind.
 4. Since the bets are placed with out seeing the cards they are called blinds.
 5. According to poker rules, blinds are considered live bets and can be checked, called, raised or folded.
3. Each player is dealt two cards face-down called **private cards**. Face-down means no body else sees your cards except you.
4. The player left of the big blind makes the first bet starting the first betting round, where you can call, raise or fold.
5. Now three cards are dealt face-up placed in the center of the table starting the second betting round.
 1. Player left to the dealer bets first.
 2. These cards are called **community cards**, since they are available to all players.
 3. This round of betting is called "**Flop**".
6. The fourth community card is dealt face-up in the center of the table starting the third betting round called "**Turn**". In this round the betting amount doubles from the previous one.

7. The fifth and the final community card is dealt face-up in the center of the table to start the last betting round called "**River**".
8. After the final round of betting it's time for showdown and the player with the highest hand wins the pot. Where as identical hands split the pot. The dealer button moves to the next player to play the next hand.

Omaha hi

Omaha hi is also a popular poker game played between two - ten players. The game consists of four betting rounds. Omaha hi is played with each player receiving four private cards face-down and five community cards face-up placed in the center of the table, to be shared by all the players. Each player creates the highest valued hand, using any two of their four private cards and any three of the five community cards.

Omaha hi lo is another version of the game above with same rules but, each player creates the highest valued and/or lowest valued qualifying hand, using any two of their four private cards and any three of the five community cards.

Omaha poker rules

Omaha high poker or Omaha game play is very similar to Texas Holdem, But with two exceptions.

1. Instead of two cards four cards are dealt face down to each player.
2. And every player must use exactly two of their private cards and three of their community cards at showdown.

Let's see how it's played in detail:

1. A small dealer button identifies a player as a dealer. The dealer button moves left in a clock wise fashion to the next player, after every hand.
2. Before any cards are dealt to the players, the pot is formed through bets known as blind bets or ante.
 1. First player to the dealers left puts the first blind bet called small blind.
 2. Second player to the dealers left puts the second blind bet called big blind.

3. The first blind bet is smaller than the second blind bet that's why we call them the small blind and the big blind.
4. Since the bets are placed without seeing the cards they are called blinds.
5. According to poker rules, blinds are considered live bets and can be checked, called, raised or folded.
3. Each player is dealt four cards face-down called **private cards**. Face-down means no body else sees your cards except you.
4. The player left of the big blind makes the first bet starting the first betting round, where you can call, raise or fold.
5. Now three cards are dealt face-up placed in the center of the table starting the second betting round.
 1. Player left to the dealer bets first.
 2. These cards are called **community cards**, since they are available to all players.
 3. This round of betting is called "**Flop**".
6. The fourth community card is dealt face-up in the center of the table starting the third betting round called "**Turn**". In this round the betting amount doubles from the previous one.
7. The fifth and the final community card is dealt face-up in the center of the table to start the last betting round called "**River**".
8. After the final round of betting it's time for showdown and the player with the highest hand wins the pot. The dealer button moves to the next player to play the next hand.

Omaha Hi/Lo:

Omaha Poker Hi/Lo (8 or better) is played the same as Omaha Hi poker but with two exceptions:

1. At showdown the pot is split between the highest hand and the lowest qualifying hand.
2. In order to qualify as the lowest valued hand, the player must create a hand containing no card higher than 8.

Seven card stud

Seven card stud is another popular version of poker game played between two - eight players. Betting in Seven Card Stud consists of an initial ante, preceded by five betting rounds. The game is played with each player receiving three face-down cards and four face-up cards. Each player creates the highest valued hand, using any combination of five of their seven total cards.

Seven card stud hi lo is another version of the game above with same rules but, each player creates the highest valued and/or lowest valued qualifying hand, using any combination of five of their seven total cards.

7 card stud poker hi rules

1. Before the initial deal of the cards, each player must place an ante.
2. Each player is dealt three cards, two face-down ("**hole cards or private cards**") and one face-up called the ("**up card or door card**").
3. The first betting round will start with the player with the lowest card by value and suit. This is known as the "**force**" or "**bring-in**" bet. This is the only time suits will play a role in the game.
4. Now each player is dealt another card face-up called the "**Fourth Street**".
5. The second betting round will start with the player with the highest two-card value. This is known as "**having the action**".
6. If there is a hand tie between players then the player with the highest valued hand and sitting closest to the left of the dealer will have the action.
7. Each player is again dealt another card face-up called the "**Fifth Street**". The third betting round will start with the player with the highest three-card value.
8. Each player is again dealt another card face-up called the "**Sixth Street**". The fourth betting round will start with the player with the highest four-card value.
9. Now the seventh and final card called the "**River**" will be dealt face-down to all the players and the fifth and the final betting round starts with the player with the highest valued hand.
10. Occasionally if there are not enough cards left to give each player their final seventh card, the river. In this case one **community card** will be placed, face-up, in the center of the table and will be shared by all the players.
11. After the final and fifth round of betting it's time for showdown and the player with the highest hand using any combination of five of their seven total cards wins the pot. The dealer button moves to the next player to play the next hand.

7 Card Stud Hi/Lo:

7 card stud poker Hi/Lo (8 or better) is played the same as 7 card stud poker but with the following exceptions:

1. There is no declaration of whether a player is going for high or low.
2. At showdown the pot is split between the highest hand and the lowest qualifying hand.
3. In order to qualify as the lowest valued hand, the player must create a hand containing no card higher than an 8.

***NOTE:** In 7 card stud, card suits are valued in the following order, with Spades being of the highest value, followed by Hearts, Diamonds and Clubs (lowest value).

Five card draw

Five card draw poker is the oldest and still one of the best poker games. The game is played between two - five players. Betting in Five card draw poker consists of an initial Ante, preceded by two betting rounds. Each player receives five cards face-down and may discard or draw up to five cards after the first betting round. The player with the highest hand at showdown wins the pot.

5 card draw poker rules

First few rules are the same as texas holdem rules; anyway we will go through them again for 5 card draw poker.

1. A small dealer button identifies a player as a dealer. The dealer button moves left in a clock wise fashion to the next player, after every hand.
2. Before any cards are dealt to the players, the pot is formed through bets known as blind bets or ante.
 1. First player to the dealers left puts the first blind bet called small blind.
 2. Second player to the dealers left puts the second blind bet called big blind.
 3. The first blind bet is smaller then the second blind bet that's why we call them the small blind and the big blind.

4. Since the bets are placed with out seeing the cards they are called blinds.
5. According to poker rules, blinds are considered live bets and can be checked, called, raised folded.
3. Each player is dealt five cards face-down.
4. The player left of the big blind makes the first bet starting the first betting round, where you can call, raise or fold.
5. After the first betting round each player is asked to discard and draw from zero to five cards.
6. A player may even chose not to discard any cards in which case it is called **staying**.
7. After each player in the hand has either exchanged his cards or stayed the second and the final betting round begins.
8. After the final round of betting it's time for showdown and the player with the highest hand wins the pot. Where as identical hands split the pot. The dealer button moves to the next player to play the next hand.

Pot limit, limit, no limit rules

Limit poker rules:

1. There are two limits specified, the lower betting limit and the higher betting limit.
2. The lower betting limit will be the size of all bets and raises in the earlier or first two betting rounds.
3. The higher limit will be the size of all bets and raises in the final two betting rounds.
4. Also there can be no more than one bet and three raises in any betting round. Once the third raise is made the betting is capped.
5. For example in a \$1/\$2 game, a player may bet \$1 in the first betting rounds and may raise to \$2 in the final betting rounds. If a player bets \$2 then any raiser must raised to \$4.

No limit poker rules:

1. The raise amount must be at least as much as the previous bet or raise in the same round.
2. For example if a player bets \$10 then the next player must raise a minimum of \$10.
3. Since this is "No Limit" poker you can raise by all the chips you have or be raised by all the chips your opponent has.

Pot limit poker rules:

1. The raise amount must be at least as much as the previous bet or raise in the same round.
2. The size of the bet is determined by the pot in the middle, including all bets on the table and the amount the active player must first call before raising.
3. For Example if the pot in the middle has \$20. Now the first player bets \$15, the second player calls \$15 and your call is \$15. At this moment the total amount in the pot before your raise is \$65.
4. Now you may either call \$15 or you may call and raise anywhere from \$15 to \$65. Remember you can never bet more than the current size of the pot.

Resources

Poker Edge – The World Leading Poker Software To Give You The Upper Hand !

Sit N Go Pro – Learn How To Earn \$1200 A Day At 'Sit N Go' Poker

Texas Hold `em Wipeout Tactics – How To Lull Your Opponents Into Them Feeding You Their Money

Classic Casino - \$500 Free for 1 Hour and Keep Your Winnings

888 – Play Poker Online

PartyPoker – Large Poker Room, Daily Tournaments And Large Jackpot Prizes

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