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Let's face it, folding in poker is pretty boring. You give up all potential to win the hand, and you'll never know for sure whether your opponent was bluffing or not. However, folding is just as essential in a winning Texas Hold'em player's strategy as betting or raising. If you don't know when to fold, you'll bleed money at the tables, making it close to impossible to be a winning player. If you feel like you need some help understanding when to fold in poker, this article is for you.

What Does Fold Mean In Poker?

Let's start with the basics; what does fold mean in poker? Folding in poker is the act of surrendering your cards and forfeiting all interest in the pot. You no longer have to invest any money into the pot, but you lose your chance to win it. You must wait until it is your turn to act before folding, as folding out of turn gives an unfair informational advantage to the players who haven't yet acted.

When playing online, folding is as easy as clicking a button;

but when you play live, you need to make sure that you keep your cards face down when you toss your cards into the muck. This is because any exposed cards will influence the action for players who are left in the hand, so it's best to keep your cards on the table when you fold your hand.

How Often Should You Fold In Poker?

Now that we know what folding in poker is, how often should you do it?

Well, like the answer to a lot of things in poker, it depends. If you fold too often, you allow your opponents to exploit you by bluffing more frequently. However, if you call too often, your opponents can adjust their ranges to bluff you less frequently, which means you'll lose a ton of chips to their value bets. It's a tricky balance to pull off.

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There are certain things that you should always consider before deciding whether or not you should fold; let's take a closer look.

Bet Size One of the first things to look at is the size of your opponent's bet. A good rule of thumb is the bigger the bet, the more you should fold, as you need the minimum defence frequency to be lower for larger bets. If you've got a drawing hand, another thing to think about is whether you're getting the odds to call, considering how often you'll make your draw. If you are, then you know you have a profitable call.

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Opponent Type Another thing to consider is the type of opponent you're playing against. If they're a maniac who bets at every single pot,