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Procedures of betting in poker

This article is about the common terms, rules, and procedures of betting in poker only. For the strategic impact of betting, see poker strategy

In the game of poker, the play largely centers on the act of betting, and as such, a protocol has been developed to speed up play, lessen confusion, and increase security while playing. Different games are played using different types of bets, and small variations in etiquette exist between cardrooms, but for the most part the following rules and protocol are observed by the majority of poker players.

Procedure [edit]

Players in a poker game act in turn, in clockwise rotation () Tj T* BT /F

player's turn to act, the first verbal declaration or action they take binds them to their choice of action; this rule prevents a player from changing their action after seeing how other players react to their initial action

[1]

Until the first bet is made each player in turn may "check", which is to not place a bet, or "open", which is to make the first bet. After the first bet each player may "fold", which is to drop out of the hand losing any bets they have already made; "call", which is to match the highest bet so far made; or "raise", which is to increase the previous high bet.[1]

A player may fold by surrendering one's cards. (Some games may (12) Tj T* F

the table or making any similar motion. All other bets are made by placing chips in front of the player, but not directly into the pot ("splash) Tj T* BT /F

Order of betting [edit]

Play proceeds to the left of the dealer

In general, the person to the left of the dealer acts first and action proceeds in a clockwise fashion. If any player has folded earlier, ac