

7 Card Stud Hi/Lo

7 Card Stud Hi/Lo - A Quick Look:

7 Card Stud Hi/Lo is an ever-popular poker variation. At all big tournaments you will find high-stakes 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo side games.

Play in 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo is through 5 sequential rounds of betting; 3rd Street, 4th Street, 5th Street, 6th Street and the River. In limit games the first 2 rounds are at the lower limit and the remaining 3 rounds are at the higher limit.

Hi/Lo games are played so that the pot is split between the best high hand and the best low hand. The PartyPoker.com Rank of Hands page shows the relative rank of both high hands and low hands.

Hi/Lo games at PartyPoker.com are played with an 8 as the qualifier for low. This means that to qualify as a low hand, the hand must contain 5 unpaired cards of the rank of 8 or lower. For purposes of the low hand, the ace is considered to be the lowest card in the deck and straights and flushes do not count for low. If no hand qualifies as a low hand then the high hand wins the whole pot.

For purposes of finding the winning low hand, the wheel - A, 2, 3, 4, 5 - is the best possible low hand and a straight 8 - 8, 7, 6, 5, 4 - is the worst possible low hand.

In the instance of a wheel - A, 2, 3, 4, 5 - the player has the best possible low hand and a 5 high straight for high.

The next-lowest high card can also be used to determine the winning hand. Take these two hands, for example:

- Player A: 8s, 6c, 5h, 4d, 2s
- Player B: 8h, 7c, 3d, 2c, Ah

In this case, Player A will win the hand as his 6c is the next-lowest high card.

To start the hand the deck is shuffled, the antes are posted and each player is dealt two cards face down and one card face up. After these cards are dealt there is a round of betting. This first round of betting is at the lower limit. These cards and this betting action are referred to as 3rd Street.

The action on 3rd Street begins with a compulsory bring-in bet by the player with the lowest exposed card by suit. The player with the lowest exposed card may begin the betting with the lower bring-in amount or by completing the bet and betting the full amount of a lower limit bet.

On all rounds the betting action is limited to one bet and three raises. When the betting on 3rd Street is complete the dealer will deal another card, face up, to the remaining players. This 4th card and the betting that follows it are known as 4th Street.

On 4th Street all players have 2 hole cards and 2 board/open cards. The betting action on this round begins with the player with the highest 2-card poker hand. This is the last round of betting at the lower limit.

After the betting action on 4th Street is complete each player is dealt a 5th card, face up. The betting action on this round is the first round of betting at the higher limit. This card and this betting action are called 5th Street.

On 6th Street players receive their last face up, 6th, card. There is another round of betting at the higher limit.

When the 6th Street action is complete each player receives a final, 7th, card. This last card is dealt face down.

The betting on 7th Street is the last round of betting. It is at the higher limit and is limited to one bet and three raises.

When the action is complete, the pot is split between the best high hand and the best low hand. If there is no remaining low hand that qualifies then the best high hand gets the entire pot.

The pot is awarded, the dealer button is moved one position in a clockwise direction, and another hand begins.

Conduct of the Game

In the text and graphics below you will see a clear demonstration of the look of the table and the conduct of play for each of the five rounds of betting in a typical limit 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo game.

For each hand of 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo the cards are shuffled, the antes

are posted and each player is dealt two cards face down and one card face up.

After the cards are dealt the 3rd Street betting action begins with the bring-in bet.

3rd Street – Bring-In



Seats at all poker tables are numbered from the dealer's left going around the table in a clockwise direction.

The game we are watching is a limit \$3/\$6 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo game. The ante is \$.50, the bring-in is \$1, bets and raises on the first two rounds are for \$3 and bets and raises on the last three rounds are for \$6.

The 3rd Street action in all Stud games begins with the player with the lowest exposed or door card.

From the above Game:

In the example above, player GulfKing and player MrKKleen are both taking a break. There are six active players and they have put in an ante of \$0.50 each, which accounts for the \$3 in the pot.

Player ENEPort, who has the lowest exposed card, will start the betting action on 3rd Street.

The bring-in bet is compulsory. The player must either bring the pot in with a \$1 bet or complete the bet to \$3.

In this case ENEPort has one of the best starting hands in Stud Hi/Lo. The A, 2, 3 can make a great low hand and can also make a small straight for a possible scooper.

Player ENEPort will most probably complete the bet to \$3. The other players may, in turn, call, raise the bet or fold. On 3rd Street all bets and raises are for \$3 and there is a limit of one bet and three raises on all rounds.

After the bring-in, normal 3rd Street action begins.

3rd Street – Action



On 3rd Street the action begins with the lowest exposed card.

All bets and raises on 3rd Street after the bring-in will be for \$3 and there is a limit of one bet and three raises on all rounds.

From the above Game:

The lowest exposed card is the 2h, held by thisaintit. That player has chosen to bring the bet in for \$1. Player #5 has called and the action pointer indicates that player louthamegger is next to act.

Player ENEPort in seat #8 has a wonderful 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo starting hand. Just one more card can turn her hand into a very good low hand or a very good high hand. A possible straight flush wheel is possible for this player. She will probably complete or raise the bet.

Players acting after ENEPort may either call, raise, re-raise or fold.

3rd Street Stud Hi/Lo Tips for Beginners:

- . •As a rule only play hands that have the possibility to go both ways.
- . •Make sure the cards you need are live, that is that you cannot see them in your opponents' board cards.

Once the 3rd Street action is complete, another card is dealt, face up, to each player and the action on 4th Street begins.

4th Street



The stakes in the game are \$3/\$6 and all bets and raises on 4th Street are for the lower amount, \$3.

Betting on all rounds is limited to one bet and three raises.

In 7 Card Stud the action on 4th Street begins with the player holding the highest exposed poker hand.

The above graphic shows the betting action on 4th Street in a typical 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo game.

From the above Game:

On 4th Street the player with the highest exposed hands was player GulfKing. GulfKing checked and player ENEPort, the player in seat #8, started the betting with a \$3 bet. Player #4 has raised that bet and player GulfKing and player #7 have both called the raised bet.

The action pointer indicates that it is now ENEPort's turn to call the raise, re-raise the raise or fold. With a very strong Hi/Lo hand, ENEPort will most probably re-raise.

When the action on 4th Street is complete another card, the 5th, is dealt to all players, face up. All players now have 5 cards, 2 face down and three face up. After this 5th Street card is dealt, 5th Street betting action begins.

4th Street Tips for Beginners:

- Fold to a brick on 4th Street. A hand that is looking to go both ways, high and low, is severely damaged by a nine or higher. With four cards to a strong 2-way hand and the stakes about to double on the next round, it is best to only proceed with 4 cards that can all help make a strong hand.

5th Street

6th Street Tip for Beginners:

- With a very strong made hand in either direction and most especially with a hand that is strong for both Hi and Low; bet, raise and re-raise to build the pot you will probably win.
- On 6th Street be very aware of your opponent's open cards. Three or more cards of the same suit may indicate a flush. An open pair can indicate a full house or better.

When the action is complete, the last, 7th, card will be dealt face down to all players and the final round of betting will begin.

7th Street



On 7th Street the last round of betting is for the higher limit.

In this case all bets and raises will be for \$6.

The action is limited to one bet and three raises.

From the above Game:

In the above graphic all 6th Street action has been completed and the

pot is awarded.

In the above game there is both a high hand and a low hand so the pot is split.

Player ENEPort wins half the pot with a low hand of A, 2, 3, 5, 8.

The player in seat #5 wins half the pot with a high hand of 9, 9, 9, K,

7.

7th Street Tip for Beginners:

- . •With a very strong hand and one you believe is the winner, continue to bet and raise to further build the pot you will probably win.
- . •With large pots be inclined to make value calls with hands of moderate strength in either direction.

7 Card Stud Hi/Lo Tips for Beginners:

- . •Generally only play hands that can go both high and low.
- . •Stud is a patience game. Be very selective in the hands you play.
- . •PLAY LIVE CARDS.
- . •Fold to a brick on 4th Street.
- . •In stud there are 5 rounds of betting. Without a powerful hand or a powerful draw, be gone before the stakes increase on 5th Street.
- . •Top poker pros and all of us at PartyPoker.com agree that good poker manners make good poker sense, make the game more enjoyable and can add to your poker bottom line. Professional players know that to anger or offend other players can sometimes cause an otherwise very loose player to play more conservatively or a bad player to play better. When the game flow is adversely affected there are fewer hands/opportunities per hour. Click here to learn more about poker etiquette and PartyPoker.com's standards of acceptable behavior at the table.

You will find further information on a PartyPoker.com Site Tour, from our PartyPoker.com Site FAQs or our Poker Glossary.

Most poker variations, including 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo, are played according to one of four betting schemes or protocols. These are: limit, pot-limit, no-limit and spread limit. [Click here](#) to see a complete explanation of each.

At PartyPoker.com, 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo is offered at 6- and 8-handed tables. 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo is offered in cash game and play money formats. [A click here](#) will show all of the 7 Card Stud Hi/Lo cash game stakes offered at PartyPoker.com. Cash games are subject to minimum buy-in requirements and are played as table stakes games. In these links you will find a complete description of all of the tournament fees and cash game rakes collected at PartyPoker.com.

As always if you have any questions as you explore this section please feel free to contact our 24/7 Customer Care Support Team.