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## How To Improve Your Poker Game

By Adel Awwad

If you are an avid poker player then you will constantly be looking for ways to improve your poker game. Gaming strategies, odds calculators, poker tutorials and more can certainly assist you in your attempts to improve your game. Plus, good old fashioned practice will help you hone your poker skills and will also help you become a sharp and formidable poker player at the tables.

First, if you are looking to improve your poker game, you will want to read every book you possibly can about the subject. Professional poker players often write books about their playing techniques. In learning about the different techniques that various poker player's use, you can learn the techniques that work best for you and subsequently improve your poker game.

Second, when looking to improve your poker game, you will want to explore as many strategic plays as possible. This can be done at free online casinos where you can learn the different types of rules for poker variants, the different types of hands to play and you can even play against people from anywhere on the globe.

Third, when seeking to improve your poker game, you may want to read or check out various poker game tutorials on the web. Such tutorials may provide you with some insight that you may have not otherwise had before you viewed the tutorial. You would be surprised what you might learn while viewing tutorials and you will find the learning process both engaging and fun.

Fourth, you might want to familiarize yourself with poker odds. You can memorize poker odds to increase your playing power at the tables or, if you prefer, you can invest in a poker odds calculator. A poker odds calculator can help you learn the odds of various hands and once you have mastered the odds; you will be able to place far wiser bets at the playing table.

Finally, you can learn a lot by watching the pros play. When watching professional poker players note how they intimidate other players and study their poker face. Studying the poker faces of the professionals will help you develop your own strategies for psyching out other players at the table. Let's face it; sometimes you need to bluff, no matter what your strategy is. Nevertheless, by mastering the techniques of poker, there will be fewer times that you will be required to bluff!

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### **The History Of Jacks Or Better Poker**

**By Adel Awwad**

The origins of Poker and Jacks or Better are quite controversial. There isn't any specific ancestor of the game to draw a date from. However, Poker is a very old game indeed. The earliest reference seems to be from JH Green who, in 1834, referred to the 'cheating game' being played on the riverboats in Mississippi of the time. Jacks or Better Poker seemed to be a more legitimate game than Three Card Monte, which was quite popular at the time. Jacks or Better took over with popularity because it was labeled a fair game.

The origin of the name 'Poker' likely comes from the French 'poque' and old French game; while other people claim that the word 'Poker' must have come from Germany's pochspiel. There are still few who also believe the word is derived from the Hindu pukka.

Jacks or Better is one of the more popular original types of Poker that were played, although no information is really available as to its exact origins. Jacks or Better is one of the common rules amongst most types of Poker games that are played with some exceptions in the new variations of Poker that are played at casinos.

Jacks or Better Poker is available as a game for video Poker. The concept behind the game is that a pair of Jacks or Better wins: the better hand consisting two pairs, flush, straight, etc. up to a royal flush. Poker was thought of as a game of the men of the underworld in times past however nowadays is played legally in many variations in casinos around the world. It is possible that Poker is derived from many of earlier games that lent influence to the game of Poker we know today. It was reported by English actor, Joseph Crowell, that Poker was played in New Orleans in 1829 with a deck consisting of 20 cards, and with four players betting on which player's hand was the most valuable.

After the spread of gambling from the Mississippi riverboats, the full, 52 card deck was introduced and used to play Poker and the flush hand (five cards of the same suit) was introduced. Poker has been around for nearly 200 years, and there have been many variations that have come about from the game. Jacks or Better Poker is one simple variation of the game that is commonly played, especially in video Poker.

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