



# Bankroll Management

**Poker Bankroll:** The amount of money you have set aside for the sole purpose of playing poker.

## **Bankroll Management (BRM)**

The method in which you choose to manage your money to determine what stakes you can afford to play, as well as when you should move up or move down in stakes depending on the size of your bankroll.

The primary goal of bankroll management is to reduce your risk of ruin, a.k.a. your likelihood of going bust.



# Recommended Bankroll Size

- Since this course is geared towards both beginning and struggling poker players, with marginal win rates, I preach a conservative bankroll management strategy.
- Based on your current win rate, you should use the following bankroll requirements:
  - **1bb/100**: 120 Buy-Ins
  - **2bb/100**: 60 Buy-Ins
  - **3bb/100**: 40 Buy-Ins
  - **4bb/100**: 30 buy-Ins
  - **5bb/100**: 25 Buy-Ins

**bb/100 Win Rate:** The amount of big blinds you win per every 100 hands you play.



# Bankroll Size by Stakes

Stakes	Number of Buy-Ins	Bankroll Requirement
2NL	25 - 120	\$50 - \$240
5NL	25 - 120	\$125 - \$600
10NL	25 - 120	\$250 - \$1,200
20NL	25 - 120	\$500 - \$2,400
40NL	25 - 120	\$1,000 - \$4,800



# Calculating your bb/100 Win Rate

If you don't currently use poker tracking software that auto-calculates your bb/100 win rate, I'm going to show you an easy way to calculate it yourself in three easy steps.

- **Step 1:** Convert Winnings into Big Blinds
- **Step 2:** Divide Total Hands Played by 100
- **Step 3:** Big Blinds Won / Sets of 100 Hands Played = bb/100 Win Rate

Assuming we played 20,000 hands at 5NL and won a total of \$75, our bb/100 win rate would be as follows:

- **Step 1:**  $\$75/\$0.05 = 1,500$  Big Blinds Won
- **Step 2:**  $20,000/100 = 200$  Sets of 100
- **Step 3:**  $1,500/200 = 7.5$  **bb/100 Win Rate**



# Taking Shots

- I'll walk you through the process of taking shots at higher stakes.
- We'll use a 40BI bankroll requirement and look to move from 5NL to 10NL.
  - Our 40BI bankroll at 5NL would only be 20BI at 10NL.
  - In order to have 40BI at 10NL, we need to increase our bankroll to 80BI at 5NL.
  - Once we reach 80BIs at 5NL, we're ready to take a shot and move up to 10NL.
  - When we move up to 10NL we should give ourselves a 5BI loss threshold, where if we lose 5BIs, we should move back down to 5NL until we build our bankroll back up to 40BIs for 10NL and are ready to take another shot.
  - Also, whenever we move up in stakes, we should use the entire 5BI loss threshold and don't prematurely move back down in stakes.



# Basic Tenants of Bankroll Management

- Never Play Outside Your Financial Means
- Focus on Your Goals
- Play Stakes your Bankroll can Withstand