



# Additional Terminology, Notation, and Acronyms

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# Referring to *We*

- I may refer to *we* whenever I'm conveying important information or discussing example and practice hands.
- I do this for a particular reason:
  - we're working through this content together, with me as your poker teacher guiding you to help you make correct decisions at the poker table.

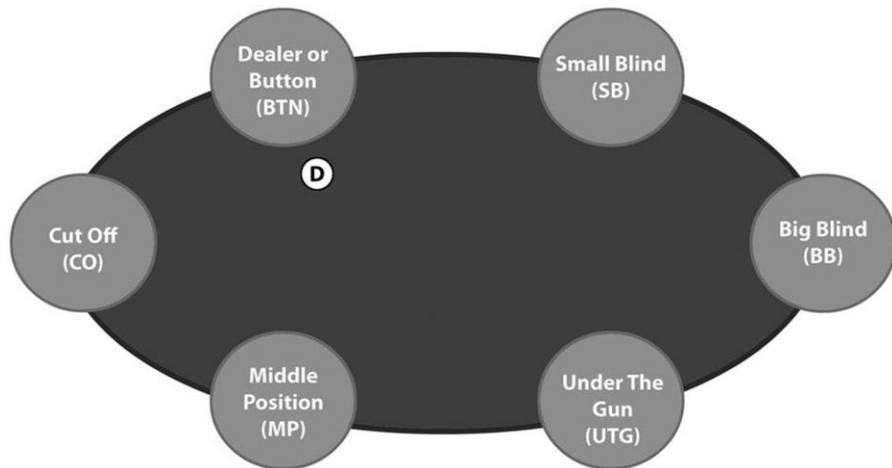


# Hero and Villain

- Going through hand examples and exercises, I may also refer to myself, and you, as Hero.
- When poker players do hand analyses and hand history reviews, we often refer to ourselves as Hero.
- Conversely, we commonly refer to our opponents as Villain.











# 6-Max Table Positions and Acronyms



- **SB** = Small Blind
- **BB** = Big Blind
- **UTG** = Under the Gun
- **MP** = Middle Position
- **CO** = Cut Off
- **BTN** = Dealer / Button



# Suited vs. Off-Suited Hand Notation

- Suited hands, such as ace-king suited: AKs
- Off-suited hands, such as ace-king off-suit: AKo
- Whenever you see the “s” or “o” after a hand, it’ll indicate whether a hand is suited or off-suit:
  - **AKs** = A  K  , A  K  , etc.
  - **AKo** = A  K  , A  K  , etc.



# Hand Ranges & Range Notation

- It's important that you understand what hand ranges are, and that you can easily read hand range notation.
- A hand range is the set of most-likely starting hands Hero or Villain can have when playing poker.
- When discussing hand ranges, I'll use standard range notation commonly used in the poker world. Let's walk through the basic notation:
  - **Any Pocket Pair: 22+**
  - **Pocket Jacks or Better: JJ+**
  - **KQ Suited & Off Suited or Better: KQ+, AJ+**
  - **AJ Suited or Better: AJs+**



# Hand Ranges & Range Notation Cont.

- Notice the plus (+) symbol in range notation.
- We use this symbol as shorthand as opposed to writing out every single hand:
  - **Any Pocket Pair:** 22+ = 22, 33, 44, 55, 66, 77, 88, 99, TT, JJ, QQ, KK, AA
  - **Pocket Jacks or Better:** JJ+ = JJ, QQ, KK, AA
  - **KQ Suited & Off Suited or Better:** KQ+, AJ+ = KQ, AJ, AQ, AK
  - **AJ Suited or Better:** AJs+ = AJs, AQs, AKs
  - **Villain's Assumed Hand Range Example:** TT+, KJs+, AJ+ = TT, JJ, QQ, KK, AA, KJs, KQs, AJs, AJo, AQs, AQo, AKs, AKo



# X Notation

- I may use the “x” notation such as Ax, Kx or Qx.
- This is shorthand for saying any card, excluding pocket pairs, that includes the first card before the “x”.
- For example:
  - **Any Ace Hand:** Ax = AK – A2 = AK down to A2 both suited and off-suited:  
AKs, AKo, AQs, AQo, AJs, AJo, ATs, ATo, A9s, A9o, A8s, A8o, A7s, A7o, A6s, A6o, A5s, A5o, A4s, A4o, A3s, A3o, A2s, A2o





# Hand Action Shorthand Notation

- **Limp/Fold:** To limp and fold to a raise.
- **Limp/Call:** To limp and call a raise.
- **Limp/Raise:** To limp and raise a bet.
- **Check/Fold:** To check and fold to a bet.
- **Check/Call:** To check and call a bet.
- **Check/Raise:** To check and raise a bet.
- **Bet/Fold:** To bet and fold to a raise.
- **Bet/Call:** To bet and call a raise.
- **Bet/Raise:** To bet and re-raise a raise.



# Range-Based Thinking & Range Analysis

- Range-based thinking is an important concept in poker.
- We utilize hand ranges when we're trying to determine which possible hands our opponents can have in any particular situation.
- While an opponent will only ever have one specific hand in any given situation, they'll often take the same actions with different hands.
- Thinking about our opponents' hands as ranges is, therefore, a more logical and effective way of approaching strategic-thinking at the poker table.
- It's also much easier and much more realistic to put our opponents on a spectrum of hands, rather than one particular hand.
- Trying to narrow down our opponents' range of possible hands to one single hand is not only much harder to do but also an unrealistic task.
- Being able to put your opponents on a range of possible hands is something you should seek to master and it is something we'll discuss throughout this course.

AA	AKs	AQs	AJs	ATs	A9s	A8s	A7s	A6s	A5s	A4s	A3s	A2s
AKo	KK	KQs	KJs	KTs	K9s	K8s	K7s	K6s	K5s	K4s	K3s	K2s
AQo	KQo	QQ	QJs	QTs	Q9s	Q8s	Q7s	Q6s	Q5s	Q4s	Q3s	Q2s
AJo	KJo	QJo	JJ	JTs	J9s	J8s	J7s	J6s	J5s	J4s	J3s	J2s
ATo	KTo	QTo	JTo	TT	T9s	T8s	T7s	T6s	T5s	T4s	T3s	T2s
A9o	K9o	Q9o	J9o	T9o	99	98s	97s	96s	95s	94s	93s	92s
A8o	K8o	Q8o	J8o	T8o	98o	88	87s	86s	85s	84s	83s	82s
A7o	K7o	Q7o	J7o	T7o	97o	87o	77	76s	75s	74s	73s	72s
A6o	K6o	Q6o	J6o	T6o	96o	86o	76o	66	65s	64s	63s	62s
A5o	K5o	Q5o	J5o	T5o	95o	85o	75o	65o	55	54s	53s	52s
A4o	K4o	Q4o	J4o	T4o	94o	84o	74o	64o	54o	44	43s	42s
A3o	K3o	Q3o	J3o	T3o	93o	83o	73o	63o	53o	43o	33	32s
A2o	K2o	Q2o	J2o	T2o	92o	82o	72o	62o	52o	42o	32o	22



# Bet Sizing by Pot Size

- Whether you play poker live in a card room or online, it's a good habit to start thinking about bet sizing based on the size of the pot.
  - It's universal for every stake of poker.
  - A one-third pot-sized bet means the same at 2NL through 500NL.
  - A lot of poker strategy articles, videos, and books will utilize bet sizing by pot size for this very reason.
  - Moreover, when people give you guidance or feedback on hands you played, they'll also do the same.
- In poker, it is universal to talk about bet sizing by referring to the size of the bet as it relates to the size of the pot. For example:
    - 1/4 pot-sized bet
    - 1/3 pot-sized bet
    - 1/2 pot-sized bet
    - 2/3 pot-sized bet
    - 3/4 pot-sized bet



# Thinking in Big Blinds

- Thinking about stack and pot sizes in big blinds (bb) is an important concept because it's commonly used in the poker world via books, videos, and forums.
  - This comes into play when people talk about stack sizes, pot sizes, and poker strategy.
  - For example, a poker coach might say, "*It's common to open raise to 3bb pre-flop.*"
  - Just like talking about bet-sizing by pot size, talking about hands in big blinds creates a universal terminology for poker regardless of what stakes you're playing.
- In poker, the term *big blind* can mean one of two things, either referring to a seat position at the table or being used as a universal bet sizing terminology:
    - **BB**: Table Seat Position
    - **bb**: Bet Sizing Terminology