

# POKER COMBINATIONS



## SUITED



## OFFSUIT



## POCKET PAIRS

A „combo“ refers to a specific way a hand can be dealt, and there are a total of **1,326 different** hand combinations in Texas Hold'em.

### Why Counting Combos Matters

#### Help you narrow your opponent's range

Poker isn't about putting opponents on one exact hand but rather on a range of possible holdings. Counting combos tells you how likely your opponent is to hold each hand type.

#### Better bluffing vs betting decisions

Correct bluff-to-value ratios depend on how many strong vs weak combos your opponent can have. If they have very few value hands, bluffing becomes more profitable.

#### Utilising blockers

Holding a specific card can drastically reduce the likelihood of your opponent having the best combination, or even guarantee they do not have it. If you are holding the Ace of Spades on a three-spade board, your opponent will never have an ace-high flush.

#### Better equity vs pot odds decisions

An accurate combo counting provides a clearer understanding of whether a call, fold or shove is a positive expected value (EV) play. Instead of guessing, you're basing decisions on real math.

#### Exploiting your opponents

Recreational players rarely think in terms of combinations, so you can use this concept to your advantage and exploit players who call or fold too much.

### Quick Tips for Counting Combos

#### Tip 1: Memorize the base numbers

Remember that there are 6 combinations of each pocket pair, 4 combos of suited hands and 12 combos of offsuit holdings. Remembering these fundamentals makes counting combos feel like a second nature when you get used to it.

#### Tip 2: Always subtract dead cards

Remove your hole cards and community cards from your opponent's range to reduce the number of hands they could be holding.

#### Tip 3: Think in categories

Instead of trying to count every combination separately, group hands into categories. Focus on the relative weight of whether your opponent has more value or bluff combinations to make your decisions easier.

#### Tip 4: Practice

Grab a flop and practice reducing combinations for common hands such as sets, two pairs, top pairs and draws. Repetition builds speed and intuition.