

PlaySmart – ‘Get Your Game On’– Poker

Text on screen:

PlaySmart
‘Get Your Game On’ - POKER

Voiceover:

Today we’re going to learn how to play Poker, specifically Texas Hold’Em. Unlike playing at home, there is specific etiquette to playing live in a casino - like how to bet and how to play your cards.

Text on screen:

PlaySmart Tip: Unlike playing at home, there is specific etiquette to playing live in a casino – like how to bet and how to play your cards.

Voiceover:

Here are a few helpful tips to help build your confidence and help you avoid looking like a newbie at the tables.

First tip: Do not, under any circumstance, reveal your cards to anyone on or off the table. Keep them face down on the table in front of you and only bend them up just enough to be able to see your hand.

Text on screen:

PlaySmart Tip: Don't let other players see your cards, it's a disadvantage.

Voiceover:

Another tip is to watch your ‘tells’.
‘Tells’ are a change in your behavior or demeanor that could indicate what your hand is. A change in eye contact, getting excited, acting distracted, trembling hands, or even facial expressions - may reveal more about your hand than you intend. Paying attention to tells isn’t a requirement for playing, but it can help inform your play strategy.

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PlaySmart Tip: If you’re tired or frustrated, you are less likely to be able to control your tells. Don’t hesitate to take breaks.

Voiceover:

Now, onto your chips. How you treat your chips is very important. Keep your chips stacked and out in front of you so that every player can see what you have. Don't take them off the table, not only is it not allowed, it's also strategic for all players to compare what they have versus others.

Text on screen:

PlaySmart Tip: Keep your chips in plain sight on the table.

Voiceover:

Now another question that comes up a lot is, "Is there a proper way to bet?" And I'm not talking about how much to bet but rather 'how to'. In other words, how to bet so that there is no confusion around your actions.

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PlaySmart Tip: Players can voice their bets, or simply put them forward.

Voiceover:

When making a bet, you could either say it verbally, or you can put down your bet without saying anything. Verbal bets make things clearer and are binding, even over actions on the table. For example, if you were to say "I raise you 20 dollars", but mistakenly only put \$10 in, it's the words that will be what the dealer goes by.

Text on screen:

PlaySmart Tip: Verbal bets matter, so be careful what you say.

Voiceover:

There are other aspects of betting that aren't allowed as a rule. For example, if you're raising, you have to put in the full amount all at once - you can't put some chips down, and then reach back into your stack to bet more. When a player does this is, it's a version of what's called a "string bet".

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PlaySmart Tip: Make sure to place your bets in one clear motion.

Voiceover:

Now you might be able to get away with a string bet at a home game, but not a casino – the first amount you put in the pot counts as your bet, period. Unless of course, you verbally communicated differently.



Another tip and this is very common: you can't say, "I call your bet....and raise you X", like they do in the movies. These are two distinct plays. You either can call, or raise, not both.

Text on screen:

PlaySmart Tip: You either can call or raise, not both.

Voiceover:

Now that you know some important poker etiquette, you're one step closer to playing smart!

Text on screen:

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Knowledge you can bet on.

LEGAL:

Game availability varies by location. Games may not be exactly as shown. Information subject to change.
Must be of legal age to play.