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Professional No-Limit Hold 'em: Volume I



Synopsis

No-limit hold em was once only a tournament game. Cash games were rarely spread in conventional poker rooms, let alone the Internet. All of that changed when the game exploded on television. No-limit cash games started sprouting up at casinos of all types. No-limit hold em is now the most popular form of poker. Tournaments pushed it to the forefront, and a great deal of money can also be won here despite that fact, many players feel frustrated with their results. They win some money, only to lose it all on one botched hand. This book teaches you how to play and think like a professional. It shows how to size your bets, manage the pot, manipulate your opponents, know when to go all-in, and avoid the big mistake. Do you understand critical no-limit concepts like The REM Process, The Commitment Threshold, and Stack-To-Pot Ratios? If not, this is the book for you.

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Customer Reviews

Excellent book. The best one I've read so far. Gordon's "little green book" gave me an edge over beginners and trial and error players. It was a great "little book". But I intuitively felt there was more to the role stack sizes have in decision making. Enter Professional No Limit Holdem. They really nailed it. The combination of REM and SPR instantly and dramatically improved my game. I rarely struggle with post flop decisions now, and when i do I can be pretty sure that I made a mistake somewhere in the hand. Then I remember the exact part of the book that addressed my mistake. Soooo, you'll want to read it at least twice. Its easy to get lost in the fog of a cooler hand war; but if you stay focused, you can make great decision from preflop to the river (if needed) seamlessly and confidently. Ive always been pretty good at hand reading/ranging, but understanding and using the

SPR and REM concepts have me immersed in the game as I play. I pick up so much more information now, that I scare myself with the reads I get on people. I can't imagine vol 2 being any better, but I'm ordering it today. I can reread vol 1 while it ships. Don't skip over the fundamental chapters. You'll get a sense of how the authors see them and you may even get reacquainted with a concept or two.

The ideas in this book are pretty interesting. But, there is about one typo per page. Every time a hand is presented, it will say something like "You are on the blind with and someone raises in front of you." And then you have to look around on the page for a picture of cards and assume that is the hand you're looking for. And then there are hands like 9d94s and you have to guess this means a pair of 9s and you didn't get 3 cards by mistake. In the final section you have 1000 effective stacks with blinds of 100/200 and they refer to this as "fairly deep stacked". You have to go back 20 pages or so to figure out the blinds are actually 2/5. I'm wondering if the printed version has so many errors, or if they just did a completely half-assed job of getting it prepped for Kindle. Also, throughout the book the authors' constant refrain is "we will give you more information on this in Volume II". Well, here we are in 2014, 7 years later, and there is still no Volume II. They should think about fixing the hundreds of typos in the Kindle version, and coming through with the promised sequel.

Professional No Limit Hold Em is absolutely worth the price of admission. If you are coming from a background in limit or tournament play this book will show you what things to think about throughout a hand. It was very enlightening to think through hands I've played in the past in light of the information that I've learned in this book. It should be noted that this book reads easier than, say, a Sklansky book. This is not to say that the information is "easy" or that the book is simple. Just that it reads more conversationally and less like a text book. Who this book is for: anyone with a basic understanding of the mechanics of the game, anyone with a background in limit hold em, anyone with a background in tournament NLHE, anyone who has played NLHE in cash games but wants to improve. Who this is not for: anyone with no understanding of game mechanics, anyone who needs a solid grounding in the basics of NLHE. The book doesn't open with "this is a small/big blind" or "this hand beats that hand". (I'm not bashing books that open with that, they are needed.) If you don't know what hands beat what or what a blind is, or standard "poker speak" you'll need to start elsewhere. This isn't going to tell you "raise AKo in mid position" it's going to teach you how to evaluate the many conditions of the game at that moment to determine the best course of action for each hand. For example: in a series of example hands they advocate folding AQ and then one or

two hands later they have "you" raise with 8-10. "It depends" is the recurring answer for "what do I do...." And the recurring theme of the book is "plan your hand". If you want to learn how to approach the game from the appropriate perspective, this is the book for you. If you want a cookbook that will tell you when to raise with j-10s, you'll want to look elsewhere.

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