

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

# How to think like a pro casino player

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You've seen it in the movies – the suave main character takes their seat at a casino table, and without a flinching facial expression manages to win the jackpot. Off screen, there are some players that achieve just the same, and walk away with impressive prizes from major casino tournaments.

It may seem like a distant casino world for a humble beginner, but there are some things that can be learnt from the professional players, when it comes to playing at an online or land-based casino. Here are some of the top ways you can start thinking like a pro player!

#### A winning mindset

It may seem simple, but believing you can win is a great place to start. If you're confident in yourself and your decisions when playing, then you may well have a winning strategy on your hands.

Professional casino players have a goal in mind when it comes to their specialist game. They have a developed plan in order to achieve that goal, and with confidence in their abilities, they always follow through on their plans.

#### Online casino promotions

This particularly applies to playing online casino games, but to play like a pro you should definitely take advantage of the casino special offers and promotions. Especially if you're a new player, then you can benefit from a casino online with a sign-up bonus, which could mean extra cash in your account balance, or some free spins to play your favourite slot game, when you make an account at the casino for the first time.

Professional players may be inclined to play online tournaments that come with a special offer or promotion, so why not follow in their footsteps.

#### Choose the right game

Professional players are constantly looking for games that will give them the edge. Of course, no game will give you a guaranteed win, but choosing the right game that plays to your strengths may just well increase your chances.

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You'll find that most pros will avoid playing slot machines or Roulette, and stick to Blackjack or Poker. This is because you have more opportunities to implement a form of strategy or techniques that could help towards a winning hand. As always, luck plays an important part in the game, so never gamble more than you can afford.

If playing online Slots is more your thing, you can still take this theory on board, and pick the right game for your style of playing. The Return to Player (RTP) percentage, as well as the frequency and variance, can help you decide which game is best to play. These figures can inform you on the likelihood of a pay-out, and how often and how much it might be. For example, you could choose a game that has low value prizes, but pays out more often – or on the other hand, if you have the patience, you could play a game that has a huge jackpot, but the pay-out of the top prize is rarer.

### Use classic casino strategies

Becoming a professional casino player takes dedication and determination, and a complete knowledge of the game being played. There are certain skills required to play table games, such as Blackjack and Poker, that may just increase the chances of winning. This includes knowing what actions to take if you're dealt a certain set of cards in your hand, or in some cases a technique known as 'card counting'.

When playing Blackjack as a beginner, for example, you could use a Betting Chart, which helps you to decide what step to take if a certain card or cards are in your hand and the dealer's hand. But the most important thing to take from how a pro plays, is to learn from your mistakes and know when it's the right time to stop.

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