

6 PRO-LEVEL PUSH/FOLD CHARTS

HOW TO PLAY A MORE MATHEMATICALLY PROFITABLE SHORTSTACK GAME



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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for signing up to the mttpokerschool.com mailing list. As a thank you, here are your FREE push/fold charts. If you've been struggling to find a solid strategy for short stack play, then this is your introduction to playing sub 15 Big Blind (BB) poker. Take a moment to familiarize yourself with what the M value really means before diving into the charts and really improving your short stack play.

Some push/fold guides and apps will give you the Nash equilibrium solution, without giving you the true value of those marginal shoves. The suggestions in this book are based on a Chip EV model where every move is greater than break-even, meaning that all the suggested shoving ranges are profitable. This should give you a very solid foundation upon which you can build the rest of your game.

To make things simple, we are suggesting that your only move with this stack size is to move all-in (push) or fold.

We have chosen to limit the charts to sub 15BB poker since there are many more plays available to you once you go above 16BB. Of course you can still raise/call and raise/fold below 15BB, but we believe that when you're starting out in developing your short stack game, you should adopt a strategy that Mathematics proves is profitable, without trying to work out the optimal strategy versus certain opponents. Once you've built the foundations you can begin to develop a more optimal strategy versus different player types. Think of these charts as something you can use straight out of the box in your very next tournament once you dip below 15BB.

Thanks again for being part of MTT Poker School and we wish you every success in your game. We value your feedback; so if you loved this guide or have some suggestions for improvement, please email us at support@mttpokerschool.com.

USING THE CHARTS

You've just lost a big pot or maybe the blinds have just gone up, you've not been able to get anything going and you're left with around 10BB. Don't panic, these charts are here to help. There are computer programs now that can mathematically suggest ranges of hands to shove at different stack sizes from different positions in an unopened pot. These programs are so advanced that they can even suggest which hands to shove versus raises and 3-bets, although that takes a bit more input from the user and a solid understanding of your opponents' initial ranges.

The charts below were calculated using Holdem Resources Calculator

(<http://www.holdemresources.net/h/products/hrc.html>), with a focus on ranges that are more than just break-even or what we might consider marginal. All of the hands in these ranges will produce a +cEV (chip EV) result.

WHAT IS CHIP EV?

Chip EV, with the EV standing for expected value, is essentially how many tournament chips you expect to win or lose in any given play. If the way you play a hand is profitable, it is said to be +cEV. If it is a losing play then it's -cEV. All of the hands in the charts below are +cEV and therefore profitable. Please be aware that chip EV is very different from \$EV (dollar EV or real money EV) and while the two are very similar at the start of the tournament, the gap between the two grows the closer you get to a money bubble and again when approaching the final table bubble and the final table itself. With that said, these charts are great to use when you are far from the money.

WHAT IS M?

The M-Zone was first referenced in Dan Harrington's 'Harrington on Hold 'em Volume II: The Endgame' as a way to compare your stack size to the size of the pot. To calculate M you should take your stack size and divide it by the total size of the pot (the blinds and all the antes).

$M = \text{Your stack size} / \text{Total pot size}$

Let's look at an example:



As you can see, Hero has 4,250 chips and the total size of all of the blinds and antes is 1,000. This means you have an M of $4,250 / 1,000 = 4.25$. For ease we can often round up these numbers and say we have 4,000 chips in our stack, which makes the calculation much simpler.

Knowing your M value (sometimes known as M-Ratio) is useful for knowing exactly how many orbits you have left before you'll be blinded away and out of the tournament (3M means you'll be gone in 3 orbits, so hurry up!). The lower your M value, the more aggressive you should play. Rather than give you the ranges for different ante sizes (10%, 12.5%, 16.67% etc.), our charts take a more simplified approach. Work out your M, look up your position in the table and hey presto! There's the range you can shove, laid out in an easy to read format.

Armed with the knowledge that we have an M of around 4 and are sitting in the Cut Off seat, we can shove:

Key:

22+ means any pair Deuces and better (all the way to pocket Aces)

Ax means any hand with an Ace

K5s means the two cards MUST be suited

K9o means the two cards can be unsuited

Q8s+ means any suited Queen with an Eight or better

CO
33.9%
22+
Ax
K5s+ K9o+
Q8s+ QTo+
J8s+ JTo
T7s+
97s+
86s+
76s
65s

THE CHARTS

6M

Position	UTG	UTG+1	UTG+2	MP1	MP2	HJ	CO	BTN	SB
Percentage	7.8%	8.0%	11.5%	13.1%	15.4%	20.4%	26.4%	35.1%	58.7%
Pairs	99+	88+	55+	44+	33+	22+	22+	22+	22+
Aces	ATs+ A5s AQo+	ATs+ AQo+	A9s+ AJo+	A9s+ AJo+	A7s+ A5s ATo+	A2s+ A9o+	A2s+ A4o+	Ax	Ax
Kings	KTs+	KTs+	KTs+ KQo	K9s+ KQo	K9s+ KQo	K9s+ KJo+	K9s+ KTo+	K5s+ K9o+	Kx
Queens	QTs+	QTs+	QTs+	Q9s+	Q9s+	Q9s+ QJo	Q9s+ QJo	Q8s+ QTo+	Q2s+ Q6o+
Jacks	JTs	JTs	JTs	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J8s+	J7s+ JTo	J3s+ J8o+
Tens				T9s	T9s	T8s+	T8s+	T7s+ T9o	T4s+ T8o+
Nines						98s	98s	97s+	95s+ 97o+
Eights							87s	86s+	85s+ 87o
Sevens								76s	74s+ 76o
Sixes								65s	64s+
Fives									53s+

5M

Position	UTG	UTG+1	UTG+2	MP1	MP2	HJ	CO	BTN	SB
Percentage	9.4%,	11.5%,	13.1%,	14.9%,	18.4%,	21.3%,	31.8%,	37.0%,	63.2%,
Pairs	77+	55+	44+	44+	33+	22+	22+	22+	22+
Aces	ATs+ AJo+	A9s+ AJo+	A9s+ AJo+	A7s+ A5s ATo+	A3s+ A9o+	A2s+ A8o+	Ax	Ax	Ax
Kings	KTs+	KTs+ KQo	K9s+ KQo	K9s+ KQo	K9s+ KJo+	K9s+ KJo+	K6s+ KTo+	K3s+ K9o+	Kx
Queens	QTs+	QTs+	Q9s+	Q9s+	Q9s+	Q9s+ QJo	Q8s+ QTo+	Q6s+ QTo+	Q2s+ Q4o+
Jacks	JTs	JTs	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J8s+ JTo	J7s+ JTo	J2s+ J7o+
Tens			T9s	T9s	T9s	T8s+	T8s+	T7s+ T9o	T4s+ T7o+
Nines					98s	98s	97s+	96s+	95s+ 97o+
Eights							87s	86s+	84s+ 87o
Sevens							76s	75s+	74s+ 76o
Sixes								65s	64s+
Fives									53s+
Fours									43s

4M

Position	UTG	UTG+1	UTG+2	MP1	MP2	HJ	CO	BTN	SB
Percentage	11.5%	14.3%	15.4%	18.9%	20.4%	26.1%	33.9%	42.4%	68.9%
Pairs	55+	44+	33+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+
Aces	A9s+ AJo+	A8s+ ATo+	A7s+ A5s ATo+	A3s+ A9o+	A2s+ A8o+	A2s+ A4o+	Ax	Ax	Ax
Kings	KTs+ KQo	K9s+ KQo	K9s+ KQo	K9s+ KJo+	K9s+ KJo+	K9s+ KTo+	K5s+ K9o+	K2s+ K6o+	Kx
Queens	QTs+	Q9s+	Q9s+	Q9s+	Q9s+	Q9s+ QJo	Q8s+ QTo+	Q5s+ Q9o+	Qx
Jacks	JTs	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J8s+ JTo	J7s+ J9o+	J2s+ J5o+
Tens		T9s	T9s	T9s	T8s+	T8s+	T7s+	T7s+ T9o	T2s+ T7o+
Nines				98s	98s	98s	97s+	96s+	94s+ 97o+
Eights						87s	86s+	86s+	84s+ 86o+
Sevens							76s	75s+	74s+ 76o
Sixes							65s	65s	63s+
Fives								54s	53s+
Fours									43s

3M

Position	UTG	UTG+1	UTG+2	MP1	MP2	HJ	CO	BTN	SB
Percentage	14.6%	16.9%	20.1%	23.1%	26.7%	33.0%	37.0%	47.2%	74.7%
Pairs	44+	33+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+
Aces	A7s+ A5s ATo+	A4s+ ATo+	A2s+ A8o+	A2s+ A7o+	A2s+ A4o+	Ax	Ax	Ax	Ax
Kings	K9s+ KQo	K9s+ KJo+	K9s+ KJo+	K9s+ KTo+	K7s+ KTo+	K5s+ K9o+	K2s+ K8o+	K2s+ K3o+	Kx
Queens	QTs+	Q9s+	Q9s+	Q9s+ QJo	Q9s+ QJo	Q8s+ QTo+	Q6s+ Q9o+	Q3s+ Q8o+	Qx
Jacks	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J8s+ JTo	J8s+ JTo	J6s+ J9o+	Jx
Tens	T9s	T9s	T9s	T8s+	T8s+	T8s+	T7s+	T6s+ T9o	T2s+ T6o+
Nines			98s	98s	98s	97s+	97s+	96s+	93s+ 96o+
Eights					87s	87s	86s+	86s+	84s+ 86o+
Sevens						76s	76s	75s+	74s+ 76o
Sixes								65s	63s+ 65o
Fives								54s	53s+
Fours									43s

2M

Position	UTG	UTG+1	UTG+2	MP1	MP2	HJ	CO	BTN	SB
Percentage	19.3%	21.4%	23.8%	28.2%	31.5%	35.7%	42.7%	51.4%	81.6%
Pairs	33+	33+	33+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+
Aces	A2s+ A8o+	A2s+ A8o+	A2s+ A7o+ A5o	A2s+ A4o+	A2s+ A3o+	Ax	Ax	Ax	Ax
Kings	K9s+ KJo+	K8s+ KTo+	K7s+ KTo+	K5s+ KTo+	K4s+ K9o+	K2s+ K8o+	K2s+ K5o+	Kx	Kx
Queens	Q9s+	Q9s+ QJo	Q9s+ QJo	Q8s+ QTo+	Q8s+ QTo+	Q6s+ Q9o+	Q4s+ Q8o+	Q2s+ Q6o+	Qx
Jacks	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J9s+	J8s+ JTo	J8s+ JTo	J7s+ J9o+	J5s+ J8o+	Jx
Tens	T9	T9s	T9s	T8s+	T8s+	T8s+	T7s+ T9o	T6s+ T8o+	Tx
Nines			98s	98s	98s	98s	97s+	96s+	92s+ 95o+
Eights						87s	87s	86s+	83s+ 85o+
Sevens								76s	73s+ 75o+
Sixes									63s+ 65o
Fives									53s+

1M

Position	UTG	UTG+1	UTG+2	MP1	MP2	HJ	CO	BTN	SB
Percentage	68.3%	68.3%	68.3%	68.3%	68.3%	65.9%	61.4%	60.5%	98.2%
Pairs	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+	22+
Aces	Ax	Ax	Ax	Ax	Ax	Ax	Ax	Ax	Ax
Kings	Kx	Kx	Kx	Kx	Kx	Kx	Kx	Kx	Kx
Queens	Q2s+ Q3o+	Q2s+ Q3o+	Q2s+ Q3o+	Q2s+ Q3o+	Q2s+ Q3o+	Q2s+ Q3o+	Q2s+ Q4o+	Q2s+ Q4o+	Qx
Jacks	J2s+ J6o+	J2s+ J6o+	J2s+ J6o+	J2s+ J6o+	J2s+ J6o+	J2s+ J6o+	J2s+ J7o+	J2s+ J7o+	Jx
Tens	T2s+ T6o+	T2s+ T6o+	T2s+ T6o+	T2s+ T6o+	T2s+ T6o+	T2s+ T7o+	T3s+ T7o+	T4s+ T7o+	Tx
Nines	93s+ 97o+	93s+ 97o+	93s+ 97o+	93s+ 97o+	93s+ 97o+	94s+ 97o+	95s+ 97o+	95s+ 97o+	9x
Eights	84s+ 86o+	84s+ 86o+	84s+ 86o+	84s+ 86o+	84s+ 86o+	84s+ 87o	85s+ 87o	85s+ 87o	8x
Sevens	74s+ 76o	74s+ 76o	74s+ 76o	74s+ 76o	74s+ 76o	74s+ 76o	75s+	75s+	7x
Sixes	63s+	63s+	63s+	63s+	63s+	64s+	64s+	65s	6x
Fives	53s+	53s+	53s+	53s+	53s+	53s+	54s		5x
Fours	43s	43s	43s	43s	43s	43s			42s+ 43o
Threes									32s

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