

# Holdem Bot User Manual



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## Table of Contents

<b>1. Quick Start .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1 <b>List of Currently Supported Poker Rooms .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.2 Installation and Program Access.....	4
1.3 Poker Room Settings .....	7
1.4 Additional Stealth Options.....	13
1.5 Sitting in a Game and Starting the Bot.....	14
1.6 Multi-Tabling .....	15
<b>2. Profiles .....</b>	<b>16</b>
2.1 Using Different Profiles .....	16
2.2 Creating (or Tweaking) Your Own Profile.....	17
2.3 Changing Profiles.....	19
<b>3. Detailed Instructions for Holdem Bot .....</b>	<b>21</b>
3.1 Vista and Windows 7 Users .....	21
3.2 Seat Position.....	21
3.3 Free Trial Notes .....	21
3.4 Where to Put the Program .....	22
3.5 Session Log .....	23
3.6 Which Games to Play.....	23
3.7 Hiding the Bot .....	24
3.8 Game Type Menu .....	24
3.9 Options Menu.....	25
3.10 Saving Profiles.....	31
3.11 Switching Profiles Mid-Session.....	32
3.12 Custom Coding Profiles With PPL .....	32
3.13 Setting Your Own Default Profile .....	32
3.14 Multi-Tabling .....	33
3.15 Waiting for a Table.....	34
<b>4. Running the Program.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>5. Miscellaneous.....</b>	<b>41</b>
5.1 Other User Options on the Bot .....	41
5.2 Additional Notes .....	41
5.3 Rakeback.....	42
<b>6. Poker Bot Strategy .....</b>	<b>43</b>
Introduction.....	44
Types of Poker Bots .....	45
Staying in Stealth Mode.....	46
Sit-out Options.....	47
Max Session Time .....	47
Playing Sessions .....	47
Bathroom Breaks.....	47
Avoiding Being Profiled.....	48
Poker Room Upgrades .....	48
The Rake: Your Worst Enemy .....	48
Level of Competition .....	50
Multi-Tabling .....	51

How to Multi-Table.....	51
Custom Profile Creation.....	52
Stack Size Recognition.....	52
Total Investment .....	53
Hold'em Bot Strategy.....	53
Games the Bot will Play .....	54
Rakeback.....	63
Strategy .....	63
Semi-monitored Strategies .....	65
Non-monitored Strategies.....	69
Hold'em Bot Closing Thoughts .....	73
<b>7. Appendix .....</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Error Codes and How to fix them .....</b>	<b>74</b>
7.1 Error No 1: Version is not compatible.....	74
7.2 Error No 2: You must run BOTH the bot and the poker room as administrator.....	74
7.3 Error No 3: You must set style to Classic on a Vista or Windows 7 machine .....	74
7.4 Error No 4: DPI Setting must be set to 96 dots per inch.....	75
7.5 Error No 5: Invalid caption height.....	76
7.6 Error No 6: Invalid color quality .....	77
7.7 Display Settings Trouble-shooting.....	77

# 1. Quick Start

## 1.1 List of Currently Supported Poker Rooms

**Cake Poker**

**Red Star Poker** (on the Cake Network)

**William Hill Poker** (iPoker network, no USA players)

**Gutshot Poker** (iPoker network, no USA players, **special \$50 instant bonus**)

**Titan Poker** (iPoker network, no USA players)

**BetnGo Poker** (iPoker network, no USA players)

**Titan.fr** (France-only iPoker software room, bot can read French here)

**Sisal.it** (Italy-only iPoker software room, bot can read Italian here)

**UB** - also known as **Ultimate Bet** (on the Cereus Network)

*Please note that our bot will not automatically work on other skins on the same network, and must be specifically programmed to work at each site we support.*

## 1.2 Installation and Program Access

Unless you changed the path on the download screen, the bot was installed on your **c: drive** to a folder named **poker** in a subfolder named **data**. Five files came with the download and they should all be in that subfolder together. Therefore the bot folder can be accessed by going to **my computer** and then **Local Disk C:** and then opening the folder *poker* and then the subfolder *data*.

The bot itself is named **svchost** and can be opened on an XP or Windows 7 machine by simply double-clicking it. On a Vista machine the bot must be *run as administrator*. You can do this by right clicking on “svchost.exe” and choosing the **Run As Administrator** menu item in the pop up menu.

On both Vista and W7 you must start the poker room software to run as administrator. This is done by right-clicking on the program icon and choosing the *Run As Administrator* menu item in the pop up menu.

Please note that additional temporary files will appear in the bot folder once you open the bot, including the session log (which is a text file titled **holdem**).

**Use of Desktop Icons:** By default the installation program creates a shortcut called “svchost” on your desktop that can be used to start the bot. If you choose to use the desktop program icon, we recommend renaming it. (The icon image is generic-looking for stealth reasons.) To rename the shortcut: Right-click on the

icon and choose *rename* from the pop up menu. Think of a creative name for it; perhaps something that sounds like another piece of software such as *Mail Grabber* or *Spy Killer* or *Photo Editor*.

A desktop shortcut makes program access convenient. A better solution than a shortcut to the program, however, is a shortcut to the bot-folder itself. That way you can have quick access to your profiles and session logs as well. To do this right-click on the bot folder (the 'data' subfolder inside the 'poker' folder) and choose *Send To* and then choose *Desktop (create shortcut)*. After the shortcut to the folder appears on your desktop, rename it by right-clicking on it and choosing *Rename* from the popup menu.

**Errors reported by bot on start-up:** When you start the bot it will check your PC display settings and give a numbered error message if they do not match those required by the bot. Appendix A at the end of this document tells you how to correct each of these errors. If you get any of these, please refer to Appendix A to correct them before proceeding further.

**Vista and Windows7:** You need to start BOTH the Holdem Bot and the poker room software **as administrator** on a **Vista** machine. On a **Windows 7** machine just the poker room needs to be started this way. Right-click on the program icons and then from the right-click popup menu select *Run as Administrator*. Note that you must do this even if you are administrator on your machine. On these operating systems '*Run as Administrator*' is not the same thing as having administrator privileges.

**English Language Regional Settings in Windows.** Our bot needs your Windows language to be in English at most of our supported poker rooms (the special Italian and French rooms supported are exceptions). From the Control Panel in Windows, find the **Language and Regional Options**. Set this to **English United States**. (Please note that *English United Kingdom* can cause problems due to their using commas in place of decimals, so do not use that.)

**Poker room setup:** The list of currently supported poker rooms is at the beginning of this manual. The bot will not work at **any** other poker rooms, even if they are a skin on the same network. Each supported poker room requires some setup before the bot will work there (see below).

Do not attempt to run the bot before doing the necessary setup at the poker room you want to play at. **This is critical**. If you don't fix error messages in the bot window and do the required poker room setup, the bot may not be able to read the cards or the situation properly - and as a result may appear to act erratically.

**Anti-Virus and Anti-Spyware Warnings:** If you get a warning message from your anti-virus software about our program, it is a **false positive** which is the result of our bot being disguised as common windows components. We disguise

them that way for **stealth reasons**. Some security software programs don't like that. Rest assured that our software is 100% safe. It does not connect to the internet so you have nothing to worry about; your firewall should be proof enough of that. We have been in business since 2006 and have over 8,000 members in our support forum.

**If you get the error message that the .dll file is missing:** This file comes in the bot download and is necessary for the bot to work. It **must** be kept in the same folder as the bot! If you get this message and you do indeed see that this file is located inside the bot folder like it is supposed to be, that means your anti-virus program is quarantining this file. You need to tell it leave the C:/Poker/Data file alone. Here is a link that may help for Avast users:

[https://support.avast.com/index.php?\\_m=knowledgebase&\\_a=viewarticle&kbarticleid=201](https://support.avast.com/index.php?_m=knowledgebase&_a=viewarticle&kbarticleid=201)

The alternative is to disable your anti-virus program, download the bot again, and keep it disabled while you play.

**English Only:** Our poker bots can only read United States English so you **must** be using the English versions of the poker room software. You must also adjust the following settings on each individual poker room client.

## 1.3 Poker Room Settings

### Cake Poker / Red Star Poker

**Note:** Our bot will only work with **Cake Poker software version 1.0**, which is the older version. You can get that here:

<http://ckpn.cachefly.net/c1/cake/cakeSetup.1.152.4.exe>

or here:

<http://ckpn.cachefly.net/c1/cake/FullcakeSetup.1.152.4.exe>

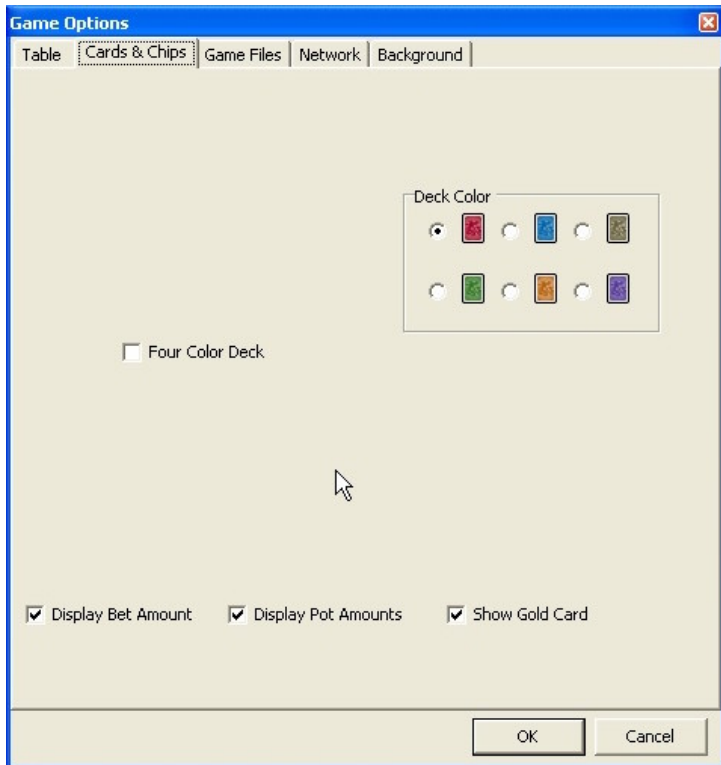
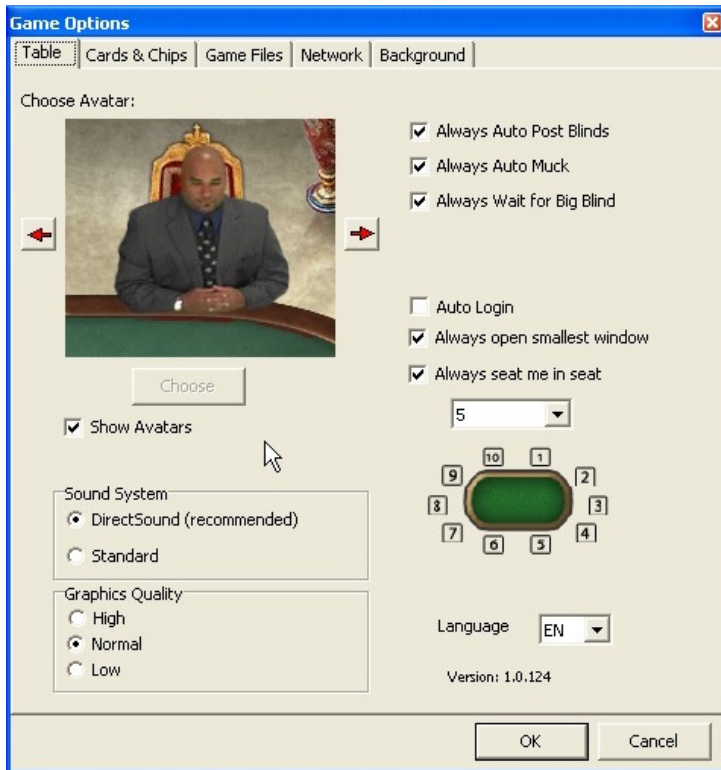
The download that the Cake Poker website now gives you is the new 2.0 software, and the bot will not work with that version! So make sure you install Cake 1.0 from one of the links above. (It will actually be a version 1.x which was the last improvement of the original 1.0 software.)

Please note that the 1.x software will **force an upgrade** to the newest 2.x version the first time you open it. Just let it upgrade! It does not replace the version 1.x poker client but installs 2.x as an additional program. At that point you can open and run the Cake version 1.x (it will ask if you want to use the newer 2.x version instead and you can just say no).

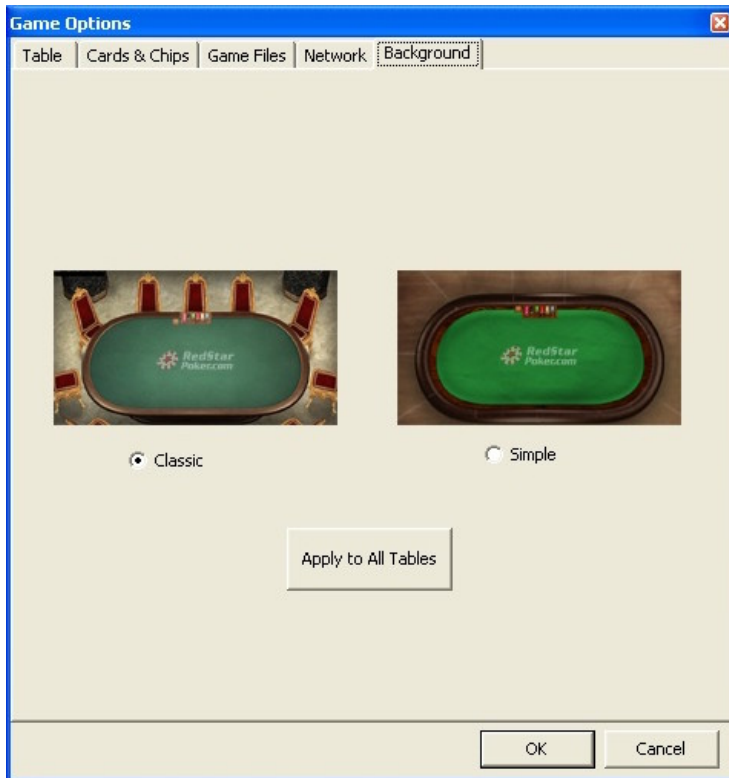
**For Red Star Poker**, on the download page it still gives you the option to download the **previous 1.x version software**, so be sure to choose that download because the bot will not work with the new version.

On Cake and Red Star, if you are on **Vista or Windows7** you must set the theme to **Windows Classic**. This can be done by right clicking on any empty space on your desktop, selecting *Personalize* in the pop up menu, then clicking on *Themes*, then clicking *Modified Themes*, and then setting the theme to *Windows Classic*. If you don't do this the bot will give certain numbered error messages when you try to connect to a Cake or Red Star table. Instructions on how to correct these errors are given in the Appendix at the end of this document.

You must set the following display options at Cake or Red Star. These are all critical and are not optional in order for the bot to function properly.







You can choose any Avatar you want, but you **must** always be seated in seat 5.

**Important PC Settings for Cake.** At Cake they interchange commas with periods in the numerical expressions for stack sizes and such, which will confuse the bot. To prevent this please set your PC accordingly:

- **Windows Control Panel > Language and Regional Settings > Change to English (United States)**

Also, on some PC's the bot will not get the opponent count correct at cake unless you **change your Windows theme to Classic**. To do this right-click on any empty space on your desktop and go to

- **Properties > Themes > choose Windows Classic**

U.S. citizens can only get rakeback on the Cake network at the main site, CakePoker.com. If you are not a U.S. citizen you might choose Red Star poker instead, which plays on the same network (all the same players, games, and tables).

**33% Rakeback:** If you do not yet have a Cake Poker (or Red Star Poker) account please sign up through this link and **get 33% rakeback:**

<http://tinyurl.com/b3jrz4>

## iPoker Network (William Hill / Gutshot / Titan / BetnGo / Sisal)

This setup is for all six supported **iPoker network** rooms, which do not allow U.S. residents to play.

**You must use the “Old Lobby”:** In early 2012 iPoker affected a new graphical interface into their software. At the time of this writing, Jan 3 2012, it has not yet been incorporated into all the iPoker rooms but will be soon. The bot will not work if your poker room is using the new graphics. All you have to do is change to the old graphics on the poker client. This can be done from the poker lobby by going to **Options** and then **Lobby** and then selecting **Old**.

**Poker Client Setup:** It is simple to setup the poker room display options. All the options under *Options > Chat Settings* must be checked. Nothing else needs to be done. Check their webpages for the current deposit bonus promotions.

### Display Options

- » Make sure ALL menu items under *Options > Chat Settings* are checked
- » Sit on any seat on any Holdem table
- » Start the bot and click on start

Both the bot and poker client must be *run as administrator* on Vista and Windows Seven machines (see section 1.1). Multi tabling up to 6 tables is supported as usual.

### Special Deposit Bonus at Gutshot Poker

We have arranged the following special deposit bonus at Gutshot Poker, which is far and away better than any of the other iPoker skin deposit bonus offers.

- **200% Deposit Bonus up to \$1,000.** This is the normal first deposit bonus that this iPoker skin offers. Deposit any amount and receive a 200% deposit bonus added to your bonus account, which clears in the normal manner.
- **\$50 Instant Cash added.** This is by our special arrangement. In addition to the normal 200% deposit bonus above, you will get \$50 added to your cash balance instantly. However be aware that you must accumulate 1,000 player points before making a withdrawal (which is an absolute piece of cake and can be completed within just a couple days using the bot).
- **Special Freerolls and Reload Offers.** By being tagged as one of our referrals you will receive offers to invitation-only freeroll tournaments and special reload offers from time to time. These special freerolls can be juicy! For example, a \$500 freeroll with maybe 50 or 60 entrants is not uncommon – yummy!

### **To Get the Special Gutshot Deal:**

1. Sign up at the regular website URL: <http://www.gutshot.com>
2. Login and create a poker alias name.
3. Deposit the equivalent of at least \$100 USD
4. With 24 hours of making your first deposit, email us your poker room username (from the same email address that you signed up with at Gutshot with) to: [BonusBots@yahoo.com](mailto:BonusBots@yahoo.com). We will take care of the rest and you will see the extra \$50 credited to your account in 24-48 hours.

#### **Titan.fr**

The bot also supports the French iPoker room **Titan.fr**, for France residents only. This is the only French iPoker room currently supported, and the bot will work with the French language here. The same other iPoker setup instructions apply.

#### **Sisal.it**

The bot also supports the Italian iPoker room **Sisal.it**, for Italy residents only. This is the only Italian iPoker room currently supported, and the bot will work with the Italian language here. The same other iPoker setup instructions apply.

### **iPoker Troubleshooting**

Problems reported using the bot at any of the iPoker network rooms almost always end up being due to one of these three things:

1. Not having your Windows language set to English / USA
2. Not using an English speaking version of the poker client
3. Having collapsed the poker table chat window. This is the most common error. The bot needs to read the dealer messages in the poker table chat (please note that it can still read them even if the tables overlap and the table is covered by another table however). It is quite easy to accidentally collapse the chat on the poker table. If you have done this, some arrows will show that you can click and expand it back again.

## **UB** (also known as **Ultimate Bet**)

You must set the following display options. The tabs for these settings can be accessed from any poker table by clicking the *Options* button. These are all critical and are not optional in order for the bot to function properly.

- **Classic View** from the **Change Table View** tab
- **Aruba** background selected under *Choose Your Tables Classic Background*

Under the **Game Options** section make sure:

- **Display Chat Bubble** is checked
- **Show Whole Dollars Only** is unchecked
- **Full Animation** is unchecked
- **Disable Enter to Bet** is unchecked
- Under **Dealer Message** check **Normal**
- Under **Deck Option** choose **2 Color**
- **Disable Observer Chat** under **Chat Options**

## 1.4 Additional Stealth

While the Holdem Bot comes disguised as common Windows components and includes a built-in Hiding feature, there are some additional steps you can take to hide it on your system even further. We want to stress, however, that we think this is unnecessary. None of our supported poker rooms are giving any of us any trouble. Your best defense is to simply not play inhuman-looking marathon sessions.

### Moving and renaming the bot folders.

- A) Create a new folder on your PC somewhere, on your C: drive should be fine, and name it something creative like “spykiller.”
- B) Rename the two folders that installed on your C: drive when you downloaded the bot. (Remember, on your C: drive there is a folder titled Poker and within that a folder titled Data, rename both of those to something that has nothing to do with poker).
- C) Move the outer of the two bot folders that you renamed in Step B above into the new folder that you created in step A above.

**Example:** New folder was named *spykiller*, Poker folder was renamed *install*, Data folder was renamed *records*. So the path to your bot folder is now *C:\spykiller\install\records*. You will need to navigate there to access the bot and also when downloading bot upgrades.

- D) Move your license file into the bot folder with the bot (if you had it on your C: drive or on your desktop)
- E) Remove any desktop shortcuts to anything bot-related. No desktop shortcut to the bot or even the bot folder! You will need to “dig” for the bot when you want it.
- F) Rename the bot itself (svchost.exe) to something like **MSOUTLOOK.exe** or **skype.exe**. Do not rename anything else in the bot folder!

## 1.5 Sitting in a Game and Starting the Bot

Your poker bot came with 5 files in the download bundle. Two of them were instructional PDF files (this manual being one of them). The other three **must** all be kept in the same folder/directory or the bot will not work. They are:

- **svchost.exe** – this is the bot software
- **.dll file** – this is a necessary gears file and the exact name is changed often
- **holdem.ppl** – this is the default profile, designed for NL cash games

To open the bot just double-click on the generic-looking program icon titled **svchost.exe**. On Vista and Windows7 you must run the bot as administrator. To do this right click on the above icon and choose “Run As Administrator” from the pop up menu. The default profile loads automatically from the *holdem.ppl* file, and you should get that confirmation message in the bot window when you first start it. We would suggest playing in the 9-max or 6-max No Limit cash games for your 200-hand demo, since the default profile was designed for them. Take a seat at a table in either a play money or real money game. Any open seat is fine as long as you followed the instructions in section 1.2 above for your chosen poker room.

» Do not tweak the poker room settings so that you are moved from the default bottom center seat position that the poker room places you in, at those rooms that default place you there. The bot can only function properly when you are seated there (you should be moved there no matter which open seat you choose).

» Click on *auto-post blinds* at the poker table. You might want to wait for the big blind before starting, but if you want to come in with a late position blind that is fine.

» Open the bot if you have not already done so. Wait until you are clearly **between hands** before starting the bot or before opening a new bot window.

» Start the bot by clicking *Start* on the bot program menu. You should then notice it reading the board cards as they are dealt. When it is your turn to act the bot will read your cards, its position, the number of opponents, and the entire situation and play the hand for you in a manner consistent with expert-level poker play.

» Hide the bot window by clicking on *Hide* on the bot program menu. Before it vanishes from sight it will give you the keyboard command for bringing it back (usually Alt+F10 ).

## 1.6 Multi-Tabling

To open additional tables for the bot to play in, first take a seat at the new table and click auto-post blinds. Then go to *Holdem > New Window* and click *New Window*. A new bot window will appear. **Make sure the second poker table is in front when you click start in the new bot window**, and click start only when you are well between hands.

**Only one unhooked table can be open when you start the bot.** It will automatically attach itself to whatever table is open that has no other bot connected to it. There cannot be two poker tables open that do not have bots attached to them or it won't know which one to hook to. For this reason you must open the tables, join them, and hook a bot window to them (by starting a bot window) one at a time.

**The Hide button hides all the bot windows at once.** So if you are going to play multiple tables minimize the bot windows that are already attached first, and when you have started as many tables as you want to play then hide all the bot windows.

**Table Positioning Tip:** If you have a big screen you should try and position the tables so that there is minimum overlap between them. On smaller screens you should at least position the tables such that the button areas do not overlap. Position the 2<sup>nd</sup> table window such that it is a little (about two inches) to the right of and a little (about 2 inches) below the 1<sup>st</sup> table and so on. However, tables do not need to be visible for the bot to work and they can all overlap if necessary.

If the bot cannot connect to the additional table on its own, it will ask you for the name of the new table. Be sure to spell it correctly and make sure you capitalize the right letters. Try to do this as quickly as possible. Repeat the process for opening a third and fourth table if desired, to a maximum of 6 tables.

» To stop, first quit the poker game in the normal manner and close the poker room software. Then bring back all bot windows with the appropriate Alt+F commands and close them.

----- **Quick Start End** -----



## 2. Profiles

### 2.1 Using Different Profiles

You can make the bot play any way that you want. There is a short learning curve for doing this, but it is not difficult. The bot gets its playing instructions from one of four places. User instructions can be created and/or saved on a standard text file. These saved playing instructions are called *profiles*. You don't need any computer programming knowledge in order to make your own profile, or tweak an existing profile to your liking. Just knowing basic poker terms is enough for most people to be able to do this.

There are two types of profile formats: **.ppl** (known as a type of *binary* file) and plain **.txt** (text, or Notepad files). A **.ppl** file started out as a **.txt** profile but was converted to the other format to protect the profile from being copied. You cannot open a **.ppl** file for viewing; only our software can access it.

You can create and save profiles in **.txt** format, but you cannot convert them into **.ppl** unless you have us do it for you, or purchase the **.ppl** converter from us. (You don't need to do this unless you plan on selling or sharing your profile and want to copyright-protect it.)

The default profile that came with the bot is a **.ppl** profile. The only other way you are likely to get that kind of profile is if you decide to purchase one from a reputable seller in the Marketplace section of our support forum. Most of the free profiles in our forum, many of which are quite good, are **.txt** files that can be opened, viewed, and tweaked to your liking.

**At any given time exactly one .ppl profile and one .txt profile can be loaded into the bot.** No more. Either can be swapped out at will however. Commands from a **.txt** profile will always be executed first, as that type of profile loads at the top level and is read by the bot first. The first matching command is always executed. So **.txt profile actions override any conflicting .ppl profile actions.** This way it is easy for you to tweak a play here and there and save it as a short text profile.



Both types of profiles can be set to auto-load by default whenever you open a bot window. That is what the default profile that comes with the bot is set to do. To designate a profile as a default auto-load profile, all you have to do is rename it as follows:

**.ppl file auto-load: holdem.ppl**

**.txt file auto-load: AutoProfileHoldem**

Any profile kept in the same folder as the bot that has the above name will auto-load into the bot by default whenever you open a bot window. So obviously you cannot have more than one of each file type with the above names, or it will create a conflict. If you have one of each profile types saved with the above names they will both auto-load. But remember, the .txt file takes precedence.

**For the demo we recommend you just stick with the default profile** and play cash games.

## 2.2 Creating (or Tweaking) Your Own Profile

In order to customize the bot's playing instructions, you first need to understand how the existing programming works. There are four levels in the bot where playing instructions come from, and each higher level overrides the next lower level. They are:

1. Root-level programming
2. Option Settings on the Bot Menu
3. Any .ppl profile that is loaded
4. Any .txt profile that is loaded

The **root level programming** lies at the core. This is the original bot that we started selling, before it was improved 100 times, and before it became user-configurable. It actually plays decent poker to this day, and many actions in the current default profile are still referred to it.

The **option settings** on the bot's main menu are the second level. These were developed to start allowing user control of the bot's actions. They are explained individually further in this manual.

So adjusting these options will only affect actions that are referred to the original root level programming. If you want to create a profile just from the bot's option menu settings, you can still do that. But you will need to disable all other profiles from loading (because written instructions in them will override the option

settings, so you will need to rename or remove the default *holdem.ppl* profile that is set to auto-load in the bot folder). This is still a viable way to make your own profile however, especially for tournaments.

Profiles that consist of option menu settings can be manually saved as a text profile directly from the bot, and loaded again by using the menu items:

*Holdem > Write Profile*

*Holdem > Read Profile*

*Write Profile* is used to save them and *Read Profile* is used to load them. Profiles are saved as a simple text file, and then can be edited in Notepad. You can add your own custom instructions to a profile that you saved from the bot by writing them in PPL, the easy Poker Programming Language that any poker player can learn in about an hour with no coding background needed (see the beginning sections of the *PPL Guide* that came with the bot download).

The default path for saving and loading the profiles into the bot is the same folder where the rest of your bot program files are located. (Please note that because they are a text file they must have the *.txt extension* when manually loading them.) Remember, the default location of the folder with your bot files was installed on your **C: drive** in a folder titled **Poker** and in a subfolder titled **Data**.

**Profiles in .ppl format** are the third level that the bot gets it's instructions from. Remember, these are just a saved text profile that has been converted into this format. You don't need to be concerned about this (other than the fact that the default profile which comes with the bot is in this format) unless you are downloading profiles in this format from our support forum.

**Profiles in .txt format** are the fourth level. Instructions from text profiles override everything. That way you can have a text profile with just a few lines of PPL code loaded which will tweak a few actions here and there from the .ppl profile that you have loaded. Tweaking actions from the default profile in this manner is a great way to start making your own profile!

Within a saved profile there can be both saved option settings and PPL coding. PPL coding always overrides the saved options settings. So PPL code in a text profile is always at the top level and that is the best way to start tweaking your own profile. This can be very simple, something like:

```
preflop  
when (hand = AA or hand = KK) and raises >= 1 raisemax force
```

...which tells your bot to raise all-in with pocket aces or pocket kings whenever somebody else raises. All of PPL language is simple and intuitive like this, so do give the PPL Guide a read to start learning how to customize your own actions.

The default profile that comes in the bot is called the “Doodle” profile, and is available as a text profile as well. It is designed for cash games. The latest version can always be accessed at:

[www.bonusbots.com/doodle.txt](http://www.bonusbots.com/doodle.txt)

The MTT version of it can be accessed here:

[www.bonusbots.com/mtt.txt](http://www.bonusbots.com/mtt.txt)

You will need to copy the code and save it into a new text file (just open Notepad and paste it in and save it).

As you can see, some profiles are simply tweaks of other profiles, while others are complete and self-contained. It is difficult to define every possible poker situation (it took us two years to do that). Therefore most profiles, even fairly detailed ones, still use the original root level programming as a safety net. Many simply tweak the Doodle profile.

## 2.3 Changing Profiles

To summarize, there are three practical methods of customizing profiles for use in different game types.

1. Make changes to the quick-settings located on the **Option Menu** of the bot. Many excellent profiles have been created with this method, and in fact one of the best tournament profiles being used by our forum members is of this type and contains no PPL- coding whatsoever. It has made plenty of high-money finishes in large-field MTT's including some firsts, completely unassisted. Just remember that option settings do not override PPL commands. So if you are making these option setting adjustments when you have a profile loaded that uses PPL code, the settings may not take effect in every situation that you want them to.

2. Add some **custom code** to your saved profile by learning **PPL**, the easy Poker Programming Language that puts you in total control. All of the bot's actions can be 100% user-configured in this manner, and it's easy to use. If you are tweaking a profile that uses PPL, this is the only reliable way to get your desired actions to always occur. See the PPL Guide that was included with your download (and is therefore located in the same folder as the bot at *C: Poker / Data*) for more information.

3. Simply use an **existing profile** that somebody else created. There are several good ones posted on our website, and new ones are being built and shared in our support forum every day.

### **Auto-changing the profile**

You can have the bot automatically switch to a different saved profile in the middle of a session. This can be triggered when the table gets short-handed, when a specified number of hands are played in the current session, when a specified number of minutes are played in the current session, or when your stack size falls below a certain level. To set this up go to:

#### ***Holdem: Auto Read Profile***

...and enter the profile file name and choose which condition you want for changing to that profile.

### **To use a complete text profile from the forum (such as the MTT Kit + Doodle):**

1. Copy the code - just the code, but all of it
2. Paste into a blank Notepad (*Start > All Programs > Accessories > Notepad*)
3. Save As 'whatever' into your bot folder
4. Load in the bot by going to *Holdem > Read Profile* and typing in 'whatever.txt'

#### **Alternatives to Step 4:**

A) Save As 'AutoProfileHoldem' and it will load automatically as the default profile every time you open a bot window

B) Save As 'holdem\_profile' and it will be the default name of the profile showing in the Read Profile window, saving any typing

Do NOT add a .txt extension to the profile name when saving it from Notepad.

### **2.3.1 Setting a default profile**

If there is a text (.txt extension) file kept in the same folder as the bot with the name **AutoProfileHoldem** it will be automatically loaded into every bot window that you open. No other actions are required on your part if this is the profile you want to use – just open the bot window, enter a game, and start the bot. This is a great convenience if you are mostly using one profile, such as a good cash game profile to clear a deposit bonus.

# 3. Detailed Instructions for Holdem Bot

Thank you for taking the time to look at our program! We hope you enjoy it, and that you decide to use it to increase your earnings from online poker.

## 3.1 Vista and Windows 7 Users

On Vista and Windows 7 both the casino and the bot need to be run as administrator. Otherwise the bot is able to read the cards from the casino window but not able to click any buttons. Always start the bot by right clicking on its icon (which looks like a generic program icon) and choosing the "*Run as Administrator*" option. Do the same with the poker room. Note that you must do this even if you have administrator privileges since on the above operating systems '*Run as Administrator*' is not the same thing as having administrator privileges.

In addition on Cake and Red Star, if you are on Vista or Windows7 you must set the theme to **Windows Classic**. This can be done by right clicking on any empty space on your desktop, selecting *Personalize* in the pop up menu, then clicking on *Themes*, then clicking *Modified Themes*, and then setting the theme to *Windows Classic*. If you don't do this the bot will give certain numbered error messages when you try to connect to a Cake or Red Star table. Instructions on how to correct these errors are given in the Appendix at the end of this document.

## 3.2 Seat Position

At our supported poker rooms which sit you in the bottom position automatically by default, you must remain in this seat position and not change even if the poker room allows you to change the display so that you appear in a different seat. Play from the bottom center position (especially at Ultimate Bet).

## 3.3 Free Trial Notes

Your free demo is good for 200 hands and is mandatory prior to license purchase. You don't have to exhaust the 200 hands but you do have to run it for a bit.

After you have run the bot it will establish a **Computer ID number**, which can be obtained by choosing the bot menu item *Holdem: Get Computer ID*. If you exhaust the 200 free hands, this number will also appear in the last playing session log file that the bot records. You **MUST** provide this Computer ID to us when purchasing your license.

After we email you your license code, the bot will only work on the computer that you provided the Computer ID for. You are only allowed to purchase one license per computer. So make sure that you download and run the trial version on the computer you plan on using it with! We are not responsible for anyone who mistakenly purchases a license for the wrong computer, and no refunds will be issued. No exceptions.

### 3.4 Where to Put the Program

There were four items extracted when you opened the file you downloaded: This instruction manual, the PPL user guide, a *.dll file*, and the bot program which is called **svchost.exe**.

The installation program puts these files in a folder called C:\poker\data by default. You can change the folder name during installation. Whatever folder you specify is automatically created by the installer. Please do not move the bot from the folder with the other files. Specifically, it **must** be kept in the same folder as the *.dll* file that came with the download, or it will not function. If you want to move it to your desktop for easier access, either create a shortcut (by right-clicking on the icon and selecting the *create shortcut* option) or drag the entire *data* subfolder to your desktop. If you do this, we recommend renaming the folder to something like *vacation* (to rename a folder right click on its name and choose *rename* from the pop up menu.)

**Stealth Tip:** The folder in which you have installed the holdem bot can be kept on your desktop or anywhere else you like such as your C: drive or *My Documents*. For stealth purposes you might want to bury this folder several subfolders deep from your C: drive and name them something that sounds like vacation photos or organizing software, and also keep your license in that folder. If you have already installed the bot in C:\Poker\Data you can copy the entire *Data* folder to a folder several folders deep.

The *.dll* file included in the download **must** be kept in the same folder or directory as the bot program (svchost.exe) or the bot will not work.

### 3.5 Session Log

The bot records a log of every hand played. This is a text file that is created automatically and placed in the folder or directory where you keep the bot program files, the default location being c:\poker\data. It's simply named *holdem*, (or *holdem.txt* with the file type extension). Each time you open the bot the previous session is erased from the log and overwritten with the new session.

When you use the multi-table function, multiple session logs are created, one for each table or tournament being played. These are named *holdem2* and *holdem3*. They are overwritten just like the 1-table log the next time you have two or three tables going.

### 3.6 Which Games to Play

The bot will play the following games at the following poker rooms.

**Minted Poker:** Any Omaha Hi-Lo game, any limit structure, including all NL and PL games.

**Cake / Red Star:** Any Omaha Hi-Lo game, any limit structure, including all NL and PL games.

**iPoker Rooms:** Any Omaha Hi-Lo game, any limit structure, including all NL and PL games.

**Ultimate Bet:** Any Omaha Hi-Lo game, any limit structure, including all NL and PL games.

The bot clicks on the Min, 1/2 Pot, Pot, Cap, and Max buttons as appropriate in PL and NL games to vary the size of it's bets. It will also type in custom bet sizes as instructed and then click the Bet button. The default profile will bet the pot on the flop, 75% of the pot on the Turn, and 60% of the Pot on the River (most of the time).

Please note that you must be using the **English version** of the poker room software no matter which room you play at. Our bot can only read English.

### 3.7 Hiding the Bot

The second to last item across on the main bot menu is *Hide*. This causes all open bot windows to vanish from your computer screen completely, but they will keep playing for you while invisible. While in hide mode the bot not visible to screen scraping programs and will not show as an application running on your system either.

Before the bot hides itself, it will check your system for the availability of the last six F-command keys on your keyboard to use for calling it back. For most users it will start at F10, but if you have another program which uses F10 it will move on to F11 and if that is also unavailable it will finally try using F12. The order after that is F7, F8 and F9. Before the bot windows vanish a small popup window will appear telling you which key command to use in calling them back, and you must acknowledge this by clicking OK - then the bot will hide.

To call it back you must hold down the ALT key on your keyboard while pressing the F10, F11, F12, F7, F8, or F9 key (whichever one the program told you to use before vanishing).

When multi-tabling it is probably easiest to minimize the connected bot windows. After all the tables you want to play are connected, use the Hide function to hide them all.

**Stealth Tip:** It is recommended to hide the bot most of the time when it is running, and always when you are away from your computer. You also may want to rename the bot to something other than svchost.exe, preferably another common computer application. Right-click on the bot program icon in order to do this. See the Strategy section below for some specific ideas.

Please note that if you forget to call the bot back from hiding after a session, the hidden window will come back up when you try to start the bot again.

### 3.8 Game Type Menu

The last selection on the main program window menu is for the game type, meaning the Limit type of the game you are playing. The bot is unable to auto detect the game type at Ultimate Bet tournaments and at Bodog so assumes you are playing NL. For Pot Limit or Fixed Limit games on Ultimate Bet or Bodog it is recommended that you set this manually. For other poker rooms you can just let it be on *Auto Detect*.



### 3.9 Options Menu

The bot includes many playing options that you, the user, can set. (Most of them are only for No Limit and Pot Limit games.) These can be found on the main bot menu by clicking on *Options*. You will notice the choices are organized into logical sub-menus. Be sure to read **Section 2** of this manual however, so you understand what level of the bot instructions they affect. These are the most important options:

#### MAX SESSION BY HANDS, TIME, & STACK SIZE (Sitout Options)

The first few options allow you to tell the bot to quit playing after a certain amount of time, certain number of hands, or when your stack size grows to a certain level.

#### BATHROOM BREAKS (Sitout Options)

You must set the bot to take breaks. This is under *Bathroom Breaks* on the Options menu. The purpose is to mimic being human. You can set the interval and the time of the break. The shortest allowed break time is 2 minutes. It is not recommended to take breaks longer than 4 minutes as you are likely to get removed from the table. A good setting for cash games is 3 minutes every 40-120 minutes.

If you do not want the bot to take a bathroom break, such as when you are playing in a tournament, simply set the interval to 900 minutes.

#### STACK SIZE RECOGNITION

Our Holdem Bot bot reads it's stack size and incorporates that into several of the option settings. This is useful for playing a more aggressive game with a short stack (especially in tournaments) and calling raises after your bet pot-commits you.

Stack size is set by the number of big blinds on the option menu. You will notice that it is read from the screen in dollar amounts however, and recorded that way in its session log. Don't be concerned about this - the bot makes the appropriate conversion in its calculations.

## TOTAL INVESTMENT

The bot keeps track of how much it has invested in any given hand. There is at least one option where you can adjust a setting by the bot's total investment. This is useful for making sure the bot never folds when you are pot-committed.

### BETSIZE ADJUSTMENTS (Aggressive Play Settings)

On the *Aggressive Play Settings* you will find two different option settings for adjusting the standard bet and raise sizes that the bot will make when acting from its default programming.

The **preflop setting** allows you to tell it when you want to make pot-sized raises preflop, based on a variety of factors including some random elements. The default programming of the bot will make pot-sized preflop raises sometimes and min-raises sometimes. You can adjust that here.

The **post-flop setting** allows you to enter a % number (which corresponds to % of existing potsize) for changing the bot's standard bet and raise size on the Flop, Turn, and River. For example you might tell it to bet 100% on the flop (that is a pot-sized bet), 75% of the pot on the Turn, and 60% of the pot on the River.

When a custom bet size other than 100% is chosen the bot will actually type in the betsize and click Bet. When 100% is chosen it will use the pot button to bet or raise the pot.

**When 0 is chosen** the bot will use its lowest level of default programming, which is to bet the pot on the flop and if a half-pot button is available use that on the Turn and River, otherwise bet the pot and the Turn and River as well. The default settings for this option are 100 on the flop and 0 on the Turn and River so you should adjust them to your liking if you don't want pot-sized post-flop bets.

### FOLD OR GO ALL IN OPTIONS (Aggressive Play Settings)

On the option menu you will find two Fold or Go All-In settings, for NL and PL type games. These can be set to ALWAYS, invoked by number of opponents, or by number of hands played in the session. When either of these settings are triggered the bot will still check and fold as normal, but when its action is to call or raise it will attempt to go all-in. (This includes all programmed blind-stealing and bluffing situations.)

Please make sure both of these options are set on default in game environments where you do not want the bot to push all-in. Setting them on default turns them off so the bot will play as normal.

Also, please see the *Aggressive Tournament Setting* further below which also allows you to set conditions for pushing all-in, both preflop and post-flop, based on certain conditions. The two *Fold or All In* settings are best for when you are at the end of a tournament or have a short stack in a tournament.

You can use either of these settings in conjunction with the *Super Tight* option as well. That would have the bot waiting for premium hands and pushing all-in whenever it has one.

The difference in the two settings is how they are triggered.

### **FOLD OR GO ALL IN WHEN OPPONENTS (AFTER FOLDS) LESS THAN...**

This setting is triggered by the remaining opponents in any particular hand. That could happen any time regardless of how many players are sitting at the table, as long as the set number of hands have elapsed in the session. It's a good choice if you want to play the "Kill Phil" style of poker in a tournament. Note that the bot might push all-in on the first hand dealt using this option if you don't apply it after a set number of hands.

You can also choose to have this setting invoked only when your stack size falls below a certain level. However please note that the active number of players in the hand must still be below your chosen number for this setting to trigger, even when your stack is small.

### **FOLD OR GO ALL IN WHEN OPPONENTS AT TABLE LESS THAN...**

This setting is only triggered by the original number of opponents sitting at the table. So if you have it set to less than 4, as soon as the number of opponents are 3 or less the bot will always push all-in when it plays. This is a good choice for finishing SitnGo's and Tournaments.

You can also choose to have this setting invoked only when your stack size falls below a certain level. However please note that the number of players sitting at the table must still be below your chosen number for this setting to trigger, even when your stack is small.

**\*\*PLEASE NEVER SET BOTH OF THE FOLD OR GO ALL IN OPTIONS TO TRIGGER. CHOOSE ONE OF THEM IF YOU ARE GOING TO USE THIS FEATURE, OR BETTER YET USE THE AGGRESSIVE TOURNAMENT SETTING INSTEAD\*\***

## **ALWAYS CALL WHEN OPPONENTS RAISE IS BELOW (Aggressive Settings)**

This is another setting on the user option menu that applies only to NL and PL games. Its purpose is to keep the bot from folding to small raises by your opponent when it would be foolish from a pot odds standpoint to do so. On the river there is a hand value qualifier of best kicker or better for this setting to be invoked; however on all other streets there is no hand strength qualifier.

There are two parts to it: One for measuring the opponent's raise against your bet size, and one for measuring the bot's total investment in the hand.

There are three positions available for measuring the **opponent's raise size: 20%, 30%, and 40%**. Most players prefer the 40% option in most game environments. So that means whenever you bet and somebody raises but the raise is less than 40% of the amount you bet the bot will automatically call. (If you are playing high-stakes cash games you might prefer a lower setting for the bet size portion.)

These settings also apply to an opponent attempting to sandbag you by calling your bet when they only have a few chips left and then betting their last few chips out on the next round. The bot will remember that it was the last bettor or raiser on the previous betting round in this case and apply the same settings you have chosen.

The second part is a setting for always calling when your current stack size is below a certain percentage of **your total investment in the hand**. The default setting is quite low and we recommend setting it much higher - probably at least 75% - especially for tournaments. Otherwise the bot might fold for a raise with one pair hands when you want to call.

The two settings in this window protect you against folding when you have invested so much in the hand that folding would be undesirable. So if you bet say \$1200 in chips in a tournament and somebody with only \$1400 chips raises all-in the bot will call. Or if somebody raises large and you only have \$200 left in chips after making that same \$1200 bet the bot will call. Or if you bet \$1200 and get a call from a player who only has \$200 in chips left after he calls and he acts first on the next betting round and bets his last \$200 out the bot will also call, regardless of what card hit the board.

## **SUPER TIGHT PLAY OPTION (Tighter Play Settings)**

When this is checked the bot will fold all hands preflop except: **AA, KK, QQ, JJ, 10-10, 9-9, AKs, AK, AQs, AQ, AJs, and KQs**. These it will play as normal. This setting affects Limit play as well as NL/PL. Note that if you also have the Fold or

All In setting invoked, it will just go all-in whenever it gets one of these hands and fold the rest of the time.

Using this setting robs you of the sophisticated programming that has gone into this poker bot. However some people like to play SNG's this way, and also if you just want the bot to play super tight for the first couple hours of a tournament this would be the way to go. (There are other creative uses for it as well.)

### **SEMI-SUPER TIGHT PLAY OPTION (Tighter Play Settings)**

The same setting as Super-tight above but also includes all pocket pairs. In NL games the bot will call preflop raises up to 3 big blinds in size with 66 and below and up to 5 big blinds in size with 77 and 88.

To call larger size preflop raises with these same small pocket pairs you can use the *Set Mining* option (below) in conjunction with this setting.

### **MINIMUM BET OVERRIDE (Aggressive Play Settings)**

This affects post-flop play in No Limit and Pot Limit games only. This option lets you decide how you want to deal with knuckleheads who make a minimum bet of only 1 big blind. Please note that the selected action will only take place if the pot size is at least 5 big blinds and your hand value is best high-card or better.

### **NO LIMP (Aggressive Play Settings)**

This option will stop the bot from just calling preflop (unless it has already raised). It affects all positions except the Big Blind, and works in Limit games as well as NL/PL. You can choose how you want to handle the relatively few hands that the bot would normally limp in with: Raise instead, Fold instead, or Raise sometimes and fold the rest of the time based on various factors. Some players prefer to play this way in cash games, especially at the 6-max tables.

### **AGGRESSIVE TOURNAMENT SETTING (Aggressive Play Settings)**

Near the bottom of the option menu you will find the *Aggressive Tournament* option. It is highly recommended that this option be used for all types of tournaments. These particular option choices define conditions for having the bot use the Bet Max button - in other words, shoving all-in.

There are two sections, one for preflop play and one for post-flop play. One choice must be made for each section. The default position for both is off, so you will need to make a choice for turning them on in tournaments.

The preflop section gives you specific hand lists to choose from. Note that the first choice consists of only the top hands and also requires that there be a preflop raise before the bot will go all-in. The rest of the choices loosen the hand selection up progressively and do not require a preflop raise before raising all-in.

The post-flop conditions are not defined for the user. We have programmed what we believe are the best post-flop conditions for shoving in tournaments. These include top pair or better on non-scary boards and reasonably strong hands on scarier boards. But you still must choose whether you want this option on, off, or only on if there was a preflop raise (which is the first choice on the menu).

You can also choose to have either or both sections only invoked when your stack size falls below a certain level. This is a great way to play tournaments, pushing all-in with any reasonable hand when your stack is short.

We highly recommend starting MTT's with the post-flop aggressive tournament option triggered when there was a preflop raise only, and the first preflop option checked which contains only the top hands and also requires a preflop raise. As the tournament progresses it is often wise to loosen both of these up.

The *aggressive tournament setting* options can also be quite effective in the lowest-stakes cash games, especially the post-flop setting.

### **MINING FOR SETS (Aggressive Play Settings)**

A highly recommended setting for cash games and the early stages of tournaments. This option will make sure the bot always calls preflop with pocket pairs 99 and under, and allows you to set the maximum size raise you will call for. A good general setting is under 5 big blinds.

### **POST-FLOP IN BLINDS OVERRIDE (Tighter Play Settings)**

When you are in either blind position preflop you can tell the bot to only play good hands post-flop, starting with Top-pair third best kicker or higher. It is a tight setting that rocks love. The setting is only invoked if there was no preflop raise, in other words you got a free look at the flop and have nothing invested. This works for both Limit games and NL/PL.

### **PREFLOP RERAISE OVERRIDE (Tighter Play Settings)**

You can check this setting on or off. It only applies to situations where an opponent has raised preflop. When checked, the bot will only reraise with AA or KK and just call with all the other hands it might normally reraise with. This works for both Limit games and NL/PL.

## AUTO REBUY AT UB AND BODOG (Other Settings)

You can check this setting on or off. Checking it on will have the bot automatically rebuy for you at these poker rooms in cash games when it goes broke. Note that the rebuy amount is only the suggested amount and may not be the maximum allowed. Also note that auto rebuy at UB is no longer needed since you can set options in the poker room to that for you.

## 3.10 Saving Profiles

You are probably going to want to use different option menu settings for cash games, 1-table SNG's, MTT's with a decent stack, and MTT's with a short stack. Once you go through and choose all the options you want for a certain game environment, you can save them as a profile. That way you can get them all back quickly without having to set them all again.

To save a profile, click on the first item on the main menu *Holdem* and then on *Write Profile...*

A window will appear with the default name "holdem\_profile.txt"

If you only want to save one profile you may as well call it that, as this is the default profile name for both saving and loading profiles. However most players will want to save at least several profiles, in which case you need to rename them.

For example, **c** for cash games (save as 'c' load as 'c.txt'), or **s** for 1-table SNG's, **m1** for the beginning of tournaments, and **m2** for when you notice you are short-stacked in a tournament.

To load a saved profile, go to **Holdem: Read Profile...**

...then just type in the name of the saved profile that you want to load, such as "m1.txt" etc.

Please note that profiles are saved by default in the same folder/directory where the bot program is kept. This makes loading them easy as the bot looks for them in that location. Alternatively, you could save them somewhere else by specifying the path - but of course you will need to specify the path to load it as well. For example: C:\cash6max.txt.



### 3.11 Switching Profiles Mid-Session

You can have the bot automatically switch to a different saved profile when the table gets short-handed, when a specified number of hands are played in the current session, when a specified number of minutes are played in the current session, or when your stack size falls below a certain level. To set this up go to:

#### ***Holdem: Auto Read Profile***

...and enter the profile file name and choose which condition you want for changing to that profile.

### 3.12 Custom Coding Profiles With PPL

Our poker bots support user custom profile programming, in addition to the settings on the option menu. This feature is not really necessary as our poker bots come out of the box programmed to play poker well, and also have the ability to create many different playing styles by adjusting the decision making process right from the option menu.

But for those wanting even more control this feature will allow you to completely program all of the bot's decisions yourself. The process is easy to learn and it has resulted in the creation of a marketplace where users of our poker bots trade their custom profiles with each other. If you are interested in this please read the **PPL User Guide**, a pdf file that you should have received with the bot download.

### 3.13 Setting Your Own Default Profile

There is an additional feature that will allow you to have a certain profile be the default profile that every bot window will use without having to load a profile at all. All you need to do is save whichever profile you want for the default profile as:

#### **AutoProfileHoldem.txt**

...in the same folder as the bot. When a text file titled **AutoHoldemProfile** is detected in the same folder as the bot, it will load automatically into every bot window you open. You would then need to load a different profile only for the tables that you want to use a different profile at.



### 3.14 Multi-Tabling

You can currently play up to six tables at a time on all our supported poker rooms (except for Bodog which has a 4-table limit, their idea not ours). Even with small monitors and tables overlapping you shouldn't have any trouble multi-tabling.

**Table Positioning Tip:** If you have a big screen you should try and position the tables so that there is minimum overlap between them. On smaller screens you should at least position the tables such that the button areas do not overlap. Position the 2<sup>nd</sup> table window such that it is a little (about two inches) to the right of and a little (about 2 inches) below the 1<sup>st</sup> table and so on. However even if the tables fully overlap, the bot windows will stay connected and still play them all.

How many tables you can play before getting errors depends on the poker room, your monitor size, and the configuration of your PC system. Most people can play at least two or three tables, but many can play all six. When multi-tabling you should arrange the tables on your screen so that they are staggered enough that the buttons do not overlap each other, but also so no part of the table is pushed off screen.

Multi-tabling is accomplished by opening multiple bot windows and hooking them to each table, one table at a time. Here is the procedure:

Get into the first table as normal and start the bot, but don't hide it yet. Instead, get into a second table and separate it as much as possible from the first table on your screen (without moving any part of it beyond the edge of your monitor). Then, on the bot's main menu go to:

#### **Holdem > New Window**

This opens an additional bot window which operates independently. You can now minimize the first bot window if you like. When you press start on the second bot window it should connect to the new table; however on occasion it may ask you for the table (or tournament) name. This is case sensitive. It will then connect and you can repeat this process for additional tables if you like. After connecting to as many tables as you like, click Hide on any of the bot windows and they will all hide.

Each window operates independently so you can play different games, different game environments, and load different profiles in each window. However you cannot multi-table between poker rooms. All your tables need to be at the same room.

Please note that the bot handles table changes in MTT's automatically at all the poker rooms and does not need you to be there to enter the new table number as you do when opening a new bot window for multi-tabling. However we do not recommend multi-tabling MTT's with the bot unless you are going to be able to semi-monitor the computer. This is because if you have a table change at more than one event at the same time, both bot windows may stay disconnected as you will then have multiple unconnected tables open.

### 3.15 Waiting for a Table

The bot has a function to wait for a table to appear before starting to play. This option will appear if you click start on the bot and it cannot find a poker table window to hook itself to. It is useful for registering for tournaments and SNG's before they start, so you can set the bot to play once they do and just walk away.

Please note that the tournament must be a type where you are seated automatically and the table appears with you in your seat when it is ready to go. At some tournaments at some of our supported rooms you must wait and click on a popup window to take your seat and this feature will not work at those. How well this feature works depends on which poker room you are playing at, which type of tournament you are playing, and your individual PC setup. So please experiment with it before trusting it to start playing for you.

**Please Note:** You cannot wait for multiple tables and therefore should use this feature only to play one table at a time. Please do not attempt to play multiple tournaments using this feature.

# 4. Running the Program

## Cake Poker / Red Star Poker

**Note:** Our bot will only work with **Cake Poker software version 1.0**, which is the older version. You can get that here:

<http://ckpn.cachefly.net/c1/cake/cakeSetup.1.152.4.exe>

or here:

<http://ckpn.cachefly.net/c1/cake/FullcakeSetup.1.152.4.exe>

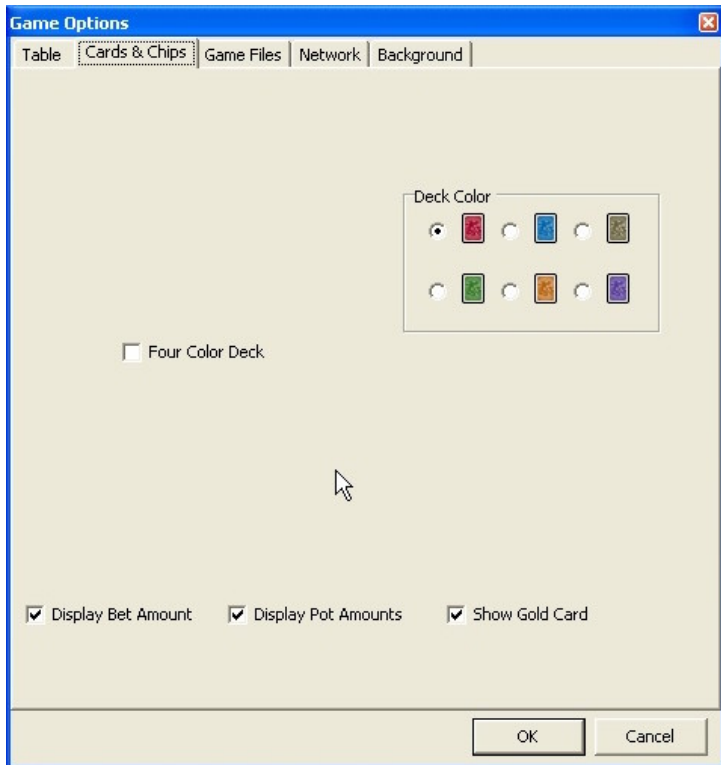
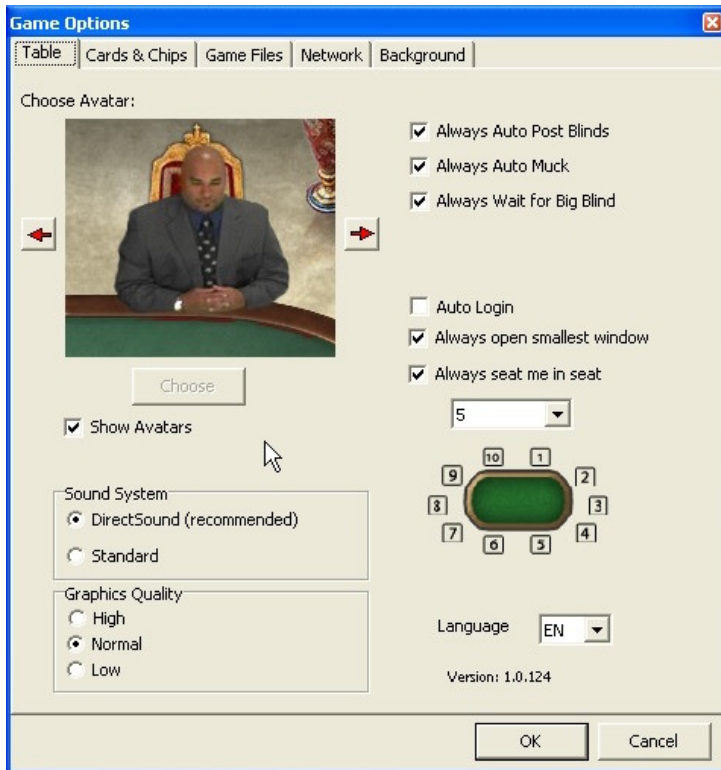
The download that the Cake Poker website now gives you is the new 2.0 software, and the bot will not work with that version! So make sure you install Cake 1.0 from one of the links above. (It will actually be a version 1.x which was the last improvement of the original 1.0 software.)

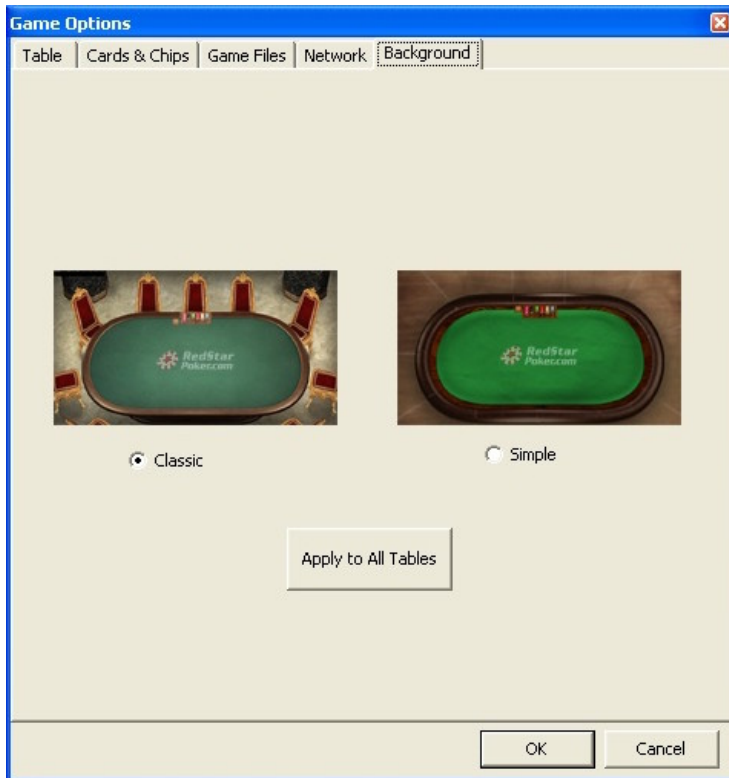
Please note that the 1.x software will **force an upgrade** to the newest 2.x version the first time you open it. Just let it upgrade! It does not replace the version 1.x poker client but installs 2.x as an additional program. At that point you can open and run the Cake version 1.x (it will ask if you want to use the newer 2.x version instead and you can just say no).

**For Red Star Poker**, on the download page it still gives you the option to download the **previous 1.x version software**, so be sure to choose that download because the bot will not work with the new version.

On Cake and Red Star, if you are on **Vista or Windows7** you must set the theme to **Windows Classic**. This can be done by right clicking on any empty space on your desktop, selecting *Personalize* in the pop up menu, then clicking on *Themes*, then clicking *Modified Themes*, and then setting the theme to *Windows Classic*. If you don't do this the bot will give certain numbered error messages when you try to connect to a Cake or Red Star table. Instructions on how to correct these errors are given in the Appendix at the end of this document.

You must set the following display options at Cake or Red Star. These are all critical and are not optional in order for the bot to function properly.





You can choose any Avatar you want, but you **must** always be seated in seat 5.

**Important PC Settings for Cake.** At Cake they interchange commas with periods in the numerical expressions for stack sizes and such, which will confuse the bot. To prevent this please set your PC accordingly:

- **Windows Control Panel > Language and Regional Settings > Change to English (United States)**

Also, on some PC's the bot will not get the opponent count correct at cake unless you **change your Windows theme to Classic**. To do this right-click on any empty space on your desktop and go to

- **Properties > Themes > choose Windows Classic**

U.S. citizens can only get rakeback on the Cake network at the main site, CakePoker.com. If you are not a U.S. citizen you might choose Red Star poker instead, which plays on the same network (all the same players, games, and tables).

**33% Rakeback:** If you do not yet have a Cake Poker (or Red Star Poker) account please sign up through this link and **get 33% rakeback:**

<http://tinyurl.com/b3jrz4>

## iPoker Network (William Hill / Gutshot / Titan / BetnGo)

This setup is for all six supported **iPoker network** rooms, which do not allow U.S. residents to play.

**You must use the “Old Lobby”:** In early 2012 iPoker affected a new graphical interface into their software. At the time of this writing, Jan 3 2012, it has not yet been incorporated into all the iPoker rooms but will be soon. The bot will not work if your poker room is using the new graphics. All you have to do is change to the old graphics on the poker client. This can be done from the poker lobby by going to **Options** and then **Lobby** and then selecting **Old**.

**Poker Client Setup:** It is simple to setup the poker room display options. All the options under *Options > Chat Settings* must be checked. Nothing else needs to be done. Check their webpages for the current deposit bonus promotions.

### Display Options

- » Make sure ALL menu items under *Options > Chat Settings* are checked
- » Sit on any seat on any Holdem table
- » Start the bot and click on start

Both the bot and poker client must be *run as administrator* on Vista and Windows Seven machines (see section 1.1). Multi tabling up to 6 tables is supported as usual.

### Special Deposit Bonus at Gutshot Poker

We have arranged the following special deposit bonus at Gutshot Poker, which is far and away better than any of the other iPoker skin deposit bonus offers.

- **200% Deposit Bonus up to \$1,000.** This is the normal first deposit bonus that this iPoker skin offers. Deposit any amount and receive a 200% deposit bonus added to your bonus account, which clears in the normal manner.
- **\$50 Instant Cash added.** This is by our special arrangement. In addition to the normal 200% deposit bonus above, you will get \$50 added to your cash balance instantly. However be aware that you must accumulate 1,000 player points before making a withdrawal (which is an absolute piece of cake and can be completed within just a couple days using the bot).
- **Special Freerolls and Reload Offers.** By being tagged as one of our referrals you will receive offers to invitation-only freeroll tournaments and special reload offers from time to time. These special freerolls can be juicy! For example, a \$500 freeroll with maybe 50 or 60 entrants is not uncommon – yummy!

### **To Get the Special Gutshot Deal:**

5. Sign up at the regular website URL: <http://www.gutshot.com>
6. Login and create a poker alias name.
7. Deposit the equivalent of at least \$100 USD
8. With 24 hours of making your first deposit email us your poker room username (from the same email address that you signed up with) at: [BonusBots@yahoo.com](mailto:BonusBots@yahoo.com). We will take care of the rest and you will see the extra \$50 credited to your account in 24-48 hours.

### **Titan.fr**

The bot also supports the French iPoker room **Titan.fr**, for France residents only. This is the only French iPoker room currently supported, and the bot will work with the French language here. The same other iPoker setup instructions apply.

### **Sisal.it**

The bot also supports the Italian iPoker room **Sisal.it**, for Italy residents only. This is the only Italian iPoker room currently supported, and the bot will work with the Italian language here. The same other iPoker setup instructions apply.

### **iPoker Troubleshooting**

Problems reported using the bot at any of the iPoker network rooms almost always end up being due to one of these three things:

4. Not having your Windows language set to English / USA
5. Not using an English speaking version of the poker client
6. Having collapsed the poker table chat window. This is the most common error. The bot needs to read the dealer messages in the poker table chat (please note that it can still read them even if the tables overlap and the table is covered by another table however). It is quite easy to accidentally collapse the chat on the poker table. If you have done this, some arrows will show that you can click and expand it back again.

## **UB** (also known as **Ultimate Bet**)

You must set the following display options. The tabs for these settings can be accessed from any poker table by clicking the *Options* button. These are all critical and are not optional in order for the bot to function properly.

- **Classic View** from the **Change Table View** tab
- **Aruba** background selected under *Choose Your Tables Classic Background*

Under the **Game Options** section make sure:

- **Display Chat Bubble** is checked
- **Show Whole Dollars Only** is unchecked
- **Full Animation** is unchecked
- **Disable Enter to Bet** is unchecked
- Under **Dealer Message** check **Normal**
- Under **Deck Option** choose **2 Color**
- **Disable Observer Chat** under **Chat Options**



# 5. Miscellaneous

## 5.1 Other User Options on the Bot

There is a sit-out option which should normally be set to 1 so that it never sits out. In SNG's and MTT's this setting is ignored anyway. The exception would be if you want to experiment sitting out short-handed in cash games, especially higher stakes ones.

**\*\*Recommend setting Sitout Option to 1 (never sitting out)\*\***

The other option menu choices have to do with decision programming, more specifically the **bet sizing** and the minimum strength hand you want the bot to play in different situations. The long-term profitability of the bot in NL and PL games WILL depend on which options you select for which game environments.

In general we recommend selecting looser options in lower stakes games and tighter options in higher stakes games. Please refer to the strategy section below for specific recommendations on how to set these options for different game environments. You might also want to hang around the forum and watch people posting success stories to see if they reveal what options they are using.

## 5.2 Additional Notes

If you have any problems with the bot, try setting the resolution of your screen to 1024 X 768. The bot has been tested only with this resolution and may or may not work correctly with other screen resolutions. You can check and change the screen resolution by right clicking on empty space on your desktop and choosing the property item from the pop up menu. Then choose the settings tab.

Don't check email or do other stuff while the bot is running. Have all your browser windows closed.

**\*\*Especially don't have a browser window open at any kind of poker site as the bot can get confused\*\***

**Stealth Tip:** Please, please don't run the bot for more than 12 hours at a time. This could alert the poker room to the possibility of bot usage and cause problems for all of us. Bot responsibly!

Ignore the **Succint/Verbose** setting on the menu. All this does is change the amount of data recorded in the session log.

## 5.3 Rakeback

Rakeback is necessary to show a worthwhile long-term profit for most cash games. Please sign up for your poker accounts through a reputable rakeback provider. If you don't have a bonus or rakeback going for you, you should only play SNG's or Tournaments.

You can signup for rakeback through our favorite provider by following this link:<http://tinyurl.com/b3jr4>



## 6. Poker Bot Strategy

*A guide for optimizing the profitability of your bankroll*



## Introduction

**July 2010 Note:** *This strategy guide is now a couple of years old and may be starting to get a little outdated. However it is still a good idea to give it a read.*

Hopefully, the reason you have this guide is because you downloaded one of our poker bots. If not, please go do so at [www.BonusBots.com](http://www.BonusBots.com). The download is free and will work for 200 hands before requiring a license purchase.

The purpose of this strategy section is to help you use our product profitably, in a manner that both suits you and makes the endeavor worth your while. We believe we are selling the best pokerbots on the internet, but if you don't use them correctly they might not do you any good (other than having a really cool toy).

We have been selling an Omaha/8 bot since late 2006 when we started selling online gaming bots. In early 2007 it became clear that the real demand was for a Hold'em bot, as that's where all the action is in online poker. So we started building one. This project proved to be much bigger than we ever could have anticipated.

One year later, we finally released it. And it's not like we dilly-dallied on this thing either. It took a year of constant development, testing, and revising before we had something we thought was good enough to sell. Our Hold'em bot is the cumulative result of an incredible effort like you can't even imagine. That was in the spring of 2008.

Fast-forward another year to spring of 2009. The original released product, while very good, has been constantly improved. To the point even of a special programming language being added to it which allows the user to control 100% of it's actions if they so desire. Custom profiles are being cranked out by our users and posted in our support forum on a daily basis.

This bot takes previous round betting action into some of it's playing decisions. It knows how many players are still in the hand, and what it's current position is. It makes wise continuation bets and check-raises in good spots.

It also randomizes many of it's decisions by using card colors. For example, the bot may raise or fold in some places depending on whether it's first hole card is black or red. You simply won't find these kinds of features programmed into other commercially-available poker bots. (Of course they didn't take a year to create, either.)

As the product improves, the license fee rises. Consequently we see it as a very good investment, whenever you happen to purchase it.

## Types of Poker Bots

There are three basic types of poker bots on the market.

### Win Hold'em (or Open Hold'em)

These are products that click the correct buttons but don't know what to do. It's for programmers, to give them a jump start and allow them to program the playing instructions. You need to know programming code to complete the product, C/C++ I believe. Poker rooms know about these and are actively scraping for them, so you need to combine the use of two PC's in order to run them (one holds the Win Hold'em program, the other holds the poker room software). It's rather complicated and involves a lot of effort to pursue.

*Please note that our poker bots can now also be custom coded by the user, for those so inclined. So we are essentially offering the same thing now, except that our products come with winning programming already installed (in addition to a large option menu which lets you quickly adjust the play for many situations). Profiles are easily saved and little bits of custom code can be added to change the behavior here and there if you wish.*

*So a complete user-designed profile for our poker bots can now be created by anyone who has a mind to in a matter of hours, as opposed to a matter of months like it takes with Win Hold'em or Open Hold'em. Our language is very easy to learn even for people with no programming background. This is not necessary but is a nice extra feature. More about this below.*

### Third Party Brains

This category includes the **OPI bots** (OPI stands for *Online Poker Inspector*, or more specifically *Online Hold'em inspector*). The bot software uses a third party brain to make decisions, usually some type of poker odds software that gives playing advice based on the situation. The problem with these is that there are not enough variables in the poker advice programs to make a good bot.

Low limit games at certain poker rooms are full of these OPI bots. Our Hold'em bot will destroy them over time.

## Self-contained Bots

That's what our bots are. I have purchased a couple others that fit this category over the years, but they always turned out to be junk. I am unaware of any other product currently being sold in this category. They are, after all, quite difficult to create.

To run our bot you just open the program, choose your playing options, open the poker room, get in a game, click start and minimize the bot program. (Our bots are disguised as common computer applications and thus any poker room scraping for them will only see that you have Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Outlook, the Microsoft generic program icon, a DOS window, or something like that open on your computer while you are playing.)

## Staying in Stealth Mode

Because it's entirely possible that the poker rooms might start looking for our bot, it's wise to always have it hidden while playing. It also might be prudent to have the poker room software open and maybe even the table you want to play at open for a couple minutes before joining.

Better yet, get into a game and play for a few minutes before opening the bot software and then quickly start and hide it. Have any settings from the option menu that you are using selected ahead of time. We really don't anticipate any problems in this area but it's wise to be careful.

When the program is in *Hide* mode it doesn't show as an application running and is not visible anywhere on your computer screen. Use the Alt+F10 command to bring it back (or whichever F-key command the bot tells you to use before it hides). The software also incorporates several other stealth features to avoid being profiled as a bot, including:

- Random Pixel Clicking
- Random Delay Time Before Acting
- Using Preflop *Fold in Turn* Buttons sometimes (only at certain poker rooms)
- Very, very occasionally typing "nh" in the chat window when it loses on the river
- Scheduled Bathroom Breaks

Because of these features, it is extremely difficult to detect.

## Sit-out Options

On the option menu of our pokerbot programs you can choose to have them sit out when the players at your table fall beneath a certain number. When the player count goes back to your selected number the bot will attempt to sit itself back in. This usually works, but not always. And it is very possible to get removed from the table by the poker room while sitting out.

For these reasons, plus the fact that our bots have been programmed to play well short-handed, we don't recommend using this option for anything other than high-stakes cash games. Please make sure the sitout option is **set to <1** before using it the first time.

The sit-out option is automatically ignored in tournaments of all types.

## Max Session Time

On the option menu of our pokerbots you can choose to have them quit after a certain number of hands or after a certain time has elapsed. This comes in handy when you are leaving for work or going to bed and want to control the playing session time, which is always a good idea (to keep from being profiled as a possible bot user).

## Playing Sessions

Now, you **could** let the bot run for days or even weeks on end. But that would be foolish wouldn't it? Not only would you possibly flag your account and cause troubles for yourself, but it could even result in causing problems for the rest of us. Please bot responsibly. Playing 10-12 hour days with 8-12 hour breaks in between is reasonable. Take a day off now and then as well.

There are several ways to set the max session, including by when your stack size reaches a certain level so you can **book a win and walk away**. See the instructions text file for more detailed information.

## Bathroom Breaks

The Hold'em Bot comes with a bathroom break scheduler and it is recommended to use this feature in cash games. The bot will sit out for two or three minutes then sit back in. This can be scheduled as often as you like. However we recommend three minutes every 90 to 120 minutes. Be sure to turn it off in

tournaments (this is done by making the interval time higher than your max session time).

## **Avoiding Being Profiled**

Because our bots are programmed to take different actions in the some of the same scenarios based on random elements, and because there are quite a few user option settings which can be changed for No Limit play, they are difficult to profile. They also play well short-handed so it's hard to get pegged as a bot and be exploited for it. Still, it's a good idea to play without the bot once in a while just to keep players who are taking notes on you off kilter. (At the lower limits this isn't something you should even be concerned about.)

## **Poker Room Upgrades**

From time to time a supported poker room will upgrade their software in a manner that temporarily breaks the bot. This is no time to panic! Rest assured that we probably already know about it and are working on the fix. Watch our forum announcements and/or subscribe to our RSS feed for the announcement of when you can download the upgrade.

Our Forum URL: [www.bonusbots.com/forum](http://www.bonusbots.com/forum)

Our RSS Feed for Updates: [www.bonusbots.com/updates/feed](http://www.bonusbots.com/updates/feed)

## **The Rake: Your Worst Enemy**

Most poker players completely underestimate their most formidable opponent, the rake. The rake always ends up with the most money over any reasonable time period. It's like an opponent who is guaranteed to book a big win every single time you sit down at a poker table. And that makes things very tough!



Consider this: A game where the average stack is \$150 and the average rake is just \$.60 per hand, dealing 65 hands per hour. This is typical of many online games. In 23 hours the rake will have taken **every single chip on the table**. That's right, all of it. You can't imagine how profitable the larger online poker rooms are. And you had better understand that this is a near-impossible proposition to escape from, unless:

- A)** your opponents are playing terribly, and/or
- B)** you are getting a significant portion of that rake back through bonuses and/or rakeback.

Full 9 and 10-handed games are one way to help curb the sting of the rake. It's cost is significantly less at these tables, as more players share in the bill and the blind pressure is less. This means that you can play tighter and be rewarded for it. (That's why our Hold'em bot plays **extremely** tight in full ring games.) The drawback is, only good players seem to understand this and so the full 9/10 tables just don't have a lot of bad players in them any more. That's a real problem.

Another way to escape the rake is to play tournaments, especially multi-table tournaments (MTT's). There is so much **dead money** in these things that you don't need rakeback or bonuses to profit from them nicely. Dead money is a term that refers to people who have no chance of finishing high, and MTT's always have enough of them to more than cover your entry fees.

Even SitNGos (SNG's) can be a profitable way to avoid the rake at the lower buy-ins. For example, \$5 and \$10 SNG's have enough dead money – people just messing around who aren't really serious – to be quite profitable without needing any bonuses or rakeback. As you move up to the medium and higher buy-in games the dead money vanishes, however. But in those games all you have to do is play solid and keep your cool in order to have an edge which negates the entry fee, something that bots happen to excel at.

All in all tournaments are an **excellent** way to escape the rake.

Finally, for those with the means and the stomach, high-stakes cash games can be the route out of the rake's devastating grasp. Once the average pot size is significantly above the size where the max rake per pot is reached, it becomes much less of a factor. In these games the players are all pretty good and so small edges are obtained by those who don't go on tilt or make stupid mistakes. Again, this is something that our bot is a champion at.

However, high stakes games have other pitfalls, not the least of which is having a tendency to become short-handed where it's just you and a couple of the best players in the world. Obviously you want to avoid that and so the sit-out option on our bot should be used at these tables if you want to take a crack at them (we'd

also recommend sticking to limit). The other problem is that high stakes games can become high-profile, something botters should try to avoid. But our bot actually should do OK at high-stakes limit tables that stay full – just don't play too long.

## Level of Competition

This is the final ingredient. Terrible players will pay your share of the rake as well as theirs, and leave you a little something to boot. If there are a couple of them in your game, rest assured that everybody will get paid. They are the life blood of good online poker players, and even the best poker bot needs them in order to be profitable. This is a critical concept.

In fact if there are not bad players frequently coming into your games, you are not going to make a profit - with or without a great pokerbot. Even the poker rooms with the best rakeback programs and bonuses are not giving it **all** back. There will be a small deficit to make up, and the bot will need poor players making frequent poor decisions in order to grind out an hourly profit. This is why a table full of poker bots is simply not going to work, no matter what the rakeback and/or bonus scheme is.

Without bad players, the best you'll be able to do is lose less than everybody else. This is very important to understand. Seek out soft games. It's worth your time. There are tools available to help you do this. Just having Poker Tracker can be a tremendous resource. You can check in on your bot every now and then, scan the tables for players with bad stats, change tables, turn your screen off, and come back in an hour or so to repeat the process. This exercise, if you have the ability to pull it off, will improve your results in cash games **dramatically**.

Bad stats are players with **high \$VPIP** and low **PFR%**. In other words, they play a lot of pots but don't raise before the flop much. These are the kind of players that will make the bot profitable, and it greatly behooves you to find them and sit at their table. (The other stat you might check for is a low won at showdown percentage, or perhaps just a high dollar loss for the number of hands you have recorded on them.)

## Multi-Tabling

Both our poker bots can currently play up to six tables at any of our supported poker rooms (except Bodog where they allow a maximum of 4 tables per player). This function works best on large monitors where you can separate the tables farther, but even on small screens where the multiple tables obscure each other it will work as long as the buttons themselves do not overlap. The exception might be if you must *Use OCR* in order to play and also have a small monitor (more on that below).

The bots can also multi-table between game types, although we do not recommend multi-tabling while playing an MTT because the additional tables open can trip up the bot when you experience a table change. Please note that you cannot multi-table across poker rooms, either – all your tables that are open must be at the same room.

The only thing you need to watch when multi-tabling are **staggering** your tables. Separate your tables as much as possible without hanging them off the edge of your monitor.

**Table Positioning Tip:** If you have a big screen you should try and position the tables so that there is minimum overlap between them. On smaller screens you should at least position the tables such that the button areas do not overlap. Position the 2<sup>nd</sup> table window such that it is a little (about two inches) to the right of and a little (about 2 inches) below the 1<sup>st</sup> table and so on.

## How to Multi-Table

A menu item named **New Window** can be found on the **Holdem** menu. Clicking on this causes a new bot window to be opened up. The new window will ask for the additional poker table name, which you should already be sitting at. You need to type that in exactly as it shows in the poker window, as this is case sensitive.

A max of 6 bot windows can be open simultaneously. Each bot window acts independently and can be used to connect to and play at a particular poker room as per the rules above. Profiles need to be loaded independently in each window. They can be hidden and brought up independently. They write in separate log files. The log for the first window is called holdem.log (or om.log for the Omaha/8bot) as usual. The log for the second is called holdem2.log and so on. Each window is independent, so one can play Limit and another No Limit etc. without getting confused.

Most people can hide all Bot windows on their machine when multi-tabling. This is a sure way to speed up clearing bonuses and/or earning rakeback.

## Custom Profile Creation

Our poker bots have an option menu where you can choose certain settings for the type of game you plan on playing in (be it a tournament, short-handed cash game, etc.). So that you don't have to do this every time you change game types, you can save your settings as a profile. This allows you to quickly load different profiles and you can even load different profiles for different tables while multi-tabling. Details on how to do this are given a bit further in this manual, as well as in the instructions text file that came with our software.

The Hold'em bot now has over 30 individual settings on the option menu. If you need help with setting suggestions for different game types, we maintain a thread in our forum called ***Egor's Favorite Holdem Bot Settings*** and it is publicly viewable as a sticky post on the Discussion Board. Here is the link to it:

<http://bonusbots.com/forum/YaBB.pl?num=1212365053>

In addition to these option menu settings, our poker bots are now completely **user-programmable** as well. We created a simple language that most poker players can easily learn so you can completely program the bot's entire playing instructions to your liking, if you so desire. The language is known as **PPL** which stands for Poker Programming Language.

Please note that this isn't really necessary and many of our customers have reported great results from profiles created using the option menu. But if you are hardcore you might enjoy doing a bit of custom coding to your bot.

Also note that you don't have to code an entire profile either. You can create small snippets of PPL code just to handle one or two situations in a certain way and use the option menu for the rest of the profile.

User-created custom code simply needs to be inserted on the saved profile (which is a text file) underneath where you see the option menu choices displayed. Please read the ***PPL User Guide*** that also came with your software download to learn how to create custom code.

## Stack Size Recognition

Our poker bots read their stack size from the poker table window when it is time to act. They take this information into making certain decisions based on options that you have selected. The stack size is read and recorded in dollar amounts. However some of the settings on the option menu that include stack size ask you to set it by number of big blinds. The bot does the conversion automatically. You

probably need to do a little calculating to figure out how to set the stack size by number of big blinds for these settings.

Please note that these settings have a very high initial value, which means they are always on for any stack size if you turn the above option on. To make the above option only happen when your stack gets short you need to enter a number that represents a short stack, for example 15 or 20 (15 or 20 big blinds is a reasonably short stack in many situations).

## Total Investment

The bot keeps a running tab of its total investment in any given hand. At least one option menu setting allows you to set it by Total Investment. The purpose is to keep from folding in situations when you are pot-committed.

## Hold'em Bot Strategy

Get ready for some real fun. Ultimate Bet is also one of the larger sites with plenty of action all hours of the day. Bodog has decent action and is known for soft games, probably because they are connected to a sports book. The fish are there for the catching at all of these poker rooms. Our bot really shines at these places, because there is just a heck of a lot that you can do with it. No doubt some of you will discover strategies that I haven't even thought of.

**Ultimate Bet offers a 111% signup bonus to \$1,100 or 30% rakeback.** They cannot be cleared simultaneously, and because UB bonuses clear so slowly at the lower stakes games the **30% rakeback is a much better deal**. So if you don't have an account there yet, sign up through rakeback and skip the deposit bonus! If you already have an account, one nice feature of UB is that they always have a reload bonus deal going on so you are always clearing bonuses when playing cash games.

**Bodog has a \$1000 deposit bonus plus a 25% rakeback deal.** These do clear simultaneously and it really adds up. This is probably the best place for doing the bonus+rakeback deal. In addition, Bodog is known for guaranteed tournaments where the guarantee is larger than all the entry fees, which give the players a nice overlay. Please note that the rakeback deal cannot be publicly advertised and is kind of an under-the-table type thing with the providers who offer it.

**The Cake Poker Network has a \$500 signup bonus plus a 33% rakeback deal.** These also clear at least somewhat simultaneously and the cash games are soft, making this a great place to score a bonus or earn rakeback as you

sleep. This network keeps growing and has several skins that are attached to sportsbooks, always good for juicing up the tables.

**BetnGo has a \$500 deposit bonus.** The iPoker network does not have a rakeback program. However we have arranged a special extra deal with this room that has almost the same net effect. We cannot disclose the details of it and there is no promotion code or link that needs to be followed. You just have to signup there, make a despoit, and email us your account details within 24 hours of account creation and we will get it tagged to your account. No USA players allowed, but this is a great room with terrific MTT's.

## **Games the Bot will Play**

Our Hold'em poker bot will play the following types of games:

- ✓ **Limit cash games 6-max**
- ✓ **Limit cash games 9-max or 10-max**
- ✓ **Limit SNG's**
- ✓ **Limit MTT's**
- ✓ **NL Cap cash games 6-max**
- ✓ **NL Cap cash games 9-max**
- ✓ **NL cash games 6-max**
- ✓ **NL cash games 9-max or 10-max**
- ✓ **NL SNG's**
- ✓ **NL MTT's**
- ✓ **PL cash games 6-max**
- ✓ **PL cash games 9-max or 10-max**
- ✓ **PL SNG's**
- ✓ **PL MTT's**

How's that selection for you? Basically the bot will play any form of Hold'em being spread in any structure. In order to accomplish this we had to give the bot a different set of instructions for different game types, and we also decided to include some user controlled options for certain types of games. Let me try and break that down for you.

**NL, PL, and NL Cap Games** – the bot plays all these types of games the same way, whether cash or tournament. The major differences between this type of game and Limit Hold'em lies in calling raises, both preflop and post-flop, and also in calling non-raised pots preflop. In this type of game the bot folds to raises that it will call in Limit. It will also call the blind with small pocket pairs in this type of game (trying to flop a set) whereas in limit it will almost never play those hands.

In NL and PL games there are some options that need to be set. Two of these also affect Limit game play. I will give you some general guides in the strategy section below, but for now let's go over what they are. You can find these on the Options menu of the bot program window.

**Option 1: Set the Preflop Raise Size** – You can set the preflop raise amount to always be the minimum, always be pot-sized (about 3.5 x the big blind), or sometimes bet the pot and sometimes bet the minimum based on either a random element or hand strength. In low-stakes cash games I prefer to always raise the minimum, in slightly higher stakes cash games I like to use one of the random elements, in low stakes tournaments I prefer to always use the pot-size raise, and in higher stakes tournaments I like to set it by hand strength.

**Option 2: Set the Post-flop Bet Size** – You can set the post-flop bet/raise size by a % of the existing pot-size for the Flop, Turn, and River. For example you can have the bot bet 75% of the pot on the Flop, 60% of the pot on the Turn, and 50% of the pot on the River.

**Option 3: Fold to Preflop Raises for AQ, AJs, KQ** – this is just what it sounds like. The default position is off, meaning that if you do not check this option the bot will call preflop raises when holding these three hands. In limit the bot always calls one preflop raise with these hands but you can make it fold these hands for a preflop raise in No Limit and Pot limit. Generally speaking I would recommend keeping the default setting in lower stakes games and checking it on for higher stakes games.

**Option 4: Fold Post-Flop Below Top Pair to Any Bet or Raise** – this is a post-flop setting that will give the bot an overriding instruction to always fold any hand below top-pair in strength to any bet or raise. You can leave this off and the bot will play by the default instructions and sometimes call large bets with certain drawing hands like a medium pair with a flush draw. Or you can check this option and always be safe from donking off your stack to a large all-in bet when holding anything under top pair.



**Option 5: Fold to Postflop Raises with Unpaired Boards for** – this is a post-flop setting that will give the bot an overriding instruction never to call a raise with a hand below the strength of your choosing. Note that this is only for non-paired boards with no possible made flush and no possible made straight. The default setting is top-pair best kicker, and that is the loosest possible setting (in limit the bot will often call raises with any top pair or combination pair/draw hands). My recommendation is to tighten this setting as you play higher stakes. I'd lean towards checking this option in tournaments and higher stakes cash games.

**Option 6: Fold to Postflop Raises with Paired Boards for** – when the board is paired what is the minimum strength hand you want to call a raise with? The default setting is trips with best possible kicker. You can loosen this or tighten this at your discretion. Again, in limit the bot will play a bit looser and I would tighten this setting in certain higher-stakes situations.

**Option 7: Never Bet Turn or River with Hand Below** – (note this setting also affects Limit games) here you can turn off the automatic continuation bluffs on the turn, which is a good idea in higher stakes cash games and late stages of tournaments, especially when you are close to the money. If you leave the default setting the bot will make pot-sized bluffs on the turn when against one opponent and the bot bet the flop and was only called and it's first card is a certain color. Setting this option to at least second best pair is probably a good idea for tournaments and all but the smallest stakes NL games.

**Option 8: Never Bet Flop With Hand Below Middle Pair When** – (note this setting also affects Limit games) you can turn off all flop continuation bets with this setting. However it is not recommended that you use this setting unless you really know what you are doing.

Note that one of the options is to turn it off when your stacks size falls below a certain level, and that is probably the best use for it (in a tournament situation). When your stack is getting small you don't want to waste chips on pot-sized bets stabbing at the flop and are really just looking for hands to push with pre-flop.

This setting is for experts only. You are usually making a big mistake by not automatically betting the flop when you were the last preflop raiser.

**Option 9: Never Call Paired Boards with Hand Below** – by default the bot will call one bet on certain paired boards with good two-pair hands, especially when the board pair is small and the two pair hand is of the highest other board card or better. With this setting you can tighten that up, which might be a good idea in higher-stakes cash games.



**Option 10: Never Call Flush Possible Boards with Hand Below** – by default the bot will call one bet with certain hands when a flush is possible, especially when two cards are needed for a flush and the bot has a decent hand against only one or two opponents. With this setting you can tighten that up, which might be a good idea in higher-stakes cash games.

**Option 11: Fold to Preflop Raise with 55 or 66 when** – set how the bot will handle these two hands preflop when there is a raise. If you leave it in the default position it will sometimes get all-in with them preflop, which is a good idea when you are short-stacked in tournaments – but not any other time really.

**Option 12: Fold to Preflop Raise with 77 or 88 when** – these hands are somewhat better than the above two, and this option will allow you to set how they handle preflop raises. In cash games it's probably a good idea to fold them for a raise. If you leave this setting in the default position the bot will always reraise and try to get all-in with them preflop (which is a good setting for tournaments).

**Option 13: Fold to Preflop Raises with 99 or 10-10 when** – these hands are significantly better than the above two, and this option will allow you to set how they handle preflop raises. In cash games it's probably a good idea to fold them for two raises. If you leave this setting in the default position the bot will always reraise and try to get all-in with them preflop (which is a good setting for tournaments).

**Option 14: Fold to Preflop Raises with JJ or QQ when** – these hands are significantly better than the above two, and this option will allow you to set how they handle preflop raises. In higher-stakes cash games it's probably a good idea to fold them for two raises. If you leave this setting in the default position the bot will play them very intelligently, usually trying to get all in but backing off for a lot of action when out of position.

**Option 15: Fold to Preflop Raises with AK when** – one of the strongest preflop holdings in a tournament, but somewhat vulnerable in a cash game. In higher-stakes cash games it's probably a good idea to fold for two raises. If you leave this setting in the default position the bot will play AK very intelligently, usually trying to get all in but backing off for a lot of action when out of position.

**Option 16: Fold to Preflop Raises with AQs when** – this hand has roughly the same value as AK (offsuit), but presents more challenges in playing correctly. In general you should be less willing to get all-in with it in tournaments preflop, and be wary of too much preflop action in cash games. Some players like to tighten up with this hand. We recommend folding for two raises with it in cash games and the early stages of tournaments.

**Option 17: Fold to Preflop Raises with AKs** – don't ask me why we are even giving you this option. We just threw it in there. Some experts might want to fold for two raises in certain game environments I suppose. Recommend leaving this in the default position.

**Option 18: Fold to Preflop Raises with KQs** – probably a good idea to fold for two raises in cash games but play by default when short-stacked in tournaments.

**Option 19: Fold or Go All-In when Opponents (After Folds) Less than** – This feature will have the bot simply click the max button and go all-in anytime it has a playable hand. That includes a calling hand or a raising hand, the only exception being when it is in the big blind with a folding hand and gets a free look at the flop. In that case the bot will then go All-In after the flop in any situation where it would call or raise. You can set this for always, or by the number of remaining opponents. If you choose a number of remaining opponents then you would still be playing normal against a higher number of opponents. Believe it or not, using this setting in the *Always* position can be an effective way to play tournaments.

You can also set this option to apply only after a specified number of hands in your session has expired, which can be very effective in multi-table tournaments. Figure on about 50-60 hands per hour being dealt when deciding when to have it kick in.

Finally, you can also set this option to trigger only when your stack size is below a certain level.

**Option 20: Fold or Go All-In when Opponents at Table Less than** – This is the exact same feature as option 16 above, except that it is triggered by the starting number of opponents instead of the remaining number. In other words, the original number of opponents sitting at the table. If option 16 above is chosen, the bot may very well push all-in on the first hand of a tournament.

By contrast, if you want the bot to only start pushing all-in when down to the last few players of a SitnGo (or multi-table tournament) then this is the option you want. Frankly, we see that as a good idea for all types of NL Tournaments. (The bot will still fold and check it's non-playable hands).

You can also set this option to trigger only when your stack size is below a certain level.

Please note that both Fold or Go All In options should not be turned on at the same time. Choose one or the other, or use the Aggressive Tournament Setting instead.

**Option 21: Always Call When Opponent's Raise is Less than** – because you don't want to fold for very small raises after you make a large bet in NL or PL

games, the bot won't let you. It will always call a raise from an opponent that is less than 40%, 30%, or 20% of the amount of the bot's last bet (or raise). Which percentage is up to you. For most tournaments you probably want to set this to 40%.

On the river, there is a minimum hand strength requirement that you have at least best kicker or better before calling the small raise. For all other betting rounds however the bot will call small raises with any hand that it had bet with.

This feature also extends to the next betting round. The bot remembers when it was the last bettor or raiser on the previous betting round and if somebody bets their last few chips out it will treat that as a raise on the previous betting round and apply these settings.

Included on the window for this setting is the most important incorporation of **Stack Size Recognition**, being able to compare it to **Total Investment**. The option reads:

### **Always Call when Stack Size is Below**

...and lets you set the percentage. It's important to understand what the percentage setting means. You are setting your stack size as a percent of total investment in the hand. The initial value is set very low at 30%. That means if you have \$1,000 in chips invested in a hand but only have \$400 left in your stack the bot will still fold to many raises protecting your last \$400 because that is 40% of the amount you have invested in the hand. However if you had this set to 50% then the bot would always call any bet or raise if you only had \$400 left in this situation.

So what this setting does is override all folding action to calling once you have put a certain amount of your stack in a pot. Some people think they are pot-committed whenever they get half of their stack or more into any given hand, especially in SNG's. In that case you would want this setting at 100%.

***Remember the bot makes a comparison of your current stack size to the amount you have invested in the hand. So if you got 50% of your stack in on a given hand that would mean the total Investment now equals 100% of your current stack size.***

**Option 22: Super Tight Play** – (note this setting also affects Limit games) this setting will have the bot fold all hands preflop except: **AA, KK, QQ, JJ, 10-10, 9-9, AKs, AK, AQs, AQ, AJs, and KQs** which it will play normally. Some people like to have the bot play the first half of a tournament for them with this setting before taking over themselves.

**Option 23: Semi-Super Tight Play** – (note this setting also affects Limit games) the same thing as *Super Tight Play* above but includes all pocket pairs. Note that the bot will play them by default programming with this setting, which only includes calling minimum raises when holding the smaller pocket pairs. You can use the *Set Mining* option below in conjunction with *Super Tight* to call larger preflop raises with smaller pocket pairs if you so desire.

**Option 24: Minimum Bet Override** – this setting stops opponents from making a minimum bet into a large pot to get the bot to fold without incurring any risk on their part. It is invoked anytime that an opponent makes a post-flop minimum bet (exactly 1 big blind in size) in a No Limit or Pot Limit game environment where **the pot is at least 5 big blinds in size and your hand value is best high-card or better**. You can choose how you want to handle this: Call all post-flop minimum bets, raise minimum sometimes and fold sometimes, or raise minimum sometimes and call sometimes.

We recommend always calling in tournaments, and raising minimum sometimes and calling the rest of the time in cash games. Please note that this setting is in the default position when you downloaded your bot which will not recognize minimum bet sizes, so **you do need to change this** one to your preference.

**Option 25: No Limp** – (note this setting also affects Limit games) if you hate limping this setting is for you. We added it after some of our customers shared their Poker Tracker databases with us, making a strong argument against ever limping at all in cash games. While we aren't quite sold on that concept, we do think it's a good option for most 6-max cash tables. (There aren't very many hands the bot will limp with anyway, especially while playing short-handed.)

The setting affects every position except the Big Blind, and when activated will never just call the blind preflop. You can choose how you want to handle the few hands that it would normally limp in with. There is an interesting setting that will raise if less than two callers otherwise fold. **Note that this setting only affects hands where bot is instructed to call – it will not start playing any hand that way!**

Also, the setting is only invoked the first time around the table. After you have raised the bot will then call reraises if it is supposed to (with hands like AK and QQ).

**Option 26: Aggressive Tournament Setting** – this is highly recommended for tournaments of all types and sizes. Playing cash games requires a different approach than playing tournaments (with the possible exception of really small stakes cash games). When this option is left in the default position the bot will fold many decent hands for a large bet size. That's the best way to play most cash games above the micro limits. However in tournaments you are going to want to shove all-in with many of those same hands that you want to fold in a

cash game. That's what this setting does - it uses the Bet Max button in NL games when it holds a good hand. There are two sections to this setting and one selection must be made in each of them.

**Preflop section.** Here you can choose from among a half-dozen hand lists that the bot will simply shove all-in with preflop. The first one on the list consists of only the very top starting hands **and also requires at least one preflop raise** before it will shove. The rest of them get progressively looser and do not require a preflop raise. In general, the earlier in the tournament and/or the bigger stack you have the closer to the top you want this preflop section set - and vice-versa.

**Postflop section.** This side only has two choices (other than off). The setting refers to the post-flop **conditions** for which the bot will bet or raise all-in. These are not defined for the user. We programmed the bot to push with any decent post-flop hand when this setting is invoked. This includes **top pair or better** on non-scary boards and reasonably strong hands on scarier boards. Your only choice when you turn this on is whether you only want to shove all-in when the conditions are met **if there was a preflop raise**, or whether you want to shove all-in regardless of whether or not there was a preflop raise. In general, the earlier in the tournament and/or the bigger stack you have the more you would want to require a preflop raise before shoving with any decent hand post-flop.

**Stack size recognition.** For both preflop and post-flop sections there is an option to only invoke the setting when your chip stack falls below a certain level. When you turn this on (by reducing the number of big blinds to a level that reflects a short stack) the bot will only play by the *Aggressive Tournament Settings* you have chosen when the stack size requirement is met.

For example you might set the stack size requirements at 20, as anytime you have under 20 big blinds that is considered a short stack in a tournament. (You might want to set both sides at the bottom level and set the stack size to 20 so that anytime you get short-stacked you just start pushing all-in with reasonable hands.)

**Option 27: Mining for Sets** – the default instructions for calling raises preflop is to fold for raises 4 big blinds or higher with 22 through 66 and to fold for raises of 6 big blinds or higher with 77 through 99. This setting allows you to override the default instructions and always have the bot call with 22 through 99 up to a raise amount that you choose. In deeper stack games it might be a good idea to set the number around 7 or 8.

**Option 28: Post-Flop In Blinds Override** – (note this setting also affects **Limit games**) in Texas Hold'em you often get a free look at the flop from the big blind position. Sometimes that means you flop top pair with a weak hand such as 10-3. By using this setting you can tell the bot you basically don't want to get involved in these pots without having a good hand, that is at least top pair with a

decent kicker. There are two choices: Second best kicker or better, or third best kicker or better.

When you check this setting on it will simply give up on all other hands from either blind position as long **as there was no preflop raise**. These are situations when you have nothing invested. If there was a preflop raise the setting won't be invoked and the bot will play as normal, since you do have something invested in that case.

The drawback to this option is that the bot will also abandon continuation bets on the flop when it was the last preflop raiser as well. However this might be a good way to randomize backing off on your aggressiveness a little, since you are out of position on these hands.

**Option 29: Preflop Reraise Override** – (note this setting also affects **Limit games**) if you only want to reraise (that is 3-bet or 4-bet) with **aces or kings**, check this setting. It is one that simply turns on or off with a check mark. When on, the bot will only reraise preflop with AA or KK and just call with the other premium hands which it would normally reraise with.

**Option 30: Auto Rebuy at UB and Bodog** – when you go broke in a cash game at these two rooms a window pops up asking if you want to buy more chips. By checking this option on the bot will click the *Rebuy* button and then click *OK* on the box that pops up. Note that this will only rebuy for the amount suggested by the poker room software which may not be the maximum.

**Saving Your Options As a Profile** – For convenience, you can now save your option settings as a profile, which becomes a text file that is stored in the same folder your bot program is kept. That way you can quickly change option settings when you change game environments. Don't forget to have the bathroom break setting on 900 minutes for tournament profiles and around 80-120 minutes for cash games profiles!

To save a profile, click on the first item on the main menu Holdem: Write Profile. A window will appear with the default name "holdem\_profile.txt." You will want to rename this to something easy to remember when loading your profile. (Please note that the .txt extension must remain.) For example, **cash.txt** or **sng.txt**.

To load a saved profile, go to Holdem: Read Profile... then just type in the name of the saved profile that you want to load. You will get a confirmation message in the bot window that your profile loaded, along with all the options set for that profile.

**Auto Switching Profiles** – You can also set the bot to change the profile it is using based on a preset condition. The conditions you can use for loading a different profile are:



- Shorthanded table by number of players sitting at it
- Number of hands played in the current session
- Number of minutes expired in the current session
- Stack size has fallen below a certain level

This is a very useful feature, as you probably want to use a different profile in a short-handed game than at a full table, or switch to a push-or-fold type profile when your stack is short. Also, some players like to play the first two hours of a tournament very conservatively then become very aggressive (or vice versa).

To set up the the profile auto-switch, on the bot's main menu go to:

### **Holdem > Auto Read Profile**

Then enter the saved profile file name (or path) and set the criteria for when you want it loaded.

## **Rakeback**

It's important that you open up your accounts through our recommended rakeback provider below. If you already have accounts at all our poker rooms and thus cannot get the rakeback, I would recommend playing tournaments only. This bot does extremely well in the tourneys, making the money often. Every once in a while the poker room will throw you a bone in the way of a surprise deposit bonus. These surprise bonuses should be cleared in the cash games.

**Sign up at Rakeback Organizers, using this link:**

<http://tinyurl.com/2tnqad>

## **Strategy**

**Note: the recommended settings for the strategies below do not include all the wonderful new settings we have added since this manual was originally written. However you should still read through it to get a feel how the settings can be adjusted for the various game types that are available.**

**For a more updated list of recommended settings for different game environments please visit this forum thread:**

<http://bonusbots.com/forum/YaBB.pl?num=1212365053>

There are a lot of ways to go at these poker rooms. I'm sure you can find something that works for you. However we strongly advise focusing on **No Limit and Pot Limit** rather than Limit games.

The edge that solid players have over poor players in No Limit is gigantic. In limit the fish live longer because they aren't usually taking that much the worst of it due to pot odds. But in No Limit they often get their whole stack in there as a 3-1 underdog or worse. **This more than makes up for the lack of bonuses.**

I am going to divide the specific strategies into two parts: **Semi-monitored** and **Non-monitored**. The semi-monitored section assumes that you can check in on the bot frequently, maybe once or twice an hour. This option is good for people who can put an extra PC on their desk at work (perhaps via a KVM switch so they can use the same monitor, keyboard, and mouse).

Going the semi-monitored route will improve your cash game results, no two ways about it. You will need extra software to get the most from it. The best bet is purchasing **Poker Tracker 3**, which you can use to data-mine many tables when you are not playing or using the bot. Then all you need to do is start keeping a list of currently active players who have:

- **High \$VIP Numbers (above 45 is best)**
- **Low PFR% Numbers (below 7 is best)**

These players will be putting lots of money into pot but hardly ever raising. If you always make sure at least one of them is at your table you should do very well in your online poker career, with or without a bot.

If going to these lengths is not something you are able or want to do, don't worry. The bot will do just fine playing the PL and NL cash games and all manner of tournaments in a completely un-monitored fashion. However, I would recommend avoiding the limit and cap games if you are not using extra software to do frequent table-hopping.



## Semi-monitored Strategies

Here are my recommended games and corresponding strategies for using the semi-monitored botting approach.

### NL Cap Cash 6-Max

While the 9-max tables are cheaper in rake, the 6-max tables are richer in maniacs - one of the easiest kind of fish to beat. NL Cap 6-max seems to be a really good game for letting the maniacs blow off their chips. In my personal testing it was an excellent fit with Poker Usher, and I saw some impressive upswings in the lowest limit game (.05/.10 blinds \$10 max buy in).

**Strategy** – Buy in for the max. If playing at UB you will have to check back frequently to buy-in manually when you lose your stack), check in once or twice per hour to move to the most profitable looking table. Take the time to run through all the tables a couple times per day and buddy-list players with high losses, \$VPIP over 45, and PFR% under 7. Use the games that your buddies are in as targets regardless of where the tables rank on Poker usher, and especially target games with 2 or more buddies.

**Preflop Raise Size** - recommend random pot-sized

**Folding to Preflop Raises** – recommend checking to on

**Folding to Postflop Below Top Pair** – recommend leaving off

**Calling Raises Post Flop** – recommend any two pair

**Calling Raises Paired Boards** – recommend trips best kicker

**Never Bet Turn or River with Hand Below** – recommend top pair

**Never Bet Flop with Hand Below Middle Pair**– recommend play by default

**Never Call Paired Boards with Hand Below** – recommend play by default

**Never Call Flush Boards with Hand Below** – recommend play by default

**55 and 66** – recommend fold for one raise

**77 and 88** – recommend fold for one raise

**99 and 10-10** – recommend fold for two raises

**JJ and QQ** – recommend play by default

**AK and AQs** – recommend play by default

**AKs** – recommend play by default

**KQs** – recommend fold for two raises

## Limit Cash 9 or 10-Max

Limit actually works very well with table-targeting, and there are enough full 9/10 handed tables going to make this work. In these games you enjoy a much lower rake paid per hour along with decreased blind pressure. Our bot plays extremely tight at these tables and punishes opponents who get involved with our solid holdings.

**Strategy** – Buy in for about three times the suggested amount. Check in one or two times per hour to move the bot to the most profitable looking table. Just go with the tables at the top of the Poker Usher list, but do check them to make sure there are significant stats on the opponents. Anybody with a 45+ \$VPIP and a PFR% under 7 after 80 or so hands is a reliable target.

## Singe-table SNG's

You don't need any extra software for this approach. You just need to keep checking in several times per hour to get the bot started in another SNG when the last one is over. Glamorous? Perhaps not. Profitable? You bet! This actually might be the single best use for the bot, as it's great at these things.

For NL and PL SitnGo's:

**Preflop Raise Size** - recommend pot-sized

**Folding to Preflop Raises** – recommend leaving off

**Folding to Postflop Below Top Pair** – recommend checking on

**Calling Raises Post Flop** – recommend top pair

**Calling Raises Paired Boards** – recommend trips best kicker

**Never Bet Turn or River with Hand Below** – recommend default settings

**Never Bet Flop with Hand Below Middle Pair**– recommend play by default

**Never Call Paired Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**Never Call Flush Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**55 and 66** – recommend fold for one raise

**77 and 88** – recommend fold for two raises

**99 and 10-10** – recommend play by default

**JJ and QQ** – recommend play by default

**AK and AQs** – recommend play by default

**AKs** – recommend play by default

**KQs** – recommend play by default

**Aggressive Tournament Settings** – both sides on, preflop in an upper middle position and post-flop in the second position

**Strategy** – Play within your bankroll but don't be afraid of the higher limits if you can afford them. I would try to maintain an account size of at least 20 buy-ins to handle the swings. Experiment with the option settings at different buy-in levels.

## **Tournament Starter**

You don't need any extra software for this approach. As an MTT player you are simply going to let the bot do your grunt work to get you to past the middle stages of a tournament and then take over.

For NL and PL tournaments:

**Preflop Raise Size** - recommend pot-sized by hand strength

**Folding to Preflop Raises** – recommend leaving off

**Folding to Postflop Below Top Pair** – recommend checking to on

**Calling Raises Post Flop** – recommend top pair best kicker

**Calling Raises Paired Boards** – recommend trips best kicker

**Never Bet Turn or River with Hand Below** – recommend 2<sup>nd</sup> top pair+ overcard

**Never Bet Flop with Hand Below Middle Pair**– recommend play by default

**Never Call Paired Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**Never Call Flush Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**55 and 66** – recommend fold for one raise

**77 and 88** – recommend fold for two raises

**99 and 10-10** – recommend play by default

**JJ and QQ** – recommend play by default

**AK and AQs** – recommend play by default

**AKs** – recommend play by default

**KQs** – recommend fold for two raises

**Aggressive Tournament Settings** – both sides on, preflop in an upper position and post-flop in the first position

**Strategy** – Play any MTT you have a notion to play, be it NL, PL, or Limit. Put the bot in and check back in 1-3 hours, depending on how large the field was. Stay away from the turbo multi-table SNG's, as what you are trying to do is capitalize on your tournament skills and those are more of a crap shoot. When the bot gets to a point and chip position that you want to take over the reigns at, step in and finish the job. If the bot busted out enter another one and go back to the hot tub. I like to take over at the bubbles (near the money or near the final table). Also, when the bot is a huge chip leader early or middle I will sit it out for a while.

**Note** – Do not use the bot in the “Sniper tournaments” at Ultimate Bet, as it cannot handle the popup windows which appear when you eliminate a player.

## NL Cash Games

This is my last choice for semi-monitored strategies and my first choice for non-monitored strategies. The reason is this: I don't think the edge you get from wise table selection means as much in no limit cash games. Especially at the lower limits where the games are all pretty juicy anyway, and especially the 6-max tables. I might be wrong. Truth be told I haven't tested it much so my opinion might change. But the player base is so large at these that you might have a difficult time gathering usable stats.

**Preflop Raise Size** - recommend AK or better

**Folding to Preflop Raises** – recommend checking to on

**Folding to Postflop Below Top Pair** – recommend checking to on

**Calling Raises Post Flop** – recommend any overpair

**Calling Raises Paired Boards** – recommend trips best kicker

**Never Bet Turn or River with Hand Below** – recommend top pair

**Never Bet Flop with Hand Below Middle Pair** – recommend play by default

**Never Call Paired Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**Never Call Flush Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**55 and 66** – recommend fold for one raise

**77 and 88** – recommend fold for one raise

**99 and 10-10** – recommend fold for two raises

**JJ and QQ** – recommend fold for two raises

**AK and AQs** – recommend play by default

**AKs** – recommend play by default

**KQs** – recommend fold for two raises

**Strategy** – Buy in for the max, set your auto rebuy option for the max. If playing at UB you will have to check back frequently to buy-in manually when you lose your stack), check in once or twice per hour to move to the most profitable looking table. Take the time to run through all the tables a couple times per day and buddy-list players with high losses, VPIP over 45, and PFR% under 7. Use the games that your buddies are in as targets regardless of where the tables rank on Poker usher, and especially target games with 2 or more buddies.

## Non-monitored Strategies

Stick the bot in a game, turn it on, check back in 10-12 hours. This is real botting, and the reason many of you are interested in this product no doubt. I have a very different hierarchy of strategy preferences for this approach. Here they are.

### NL Cash 6-Max Maximum Rebuy

The preferred method to play NL cash games on complete auto-pilot. The action players gravitate toward the 6-max tables, so even with the higher rake they are more profitable when the betting gets bigger. This is because your opponents are much more likely to donk off their stack than they are at the 9-max tables.

**Preflop Raise Size** - recommend AK or better

**Folding to Preflop Raises** – recommend checking to on

**Folding to Postflop Below Top Pair** – recommend checking to on

**Calling Raises Post Flop** – recommend best possible overpair

**Calling Raises Paired Boards** – recommend trips best kicker

**Never Bet Turn or River with Hand Below** – recommend top pair

**Never Bet Flop with Hand Below Middle Pair** – recommend play by default

**Never Call Paired Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**Never Call Flush Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**55 and 66** – recommend fold for one raise

**77 and 88** – recommend fold for one raise

**99 and 10-10** – recommend fold for two raises

**JJ and QQ** – recommend fold for two raises

**AK and AQs** – recommend play by default

**AKs** – recommend play by default

**KQs** – recommend fold for two raises

**Strategy** – Buy in for the max and set your auto rebuy option for the max. If playing at UB you will have to check back frequently to buy-in manually when you lose your stack). The maximum allowed buy-in for your game should be no more than 5% of your account size, and even that might be pushing it.

### NL Cash 6-Max Minimum Rebuy

The problem with an in-between rebuy strategy is extremely high variance. For example, in the \$10 max games if you rebuy for \$4 you will have many losing days and one huge winning day every now and then that makes it all back. This is because the bot will be constantly building a stack to \$8, \$12, \$16, even \$20 and then losing it all in one hand to another big stack in the game and starting over.

This actually wouldn't be a bad semi-monitored strategy, if you kept checking in and leaving the game every time you had accumulated a decent stack - say 3 times your rebuy amount. Then just change tables and start over. That way you keep bagging profits and lowering your risk.

A maximum buy-in amount approach doesn't suffer from this problem because it has so many opponents covered. It is starting with a much higher stack and therefore isn't trying to **win 4 or 5 coin-flips in a row** to stay in business. If you let the bot run with a middle buy-in amount you will probably get frustrated with your short-term results.

A minimum buy-in approach, on the other hand, is much better! This will reduce your short-term variance while still giving yourself a shot at huge profit days relative to your risk. So to recap, go with a minimum or maximum buy-in strategy, but not with any amount in between.

**Preflop Raise Size** - recommend 99 or better

**Folding to Preflop Raises** – recommend leaving off

**Folding to Postflop Below Top Pair** – recommend leaving off

**Calling Raises Post Flop** – recommend top pair

**Calling Raises Paired Boards** – recommend trips

**Never Bet Turn or River with Hand Below** – recommend top pair

**Never Bet Flop with Hand Below Middle Pair** – recommend play by default

**Never Call Paired Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**Never Call Flush Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**55 and 66** – recommend fold for two raises

**77 and 88** – recommend play by default

**99 and 10-10** – recommend play by default

**JJ and QQ** – recommend play by default

**AK and AQs** – recommend play by default

**AKs** – recommend play by default

**KQs** – recommend play by default

**Strategy** – Buy in for the minimum and set your rebuy option for the minimum as well. The advantage to this approach is that you can play much higher for your account size, taking shots in larger games with relatively little risk. Definitely give this strategy a try sometime. Experiment with the option settings at the different stakes, always leaning towards playing tighter the higher you go.

## Large Field MTT's

In my opinion, this is where the real money is in online poker. You don't need a rakeback deal and you don't need a bonus. I have neither going for me, and I let this bot steadily increase my account balance month after month. It rocks.

For example, as I was writing this manual tonight I had the bot play in a 90-player knockout turbo SNG with a \$2 buy-in. The bot finished 4<sup>th</sup> and it's total return with the knockout bounties was \$89. (Please note that this is not the recommended game for this strategy, just giving a real-life example.)

As already discussed, large-field MTT's have a significant number of players that **cannot** finish in the money. They provide the dead money that finances the pros. That's why there are websites offering staking deals to online tournament players who are any good at all. This bot can not only finish in the money, but it can take first to win the tournament.

Using our Hold'em bot to play MTT's, you can win satellites which you can then parlay into big-money scores. You can win awesome vacations for your family. You can end up on ESPN playing at a crazy final table somewhere. It's all possible from MTT's, and the bot you downloaded with this manual can get you there all by itself. Seriously. The biggest obstacle for most people realizing this dream is time. With our bot that problem is solved. Sooner or later you **will** make that big score using it. It's just a question of when.

For NL and PL tournaments:

**Preflop Raise Size** - recommend pot-sized by hand strength 99 or better

**Folding to Preflop Raises** – recommend checking to on

**Folding to Postflop Below Top Pair** – recommend checking to on

**Calling Raises Post Flop** – recommend top pair best kicker

**Calling Raises Paired Boards** – recommend trips

**Never Bet Turn or River with Hand Below** – recommend 2<sup>nd</sup> top pair+ overcard

**Never Bet Flop with Hand Below Middle Pair** – recommend play by default

**Never Call Paired Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**Never Call Flush Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**55 and 66** – recommend fold for one raise

**77 and 88** – recommend fold for two raises

**99 and 10-10** – recommend play by default

**JJ and QQ** – recommend play by default

**AK and AQs** – recommend play by default

**AKs** – recommend play by default

**KQs** – recommend fold for two raises

**Aggressive Tournament Settings** – both sides on, start high and adjust lower as the tournament progresses.



**Strategy** – get the daily and weekly schedule of the big tournaments and work up a plan of playing satellites for them. Learn when certain large-field daily tourneys start that have a good reward for the buy-in. Develop a routine for the ones you like. Try to stay away from multi-table SNG's and go for the big payouts instead. A large-field, scheduled tournament will last for 4-6 hours if you get deep into the money, so you don't need to check in all that often. Just know the schedule of the ones you want to play and check in at the appropriate time to join them.

**Note** – Do not use the bot in the “Sniper tournaments” at Ultimate Bet, as it cannot handle the popup windows which appear when you eliminate a player.

### **NL Cash 9 or 10-Max Maximum Rebuy**

This is a good way to go if you don't have the stomach for a lot of variance. You will be up against a tighter, more solid field of opponents than at the 6-max tables, but our bot plays even tighter. This means that it doesn't contribute much in rake so it actually gets rake credits from the looser players. After the flop it plays solid poker. All in all, the looser players will be paying your rake and your profits will come from the bonus or rakeback, albeit at a slower (but reliable) pace.

**Preflop Raise Size** - recommend AK or better

**Folding to Preflop Raises** – recommend checking to on

**Folding to Postflop Below Top Pair** – recommend checking to on

**Calling Raises Post Flop** – recommend best possible overpair (AA)

**Calling Raises Paired Boards** – recommend trips

**Never Bet Turn or River with Hand Below** – recommend top pair

**Never Bet Flop with Hand Below Middle Pair** – recommend play by default

**Never Call Paired Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**Never Call Flush Boards with Hand Below** – recommend trips

**55 and 66** – recommend fold for one raise

**77 and 88** – recommend fold for one raise

**99 and 10-10** – recommend fold for two raises

**JJ and QQ** – recommend fold for two raises

**AK and AQs** – recommend fold for two raises

**AKs** – recommend play by default

**KQs** – recommend fold for two raises

**Strategy** – Buy in for the max and set your auto rebuy option for the max. If playing at UB you will have to check back frequently to buy-in manually when you lose your stack). The maximum allowed buy-in for your game should be no more than 5% of your account size, and even that might be pushing it.



## Jackpot Targeting at Ultimate Bet

The jackpot games at Ultimate Bet are listed in red. When a jackpot is hit every person playing that same type of table and limit as the table that hits the jackpot gets a share. In fact a full 25% is distributed this way. So if the jackpot is hit in the .25/.50 NL game (\$50 Max Buy-in and the most popular jackpot game by far), everybody playing .25/.50 NL Hold'em splits 25% of the jackpot. These jackpots get huge sometimes, and because the bot allows you to play for extended periods you have a pretty good shot at getting some of this money.

**Strategy** – Wait until the jackpot gets high, like over \$200,000 or so. Then play at the most populated jackpot game your bankroll can tolerate, using one of the strategies already listed above for cash games. Make sure you have a bonus to clear or have rakeback going for you as well. If not, find out what the current bonus offer is and make a deposit to get it.

## Hold'em Bot Closing Thoughts

There are many more possible botting strategies for these two poker rooms than what I have just written about. These are just a few that I have tried and like. I haven't even gotten around to the PL games yet. Who knows, maybe playing those with certain options settings will prove to be the most profitable of all.

I don't like the idea of using the minimum rebuy approach in a 9-max NL game. Remember the bot does need to win a little from the weaker players to stay above water, and it just seems like there won't be enough opportunities to do that in this type of slower-paced game structure when starting off with a tiny stack.

I believe that there won't be enough bad play to make up for only a 27% rakeback with no simultaneous bonus if you are not actively table-hopping to take advantage of the worst players. (Ultimate bet has softer games in general so you might try this there, especially in jackpot games when the jackpot gets high as this attracts even more fish.)

It's a good idea to adjust the options settings for the NL/PL games mid-stream sometimes. Good poker players will often *change speeds*, and these option settings will allow you to do just that. I especially like to do this in tournaments. For example, in the beginning of a low stakes MTT I will often call preflop raises with AQ, AJs, and KQ – but then turn that off when I get to the middle stages.

**Shanky Technologies Team**

[www.BonusBots.com](http://www.BonusBots.com)

# 7. Appendix

## Error Codes and How to fix them

### 7.1 Error No 1: Version is not compatible

This error is given after Bodog upgrades their software. Such upgrades temporarily break the bot. We normally post a new updated version of the bot which fixes this problem within 24 hours of the upgrade. Bot upgrades can be downloaded for free from <http://www.bonusbots.com/hedownload.htm>. Download and install the new version of the holdem bot to fix this error.

### 7.2 Error No 2: You must run BOTH the bot and the poker room as administrator

This is a Vista and windows7 specific error. You should never see this error on a Windows XP Machine. For the holdem bot to work correctly, you must run both the poker room and the bot as administrator. If you see this error, it means that you are not running the bot as administrator. To fix this error, close the bot and then restart it by right clicking on its icon and choosing "Run As Administrator" from the pop up menu. You may also need to close the poker room and restart it by right clicking on its icon and choosing "Run As Administrator" in the pop up menu.

### 7.3 Error No 3: You must set style to Classic on a Vista or Windows 7 machine

#### 7.3.1 Windows XP

You should normally not see this error on a Windows XP machine. If you do see this error, it is probably because you are running with a non default "*Active Window Border*" Size. To fix this error, right click on an empty area on the desktop then choose *Properties* in the pop up menu. Click on the *Appearance* tab in the *Properties* dialog and then on the *Advanced* button. The "*Item:*" list in the *Advanced* dialog will show "*Desktop*". Click on the arrow next to "*Desktop*" and choose "*Active Window Border*" in the drop down list. Set the size to 1. Click on *Ok* in the *Advanced* dialog and then on *Ok* in the *Display Properties* dialog.

### 7.3.2 Vista and Windows7

This is a Vista and Windows 7 specific error. If you get this error along with one of the other errors below then fix the other error first and come back to this one if you still get it after fixing the other errors. To fix this error, set the theme to **Windows Classic**. To do this right click on an empty area on your desktop, select *Personalize* in the pop up menu, then click on *Themes*, then click on *Modified Themes*, and set the theme to *Windows Classic*. Restart the bot.

If the bot still gives this error then you will need to change the “*Active Window Border*” size. Right click on an empty area on the desktop then choose *Personalize* in the pop up menu. In the dialog box that shows up, click on the *Window Color* link towards the bottom middle part of the dialog box. A dialog box titled “*Window Color and Appearance*” will pop up. The “*Item:*” list in this dialog will show “*Desktop*”. Click on the arrow next to “*Desktop*” and choose “*Active Window Border*” in the drop down list. Set the size to 1. Again click on the arrow and choose “*Border Padding*” from the drop down list. Set the size to 0. Click on *Ok* in the *Window Color and Appearance* dialog.

## 7.4 Error No 4: DPI Setting must be set to 96 dots per inch

### 7.4.1 Windows XP

To fix this error on a Windows XP machine, right click on an empty area on the desktop then choose *Properties* in the pop up menu. Click on the *Settings* tab in the *Properties* dialog. Then click on the *Advanced* button. Change the DPI setting to 96 Bit in the *General* tab. Click on *OK* in the *Advanced* dialog and on *Ok* again in the *Properties* dialog. **Note** that this change requires you to shut down and restart your windows machine in order for it to take effect so you **MUST** restart your machine after making this change.

### 7.4.2 Vista and Windows7

To fix this error on a Vista or Windows7 machine, right click on an empty area on the desktop then choose *Personalize* in the pop up menu. In the dialog box that shows up, click on the *Display* link at the bottom left corner. You will then see a screen titled “*Make it easier to read what’s on your screen*”. On this screen select the option titled “*Smaller – 100% (default)*”. Then click on the *Apply* button. A dialog box will come up with the title “*You must log off your computer to apply these changes*”. Click on “*Log of Now*” button. A detailed step by step process to change your DPI setting on Windows7 machines along with screenshots is given at:

[http://www.recipester.org/Recipe:Change\\_DPI\\_Size\\_in\\_Windows\\_7\\_25979243](http://www.recipester.org/Recipe:Change_DPI_Size_in_Windows_7_25979243)

## 7.5 Error No 5: Invalid caption height

### 7.5.1 Windows XP

On Windows XP this error could be due to an invalid DPI setting, invalid font size setting or because you really have messed with the “*Active Title Bar*” size setting.

If the error is due to an invalid DPI setting then you will also get *Error No 4*. Fixing that error should fix this one as well. So fix that first.

If you still get this error then the problem is likely caused by an invalid font size. To fix the font size issue, right click on an empty area on the desktop then choose *Properties* in the pop up menu. Click on the *Appearance* tab in the *Properties* dialog. Set *Font Size* to *Normal* and click on *Ok*. Restart the bot.

If you still get this error then it is likely due to a non default “Active Title Bar” setting. To fix that, right click on an empty area on the desktop then choose *Properties* in the pop up menu. Click on the *Appearance* tab in the *Properties* dialog and then on the *Advanced* button. The “*Item:*” list in the *Advanced* dialog will show “*Desktop*”. Click on the arrow next to “*Desktop*” and choose “*Active Title Bar*” in the drop down list. Set the size to 18 if you are using Windows Classic theme and to 25 if you are using Windows XP. Click on *Ok* in the *Advanced* dialog and then on *Ok* in the *Display Properties* dialog.

### 7.5.2 Vista and Windows7

On Vista or Windows 7 this error could be due to Error No 3 (Style is not set to Classic) or because of Error No 4 (DPI is not set to 96 bits). If so, you will also get one of the above error messages. Fix those first according to the instructions for fixing those errors.

If on re-starting the bot after fixing the above errors, you still get this error message then you will need to change the “*Active Title Bar*” size setting. Right click on an empty area on the desktop then choose *Personalize* in the pop up menu. In the dialog box that shows up, click on the *Window Color* link towards the bottom middle part of the dialog box. A dialog box titled “*Window Color and Appearance*” will pop up. The “*Item:*” list in the *Window Color and Appearance* dialog will show “*Desktop*”. Click on the arrow next to “*Desktop*” and choose “*Active Title Bar*” in the drop down list. Set the size to 18. Click on *Ok* in the *Window Color and Appearance* dialog.

## 7.6 Error No 6: Invalid color quality

Color quality must be set to *32 bit color*. The bot automatically sets this for you so you should never see this error. However if for some reason, the bot is unable to make the change for you, you will need to do it manually. On Windows XP this can be done as follows. Right click on an empty area on the desktop then choose *Properties* in the pop up menu. Click on the *Settings* tab in the *Properties* dialog and set Color Quality to Highest (32 bits) and click on *Ok*.

## 7.7 Display Settings Trouble-shooting.

If you are certain that all your poker room settings are adjusted correctly as per the instructions below and the bot is not giving you any error messages on startup but are still having trouble with the bot reading the buttons, getting invalid opponent count messages, or mis-click reports, try the following:

Additionally (this is a Vista path but XP is similar):

Click on START --> CONTROL PANEL --> Performance Information and Tools.

Under Tasks, click "Adjust Visual Effects".

Under the Visual Effects tab, make sure the option "Let Windows choose what's best for my computer" is set. Do NOT set this to "Adjust for best performance".

