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You can make a living playing NLHE with fairly average people skills. **The trick is to manage risk well**. If you do that – taking good risk, rejecting bad ones, and making sure all ratios are in order – you’ll win at a steady rate. If you let things get out of balance, however, you’ll likely lose.

Amateurs play in a way that’s perpetually out of balance - risking too much for the reward. They don’t consider stack sizes. You overcome this by planning each and every hand from start to finish.

*Pot Size*

*Risk versus Reward*

Every poker hand **revolves around a pot** and so the pot should be the **center of your attention**. In NLHE there are two kinds of risk and two kinds of reward – **immediate** and **potential**.

**Immediate Risk** the bet you have to call.

**Immediate Reward** the current pot you win if you bet and all you opponents fold (does not including you bet)

**Potential Risk** the bets you may have to call - after calling the current bet - from players behind you on the current street and on future streets; your potential risk is never more than your current stack and it can be lower if your opponents have smaller stacks than your stack; as you play, **you should not only consider your immediate risk, but also your potential risk** by thinking about how the hand might proceed and consider your reaction to various possibilities

**Potential Reward** is the current pot plus the money your opponents are likely to risk by the end of the hand; think ahead to estimate your potential reward

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No-Limit Etiquette

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