

Winning Strategies for [Caribbean Poker](#). Trying to get an edge and keep your money in Caribbean Poker (a.k.a. Caribbean Stud) is no small feat. The house has a solid edge backed up by a couple rules that will prove frustrating if you play for very long or for serious money. Despite its name, Caribbean Poker is a table game, more akin to Blackjack than Poker. But don't think that Caribbean provides the same opportunities for the shrewd player that Blackjack does, 'cause it most certainly does not. The house has a solid 5.2% edge over the player and that's close to the worst odds you'll find in the casino. As to its relation to Poker, the only thing they have in common is that Caribbean uses the Poker hands for scoring. There are only three decisions a player needs to make in Caribbean Poker. The first is how much to bet. The second is whether to Raise or Fold after the dealer's one-card flop. And the third is whether take the Side (a.k.a. Progressive) Bet.

Although the name is often changed, [Caribbean Stud Poker](#) is just as popular online as it is in land casinos. Starnet, Boss Media, Cryptologic, and Real Time Gaming call the game Caribbean Poker and Microgaming calls it Cyberstud Poker but the basic rules are the same. The only variation is in the pay table. Real Time Gaming, Starnet, and Boss Media all follow the conventional Mikohn Corporation pay table. Cryptologic sweetens the royal flush to 200 to 1. Microgaming makes several changes, paying only even money on a two pair but substantially more on all greater hands. All brands pay even money on an ace/king, thus there are not strategy deviations beyond the conventional strategy.

[Pai Gow Betting](#): Betting in most online games is very simple in that you make a single opening bet and that is the end of it. In some Pai Gow games there are separate bets for the front and back hands, but this is unusual in on-line play. If both hands lose to the dealer, you lose your bet. If both hands win, you win even money. If one hand wins and the other loses, it's a push. If your hands are the same as the dealer's, called "copies", the dealer wins. Obviously that's an attraction of playing dealer/banker in multi-player games. In such games, you minimize your losses by betting low when you are a player and being dealer/banker whenever possible. If the player wins, the house takes a 5% commission: you get \$4.75 of a \$5 winning bet. Pai Gow Payoff: All wins in Pai Gow are at even money, less the house's 5% commission.

