

Martin J. Silverthorne

# The *Ultimate* *Baccarat* Strategy

Win \$10,000 a Week  
Playing Baccarat!



Silverthorne Publications, Inc.

# **The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy**

## **By Martin J. Silverthorne**

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Address all inquiries to the publisher:

**Silverthorne Publications, Inc.**

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## Introduction

The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy Wins Like No Other Strategy –

If I told you we were winning 85% of our baccarat games, you would probably be impressed –

**Almost no businessman, stock trader or gambler has a system that wins 85% of the time.**

But, we do a lot better than this. A whole lot better!

What if we could win 9 out of 10 games? This strategy would be a very formidable and profitable strategy with a 90% win rate.

But, this is still too low. *We leave a system wining only 90% of the time in the dust!*

Okay then, so how well do we really do?

Surely, we can't be winning more than 95% of our games?

Well, we are!

Hold on to your hat. We have just completed 3,497 games playing baccarat and the results are –

*The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy wins a truly extraordinary 97.14% of its games!*

This means that playing baccarat using *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* is your Number One Profit Opportunity today!

Let's take a look at why baccarat should become your game of choice –

## **Baccarat Is the Number One Casino Game You Should Play If You Want High Profits With Low Risk!**

Once you start playing baccarat using the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*, I am confident that playing baccarat will become your **Number One Source of Cash!**

Before I tell you more about the strategy, let's take a look at the game itself –

Baccarat should become your game of choice because it offers the lowest house edge of any of the casino table games.

Most blackjack players fight a game where the odds constantly change and they are lucky to get the house edge down to one-percent advantage over them.

Craps is a great game. Pass line, come, don't pass and don't come bets only give the house an edge of 1.4%. However, there are bets in this game that give the house a tremendous edge. I am talking about an edge of 14% to 17% on each wager! **Craps for the average player quickly becomes a money pit!**

Roulette is the number one game of choice for many players.

However, with the American double-zero wheel, players give the house an edge of over 5%.

Even playing the European version of the game, players give up over two percent house advantage on most bets.

Video poker is a great game if you can find the best machines. However, your casino may not have the best paying machines. And, if you are playing on an inferior machine, this game becomes a real mother to beat.

That leaves baccarat.

Baccarat offers a house edge of slightly over one percent. And, that's without any strategy at all!

Blackjack players have to memorize basic strategy and then manage their bets very carefully to do this well.

Craps players have to limit their bets and then use a very sound money management strategy to keep the house edge under 1.5%.

Baccarat players in a sense have it made. All they have to do is bet on either Player or Banker.

And, bingo! They have the house edge down to about one-percent!

## **The Two Baccarat Decisions You Have to Make**

Playing baccarat consists of making just two decisions –

**Where do you place each bet and**

**How much do you bet each time.**

That's it. All you have to do to beat the game is come up with a superior way of determining where to bet, and how much to bet and you will have a source of cash that is unending.

**And, the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* has unique breakthrough solutions to both sides of playing and beating this game!**

## **The *Master Bet Placement Strategy* Is The World's Best Baccarat Bet Selection System!**

Let's start with where you place each bet.

The *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* uses a unique, probability based method that tells you where to place your bets. It is called the *Master Bet Placement Strategy*.

The *Master Bet Placement Strategy* is a powerful new method that leaves all other baccarat bet placement systems so far behind that there really isn't any contest.

The Master Bet Placement Strategy (MBP Strategy) uses a scientifically derived and tested betting model that actually anticipates the next baccarat decision. It is a forward looking system, rather than one only looking at past decisions.

*Using a special model developed just for baccarat, the MBP Strategy forecasts the next baccarat decision with amazing accuracy!*

It is the only betting strategy ever developed that takes past baccarat decisions into account and then tells you where to make your next bet!

Other betting methods fall way short of the *MBP Strategy's* phenomenal ability to actually predict the **next baccarat decision** –

1. Some betting methods are totally inflexible, like those that advocate always betting only on one side, usually Banker, because it has slightly better odds than a Player bet. The problem here is pretty obvious. Long strings of Player hands often show. When they do, the hapless player betting on Banker only is going to be handed his head, served up by the casino bosses.
2. Other systems try simple trend following, such as “bet the same as the preceding decision.” These simplistic systems work some of the time but are not adaptive, and when the table doesn't cooperate, they break down very badly.

3. Many other betting methods use some unproven theory of the author's. *These vary from not too bad to just awful.*

Now, I am going to tell you the real truth, which these system peddlers would rather that you not know –

With any of these approaches, the monkey making random bets may do just as well or even better.

The reason is obvious –

None of these systems can anticipate what the next baccarat decision will be!

If you think about it, using one of these flawed systems is like looking out the back window of a car and trying to figure out where you are going. There is no doubt that if you do this very long, you are going to crash!

### **When You Play Baccarat With the Scientifically Proven Record of the *MBP Strategy* Your Success Rate is Going to be Phenomenal!**

Other betting systems are always defeated when they encounter patterns of decisions they can't cope with.

**However, the *MBP Strategy*, with its proven ability to look forward, wins no matter what happens at the baccarat table.**

For example, if we let B stand for Banker, and P for Player, then we can take a look at the kinds of patterns that the *MBP Strategy* easily beats –

1. It handily wins when the table is streaking, such as BBBBB.



2. It easily beats the game when the baccarat decisions are choppy, as with PBPBPPB.
3. It automatically adjusts to repeating pairs of decisions as with BB PP BB.
4. It finds order in seeming randomness and wins against patterns like BBPBPBPPBPP.

There is no doubt that the *MBP Strategy* is the **Number One method** of determining where to place each bet at baccarat!

But, there's still more to beating the game –

### **While the *MBP Strategy* Tells You Where to Bet, the *MBS Strategy* Gives You the Exact Amount of Each Wager!**

To become a consistent winner, you have to master both sides of the game -

- Where to place each bet and
- How much to bet each time you make a wager.

After discovering the amazing *MBP Strategy*, we still needed an optimal strategy for determining the size of each bet.

Broadly speaking, there are several betting schemes available –

- Most beginners just make the same size bet over and over. This is called flat betting. If you use this approach the end result is predictable – you will lose.

- If you use a **Progressive Betting System**, such as a Martingale Progression, you will increase the size of your bets following losing bets. This approach will generate many small wins followed by large losses. It is not a net winning system.

Many pros prefer only increasing bets after wins. While this sounds reasonable, the end result is the same – you will end up losing money.

## **The *MBS Strategy* is the World’s Champion Strategy for Keeping Bets Small and Controlling Losses!**

The *MBS Strategy* is not like any of the other betting systems you may have seen. And, since The *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* incorporates the powerful MBS Strategy to control the size of bets made, it gains all of the advantages of this strategy

Because it is truly adaptive strategy you won’t automatically raise bets after losses or wins.

And, you will never have to follow a betting scheme calling for larger and larger bets.

Let me give you some examples –

As a \$5 bettor, using the MBS Strategy, will never have to make a wager larger than \$25.

As a \$10 bettor, your largest bet might be \$50, but never \$75 or \$100.

Move up to making \$25 bets and your highest bet won’t ever be greater than \$125.

**And, if you like to play with \$100 chips, you will love using the MBS Strategy. As a black chip bettor, your bets will range in size from \$100 to \$500.**

Even with all of these advantages it still wouldn’t be enough if the MBS wasn’t a winning strategy.

However, it is a powerful winning strategy.

## **Get Ready to Rock and Roll with *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy***

When you combine the *MBP Strategy*'s ability to select where you bet, using an advanced method that actually forecasts where to wager, with the *MBS Strategy*'s adaptive betting strategy the results are truly amazing –

You get the world's best winning baccarat strategy – *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*.

**The results of using this strategy have to be experienced to be believed –**

- It has a jaw dropping win rate of 97.14%.
- It has the lowest bankroll requirements of any winning system ever before released.
- It beats all baccarat games in land-based casinos.
- It is the perfect strategy to make money with online.
- It produces wins at a blistering fast rate

## **Would You Like Some Examples of What You Can Do With *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*?**

If you are very cautious you can take a starting bankroll of just \$20 and get started making more money that you ever have before!

**I know this sounds crazy, but it is a documented fact –**

You can start with a \$20 buy-in making \$1 bets in an online casino. Play for just a few hours and you will win enough to start making \$5 bets online.

As a \$5 online bettor, you can easily pull in \$309 an hour in pure profits.

And you can do this with great confidence because of this strategy's extraordinary 97.14% win rate.

Keep up your online play and you will quickly move up to making \$25 bets. At this level of play you will bring in a mind boggling \$1,545 an hour in profits!

You might be thinking these are theoretical numbers –

Maybe something that came out of some kind of computer simulation.

***If you are thinking this, you are wrong. These are real win amounts, won by players just like you.***

## Quick Start Guide

If you are new to casino gambling and have never played baccarat you should read this entire book in the order in which it is presented.

If you are an old hand at casino gambling and already know how to play baccarat you can concentrate on just the chapters marked with an \*.

\* You should read this chapter to understand how to use the strategy.

Topic	Chapter	Page
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Baccarat rules of play. How to determine card values.	How to Play Baccarat	15
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Comparison of Bet Selection Methods Flat betting, positive and negative betting systems Advantages and disadvantages of each. The Master Bet Sizing Strategy builds on these concepts.	Betting Strategies	29
A good review of a number of different betting systems and betting progressions used by gamblers. Included are various Martingale progressions, Labouchere and Reverse Labouchere, D’Alembert and Contra-D’Alembert, the Fibonacci Ssystem, the Parlay, Oscar’s Grind and Patrick’s System.	Betting Progressions	39
The Master Bet Placement Strategy Models A and B. How to use each model to place your bets. Complete Rules for using the MBS Strategy. Examples of placing your bets with detailed explanations. All of this chapter is essential to understanding how to win.	* Where to Place Your Bets	49
Review of betting progressions. The problems with using a betting progression. Comparison of using the Master Bet Sizing Strategy and a Martingale system. You need to understand this chapter before you go on to the next chapter.	* Introduction to the Master Bet Sizing Strategy	61
This chapter covers the Master Bet Sizing Strategy – the betting strategy and money management system used by Ultimate Baccarat. Complete examples and betting rules are given. You will learn how to set up a Bet Registry to track your bets. Later on you will use this Registry as part of the Master Bet Controller. This chapter covers critical information you must know to be successful with this strategy.	* Using the Master Bet Sizing Strategy	68

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Page</b>
Discussion of Base Bets, Game Bankrolls and Total Bankrolls. Amounts presented for bets from \$1 to \$10,000. Bet Limits, Target Profits are defined and shown for bets from \$1 to \$10,000. How to set and use Loss Limits is covered in detail. This chapter covers information essential to keeping Ultimate Baccarat profitable and consistent.	* Money Management for the <i>Ultimate Baccarat Strategy</i>	81
How to put together all of components as <i>The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy</i> . Covers Master Bet Placement and Master Bet Sizing Strategies. Integrates Game Bankrolls, Total Bankroll, Bet Limits, Loss Limits and Target Profit. All rules are summarized. If you want to learn the strategy you must learn the information in this chapter!	* Using the Complete <i>Ultimate Baccarat Strategy</i>	88
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The Master Bet Controller along with instructions on how to use it.	* Appendix A. The Master Bet Controller	149

## How to Play Baccarat

Baccarat was originally a European game, which was invented and first played in Italy. The game developed a large following in France and is still a major game in Europe, with a number of casinos specializing in the European version of the game, known as chemin de fer. There is also another version of the game, called baccarat en banque.

The word "baccarat" is the French term for the Italian word baccara (which means zero), which refers to the value of zero given to the face cards as well as the 10 in this game of chance.

The t in baccarat is silent (bah-cah-rah). The original game in Las Vegas was introduced on the Strip in 1959. Originally the game was played using the chemin de fer rules, in which the gambler holding the bank plays against the other players; but, the game was changed to baccarat in the 1960s. In the American version of the game, which is the version used by the Internet casinos, the casino plays against all players, regardless of how they wager.

There are now two styles of baccarat in American casinos: the more formal full-pit version, played at a long table with 12 to 14 players, two dealers, a croupier and one or more house skills, and its little brother, mini-baccarat, played on a standard sized blackjack table, with six players and one dealer.

The rules are the same in either version of baccarat. The formal version of baccarat has more rituals, and generally has higher playing limits. It is typical for baccarat in a Las Vegas Strip casino to have a minimum wager of \$25 with maximum wagers of up to \$4,000. The house will usually raise the maximum wagers for high rollers, and it is not unusual to see wagers of \$10,000 or more. Many Asian high rollers prefer this game, where the casino will cater to just about every whim. You can eat a banquet style gourmet meal while you play and if you like, the casino will provide you with a female companion, known as a *skill*, who will play the game along side of you as long as you wish.

More formal dress is often required for baccarat and with the combination of tuxedoed croupiers, a roped off pit, and higher betting limits, many players are a bit in awe of the game.

If you want to try your hand at this game in a land-based casino, the mini-version is the informal way to do so. The betting limits are much lower, with \$2 to \$5 minimum wagers common and \$1,000 to \$2,000 maximum wagers available. I tried my first game of mini-baccarat some years ago at Rio. The dealer was extraordinarily nice and a lady companion and I whiled away several hours at this very enjoyable game.

Baccarat is a card game with only two hands dealt. One hand is designated the "player" hand the other is for the "banker." Each hand initially receives two cards. You can bet on either the banker, the player or for a tie. All playing decisions are made, according to a standard set of rules, by the baccarat dealer or croupier.

In baccarat, aces are valued as one, and cards 2 through 9 are valued according to their numerical values, i.e. a deuce is valued as 2, a 5 as 5 and so on. Tens and face cards count as zero. If the total value of two cards is greater than 10, you will drop the first digit. For example, a hand of 8, 5 totaling 13 would be valued as 3, a hand of 9, 2 and 7 would total 18, with a point value of 8. A card totaling 10 is valued as zero.

The object of the game is to come as close to a total of 9 as is possible. A two-card hand totaling either eight or nine is called a natural. If either hand has a natural, no more cards are dealt and the play is settled. A hand of eight is le petit natural and a nine is le grande natural. As you might expect, le grande natural beats le petit natural as nine is higher than eight.

After the first two cards are dealt to each hand, strict rules determine how the cards are played; nobody makes any decisions. The rules of play are the same for baccarat, mini-baccarat and in the e-casinos where I have played baccarat.



If, after dealing the first two cards, either the banker or player hand has a total of eight or nine, the natural hand wins and the game is over.

If both hands total eight or nine, le grand natural wins. If they are both equal in value, the game ends as a tie.

If neither hand has a natural, both hands are played out according to a set of rules printed on the land casino's baccarat layout and available in the e-casinos. The player's hand is always played first. The rules for completing the player's hand are listed below:

### **Rules for Completing the Player Hand**

If the Player's first two card total	The Player's hand must do the following:
0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5	Draw another card
6 or 7	Stand
8 or 9	This is Natural - no cards are drawn

The banker's hand is always played last. Play of the banker's hand is dependent on how the player's hand was played. If the player hand does not draw a third card the banker hand follows the procedures following:

### **Rules for Completing the Banker Hand When the Player Hands Stands with Two Cards**

When the Banker's first two cards total:	Banker will:
0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5	Draw
6, 7, 8 or 9	Stand

Whenever the player hand has a natural of eight or nine, the player does not draw any additional cards and neither does the banker.

When, according to the rules, the player hand draws a third card, the banker hand is always played according to the rules following.

**Rules for Completing the Banker Hand When the Player Hand Receives a Third Card**

When the Banker's first two cards total:	The Banker draws only when the Player's third card is:	The Banker stands only when the Player's third card is:
0, 1 or 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	
3	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 9 10	8
4	2 3 4 5 6 7	1 8 9 10
5	4 5 6 7	1 2 3 8 9 10
6	6 7	1 2 3 4 5 8 9 10
7		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

No more than three cards are ever drawn for either hand. When both hands have completed their draws, the hand closest to nine wins. The dealer pays those who bet on the winning hand. In the event of a tie, all bets on banker and player are pushes, neither winning nor losing. Banker and player bets are even-money wagers, paid 1 to 1, although a 5% commission is taken from winning banker hands. Tie bets are paid at 8 to 1.

Odds are some of the most favorable in the casino. Using the elaborate rules determining standing and drawing, the banker hand always has a slight edge over the player hand.

Banker hands win 50.7% of the time and player hands 49.3% of the time, when the tie bets are excluded.

If both hands paid even-money, a smart player would only play banker and enjoy a 1.4% advantage over the casino. However, the 5% "tax" the casino charges on winning banker bets evens the field. With this house vig, the house has a 1.17% advantage over banker bets and 1.35% over player bets. These odds are just about the lowest of all casino wagers except for line bets with odds in craps which only give the casino an edge of 0.80%.

Tie bets usually pay off at 8 to 1. I have found a few land-based casinos which pay at 9 to 1 for ties, but none on the Internet that do. At any rate, the question is strictly academic for us as we will never wager for a tie. With an 8 to 1 payoff, the house edge is 14.5%; with a 9 to 1 payoff the edge is still a healthy 4.5%.

Here are some examples of baccarat hands.

#### **Hand No. 1**

Player hand:  $10-7 = 7$

Banker hand:  $5-2 = 7$

Under the rules neither player nor banker can draw with a two-card total of 7. This is a tie.

#### **Hand No. 2**

Player hand:  $4-2 = 6$

Banker hand:  $10\text{-king} = 0$

Player must stand with a total of 6. Banker draws a card and gets a 3. Player wins 6 to 3.

#### **Hand No. 3**

Player hand:  $2-2 = 4$

Banker hand:  $\text{king}-5 = 5$

Player must draw a card. Player draws a 7 and now has  $2-2-7 = 1$ .

Even though Banker would win by standing, it still must take a card according to the rules. Banker draws a 7 and now has a hand of  $king-5-7 = 2$ . Bank wins 2 to 1.

#### **Hand No. 4**

Player hand:  $3-4 = 7$

Banker hand:  $10-3 = 3$

The player will stand with a 7. Banker draws and gets an ace. Banker has  $10-3-A$  for a 4. Player wins 7 to 4.

#### **Hand No. 5**

Player hand:  $jack-8 = 8$

Banker hand:  $4-3 = 7$

The player has a natural and wins automatically without banker having a chance to improve his hand. When a player or banker hand shows either an 8 or 9 with the original two cards, the game is over. Draws to an 8 or 9 are not naturals.

#### **Hand No. 6**

Player hand:  $ace-2 = 3$

Banker hand:  $3-queen = 3$

Both hands start off equally, but it is too early to declare a tie. Player draws first and receives a 9 for an  $ace-2-9$  or 2. The banker would love to stand with his total of 3 but is not allowed to. Banker draws an 8 for a  $3-queen-8$  hand worth 1. Player wins 2 to 1.

**Hand No. 7**

Player hand: 10-4 = 4

Banker hand: 6-9 = 5

Player must draw a card. He draws a 9 for a 10-4-9, valued as 3. Banker, with a 5 doesn't draw a card and stands with a 5. Banker wins 5 to 3.

**Hand No. 8**

Player hand: 4-ace = 5

Banker hand: 3-king = 3

Here the player would like to stand with a total of 5 versus a banker 3. But, since the rules of play are always followed, player draws and gets a 10. With a 4-ace-10, his hand is still valued at 5. Banker draws and gets a 6 for a 3-king-6 or 9. Banker wins 9 to 5.

**Hand No. 9**

Player hand: 4-10 = 4

Banker hand: king-jack = 0

Again the player would prefer to stand and take a chance on banker improving his hand. But the rules must be followed. Player draws a card and gets a 10, for a 4-10-10 or 4. Banker draws to his zero and gets a 5. The result is banker wins 5 to 4.

**Hand No. 10**

Player hand: 8-queen = 8

Banker hand" 9-jack = 9

Both hands have naturals. Le grande natural beats le petit natural. Banker wins 9 to 8.

Even though I have given you some examples of how different hands are played, you don't have to know anything about these rules to successfully play the game. There are no

complicated strategies to learn, cards to count or any additional rules to learn. Many baccarat players like to write down every decision on score keeping cards supplied by the casinos. In land-based casinos, there are often electronic displays showing the outcomes of the last 30 or so baccarat plays.

## Rules for Online Baccarat

Online Baccarat is played using the same rules that are used in the land-based versions of the game. Below are the baccarat rules used by Oceans Casino ([www.oceansonlinecasino.com/game-tutorials/baccarat.html](http://www.oceansonlinecasino.com/game-tutorials/baccarat.html)) for their online baccarat game.

Baccarat is an exciting card/table game found in most casinos ahand the world. To begin, you have 3 selections on where to place your wager: bet the player's hand will win; bet the banker's hand will win; bet the game will result in a tie.



### Object

The winner is the hand with the point value closest to 9. In the event of a tie, any wagers placed on the player or the banker are returned. If you wager on a tie and the two hands result in a tie, your payoff is 8 to 1.

### Rules

To play, place your wager on the player's hand, the bank's hand, or on a tie. Once your wager is placed, click "DEAL". The player and the banker are each dealt their two-card

hand. According to standard baccarat rules outlined below ["Third Card Rules"], a third card may be dealt to the player and/or the banker.

### Card Values

- Ace = one [1]
- Face cards and 10's = zero [0]
- All other cards count as their numbered value; for example, the seven [7] of hearts has a value of 7

If the cards in either hand have a combined value of ten or more points, subtract ten. The remainder is the baccarat point value of the hand. For example: 6+7=13, which counts as a 3 in baccarat; 9+9=18, which counts as 8. Face cards and 10's count as 0, so for example 9+King=9.

### Third Card Rules

In baccarat, the player always goes first, and draws a third card if the hand total is 0-5, otherwise another card is not drawn and play proceeds to the banker.

If the banker's first two cards total 0, 1 or 2, then the banker draws one card, otherwise the banker draws according to this table:

<b>VALUE OF FIRST TWO [2] CARDS:</b>	<b>DRAWS WHEN THE PLAYERS THIRD [3] CARD IS:</b>	<b>DOES NOT DRAW WHEN THE PLAYERS THIRD [3] CARD IS:</b>
3	0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9	8
4	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0, 1, 8, 9
5	4, 5, 6, 7	0, 1, 2, 3, 8, 9
6	6, 7	0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9
7	Always stands	
8, 9	Player cannot draw	Player cannot draw



## Betting and Limits

Select a chip value using the left mouse button. Then, with the left mouse button, click the area on the baccarat table where you wish to place your wager. If you wish to change your bet, click on the chips you have already placed on the table using your right mouse button to remove them, or click on "CLEAR" to remove all bets from the table.

Baccarat offers three separate betting ranges: \$1 - 100, \$5 - 500, and \$25 - 1,000. Each of these three betting ranges has separate limits for the lone tie bet and the tie bet that is accompanied by a player or banker bet:

<b>BETTING RANGE</b>	<b>\$1 - 100</b>	<b>\$5 - 500</b>	<b>\$25 - 1,000</b>
Minimum bet	1	5	25
Maximum bet	100	500	1,000
Minimum lone tie bet	1	5	25
Minimum tie bet	1	1	5
Maximum tie bet	10	60	120

## Winnings

Even money is paid on all winning wagers placed on the player or banker. However, if you win by betting on the banker, the bank receives a 5% commission. If you wager on a tie and the two hands result in a tie, your payoff is 8 to 1.

## Game Buttons

DEAL	When you have placed your wagers, this deals the cards
CLEAR	Clears the table of bets
LAST BET	Places the same bets as in your previous hand
NEW GAME	Starts a new hand

## The Player's Edge

As powerful as the casinos may seem to be, you can walk into a casino knowing that you have an edge over the house. As a successful gambler you have to be able to win more than you lose. What are the tricks you will use to gain an edge over this formidable adversary?

Your edge will consist of the following actions:

1. When you are losing, you can quit.
2. When you are winning, you can walk out with the casino's money.
3. You can vary the size of your wagers.
4. You can pick where to play.
5. You can modify your strategy based on table results and conditions.
6. You can use discipline to develop a winning plan and then stick to it.

Most players never realize what an advantage these offer. The casino cannot be flexible. It must continue to offer the same games, with the same rules, without the ability to react to changing conditions. The nimble player can weave and dodge and even choose not to play a particular game. Let's elaborate on the player's edge:

**1. When you are losing, you can quit.** You can always control your losses while the casino must continue to offer its games regardless of the outcomes. I have seen hot baccarat tables where the casino lost over a hundred thousand dollars in less than an hour. All the casinos can do is order in more chips and hope that the hot streak will end.

**2. When you are winning, you can walk out with the casino's money.** As a player you can always control when you stop playing. While the casino must continue offering its games twenty-four hours a day, you can jump in, grab a win and pull off. You have ultimate flexibility while the casino does not.

**3. You can vary the size of your wagers.** One approach a player can use is to increase the size of his wagers when he is winning and reduce them when losing. He may also choose to raise his wagers after losses so that only a win or two out of many wagers will put him

ahead. A player can set up options where he doesn't have to win the majority of his bets. Using these techniques effectively goes a long ways towards minimizing the house edge and even turning it into a player edge!

**4. You can pick where to play.** You can play at tables offering the best situations for you. You can choose to play at tables that are almost empty by playing during slack periods. This can significantly increase your hourly win rate. You can also make it your business to know where the best payoffs are. The casinos, which pay triple on a field roll of 12, turn this wager from a weak one to one with acceptable risk.

If you are looking for certain table conditions, you can scout for the right table before you play. You have numerous options while the house must offer the game to anyone who is old enough to play, conforms to fairly lax casinos standards and has some money to begin play.

**5. You can modify your strategy based on table results and conditions.** Every table develops different trends at different times. Some tables favor bettors who play numbers, while others favor players who bet from the dark side, wagering on the don't pass or don't come. Most tables are choppy, favoring neither right nor wrong betters. You can adjust to the changing playing conditions as they occur. If the table is repeating numbers, you can modify your strategy to take advantage of this trend. If the table is ice cold, you can make still different moves. In short, you have the ability to bob and weave, duck and thrust, parry and counter punch. The table can't react to anything. Every baccarat table is like an inanimate object that must endlessly grind out numbers, while you circle and pounce.

**6. You can use discipline to develop a winning plan and then stick to it.** The house has ultimate discipline. The very structure of the casino games and atmosphere exhibit a carefully planned approach designed to transfer funds from the players' pockets into the casino coffers in the shortest time possible. Of course, to a large extent this relies on most players' lack of discipline. Once you gain the discipline to set up a winning game plan and then follow it, you can effectively neutralize much of the casino's edge over the crowd of players.

I played a couple of hours of baccarat in a local casino last night. I played for low stakes, buying in for \$500. I used the Baccarat Attack Strategy. The table varied from choppy to cold the whole time I was there. I don't believe that anyone else at the table won any money but me. The difference between the rest of the players and me was that I had a plan for the evening and I stuck to it. With a \$500 buy-in, I set \$350 as my profit goal. After less than two hours of play I checked my chips, found I was up \$361 and cashed in.

The player's edge comes from all of the points listed above, plus the ability to hide your wins from the casinos. There is really no reason that anyone other than you and your significant other should know about your casino prowess. There are people who would kill you for fifty bucks. Casinos really don't like winners. That's why a number of Las Vegas casinos still bar blackjack card counters. It may not be fair, but even with all of its advantages, if you somehow manage to win, the casino can deny you access to their games.

The book *How to Survive and Prosper as a Professional Gambler* (See Gamblers Bookcase at back of this book) offers some excellent suggestions on how to consistently beat the casinos and still stay on the bosses' good side. I recommend it to you.

The net effect of applying all of the elements of the player's edge is to neutralize and even overcome the casino's advantage. Your biggest edge will come from your discipline. Interestingly, this is the same kind of discipline the casinos expect from their dealers, floor bosses and staff. If it works for them, you know that it will work for you too!

## Betting Strategies

Nearly every gambler uses some kind of system even if his system merely consists of guessing what to do next. In July 1891, Charles Wells, an Englishman, arrived at the casino at Monte Carlo with 10,000 francs. Within a few days he had won over a million. He retired for a few months to relish his accomplishment, then returned and proceeded to win another million francs. His exploits inspired the song "The Man Who Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo."

Unfortunately, he would not quit while he was ahead. He returned the next year and lost it all. Later he resorted to illegal shenanigans, was imprisoned and eventually died in poverty. But his play gave Monte Carlo worldwide fame. Many studied his play and tried to emulate him. He finally confessed before he died that he had no system. His winnings were attributable to an amazing run of luck!

Betting systems or betting progressions have been devised for every gambling game. Many of them had their origins in eighteenth and nineteenth century roulette played on the French Riviera. While the particulars of different betting systems vary greatly, the systems fall into three broad categories:

1. Flat: Keep bets constant, waiting for a streak of successes.
2. Negative progressions: raise bets after losses, trying to recover an eventual win.
3. Positive progressions: raise bets after wins, hoping to use the "house money" to create a large win.

Each of these systems has positive and negative characteristics, but the approach, which catches the most flack from gaming experts, is the negative progression. The advocates of positive progressions don't think much of increasing your wager after a loss. By their thinking, increasing a bet after you have lost amounts to throwing good money after bad,

with the probable outcome being that you will just lose more money. However, as we shall see, in the short run just the opposite is likely to be true.

Assume that we are going to bet player for eight decisions. Three different players will help us in this illustration.

Player A does not believe in ever changing the size of his bet. He bets *flat*, that is the same amount on every hand, regardless of the outcome of his preceding hand. In our example, he will bet \$10 a hand.

Player B likes to follow the system many experts recommend and he will *press* or double his bet after each win, gradually betting more and more as he uses the house's money. He will start with a \$10 bet, increase it to \$20 after a win, then wager \$40 if he wins again. If his bet reaches as high as \$160, he will stay at this level until he loses a wager. After any loss, he will drop back to betting \$10.

Player C has heard that increasing his bets after losses is the "surest way to win." He will start with a \$10 bet. If he loses this bet he will wager \$20. If this bet loses, he will increase his bet to \$40, then \$80, followed by \$160 if this wager also loses. His maximum wager is \$160. If he reaches this level he will continue to wager \$160 until he has a win. After any win, he will regress to a \$10 bet.

The following table compares the results of eight decisions, consisting of six losses and two wins.

### Comparison of Bet Selection Methods

<i>Decisions</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>W</i>
<i>Player A</i>								
<i>Bet</i>	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
<i>Win (loss)</i>	-10	-10	+10	-10	-10	-10	-10	+10
<i>Net Win</i>	-10	-20	-10	-20	-30	-40	-50	-40
<i>Player B</i>								
<i>Bet</i>	10	10	10	20	10	10	10	20
<i>Win (loss)</i>	-10	-10	+10	-20	-10	-10	-10	-20
<i>Net Win</i>	-10	-20	-10	-30	-40	-50	-60	-50
<i>Player C</i>								
<i>Bet</i>	10	20	40	10	20	40	80	160
<i>Win (loss)</i>	-10	-20	+40	-10	-20	-40	-80	+160
<i>Net Win</i>	-10	-30	+10	-0-	-20	-60	-140	+20

W= Win, L= Loss of wager

In this series of wagers, Player A loses \$40, Player B loses \$50, while Player C comes out \$20 ahead. I purposely set up this example to illustrate some of the characteristics of each of the betting strategies.

For a given session, flat betting leads to sessions with the narrowest, most balanced range of expected wins and losses. In this series, we lost 75% of our wagers; therefore, we expect to have a loss.

Positive progressions, like the progression used by Player B, offer more likelihood of an adverse than a favorable session, with intermittent large wins. In this example, increasing wagers after wins caused this player to lose \$50, a greater loss than the one realized betting flat.

Negative progressions, like the one used by Player C, offer a greater chance of winning any given session but have the characteristic of generating many small wins with occasional large losses.

The exact result of sessions played in casinos depends on the details of each game and on variations applied to systems by individual players. However, by ignoring variations, using each system in its rawest form, we can test how each system performed against the same set of decisions and comment on general characteristics of each approach to wagering.

A test was created assuming that wagers are made on pass line only. Each game was 100 decisions long. Limits on the progressions were imposed which required any progression to end immediately if the next bet required in the series exceeded 256 units.

The following systems were tested. Please note that these are not presented as practical systems but are used to emphasize the differences you can expect in each approach to wagering.

1. Flat Betting: Single units are bet and the amount never varies.
2. Positive Progression: In this parlay type of progression, bets are doubled after every win and reduced to one unit after every loss. Assuming a string of nine consecutive wins, this progression would be: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256.



3. Negative Progression: A *Martingale* type of progression is used where bets are doubled after every loss and reduced to a single unit after any win. Assuming a string of nine consecutive losses, this series would consist of the following wagers: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256.

The results of a 2,000-session computer run using each technique are presented in a table on the following page.

This table shows some of the trade offs among the systems. Notice that while the average size bet for flat betting was 1 unit, it increased to 3.8 units using a positive progression, and was highest at 5.2 units for the negative progression. The average size bet was larger for negative than positive progression because runs of losing bets were longer, and therefore, required higher wagers than runs of winning bets. In this contest, which is also analogous to blackjack, the losing streaks tended to be longer than the winning streaks.

Flat betting won 38.70% of the games and lost 59.85% of them. The positive progression showed the lowest win percentage of all, winning only 9.60% of the games while losing over 90% of them.

The negative progression won over 85% of the games and lost only about 15% of them. This strategy was clearly the winner in terms of the number of individual games won.

The last column in the table "Equivalent Amount Won or Lost" shows how much the amounts would have been if the flat and positive betting strategies' wagers had been raised so that the averages were the same as with the negative progression.

**2,000 Session Computer Run Testing  
Flat, Positive and Negative Betting Systems**

<i>Betting System</i>	<i>Outcomes</i>	<i>Percent of Sessions</i>	<i>Average Amount Won or Lost</i>	<i>Equivalent Amount Won or Lost</i>
<b><i>Flat (1 unit is the average size bet)</i></b>				
	Break even	1.45%		
	Won	38.70%	7	37
	Lost	59.85%	9	48
<b><i>Positive (3.8 units is the average size bet)</i></b>				
	Break even	0.05%		
	Won	9.60%	56	56
	Lost	90.35%	412	412
<b><i>Negative (5.2 units is the average size bet)</i></b>				
	Break even	0.00%		
	Won	85.35%	359	492
	Lost	14.65%	43	59

There are a number of variables which affect your ability to avoid losing your bankroll. These variables include the type of betting system used, the size of your bankroll, the games you play, the length of time you play, and your luck at winning any given gaming contest.

Let's compare the effects of using different betting systems on our ability to play without losing our bankroll. The betting systems we will use are:

1. Flat betting. We will bet \$25 regardless of previous outcomes.
2. Positive Progression. We will start with a \$10 base bet. After each win we will double our bet with a maximum wager of \$80. If we reach the \$80 betting level we will

continue to wager \$80 until we lose a wager. After any losing wager we will drop back to betting \$10. The bets we would make in a winning streak would be: \$10, \$20, \$40, \$80, \$80, until we have a loss.

3. Negative Progression. Again we will use a \$10 base bet. After each loss we will double our bet, with our maximum bet to be \$80. If we reach the \$80 bet, we will continue to wager \$80 until we have a win. After any win we will drop back to betting \$10. A losing series would consist of: \$10, \$20, \$40, \$80, \$80, until we have a win.

Here's the game we will face. We will play in a coin-tossing contest and we will always wager heads. Heads wins even money less a 2 percent house commission. When tails shows we lose the wager. The chances here are 50-50 and the house edge is 1 percent.

The next table shows how each betting system fares, varying the size of our bankroll and the number of games played. Each game consists of 100 bets.

Flat betting offers the least chance of losing your bankroll. If you are willing to use a bankroll of \$2,000 in playing this coin-tossing game, you will have a 99% chance of not losing your bankroll if you flat bet.

Using a positive progression gives you almost as good a chance of keeping your bankroll intact as flat betting. A \$500 bankroll offers a 94% chance of not losing all of your bankroll as compared to 96% for flat betting and only 83% for the negative progression at this level.

**Computer Run Testing Different Betting Systems  
Comparing the Bankroll Used and the Length of Time Played.**

<b><u>Bankroll Size</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Games Played</u></b>	<b><u>Chance of Not Losing Bankroll</u></b>		
		<b><u>Flat Bets</u></b>	<b><u>Positive Progression</u></b>	<b><u>Negative Progression</u></b>
250	100	69%	66%	56%
500	100	96%	94%	83%
750	250	93%	87%	80%
1,000	500	90%	81%	76%
2,000	750	99%	98%	94%

Increasing your bets after losses greatly increases your chance of losing all of your bankroll. Using the negative betting progression, the chance of keeping your bankroll is only 56% using a \$250 bankroll, playing for 100 games. The pattern of much higher risk of losing your bankroll with a negative progression continues until we increase our bankroll to \$2,000. With a \$2,000 bankroll, we can play the coin-toss game for 750 hands with only a 6% chance of losing our bankroll (94% chance of keeping it as shown in the table). This compares favorably with the flat bettor's percentage of 99% and the positive progression bettor's percentage of 98% at this level.

The moral of this comparison should be obvious. Using a negative betting progression greatly increases your likelihood of losing your bankroll unless you increase your bankroll to an adequate level. In this example, by increasing our bankroll to \$2,000, we only give up 5% of the chance of losing our bankroll using a negative progression as compared to betting flat (94% as compared to 99%).

All gambling strategies involve compromises. Betting flat offers the greatest likelihood of keeping your bankroll, but the poorest chance of winning. You may recall in the earlier table comparing betting strategies that flat betting only won about 39% of its games.

Using a positive betting progression wins only 9.6% of its games (shown in earlier table), but you won't risk losing your bankroll much more using this system than with betting flat.

Referring again to the earlier table, we notice that using a negative progression gave us a win rate over 85%. At first glance at the table on the preceding page, it would seem that this high win rate came only by increasing our risk of losing our bankroll by a large factor. But please note the following. Once we increase our bankroll to a larger amount, \$2,000 in the example here, our risk of losing our bankroll using a negative progression is only 6%, not much greater than the 2% chance of losing with a positive progression, or the 1% chance of losing our bankroll betting flat.

If we are willing to use a somewhat larger bankroll, using a negative progression gives us the best of all worlds: A high probability of winning and a low possibility of losing our bankroll. This is something that almost no gambling experts will ever tell you. Experts invariably recommend only the first two approaches to win any gaming contest.

The first approach is to gain a mathematical edge over the game. This is the strategy card counters hope to use at blackjack. At roulette, wheel watchers hope to gain an edge by finding an unbalanced wheel where the ball lands in one section of the wheel a higher percentage of the time than chance would explain. With baccarat, advantage seekers look to precision shooting to alter the casino's edge against the players.

The second approach to gambling, almost universally recommended by the experts, is to use a positive betting progression. That this is the best system for capitalizing on winning streaks is the number one reason cited for using this system. Almost never mentioned by the experts is that this system has a dismal winning rate, losing about 9 out of every 10 sessions. As we have seen, the betting strategy with the greatest chance of winning is the negative progression. With an adequate bankroll, the risk of loss can be reduced to a reasonable amount.

The examples and simulations used in this chapter were for games of chance, rather than a game of skill like blackjack. The examples also assumed games where the house had an edge over the player. Our examples serve to illustrate the varying characteristics of betting flat versus using either a positive or negative betting progression.

In the next chapter we will take a look at different betting systems. Several of these approaches are over one hundred years old. Let's see if our not so dumb ancestors had any meaningful insights on how to beat the baccarat game!

## Betting Progressions

Betting systems fall into the broad categories of betting the same after each decision, known as flat betting, raising wagers after wins, called positive progressions, and raising money after losses, named negative progressions.

There are also systems which have characteristics of one or more of these types, such as the The Ultimate Baccarat Betting System which we will encounter in a few more chapters. Many of the classical betting systems were developed for roulette in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, but can be used for other games with even-money wagers such as craps, baccarat and blackjack. Although none of these systems in its pure form is a winning system, it is worthwhile to study the efforts of our ancestors as these betting systems are the grandparents of every modern betting system.

### Martingale

Martingale is one of the oldest betting systems using a negative progression. It is named after Henry Martingale, an English casino owner in the 1700s who is reputed to urge losing punters to "double 'em up" with their wagers.

This system is very simple. You will use a betting series where each bet in the series is twice as large as the preceding one, as with 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32. So long as you win a bet, you will continue to bet at the lowest level, e.g. wager 1. If you lose a bet, you will move up to the next wager, doubling the amount of the previous wager. Use of the system ensures that whenever your wager eventually wins, you will win the amount of the original wager, in this instance 1.

One of my gambling friends once told me about an amazing system he had developed for craps. He had gone to Las Vegas on two consecutive trips and returned a winner. He was wagering only on don't pass at casino craps using a betting series starting with a \$1 bet and doubling his bet after each loss. He was certain that his risk of loss was very small and planned to continue to use the system. He was reluctant to share the system with me but he finally confessed that he was using the following betting series, increasing his wager one

level following a loss: 1 2 4 8 16 32 64 128 256. He correctly pointed out that he would have to lose nine times in a row to lose the betting series, and he just didn't think that this was possible.

I pointed out to him that there was a very real possibility that he could lose nine decisions in a row; in fact, this would happen once about every 500 pass line - don't pass decisions. With craps decisions averaging fifty to sixty per hour, a loss of all nine wagers could happen once every eight to ten hours. I asked him to consider whether he was winning enough to sustain a loss of \$511.00 (the total amount he was risking) in order to win the sum of \$1. This must have impressed him as I don't think he ever used this system again (or at least he didn't tell me about losing with it).

The Martingale system would be just about unbeatable if you could continue to double your wagers until you finally won a bet. Modern casinos are very aware of Martingale, and they know that the easiest way to thwart the system is to narrow the spread between maximum and minimum bets allowed. In other words, the minimum wager must be high enough and the maximum wager low enough that no more than eight or nine doublings can occur. If you find a table with a low minimum, such as \$1 and a high maximum, such as \$3,000, you may wish to try using a Martingale system against the table.

You could use the following series of wagers: 1 2 4 8 16 32 64 128 256 512 1,024 2,048. With 12 bets in the series, you would be an odds-on favorite to win any weekend gambling contest involving even-money wagers. However, you might want to consider one thing. If you try this, sooner or later you will lose bet number 11, for \$1,024. You will now have lost \$2,047 and will be called on to bet \$2,048 in order to win the grand sum of \$1. Are you willing to risk it? If you win, you will be up exactly one buck for your efforts. However, if you lose your last wager of \$2,048, you will have lost \$4,095 in the gaming contest. While the risk of loss is low, it will happen at some time if you continue to wager this way, and there is no guarantee that it won't happen during your first casino excursion using this system.



### **Mini-Martingale**

Martingale in its purest form is too risky for the amount of reward offered. Nearly every gambling expert likes to cite Martingale as an example of a losing system and then jump into a gloating mode and proclaim that all betting systems are losers. However, a Martingale system can be used with very good results if it is used on a spot basis. Assume that you are wagering on an even-money game and that you have lost the last four consecutive wagers. Usually, a three-stage Martingale against this trend continuing for three more decisions will be quite profitable and the reward will be reasonable as compared to the amount risked.

A five-stage Martingale progression can be used very profitably when it is used against a betting pattern which is less likely to occur than would normally be expected.

### **Grand Martingale**

One criticism of Martingale is that too much is risked as compared to the potential return. For example, in the first Martingale series shown, you would have had to wager \$256 in order to win a net \$1. With Grand Martingale, additional chips are added to each increased wager, so that when a win finally occurs, the amount won will be greater than just the amount of the first wager. A typical Grand Martingale series is: 1 3 5 15 35 75.

Martingale in all forms risks a lot to win a little. When the losses come, they will wipe out hours of profits. Another twist to using a Martingale series is to play Martingale in reverse, called an "Anti-Martingale" betting series. With this system, winning wagers will be pressed (doubled). Whenever you encounter a long winning streak this system can produce phenomenal profits. Assume we use the following Anti-Martingale series: 5 10 20 40 80. With five consecutive wins, we will \$155, while our total risk is only the amount of our first wager, \$5. The high-risk reward ratio is a major reason raising your wagers after wins is recommended by many gaming experts. However, as we saw two chapters back, this type of system wins very infrequently, and the many small losses overwhelm most gains, so that over 90% of all games will end with a loss.

## Labouchere

With Labouchere, also known as the Cancellation System, the player sets up a series of numbers which will add up to the profit he will make if he wins this betting series. If he picks 1 2 3 as his series, his expected profit for winning this series is  $1 + 2 + 3 = 6$ . Like the variations of Martingale, this series is used with even-money bets.

To start the series, a player will wager the sum of the two outside numbers, in this case 4 ( $1 + 3 = 4$ ). If he wins this wager, he will cancel the two outside numbers by scratching them out, and wager the sum of the next two outside numbers. In this simple series, only the single number of 2 is left, so the player would wager 2. If he also wins this wager, he will have won the series, having won 4 on the first hand and 2 for the second wager, for a total of 6, the total of all bets in the series.

Any time the player loses a wager, he will add the amount lost to the series and continue to wager the sum of the two outside wagers. Let's assume the player lost the first bet of 4. He would add this wager to the series, which would now become: 1 2 3 4. His next wager would be for 5, the sum of the two outside wagers. We will assume that this bet wins. Having won the bet, our player cancels the outside numbers of 1 and 4 leaving the series as: 2 3. He next wagers the sum of these two numbers, betting 5. If this wager wins the series is completed. If he loses this wager, the losing bet of 5 will be added to the series and he will continue the series.

The principal appeal of this system is that it appears to be a two for one proposition in that each win cancels two numbers while a loss only adds one number to the series. However, this isn't the case, as the player is not paid two for one on winning bets.

In testing this system, I have had bets escalate to wagers of hundreds of dollars all too frequently. This is probably the most insidious of the old time roulette systems. It is said to have been responsible for more suicides on the French Riviera than any other system. Part of the problem with this system is that the small stream of steady wins tends to lull the player into believing that the system can't lose. Unfortunately, a long enough losing streak will occur that the wagers called for will either be larger than the player's bankroll or will

exceed the house limits and not be allowed. In either case, the series will be over with the end result that the player suffers a substantial loss.

This system can also be played in reverse, known as Reverse Labouchere. With Reverse Labby, as many punters call it, the amount of each win is added to the series, and the two outside numbers are canceled whenever a loss occurs. Each wager is still the sum of the two outside numbers. This system produces many small losses in exchange for an occasional win over 1,000 times the amount at risk.

Use of this approach is recounted in Norman Leigh's fascinating account of his successful effort to beat the casino in Monte Carlo by playing Labouchere in reverse (*Thirteen Against the Bank*, William Morrow & Co., 1976). Norman Leigh theorized that the reason so many players lose with Labouchere is that they run into the house limits or lose their playing capital and are unable to recoup losses. Since the bank has almost unlimited capital in comparison to the players, the bank can out wait most player assaults, knowing that either the house betting limit or the player's own limited financial resources will bring about the player's demise.

In using the reverse betting strategy, Leigh reasoned that this approach would most closely resemble the bank's approach to most other players. *He would wait out the small losses until a large win occurred.* Leigh spent months recruiting and training a team to play against the casino. His trials in pulling off this coup make for fascinating reading. I believe that one of the reasons he was eventually able to beat the casino in Monte Carlo was that his starting wagers were fairly low and the house maximums large in comparison. Consequently, he was able to keep his losses fairly low while his team played on, waiting for the monster win.

It is doubtful that this system could be used successfully now, as the spread between minimum and maximum wagers is not large enough in most casinos. The losses realized while waiting for the large win would be enormous, with the house limits on maximum wagers limiting the systems' ability to ultimately recoup the losses.

## **D'Alembert**

This system was invented by a French mathematician, based on the assumption of *equilibrium* in gaming contests. D'Alembert reasoned that since winning and losing bets must eventually equal one another, a system of adding one chip after each losing bet and subtracting a chip after a winning bet would ultimately result in a win as winning wagers would always be greater than losing ones.

It is not unusual to win only ten of the first thirty wagers in an even-money betting contest. With d'Alembert's system, the player will wager higher and higher amounts until he eventually runs into our old nemesis, the house limit.

D'Alembert can be fairly successful if it is modified to include no more than nine or ten bets in a series of wagers, so that potential losses are limited. An additional modification to improve the system is to space the bets so that the win of two consecutive wagers will offset prior losses. A series which accomplishes this is 1 2 3 4 7 11 18. With this series, a player would drop back to the lowest bet after winning two consecutive wagers, such as 7 and 4. This system can be fairly successful if used by two partners betting the opposite in roulette, craps or baccarat.

## **Contra-d'Alembert**

Like Reverse Labouchere, the idea behind Contra-d'Alembert is to reduce the amount risked while allowing profitable runs to rise to great heights. With this strategy we will increase our wager one level after a win and reduce it a level following a loss.

The only positive aspect to the strategy is that when you hit a prolonged losing streak the size of your wagers is quickly reduced. In this respect this system can help protect your bankroll.

However, the upside of using any system requiring increasing your wager following wins is limited. Trends of long, uninterrupted winning streaks are fairly rare in gaming and a system relying on piling up win after consecutive win is not going to win very often.

Here's an example. Your first bet is for one unit. You win and move up to betting two units. With another win, you wager three units and have a loss. You have won two out of three bets and have absolutely nothing to show for it. All of your profit evaporated with that single loss.

If you could always pick your spots, this system would have merit. Of course, if pigs could fly . . . well, you get the idea. It is just about impossible to know in advance when a three-wager consecutive win might occur so that you could jump in with a Contra-d'Alembert. Like so many systems, this one sounds good on paper, but is difficult to squeeze profits out of in real world gaming.

### **Ascot**

This is another of the old time roulette systems that can be adapted to any game offering even-money bets. With Ascot, winning wagers are increased one unit at a time in a predetermined series of wagers while losing bets are lowered one step using the same betting series. An Ascot betting series can be from seven to eleven numbers. A typical series is: 2 3 5 8 13 20 30. The player's first wager would be a middle number such as 8. If this wager wins, the next wager would be 13. If this wager also won, the succeeding wager would be for 20, and so on, with each win followed by an increase of one level in the betting series. The series would end with the win of the last bet in the series. For a win, that would be a win of 30. A losing series would be terminated with the loss of the lowest bet of 2.

The greatest problem with Ascot is that alternating wins and losses at the higher levels of wagers will destroy the profit potential of the series. This can be a serious flaw in any system calling for a large reduction in the amount wagered following a loss.

### **The Fibonacci System**

Fibonacci was a mathematician who discovered a series of numbers where the sum of each two numbers in the series equals the number which follows. A Fibonacci series with twelve levels of bets would look like: 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55 89 144 233 for a total risked of \$608.

This is a very low risk system for use with even-money bets at craps, roulette and baccarat. To use it, you will increase your bet one level following a loss. After any win, you drop your next wager one level. If you win two bets in a row, or win two out of three bets, you drop back to the first bet in the series.

This system was sold many years ago for \$100 a copy with instructions to use it betting *don't pass* in craps. This is a good system for partners to use betting opposites. With roulette, for instance, one partner could bet red while the other wagered black. With craps, one would wager on pass line and the other on don't pass. With baccarat, one partner would bet banker and the other on player hands.

An adaptation of this system has been used to successfully win at craps [The Silverthorne System](#), Silverthorne Publications.

Incidentally, there are a number of derivations of the Fibonacci series of numbers, including ratios of the numbers, which are regularly used in trading stocks and commodity future contracts. This is indeed a versatile and powerful sequence of numbers.

### **The Parlay**

A parlay or *paroli* is a positive progression method. In its simplest form, it consists of leaving a winning bet plus the winnings up for a second win. If you are betting \$10 on an even-money bet and win \$10, you parlay the wager by leaving \$20 up for the next decision. If this bet wins, you will have won \$30 while only risking \$10.

Probably the most attractive aspect of a successful parlay is that it wins three times as much as the amount risked. However, the probability of winning two bets in a row on even-money wagers is less than one in four. For this reason, one of the better ways to use a parlay is to combine it with a series of bets where the amount wagered is increased following a loss. For example the following parlay progression could be used: 2 2 3 4 6 8 12 16. To use this series, you would normally start with the first wager in the series. If this bet won, you would parlay it and next wager \$4. If either the original wager or the parlay lost you would move up one level in the betting series. Any time a parlay bet is won, you will start

the betting series over. If the series is lost, you may either start the series over or leave the table.

Setting up parlay progressions like the one above can be the basis for some of the best performing betting progressions in gambling. To use such a series in blackjack, which requires additional money in order to handle pair splitting and doublings, requires adjustments to the series. One way to handle this is to modify basic strategy to reduce the number of splitting and doubling plays. However, this is not a wise way to play blackjack as these moves represent one of the player's strongest winning options. A better way to handle the program of developing a winning parlay progression for blackjack is to modify the progression so that it allows for splitting and doubling opportunities.

### **Oscar's Grind**

If you want to use a system with very little risk of loss, here's the one you want.

Oscar has a target of winning one unit at the end of any successful betting series. That's it. One unit. Here are the rules:

1. Increase your bet by one unit after every win; provided that winning the wager won't result in a series gain larger than one unit.
2. Never change the size of your bet following a loss.

Assume that your betting unit is \$5 and you are betting don't pass. You find yourself fighting a hot streak and you have lost six bets in a row for a cumulative loss of \$30. You continue to bet \$5 since you never change the size of your wager following losses. You bet \$5 again and win. Now, with one win and six losses, you are down a net \$25. Following the win, you raise your bet one unit and wager \$10. This wager also wins. You have reduced your net loss to \$15. You raise your next wager one more unit to \$15 and win. You are now even. Your final wager will revert to \$5. Why? Because of the rule limiting the size of a wager to one which will not result in a gain larger than one unit.

Your last bet of \$5 wins. You now have a net win of \$5, having lost six bets and won four.

Even this system can take you to high levels on occasion. If you find yourself in a situation where you have occasional wins followed by multiple losses, the size of your wagers will continue to grow. If you run into this situation, you will be forced to stop the series at some point and accept a loss, rather than risking larger and larger amounts of money.

### **Patrick's System**

John Patrick, a professional gambler turned writer, presented another positive betting system for blackjack, which can also be used for baccarat. In his *John Patrick's Blackjack* (Carol Publishing Group, 1995) he describes his system. He uses a system with both progressive and regressive attributes. With his system, you will start with a wager at least twice as large as the table minimum so that you have room to reduce the size of your bet after wins. After your first win, your next wager will be one-half the size of the first winning wager. For instance, if your base bet is \$10 and you win, you will wager \$5 next. After any net loss you will revert to the original starting bet. However, if you can manage to win the second bet in a series, you will return to the two-unit bet and increase the amount wagered after any additional win.

A series of six wins at a \$10 minimum table would look like: 20 10 20 30 40 50 for a total of \$170 won.

Patrick suggests a way to limit losses by quitting if you lose the first four hands in a shoe or deck.



## Where to Place Your Bets

*The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* is fairly straightforward since there are only two decisions to make when you play baccarat.

**You have to decide where to place your wager.** We will only bet on Player (P) or Banker (B) and never wager on Ties (T), so your choice of where to place your wager boils down to making a bet on either Player or Banker.

**Your second decision is how much to wager.** We will take up the process of deciding how much to wager in the next chapter. In this chapter we are only concerned with *where you place your wagers*.

The principle behind determining where you place each bet was developed after thoroughly evaluating the game of baccarat. This game is different from other casino table games in that it develops both long trends of repeating decisions, such as banker, banker, banker, etc. as well as choppy and fairly unpredictable patterns of decisions, such as banker, player, player, banker, player, banker, banker, player etc.

The Master Betting Strategy uses a unique betting strategy called the *Master Bet Placement Strategy (MBP Strategy)*.

To implement the MBP Strategy, we will use two *Bet Selection Models* which will determine where we make each bet:

**Model A** controls making two bets, which are designated bets A-1 and A-2

**Model B** also entails making two bets, called B-1 and B-2 bets.

**There are just two betting models– the A Model and the B Model.**

**The A Model always consists of just two levels of bets – A-1 and A-2. Anytime we lose an A-2 bet, we start making B Model bets.**

Here are the rules for making Model A bets:

**Rule 1.** The first wager of Model A (A-1) is always the opposite of the previous baccarat decision. If you are making an A-1 bet, it will be the opposite of the baccarat decision which just occurred.

For example, when you start Betting Model A and are making the first wager (the A-1Bet) –

- If the previous decision is Player, your A-1 wager will be on Banker.
- If the previous decision is Banker, your A-1 wager will be on Player.
- If the decision is a Tie, you will wait and not make a wager until the previous observed decision is either Player or Banker.

**Rule 2.** Anytime you win the A-1, or first bet in Model A, you have completed this series and your next wager will be another A-1 bet, again wagering the opposite of the observed baccarat decision.

If you have a series of winning bets when you are continuing to make the A-1 wager, as you will when you have a winning streak making A-1 wagers, you will find yourself switching from betting on Player to Banker, then back to Player so long as you continue to win the A-1 bets.

The table below illustrates several wagers made with each A-1 Model Bet winning.

**Table Showing Winning Streak for A Model Bets**  
**B = Banker P = Player**  
**W = Win L = Loss**

<b>Hand of Play</b>	<b>Observed Decision</b>	<b>Bet Pattern</b>	<b>Bet Made</b>	<b>Outcome of Wager</b>
0	B			
1	P	A-1	P	W
2	B	A-1	B	W
3	P	A-1	P	W
4	B	A-1	B	W
5	P	A-1	P	W
6	B	A-1	B	L

Let's go through this by hand of play.

**Hand 0.** You observe a baccarat decision. If you are required to make a wager in order for a hand to be played (as is true with many online baccarat games) you will make a minimum bet called a *Starter Bet* in order to have a hand played. The outcome of this hand determines your first bet.

**Hand 1.** You will always begin play making an A-1 Model Bet. This first bet is always the opposite of the last observed bet. Since the observed bet was B, your A-1 bet will be on P.

**Hand 2.** The winner of Hand 2 was banker. Since the first A-1 bet won, we will make another A-1 bet, betting the opposite of the Hand 1 winner. We wager on B and win.

**Hand 3.** Having won our last bet, we make another A-1 Model Bet, betting the opposite of the previous winner. Since B won in Hand 2, we bet on P and win.

**Hand 4.** Following a winning wager we again make an A-1 Model Bet. Since P won the previous hand, we wager on B and win.

**Hand 5.** Following a win for an A-1 bet, we stay with the A-1 bet and again wager the opposite of the previous winning decision. Since B won Hand 4, we bet on P and win again.

**Hand 6.** After winning an A-1 bet, we always continue making A-1 Model Bets. Since P won on Hand 5, we bet opposite for this hand, wagering on B and lose.

As you can see from the previous table, so long as we win our A-1 wagers, we will continue making A-1 pattern bets until we have a loss. Following each winning A-1 bet, we will essentially start the A Model over with another A-1 bet, which will be the opposite of the previous observed baccarat decision. So long as we continue to win, we will bet, betting the opposite of the previous observed baccarat decision. Since baccarat decisions often alternate, we will frequently have winning streaks with this simple pattern of betting the opposite of the previous bet outcome.

However, we will change our betting style once we lose an A-1 Model Bet.

Following any A-1 losing bet, we will make an A-2 pattern bet, which will be the same as the previous A-1 pattern bet. In other words, if you are wagering on banker with your A-1 bet and lose, your A-2 bet will also be on banker.

**Rule 3.** There are a total of two bets in the A Betting Model. When starting the A Model the first bet, called A-1, is always the opposite of the previous observed decision. The second, or A-2 bet, is only made if we lose the A-1 bet and is always the same as the losing A-1 bet.

**Rule 4.** If we win an A-2 bet, we revert to making an A-1 bet still continuing to bet on the same side as the previous A-2 bet. And, if we win the A-1 bet, we will start the Model A series again with an A-1 bet on the opposite of the previous observed decision.

Let's take a look at a series of wagers when we alternate winning and losing A-1 and A-2 template bets.

**Table Showing Alternating Wins and Losses for A Model Bets**

**B = Banker P = Player  
W = Win L = Loss**

Hand of Play	Observed Decision	Bet Pattern	Bet Made	Outcome of Wager
0	P			
1	P	A-1	B	L
2	B	A-2	B	W
3	P	A-1	B	L
4	B	A-2	B	W
5	P	A-1	B	L
6	P	A-2	B	L

**Hand 0.** You observe that the winning wager is on P.

**Hand 1.** You start betting with an A-1 pattern bet, wagering the opposite of the previous winning bet of P. You wager on B and lose.

**Hand 2.** Following the loss of an A-1 pattern bet, you advance to making an A-2 pattern bet. The A-2 bet is always the same as the A-1 bet. You again wager on B and win.

**Hand 3.** After winning an A-2 bet, you revert to making an A-1 pattern bet and again wager on the same side, betting B. You lose your wager.

**Hand 4.** Following an A-1 pattern bet loss, you make an A-2 bet on the same side. In this case you again bet on B and win.

**Hand 5.** Following the win with the A-2 bet, we revert to making an A-1 bet, again wagering on B. Our wager loses.

**Hand 6.** Following our Hand 5 loss of an A-1 bet, we again make an A-2 bet, again betting on the same side. This wager also loses. With the loss of an A-2 bet, we will move to the second betting Template consisting of B pattern bets.

Before we take a look at using the B Model Bets, lets consider one more series of A Model bets. In this example we will mix up winning and losing A Model wagers and follow the outcomes.

**Table Showing Mixed Results for A Model Bets**  
**B = Banker P = Player**  
**W = Win L = Loss**

<b>Hand of Play</b>	<b>Observed Decision</b>	<b>Bet Pattern</b>	<b>Bet Made</b>	<b>Outcome of Wager</b>
0	B			
1	B	A-1	P	L
2	P	A-2	P	W
3	P	A-1	P	W
4	B	A-1	B	W
5	B	A-1	P	L
6	B	A-2	P	L

**Hand 0.** You observe a hand of play and B wins.

**Hand 1.** Starting with an A-1 pattern bet, you wager the opposite of the previous winner and bet on P. Your wager loses.

**Hand 2.** After losing an A-1 pattern bet, you wager on the same side again. You're A-2 bet is on P, which wins.

**Hand 3.** After winning your A-2 level bet, you back down to making an A-1 wager on the same side as the previous A-2 bet. You wager on P and win.

**Hand 4.** Any win of an A-1 pattern bet completes the betting series. You start a new pattern of betting by making a new A-1 bet. Any new A-1 bet is always the opposite of the previous winning side. Since P won on Hand 3, you wager B for Hand 4 and win.

**Hand 5.** After winning an A-1 bet, you start over with another A-1 bet, betting the opposite of the previous winning wager. Since B won Hand 4, you wager on P and lose.

**Hand 6.** After losing an A-1 wager, the next bet is always an A-2 wager on the same side as the A-1 bet. You make an A-2 pattern bet on P and lose.

In the previous example, we have lost an A-2 bet in Hand 6. Anytime we lose an A-2 bet, we will start the B Model bets. Before we cover making B Model bets, let's summarize making A Model bets.

### **Summary of Making A Model Bets**

1. Before starting to bet always observe one decision. You will always begin betting by making an A-1 pattern bet, which is always the opposite of the previous winner. If you observe B as a winner, your A-1 bet will be on P.
2. Anytime an A-1 bet wins, your next bet will also be an A-1 level bet and will follow the

same rules, that is, you will always bet the opposite of the previous winning decision. If you observe P as a winner, your A-1 bet will be on B.

3. If an A-1 bet loses, the next bet will be an A-2 level bet. This bet will be on the same side as the A-1 bet. If you lose an A-1 bet on P, your A-2 bet will be on P.
4. If an A-2 bet wins, your next wager will be an A-1 bet on the same side as the A-2 bet. If you win an A-2 bet on P, your A-1 bet will be on P.
5. If you lose an A-2 bet, you will begin betting in the B Model.

**Rule 5.** Whenever we lose an A-2 bet we will begin our second Betting Model, the B Model. The B Model consists of two bets, B-1 and B-2, which are always on the same side. For example if your B-1 wager is on Player, then your B-2 bet will also be on player

**B Model bets consist of two levels of bets – B-1 and B-2. B-1 bets are always the opposite of the losing previous A-2 bet. B-2 bets are always the same as the B-1 wager.**

**Rule 6.** Anytime we win the B-1 wager, we will go back to the A Model and make an A-1 wager. This wager will be on the opposite side of the previous decision (which will be the opposite of the previous winning B-1 wager).



**Rule 7.** Anytime we lose a B-2 bet, we will revert to making A Model bets, starting with an A-1 bet *on the opposite side of the previous losing B-2 bet.*

If the B-2 loses, we will go back to the A Betting Model and start with an A-1 bet. This bet will be the opposite of the previous wager made. **Please note that since the previous B-2 bet was a losing bet, in this case we will wager the same as the previous observed bet. This is the only exception to the rule that A-1 bets are always the opposite of the previous observed decision.**

### **Summary of B Model Betting**

If the B-1 bet loses, go to the B-2 bet and wager on the same side as B-1.

If the B-1 wins, start over with an A-1 bet, betting on the opposite side of the previous observed decision

If the B-2 bet loses, revert to the A Model and make an A-1 bet on the opposite side as the losing B-2 bet. This is the only case where an A-1 bet will be the same as the previous observed bet.

If the B-2 bet wins, go to the B-1 level.

Let's illustrate a series of bets starting with a losing A-2 bet.

**Table Showing B Model Bets  
Following the Loss of an A-2 Bet  
B = Banker P = Player  
W = Win L = Loss**

<b>Hand of Play</b>	<b>Observed Decision</b>	<b>Bet Pattern</b>	<b>Bet Made</b>	<b>Outcome of Wager</b>
6	B	A-2	P	L
7	P	B-1	B	L
8	P	B-2	B	L
9	P	A-1	P	W
10	B	A-1	B	W
11	B	A-1	P	L
12	B	A-2	P	L
13	P	B-1	B	L
14	B	B-2	B	W
15	B	B-1	B	W
16	P	A-1	P	W

Let's review these results, hand by hand.

**Hand 6.** We lose an A-2 level bet. Following the loss of any A-2 wager, we move to the B Betting Model and make a B-1 level bet.

**Hand 7.** We make a B-1 level bet, betting the opposite of the previous losing A-2 bet. We wager on B and lose.

**Hand 8.** Following the loss on a B-1 bet, we make a B-2 bet on the same side. Here we wager on B again and lose.

**Hand 9.** After losing a B-2 bet we revert to the A Betting Model, starting with an A-1 bet. **Here we wager on the opposite of the losing B-2 bet and bet on P.**

**Hand 10.** With an A-1 win, we make another A-1 bet, betting on the opposite of the previous observed decision and make an A-1 wager on B. Our bet wins.

**Hand 11.** With yet another A-1 win, we make another A-1 bet, betting on the opposite of the previous observed decision and make an A-1 wager on P. Our bet loses

**Hand 12.** Having lost an A-1 bet, we move up to making an A-2 bet, betting on the same side. Since our A-1 bet was on P, we bet on P again and lose.

**Hand 13.** The loss of an A-2 bet moves us into the B Betting Model. We make a B-1 bet, betting the opposite of the losing A-2 bet and bet on B and lose.

**Hand 14.** Since we lost our B-1 bet, we make a B-2 bet on the same side as the previous bet and win.

**Hand 15.** Having won a B-2 bet, we make a B-1 bet on the same side and win.

**Hand 16.** Following the win of a B-1 bet we revert to the A Betting Mode and make an A-1 bet. We wager the opposite of the previous observed winner of B and bet on P, which wins.

**The philosophy underlying this style of selecting bets alternates between following trends and then resorting to making bets against the trend.** We believe that it is the single best way of determining where to place each wager at baccarat ever created.

If we take all of our wagers made over the previous 16 hands of play and show them in one table, you can gain a better feel for how the Master Bet Placement Strategy looks in practice.

In the following table we summarize the hands of play the way we played them in the first five columns. The last column ***Wager Betting Same as Previous Decision*** shows how we would have wagered if we had followed the common bet selection method of wagering the same as the previous observed decision.

While this table may not illustrate the complete power of using the Master Bet Placement Strategy for selecting bets, our tests of the strategy over thousands of hands of play in real

baccarat games have proven that this method of bet selection is far superior to any other bet selection method previously used at baccarat.

### Summary of 16 Hands

Hand of Play	Observed Decision	Bet Pattern	Bet Made	Outcome of Wager	Wager Betting Same as Previous Decision
0	B				
1	B	A-1	P	L	B
2	P	A-2	P	W	B
3	P	A-1	P	W	P
4	B	A-1	B	W	P
5	B	A-1	P	L	B
6	B	A-2	P	L	B
7	P	B-1	B	L	B
8	P	B-2	B	L	B
9	P	A-1	P	W	P
10	B	A-1	B	W	B
11	B	A-1	P	L	B
12	B	A-2	P	L	B
13	P	B-1	B	L	B
14	B	B-2	B	W	P
15	B	B-1	B	W	B
16	P	A-1	P	W	B

## Introduction to the Master Bet Sizing Strategy

In the previous chapter you learned about the *Master Bet Placement Strategy* (MBP Strategy) which is a proven strategy for determining where to place each bet you make at baccarat. In this chapter we will discuss the most powerful betting strategy ever developed for baccarat.

This strategy works very well when combined with our *MBP strategy*.

Most betting strategies fall into one of three categories:

**Flat betting** is the most common type of betting where the bet size never varies or bet size is determined very arbitrarily based on feelings or intuition. This is not a reliable strategy for winning at baccarat as there is no way to take advantage of winning streaks by raising bets when winning or reducing the risk of losses by reducing bets when losing.

**Betting Progressions such as a *Martingale Progression*** raise bets after losses and operate under the premise that eventually the player is bound to win, and when this happens a profit will be generated. The downside of using these types of progressions is that the player must risk a large amount of money in exchange for small winnings. However, when a loss does occur, it is very large and may wipe out many hours of profits in just a few minutes.

**Increasing bets when winning** can be a sound strategy, but many players increase their bets too quickly with the result that a single losing bet can wipe out two or three winning bets at one time. These types of systems will lose more often than they win and can be very frustrating to a player who wants consistent winnings.

**Needless to say, most betting systems are fixed progressions or betting schemes that are unable to adapt to changing table conditions. They have been developed in the pattern of “one size fits all.” Unfortunately, all of these systems fail all too often.**

**After years of using just about every betting system ever developed, I finally concluded that no fixed betting strategy will ever produce the kind of consistent and reliable winnings needed to make gambling a realistic way of making money.**

What is needed to win at any game offering even-money wagers, such as craps, roulette and baccarat, is a way to automatically adjust and size of your bets to match changing game conditions.

In *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* we use a betting strategy that automatically adjusts to game conditions called the *Master Bet Sizing Strategy* (MBS Strategy).

This strategy is based on setting up bets in the attempt to win a coup.

The win of a coup will result in the win of a wager equal to your Base Bet.

Your *Base Bet* is the smallest wager you will make at a predetermined level of play. Many times your Base Bet will equal the minimum bet required for the game.

If your Base Bet is \$5, then with the win of each coup you will win \$5.

With a \$10 Base Bet, a coup win will give you a win of \$10.

In this respect, it is similar to a Martingale Betting Progression where a single win will result in winning an amount equal to the starting bet.

However, it is very different from a Martingale in that you will not increase the size of your bets following every loss. With the Baccarat Bet Sizing Strategy you will only increase the size of your bets following a winning bet and even then limit the size of your wager.

Let's say that your base bet is \$5.

A Martingale Progression set up for \$5 would consist of the following wagers:

5 10 20 40 80 160 320 640 1280. We are going to assume a \$2,000 table limit so this is as far as we can go with this betting series. Many casinos would have \$1,000 or even \$500 bet limits for tables accepting \$5 minimum bets so that our Martingale progression would have to be shorter.

The theory behind a Martingale Progression is simple. We double our bet following any losing wager and continue doubling our bets until we have a win. Whenever we have a win we will recoup all of our losses.

### **An Example of a Winning Martingale Series**

<b>Hand</b>	<b>Amount Bet</b>	<b>Amount Won or Lost</b>	<b>Cumulative Won or Lost</b>
1	5	-5	-5
2	10	-10	-15
3	20	-20	-35
4	40	-40	-75
5	80	-80	-155
6	160	+160	+5

This series of Martingale bets turned out well. Whenever you use a Martingale Progression, you will win the progression most of the time. However, when you do lose the losses are very large. Let's continue the same example but assume that we lose the next three bets as well. Here we have:

### A Longer Martingale Series

<b>Hand</b>	<b>Amount Bet</b>	<b>Amount Won or Lost</b>	<b>Cumulative Won or Lost</b>
1	5	-5	-5
2	10	-10	-15
3	20	-20	-35
4	40	-40	-75
5	80	-80	-155
6	160	-160	-315
7	320	-320	-635
8	640	-640	-1275
9	1280	-1280	-2555

Things didn't turn out so well this time. With the loss of nine straight bets, we will lose every bet in the series. With each successive loss the amount of money risked to win a total of just \$5 become larger and larger until, by our ninth bet, we are wagering \$1,280 to win just \$5.

Let's take a look at the same series of baccarat decisions using the MBS Strategy.

### The MBS Strategy in Action

<b>Hand</b>	<b>Amount Bet</b>	<b>Amount Won or Lost</b>	<b>Cumulative Won or Lost</b>
1	5	-5	-5
2	5	-5	-10
3	5	-5	-15
4	5	-5	-20
5	5	-5	-25
6	5	-5	-30
7	5	-5	-35
8	5	-5	-40
9	5	-5	-45



Here, with nine straight losing wagers, we have a loss of just \$45, instead of a loss of \$2,555 using a Martingale. You can see that the MBS Strategy has much smaller losses when it hits losing streaks than a Martingale Progression.

However, we still haven't had a win. We will have a winning coup only with the win of our Base Bet of \$5.

Lets add three more hands, all of which happen to win. Let's take a look at the performance of the Martingale Progression first:

### Martingale Progression in Action

Hand	Amount Bet	Amount Won or Lost	Cumulative Won or Lost
1	5	-5	-5
2	10	-10	-15
3	20	-20	-35
4	40	-40	-75
5	80	-80	-155
6	160	-160	-315
7	320	-320	-635
8	640	-640	-1275
9	1280	-1280	-2555
10	5	+5	-2550
11	5	+5	-2545
12	5	+5	-2540

In this example we win on hands 10, 11 and 12, wagering and winning \$5 each time. This still leaves us with a cumulative loss of \$2,540 using the Martingale.

Let's take a look at the same baccarat decisions using the MBS Strategy

### MBS Strategy in Action

Hand	Amount Bet	Amount Won or Lost	Cumulative Won or Lost
1	5	-5	-5
2	5	-5	-10
3	5	-5	-15
4	5	-5	-20
5	5	-5	-25
6	5	-5	-30
7	5	-5	-35
8	5	-5	-40
9	5	-5	-45
10	5	+5	-40
11	20	+20	-20
12	25	+25	+5

We have a very different outcome when we use the *Master Bet Sizing Strategy*. Our loss of hand 9 did not end our attempts to win a coup as it did when we used a Martingale Progression and ran out of room to double our bets.

The win of hand 10 sets up a sequence where we can increase the size of our wagers following a win.

On hand 11 we bet \$20 and win.

On hand 12 we wager \$25 and win. This gives us a net win for this series of bets of +5, the size of our Base Bet. In other words, we just won a coup.

Let's compare the results again.

Martingale – Net loss of \$2,540 with the win of three Martingale betting series.

MBS Betting – Win of \$5 and one coup.

The advantages of using the MBS Strategy are very great –

- Bets are kept small
- It can withstand a large number of losses and still win.
- The size of the bankroll needed to use the strategy is very small

Even all these advantages would not be enough if it weren't a winning strategy.

However, it is a very strong winner. You will see how to use it in the next chapter.

## Using the Master Bet Sizing Strategy

The *Master Bet Sizing Strategy* is not like any fixed betting progression. It is a uniquely adaptive strategy that can overcome just about any situation you will encounter when you are playing baccarat.

Let's continue the example started in the previous chapter of the MBS Strategy in action. However, let's change the circumstances some. Instead of winning Hand 12, we will lose the hand. We will also lose hands 13 and 14 but win hands 15, 16 and 17. Let's see what happens:

**MBS Strategy in Action**

<b>Hand</b>	<b>Amount Bet</b>	<b>Amount Won or Lost</b>	<b>Cumulative Won or Lost</b>
1	5	-5	-5
2	5	-5	-10
3	5	-5	-15
4	5	-5	-20
5	5	-5	-25
6	5	-5	-30
7	5	-5	-35
8	5	-5	-40
9	5	-5	-45
10	5	+5	-40
11	20	+20	-20
12	25	-25	-45
13	5	-5	-50
14	5	-5	-55
15	5	+5	-50
16	25	+25	-25
17	30	+30	+5

As you can see, with wins on hands 15, 16 and 17 we completed a winning coup and ended up with a net win of +5. In this series of 17 hands, we had 5 winning and 12 losing bets and still won the coup.

You will also notice that our largest bet was just \$30. So our bet range was from \$5 to \$30.

We could have limited our bets to a range from \$5 to \$25 and still have won the coup. It might have taken a couple more hands, but we would have won the coup, even if we decided to limit our largest wager to \$25.

During the same series of hands a \$5 Martingale Progression would have had bets ranging from \$5 to \$1,260.

There is quite a difference in strategies from one with a bet range of \$5 to \$30 and one with a range from \$5 to \$1,260.

Without any analysis whatsoever, you can see that the strategy with the smaller range of bets will require a much smaller bankroll than the strategy with the bet range from \$5 to \$1,260.

Here is a comparison of the buy-in amounts you would need to use each of these strategies:

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Buy-in Amount for \$5 Base Bets</b>
Martingale Progression	\$2,555
The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy	\$100

Combing the *Master Bet Sizing Strategy* with the *Master Bet Placement Strategy* constitutes *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*. Once you combine bet placement and bet sizing, and add our money management rules you will have a strategy that wins a remarkable 99.59% of its coups.

What's more, *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* does this using a small bankroll, with lower maximum bets while completing each game in about 30 hands of play per game.

Let's discover how to use the *Master Bet Sizing Strategy*.

### **How to Use the *Master Bet Sizing Strategy***

The size of your Base Bet determines the level of your bankroll and the size of the bets you will be called upon to make when you play. Your Base Bet is also the amount you will win when you complete a winning coup.

Here are some of the rules for the *Master Bet Sizing Strategy*:

**Rule 1.** The object of using the MBS Strategy is to win a coup. The win of each coup will result in a win equal to the size of your Base Bet.

**Rule 2.** Your first bet in a coup attempt will always be your Base Bet. If you are a \$5 base bettor, you will wager \$5. If \$25 is your Base Bet, you will wager \$25.

**Rule 3.** You will only make Base Bet sized wagers until you have a winning bet. Following a winning bet you may increase the size of your wager, following rules we will introduce later.

**Rule 4.** Any time you have a loss when attempting to win a coup, you will immediately revert to making the minimum bet on the next hand and continue to make the minimum bet until you have another win.

Let's take a look at a series of bets using \$5 Base Bets and the MBS Strategy. The following table shows 10 hands of play using the MBS Strategy to determine the size of our bets.

### Series of Wagers Using MBS Strategy

Hand	Amount Bet	Amount Won or Lost	Coup Won	Cumulative Won or Lost
1	5	+5	Yes	+5
2	5	+5	Yes	+10
3	5	+5	Yes	+15
4	5	-5		+10
5	5	-5		+5
6	5	-5		-0-
7	5	+5		+5
8	15	-15		-10
9	5	+5		-5
10	25	+25	Yes	+20

Let's review this series of bets, hand by hand.

Hand 1. We start the game with a \$5 base bet and win. This gives us a winning coup and our Cumulative Win increases by +5

Hand 2. We wager \$5 again to start the second coup attempt. We win this wager, completing our second coup win.

Hand 3. We start our third coup attempt with our Base Bet of \$5 and win again. This completes our third winning coup and brings our winnings up to +15.

Hand 4. We start another coup attempt with our Base Bet of \$5. The bet loses.

Hand 5. Following any losing bet we revert to making our minimum wager which is equal to our Base Bet. We bet \$5 and lose.

Hand 6. Since we lost Hand 5, we wager \$5 again and lose.

Hand 7. Following another losing hand we again wager the minimum bet of \$5. This time we win.

Hand 8. Following a winning bet we increase the size of our bet. (Don't worry about how we determined the amount of the bet at this point.) We wager \$15 and lose.

Hand 9. Following our losing bet in Hand 8, we revert to making a minimum wager of \$5 and win.

Hand 10. Following our win we again increase the size of our wager and bet \$20. This bet wins which completes the win of our fourth winning coup in this series of bets.

**Rule 5.** The only time you will increase the size of your bet is following a winning hand. After any losing hands, you will revert to making the Base Bet until you have another winning bet.

We determine the size of wagers following winning bets by recording each bet in a registry as we play.

**Rule 6.** Whenever we start a new coup attempt and have a loss, we will record the size of our Base Bet, representing the profit of a successful coup and the size of our losing bet in a **Registry**. We will continue to record the size of any additional losing bets in this registry by writing them on the left side of the previous losing bets. Whenever we have a winning bet, we will cancel (strikeout) the amount of the winning bet in the registry.

Let's take a look at Hands 1 to 7 shown in the previous table. This time we will include a Registry and write down the amounts in accordance with Rule 6. From this point on, Coup Wins are shown by the letter **C** in the Coup Won column.



### Hands 1 to 7 Using the Registry

Hand	Amount Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cumulative Won
1	5	+5		C	+5	+5
2	5	+5		C	+5	+10
3	5	+5		C	+5	+15
4	5	-5	5 5		-5	+10
5	5	-5	5 5 5		-5	+5
6	5	-5	5 5 5 5		-5	-0-
7	5	+5	5 5 5 5		+5	+5

Here is a hand-by-hand review.

Hand 1. We start by wagering the amount of our Base Bet of 5 and win. Since we won the bet we don't write anything down in the Registry. We win a coup.

Hand 2. A repeat of Hand 1. We wager \$5 and win a coup with nothing recorded in the Registry.

Hand 3. Same story as Hands 1 and 2. Bet, win and nothing recorded.

Hand 4. We wager 5 and lose. We have two amounts to write down in the Registry. We write down the 5 on the right to represent the amount we will win when we win the coup (our profit goal). We write down the 5 on the left, representing the amount of the current loss. The Registry now has 5 5 showing.

Hand 5. We wager 5 and lose again. We add the losing bet of 5 to the left end of the Registry. The Registry now shows: 5 5 5 .

Hand 6. We wager 5 and lose. We add the amount of the losing bet of 5 to the left side of the Registry. The Registry shows 5 5 5 5 .

Hand 7. We make our Base Bet of 5 again. This time we win. We cancel (strikeout) the amount of the winning bet by striking over the amount on the left end of the Registry as follows: ~~5~~ 5 5. With the first amount cancelled, we could also show this as 5 5 5.

After Hand 8 we are left with 5 5 5 in the Registry. This leads us to the next rule:

**Rule 7.** Following any win, we will wager a total of amounts shown in the Registry. The amount we wager is determined by counting recorded amounts from left to right until we reach our betting limit.

Let's apply Rule 7 to the series of hands we have been examining. Before we apply this rule, we have to decide our Betting Limit. Let's assume that we have decided on a Betting Limit of 25 at this level of play. Once we have made this decision, we will not make a wager larger than 25.

To determine the size of our wager following a win, we count the amounts in the Registry, moving from left to right.

After Hand 7, the Registry reads 5 5 5, totaling 15. Since this total is less than our Bet Limit of 25 we wager 15 on the next hand. Here is the complete series of bets including Hands 8, 9 and 10.

### Hands 1 to 10 Using the Registry

Hand	Amount Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cumulative Won
1	5	+5		C	+5	+5
2	5	+5		C	+5	+10
3	5	+5		C	+5	+15
4	5	-5	5 5		-5	+10
5	5	-5	5 5 5		-5	+5
6	5	-5	5 5 5 5		-5	-0-
7	5	+5	<del>5 5 5 5</del>		+5	+5
8	15	-15	15 5 5 5		-15	-10
9	5	+5	10 5 5 5		+5	-5
10	25	+25		C	+25	+20

Here's a review of Hands 8, 9 and 10.

Hand 8. Following our win on Hand 7, the Registry reads 5 5 5 . Starting at the left we add up the amounts which total 15. Since the total is less than our Bet Limit of 25 we wager 15. Our wager loses. We record the losing bet on the left hand side of the Registry which now shows 15 5 5 5.

Hand 9. Since we lost Hand 8, we revert to making our minimum bet and wager 5 for this hand. Our bet wins. With a win we will reduce the amount in the left hand Registry position by the amount won. Here we subtract 5 from 15, leaving 10 in the left hand spot. The Registry now reads 10 5 5 5.

Hand 10. Since we won our bet in Hand 9, we know we will increase our bet this hand. We count the amounts in the Registry from left to right and see that we have a total of 25. Since this amount is not greater than our Bet Limit of 25, we wager 25. Our bet wins. With this win we cancel all of the bets in the Registry, as ~~10 5 5 5~~. Anytime we have all of the amounts in the Registry cancelled, we have won a coup.

**Rule 8.** Whenever all amounts shown in the Registry are cancelled, we have won a coup.

That was a simple example of how to recoup from losses. Let's take a little more complex example. The following hands were taken from the middle of one of our games. Here we show Hands 15 to 42. See if you can follow them before you read the explanations following:

**Another Sample Game**

Hand	Amount Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cumulative Won
15	5	+5		C	+5	+10
16	5	-5	5 5		-5	+5
17	5	-5	5 5 5		-5	-0-
18	5	+5	<del>5</del> 5 5		+5	+5
19	10	-10	10 5 5		-10	-5
20	5	+5	5 5 5		+5	-0-
21	15	-15	15 5 5 5		-15	-15
22	5	+5	10 5 5 5		+5	-10
23	25	+25	<del>10</del> 5 5 5	C	+25	+15
24	5	+5		C	+5	+20
25	5	T			-	+20
26	5	+5		C	+5	+25
27	5	T			-	+25
28	5	+5		C	+5	+30
29	5	+5		C	+5	+35
30	5	T			-	+35
31	5	-5	<del>5</del> 5		-5	+30
32	5	+5	5		+5	+35
33	5	-5	5 5		-5	+30
34	5	-5	5 5 5		-5	+25
35	5	-5	5 5 5 5		-5	+20
36	5	-5	5 5 5 5 5		-5	+15
37	5	+5	<del>5</del> 5 5 5 5		+5	+20
38	20	-20	20 5 5 5 5		-20	-0-
39	5	T	20 5 5 5 5		-	-0-
40	5	+5	15 5 5 5 5		+5	+5

<b>Hand</b>	<b>Amount Bet</b>	<b>W/L</b>	<b>Registry</b>	<b>Coup Won</b>	<b>Net Won</b>	<b>Cumulative Won</b>
41	15	+15	<del>15</del> 5 5 5 5		+15	+20
42	20	+20	<del>5</del> <del>5</del> <del>5</del> <del>5</del>	C	+20	+40

Here is a hand-by-hand review.

Hand 15. We win a coup. Notice that the Registry is blank after the coup. This win brings our winnings up to +10.

Hand 16. We wager 5 and lose. We write down the 5 on the right to represent the amount we will win when we win the coup (our profit goal). We write down the 5 on the left representing the amount of the current loss. The Registry now has 5 5 showing.

Hand 17. Following a loss we stick with betting the minimum amount and bet 5. We lose and record the losing amount on the left hand side of the amounts in the Registry. The Registry now reads 5 5 5.

Hand 18. Following a loss we wager the minimum amount of 5 and win. We cancel (strikeout) the amount won from the leftmost amount and have ~~5~~ 5 5.

Hand 19. Following a win we look at the Registry to determine how large the next bet will be. Moving from left to right, we add up a total of 10 and bet 10. Our bet loses and we add the amount of this loss to the lefthand position in the Registry, for 10 5 5 .

Hand 20. After the loss we revert to making a minimum bet of 5, which wins. We reduce the amount of the lefthand amount in the Registry by our win of 5. After the adjustment, the Registry reads 5 5 5.

Hand 21. Following the win we look to the Registry to determine the size of the next bet. Adding the amounts from left to right, we have  $5+5+5=15$ . We bet 15 and lose. We add the amount lost to the left position in the Registry, which now reads 15 5 5 5.

Hand 22. Following the loss, we make the minimum bet of 5, which wins. We reduce the lefthand amount in the registry by the amount of the win and have 10 5 5 5.

Hand 23. Following the win, we add up the amounts in the Registry moving from left to right to determine the size of the next bet. We have  $10+5+5+5=25$ . Since the total of all of the Registry amounts is not greater than our Bet Limit of 25, we bet 25. Our wager wins and we cancel all of the amounts in the Registry. We win another coup, bringing our Cumulative Win to +20.

Hand 24. We start a new coup attempt betting 5. We win the bet and the coup.

Hand 25. We wager 5 starting another coup attempt. The decision is a tie (T) resulting in no win or loss.

Hand 26. Following the tie, we repeat the previous wager and win. Again we win another coup bringing our cumulative win to +25.

Hand 27. We start another coup attempt betting 5. We have a tie (T) which has no effect on our wager.

Hand 28. Following the tie we make the same bet again. We win the 5 bet resulting in another coup win. This brings our cumulative net win for this game to +30.

Hand 29. We begin a new coup attempt betting our minimum wager of 5. We win and have another winning coup, bringing our game net to +35.

Hand 30. We start a new coup attempt with a bet of 5. We have another tie which has no effect on our bet.

Hand 31. We repeat the previous wager of 5 and win. We cancel the lefthand number, leaving 5 in the registry.

Hand 32. Following the win we wager 5, the only number left in the Registry. We win the bet bringing our game win up to +35.

Hand 33. We bet 5. Our bet loses and we write down the 5 on the right to represent the amount we will win when we win the coup. We write down the 5 on the left representing the amount of the current loss. The Registry now has 5 5 showing.

Hand 34. Following the loss, we bet 5 and again we lose. We update the Registry to read 5 5 5.

Hand 35. After a loss we bet the minimum bet of 5, which loses. The updated Registry reads 5 5 5 5 .

Hand 36. We bet the minimum of 5 and lose. We update the Registry to 5 5 5 5 5 .

Hand 37. Following the loss, we wager our minimum bet of 5 and win. We reduce the lefthand amount by the amount of the bet, canceling the first amount. The Registry now reads ~~5~~ 5 5 5 5.

Hand 38. Following the win, we add up the amounts in the Registry moving from left to right to determine the size of the next bet. We have  $5+5+5+5=20$ . Since the total of all of the Registry amounts is not greater than our Bet Limit of 25, we bet 20. Our bet loses and we record the loss in the left most spot. The Registry now reads 20 5 5 5 5.

Hand 39. Following the loss, we drop back to the minimum bet of 5. There is a tie with no win or loss on the hand.

Hand 40. We repeat the previous bet of 5 which wins. We reduce the lefthand amount by 5. The Registry now reads 15 5 5 5 5.

Hand 41. Following the win, we add up the amounts in the Registry moving from left to right to determine the size of the next bet. The Registry total is 35, greater than our Bet

Limit of 25. We decide to wager the first amount of 15. The bet wins and we cancel the amount won, leaving our Registry as  $15\ 5\ 5\ 5\ 5$ .

Hand 42. Following our win, we again total the amounts left in the Registry. We have  $5+5+5+5=20$ . We wager 20 and win. This win cancels all of the amounts in the Registry and results in the win of a coup. Our cumulative win for this game is now +40.

As you can see from how we handles hands 41 and 42 you don't have to wager the total of all of the amounts in the Registry. In fact, if the total exceeds your Bet Limit, as it did in this case, you won't make the wager. Here we did the logical thing and wagered 15 on Hand 41 and 20 on Hand 42. What if we had lost Hand 42? We would have added the lost amount of 20 to the lefthand position in the Registry and continued to play.

**Rule 9.** If the total of the amounts in the Registry exceeds our Bet Limit, we will wager a lesser amount.

In using Rule 9, you may regroup amounts in a Registry. Let's say that after a win the Registry reads  $5\ 5\ 15\ 20\ 10\ 10$ . We could regroup this as  $25\ 20\ 20$  and plan on betting 25 20 and 20.

Take another example. Assume we have  $5\ 5\ 30$ . We could regroup this as  $20\ 20$  or as  $15\ 25$ .



## Money Management Rules for The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy

Knowing where to make each bet, as covered by the *Master Bet Placement Strategy* and how much to bet each time, as determined by using the *Master Bet Sizing Strategy* is still not enough to make us consistent winners using *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*. We have to add Money Management Rules to complete the strategy.

Before you start playing you have to have the correct bankroll for your level of play. I will have more to say on this in a later chapter, but for now we have to be concerned with matching your Base Bet to your Game Bankroll.

**Rule 1.** Determine the size of your *Base Bet* and your *Game Bankroll* before you start playing.

As you have seen in previous examples, your Base Bet will be the size of the smallest bet you make when playing at each level. Many times the size of your Base Bet may be determined by the size of minimum bets the casino will accept.

Many online casinos accept \$1 minimum bets for baccarat, and you can easily find online games where you can play making \$1 Base Bets.

Most land-based casinos have \$5 to \$10 minimum bets for Mini-Baccarat and may have \$20 to \$100 minimum wagers for the full-sized baccarat tables. Once again, you will have to make sure that you have a large enough Game Bankroll to handle the level of play you will be making.

**Rule 2.** Once you decide on your level of play, be sure your *Total Bankroll* is large enough.

Your *Game Bankroll*, which is also called your *Game Buy-in* is the amount of money you must use for a single game.

Your *Total Bankroll*, which is sometimes called your Baccarat Bankroll, your Lifetime Bankroll or your Permanent Bankroll is the total amount of money you need in order to have an adequate bankroll to play baccarat using *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*.

Here are the relationships you need to worry about –

**Game Bankroll = 20 times the size of your Base Bet**

**Total Bankroll = 3 times the size of your Game Bankroll**

**Total Bankroll = 60 times the size of your Base Bet.**

These are very small bankroll requirements. Most gambling strategies will require Game Bankrolls of 50 to 100 times the size of your minimum bets. And, the size of the Total Bankroll is usually for five to seven times the size of your Game Bankroll.

Obviously, you can play baccarat using *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* with a lot less money than is required for other strategies.

The table below shows the relationships between Base Bets, Game Bankroll and Total Bankrolls for different levels of play.

### Base Bets, Game Bankrolls and Total Bankroll

Base Bet	Game Bankroll	Total Bankroll
\$1	\$20	\$60
\$2	\$40	\$120
\$3	\$60	\$180
\$5	\$100	\$300
\$10	\$200	\$600
\$15	\$300	\$900
\$20	\$400	\$1200
\$25	\$500	\$1500
\$35	\$700	\$2100
\$50	\$1,000	\$3000
\$75	\$1,500	\$4500
\$100	\$2,000	\$6000
\$125	\$2,500	\$7500
\$250	\$5,000	\$15,000
\$500	\$10,000	\$30,000
\$1,000	\$20,000	\$60,000
\$2,000	\$40,000	\$120,000
\$3,000	\$60,000	\$180,000
\$5,000	\$100,000	\$300,000
\$10,000	\$200,000	\$600,000

**Rule 3.** Set a *Bet Limit* for your level of play.

Your Bet Limit can be five to ten times the size of your Base Bet. For a \$5 Base Bettor these would be limits of from \$25 to \$35.

**Rule 4.** Set a *Target Profit* level for each level of play. I usually recommend a Target Profit equal to eight times the size of your Base Bet.

The following table shows suggested **Bet Limits** and **Target Profits** for different **Base Bets** and **Game Bankrolls**.

**Suggested Base Bets, Game Bankrolls,  
Bet Limits and Target Profits**

<b>Base Bet</b>	<b>Game Bankroll</b>	<b>Bet Limits</b>	<b>Target Profits</b>
\$1	\$20		
\$2	\$40		
\$3	\$60		
\$5	\$100	\$25 to \$35	\$40
\$10	\$200	\$50 to \$70	\$80
\$15	\$300	\$75 to \$105	\$120
\$20	\$400	\$100 to \$140	\$160
\$25	\$500	\$125 to \$175	\$200
\$35	\$700	\$175 to \$245	\$280
\$50	\$1,000	\$250 to \$350	\$400
\$75	\$1,500	\$375 to \$525	\$600
\$100	\$2,000	\$500 to \$700	\$800
\$125	\$2,500	\$625 to \$875	\$1,000
\$250	\$5,000	\$1250 to \$1750	\$2,000
\$500	\$10,000	\$2500 to \$3500	\$4,000
\$1,000	\$20,000	\$5,000 to \$7,000	\$8,000
\$2,000	\$40,000	\$10,000 to \$14,000	\$16,000
\$3,000	\$60,000	\$15,000 to \$21,000	\$24,000
\$5,000	\$100,000	\$25,000 to \$35,000	\$40,000
\$10,000	\$200,000	\$50,000 to \$70,000	\$80,000

Setting and controlling the size of your bankroll as well as setting Loss Limits is so important that we will dedicate a whole chapter to it. You will also see an example of how we applied the Loss Limit concept to limit our losses in one of the example games we present.

**Rule 5.** You will always use a **Loss Limit** when you play. The easiest Loss Limit to use is one equal to the Game Bankroll. Your Loss Limit always has a higher priority than your Bet Limit. In other words, if the loss of any wager, even one equal or less than your Bet Limit would cause you to exceed your Loss Limit, you will call the game complete.

Here's how Money Management Rule 5 operates –

Let's assume the following:

Your Base Bet is \$5.

Your Bet Limit is \$30.

Your Game Bankroll is \$150.

Your Loss Limit is \$100.

Your cumulative loss is –83 and you are called on to make a wager of 25.

You now have a couple of choices before you.

First, the largest wager you can make is limited by your Loss Limit of \$100. Since you are down –83, then the largest wager you can make is \$17, since the loss of this wager would put your loss at –100, your loss limit.

If you use a Game Bankroll equal to your Loss Limit, you won't be tempted to ever lose more than your Loss Limit as you won't have a large enough Game Bankroll to make the bet.

In this example, where your Game Bankroll is \$150, you will have to limit the size of any bets to make sure you don't exceed your Loss Limit.

In this case, where you are called on to make a wager of \$25, and the largest bet you can make without risking exceeding your Loss Limit is 17, I would make a wager of \$15. If you win, continue playing. If you lose the wager, wrap the game up and quit playing.

The one thing you must never do is to exceed your Loss Limit in a game.

And, you must set your Loss Limit before you start a game, not while you are playing.

You can use a larger Loss Limit if you like, but you cannot make up rules as you play. Always set your goals and limits before starting play and then stick with them. This is the key to your winning consistently with only a few small losses.

## Using the Complete Ultimate Baccarat Strategy

Before you read this chapter, you need to know how to use the two components of the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*.

These components are:

**The Master Bet Placement Strategy** – used to determine where you place each bet.

**The Master Bet Sizing Strategy** – used to determine the size of each bet.

In addition to understanding each of these strategies, you will need to know the Money Management Rules for the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*.

Here is a summary of the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* rules.

### Summary of Master Bet Placement Strategy Rules:

**Rule 1.** The first wager of Model A (A-1) is always the opposite of the previous baccarat decision. If you are making an A-1 bet, it will be the opposite of the baccarat decision which just occurred.

**Rule 2.** Anytime you win the A-1, or first bet in Model A, you have completed this series and your next wager will be another A-1 bet, again wagering the opposite of the observed baccarat decision.

**Rule 3.** There are a total of two bets in the A Betting Model. When starting the A Model the first bet, called A-1, is always the opposite of the previous observed decision. The second, or A-2 bet, is only made if we lose the A-1 bet and is always the same as the losing A-1 bet.



**Rule 4.** If we win an A-2 bet, we revert to making an A-1 bet still continuing to bet on the same side as the previous A-2 bet. And, if we win the A-1 bet, we will start the Model A series again with an A-1 bet on the opposite of the previous observed decision.

**Rule 5.** Whenever we lose an A-2 bet we will begin our second Betting Model, the B Model. The B Model consists of two bets, B-1 and B-2, which are always on the same side. For example if your B-1 wager is on Player, then your B-2 bet will also be on player

**Rule 6.** Anytime we win the B-1 wager, we will go back to the A Model and make an A-1 wager. This wager will be on the opposite side of the previous decision (which will be the opposite of the previous winning B-1 wager).

**Rule 7.** Anytime we lose a B-2 bet, we will revert to making A Model bets, starting with an A-1 bet *on the opposite side of the previous losing B-2 bet.*

### **Summary of *Master Bet Sizing Strategy* Rules:**

**Rule 1.** The object of using the MBS Strategy is to win a coup. The win of each coup will result in a win equal to the size of your Base Bet.

**Rule 2.** Your first bet in a coup attempt will always be our Base Bet. If you are a \$5 base bettor, you will wager \$5. If \$25 is your Base Bet, you will wager \$25.

**Rule 3.** You will only make Base Bet sized wagers until you have a winning bet. Following a winning bet you may increase the size of your wager, following rules we will introduce later.

**Rule 4.** Any time you have a loss when attempting to win a coup, you will immediately revert to making the minimum bet on the next hand and continue to make the minimum bet until you have another win.

**Rule 5.** The only time you will increase the size of your bet is following a winning hand. After any losing hands, you will revert to making the Base Bet until you have another winning bet.

**Rule 6.** Whenever we start a new coup attempt and have a loss we will record the size of our Base Bet, representing the profit of a successful coup and the size of our losing bet in a **Registry**. We will continue to record the size of any additional losing bets in this registry by writing them on the left side of the previous losing bets. Whenever we have a winning bet we will cancel (strikeout) the amount of the winning bet in the registry.

**Rule 7.** Following any win, we will wager a total of amounts shown in the Registry. The amount we wager is determined by counting recorded amounts from left to right until we reach our betting limit.

**Rule 8.** Whenever all amounts shown in the Registry are cancelled, we have won a coup.

**Rule 9.** If the total of the amounts in the Registry exceeds our Bet Limit, we will wager a lesser amount.

### **Summary of Money Management Rules:**

**Rule 1.** Determine the size of your **Base Bet** and your **Game Bankroll** before you start playing.

**Rule 2.** Once you decide on your level of play, be sure your **Total Bankroll** is large enough.

**Rule 3.** Set a **Bet Limit** for your level of play.

**Rule 4.** Set a **Target Profit** level for each level of play. I usually recommend a Target Profit equal to eight times the size of your Base Bet.

**Rule 5.** You will always use a *Loss Limit* when you play. The easiest Loss Limit to use is one equal to the Game Bankroll. Your Loss Limit always has a higher priority than your Bet Limit. In other words, if the loss of any wager, even one equal or less than your Bet Limit would cause you to exceed your Loss Limit, you will call the game complete.

**These are the most important aspects of Money Management for the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*:**

**Game Bankroll** – 20 times the size of your Base Bet

**Total Bankroll** – 3 times the size of your Game Bankroll

**Total Bankroll** – 60 times the size of your Base Bet.

**Bet Limit** – 5 to 7 times the size of your Base Bet.

**Loss Limit** – 20 times the size of your Base Bet

**Target Profit** – 8 times the size of your Base Bet

## Example Games Using the Ultimate Baccarat Strategy

The easiest way to illustrate how to use the complete *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* is to show actual games played using the strategy.

Before you read this chapter you should have done the following:

1. Learned how to play baccarat if you haven't played before.
2. Signed on to an online casino, such as Bodog, and played in practice mode.
3. Learned the *Master Bet Placement Strategy* using Models A and B to determine where to place each bet.
4. Practiced using the *Master Bet Placement Strategy* in practice mode in an online casino.
5. Learned the *Master Bet Sizing Strategy*. You should be able to read the examples using the Registry.
6. Learned the Money Management Rules.

In this chapter I am going to present several actual games to show you exactly how we pull together this strategy into the most effective baccarat strategy ever created.

These are the assumptions we used for each of the following games.

Games were played in an online casino, where you must place a wager in order to have a hand dealt.

### Key for the Tables:

Hand – the number of the hand played. This is for reference only.

Actual Outcome – the winner of the hand. B is for Banker, P represents Player, and T is for a Tie.

Bet Pattern - The bet pattern used in accordance with the MBP Strategy is shown. For example, A-1 means the A-1 pattern of the A Betting Model.

Bet On – Where we placed our wager.

Amount Bet – The amount wagered.

W/L - The outcome of the bet, where W = a win and L = a loss.

Registry – Amounts recorded per the MBS Strategy.

Coup Won – A winning coup is designated by a C.

Net Won – The amount won or lost for the hand of play.

Cum Won - A running tally of the net win or loss for the game.

All of the games were played with the following parameters:

Base Bet	\$5
Game Bankroll	\$100
Bet Limit	\$25
Target Win	\$40
Loss Limit	\$100
Size of Coup Win	\$5

In each of the following games we had to use a ***Starter Bet*** to get the game started. A Starter Bet is a bet made when you first log on to the casino and do not have any previous baccarat decisions available. Since the MBP Strategy relies on knowledge of the previous baccarat decision, it is necessary to make a Starter Bet to get the game going.

As you will see, I count wins and losses from Starter Bets in my game stats. For instance, if I win a \$5 Starter Bet I will count this as a Coup Win.

You will also note that I record the gross amounts of wins on Banker bets, even though the 5% commission is deducted from the payoffs on winning banker bets. The amounts of wins and losses, shown for each game, are before commissions. The actual amount won, net of all commissions, is shown at the end of each table.

### **Example Game 1**

Let's go through this game hand-by-hand.

Hand 1. We make a \$5 Starter Bet on B and lose. We record both the Coup Profit Goal (5) and the amount lost (5) in the Registry.

Hand 2. Following a loss we always make a minimum wager, in this case 5. We began the MBP Strategy with the A-1 pattern, betting the opposite of the previous decision. We bet \$5 on B and win. Following the win we cancel the lefthand amount in the Registry, which reads 5.

Hand 3. Following an A-1 pattern win, we continue with the A-1 pattern, but change our bet to the opposite of the observed decision. In this case we bet on P. Following a win we bet the sum of the bets in the Registry, subject to our Bet Limit. Here, the only amount is 5. We bet \$5 on P and lose. We update the Registry by recording the losing bet in the lefthand position. Our Registry now reads 5 5.

Hand 4. Following an A-1 pattern loss, we make an A-2 pattern bet sticking with the same side, in this case P. Since we lost the previous hand, we continue making our Base Bet of 5. We bet \$5 on P and lose. We update the Registry to read 5 5 5.

Hand 5. Having lost the A-2 pattern bet, we change to the B-1 pattern and bet on the opposite of the previous losing bet. We continue making the minimum wager following the losing previous bet. We bet \$5 on B and win. We cancel the lefthand amount in the Registry, which now reads 5 5.

## Example Game 1

Hand	Actual Outcome	Bet Pattern	Bet On	Amt Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cum Won
1	P		B	5	L	5 5		-5	-5
2	B	A-1	B	5	W	5		+5	-0-
3	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	-5
4	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	-10
5	B	B-1	B	5	W	5 5		+5	-5
6	B	A-1	P	10	L	10 5 5		-10	-15
7	P	A-2	P	5	W	10 5		+5	-10
8	B	A-1	B	15	W		C	+15	+5
9	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	-0-
10	P	A-2	P	5	W	5		+5	+5
11	P	A-1	B	5	L	5 5		-5	-0-
12	P	A-2	B	5	L	5 5 5		-5	-5
13	B	B-1	P	5	L	5 5 5 5		-5	-10
14	B	B-2	P	5	L	5 5 5 5 5		-5	-15
15	P	A-1	B	5	L	5 5 5 5 5 5		-5	-20
16	T	A-2	B	5	T	5 5 5 5 5 5		-	-20
17	P	A-2	B	5	L	5 5 5 5 5 5 5		-5	-25
18	P	B-1	P	5	W	5 5 5 5 5 5		+5	-20
19	B	A-1	B	25	W	5		+25	+5
20	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+10
21	T	A-1	B	5	T			-	+10
22	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+15
23	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+20
24	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+25
25	T	A-1	P	5	T			-	+25
26	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+20
27	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+15
28	B	B-1	B	5	W	5 5		+5	+20
29	T	A-1	P	10	-	5 5		-	+20
30	P	A-1	P	10	W		C	+10	+30
31	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+35
						Actual Net Win = \$31.25			

Hand 6. Having won a B-1 pattern bet, we revert to making an A-1 pattern bet on the opposite side. Since we won the previous bet, we sum up bets in the Registry. We wager 10 on P and lose. We record the loss on the left side of the Registry, which now reads 10 5 5.

Hand 7. Losing the A-1 pattern bet we move to an A-2 pattern bet, staying with the same side. Following the loss, we revert to making a Base Bet. We bet \$5 on P and win. We update the registry by canceling the amount won.

Hand 8. After the A-2 pattern win, we drop to an A-1 pattern bet on the same spot. Following a winning bet we total amounts in the Registry to determine the size of the wager. We bet \$15 on P and win. This gives us our first coup win in the game, bringing our Cum Won to +5.

Hand 9. Following the A-1 pattern win, we make another A-1 pattern bet, switching spots. We start another coup attempt making a minimum bet. We wager \$5 on B and lose. The Registry is updated to read 5 5.

Hand 10. Following the A-1 loss, we make an A-2 pattern bet on the same side. After a losing bet, we continue making the minimum bet. We wager \$5 on B and win. Canceling the amount won, the Registry reads 5.

Hand 11. We revert to an A-1 bet betting on the same spot as the previous winning A-2 bet. We total the amounts in the Registry and bet \$5 on B and lose. Updating the Registry, we have 5 5.

Hand 12. Following the A-1 pattern loss, we move to an A-2 pattern bet staying with the same bet. We make a minimum bet. We bet \$5 on B and lose. We record the loss in the Registry, which now reads 5 5 5.

Hand 13. Losing the A-2 pattern bet we change to a B-1 pattern wager and change sides. Following a loss, we continue making a minimum bet. We bet \$5 on P and lose. The updated Registry now reads 5 5 5 5.

Hand 14. Following the loss of a B-1 bet, we make a B-2 pattern wager on the same side. We lose this bet and add the loss to the Registry, which now reads 5 5 5 5 5.



Hand 15. After losing a B-2 pattern bet, we move back to an A-1 pattern bet. Here we change to betting the opposite of the losing B-2 and change our bet from P to B. The wager loses. Updated Registry reads 5 5 5 5 5.

Hand 16. We make an A-2 pattern bet on B and have a Tie. Registry stays the same.

Hand 17. We repeat the previous A-2 pattern bet on B and lose. Updated Registry now reads 5 5 5 5 5 5.

Hand 18. Following the loss of the A-2 pattern bet, we change to a B-1 pattern bet and wager 5 on P. The bet wins and we cancel the lefthand amount in the Registry, which now reads 5 5 5 5 5.

Hand 19. After winning a B-1 pattern bet, we revert to making an A-1 pattern bet and change sides. Following the win, we increase our bet to 25 and win. We update the Registry to read 5.

Hand 20. We stick with an A-1 pattern bet and change bets since the first A-1 bet won. We bet 5 on P and win, completing the coup.

Hand 21. We start a new coup attempt and have a Tie.

Hand 22. We repeat the previous Tie bet, making an A-1 pattern bet of 5 on B, which wins. This completes a coup. Our Cumulative Win is now +15.

Hand 23. Following an A-1 pattern win, we stick with the A-1 pattern but change bets to P. We wager 5, which wins, giving us another winning coup.

Hand 24. Following the A-1 win, we the bet A-1 pattern again, changing our bet to B. We bet 5 and win, winning another coup.

Hand 25. We start another coup attempt making a new A-1 pattern bet on P of 5. We have a Tie and no decision.

Hand 26. Following the Tie we repeat the same wager, 5 on P, and lose. We update the Registry to 5 5.

Hand 27. We make an A-2 pattern bet of 5 on P and lose. We update the Registry to read 5 5 5.

Hand 28. Following the A-2 pattern bet loss, we change to the B-1 pattern bet, switching our wager from P to B and betting 5. We win and update the Registry to 5 5.

Hand 29. Following a B-1 pattern win, we revert to an A-1 pattern bet and change wagers from B to P. We wager 10 and receive a Tie hand.

Hand 30. Following a Tie, we repeat the previous wager, betting 10 on P. We win and win another coup.

Hand 31. We start another coup attempt, betting 5 on an A-1 pattern bet on B and win. We now have +35 won for this game and we decide to call the game completed.

I called this game over with a win of +35, which is shy of our Target Profit of 40 for this level of play. I did this because I had struggled some to reach a profit of +35 and I felt that 31 hands was as long as I wanted to play at this time.

While you will play for Target Profit levels, you can always call a game short if you feel like it.

At the bottom of the table you will see the notation: **“Actual Net Win = \$31.25.”** The amounts shown as wins in the table are gross amounts on winning Banker hands. Banker wins are subject to a 5% commission to the house, which is automatically deducted with online play. For example, for a \$10 win on Banker, the amount credited is reduced to \$9.50. Rather than deal with fractional amounts when I am playing, I will ignore Banker commission. However, the actual win will be reduced by commissions paid as is reflected in the actual net win of +31.25.

## Example Game 2

Example Game 2 demonstrates how well the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* holds up through long periods of losses and then is able to recover nicely.

Hands 1 to 9 reflect the normal ups and downs of playing baccarat and using this strategy. By Hand 9 we had won five coups and were up +25. However, it took us from Hand 10 to Hand 27 to win the next coup.

We only had losing hands, with the exception of one Tie, from Hand 10 to Hand 15. After losing Hand 15, the Registry read 5 25.

We won Hand 16 and prepared to make a larger bet on Hand 17. We wagered 25, lost and updated the Registry to read 25 25.

We won Hand 18 setting the stage to increase our wager on Hand 19. On Hand 19, we bet 25 and lost. After this loss, the Registry read 25 25 20.

We won our \$5 bet on Hand 20 and reduced the righthand amount in the Registry by the amount won of \$5. Normally we would reduce the amount in the lefthand position. However, here we decided to make the adjustment to the righthand position. You can really go either way after a win as you can use some flexibility in how you record the amounts in the Registry.

On Hand 21 we bet 25 and win again. Our Registry now reads 25 15. We have brought our cumulative loss up from -40 at Hand 19 to -10 now.

We suffer setbacks on Hands 22 and 23 and after completing Hand 23, the Registry reads 25 25 20.

Hands 24, 25, 26 and 27 are all winning hands. Winning Hand 27 completes a coup, bringing our cumulative win for this game up to +30.

## Example Game 2

Hand	Actual Outcome	Bet Pattern	Bet On	Amt Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cum Won
1	B		B	5	W		C	+5	+
2	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+10
3	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+15
4	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+10
5	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+5
6	T	B-1	B	5	T	5 5 5		-	+5
7	B	B-1	B	5	W	5 5		+5	+10
8	P	A-1	P	10	W		C	+10	+20
9	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+25
10	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+20
11	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+15
12	P	B-1	B	5	L	5 5 5 5		-5	+10
13	P	B-2	B	5	L	5 5 5 5 5		-5	+5
14	T	A-1	P	5	T	5 5 5 5 5		-	+5
15	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 25		-5	-0-
16	P	A-2	P	5	W	25		+5	+5
17	B	A-1	P	25	L	25 25		-25	-20
18	P	A-2	P	5	W	25 20		+5	-15
19	B	A-1	P	25	L	25 25 20		-25	-40
20	P	A-2	P	5	W	25 25 15		+5	-35
21	P	A-1	P	25	W	25 15		+25	-10
22	P	A-1	B	25	L	25 25 15		-25	-35
23	P	A-2	B	5	L	25 25 20		-5	-40
24	P	B-1	P	5	W	25 25 15		+5	-35
25	B	A-1	B	25	W	25 15		+25	-10
26	P	A-1	P	25	W	15		+25	+15
27	B	A-1	B	15	W		C	+15	+30
28	T	A-1	P	5	T			-	+30
29	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+25
30	P	A-2	P	5	W	5		+5	+30
31	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+35
32	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+40

Playing the remaining hands, we reach our Target Profit objective of +40 in Hand 32 and call the game over.

### Example Game 3

Hand	Actual Outcome	Bet Pattern	Bet On	Amt Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cum Won
1			B	5	W		C	+5	+5
2	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+10
3	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+15
4	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+20
5	T	A-1	B	5	T			-	+20
6	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+25
7	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+30
8	T	A-1	B	5	T			-	+30
9	T	A-1	B	5	T			-	+30
10	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+35
11	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+30
12	T	A-2	P	5	T	5 5		-	+30
13	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+25
14	B	B-1	B	5	W	5 5		+5	+30
15	B	A-1	P	10	L	10 5 5		-10	+20
16	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 10 5 5		-5	+15
17	P	B-1	B	5	L	5 5 10 5 5		-5	+10
18	B	B-2	B	5	W	5 10 5 5		+5	+15
19	B	B-1	B	25	W		C	+25	+40

Example Game 3 shows a game when we won fairly easily. The game was short, lasting only 19 hands, and we reached our Target Profit of +40.

Our largest bet was 25 and we only had to make this wager one time.

### Example Game 4

This game is a fairly typical game.

It took 30 hands of play to reach our Target Profit of +40.

Our longest stretch between winning coups was from Hand 12 to Hand 25.

Our largest bets were 25 on Hand 10, 10 on Hand 18 and 30, 15 wagered on Hand 20 and 20 bet on Hand 24.

### Example Game 4

Hand	Actual Outcome	Bet Pattern	Bet On	Amt Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cum Won
1	B		B	5	W		C	+5	+5
2	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+10
3	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+15
4	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+10
5	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+5
6	P	B-1	B	5	L	5 5 5 5		-5	-0-
7	B	B-2	B	5	W	5 5 5		+5	+5
8	P	B-1	P	15	L	15 5 5 5		-15	-10
9	P	B-2	P	5	W	10 5 5 5		+5	-5
10	P	B-1	P	25	W		C	+25	+20
11	T	A-1	B	5	T			-	+20
12	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+25
13	T	A-1	P	5	T			-	+25
14	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+20
15	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+15
16	T	B-1	B	5	T	5 5 5		-	+15
17	B	B-1	B	5	W	5 5		+5	+20
18	B	A-1	P	10	L	10 5 5		-10	+10
19	P	A-2	P	5	W	5 5 5		+5	+15
20	B	A-1	P	15	L	15 5 5 5		-15	-0-
21	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 15 5 5 5		-5	-5
22	P	B-1	B	5	L	5 5 15 5 5 5		-5	-10
23	B	B-2	B	5	W	5 15 5 5 5		+5	-5
24	B	B-1	B	20	W	5 5 5		+20	+15
25	P	A-1	P	15	W		C	+15	+30
26	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+35
27	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+30
28	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+25
29	B	B-1	B	5	W	5 5		+5	+30
30	P	A-1	P	10	W		C	+10	+40

### Example Game 5

This was another easy game. Here we were able to reach our Target Profit in just 11 hands of play.

Since we played this game online and were playing at a rate of about 300 hands per hour, this game took less than three minutes to complete. We were ready to quit play for the day after this win. However, rather than continuing playing the same game, we logged off the online casino and then logged back on and started another game.

## Example Game 5

Hand	Actual Outcome	Bet Pattern	Bet On	Amt Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cum Won
1	B		B	5	W		C	+5	+5
2	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+10
3	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+15
4	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+20
5	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+25
6	T	A-1	P	5	T			-	+25
7	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+30
8	P	A-1	B	5	L	5 5		-5	+25
9	B	A-2	B	5	W	5		+5	+30
10	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+35
11	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+40
12									

If we had played this game in a land-based casino, with hands dealt at the rate of 90 per hour, this game would have take a little over seven minutes to complete.

Since there is no requirement to tie our play to the beginning or ending of baccarat shoes, we could have sat out a hand or two and then started another game at the same table. However, if we had been playing before we had this short winning game, we could have taken a longer break by going to the restroom and asking the dealer to keep our place or by leaving the table for a longer break in the coffee shop or even a walk.

## Example Game 6

While you will seldom have a losing game using the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*, Example Game 6 is a losing game..

This game is unusual because we didn't have a single winning coup. Essentially, this game was an exercise in frustration.

However, even though we lost, we kept our loss low by sticking with our Loss Limit.

Using a Loss Limit equal to the Game Bankroll (the amount used to buy-in) we knew in advance of starting the game that our downside was a loss of -100.

### Example Game 6

Hand	Actual Outcome	Bet Pattern	Bet On	Amt Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cum Won
1	P		B	5	L	5 5		-5	-5
2	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	-10
3	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5 5		-5	-15
4	P	B-1	B	5	L	5 5 5 5 5		-5	-20
5	B	B-2	B	5	W	5 5 5 5		+5	-15
6	T	B-1	B	20	T	5 5 5 5		-	-15
7	B	B-1	B	20	L	20 5 5 5		-20	-25
8	T	B-2	B	5	-	20 5 5 5		-	-30
9	B	B-2	B	5	W	15 5 5 5		+5	-25
10	B	B-1	B	25	W	5		+25	-0-
11	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	-5
12	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	-10
13	P	B-1	B	5	L	5 5 5 5		-5	-15
14	P	B-2	B	5	L	5 5 5 5 5		-5	-20
15	P	A-1	P	5	W	5 5 5 5		+5	-15
16	P	A-1	B	20	L	20 5 5 5 5		-20	-35
17	P	A-2	B	5	L	5 20 5 5 5		-5	-40
18	B	B-1	P	5	L	5 5 20 5 5 5		-5	-45
19	P	B-2	P	5	W	5 20 5 5 5		+5	-40
20	B	B-1	P	25	L	25 25 15		-25	-65
21	P	B-2	P	5	W	20 25 15		+5	-60
22	B	B-1	P	20	L	20 20 25 15		-20	-80
23	P	B-2	P	5	W	15 20 25 15		+5	-75
24	B	B-1	P	15	L	15 15 20 25 15		-15	-90
25	P	B-2	P	5	W	10 15 20 25 15		+5	-85
26	B	B-1	P	15	L	15 10 15 20 25 15		-15	-100

### Final Comments About the Example Games

You should be able to follow and understand each hand in these Example Games before you start using the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*. If you are having trouble doing this, you should go back and review the appropriate sections of this book dealing with where you place your bets (the use of the A and B Betting Models), as well as how you determine the size of your bets and maintain the Registry.



## How Much Can You Make With The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy?

There is no doubt that the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* is very profitable. We have tested this strategy for 3,395 games played in both land-based and online casinos.

These games were played with various Base Bets, ranging from bets as low as \$1 in online casinos, to Base Bets of \$50 in land-based games. To facilitate comparability, I have converted all of the results of these games to the equivalent results of using \$5 Base Bets with \$100 Game Bankrolls.

If your goal is to replicate our results, you can do so using the following betting and bankroll assumptions:

Base Bet	\$5
Game Bankroll	\$100
Total Bankroll	\$300
Bet Limit	\$35
Loss Limit per Game	\$100
Target Profit	\$40

Your results may not match our results with a small number of games. However, once you have played over 50 games, your averages should come closer to ours. If they are not, you need to examine your play very carefully as you may not be adhering to our rules.

The money management aspects are critical to your long-term success, and you should be very leery about changing any aspects of the strategy.

For example, we give you some leeway on the size of your largest bets. As a \$5 Base Bettor, your largest bets should be no greater than \$25 to \$35. You can have some

flexibility in the size of your largest bets, but in no case should you ever exceed the Loss Limits for a single game.

If you stick with our suggested Game Bankroll of \$100 and never buy more chips when you lose this amount, you will automatically keep your losses less than or equal to our suggested Loss Limit per Game of \$100.

The following table presents the results of 3,395 games played using the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*, adjusted to \$5 Base Bets.

### Summary of Games Played Adjusted to \$5 Base Bets for Comparability

Total Won	\$104,954
Number of Games	3,395
Number of Coups Completed	23,668
Number of Coups Lost	97
Coup winning percentage $244/245 =$	99.59%
Coup loss percentage $1/245 =$	00.41%
Average Net Won per Game (includes losses)	\$30.914
Base Bet	\$5
Buy-in Bankroll	\$100
Total Bankroll	\$300
Games won	3,298
Games lost	97
Games winning percentage $34/35 =$	97.14%
Games loss percentage $1/35 =$	2.86%
Total Hands of Play	100,783
Average Hands of Play per Game $1039/35 =$	29.696
Average Winnings per Hand $\$1082/1039 =$	\$1.028
Bet Range Used	\$5 to \$25 or \$5 to \$35
Rates of Play	
Land based play	60 hands per hour
Online play	300 hands per hour

We won \$104,954, winning 3,298 games and losing only 97 games. Over the course of playing 3,395 games, we completed 23, 668 winning coups and only lost 97 coups.

To put these numbers in perspective –

Our game win rate was 97.14%. Another way of saying this is that we had 34 winning games for every losing one.

Our coup win rate was even higher, at 99.59%. Here we had 244 winning coups for every losing one.

These are important statistics and you should use them to measure your won performance.

Reviewing the results as shown in the table, we note that the length of an average game was 29.696 hands of play, or about 30 hands of baccarat. This includes all hands dealt, including Starter Hands and Tie hands.

Once again, you should measure your results against our long-term play. If, for example, you find that your games are taking much longer on the average than 30 hands per game, you need to examine your play and make any corrections needed. There is no reason that your games should take much longer than 30 hands if you adhere to the money management rules for the size of your bets.

As you will recall, there are specific money management levels for each level of Base Betting. You need to make sure that you stick with the Game Bankrolls, Loss Limits, Target Wins and so on for your level of play.

We won an average of \$30.91 per game played. This works out to an average win of \$1.028 per hand or hand played.

Because this strategy is very reliable and produces consistent results, we can predict the amount you will win once we know the size of your Base Bet, the speed of your game and how long you will play.

As a general rule, you can expect to play about 30 hands per hour at the big baccarat tables in land-based casinos.

At mini-baccarat tables, you can expect to play 60 hands per hour in land-based games and from 200 to 400 hands per hour in the online games.

In the projections of hourly winnings, I use 60 hands per hour for land-based games and 300 hands per hour for online games.

### **Bankroll Levels and Expected Win Rates at Different Rates of Play**

<b>Base Bet</b>	<b>Game Bankroll (Buy-in)</b>	<b>Total Baccarat Bankroll</b>	<b>Average Win per Hand</b>	<b>60 Hands per Hour</b>	<b>300 Hands per Hour</b>
\$1	\$20	\$60	\$0.21	\$12.36	\$61.80
\$2	\$40	\$120	\$0.42	\$24.72	\$123.60
\$5	\$100	\$300	\$1.03	\$61.80	\$309.00
\$10	\$200	\$600	\$2.06	\$123.60	\$618.00
\$25	\$500	\$1,500	\$5.15	\$309.00	\$1,545
\$50	\$1000	\$3,000	\$10.30	\$618.00	\$3,090
\$75	\$1500	\$4,500	\$15.45	\$927.00	\$4,635
\$100	\$2000	\$6,000	\$20.60	\$1,236.00	\$6,180

You can use this table to estimate how much you can expect to win at a certain level of play.

Let's assume that you intend to play mini-baccarat in a land-based casino, making \$5 Base Bets. Your Game Bankroll is \$100 and you only need a total bankroll of \$300 to play at this level.

The Column "60 Hands per Hour" shows the average hourly win for play in land-based games. As a \$5 player, you can expect to average about \$61.80 an hour at this level of play.

Let's take a look at online play for \$5 bettors. The column "300 Hands per Hour" shows average hourly wins for online play. You can expect to average winning about \$309 an hour online as a \$5 Base Bettor.

Now, let's look at this table a little differently. You decided that you need to make \$3,000 a week and you are willing to play in a local casino about ten hours a week. You want to know what level of play you will need as well as the bankroll needed for this level of play.

Take your weekly win goal of \$3,000 and divide it by 10 to calculate the hourly winning you will need to reach your goal of \$3,000 a week in profits for 10 hours of play.

The answer is \$300 an hour. The hourly win rate closest to this amount is \$309 an hour for \$25 bettors, shown in the 60 Hands per Hour column.

So, to win \$3,000 a week, playing in a local casino for about 10 hours, you will need to make \$25 Base Bets. To play at this level requires a total bankroll of only \$1,500.

If you don't have \$1,500 the easiest solution is to build your own bankroll using your baccarat winnings.

Playing online offers the most "bang for the buck."

You can start online with \$1 bets with only a \$20 buy-in, and expect to win over \$60 an hour. After just an hour or two of play, you will have enough winnings to move up to making \$2 bets and pulling in \$124 an hour. At this rate you will quickly move up to making \$5 Base Bets online and pulling in \$309 an hour. You will quickly grow the \$1,500 bankroll needed to make \$25 bets.

You can pretty much set your own profit goals and then reach them by balancing the size of your bets, the speed of your play and the time you invest in the game.

## Skilful Play

There are a number of decisions you can make in becoming a successful *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* player. For example, you must decide where to play and whether you will tip or not.

You will also need to make decisions on setting up and using a casino credit line as well as having your play rated. How you handle these situations can have a great bearing on your long-term success as a winning gambler.

### Picking where you play

Your first choice in deciding to become a baccarat winner is deciding where to play. I rate casinos on several different aspects. My first concern is whether the casino offers games that I find playable.

Every casino sets minimum and maximum bets for its table games. Typical minimum and maximum bets for baccarat games offered by small casinos might be \$5 minimum bets and \$500 maximum bets. These limits will be acceptable for 90% of the players using the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*. But a few players may require higher betting limits.

A more typical problem faces players in casinos which set minimum bets too high. Some East Coast casinos set their minimum baccarat bets at \$10.

Many casinos will change their minimum wagers depending on the time of day and day of the week. Minimum bets are raised in the evenings and on weekends. If you are an Atlantic City player looking for tables with lower minimum bets, you will find more baccarat tables with lower minimums if you play during the week instead of on weekends.

Besides table limits, I also consider the atmosphere of a casino. I absolutely refuse to play in casinos with rude dealers. I can tolerate slow dealers, dealers still in training and dealers who don't talk much. But I refuse to put up with dealers who make sarcastic remarks to other players or criticize my play. Life is too short. Change tables or, if necessary, change casinos.

Fortunately, casino employees are reasonable people and problematic dealers are not seen too often.

Some casinos have other annoying quirks. Can you tolerate a lot of smoke? Some casinos have poor ventilation systems so that a dull cloud of smoke seems to permeate the casino area. If this bothers you, don't play there.

Other casinos are dirty or have crowded, uncomfortable playing conditions. For several years there was a casino less than ten minutes from my house where I absolutely refused to play because the place resembled a dump (it has been updated and is now acceptable).

These are choices you must make. If you play in Las Vegas, you have just about every choice you can imagine available. If you want to play in a real players' joint, try Binion's Horseshoe downtown. Would you like some real elegance? You'll like the Venetian or Bellagio's.

One thing I don't do is discuss my system while I play. Some dealers will comment on it; most don't. You may get questions from other players. If you decide to discuss your system, keep it simple. You might state that you like to raise bets when you are winning, but sometimes you raise them after a loss as well.

If you start talking about the system, you will undoubtedly lose your concentration. In addition, it is almost a given that if you are trying to demonstrate the system to

someone, you are going to have a loss. Call it bad luck or bad karma, but you can believe that discussing the system while you are playing is not a good idea.

### **Tipping**

If you don't like to tip, most international play will suit you fine. Most casinos in Asia, Europe and Commonwealth countries like England, Australia and New Zealand forbid tipping the dealers.

In the U.S., you really have no choice but to tip. Many players refuse to tip, arguing that tips come right off their bottom line. I can't argue with the logic, but I will question the results of a no-tipping policy.

I personally have a great deal of respect for most casino personnel and especially dealers. I enjoy tipping them in exchange for good service, and once it is established that I am a "George" (slang for a good tipper), the level of service increases appreciably.

When I tip, I never just give the dealer the tip. I only tip by making bets for the dealer.

I tip by making a bet for the dealers if I have been winning. If I continue to win I will make another bet for the dealer about every twenty to thirty hands of play.

### **Act like a gambler**

Play like a loser. If you are in a prolonged winning streak, don't rub it in the casino's face by continuing to play at the same table. If you do, make sure that you consistently make the kinds of moves which will throw the pit off. But your best ploy is not to overstay your welcome, especially if you are winning a bundle.



If you have a nice win and a floor person comments on it, you can casually mention that you dropped a bundle at craps last night and you are still not close to even. But don't do this if you never play craps. Make your story plausible.

### **Hide Chips**

As a winning player, you will want to look for ways to disguise the amount you are winning. The easiest way to do this is to pocket chips.

This is harder to accomplish if you are playing alone, and is easiest to accomplish if you have a playing partner.

*How to Survive and Prosper as a Professional Gambler*, published by Silverthorne Publications, has some excellent suggestions on chip hiding routines. With a female accomplice, it is easy to slip chips to her and let her hide them in her purse.

Sometimes my wife carries a shopping bag with her, which is a great place to stash chips and offers additional cover to help us look like a pair of happy, typical tourists.

If you are a black chip player, you are better off hiding green chips, as the bosses are more concerned with watching your stack of black chips. If you commonly wager \$500 or more, then you can get away with hiding \$100 chips, but don't try to stash the \$500 chips as the bosses may catch on.

### **Play for Cash or on Credit?**

There are many advantages to establishing credit with several casinos. Once you have established credit, it is there any time you want to use it. You don't have to carry cash, arrange for wire transfers or try to talk casinos into cashing checks. You generally will not be able to even cash a cashier's check in a casino until it has been

verified. If you show up on a Saturday hoping to cash a cashier's check, you will be out of luck until your bank reopens on Monday and can verify the check.

Another advantage to establishing credit is that when you use casino credit, you get to sign markers at the table. You will look like a gambler, since most gamblers who play with black chips have casino credit lines.

I'll let you in on a dirty secret. Casinos are not in the business of loaning money to gamblers, at least not now. If you have a bad gambling habit and a weak bank account, your local friendly loan shark is more likely to accommodate you than your not-so-friendly casino.

When you establish a credit line, the casino is agreeing to advance you no more than the average balance in your checking account for the last six months.

Your creditworthiness has nothing to do with getting casino credit. These guys don't care whether you are employed, just filed for bankruptcy or are dodging your other creditors. Casino credit is based on how much bread you keep in your checking account.

Do you feel a little better about the high rollers signing the markers? They are signing magnetically coded checks which can be run through their checking accounts. Normally markers are not handled this way as the casino prefers to be paid by check, but if necessary, the casino markers can and will be deposited by the casino and will be presented for payment at your bank just like any other check you have written.

If you are a black chip player, casino credit is almost mandatory unless you want to carry a large amount of cash with you, which I don't recommend. If you know where you will be playing, you can arrange to have cash deposited with the casino cashier and sign markers against your own *front money* on deposit with the casino.

## **Rated Players**

Once you start playing with green or black chips, you are going to be asked by a floor person if you want to be rated. Many novice gamblers resent the intrusion of a floor person and answer evasively or even negatively. This is a big mistake. By rating your play, the casino is evaluating your ability to receive comps or freebies from the casino. Comps can really add to your bottom line and can be very profitable once you learn to play the comp game. Another reason to become rated is that being rated and receiving comps from the casino is what gamblers normally do. And you want to look like just another gambler.

Even if you are a low to mid-range player and want to get *full RFB*, which stands for Room, Food and Beverages comped, there are many casinos which will accommodate you.

Using casino comps, you can travel just about anywhere and get full VIP treatment. Many casinos will even pay your airfare. But you have to know how to work the system to maximize these benefits. I suggest that you learn how to get the maximum amount of comps and let a casino pay for all of your gambling excursions.

As an *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* player, you are in the perfect position to get and benefit from comps. No matter what your level of play, you can increase your enjoyment and profits by availing yourself of casino comps.

## **Learn to play another casino game**

I highly recommend that you learn to play at least one other table game besides baccarat. My number one choice of the game to learn is craps.

Craps is still a favorite game of many high rollers. Just by making pass line bets with double odds you can play almost even with the house. If you add a winning

strategy on top of learning craps, such as the unique betting system revealed in the *Power Craps Strategy*, then you are on the way to having a second casino game you can beat.

Craps, using the *Power Craps Strategy*, is an excellent game for using hit and run tactics. If you have been playing baccarat and are tired of concentrating on your wagers, craps may give you just the break you need. This can't hurt your reputation with the casino. Because many high rollers now favor craps, you will enhance your appearance as a high roller when you add this game to your repertoire. By mixing a little craps play in with your baccarat play, you will look more and more like another gambler to the casino bosses.

You may be surprised how well you do at craps. On a typical casino visit, I usually make almost as much money playing craps as I do playing baccarat. Silverthorne Publications is the premier publisher for winning craps systems. You can check out the **Power Craps Strategy** at [www.silverthornepublications.com/PowerCraps](http://www.silverthornepublications.com/PowerCraps)

**And so, you are almost ready to start beating the casinos, but . . .**

You are almost ready to take on the casinos. I have presented a complete strategy which has been proven to win against casino baccarat. Perhaps you have been practicing the master Baccarat Strategy. You have figured out how to put together your bankroll. However, the greatest battle still awaits you. The casinos have even more powerful weapons at their disposal than the house edge. They are masters at a whole number of psychological traps set to ensnare you, with the end goal of relieving you of as much of your money as they can in the shortest and most pleasant way possible. Let's take a look at the casino's battery of weapons and see what you can do about them.

## **Discipline and Control**

At this point, you should have a good understanding about how to use the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* to win money at baccarat. You should know when to bet, how much to wager, and when to quit. You know about how your bankroll determines the size of your wagers and about using game bankrolls. You should have some definite ideas about how you want to interact with casino personnel. You have learned some ways to improve playing conditions by interacting with and tipping the dealer. You also have been introduced to the idea of playing on casino credit and playing for comps.

Now you have to deal with the largest obstacle to your success. The greatest single threat to your success is not the casino personnel. It is not a bad run at the tables. It is not the risk of consecutive losses eating up your bankroll. It is not the wine, the women, and the atmosphere. The greatest single threat to your playing career will be you. Surprised? Read on.

### **Self Control**

Ultimately, success at casino gambling, business, romance or life, for that matter, largely depends on self-control. Winning at gambling is all about self-control. It is about controlling the amount of money used for gambling. It's about reducing losses. It's about limiting the amount of money used for any session of play. And ultimately, it's about walking out the door a winner.

Gamblers are a lot like fishermen. They like to talk about the one that got away. How many times have you been in a casino winning and ended up leaving a net loser? In the real world, the only wins that count are the ones you go home with.

Actually, it is no great feat to get ahead playing baccarat. Probably over 75% of all baccarat players are ahead sometime in their play. But do they walk out the door winners? No. Probably close to 95% of all baccarat players end up losing money.

The typical casino hold is about 20% for a baccarat table. *Hold* is a term referring to the amount the casino keeps as its win out of the money dropped at the table — e.g. the *drop*. If you buy in for a hundred dollars, and play for thirty minutes and leave with \$85, you have lost \$15 out of \$100. Your contribution to the drop was \$100 and your loss gave the casino a hold rate of 15%.

Winning at gambling is first about controlling yourself. It is about accepting responsibilities for your own actions. In the long run, you don't win because you were lucky, and you don't lose because you had a string of bad luck. Using the ***Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*** will help you create your own luck. Used properly, you will be able to play at an advantage over the casino and be a net winner.

If you think about the times you were ahead in a casino and ended up giving it all back plus whatever additional cash you scrounged, who is to blame? The casino? The game? The house edge?

Don't get angry with me for pointing this out. What is wrong with setting aside your winnings when you are ahead? And what is wrong with limiting your losses when you hit a losing streak? And what is wrong with leaving a losing table?

I hope you answered "nothing." Doing these things requires self-control. They are easy to think about doing but may be much harder to actually accomplish. I am a former smoker. I always thought I could quit smoking when I wanted to. But I failed to quit a number of times. When I finally quit, I realized how difficult the process really was. It was easy to think about quitting smoking but doing it was quite challenging. Now that I have quit, I am out of the woods, right? Well, not quite. I believe that smoking is much like a drug addiction, and as a former addict, I am never cured. I am only one cigarette away from becoming a smoker again.

Control in a casino may require much the same discipline as that of a reformed smoker. Having a large monetary loss only requires a temporary loss of control.

Trust me, winning is habit forming. Losing, especially at a game like baccarat when you know you are using a winning strategy, is tough. Some professional gamblers, especially traditional blackjack card counters, will lose for months at a time. I am not sure that I could continue to play blackjack under those circumstances. The documented losing streaks for the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* tend to be fairly short. If you play baccarat regularly using this strategy, it is highly unlikely that you will ever encounter two back-to-back losing casino visits. But it can happen.

Once you are in a losing streak, you will be hard pressed to continue with your set game plan. You will begin to question everything about the strategy. You may feel like the dealer has it in for you. You will start to think that no matter how you wager, your bets will lose. When your larger bets lose, you will begin to question the betting strategy.

Trends are a dominant factor in gambling. Every baccarat table has streaks. If you are in a winning streak, you may begin to feel omnipotent. However, when a losing streak hits, you may start to question every aspect of your playing strategy.

Perhaps the best thing you can do whenever you encounter losing tables is to first change tables. Your next option is to quit playing baccarat for a time. Depending on your feelings, you should either quit gambling altogether during your break, or if you are still in the mood to play, switch casino games. I have found on many occasions that a switch of games was exactly what I needed to improve my mood.

Many players seem to become chained to a particular table at some point in their play. This may be fine when the table is winning, but could spell disaster during a prolonged losing spell.

While losing is tough, winning may be even tougher for some people. Many players subconsciously feel that gambling winnings are "ill begotten gains." Many times people raised with a strong work ethic cannot adjust to the reality that winning at gambling requires a great deal of effort too. Gambling winnings may not seem real or may even seem shameful. Many people feel guilty when they win. For these people, walking out with some of the casino's money doesn't feel right.

Gamblers never cease to amaze me. Gambling falls into some special category of human behavior that escapes the normal rules we usually live by. People change their behavior dramatically in casinos. Consummate misers can't wait to throw their money away in casinos. People who clip coupons every week to save ten bucks on groceries think nothing of dropping a hundred, five hundred or even a thousand in a casino.

Discipline is all about the ability to develop a winning plan. Control is about being able to follow it.

### **Ego Needs**

We all share a need for recognition. We like to talk about our triumphs. Once you become a successful, consistent winner at baccarat, you are going to feel the need to talk about it occasionally.

You need to curb the urge to discuss the fact that you are a winner, especially while you are in a casino. If you have a big win at the craps table, feel free to comment on your success. The casino is not concerned with craps winners, because they do not believe that anyone can gain an advantage over them in this game, at least not without cheating.

Obviously, you should never discuss your baccarat winnings with any casino employees. Your goal is to look as much like another losing gambler as possible.



Casinos don't like winners, and you are much more likely to get the royal treatment if you look like another losing gambler.

Occasionally, outside of the casino, I have been asked about how my strategies work. When I first learned to beat the casinos, I was quite enthusiastic and wanted to share my enthusiasm with other people. The typical reaction when I have revealed that I have a winning baccarat system is total disbelief. I am simply not believed. My best advice is to act like the vast majority of casino patrons who don't have a clue as to how to win.

### **Play the Part**

I have given a number of suggestions about looking like a gambler. Everyone has his (or her) own style, and I am not suggesting that you disguise yourself physically or change your identity. However, individuals who look serious, never drink, never tip, or don't talk to dealers or floor personnel do not look like gamblers and will not get the full benefit of casino generosity, including comps.

I have tried to give you as much ammunition as I can, but you can add your own finishing touches. Using casino credit is a must if you are a black chip player. You simply don't want to walk around with ten thousand dollars or more on your person. Not only are you literally risking your life should a mugger decide to target you, but you could run afoul of U.S. laws if you leave the country with more than \$10,000 in cash on you and don't declare it. Using the casino's credit and signing markers will make you look much more like a gambler, and it actually is a very convenient way to play.

You should also play for comps. Once you are playing with black chips, you will have comps offered to you and you might as well enjoy them. Even mid-range gamblers and low rollers can avail themselves of substantial comps.

## **The Casino is Not Your Enemy**

The dealers, floor persons, cocktail waitresses, pit bosses, shift bosses and casino hosts are not your enemy. While pit bosses often scrutinize the play of high rollers, they are just doing their jobs. Many of the casino employees are actually rooting for you to win. We have discussed how to get a dealer on your side by being friendly and using your tips advantageously. But your floor person is not against your winning. As long as you are not perceived as a threat to the casino's bankroll and are not engaged in behavior the casino objects to, e.g. card counting, you are free to win occasionally. Just don't rub it in their faces.

Floor persons are the primary decision-makers on the amount of comps you get, and I always chat with the nearest floor person. Starting a conversation is easy. Once you are a credit player, you will interact with the floor person as soon as you buy in, by signing a marker. After establishing some rapport with a floor person, I will occasionally ask him or her for advice on certain baccarat wagers. It is always better to down play just how knowledgeable you are. Most floor persons enjoy helping players and like to show off their own expertise.

In dealing with all casino personnel, your goal is to always be a polite, friendly person who likes the casino, enjoys talking to pit personnel, is impressed by the floor person's tremendous knowledge of baccarat, makes large wagers and doesn't quite know how to play baccarat correctly. This act will buy you a tremendous amount of unrestricted playing time, and your comp rate should go up exponentially. You are the perfect player from the casino's viewpoint, and the casino bosses will be willing to pay to ensure that you play in their casino.

## **Things to Avoid**

There are some things I just won't tolerate when I play baccarat. Top on my list of "the things I like least" are rude dealers. If a dealer starts making comments about my play, or is rude to other players, my advice is to just leave.

You don't need this kind of aggravation. If you have a bad feeling about the table, trust your instincts and leave.

I also refuse to play with rude players.

### **Drinking**

You've been waiting for this part, haven't you? I have yet to read a book on gambling where the author does not admonish the reader not to drink. Professional baccarat players, I guess, are too engrossed in observing the game to even lift a glass to their beleaguered lips. If they do manage a drink, it has to be Evian water. For the bosses and for most players, having a drink while you play is part of the fun. Gamblers do it for sure. And you want to look like a gambler, right?

I generally have a few drinks while I gamble. I also drink straight orange juice, coffee, iced tea and even ice water at the tables.

Drinking something alcoholic at the craps table is one more signal to the pit that you are not a threat. I generally go slow on the alcoholic drinks and time my drinks. In general, the fact that you are a baccarat player will go a long way towards enhancing your reputation as a gambler.

### **Superstitions**

Superstitions really have no effect on the outcome of cards or dice or little balls spinning around inside of larger wheels or do they? Most gamblers and many pit personnel are superstitious. Gambling itself seems to breed superstitions.

What happens is that we remember certain events that occurred prior to, or in connection with other events, and we assume that there is a causal relationship between two seemingly unrelated occurrences.

The dice game is rife with superstitions. Lady shooters are lucky, as are virgin shooters, who have never rolled the dice before. If a die or the dice fly off the table, many old pros call their odds, place and buy bets off on the next roll, as everyone knows that sevens come after the dice fall on the floor..

Poker players may wear their lucky hats, and where would a slots player be without her lucky charm bracelet?

Many casino bosses have lucky and unlucky dealers. A craps crew which loses too much money may find itself fired, or at least broken up and the members rotated into different crews. If a baccarat player is winning too much money, a boss may bring in a lucky dealer. In the good old days when Vegas was mobbed up, the lucky dealer may well have been dealing seconds, with a real reason behind the luck. In this day of corporation controlled casinos, a cheating dealer is unlikely, as a casino is not willing to risk its license over one winning player. However, many bosses believe certain dealers are lucky for the house, just as other dealers are unlucky. If a boss decides a dealer is unlucky, the hapless dealer is not likely to have a fruitful career with that casino.

Because gamblers and bosses are superstitious, it makes sense for you to at least appear to be superstitious too. If you lose, it is because the table is too cold, or in the alternative, if you win, you are on a hot streak. Hot and cold streaks do occur, and it doesn't hurt to play them up.

In addition to enhancing your conversation with bosses, you can use your superstitions to influence dealers as well. More than once I have told a dealer that I feel that the next wheel spin will be lucky and placed a larger bet when the floor person was watching.

Use superstitions to justify certain plays when you are talking to the bosses. Just don't get caught up in believing too many casino superstitions yourself. Your lucky

hat is not likely to have been responsible for your last win, nor is a particular casino necessarily unlucky.

I will admit that I partially subscribe to the "unlucky casino syndrome." There are some casinos where I never seem to do well. I have no rational explanation for this. However, since I tend to play in Las Vegas where dozens of casinos vie for my attention, I can easily avoid the casinos that are unlucky for me.

### **Moving Up Your Betting Levels**

If you devote much time to baccarat using the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*, at some point you will want to increase the size of base bets — jumping from a betting series with a \$5 Base Bet to a higher level, for example. Many players find that an emotional adjustment is required to make these moves.

The size of the wagers required may intimidate them to the extent that they feel compelled to modify the baccarat *Master Bet Sizing Strategy*.

Of course, you must adhere to all of the requirements I have described before you decide to increase the size of your base wagers. You never want to over-bet your bankroll, and you should only increase the size of your wagers when your bankroll is large enough to justify it. If you are undercapitalized, then you clearly are out of your league to jump from green chip to black chip play.

However, once you have built the prerequisite bankroll, you should be able to increase the size of your wagers. To acclimate yourself to making larger wagers, try moving in steps. You might increase from being a \$5 Base Bet bettor to using \$10 wagers as your starting point.

Probably your biggest hurdle will be moving up to black \$100 chip play. You will receive a great deal more attention from the casino than when you were a red chip or green chip player. Most of the attention will be positive. When you play with black

chips, you automatically join an exclusive club with significant casino comps to be made available. However, your play will also be under greater scrutiny, and this bothers many players.

In addition to being showered with comps, you will also find that black chip play has other privileges. It is usually much easier to find uncrowded tables as a black chip player.

I suggest that you start wagering at a comfortable level for you. Your comfort level may be as a \$3, \$5 or a \$10 player. Stay at this level until you have thoroughly mastered, not only the technical side of playing correctly, but the emotional side of dealing with players, bosses and dealers. When you are ready, both psychologically and with adequate bankroll, try moving up just one step and then playing at this level for awhile. Continue to hone your casino people skills at each new level and don't forget to look and act the part. Black chip players do act differently than nickel chip players.

### **The Casino As Your New Office**

Walking up to a baccarat tables the first time can be an intimidating experience. If you have not played much, you will not fully understand the roles of the dealer, the floor person, the pit boss, the other casino personnel, and the eye-in-the-sky cameras following your every move.

If you are unfamiliar with casino surroundings, you may want to progress into your new role as a winning baccarat player on a step-by-step basis.

You can first play using a lower level of play. This is an excellent approach, and you will win plenty of money using this approach. The best way to practice playing baccarat and using the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* is to play online in “practice mode” where you can play at your own pace and refer to the *Master Bet Controller*.

Once you feel very comfortable playing baccarat, you can gradually increase your betting level, using casino profits to build your bankroll. It may take a number of trips before you feel confident enough to move up to higher-level play.

Only after you have completely mastered the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* should you consider moving up to black chip status. At this point, you should feel that the casino is your new office, and the casino personnel are your fellow workers.

Remember that the casino is not your enemy. The primary functions of modern casino personnel, including bosses, are to make sure the casino patrons have a good enough experience that they will become repeat customers.

Once you become known in a casino, you will find yourself interacting with the casino personnel even more. Dealers will welcome you by name. Cocktail waitresses will remember your favorite drink. Bosses will invite you to coffee. A casino host will work with you to make sure that you get all of the comps to which you are entitled.

Once you sense that everyone in the casino is genuinely rooting for you to win, you will know that you have done your job well.

In order to reach this level, there is no substitute for putting in your hours. You will need to demonstrate that you are not only friendly, but reliable, honest and consistent in your fair treatment of all you encounter.

Too many players complain to bosses, dealers and anyone else who works in the casino. Grumpy players are all too common, and you want to make sure that you don't present this face to your "fellow workers." If you are tired or grumpy, don't play. It is important to take breaks frequently and use the time to relax. You should be at your peak emotionally when you play, and this includes having a positive

mental attitude and interacting with players and casino personnel on a friendly and helpful basis.

Eventually the casino will recognize you as congenial, reliable and dependable. And, if you decide to make playing baccarat your new profession, your relationship with your new associates will serve as the foundation for your new business.



## **Getting Casino Comps**

Whether you chose to become a rated player at the casino table games, join a slot club or both, once you get into the system, you can start getting your share of comps. There are a number of tried and proven ways to multiply the number of comps you get. Here are some pointers.

### **Chose a primary casino and then play there.**

A basic premise of the whole comp system is to reward loyal players. Casinos offer comps to lure new players to their casino and to make sure that their current customers remain their customers. If you think you have it tough trying to use the comp system to your advantage, just think what the casinos are up against with new competition springing up every day.

If you are a whale, you can ignore my advice. Just plan on either bringing or setting up a credit line of \$100,000 or larger, and wherever you decide to land will be glad to comp you. If you are in the million dollar plus range, the casino will not only comp you, but anyone else you chose to bring with you. They'll even charter a 737 and fly in as many of your friends as you want to bring along.

If you are not quite in this range, then it will pay to find a primary casino and reward it with your patronage. A player with as little as \$1,000 can get RFB treatment in some of the downtown casinos in Las Vegas. A player with a \$2,500 bankroll will have an even greater choice of hotel casinos. Move up to the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range, and a whole other batch of casinos become available.

But, in order to get noticed and adequately comped with a bankroll from \$1,000 to \$10,000, you have to be willing to reward a casino with your playing time.

A friend of mine visits Las Vegas about ten times a year. He usually takes \$5,000 to \$10,000 and manages to lose between half and three quarters of it per trip. I won't comment on his approach to gambling. Quite frankly, it stinks. Anyway, the subject is comps.

Believe it or not, he doesn't get any. He stays at a different casino every trip. I think he believes the constant changes might improve his luck. This is not necessarily bad, if he would play at the casino where he stays. He invariably changes casinos every hour or two and ends up playing in ten to twelve different establishments over the course of two or three days.

Because of the size of his buy-ins, he is constantly asked if he wants to be rated. He always declines. He confesses that he doesn't want the casinos to know how much he is losing. I think that he is trying to kid himself about his losses.

I have explained the comp system to him. As long as he is losing, he might as well have the casinos kick in \$750 to \$1,000 per trip. This money is there for the asking if he would only pick a primary casino and give it a reasonable amount of play.

I can't convince him to change his ways. But, maybe I can influence you.

There are many other benefits to playing more in a primary casino. The first benefit is the application of the old saw, "If you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours."

The casino will accelerate the rewards offered you the more you play. Some casinos formalize this process and actually accelerate the comps to slot club members as their total number of points increases. Many casinos offer more and more free rooms and entertainment the more you patronize them.

The key to maximizing your benefits from this whole process is to find a casino that matches your needs and then start playing there. If you have picked correctly, your loyalty will be well rewarded.

**Join a slot club and/or get a VIP card.**

The start of getting comps is to be into the casino comp system. If you bet \$25,000 a hand, the host will find you. If you bet \$5 to \$25 a pop, you have to get the casino's attention. And the easiest way to do this is with a little piece of plastic which looks just like a credit card.

Once you have a card, getting comped will become part of your routine. The first thing you will do as a machine player is to insert your club card in the card reader.

When you sit down at a craps, roulette or a baccarat table you will present your VIP card when you buy in.

Your card will go down with your cash at the baccarat table when you lay five hundred in front of the dealer and tell him, "Chips please."

Once you have the cards and use them, all of your play will count towards something.

**Get to know your casino host.**

The casino host or the slot host will be your key to getting the most comps in most casinos.

If you are a member of the casino's slot club, you will get nearly all of your comps by asking the casino slot host. Many times comps for food, rooms, shows and merchandise are built right into the slot club payoffs. If you have just joined a slot club, try giving them some play for an hour or two and then asking the slot host for a buffet comp.

My experience with comps from playing slots or video poker is that the slot hosts are much more likely to be generous with comps than the personnel at the slot club booths. If you want brochures on the slot clubs or general information on the slot club, talk to the clerks at the booth. If you want a particular comp, ask the slot host.

Casino hosts, catering to the table game players, are at the top of the casino pecking order for granting comps. Their top priority is to cultivate new customers and to keep the current customers happy.

The casino hostesses are the persons working for VIP Services who help you check in, arrange your limo service, make dinner and show reservations and so forth.

The hostesses will handle most of your scheduling and reservation needs. The casino hosts are the people you need to talk to to arrange RFB and airfare reimbursement.

You can meet a casino host a number of ways. One way is to call a casino before coming and ask to speak to a host. This is a good way to ask about the casino's comp policy and to tell the host that you are interested in playing there.

If you are playing with front money, you should meet your host after depositing your money with the cage but before you begin play.

If you are a cash player and make a large enough buy-in, you may have a chance to meet a host when the casino sets you up with a VIP card.

After you have played in a casino, you can make reservations through the casino host. Making a reservation through a host who knows you is a good way to get a room even if the front desk claims that no rooms are available. Casinos always

reserve a block of rooms for their best customers, and a casino host can get you a room when a reservation clerk can't.

I recommend taking a little time to develop a relationship with a host. Part of developing a relationship is consistency. If you make one casino your primary casino and visit several times a year, it will be easier to become known to a host than if he only sees you every other year.

If you are using a casino credit line, the host will introduce himself to you. With front money or cash, you will want to make a point of meeting the host.

Treat your host with respect and nurture the relationship. He can shower you with all kinds of freebies, including gifts, food, a free room and VIP treatment. And he is paid to do this. For your part, you have to convince your host that your action is sufficient to justify the comps you want. And being a nice person won't hurt either.

**Be a nice person.**

You can get enormous leverage out of maintaining friendly relationships with the people who work in casinos.

Start with the dealers and cocktail waitresses. These people have a couple of the hardest jobs in the casino and are at the bottom of the casino hierarchy. A smile and a reasonable tipping policy will do wonders to get these folks on your side. I believe that creating a positive atmosphere starts with how you act towards the casino personnel. A positive atmosphere is conducive to winning as well as to getting your fair share of comps.

You might look at it this way. If you are a grump, the dealer will probably reciprocate. This is contagious behavior, and soon the whole table will act the same way. The pit personnel not only will not be impressed with your play, the whole

scene at your table probably will put them off. Not only will your rating likely suffer, you won't have nearly as much fun.

You can't always control how dealers and other customers act. If I join a table where no one is talking, and the dealer barely grunts when spoken to, I will make my departure very quickly. Usually a few cheerful words followed by a toke for the dealer will turn the atmosphere around. However, if this fails, you can't be faulted for not trying. Life is too short to play under miserable conditions. It is always better to change tables than to continue to play with an out of sorts crew and crabby complaining customers. Under these conditions, you should just leave.

**Visit the casino at off times.**

I nearly always schedule my casino trips for the middle of the week. I will typically arrive on a Monday afternoon and stay until Thursday afternoon. The benefits of visiting during the week are many. If there are any drawbacks to avoiding the weekend crowds, I haven't found them.

I don't like waiting and I hate lines. By timing my visits to the middle of the week, I can usually walk into any coffee shop, make reservations for a gourmet restaurant just about any time I chose and get show tickets to the shows I want to see.

If you want to really reduce the size of the crowds, travel in the middle of the week during off-season. Las Vegas is slower during the middle of summer when it is hot and in the late fall and early winter when it's colder. The slowest time in Vegas is usually between Thanksgiving and Christmas. But watch out for conventions. If a large convention is in town, it may be impossible to get a room (unless you are a rated player or belong to a slot club).

If you like to visit Atlantic City, try visiting during the middle of the week in the dead of winter. You'll not only avoid the larger crowds, but you'll find that the minimum wagers on many tables have been reduced.

Visiting during an off time is also an excellent way to get noticed for purposes of getting rated and getting your comp career off to a roaring start.

With fewer players to contend with, a host or a floor person is easier to meet and to visit with. Also, during slow times, casinos tend to be more generous with comps. After all, they are more likely to have a slew of vacant rooms just waiting to be given away to qualified players on a Wednesday night in December.

### **Ask for comps.**

If you play \$10,000 a hand at baccarat, you do not have to ask for comps. The casino will shower you with them. If you are like the rest of us wagering anywhere from \$5 to several hundred a hand, you need to ask for comps.

Slot players have the more systematic approach as the card readers on the machines are tied into a centralized computer system, and comps are based on points. If you are a slots or video poker player, getting a comp is pretty straightforward with this system.

Table game players have to deal more with people. And unless you are a whale, a boss will almost never offer you a comp unless you have just won big in a smaller casino which watches every loss. Facing a player who might walk out with their money in hand, some casinos will start throwing comps at the player. But most of the time, even rated players can play and play and never be offered a comp unless they ask for it.

My advice? Always ask for the comp. I have given you several examples of how to do it.

### **Maximize your comps.**

Anyone who follows the steps I have described can get comps. Your first step is to pick your primary casino and give it most of your business. Before you pick your casino you want to make sure that the casino has a reasonable comp policy and that it has beatable games. You should also like the casino as you will be receiving a lot of invitations there once you get into their comp system.

After picking your primary casino, you need to join its slot club and get a VIP card. I usually do both. Some casinos, like Rio in Las Vegas, combine rating slot, video poker and table players on one card. Others track machine and table action separately. However, it usually pays to join the slot club, even if you are mostly a table game player.

In many ways, slot club players have an advantage over the table game players. Their rating is automatic, they don't have to get the attention of some boss. By joining the slot club, they start receiving mailing from the casino. I have received offers of free rooms from casinos where I had never played a slot machine, but had joined their slot club.

If you are just establishing your rating and want to get a room on a crowded weekend, your slot club membership can be invaluable. After the reservation clerk tells you there are no rooms available, tell her you are a member of the slot club or ask to speak to a slot host. Chances are, the casino will find a room for you.

Getting to know the casino personal is critical. The more the casino personnel know and like you, the more comps are likely to flow your way. This is even true for slot players with their automated rating system. A slot host can easily "bump up" your comp from a buffet for two to a coffee shop comp for two, even if your rating is not quite there.



With table players, interacting with the pit personnel is critical. A boss can make or break you in terms of your rating. If your average wager is \$25, your goal is to be rated as at least a \$50 to \$75 player. It is not enough to increase your wagers when the boss is looking, you need to be a nice person.

Playing with front money gives the casino a real shot at beating you. When you deposit the money in the cage, the casino knows that they have a shot at winning all of your front money. If you are willing to risk \$10,000, this will open the door to full RFB at most establishments.

When you play with front money, be sure to put it all in play. If you deposit \$10,000, draw markers for the full ten grand. This doesn't mean you should lose the money. If you look like a loser and the casino sees that you have put all of your front money into play, your rating will increase.

Remember to look like a loser. You can save your bragging for when you get home. Appear to lose, but lose gracefully. Dealers and bosses hear players gripe about losing every day. Look like a loser but don't complain.

If you run into a fantastic winning streak, don't worry about disguising the fact that you are a winner. The bosses will know that you are winning. If you try to hide enough chips to turn a big win into a loss, they'll know. When you have a big win, act like a winner. Go ahead and tip a little more. If you are playing craps, shouting is not out of line. I have had some of my best comps come out of big wins as casinos hate to see winners walk out the door with their money.

## **Summary of the Comps Game**

Once you know how to play the comps game, you will be able to milk the casinos for every dime your action entitles you to. I have given you some pointers on how to get a quarter's worth of comps for a dime's worth of action.

When you combine getting the maximum number of comps with the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*, you are in the best position to maximize your profits from casino gambling.

If you at least break even, then the comps you receive constitute a profit for your play. If you are able to win money at the casino games, then your profit will be even greater.

## Casino Etiquette

If you know how to dine in a fine restaurant without making a scene, or automatically open doors for others and say thanks when someone holds open a door for you, you will probably not have any trouble knowing how to conduct yourself in a casino. I normally don't think much about etiquette until I see some jerk raising hell with a dealer about his losses, or chewing out a cocktail waitress for taking too long with an order. Then I have to wonder how the concept of manners has escaped him completely.

I said *him*, because boorish, obnoxious behavior nearly always comes from males, with very few females managing to become the perfect asses that males seem to delight in being.

Casinos seem to attract a higher than normal number of persons with a need to blow off at some unfortunate casino employee. The times I have somehow gotten in the middle of these disputes, I nearly always take the side of the dealer or floor person, especially if a male patron is unjustifiably berating a female employee for no reason other than he has poor control over his gambling, managed to lose much more than that should have, and is now looking for a scapegoat.

For most persons who visit casinos, etiquette is simply a matter of common courtesy. It's okay to get a little wild in a casino. These are supposed to be places of fun, and drinking a little too much may be part of the entertainment. But for a successful *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* player, the rules are not quite the same. The casino is your place of employment and drinking should be limited. It goes without saying, courteous behavior should be practiced at all times.

At all casino table games, the rules of etiquette are pretty simple. Treat the dealers and other players with respect and avoid being loud, pushy or belligerent. If you

get into a disagreement with a dealer, stay calm and be gracious even if the dealer really is wrong. It does not make sense to win an argument over a single payoff.

Here are some guidelines for casino play.

1. When you have finished playing, you can ask the dealer to color you up before leaving the table.
2. Watch your own bets at all times. Baccarat bets are easy to track as you handle the bets yourself and place them directly in front of you.
3. Don't force your way into a crowded table. If the table is crowded ask the nearest player if he minds if you join them.
4. Don't slow down the game by constantly asking the dealer basic questions about how the game is played or how bets are made. There are hundreds of books on how to play baccarat including this one. You should learn the correct payoffs for the bets you will be making.
5. Try to be discrete about your wins and losses. No one really cares to know how much you are winning, and it doesn't do you any good to advertise that you are a consistent winner.
6. While playing, conduct yourself courteously at all times. If you drink, refrain from overdoing it and never get drunk. You will need to stay alert to correctly make the wagers required by the *Ultimate Baccarat Strategy*, and contrary to the opinion of some drunks, alcohol does not make you think clearer.
7. Toke the dealers. Dealers call tips "tokes" as in a token of appreciation. Many players don't realize that dealers are not paid much more than minimum wage. Baccarat dealers try very hard to please the public. Most dealers want the players

to win and have a good time. They know that if the players enjoy themselves and win, they will get toked. I always toke the dealers. If I win more I will toke them more, but even if I lose, I will make several bets for the dealer. This is not only the right thing to do but will pay you off in spades if you do it consistently. Even floor personnel know who the tippers are, and my experience has been that if you tip, you will be more than repaid by hard working dealers, who will watch out for your bets and by casino complimentaries, controlled by and large by pit personnel who rate your play.

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## Keeping Records

Along with all of the new habits I am asking you to form, I am going to add one more. I want you to start keeping written records of how you do playing baccarat. Actually, you want to keep a written record of all of your gambling, but since this book is about how to win at baccarat, we'll just focus on this game.

There are a couple of reasons you will want to keep records. One is to honestly measure how well (or how badly) you are doing. Most players wince at this suggestion. They know that they have been long-term losers.

I am going to ask you to be honest and start writing down how you actually do. You don't have to show this to anyone else. But, aren't you at least a little curious about your baccarat wins and losses?

Another reason I am suggesting that you start keeping written records is that you will eventually need them for income tax reporting. I'll tell you more about this later.

I have given you a couple of good reasons to start keeping written records of your gambling. They are –

First, to honestly measure how well (or badly) you are doing, and

Second, to have a record for income tax reporting.

How you set up your records is up to you. You may want to purchase a small notebook which fits in your pocket or purse. I like to keep records on individual sheets of standard size 8.5" x 11" accounting paper. I usually carry one sheet with me, neatly folded in my pocket. After each session of play, I will update the information I like to record on the piece of paper. Eventually, after I have returned home, the sheet will be filed in a loose-leaf notebook.

Whatever system you use is fine; just make sure that you use some kind of recording system.

Before I start a gambling excursion, I like to record some basic information about what I plan to do. This information will outline my strategy and would look like this:

Location	Las Vegas
Profit Goal	\$3,000
Baccarat Bankroll	\$1,500
Base Bet Size	\$25
Game Buy-in	\$500
Days of Play	2 days
Number of Sessions	7-8 a day
Target Profit per Game	\$200
Loss Limit per Game	\$500
Bet Limit per Wager	\$125

The results of each session should be recorded as soon as possible after finishing play. The following information should be recorded:

Location: (City, casino, etc.)

Date and Time Played

Table Number.

Base Bet Size

Won (Lost): Amount that you won or lost for the session.

Total Won (Lost): A running total of the amount you have won or lost.

Your actual record might look like the record shown below:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Table No.</b>	<b>Base Bet Size</b>	<b>Amount Won (Lost)</b>	<b>Cumulative Won</b>
LV – Golden Nugget	12-9-08 10 to 11 AM	31	\$25	\$205	\$205
LV – Golden Nugget	12-9-08 11 to 11:30 AM	31	\$25	\$237	\$442
LV – Orleans	12-9-08 2:10 to 2:40 PM	27	\$25	\$189	\$631
LV – Orleans	12-9-08 3:30 to 4:10 PM	27	\$25	\$203	\$834
LV - Orleans	12-9-08 5-20 to 5:50 PM	27	\$5	\$194	\$1028

For US players the basic rules for gambling are that all gambling winnings should be reported on your tax returns as other income. Gambling losses are deductible only to the extent that you report gambling winnings and then only as an itemized deduction. Home ownership with the attendant home mortgage interest is usually the deductible expense which allows people to itemize their deductions. If you don't own a home, or if your home mortgage interest is too low, or you have paid off your mortgage, you may not have enough expenses to itemize deductions. This could mean that you end up reporting gambling winnings as income but are not allowed to deduct gambling losses.

As a practical matter, most folks ignore their gambling wins and losses when filling out their tax returns because all they have is losses, and they couldn't document them if their lives depended on it. Because of the skill you now have with *The Ultimate Baccarat Strategy* you are more likely than ever to have reportable gambling income.



The easiest way to meet the IRS guidelines for documentation is to keep a daily record of baccarat play, as well as invoices, receipts and other documentation from your trip. File this information in an envelope, a file folder or a notebook.

## Walking Out a Winner

The object of playing baccarat is to walk out of the casino with more money than you came in with. That's what this book has been about. If you want to have fun playing baccarat, that's great too. It's supposed to be fun. But, if you have consistently been losing to the casinos, then I question how much fun you have really been having.

There is no substitute for winning. Can I guarantee that you will always be a winner? No. But I will guarantee that your play will improve immensely and that you will have a better chance of winning than ever before if you follow the suggestions I have given you. Here is a brief rundown of what you should do to become a skilled baccarat winner:

1. You should first read this entire manual. If you don't understand parts of the strategy you can go back to them later.
2. Before trying to learn the strategy make sure that you understand how to play baccarat. You can sign on to an online casino such as Bodog ([www.bodoglife.com/](http://www.bodoglife.com/)) and play in practice mode to get a feel for the game. You don't have to know the rules about how each hand is played in order to play the game. All you really have to know is the hand with the highest total wins, unless there is a tie, in which case neither side wins.
3. Learn the ***Master Bet Placement Strategy*** first. This entails learning where to place your bets using Betting Models A and B. To learn how to use this strategy, you should try it in practice mode. You can use the ***Master Bet Controller*** as your bet tracker and record the placement of each bet in practice games. At this point, don't worry about the size of each bet. Just use a flat bet of \$5 and practice choosing where to place each bet.
4. After learning the ***Master Bet Placement Strategy***, you will learn the ***Master Bet Sizing Strategy***. This is the strategy that determines the size of each bet and requires that you use a Bet Registry to record bets. It is very important that you learn how to use the bet Registry. The easiest way to determine if you have mastered bet sizing is to review the example games in this book and see if you completely understand how we determined the amount of each bet.

5. After learning the *Master Bet Placement Strategy* and the *Master Bet Sizing Strategy*, you will need to add the Money Management Rules to complete the strategy. Be sure that you understand the concepts of Base Bets, Game Bankrolls, Total Bankroll, Bet Limits and Target Profits.
6. Be sure to review all of the example games in this book, making sure that you completely understand how to determine each bet and why we stopped play in each game.
7. Play baccarat for free in an online game. At first, don't try to apply the strategy. Just make flat bets such as \$5 bets.
8. Play a series of games in practice mode using the *Master Bet Controller*. This is the form used for all of the Example Games in this book. Using the *Master Bet Controller* is explained in Appendix A.
9. Keep good records of your practice games. Be sure that you are consistently winning before starting to play for real money.
10. Get ready for real play. The easiest way to do this is to deposit money in the online casino where you have been practicing and start playing for real. You will have to adhere to our bankroll requirements. If you decide to start with \$1 bets, you will only need a \$20 buy-in. Since many online casinos offer 100% match bonuses, you can get started with as little as \$10 and use the casino's bonus of \$10 to complete your bankroll.

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Note about using Base Bets lower than \$5. If you play online using \$1 Base Bets, you will mostly likely be short changed on winning Banker bets. If the minimum chip is 25 cents, then a winning \$1 banker bet will only pay off \$0.75, (consisting of \$1 less the 25 cent commission.) In casinos using 25 cent chips as their minimum chips, you won't get fair payoffs on Banker bets unless you make wagers of at least \$5.

11. Be sure that you keep accurate records. I employ record keeping mainly to keep score. If I have a Profit Goal in mind, I want to know when I have reached it. I know for a fact that most gamblers underestimate the amount of their losses and overestimate how much they are ahead. Record keeping will not only keep you honest, but it will also improve your winnings.

12. Set modest goals when you first start playing for real. It is always better to start playing with a lower bankroll so that if you do make mistakes your losses will be smaller. Only move up in play after you have built up the bankroll needed out of winnings. If your winnings are not growing, then you are not using the strategy correctly.

13. Finally, learn to play another casino game. I suggest craps for a real change. You'll get the chance to stand while you play and even cheer the shooter if you like. If cards are more your cup of tea, try blackjack. A much over-looked game is roulette . Try it. It is a great game. My point is that your casino experience will be much more enjoyable if you learn another game.

14. Play for blood. The best way to do this is to start out small and then increase the size of your wagers as your bankroll grows. While the casino may not pay much attention to your wins as a \$5 bettor, the casino bosses will definitely take notice when you start beating them making \$100 Base Bets.

I hope you enjoyed this book and picked up some useful pointers. It's tough to win at gambling. But the real trick is not to lose too much. If you keep your losses low, then when the large payoff comes (and it will if you are ahead long enough to enjoy it), you will end up a net winner.

I know how hard it is to use discipline in a casino environment. But once you leave the casino and arrive home with real winnings, you will see the value in the strategies. I wish you the very best in your gambling endeavors.

## Appendix A. The Master Bet Controller

### How to use the Master Bet Controller

You have seen numerous examples in this manual of games played using a tracking form. To turn the Tracking Form into The *Master Bet Controller* all you have to do is set up the Controller as follows:

1. Fill in your Base Bet, Buy-in, Target Profit and Bet Limit amounts.
2. Record the Location, date and time of the game.

On the following pages we have:

1. A blank *Master Bet Controller*.
2. A Sample game played using the *Master Bet Controller*. This game was played using \$5 Base Bets, a \$100 Buy-in, a \$40 Target Profit and a \$25 Bet Limit.

**Master Baccarat Strategy Location: Texas Station, Las Vegas Date: 04/21/09 Time: 3:35 PM**  
**Table No: 6 Base Bet 5 Buy-in 100 Target Profit 40 Bet Limit 25**

Hand	Actual Outcome	Bet Pattern	Bet On -	Amt Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cum Won
1	B		B	5	W		C	+5	+5
2	P	A-1	P	5	W		C	+5	+10
3	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+15
4	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+10
5	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+5
6	P	B-1	B	5	L	5 5 5 5		-5	-0-
7	B	B-2	B	5	W	5 5 5		+5	+5
8	P	B-1	P	15	L	15 5 5 5		-15	-10
9	P	B-2	P	5	W	10 5 5 5		+5	-5
10	P	B-1	P	25	W		C	+25	+20
11	T	A-1	B	5	T			-	+20
12	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+25
13	T	A-1	P	5	T			-	+25
14	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+20
15	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+15
16	T	B-1	B	5	T	5 5 5		-	+15
17	B	B-1	B	5	W	5 5		+5	+20
18	B	A-1	P	10	L	10 5 5		-10	+10
19	P	A-2	P	5	W	5 5 5		+5	+15
20	B	A-1	P	15	L	15 5 5 5		-15	-0-
21	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 15 5 5 5		-5	-5
22	P	B-1	B	5	L	5 5 15 5 5 5		-5	-10
23	B	B-2	B	5	W	5 15 5 5 5		+5	-5
24	B	B-1	B	20	W	5 5 5		+20	+15
25	P	A-1	P	15	W		C	+15	+30
26	B	A-1	B	5	W		C	+5	+35
27	B	A-1	P	5	L	5 5		-5	+30
28	B	A-2	P	5	L	5 5 5		-5	+25
29	B	B-1	B	5	W	5 5		+5	+30
30	P	A-1	P	10	W		C	+10	+40
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Master Baccarat Strategy Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Table No: \_\_\_\_\_ Base Bet \_\_\_\_\_ Buy-in \_\_\_\_\_ Target Profit \_\_\_\_\_ Bet Limit \_\_\_\_\_

Hand	Actual Outcome	Bet Pattern	Bet On -	Amt Bet	W/L	Registry	Coup Won	Net Won	Cum Won
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3									
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