

## Professional Poker Software - Heads Up Displays

Contributed by ThomasKearns  
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A tool is available for professional poker players that will display statistics on other players at the table, this program is called the heads up display or HUD. Professional poker players are able to play several games at different tables at once using several monitors. Sometimes the professional poker players will play anywhere from 4-16 tables at once which makes it nearly impossible to keep track of the opponents' playing styles. Using a HUD it is possible to know who plays how with just a glance at their stats. I'm sure you are wondering how it works.

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The hand histories for every hand that you play online are stored on your hard drive. These hands can then be imported into a tracking software and compiled into a database. The HUD will then read this database along with the current hand histories for live tables and display the stats directly on the table to help poker players make quick decisions based on the playing style and weaknesses of their opponents without having to actually watch every hand closely. So how is this beneficial in actual play?

We all know that watching how our opponents play closely will help us exploit their weaknesses. When you use a HUD in conjunction with a datamining software program you can get a huge advantage over your opponents. You can move from table to table and always know exactly how your opponents play without spending too much time studying them in real time. Your software will do it for you. Some players fold the flop 60% of the time but constantly check raise the turn. If you see this on a players stats, and they call the flop, you can often expect a checkraise on the turn. This may be a good time to check behind with a mediocre hand and save two bets. Without a HUD you would have to watch this player closely for thousands of hands to realize that this is their standard play when they make a big hand. Other players will try to run over any table they sit down at and raise 50% of the time before the flop. You will probably pick up on this after a few orbits even if you're playing 8 table or more, but with a HUD you'll know what you're dealing with before the first hand is even dealt.

Another useful tool that your HUD will afford you is that it will show you your opponents hole cards after the hand is over if they go to showdown. Many players will muck their hand so that you can't see it but the HUD will still pick up the data. Its helpful to know what a player will call a river bet with. This alone will help you value bet the river against players who will showdown weak hands.

Anyone playing poker online should be using a heads up display. The professionals are using them, shouldn't you?

About the Author:

The author is a successful limit cash game player. He plays poker and receives Rakeback at Poker Nordica from Rakeback Solution.