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Playing deep stack poker can be extremely uncomfortable for most cash game players and tournament specialists. The biggest reason for this is that they spend most of their time playing with stacks of 100 big blinds or less, and they are not familiar with deep stack poker strategy. If you belong to this group of players but want to expand your knowledge about deep stack games, you have come to the right place. This article explains deepstack poker's challenges and the best ways to prepare and master deepstack play.

### What Is Deep Stack Poker?

Like everything else in poker, the deep stack is a relative term and is completely situational. Generally speaking, poker players use this term when they want to describe hands, situations, or formats in which players have stacks of 150 big blinds or more. However, depending on circumstances, players can refer to stacks being deep if they have anywhere from 50 big blinds to 1,000 big blinds.

Here are a couple of examples to give you a better idea of what we refer to:

Imagine a situation in which there are nine players at the final table. Most of the players at the table have stacks of 20bb or less, while two players have 70bb or more.

In this situation, players will refer to the two players with 70bb as having deep stacks, although they both have less than 100bb. This is because they are deep-stacked in relation to the other seven players at the table.

So if one of the players with 70bb makes a raise into the other player with a similar stack size, the other player will often use the term "we are both deep" to explain the spot. We will later discuss why players refer to these spots the way they do and what this means from a strategic point of view.