

**Ken Uston's**  
**PROFESSIONAL**  
**BLACKJACK™**

**OPERATING  
INSTRUCTIONS**



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**Operating Instructions**  
**For Atari, Apple, Commodore 64 and IBM Computers.**

**Programmed by Jack Briner, Jr.**

**Atari Version by Jack Briner, Jr. and Kenneth M. Flowe.**

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**Apple Version:** Written in MicroMotion FORTH-79

**Atari Version:** Created in whole or part using valFORTH products of  
Valpar International, Tuscon, AZ, 85713, USA.

Based on fig-FORTH, provided through the courtesy of  
Forth Interest Group, P.O. Box 1105, San Carlos, CA, 94070.

**IBM PC Version:** Written in PC FORTH by Laboratory Microsystems.

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# PREPARATIONS

## SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

**Apple:** 48K Apple II Plus or Apple IIe, one disk drive, and television or monitor. Requires 16 sector, DOS 3.3 compatible drives.

**Atari:** Atari 400, 800 or 1200 computer with 48K of RAM, one disk drive, and a television monitor.

**Commodore 64:** Commodore 64 computer with one 1541 disk drive and television or monitor.

**IBM PC:** IBM Personal Computer with 48K RAM, one disk drive, PC DOS and an 80 character display. Both monochrome and color graphics versions are included on the disk.

IBM VERSIONS: PLEASE GO TO PAGE 8 FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

## HOW TO BOOT THE DISK

**Apple Version:** Turn your system on and place the Blackjack diskette, Apple label up, in the first disk drive. The program will load in about 40 seconds. After the title screen appears, press any key to view the Main Menu.

**Atari Version:** Turn your first disk drive on, wait until the BUSY light goes out, and place the Blackjack diskette, Atari label up, in the drive. Turn on the computer. The program will load in about 40 seconds. After the title screen appears, press any key to view the Main Menu.

**Commodore 64 Version:** Turn your first disk drive on and place the Blackjack diskette, Commodore label up, in the drive. Turn on the computer. When READY appears, type LOAD"BJ";8 (RETURN). The message LOADING will appear, and after about 90 seconds, the READY message will return. Type RUN (RETURN) and the title screen will appear. Press any key to view the Main Menu.

**IBM Version: PLEASE GO TO PAGE 8.**



# INTRODUCTION

**Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack™** is equally powerful as a game and as a teaching system. As a game, the program allows up to seven players to play at the same "table," although most players will choose to take on the "dealer" either one-on-one or with the computer actually playing any number of the six other positions. (You can actually name the other players, set their wallet sizes and select their playing strategies—but more about that later.) As a teaching system, **Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack** converts the experience and expertise of the world's top blackjack player into a computerized format that allows you to develop professional-level blackjack skills in an extremely efficient and rewarding way.

Blackjack is unique among the casino games not only because it is the only game that allows the skillful player to gain a statistical advantage over the house; but also because that level of skill requires a thorough knowledge of the game, the ability to concentrate and a keen sense of strategy. In this sense blackjack resembles other complex games like bridge and chess. It differs from these games however, in the opportunities it provides for financial reward and in the relative ease required for developing professional-level proficiency.

For these reasons, we recommend that you read the enclosed manual and familiarize yourself with all the aspects of the game, including the different skill levels and the rules variations among different casinos.

Within that manual are a series of color-coded charts that give the correct playing choices (stand, hit, double, split and surrender) for virtually every playing situation—for each strategy and for a variety of casino rules. **Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack** can help make those choices automatic. All it takes is time and practice; and **Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack** provides both in ways that make the acquisition of skills a rapid and enjoyable process.

Reading that manual will also make you familiar with the blackjack vocabulary, which in turn will make all the following instructions much easier to understand and follow.

## PROGRAM UPDATES

The casino rules are constantly in flux. We have included scores of casinos with their current rules. This data is accurate to the best of our knowledge and based on our many contacts in the blackjack world. We cannot be responsible for this data or the way you might utilize it because these rules change so frequently. We will make available frequent updates of **Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack** which will contain the latest casino rules, new casinos and even foreign casinos. In the meantime, for the latest up to the minute rules changes, we suggest that you subscribe to **The Experts™**, a blackjack newsletter available from **Gambling Times** magazine. The address of **Gambling Times** magazine is 1018 North Cole Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90038.

# **ABRIDGED OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS:**

## **PLAYING BLACKJACK**

- 1) Load the Blackjack program according to the instructions above for your computer.
- 2) When the Main Menu appears, select 1 for playing blackjack.
- 3) Select a casino area. (Ignore the PLAYER'S CHOICE option for now.)
- 4) Select a casino.
- 5) The PLAYER SEATING MENU will be displayed. We will edit players.
  - Press 1.
  - Press ESC (R/S on C-64) twice to leave the first two seats empty.
  - Let player 3 be controlled by the computer. Press 2.
  - Have the computer play basic strategy. Press 1.
  - Give the player a name. Type in "Computer" and press RETURN.
  - Type in "5000" and RETURN. The computer now has \$5000 to play with.
  - Type in "10" and RETURN. The computer will play with \$10 chips.
  - Press ESC (R/S for C-64) to leave seat 4 empty.
  - Seat yourself in seat 5 by pressing 1,1, giving a six letter name, "5000" and "10".
  - Press ESC (R/S) twice to leave the last seats empty.
  - Press ESC (R/S) once more to play, or 1 to edit players.
- 6) Welcome to the casino. The rules for the casino you selected will be displayed, and then the blackjack table. The Computer will shuffle the cards and place its bet. When your bet is requested, press 1 and RETURN. You have bet 1 unit, or \$10.
- 7) Cards will be dealt to the Computer, to you and to the dealer. After the Computer finishes playing, it's your turn. Select your move using the function line at the bottom of the screen as a guide.
- 8) Press ESC (R/S) whenever you are prompted for a playing or betting move. This will take you to the ATTRIBUTES MENU, where you may change some of the computer attributes pertinent to learning winning blackjack. If you press 1, you will be taken back to the Main Menu. ESC (R/S) will let you continue to play.

# OPERATIONS

The MAIN MENU is the directory to all of the fabulous training and playing options in **Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack**. Here is what it looks like:

## MAIN MENU

- (1) Play Blackjack
- (2) Drill: Countdown
- (3) Drill: Strategies
- (4) Edit Casino Rules
- (5) Enter System Count

To play in a realistic casino simulation and practice your game, press "1". If you wish to practice counting down a deck or to practice playing strategies flash-card style, press "2" or "3". By pressing "4", you can edit the rules of any casino and save them on the disk. Option "5" allows you to enter some counting system other than Ken Uston's. This is for people who already know an effective system and don't want to change in mid-stream. If you are learning a system for the first time, you will never need any other strategies than those contained in this program.

## PLAYING A CASINO SIMULATION

To play in a realistic casino, select option "1" from the Main Menu. The Area Menu will appear. This menu allows you to select which part of the country you wish to simulate. Different casinos have different rule variations, but the rules in a given locale tend to be similar, so we've grouped the casinos geographically. You will notice that the Las Vegas casinos are broken down into sub-groups since there are so many. Decide which area you want to "play" in, and press the appropriate number. Once you have selected an area, a list of the casinos in that area will appear. Select the casino you want by pressing the number.

Now the Seat Selection Menu will appear. This allows you to seat up to seven players at your table, just as in a real casino. For each player, you need to enter several pieces of information:

**Empty Seats:** To leave a seat empty, press "ESC" (Commodore 64 Version, use the R/S key).

**Control:** You may elect to control the player yourself from the keyboard or let the computer play for that player.

**System:** You can assign each player a counting system, from basic strategy to the Uston Advanced Point Count. If the computer is controlling a player, it will use the strategy for the system you assign to play. If the player is controlled from the keyboard, the computer will give you the counts for the system as you play. You can also select an Undeclared system. This will allow you to play using a previously entered counting system. See option "5" for entering another system. NOTE: the computer cannot control players using an Undeclared system. Only select Undeclared for keyboard controlled players.

**Name:** Type in a name for each player.

**Wallet:** Give each player a bankroll to play with.

**Betting Units:** Select an amount for a unit bet. That is, how much one "chip" is worth.

Once you have entered information on all the players, you will have an opportunity to change or correct the information. You can also save this seating arrangement on your disk (be sure to remove the write-protect tab first!) or recall saved tables from the disk. To begin playing, press "ESC" R/S.

The rules for the casino you have selected will appear. Press any key to continue. The next screen will tell you

what charts in the manual apply to this casino, as well as the house advantage against the basic strategy. It also gives the strike number, which should be memorized by those playing the Uston Plus/Minus system. Press any key to actually play blackjack.

## PLAYING THE GAME

The casino table will be shown on the screen with seven player positions. The dealer will place his cards at the top of the screen. The large "L" shaped structure in the upper left part of the screen is the discard rack (it will only appear in multiple deck games). After cards are played they will be placed in this rack, just as in a real casino. At each player position there will be a data area. The top line displays that player's current bet, the middle line the amount of money remaining in the player's wallet, and the bottom line shows the player's name.

When you enter the casino, you will hear the cards being shuffled. Then each player will be given a chance to bet, the turns passing from the dealer's left. If you assigned a player to be controlled by the computer, all the playing and betting decisions will be made automatically. The computer will halt at player controlled positions and wait for a bet to be made. To simplify the procedure of entering a bet, **Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack** enables you to enter your bet in multiples of your base betting unit (which you entered earlier).

This is very practical since professional card-counters parlay their bets in the same way. For example, if you chose a betting unit of \$5, you enter a \$25 bet by pressing "5". Your current bet is always displayed on the top line. If you want to enter the bet, you must press "Return". You can change your bet until you press "Return". A list of keyboard betting options appears at the bottom of the screen. If your bet was incorrect for the strategy you selected, a message telling you what is wrong will appear on the center of the screen.

After all bets are placed, the cards are dealt. Again, the computer will play for the players you assigned to computer control. It will stop for each player-controlled seat. Your options are listed at the bottom of the screen. If you want to "hit", for example, press "1". If you bust, your cards and bet will be automatically removed. To stand, use "2". Other options may appear as the situation requires. If you make an error in strategy, three tones will sound and an error message will appear.

After all the players have played their hands, the dealer will play his hand and settle the bets. The wallets will be updated, the cards discarded, and another hand will begin.



## CHANGING OPTIONS

You can change many factors in the game as you play or drill. If you press the "ESC" (R/S) key when the computer is waiting for a playing or betting input from the keyboard, the Attributes Menu will appear. From here, you can return to the Main Menu, leave the DATA BOX constantly on (see below), turn rack calibration on (this measures the number of  $\frac{1}{2}$  decks in the discard rack), toggle error prompts and other sound effects, adjust the position of the cut card in the shoe, get a statistical evaluation of your playing and betting accuracy, adjust the speed of the deal, or reshuffle.

If the DATA BOX is turned on, it will appear in the upper right part of the screen. It gives relevant data for the player currently betting or playing. At the top of the box, the declared strategy of that player is given. Data displayed includes the running count (RC), true count (TC), betting true count (BTC), number of aces played (ACES), and the ace richness or poorness of the remaining cards in the shoe (A +/-). The data box will never appear during a betting or playing decision for a basic strategy player since there is no counting involved. During the play of the hands, the correct move for that player will be displayed at the bottom of the data box. For the Advance Plus/Minus and Advance Point Count systems, the correct play will be displayed as a paraphrase of the appropriate box from the chart relevant to the strategy and the casino rules. Instead of using colors, words and abbreviations are used. Please see the manual for further explanation.

## DRILLS

To practice card counting and increase your accuracy and speed in maintaining a running count, press "2" on the Main Menu. Once you've selected the number of decks you wish to count down, press the space bar to deal each card. If you press "Return", the count will be displayed on the screen.

To practice with a series of playing situations to test your recall of the color chart information, select "3" on the Main Menu. As in playing blackjack, you will progress through a series of menus to select the casino you wish to drill for. You can then select the strategy you want to practice. You can practice hard hands, pairs, or soft hands. These have been segregated since it is usually just one section of a color chart that is your weakest. Once you enter the drill you will be shown a series of situations where you must make one decision. Your two cards will be at the bottom of the screen and the dealer's up card will be at the top. The relevant counts and the discard rack will be shown as well. Error prompts and the data box will be provided as in the casino simulation. To change these, go to the Attributes Menu by pressing "ESC" (R/S) instead of a decision number. From here you can quit, or toggle the data box, rack calibration or sound prompts.



### **EDITING CASINO RULES**

If you wish to update a rules change for one of the casinos on the disk, press "4" on the Main Menu. Follow the series of menus to chose a casino, edit the rules, and save them to the disk if you wish (remember to remove the write protect tab and replace it when you're through). From the Area Menu, you can select "9" for Player's Choice and create your own unique casino. This can also be saved to disk.

### **ENTERING ALTERNATE CARD COUNTING SYSTEMS**

If you wish to use a counting system other than one of the Uston systems, press "5" on the Main Menu. You can then enter your systems' card values for aces through 10. To play the alternate system, press "Undeclared" for that player's strategy during the seating of the table. Remember that the computer cannot play such a player. The data box will display the correct running count for the alternate system when that player's turn is up.



# I B M

## PREPARATIONS

### System Requirements

To operate this program you will need 48K of RAM, a disk drive, PC DOS and an 80-character display. Both monochrome and color graphics versions are included on this disk.

### How to Boot the Disk

PC DOS is required in order to operate this program. After DOS is booted onto your machine, type in BJ and then press the return key. The loader will then ask you to choose between the color and the monochrome versions.

We suggest that you write DOS onto your program disk as soon as you receive it so that it will always load itself automatically for you. Simple instructions for doing this follow.

### Writing DOS On Your Program Diskette

#### If You Have a 2 Drive System

- 1) Remove the write-protect tab.
- 2) Insert DOS Disk in drive A. Insert Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack™ in Drive B.

- 3) Type in SYS B: and enter.
- 4) Type in COPY COMMAND.COM B: and enter.
- 5) After the disk stops spinning, remove it and replace the write-product tab.

#### If You Have a 1 Drive System

- 1) Remove write-protect tab.
- 2) Insert DOS diskette in drive.
- 3) Type SYS B: and enter.
- 4) After diskette stops spinning, remove it and place Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack™ in drive. Type any key.
- 5) When diskette stops spinning, remove it and replace DOS diskette in drive.
- 6) Type in COPY COMMAND.COM B: and enter.
- 7) When diskette stops spinning, remove it and replace Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack in drive. When ready, type any key.
- 8) When diskette stops spinning, remove it and replace write-protect tab.

# ABRIDGED OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

These brief instructions will explain simply how to enter a casino.

1) If you have not yet written DOS onto your program disk, Boot DOS, place the program disc in drive A, type "BJ" and press **ENTER**.

2) Type "C" for color or any other key for monochrome.

3) Press the **F2** function key.

4) Use the *function keys* to select a playing area. (Ignore the PLAYER'S CHOICE option for now.)

5) Use *number keys* to enter casino of your choice then press **ENTER**.

6) The rules of the casino will be displayed. Press any key to continue.

7) The PLAYER SEATING MENU will be displayed. For now play with just 2 players.

- Press **ESC** twice to leave the first 2 seats empty.
- Let the player in seat 3 be controlled by the computer: Depress **F2**.
- Have it play BASIC STRATEGY: press **F1**.
- Type in "IBM" and press **ENTER**. You have just named this player "IBM."

• Type in "5000" and press **ENTER**. He now has \$5000 to play with.

• Type in "10" and press **ENTER**. He will play with \$10 chips.

• Press **ESC** to leave seat 4 empty.

• SEAT yourself in seat 5 by pressing: **F1, F1**, type your name, press **ENTER**, type "5000," press **ENTER**, type "10" and press **ENTER**.

• Then press **ESC** twice.

8) Welcome to the casino. IBM will have just placed his bet after the shuffle. Press **F7** then **F10**. You have just bet 1 unit (\$10 was your declared betting unit).

9) After IBM finishes playing his hand, it's your turn. Use the function key line at the bottom of the screen to select your move. The dealer will play his hand after you.

10) Press the space bar if you wish to leave the casino, modify the game or see data. Experiment with the function keys to discover the many facets of this powerful program.



# OPERATIONS

## Now that You've Booted the Program

Once you've booted the program and selected the color or the monochrome version, the following menu will appear after a short introduction.

Your choice please:

<p><b>F1 = DRILLS</b> <b>F2 = PLAY</b> <b>F3 = ENTER SYSTEM COUNT</b> <b>F4 = EDIT CASINO RULES</b> <b>F5 = DATA BOX (OFF)</b> <b>F6 = CUT CARD 70%</b> <b>F7 = RESET STATISTICS</b></p>
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This is the opening menu and the primary branching point for choosing among the various facets of Ken Uston's Professional Blackjack.

If you want to practice drills, press the **F1** function key. Because drills are always practiced within the context of a specific set of casino rules, a menu will appear offering the various playing areas for which we have entered actual casinos, each with its own set of rules. Because of the large number of casinos, playing areas are not only divided by location, but also subdivided within each location into single deck, double deck and multiple deck games. If you select PLAYER'S CHOICE you can create your own unique casino with the rules of your choice. You cannot, however, practice drills for a casino of your own creation, if it requires variations in playing strategy beyond those already programmed on this version of Ken Uston's Professional Black-

jack. For the over 70 casinos provided, complete data files are included so that you can play the Uston Systems or basic strategy and receive full evaluation of your play.

After you have selected a playing area, the list of casinos in that area will be displayed. Enter the number of the casino of your choice on the number keypad (the Num Lock Key must be pressed once) and press enter. The menu to appear will list the rules for your chosen casino, and in addition will give the appropriate "strike" number for that game. (This is required for play of the Uston Plus/Minus card counting systems.) Also provided will be the letters of the color charts that pertain to the casino game you've selected. The program will evaluate your responses in the drills — as well as in casino blackjack — based on the appropriate chart for that game. Press any key when you're ready and a new menu will allow you to select the type of drill you want. If you wish to practice your "running count," depress F1. Enter the number of decks you would like to count down. Cards will begin to flash up. Press the appropriate function key to slow down or speed up the flow of cards, to quit the drill, or to display the counts. You can also control the delivery of cards by pressing the space bar to flash a new card. When you can "count down" a deck in 25 seconds you will be well prepared for the dealing speed found in most casinos. If you wish to practice playing situations and to test your memory of the color charts, press F2. The menu will then allow you to select the system you want to practice. Situations will be flashed on the screen and you will be given a choice of responses. When you make a

\*For the purpose of clarity, Function Keys depicted within a box refer to those to be pressed when the *initial program menu* is displayed on the screen.

correct choice, a new situation will appear. If you make an incorrect choice, there will be a warning tone followed by the appearance of the appropriate data box — so that you can re-evaluate your choice. You then can hit any key to resume the drill. You will again face the identical situation so you can make the correct choice. If you press the space bar, a second set of function key choices will appear. These will enable you to quit, to obtain statistics on the accuracy of your choices, or to recall the data box.

If you chose to enter a real casino situation to play blackjack, depress **F2**. If you were in a casino previously during the same session, you will be asked whether you want to return to it and use the same players. If you are selecting a casino for the first time during a session, the playing area menu will appear. Again at this point you can choose to create your own unique casino environment. Playing strategy may be altered beyond that which is available for the scores of casinos already included in this program. Because of this, you will be unable to obtain an evaluation of your play when playing in a custom casino. You will, however, be able to have access to running counts for the various Uston card counting systems; and you can even create your own unique counting system just by entering the card values into the program (press **F3**) so that a running count will be available from that system at any time during your play. If you press the **PLAYER'S CHOICE** key, a menu will appear which contains a list of any casinos you may have created during the current playing session. Select the custom casino of your choice from this list and begin play. If you wish to create one of these custom casinos you need to depress **F4** in order to edit casino rules. Then press **F9** and you will enter the realm of the players choice where a series of menus will be flashed. Through this series you can select from a large list of rules options. At this point you can create

the name of the casino, its specific rules and even save it to disc for future use. Please don't forget to remove and replace the write/protect tab.

The data box is an extremely helpful tool for refining your skills in the various Uston systems or even in just learning basic strategy. It will depict the correct playing move right from the color chart appropriate for the casino and the strategy you are playing. We have made a philosophical choice to support the charts at all times in the data box. There are a few occasions when the charts do not suggest the correct move because the correct move is temporarily impossible. For example, it is obviously impossible to double down with insufficient funds, even though the charts may say that doubling down is the correct move.

Early on in your blackjack education you may chose to leave the data box constantly "on" during casino play. The default position is "off." To turn it on, press **F5** and the word **ON** will appear. The contents of the data box vary with the strategy system being used. For basic strategy play, when the color version is being operated, the very bottom of the box will contain a compartment that displays the appropriate color for the current playing decision from the basic strategy chart. In the monochrome version, the appropriate playing move will be printed in this box: **HT** for Hit, **ST** for Stand, **DB** for Double Down, **SP** for Split and a blinking character that indicates surrender if available. In the color version, the lowest portion of the data box will depict the actual colors from the appropriate box of the color chart in force. If surrender is an option, it will be depicted as "S."

The data in the Simple Plus/Minus system will consist of the running count with the appropriate move depicted at the inferior portion of the box. With the Advanced Plus/Minus system, the box will contain the running count, the true count and the appropriate playing move. The Uston Ad-

vanced Point Count data box will contain the number of aces (ACES), ace richness or poorness (A +/-), the running count (RC), true count (TC) and the betting true count (BTC) (ACE adjusted running count). In addition, the correct playing move will be depicted in the inferior part of the box. During the phase of play when bets are being placed, the appropriate data for each system will be shown. No data for Basic Strategy will be shown during the betting phase of the game since there is no betting strategy associated with Basic Strategy.

The cut card is set in a default position at 70%. This means that 70% of the cards in the deck or shoe will be dealt before the cut card is encountered. In most situations, the current round of hands will be finished and then the deck will be reshuffled. (In single deck play, the cut card position will be modified by the program so that rounds of play can be completed without the need to shuffle in mid-round.) You can set the position of the cut card anywhere between 20 and 80% from the front of the deck by pressing **F6** and entering your choice.

Running statistics are kept on every player. Should you choose to use the same players in a different casino or to restart them in the same casino during a single session, you can reset their playing and betting accuracy statistics when the initial program menu is shown by pressing **F7**.

### **How to Play Casino Blackjack**

In order to begin casino play, select the casino choice as described above. After the rules have been listed for a chosen casino, touch any key and a menu will appear which enables you to set players at the table. You can seat from 1-7 players at the table and assign any of those players to be controlled by the computer or by yourself. (Any number of people could sit at the keyboard — or pass the keyboard

around — and take turns entering their moves, if you wish to play with a group of people). To leave any of the playing locations empty as you set up the table, simply press the escape key as the computer prompts for each seat. After you have chosen a player position, press F1 if it is to be controlled by keyboard, press F2 if the computer is to play the hand. You will be offered a choice of playing strategies. If the computer is controlling the hand, it will play the selected strategy perfectly. (You cannot assign the computer to play an undeclared strategy.) The four strategies which you can assign the computer to play are: Basic Strategy; Uston Simple Plus/Minus; Advanced Plus/Minus; and Uston Advanced Point Count. In addition to these strategies a player can play an undeclared strategy, in which case the computer will not evaluate your play. After selecting the strategy for a given player you can enter a name for that player. Next you will enter the wallet the player is playing with and the player's base betting unit. This concept is important in counting systems but for now consider it to mean the denomination of the chips a player is primarily playing with. The base betting unit is utilized to simplify the process of entering in bets. Thus if you are at a real casino and sitting at a \$25.00 table and playing with green chips, you can simulate that by selecting \$25.00 as your base betting unit in this program. When entering any bets during play, you can easily select multiples of your base betting unit via the function keys instead of having to type in the actual dollar amount.

After you have seated all your players and have pressed the escape key for any playing position that you wish to leave empty, you will proceed immediately into your chosen casino. Play will begin after the cards have been shuffled. The name of the casino appears in the center of the table and at this location the banter of the dealer will be printed. The computer controlled players will automatically place

their bets. A player controlled seat will be prompted and F key functions will be depicted on the bottom line of the screen. Press F5 to activate the number keypad if you wish to place a bet which is not a multiple of your base betting unit. Press F6 if you wish to reset a bet which you have already started to enter. Pressing F7 through F9 will draw the depicted multiples of your base betting unit from your wallet and put them in your betting column in the upper left hand portion of the player data box. *After you have selected the appropriate bet, press F10 to enter it.* After all playing positions have their bets entered, the cards will be dealt and the players will be prompted one by one to enter their playing moves. Computer controlled hands will be played automatically. When a player controlled seat is prompted for its move, function key choices will again be shown at the bottom of the screen. This will allow you to select from the available moves.

If you wish to adjust the quality of play or to obtain useful data, press the space bar. A new set of F key functions will appear at the bottom line which allows you to choose among the following: to quit; to obtain statistics about betting accuracy for the player being prompted at the moment; for turning on and off various sound effects; to adjust the speed of the deal; and to obtain data for the current hand for the most recent playing situation.

If you make a playing strategy error while playing a declared strategy, a warning tone will be sounded. By pressing the space bar followed by F9, you can bring the data box onto the screen so that you can evaluate your error. If you do not wish to do this, play will continue. If while placing a bet, you enter a bet which is too high for your chosen strategy, three high-pitched tones will be sounded. Again if you press the space bar and F9, you can

obtain the data relevant to the errant decision. If you place a bet that is too low for the declared strategy, three low tones will be sounded.

In multiple deck play, additional important data will be supplied in the form of a proportionately scaled discard rack so you can correctly adjust your running counts. You should frequently observe the discard rack as the cards are placed so that your eye can be trained to calibrate a stack of cards. Since the card stacks are proportionately scaled in terms of their width (based on a relative height of a deck of cards), calibrating your eye to the depicted discard rack will actually train your eye for the life size rack used in actual casino play.











 **screenplay**

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