

Tight Aggressive Strategy in Zynga Poker

Even if they're not aware of it, practically any poker player has a style when it comes to the way in which they approach hand selection and standard strategy. It may not seem obvious at first, but over time you'll start to notice that you tend to make similar decisions in similar situations again and again, which defines your personal poker technique. [Buy zynga poker chips](#) at [Jojochips.com](#)

If you find that you like to sit back and wait for good hands, but once you have a good hand you flip a switch and go for the kill, you are definitely a tight/aggressive (TAG) type of player.

The easiest way to define a TAG poker style is that instead of taking too many risks with a large hand selection range and getting involved in pots with average-strength cards, a player with this mindset prefers to be patient and pick the best opportunities to strike. When they do strike, it's typically in an extremely aggressive fashion. By combining fantastic defensive and offensive strategies, tight/aggressive players can have a lot of success at the table.

One of the only issues with a tight/aggressive poker strategy is that you may become too predictable, as sharp opponents will realize quickly that you only seem to be entering pots with premium hands. This can be masked and covered up simply by changing gears and opening your hand range a little in order to throw the others off your scent, allowing you to go back to your TAG techniques.

How to play TAG poker

A tight/passive Texas Hold'em poker player will wait all day for hands such as aces, kings and queens, and then proceed to check the flop and let the other players do all of the big decision making. A tight/aggressive player, on the other hand, takes the bull by the horns and initiates all the action, placing the majority of the pressure on their opponents.

This is effective in numerous ways because it gives you more chances to win the hand, as your aggressive bets may cause a player to fold, while passive players can only win if their hand holds up at showdown. Switching from tight/passive to tight/aggressive basically doubles your chances of winning without doing much extra work.

As far as hand selection is concerned, most TAG players follow the “top ten starting hands” formula, where they’ll only tend to enter pots with one of the best starting hands (AA, KK, QQ, AK, etc.). Do a little research and learn what the best 10-15 starting hands in Hold’em are and it’ll make your life a lot easier pre-flop.

Once you decide to enter a pot, the TAG method requires that you begin your aggressiveness immediately. This means you should either be making the first pre-flop raise, or, at the very least, calling a pre-flop raise (and possibly even re-raising). You need to establish a strong, aggressive table image quickly in order for your strategy to work, as it will help you get the maximum value out of your wins.

Speaking of value, tight/aggressive players make their money at the table by constantly achieving to extract the most chips out of an opponent every hand they enter. This can be accomplished through value betting and setting traps, all of which are pretty easy to pull off if your strong starting hand improves post-flop. You may need to scale back on just how aggressive you are post-flop, as you don’t want to push too hard and scare away any fish that your hand likely dominates, but you still should be the one at the table that dictates the action.

Where to play TAG poker

Speaking from my own experience, tight/aggressive poker works extremely well during No Limit Hold’em cash games and single-table SNGs, as both those formats give TAG players a lot of good table conditions to work with. Multi-table tournaments (MTTs) and Limit Hold’em games just don’t fit the criteria for this style of strategy in many scenarios, or at least not as the main source of strategy.

Additionally, don’t feel like you have to remain at every table you sit at. The best players cruise from one game to another looking for open seats to the left of weak players. You want to sit to the right of weak opponents because they’re the ones that are most likely to not pick up on your methodology and traps, enabling you to pick them clean almost at will. Never forget, however, that no poker strategy will work in every situation, which is why you need to be capable of switching things up and going against the grain once in a while to stay ahead of the rest of the pack.