

BB Defence vs Button Open (6-Max)

Chart

AA	AKs	AQs	AJs	ATs	A9s	A8s	A7s	A6s	A5s	A4s	A3s	A2s
AKo	KK	KQs	KJs	KTs	K9s	K8s	K7s	K6s	K5s	K4s	K3s	K2s
AQo	KQo	QQ	QJs	QTs	Q9s	Q8s	Q7s	Q6s	Q5s	Q4s	Q3s	Q2s
AJo	KJo	QJo	JJ	JTs	J9s	J8s	J7s	J6s	J5s	J4s	J3s	J2s
ATo	KTo	QTo	JTo	TT	T9s	T8s	T7s	T6s	T5s	T4s	T3s	T2s
A9o	K9o	Q9o	J9o	T9o	99	98s	97s	96s	95s	94s	93s	92s
A8o	K8o	Q8o	J8o	T8o	98o	88	87s	86s	85s	84s	83s	82s
A7o	K7o	Q7o	J7o	T7o	97o	87o	77	76s	75s	74s	73s	72s
A6o	K6o	Q6o	J6o	T6o	96o	86o	76o	66	65s	64s	63s	62s
A5o	K5o	Q5o	J5o	T5o	95o	85o	75o	65o	55	54s	53s	52s
A4o	K4o	Q4o	J4o	T4o	94o	84o	74o	64o	54o	44	43s	42s
A3o	K3o	Q3o	J3o	T3o	93o	83o	73o	63o	53o	43o	33	32s
A2o	K2o	Q2o	J2o	T2o	92o	82o	72o	62o	52o	42o	32o	22

3-bet Mixed Call Fold

3-bet: 99+, ATs+, A5s-A2s, KJs+, AJo+, KQo

9.4% of hands (124 combos)

Call: 22-88, A2s-A9s, K2s-KTs, Q2s-QJs, J6s-JTs, T6s+, 95s+, 85s+, 74s+, 64s+, 53s+, 43s, A2o-ATo, K7o-KQo, Q8o+, J8o+, T8o+, 97o+, 87o, 76o, 65o, 54o

45.7% of hands (606 combos)

The pot odds are what drive this. With 1bb already posted, calling a 2.5bb raise costs you 1.5bb to win a pot of about 5bb — you need roughly 22% equity to break even on the call alone, and almost any two cards have that much against a 51% opening range. That is why the big blind defends more than half of all hands against the button, wider than any other spot in poker.

The 3-betting range is deliberately polarised: premiums that want a big pot (99+, AK, AQ) and suited wheel aces (A5s–A2s) that block AA/AK and make the nut flush. The suited wheel aces are the part most players get wrong — they call with them instead. Calling wastes their blocker value; 3-betting turns them into the hands that let you bluff credibly on ace-high and low boards.

The one thing that ruins big-blind defence is calling wide and then giving up on every flop you miss. A 55% defending range only pays if you actually continue on flops with backdoor equity and float the button in position-reversed spots. If you fold 80% of flops, you should be defending far tighter.