

Ultimate X 8/5 DDB Triple Play Simplified Strategy Approach for Jackpot Gents Viewers by pax0r



Acknowledgements

Without the following resources available, this guide would not be possible with my own intuition. It has given me a better understanding of creating this guide to play Ultimate X in a simplified manner.

- Wizard of Odds Ultimate X Page
- VideoPoker.com PRO Training
- Gary J Koehler academic paper on Ultimate X

Agenda

- Understanding the Strategy Approach of Ultimate X using Single Hand Scenario
- The impossibility for any human player to achieve 100% optimal strategy
- Penalty of applying conventional 5 card strategy on Ultimate X
- Exploring the Wizard of Odds Singular Approach
- Two Pass Process
- Strategy Chart
- Strategy Exceptions between Conventional and Ultimate X based on Multiplier levels

Understanding the Strategy Approach of Ultimate X using Single Hand Scenario

The core feature of Ultimate X Poker is that for every winning hand, the following hand is awarded a bonus multiplier. Consecutive wins could yield favorable results to the play. Some of the poker hand outcomes offer a bigger multiplier independent of rarity: 10X for Flush and 12X for Full House; but 2X for 4 of a Kind and Straight Flush.

Take for example, a deal with 4 cards to an outside straight along with a pair of 3s. Conventional strategy in Double Double Bonus prefers the player to hold the low pair over the outside straight.



Although the expectation of a low pair is 0.87 Credits greater than 4 cards to an outside straight, the outside straight has a significant chance at a Straight outcome (8 out of 47 cards). The Straight offers a high multiplier 7x (8x for Multi-Hand) if it hits. Thus the value of getting a bonus multiplier is taken into account as “Multiplier Expected Value”. The expected value is about “[Multiplier of Outcome Hand - 1] x [the average expected payout in 5 coin wager]”. Both of these numbers are taken into account for the overall EV to determine the best hold, despite the Multiplier Expected Value is theoretical and non-paying. There are many cases where the deal

Hold	EV	Win +XEV	Mult	No Win 0+1X	1B 5+2X	2P 5+3X	3K 15+4X	ST 20+7X	FL 25+10X	FH 40+12X	4K 5-K 200+4X	4K 2-4 400+4X	4 Aces 800+4X	4K 2-4 K 800+4X	4 Aces k 2000+4X	SF 250+4X	RF 4000+4X
2 3 4 5	8.3328	3.404 +4.929	1X	0	0	0	0	3.404 +4.929	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 3 4 5	8.3328	3.404 +4.929	1X	0	0	0	0	3.404 +4.929	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 3 3 4	8.048	4.278 +3.77	1X	0	0	0.799 +1.538	1.715 +1.652	0	0	0.407 +0.541	0	0.863 +0.031	0	0.493 +0.009	0	0	0
2 3 3 4	6.333	3.099 +3.234	1X	0	0	0.86 +1.655	1.166 +1.122	0	0	0.333 +0.443	0	0	0	0.74 +0.013	0	0	0
2 3 3 5	6.333	3.099 +3.234	1X	0	0	0.86 +1.655	1.166 +1.122	0	0	0.333 +0.443	0	0	0	0.74 +0.013	0	0	0
2 3 3 5	5.963	2.729 +3.234	1X	0	0	0.86 +1.655	1.166 +1.122	0	0	0.333 +0.443	0	0.37 +0.013	0	0	0	0	0
2 3 4 5	3.470	1.645 +1.825	1X	0	0.785 +0.754	0.24 +0.462	0.323 +0.311	0.093 +0.135	0.048 +0.08	0.059 +0.079	0.056 +0.003	0	0.018	0	0.01	0.003	0.01
2 3 4 5	3.119	1.277 +1.843	1X	0	0	0.638 +1.228	0.638 +0.615	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

For Ultimate X Poker, the total EV for a hold is a combination of the Expected Value of all possible win types (including current multipliers) PLUS an additional Multiplier Expected Value (XEV) from the multipliers earned towards your next hand.

In the same scenario, this time a 2x Multiplier is present. The low pair will be the best hold for this deal scenario.

ROYAL FLUSH.....	750	1000	4000
STRAIGHT FLUSH.....	150	200	250
4 ACES W/ 2,3,4.....	1200	1600	2000
4 2S,3S,4S W/ ACE 2,3,4.....	480	640	800
4 ACES.....	480	640	800
4 2S,3S,4S.....	240	320	400
4 5S THRU KS.....	150	200	250
FULL HOUSE.....	24	32	40
FLUSH.....	15	20	25
STRAIGHT.....	12	16	20
3 OF A KIND.....	9	12	15
2 PAIR.....	3	4	5
JACKS OR BETTER.....	3	4	5

Take a 2X Multiplier in the same scenario, this time the low pair will be the best hold. The Expected Value of the hold gets doubled, and it far exceeds the potential Multiplier Expected Value (MEV) from the 4 card outside straight provides.

Hold	EV	Win +XEV	Mult	No Win	JB	2P	3K	ST	FL	FH	4K 5-K	4K 2-4	4 Aces	4K 2-4 K	4 Aces k	SF	RF
	12.327	8.556 +3.77	2X	0	0	0.799 +1.539	1.715 +1.852	0	0	0.407 +0.541	0	0.863 +0.031	0	0.493 +0.009	0	0	0
	11.737	6.809 +4.929	2X	0	0	0	0	3.404 +4.929	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	11.737	6.809 +4.929	2X	0	0	0	0	3.404 +4.929	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	9.432	6.198 +3.234	2X	0	0	0.86 +1.655	1.166 +1.122	0	0	0.333 +0.443	0	0	0	0.74 +0.013	0	0	0
	9.432	6.198 +3.234	2X	0	0	0.86 +1.655	1.166 +1.122	0	0	0.333 +0.443	0	0	0	0.74 +0.013	0	0	0
	8.691	5.458 +3.234	2X	0	0	0.86 +1.655	1.166 +1.122	0	0	0.333 +0.443	0	0.37 +0.013	0	0	0	0	0
	5.116	3.291 +1.825	2X	0	0.785 +0.754	0.24 +0.462	0.323 +0.311	0.093 +0.135	0.046 +0.08	0.059 +0.079	0.056 +0.003	0	0.018	0	0.01	0.003	0.01
	4.421	2.845 +1.576	2X	0	0.488 +0.468	0.253 +0.487	0.351 +0.338	0.048 +0.069	0.069 +0.12	0.067 +0.089	0.011 +0.001	0.078 +0.003	0	0.04 +0.001	0.011	0.006	0

For Ultimate X Poker, the total EV for a hold is a combination of the Expected Value of all possible win types (including current multipliers) PLUS an additional Multiplier Expected Value (XEV) from the multipliers earned towards your next hand.

This chart shows the amount that each possible win type contributes to the total Expected Value of a hold.
View by number of possible outcomes.

The overall objective is to find suboptimal holds that yields the greatest multiplier potential for subsequent rounds, while weighing the cost of the current multipliers in place to determine if the

optimal holds outweigh the Multiplier Expected Value potential. There are also many instances that the optimal hold also yields the greatest Multiplier Expected Value.

The Impossibility of playing Ultimate X 100% Correctly

“If you want to memorize proper strategy, you will need a separate strategy for all possible total multipliers, and there are hundreds of possibilities between 3-play, 5-play, and 10-play. In my opinion, the number of players who will ever know strategy within 0.1% of optimal strategy, will be zero”

- Michael Shackelford in 2010

The Wizard of Odds page on Ultimate X (<http://wizardofodds.com/ultimatex>) shares an academic paper by Professor Gary J Koehler where Ultimate X optimal holds were solved using the Markov-Decision Problem. This is a linear algebra subject that a vast majority of people were not required to take for a degree in school. There are many different game states in which a combination of multiplier sets can appear, there are 30 different sets for the 3-line 8/5 DDB. On top of that there are 2,598,960 ways to draw 5 cards from a 52 card with 134,459 unique deals types (Shackelford).

Take for example the following 2 draws:

4 ♣ 5 ♦ 10 ♥ J ♥ A ♣

6 ♣ 8 ♦ 10 ♥ J ♥ A ♣

The multipliers of when to take the lone Ace or the Jack-Ten suited differentiates when there are Straight Penalties to the Ace (the 5) or the Jack-Ten suited (the 8)

Most people play Ultimate X for the thrill, it would be rather monotonous to study a very large strategy space to strive for perfection. A simple approach to the game is much necessary.

Penalty of applying conventional 5 card strategy on Ultimate X

Hand	Payout	Number of Possibilities	Odds	Return
Royal Flush	4000	64.86711818	1 in 40065.9081636612	0.099835501
Straight Flush	250	278.0721538	1 in 9346.35116837065	0.026748406
4 Aces with Any 2, 3, 4	2000	160.0440732	1 in 16239.0268382871	0.12316009
4 2s, 3s, 4s, w/ Ace, 2, 3, 4	800	372.1557418	1 in 6983.52788411922	0.114555281
4 Aces	800	450.7821315	1 in 5765.44591817176	0.138757697
4 2s, 3s, 4s	400	999.107903	1 in 2601.28059464852	0.153770416
4 5s thru Kings	250	4242.252191	1 in 612.636845512541	0.408072093
Full House	40	28244.59485	1 in 92.0161897919312	0.434706111
Flush	25	28550.30054	1 in 91.0309156416735	0.274631973
Straight	20	33659.35553	1 in 77.2135995746954	0.259021728
Three of a Kind	15	195790.7645	1 in 13.2741705517791	1.130014108
Two Pairs	5	320034.797	1 in 8.12086693162393	0.615697812

Jacks or Better	5	551154.0269	1 in 4.7154876373899	1.060335724
Nothing	0	1434958.879	1 in 1.81117385122818	0
		2598960		4.839306942

The conventional 8/5 DDB with optimal strategy played returns 4.839306942 Credits per 5 Credit wager for a return of 96.789%

In 3 Play Ultimate X Poker, there are 30 possible totals of multipliers. Using linear algebra and matrix stabilization operation, taking a matrix of possibilities multiplied itself a billion times to come up with the transition rate.

The following is a breakdown of the multiplier state percentages (second column) the game goes through if it is under the assumption that the player uses conventional 5 card 8/5 Strategy throughout.

Note #1: The Expected Return (third column) is a product of the Multiplier times the Expected Return of 4.839306942

Note #2: The Total Return is the product of the Transition Rate percentage and the Expected Return to get the Expected Value. All 30 stages are added together.

Multiplier	Transition %Rate	Expected Return	Total Return
3	0.272894913	14.51792083	3.961866741
4	0.150902752	19.35722777	2.921058941
5	0.152773224	24.19653471	3.696582617
6	0.139094787	29.03584165	4.03873421
7	0.063823136	33.87514859	2.162018216
8	0.057805477	38.71445553	2.237907569
9	0.052258396	43.55376248	2.276049767
10	0.026046755	48.39306942	1.260482423
11	0.006707519	53.23237636	0.357057176
12	0.031628948	58.0716833	1.836746251
13	0.004198671	62.91099024	0.26414255
14	0.00603547	67.75029719	0.408904886
15	0.000864067	72.58960413	0.062722281
16	0.004390481	77.42891107	0.339950163
17	0.004678989	82.26821801	0.384932087
18	0.010107092	87.10752495	0.880403769
19	0.000726545	91.94683189	0.066803511
20	0.003338849	96.78613884	0.323154303
21	0.002948263	101.6254458	0.299618542
22	0.000294978	106.4647527	0.03140476
23	1.13E-05	111.3040597	0.001257736
24	0.004038111	116.1433666	0.468999806
25	6.44E-05	120.9826735	0.007791284
26	5.09E-05	125.8219805	0.006404339

27	0.000820817	130.6612874	0.107249006
28	0.000245156	135.5005944	0.033218784
30	0.002149549	145.1792083	0.312069822
32	3.39E-08	154.8578221	5.24968E-06
34	6.36E-09	164.536436	1.04645E-06
36	0.00136019	174.2150499	0.236965569
			28.9845034

28.9845 credit return from a 30 credit per round wager equates to a 96.615% return, which is less than the 96.789% conventional return.

Exploring Wizard of Odds Singular Strategy Approach

For reference, Shackelford suggested to use the Strategy Maker and input higher payouts so that the strategy can be more aggressive on certain payouts.

“For each poker hand, determine: (adjusted win) = 2x(base win) + (multiplier) - 1. For example, if the base win for a full house is 8 and the multiplier is 12, then the adjusted win is 2 × 8 + 12 - 1 = 27.”

However, after experimentation and my observations on VideoPoker.com PRO Training, I felt that Shackelford’s assigned values may be an overvaluation for the Multiplier EV compared to the VideoPoker.com PRO Training.

I have explored that the Multiplier Expected Value is about 4.8 per multiplier over 1x by dealing myself with a Straight Flush which awards 2x. Shackelford estimates are a full 5 credits which represents a video poker game paying 100% return.

14.4 Multiplier Expected Value for 3 lines, so it will be 4.8 per line.

Hold	EV	Win +XEV	Mult	No Win 0+1X	JB 5+2X	2P 5+3X	3K 15+4X	ST 20+8X	FL 25+10X	FH 40+12X	4K 5-K 250+2X	4K 2-4 400+2X	4 Aces 800+2X	4K 2-4 K 800+2X	4 Aces k 2000+2X	SF 250+2X	RF 4000+2X	
	764.401	750 +14.401	3X	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250 +14.401	0	
	67.382	34.787 +32.595	3X	0	0	0	0	2.553 +12.911	3.723 +19.377	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.319 +0.307	0
	67.382	34.787 +32.595	3X	0	0	0	0	2.553 +12.911	3.723 +19.377	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.319 +0.307	0
	45.192	16.596 +28.596	3X	0	0	0	0	1.277 +6.455	4.255 +22.142	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	45.192	16.596 +28.596	3X	0	0	0	0	1.277 +6.455	4.255 +22.142	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	45.192	16.596 +28.596	3X	0	0	0	0	1.277 +6.455	4.255 +22.142	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	13.671	5.648 +8.023	3X	0	0.111 +0.319	0.125 +0.719	0.125 +0.36	0.666 +3.365	0.624 +3.247	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.231 +0.013	0
	13.671	5.648 +8.023	3X	0	0.111 +0.319	0.125 +0.719	0.125 +0.36	0.666 +3.365	0.624 +3.247	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.231 +0.013	0

Here is the HELP page with the Multipliers

ROYAL FLUSH.....	250	500	750	1000	4000
STRAIGHT FLUSH.....	50	100	150	200	250
4 ACES W/ 2,3,4.....	400	800	1200	1600	2000
4 2S,3S,4S W/ ACE 2,3,4.....	160	320	480	640	800
4 ACES.....	160	320	480	640	800
4 2S,3S,4S.....	80	160	240	320	400
4 5S THRU KS.....	50	100	150	200	250
FULL HOUSE.....	8	16	24	32	40
FLUSH.....	5	10	15	20	25
STRAIGHT.....	4	8	12	16	20
3 OF A KIND.....	3	6	9	12	15
2 PAIR.....	1	2	3	4	5
JACKS OR BETTER.....	1	2	3	4	5

ROYAL FLUSH.....	2X
STRAIGHT FLUSH.....	2X
4 ACES W/ 2,3,4.....	2X
4 2S,3S,4S W/ ACE 2,3,4.....	2X
4 ACES.....	2X
4 2S,3S,4S.....	2X
4 5S THRU KS.....	2X
FULL HOUSE.....	12X
FLUSH.....	10X
STRAIGHT.....	8X
3 OF A KIND.....	4X
2 PAIR.....	3X
JACKS OR BETTER.....	2X

BET 1

Hand Selection: **Standard RNG** (all hands)

I converted the number that is fitting to the Strategy Maker at Wizard of Odds.

Hand	Weighted Formula	Weighted Value	WoO Strategy Maker Entry
Royal Flush	$4000 + 4.8$	4004.8	800.96
Straight Flush	$250 + 4.8$	254.8	50.96
4 Aces with Any 2, 3, 4	$2000 + 4.8$	2004.8	400.96
4 2s, 3s, 4s, w/ Ace, 2, 3, 4	$800 + 4.8$	804.8	160.96
4 Aces	$800 + 4.8$	804.8	160.96
4 2s, 3s, 4s	$400 + 4.8$	404.8	80.96
4 5s thru Kings	$250 + 4.8$	254.8	50.96
Full House	$40 + 11 * 4.8$	92.8	18.56
Flush	$25 + 9 * 4.8$	68.2	13.64
Straight	$20 + 7 * 4.8$	53.6	10.72
Three of a Kind	$15 + 3 * 4.8$	29.4	5.88
Two Pairs	$5 + 2 * 4.8$	14.6	2.92
Jacks or Better	$5 + 4.8$	9.8	1.96
Nothing	0	0	0

The Wizard of Odds Video Poker Strategy Maker can be found here:

<https://wizardofodds.com/games/video-poker/strategy/calculator/>

Video Poker Hand Analyzer

Introduction

Paytable	
HAND	PRIZE
Royal Flush	800.96
Straight Flush	50.96
Four Aces with any 2,3,4	400.96
Four 2's, 3's, 4's with any A,2,3,4	160.96
Four Aces	160.96
Four 2's, 3's, 4's	80.96
Four 5's through K's	50.96
Full House	18.56
Flush	13.64
Straight	10.72
Three of a Kind	5.88
Two Pair	2.92
Jacks or Better	1.96

Continue Go Back

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Direct Link to the Strategy results created:

<https://wizardofodds.com/games/video-poker/strategy/a-1-b-57-c-1-d-0-d-1.96-d-2.92-d-5.88-d-10.72-d-13.64-d-18.56-d-50.96-d-80.96-d-160.96-d-160.96-d-400.96-d-50.96-d-800.96/>

The abbreviated strategy yields the following payout

Hand	Payout	Number of Possibilities	Odds	Return
Royal Flush	4000	49.1024308	1 in 52929.3551789488	0.07557243
Straight Flush	250	272.2073485	1 in 9547.72166884866	0.026184257
4 Aces with Any 2, 3, 4	2000	130.5886985	1 in 19901.8753514062	0.100493042
4 2s, 3s, 4s, w/ Ace, 2, 3, 4	800	368.2770061	1 in 7057.07920187247	0.113361346
4 Aces	800	365.2622139	1 in 7115.3267454475	0.112433347
4 2s, 3s, 4s	400	993.0024154	1 in 2617.27460056913	0.152830735
4 5s thru Kings	250	4183.106282	1 in 621.299059778568	0.402382711

Full House	40	29337.24126	1 in 88.5891068342541	0.451522782
Flush	25	37888.68734	1 in 68.5946170903912	0.364460085
Straight	20	41222.01003	1 in 63.0478717102213	0.317219273
Three of a Kind	15	186980.2641	1 in 13.8996487824743	1.079163958
Two Pairs	5	323058.9776	1 in 8.04484685445684	0.621515871
Jacks or Better	5	502872.3449	1 in 5.16823012109044	0.967449181
Nothing	0	1471238.928	1 in 1.76651116953167	0
		2598960		4.78458902

4.784589 Credit return for a 5 Credit wager will yield a 95.692% payout which is little more than 1% from the optimal holds.

Using Matrix stabilization, the Transition % Rates are higher than the conventional strategy on the higher multiplier levels. This will yield a higher overall Expected Value.

Multiplier	Transition % Rate	Expected Return	Total Return
3	0.296881075	14.35376706	4.261361791
4	0.137436354	19.13835608	2.63030589
5	0.13947942	23.9229451	3.336758501
6	0.127835343	28.70753412	3.66983746
7	0.058261786	33.49212314	1.951310926
8	0.054698896	38.27671216	2.093693883
9	0.056799155	43.06130118	2.445845501
10	0.032176987	47.8458902	1.539536575
11	0.007136489	52.63047922	0.375596855
12	0.03805163	57.41506823	2.184736909
13	0.006194345	62.19965725	0.385286166
14	0.006172743	66.98424627	0.413476558
15	0.000802471	71.76883529	0.057592378
16	0.004183188	76.55342431	0.320237367
17	0.005391496	81.33801333	0.438533533
18	0.011656255	86.12260235	1.003867038
19	0.000701763	90.90719137	0.063795261
20	0.003310924	95.69178039	0.316828182
21	0.003554452	100.4763694	0.357138447
22	0.000416388	105.2609584	0.043829374
23	1.87E-05	110.0455475	0.002055838
24	0.004076602	114.8301365	0.468116722
25	6.28E-05	119.6147255	0.007510399
26	4.87E-05	124.3993145	0.006056645
27	0.000965583	129.1839035	0.124737802
28	0.000243424	133.9684925	0.032611207

30	0.002183192	143.5376706	0.313370303
32	2.35E-08	153.1068486	3.59507E-06
34	3.70E-09	162.6760267	6.02471E-07
36	0.001475437	172.2452047	0.25413703
			29.09816874

29.09816874 Credit Return for the 30 Credit Wager yields a 96.994% return which is higher than the conventional 8/5 DDB payout, however it is still less than its theoretical return.

Optimal Returns from VideoPoker.com

3-Play: 97.227%

5-Play: 97.286%

10-Play: 97.352%

Simplified Returns without Exceptions played

3-Play: 96.994% (30 Multiplier States)

5-Play: 97.045% (52 Multiplier States)

10-Play: 97.132% (107 Multiplier States)

Two Pass Approach

The singular Ultimate X strategy was compared against the optimal conventional 8/5 DDB strategy. For all differing scenarios, a manual analysis was done on VideoPoker.com PRO Training using trial and error to see at what Multiplier levels the optimal holds are more valuable than sub-optimal high Multiplier EV hold. There is the Exception section below the strategy section of when the multiplier can possibly be high enough to play the conventional strategy than the suboptimal strategy. The more these exceptions are executed, the closer to the overall return the player can achieve.

Strategy Chart

IMPORTANT NOTES:

This singular strategy can be used to play 8/5 DDB in 3/5/10 play formats:

- 3-Play: 96.994% (30 Multiplier States)
- 5-Play: 97.045% (52 Multiplier States - offers 3x Multiplier 4 5s thru Kings)

- 10-Play: 97.132% (107 Multiplier States - offers 3x Multiplier 4 5s thru Kings + offers 4x Multiplier for the other Quads / Straight Flush / Royal Flush)

The indication “(ex)” meaning an Exception between conventional and Ultimate X strategy. There is the Exception section below of when the multiplier can possibly be high enough to play the conventional strategy rather than the suboptimal strategy. It is rather important to look at the Exceptions for the higher part of the chart (with lower numbered step) as those can have high Expected Values with the slightest multiplier changes.

1. Dealt 4 of a Kind, Straight Flush, Royal Flush
2. 4 to Royal Flush
3. (ex) Full House
4. 3 of a Kind: Aces
5. Flush
6. 3 of a Kind: 2s, 3s, 4s
7. Straight
8. 3 of a Kind: 5s thru Kings
9. 4 to Outside Straight Flush
10. (ex) Two Pairs
11. 4 to Inside Straight Flush (with 1 Gap)
12. Pair of Aces
13. Pair of Jacks, Queens, or Kings
14. 4 to Flush
 15. (ex) 3 to Royal Flush
 - a. 4 to Flush [A ♥ 3 ♥ J ♥ Q ♥]
 - b. 4 to Straight [10 ♥ Q ♥ K ♥ J ♥]
 - c. Normal [10 ♣ J ♣ K ♣]
16. (ex) 4 to Outside Straight
17. Pair of 2s, 3s, 4s
18. Pair of 5s thru 10s
19. 3 to Straight Flush: 9TJ / 9JQ
20. 4 to Inside Straight with 4 High Cards: JQKA
21. 3 to Straight Flush: 8TJ / 8JQ / 9JQ / 9JK / 9QK
22. 3 to Straight Flush with No High Cards and No Gaps excludes Ace - Low
23. 4 to Inside Straight with 3 High Cards
24. (ex) 2 to Royal Flush JQ / JK / QK
25. 4 to Inside Straight with 2 High Cards
26. (ex) 3 to Flush with 2 High Cards
27. (ex) 2 to Royal Flush JA / QA / KA
28. 3 to Straight Flush with No High Cards and 1 Gap includes Ace – Low
29. 3 to Straight Unsited TJQ / JQK (At ALL multiplier exception)
30. (ex) 4 to Inside Straight Ace-Low (A234 / A235 / A245 / A345)
31. (ex) 4 to Inside Straight with 1 High Card Jack or Queen [9 ♥ 10 ♦ Q ♦ 8 ♣]
32. Unsited JQ
33. (ex) 2 to Royal Flush TJ

34. (ex) Unsuted JK / QK
35. (ex) 3 to Flush with 1 High Cards [5 ♥ 10 ♥ Q ♥]
36. Ace only
 - a. If exists, 3 to Flush with Ace / King [3 ♥ 10 ♥ A ♥]
37. 2 to Royal Flush TQ / TK
38. (ex) Jack, Queen, King only
 - a. Unsuted JA / QA / KA with other 3 cards with 2 thru 10. The 10 must be unsuted with the 2 High Cards
 - b. 3 to Flush with a High Card Jack / Queen / King [3 ♥ 8 ♥ J ♥]
39. (ex) 3 to Inside Straight Flush with 2 Gaps and No High Cards [5 ♥ 7 ♥ 9 ♥]
40. 4 to Inside Straight with No High Cards [5 ♥ 9 ♥ 8 ♦ 6 ♣]
41. (ex) 3 to Flush with No High Cards [2 ♥ 4 ♥ 7 ♥]
42. Discard All

Strategy Exceptions between Conventional and Ultimate X based on Multiplier levels

Note #1: Add up all the Multipliers on the board to see if conventional optimal hold strategy is played. For hands with no multiplier labels on it, it counts as "1x"

Note #2: Former portion is the conventional 5 Card 8/5 DDB strategy hold. Latter portion is the Ultimate X 8/5 DDB Strategy hold.

- Step 4 - 3 of a Kind Aces vs Full House (Aces Full - A ♥ 5 ♥ A ♦ A ♣ 5 ♠)
 - Conventional Strategy 3 of a Kind Aces is held at:
 - 3-Play: 5x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 8x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 16x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 10 - Ace Pair vs Two Pairs (with one of the Pairs with Aces - A ♥ 8 ♥ A ♦ 8 ♦)
 - Conventional Strategy Ace Pair is held at:
 - 3-Play: 12x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 19x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 38x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 15a - 3 to Royal Flush vs 4 to Straight TJQK (with 3 to Royal - 10 ♥ J ♥ K ♥)
 - Conventional Strategy 3 to Royal Flush is held at:
 - 3-Play: 4x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 7x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 14x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 15b - 3 to Royal Flush vs 4 to Flush (with 3 to Royal - 6 ♥ 10 ♥ J ♥ Q ♥)
 - Conventional Strategy 3 to Royal Flush is held at:
 - 3-Play: 13x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 22x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 44x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 16 - Pair of 2s, 3s, 4s vs 4 to Outside Straight (with 2, 3, 4 - 4 ♥ 4 ♦ 3 ♥ 5 ♥ 6 ♦)
 - Conventional Strategy Pair of 2s, 3s, 4s is held at:

- 3-Play: 7x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 12x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 24x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 16 - Pair of 5s thru 10s vs 4 to Outside Straight (5 ♥ 5 ♦ 2 ♣ 3 ♣ 4 ♥)
 - Conventional Strategy Pair of 5s thru 10s is held at:
 - 3-Play: 30x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 48x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 96x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 24 - Two Suited High Cards vs 4 to Inside Straight (with Suited High Cards - J ♥ Q ♥ 8 ♦ 9 ♦)
 - Conventional Strategy Two Suited High Cards is held at:
 - 3-Play: 4x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 6x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 12x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 24 - Suited JQ vs 4 to Inside Straight with 3 High Cards (with Suited JQ - 10 ♥ J ♦ Q ♦ A ♣)
 - Conventional Strategy Suited JQ is held at:
 - 3-Play: 28x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 47x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 94x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 26 - Two Suited High Cards vs 3 to Flush (with Suited High Cards - 6 ♥ J ♥ K ♥)
 - Conventional Strategy Two Suited High Cards is held at:
 - 3-Play: 5x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 8x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 16x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 27 - Suited JA / QA vs 89JQ Inside Straight (A ♥ 8 ♥ 9 ♦ J ♣ Q ♥ drawn - A ♥ Q ♥ vs 8 ♥ 9 ♦ J ♣ Q ♥)
 - Conventional Strategy Suited JA / QA is held at:
 - 3-Play: 8x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 12x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 24x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 30 - Ace vs 4 to Inside Straight Ace-Low (2 ♥ 3 ♥ 4 ♦ A ♣)
 - Conventional Strategy Ace is held at:
 - 3-Play: 10x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 16x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 32x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 31 - Ace vs Inside Straight with a High Card (8 ♥ 10 ♦ Q ♣ 9 ♠)
 - Conventional Strategy Ace is held at:
 - 3-Play: 10x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 16x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 32x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 31 - Jack vs 4 to Inside Straight Jack-High (9 ♥ 10 ♥ 7 ♦ J ♣)
 - Conventional Strategy Jack is held at:
 - 3-Play: 17x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 28x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 56x Total Multiplier and up

- Step 31 - Queen vs 4 to Inside Straight Queen-High (Q ♥ 8 ♣ 9 ♠ 10 ♠)
 - Conventional Strategy Queen is held at:
 - 3-Play: 20x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 32x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 64x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 33 - Suited TJ vs 4 to Inside Straight (with Suited TJ - 7 ♥ 9 ♥ 10 ♦ J ♦)
 - Conventional Strategy Suited TJ is held at:
 - 3-Play: 9x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 15x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 30x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 33 - Ace vs Suited TJ
 - Conventional Strategy Ace is held at:
 - 3-Play: 20x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 34x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 68x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 34 - Unsuitd JK vs 4 to Inside Straight (7 ♥ 8 ♠ 9 ♦ J ♣ K ♠ drawn - J ♣ K ♠ vs 7 ♥ 8 ♠ 9 ♦ J ♣)
 - Conventional Strategy Unsuitd JK is held at:
 - 3-Play: 10x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 16x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 32x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 34 - Ace vs Unsuitd JA / QA / KA
 - Conventional Strategy Ace is held at:
 - 3-Play: 4x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 6x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 12x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 34 - Ace vs Unsuitd JK / QK
 - Conventional Strategy Ace is held at:
 - 3-Play: 18x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 31x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 62x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 35 - Ace vs 3 to Flush with 1 High Card (5 ♥ 10 ♥ Q ♥)
 - Conventional Strategy Ace is held at:
 - 3-Play: 4x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 6x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 12x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 35 - Suited TQ vs 3 to Flush (with Suited TQ - 7 ♥ 10 ♥ Q ♥)
 - Conventional Strategy Suited TQ is held at:
 - 3-Play: 6x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 9x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 18x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 38b - High Card Jack, Queen, King vs 3 to Flush (with High Card - 2 ♥ 6 ♥ J ♥)
 - Conventional Strategy High Card Jack, Queen, King is held at:
 - 3-Play: 5x Total Multiplier and up

- 5-Play: 8x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 16x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 39 - 3 to Straight Flush with 2 Gaps vs 4 to Inside Straight with No High Cards (2 ♥ 3 ♥ 6 ♥ 4 ♦)
 - Conventional Strategy 3 to Straight Flush is held at:
 - 3-Play: 8x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 14x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 28x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 41 - Discard All vs 3 to Flush with No High Cards (3 ♥ 7 ♥ 10 ♥)
 - Conventional Strategy Discard All is held at:
 - 3-Play: 8x Total Multiplier and up
 - 5-Play: 11x Total Multiplier and up
 - 10-Play: 22x Total Multiplier and up
- Step 29 Unsuit JQ vs 3 to Straight TJQ (Q ♥ 10 ♦ J ♣)
 - Conventional Strategy is NEVER Played for this case