DOUBLE-DOWN STUD

1. The Basic Game

   Although I have only seen this as a table game in Reno, it is available as a video poker game in Las Vegas.

   After you place your bet, the dealer deals four cards up on the table, and one card down. At this point, you have the option of doubling your bet. Then, the dealer flips the fifth card, and makes the appropriate pay-outs.

   On average, you will lose 27.4% of your first bet, double-down on 25.0% of the hands, and lose an average per hand of 2.6% of your original bet.

2. Pay-offs (from memory!)

   (a) Pair of Sixes to Tens is a push
   (b) Pair of Jacks to Aces pays 1 to 1
   (c) Two Pair pays 2 to 1
   (d) Three of a Kind pays 3 to 1
   (e) Straight pays 5 to 1
   (f) Flush pays 8 to 1
   (g) Full House pays 11 to 1
   (h) Four of a Kind pays 50 to 1
   (i) Straight Flush pays 200 to 1
   (j) Royal Flush pays 2000 to 1
3. **Strategy**

Double-Down on:

(a) Four of a Kind
(b) Three of a Kind
(c) Two Pair
(d) Pair of Sixes or better
(e) Four suited cards
(f) 2345, 3456, ..., T J Q K unsuited
(g) J Q K A unsuited