

# The GameSense Guide to Slot Machines



**GameSense**

**bclc**  
playing it right

## Play more, pay more.

Slot machines are entertainment, and just like dinner and a movie, you should expect to pay for the entertainment. When your entertainment money is spent, it's time to call it a day. It's possible to get carried away and spend too much time or more money than planned or is affordable... set a budget or time limit and stick with it!

## Making Sense of the Odds.

### What are my chances to win?

If you think you can beat the odds by gambling longer, think again. We're not saying you won't win; you may be one of the lucky few who do, but the odds always favour "the house."

Generally, as part of the "house advantage," slots on average keep about 8% of all the wagers played over the entire life of the game, so the machines always win in the long run. Chances of winning change depend on the game you choose, what denomination you select, or how many credits you decide to wager.

## Here's an example of what you can expect:

On the Double Red, White & Blue \$1 machine, the odds to win any prize are 1 in 5, but the odds to win the top prize are only 1 in 373,248.

Some slot games pay smaller prizes more often and have more bonus games, while others pay out more in the middle and top prize categories.

Chances of winning smaller prizes on slots are much greater than the chances of winning the top prize. When you put money in the machine, it shows as credits. As you play, your credits decrease when you lose or increase if you win.

When you play a slot with a 92% payout over the life of the machine, it does not mean that you will leave with 92% of the money you started with.

## How do slot machines work?

A computer program (called an RNG, or Random Number Generator) ensures a random outcome on each play.

Percent payout is theoretical, and the outcome of each play is random. After thousands or millions of games, the laws of probability allow some players to win or break even, while most will lose. Slots are programmed to retain more money than is paid out in winnings, so in the end the slot machine will win.

### GameSense vs. NonSense

There are lots of myths and misconceptions when it comes to slot machines. With a little GameSense, you can separate fact from fiction.

**Nonsense:** *"If I play long enough on one machine, I'll win big."*

**GameSense:** Persistence doesn't pay off. Each play is an independent event with the same odds of winning or losing as every other play on that game. The result of your last play or series of plays has absolutely no bearing on what happens on your next play. You can't predict a win. Slots are never "due for a win" and they don't "go cold" after a win.

**Nonsense:** *"I just left a machine that paid out a jackpot. Had I stayed, that would have been me."*

**GameSense:** A slot machine's Random Number Generator (RNG) is continuously cycling through numbers used to generate a play's result even when the machine is not being played. The RNG produces approximately 1000 different results every second. So even if you had continued playing the machine, it's highly unlikely you would have had the same result as the player who followed you.

**Nonsense:** *"I feel lucky. I'm going to hit the slots and make some money."*

**GameSense:** While you hope to win, don't expect to get your money back. Expect that you pay to play – the odds are always in a slot machine's favour.

**Nonsense:** *"The slots farthest away from the aisle pay out more because they're played less often."*

**GameSense:** Nothing about where the machine is located, or the way you play, affects the outcome of a game. Slot machine wins and losses are always random, with no predictable pattern.

Start Finish



Odds are that, over time,  
you'll lose more than you win

For more information about slot machines ask to speak with a GameSense Advisor at your local casino, visit [bclc.com](http://bclc.com), or call BCLC Consumer Services at

**1-866-815-0222.**

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