

What you should know about gaming in B.C.

British Columbia Lottery Corporation

(BCLC) is the agent of government responsible to conduct, manage and operate commercial gaming in B.C. within the statutory authority and regulatory guidelines of the Criminal Code of Canada and B.C.'s Gaming Control Act (2002). Registered private sector casino and bingo service providers partner with BCLC under contractual agreements to deliver high-quality gaming entertainment. Stringent policies and procedures, and state-of-the-art gaming equipment ensure the highest standards of integrity.

All suppliers of gaming equipment must undergo a stringent registration process and background investigation by the provincial Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch. Slot machines are independently tested for game integrity, and must then be approved by Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch.

The province, BCLC and gaming service providers are committed to ensuring the delivery of gaming in a manner that encourages responsible gambling and healthy choices. Through the province's Problem Gambling Program prevention, awareness, education and free treatment programs are delivered province-wide to help reduce harmful impacts associated with problem gambling. For more information visit the BC Partnership for Responsible Gambling website.



www.bcreponsiblegambling.ca

Keeping it fun

Gambling can be exciting and entertaining for people who make careful gambling decisions. Here are a few important tips to help keep the fun in the games.

Play for **entertainment** not to make money

Know **how the game works** and **what the odds are** before you play

Use **your entertainment budget** not money for everyday expenses

Set a budget and stick to it

Only play with **money you can afford to lose**

Consider **leaving your ATM cards** at home

Plan how long you will play before you go

Take frequent breaks

The risk of **making poor decisions** can increase when you're feeling unhappy

Don't borrow money to play

Don't chase losses rather accept them as the cost of entertainment

Balance **playing** with other types of **leisure activities**

If you think you or someone you care about has a gambling problem call the Problem Gambling Help Line for useful information or to arrange free confidential counselling, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Slot machines

Facts about winning and losing

Know your limit, play within it



Slot machines

are entertainment, and just like dinner and a movie and you should expect to pay for the entertainment. When your entertainment money is spent, it's time to call it a day. Sometimes people spend too much time or more money than they planned or can afford.

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". Here are the facts about slot machines and your chances of winning and losing.

Slot machines have the edge – the more you play, the more you pay.

Slot machines offer a variety of entertaining themes and potential payout options. New slots are frequently introduced to keep the slot machine mix interesting.

A Random Number Generator (RNG) computer program ensures a random outcome on each play. Slots are programmed to pay out less than you put into them, so in the end the machine will win.

- **Slot wins and losses are always random;** there is no predictable pattern for wins or losses.
- **Nothing about the way you play affects the outcome** of a game – not how many wins or losses you've already had, how much you've bet or changed your play patterns, not the time of day or position of the machine within the facility. Nothing you do changes the odds.

- **Persistence does not pay off;** the result of your last game or series of games has no bearing on what happens in your next game. You cannot predict a win. Slots are never "due for a win" and they don't "go cold" after a win.
- **Remember, you pay to play.** While you hope to win, don't expect to get your money back before it's time to leave. Once it's played, it's no longer your money.

**When you play,
the only thing you can
control is you!**

What are my chances to win on slots?

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 can change depending on the game you choose, what denomination you select if several denomination options are available, 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 slots may pay smaller prizes more often and have more bonus games, while others may 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.

Percent payout is theoretical. The outcome of each play is random. After thousands or millions of games, the laws of probability allow some players to win, some to lose and others to walk away even. So, 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 brought in.

For more information, ask to speak with a BCLC representative at the casino, visit www.bclc.com or call BCLC Consumer Services at 1-866-815-0222.

Know your limit, play within it.