



MYTH: So close... I almost won!

IN REALITY:
Pay out symbols appearing just above or below a pay line only means one thing – you lost. All those “near wins” give players the feeling of getting close to the jackpot. Don’t be fooled. You’re no closer.



MYTH: I can win, I have a system

IN REALITY:
The truth is, there is nothing a player can do that will influence the outcome.

The results on VLTs and slots are determined by a computer chip called a Random Number Generator (RNG). The RNG ensures that results are random and impossible to predict. The next spin has absolutely nothing to do with the previous spin. Every spin gives a player the exact same chance of winning or more often losing.



MYTH: This machine is due

IN REALITY:
No machine is ever hot or due to win.

To ensure that no player has an advantage, all machines are programmed to be random with winning results impossible to predict.

Machines that have not paid out are no more likely to pay out than a machine that has just had a winning spin. Every spin gives you the exact same chance of winning, or more often losing.



MYTH: When I win my money back, then I’ll quit

IN REALITY:
Trying to win back money you’ve lost is a sign of a problem. Set limits on how much you want to spend. Consider your losses as the cost of a night out. Remember, the more you spend, the more you’ll lose.

Resources

Problem Gambling Help Line

The Help Line can provide you with information, short-term counseling and contact names and numbers to health authority counselors.

1-800-306-6789

Regional Health Authorities

All health regions offer free counseling services for people experiencing problems related to their gambling and their families.



Reducing the risks

To help reduce your risk, here are a few tips to consider:

- Gamble for entertainment, not as a way to make money.
- Never try to win back money you have lost, consider money lost as the cost of entertainment.
- Limit how often and how long you gamble.
- Set acceptable limits for losses. Betting \$1 per spin instead of \$2.50 per spin will reduce your cost of play by 150%.
- Slow down your rate of play. Playing two seconds slower will reduce your cost of play by up to \$21 an hour if you're betting \$1 per spin.
- Only gamble with money you can afford to lose, never borrow money to gamble.
- Take frequent breaks to determine how much money and time you have spent gambling.
- Don't use gambling as a way to cope with problems in your life.



The truth about gambling

MYTH: Poker is a game of skill, and I'm good at it

IN REALITY:

Oh sure, there are some elements of skill, but don't be fooled into thinking your skill can outweigh chance. With millions of possible hands, the luck of the draw is most often the deciding factor.

MYTH: Payouts can be changed with a flick of a switch

IN REALITY:

In Saskatchewan there is no truth that gaming operators regularly change payouts or that they determine when a jackpot will be won.

Winning and losing results are random – 100% of the time. All machines make money over time, some more than others. The difference in how much a machine earns depends mostly on the type of game and how popular it is and not on the payout percentage.

MYTH: I am helpless against these machines

IN REALITY:

There are problem gambling counselors in every health region - free of charge.

- Out-Patient Counselling Services
- Group Programming (Regina and Saskatoon)
- Day Treatment Programs
- In-Patient Treatment

Call to connect to someone who can help.

1-800-306-6789

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