

## Types of Gambling

Gaming Machines can be found in Licensed Premises such as Casinos, Bingo Venues and Betting Offices as well as other locations such as pubs. For each game a stake needs to be paid to take part. Games can be reel or video based, linked together and represented by various imagery, including playing cards and fruits, which is why they are sometimes referred to as Fruit Machines. Prizes can be won by matching the win criteria displayed on the machine. Each machine should display the minimum percentage payout which is no guarantee that a player will receive this percentage back in prizes. Some people will win, some will lose.

### Lottery

There are many different types of lotteries but they all work around the same system. Whether it's the National Lottery, Thunderball, EuroMillions or even a raffle ticket you've bought at the local church, some of the people that take part will win money or prizes, whilst most won't win anything at all.

The National Lottery in the UK is drawn every Wednesday and Saturday. A player picks six numbers from 1 to 49 or asks for a lucky dip, which is when the ticket machine chooses the numbers randomly for you. The quantity of your chosen numbers that match the ones drawn during that particular game determines how much you've won, if anything at all – three matching numbers wins you £10, four and five wins you more, and all six wins you the jackpot. However, even though you only need to match six numbers to win big, the chance of being a jackpot winner is 1 in just under 14 million. To put this into perspective, you are 24 times more likely to be struck by lightning - but fingers crossed that'll never happen.

The EuroMillions is drawn every Tuesday and Friday and requires a player to pick five main numbers from 1 to 50 and two lucky star numbers from 1 to 11. You can win a lot more in this game, but the odds of winning the jackpot are 1 in over 116 million. As a comparison, you are 1 of 62 million people in the UK (far less than 116 million), which makes you realise just how small the chances of winning the jackpot are. True, someone has to win, but many more have to lose. It's for you to decide if you want to risk your money and in the end it's your call; that's why we want you to know how it all works.

### Scratchcards

A scratchcard is a small piece of card with a thin covering that can be scratched away using a coin. Scratchcards are available at different prices, usually starting at £1, and the more expensive the card, the larger the prizes available or the higher the chance of the player winning one. Sometimes a symbol beneath the scratchable area has to match a particular type, and sometimes three of the same symbol or monetary amounts need to be uncovered in order to win. Either way, the player may have a higher chance of winning on a scratchcard than the lottery, but the prizes are smaller and there's still a larger chance that nothing will be won at all.

### Poker

In poker, two or more players are given cards that have been shuffled at random. They then bet on the value of their cards, which is called their "hand", and bets are placed in the "pot" in the middle of the table. A player wins everyone's bets by having the highest amount using two cards in their hand and three on the table. Players try to force others to "fold", meaning they've dropped out of the game and lost their bets. Poker does require some skill, but in the end only one player can win and chance plays a large part.

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### Roulette

Roulette is a game in which the croupier (casino host) spins a ball around a wheel which has 37 red or black numbered holes around its circumference. Players may choose to place bets on the ball landing on either a single number or a range of numbers, the colors red or black, or whether the number is odd or even. The odds at which each outcome pays out depends on the probability of that outcome happening.

### Bingo

Bingo is a game of chance played on tickets with random numbers printed on them. Numbers are selected at random and are announced by a Caller. Players mark off those numbers on their tickets. The winner is the first player to match the win criteria announced (e.g. any line across or all numbers on the ticket (Full House)). Traditionally players stop the game by shouting out 'House' or 'Bingo'. Recently, clubs have introduced electronic bingo tickets for players who prefer to use that technology.

### Sports betting and racing

There are various types of bets that you can place on sports, most of which can be made at betting shops, also known as bookmakers or bookies. The odds of an individual sports person, team, horse or dog are provided and you can bet your money on them, but even if they're expected to win it doesn't mean they definitely will.

If, for example, a horse is a strong runner, it might be given odds of 2/1, meaning that if you bet £1 and it wins, you'll get £2 back plus your original stake (so £3 overall). Meanwhile, if another horse is expected to lose and is given odds of 100/1, if you bet £1 and it wins, you'll get £100 back plus your original stake (so £101 overall). However, chance always plays a large part in all games and bets – the horse that people expect to win may slow down or even fall over, and the horse with poor odds may have more energy than usual and beat all of the others. Or maybe not – there are so many things that could happen, so just remember to gamble responsibly.

### Online gambling

Most of the types of gambling described here can also be found online as well as in shops, arcades or casinos, and virtual forms of gambling share many of the same features as offline, or land-based, gambling.