

# Get The FACTS

Electronic Gaming Devices

## Make Your CHOICE



Atlantic  
Lottery

Get the facts about Electronic Gaming Devices

An Electronic Gaming Device (EGD) is a gambling machine that has three or more reels that spin when a button is pressed. In traditional machines these reels are mechanical while the more modern machines have simulated reels shown on a video screen. These machines pay off based on patterns of symbols visible on the front of the machine when the reel stops. The outcome of a spin is determined by a random number generator (RNG). The RNG is constantly generating numbers and as soon as the play button is pressed, the most recent random number is used to determine the result. A fraction of a second earlier or later and the result would be different.

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### Understanding the Payout

Payout percentages for electronic gaming devices (EGD) vary per game, but all range between 93-95%. This means that 93-95% of all money played is returned to players in prizes, in varying amounts. The payout percentage is higher than the actual cash-out percentage because consumers play the prizes they win in order to extend their play. The average odds of winning a top prize are 1 in 50,664.

Payout percentages remain the same within a particular game. For example if you play a game with a 92 per cent payout rate on Monday, the payout rate will be the same on Saturday and on all spins for that game in between. The amount of money that is paid out to players is called the "player return". This does not mean that the EGD will pay back 92 cents on every dollar played. Rather, it means that the EGD will return 92 per cent of all money inserted over the course of time through various levels of prizes. The remaining 8 per cent is kept by the machine, again as an average over time.

### Here's How They Work

The machines are games of chance, set to hit winning combinations entirely at random. Machines don't get "hot" or "cold". Your chances of winning on an EGD that hasn't paid out for awhile are exactly the same as winning on a machine that just had a big win. There are no playing methods or patterns that can have any effect on the outcome of play. Each machine is programmed to generate numbers at random.

### Know Your Chances

The odds of winning the top prize are different for each game. Obviously your chances of winning a small prize are much better than winning a large prize. It is important to keep in mind that there is nothing you can do to improve your odds. Outside factors do not have any bearing on the outcome of any play, game, or payout.

### The Following will have no Effect on Your Ability to Win:

If you play a machine right after someone else had a big payout from it  
If you play a machine that hasn't had a big payout for a long time  
If you play at certain times of the day or night  
If you play on certain days of the week  
If you press a button in a certain way

### Tips to Keep Gambling Fun

- Set a budget and stick to it
- Set a time limit and stick to it
- Maintain a gambling journal
- Avoid gambling when intoxicated
- Take frequent breaks
- Balance gambling with other activities

For more information visit  
<http://www.alc.ca/English/ResponsibleGaming/>