

Myths about Gambling

The fact is that in the long run gambling will cost you money. There are beliefs that can make people believe that they can influence the outcome and win.

Myth: If I keep gambling my luck is going to change. I'll win back the money I've lost if I just keep gambling

Truth: The outcome each time you gamble is completely independent from any other time, so your odds are no more in your favour on your first bet as they are on your tenth. Over time, risking more and more will only create greater losses.

Myth: I almost won. This means that I am due for a win.

Truth: Just about winning does not mean that a win is around the corner. What happens in the future is in no way influenced by a near win.

Myth: If I play more than one slot machine, or in more than one poker game at a time, I'll increase my chances of winning.

Truth: Sure you win more often playing two machines or two poker games versus one. But make no mistake, you also spend and ultimately lose more doing so. Remember, the more you gamble, the more you lose.

Myth: My strategy will help me win. For example, picking certain numbers for a lottery or pressing the button of a slot machine at exactly the right time.

Truth: The outcome of all games is random - you cannot influence the outcome. The winning number selection is random and independent from previous draws, so betting the same weekly numbers won't help you win. In fact the odds of winning the Lotto 6/49 are 1 in 14 million each and every time. Slot machines are computers and outcomes are the result of randomly drawn numbers that determine where the reels will stop before they're even set in motion. It doesn't matter when you pull or press.

Myth: If I see a certain number coming up often in a poker game, I should bet on it because chances are, this card will be dealt again very soon.

Truth: There are 2.6 million possible hands in a 52-card deck. Since each hand is independent from the last, the chances of a certain card coming up again are no greater than the chance of any other card coming up. In fact, the chance of the card coming up is no more and no less than the chances it had when it first came up.

Myth: I have a feeling that this is my lucky day.

Truth: Hoping, wishing or needing to win has no influence on the outcome.

