HOW LOTTERY GAMES really work



Your GameSense guide to lottery games.



LOTTO MAX AND LOTTO 6/49

Winning numbers for Lotto 6/49 and the main Lotto Max draw are selected at random using a ball-drop machine with numbered balls that are the exact same size and weight. This allows each ball an equal chance of being drawn. So while it may be fun to play your so-called "lucky" numbers, they don't influence the outcome of the game.

WESTERN 649, EXTRA, PICK 3 AND KENO

All winning numbers are chosen using a computer based Random Number Generator (RNG). The RNG continuously cycles through thousands of numbers each second. When the draw attendant requests a number from the computer, the number on the RNG at that exact moment is provided. Requesting a number a thousandth of a second earlier or later would result in a completely different number. Other games that use an RNG include casino slot machines and VLTs. The results of a ball-drop and RNG draws are equally secure and random.

SCRATCH 'N WIN TICKETS

Winning tickets are distributed randomly throughout an entire production run, which may be millions of tickets. These tickets are then randomly distributed to all retail locations. Your odds of purchasing one of these winning tickets depends on what tickets for that game have already been sold at all locations. For example, some games have one grand prize winner. If that ticket has already been sold, your odds of purchasing it are zero.

BREAKOPEN TICKETS

A set number of winning tickets are placed in each box of breakopen tickets. Your odds of purchasing one of these winning tickets depends on what tickets the location has already sold from that box. For example, some boxes contain one grand prize winner. If that ticket has already been sold from the box, your odds of purchasing it are zero.

SPORT SELECT

Knowledge about sports can help you predict a game's outcome, but the long term odds are set to ensure the games make a profit for the lottery operator. For the vast majority of people, playing Sport Select will cost money over time.

Playing lottery games can be fun, YOU MAY EVEN WIN ONCE IN A WHILE.

Over time though, lottery games will cost you money to play. Only a few people who win a major prize actually come out ahead.

FIND OUT MORE

gamesensemb.ca or getgamblingfacts.ca

The Problem Gambling Helpline is free, confidential and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **1-800-463-1554**