

# Fast game

Critics say computerized slot machines create a faster and more addictive game experience. Some techniques used to keep gamblers playing:

Larger combinations of bets give more possible jackpots.

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Many slots are themed with pictures and music based on popular films or TV.

Touchscreens and tactile feedback

Slots are programmed to display frequent near-win combinations to tempt gamblers to keep playing.



Instead of coins, transactions are done with "ticket-in-ticket-out" or player cards with credit.

In gamblers' brains, anticipation of a possible win releases dopamine, a feel-good chemical involved in drug addiction.

Computerized machines allow faster bets. On average a gambler makes a bet every 5 seconds.

Ergonomic stools allow long game sessions.

## MECHANICAL SLOTS

In traditional machines, reels were set into motion by pulling a lever and stopped mechanically at random positions.

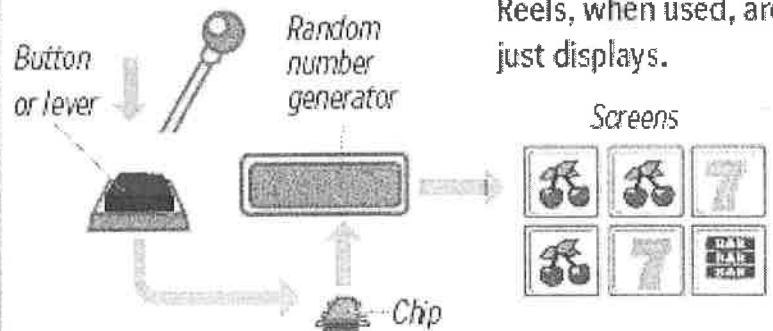


In theory, it was possible to predict the odds of a particular outcome, since each reel had a limited set of symbols (usually 22 or 32).

## VIDEO SLOTS

Nowadays, a microprocessor generates a random number at the pull of the lever or the press of a button.

The number determines the result, displayed as figures on screens. Reels, when used, are just displays.



Unlimited numbers make it impossible to predict the outcome of individual bets, but the chip determines the average odds in the long term.