

Learn the Facts

Playing the Lottery?

**Please play responsibly.
Keep it a game.**



SASK LOTTERIES

Remember, Keep it a Game!

At its heart, playing the lottery means buying a chance to dream. For just a few dollars, you can buy a chance to dream of winning hundreds, thousands or even millions of dollars. Just remember: **lotteries are for entertainment, not a way to make money.**

With any lottery, you must pay to play. We encourage you to treat it as any other entertainment activity and never spend more than you can afford.

Learn as much as you can about the games you play. You can find detailed information about lottery games in the *Lotto Facts* brochure available free of charge at retail or online in the Games section of sasklotteries.ca. You can also contact Customer Care at 1-800-665-3313.

Playing Responsibly

“Hope to win; expect to lose” is a healthy attitude to have when you play.

Lottery tickets are a popular pastime for many adults. It’s fun to dream about what you might do if you won a big prize.

But lottery games are games of chance and the outcome is entirely random. Don’t overspend on lottery tickets thinking there is some way to “beat the system.” There isn’t. It only takes one ticket to win, and buying hundreds won’t substantially change your odds of winning.

Play for entertainment and fun, not to make money. As with all forms of entertainment, there is a cost involved. The more you play, the more you pay.

Know the Odds

The overall odds of winning a prize varies depending on the game you play. For example, on LOTTO 6/49, your odds of winning any prize are 1 in 6.6 per \$3 play, while your chance of winning the jackpot is 1 in almost 14 million.

On LOTTO MAX, the chance of winning any prize is about 1 in 6.6 per \$5 play, and the odds of winning the jackpot are 1 in about 33 million per \$5 play. If you play Zing tickets, depending on the game, odds vary from about 1 in 3 (for winning any prize) to about 1 in 1.2 million for winning a top prize.

Odds for most lottery games offered by Sask Lotteries are listed in various publications, including *Lotto Facts*—and in the Games section on [sasklotteries.ca](https://www.sasklotteries.ca).



Lottery Myths

Myth: *I can improve my chances of winning if I play “smart.”*

Fact: Your personal strategies, superstitions and rituals have no impact on the outcome of a game. Lotteries are random and it’s not possible to predict the combination of numbers that will be drawn or which Zing ticket in the retailer’s display will be a winner.

Myth: *Playing the same numbers every week gives me a greater chance of winning the jackpot.*

Fact: Each draw is an independent event and every set of numbers has the same chance of being selected for every draw. Your chances of winning are no better using the same numbers or buying quick picks—no matter how often you play.



More Lottery Myths

Myth: *There are “hot numbers” that are drawn more often than others.*

Fact: There are always variations in how often some numbers have been drawn, but those variations even out over time. How often a number has been drawn is not a predictor of when it will be drawn again.

Myth: *If the odds are 1 in 4 on a Zing game, and I buy four tickets, I’m guaranteed to win.*

Fact: These are overall odds (1 in 4). Of all the tickets printed, one in four is a winner. You could buy four tickets and win on all four, win on none or wind up somewhere between the two. There’s no connection between tickets.



Under 18? All Bets Are Off!

Part of promoting responsible play is ensuring that lotteries remain what they’re intended to be – an entertainment activity for adults. It is policy that **lottery products are not to be sold to, nor prizes redeemed for, anyone under the age of 18.** Anyone purchasing or redeeming lottery products who looks under 25 should expect to be asked for photo ID.

Giving lottery tickets to a minor as a gift, or allowing a child to scratch your tickets, can give conflicting messages.

If you believe that a retailer may be selling or redeeming lottery tickets for minors, please contact Customer Care at 1-800-665-3313 or send an email through the website [sasklotteries.ca](https://www.sasklotteries.ca).

Did you know?

Studies have shown that minors who are allowed to play lottery tickets are more prone to developing gambling problems as adults.

Keep Lottery Play Fun

Set a limit and stay within it.

Decide how much you can reasonably spend on lottery play.

Play with money you can afford to spend and possibly lose. Don't use money intended for everyday expenses or borrow money to gamble.

Keep track of your spending over time. This will give you a realistic idea of the cost of your play and whether or not this is affordable entertainment for you.

Balance gambling entertainment with other leisure activities you enjoy.

Seek help as soon as you start losing more money than you intended or can afford.

If gambling has become a problem for you, or someone you know, call the Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-306-6789.

Watch For Signs

Signs that gambling may be a problem for you:

- Spending more time or money on gambling than you planned or can afford
- Borrowing money to gamble
- Gambling with money meant for essential expenses like food or rent
- Neglecting important responsibilities like work and family to gamble
- Lying about how much you gamble or lose
- Chasing your losses to try to get money back
- Increasing arguments with friends and family, especially about money
- Owing money due to gambling

Do any of these signs apply to you?
Help is available.



Help is Available

Problem gambling can affect anyone, but there is help. Information and assistance is also available for concerned family and friends.

Problem Gambling Help Line:
1-800-306-6789

The Problem Gambling Help Line provides 24-hour help to people with gambling problems and their families. Callers receive confidential, professional service providing you with information, short-term counselling and contact names and numbers to health authority counsellors and self-help groups. The line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is free of charge. For additional information on gambling and problem gambling help services visit the [Problem Gambling Directory](#) at www.saskatchewan.ca.



Problem Gambling Help Line
1-800-306-6789



SASK LOTTERIES