

Re: Anyone here know how an one-armed bandit (slot machine) works?

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- *From:* The Real Andy <will_get_back_to_you_on_This@xxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 07 Nov 2006 20:54:47 +1000
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On Tue, 07 Nov 2006 20:20:09 -0500, gfretwell@xxxxxxx wrote:

On Sat, 4 Nov 2006 22:10:17 -0500, [krw <krw@xxxxxxxxxx>](mailto:krw@xxxxxxxxxx) wrote:

In article <1b6lk25d5rb1e5jif86b114rc5388fmh0d@xxxxxxx>, joeblou@xx says...

On Wed, 1 Nov 2006 09:49:15 +0100, "Frithiof Andreas Jensen" <frithiof.jensen@xx> Gave us:

Being a computer, it *cannot* be completely random

A single element computerized random number generator isn't. Sure.

HOWEVER, when multiple elements are tied together it certainly can be. Such as spinning the wheel at a random speed and from a random start point, and stopping them at a random point. Those three nearly purely random elements seriesed together can easily be argued to be purely random as to the end result. Then, there are multiple wheels as well, adding still more elements to it, making it even closer to true randomness.

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Be careful even here. Oscillators tend to lock to each other which degrades or kills randomness. Truly random numbers are very difficult to produce and verify.

Another good one would be giving the customer a button to press for the stop point on each wheel.

Same issue.

They have shows on cable about these machines from time to time. One thing they make clear is the result is already in the machine before you push the button.

I have seen lots of cable shows. All are true of course. I must correct you however, the result is actually determined when you push the button, not before.

The random part is not knowing which machine is about to pay off. The gaming commission only verifies that these things pay off a statistical number of times, not whether there is a pattern to the payout. They want the player to know the machine is playing them and most players try to outsmart the machine. You may trick the machine now and then but at the end of the day there will always be more money in there than there was in the morning. It is a statistical inevitability and the casinos know it. They want big winners, that brings in big losers.

Very smart. If I have a coin, and you pick heads, there is a 50% chance you will win. If i flip a coin with 2 heads, then you will always win. If i run a business, do you think i will chose the 2 headed coin?

You cannot trick a modern machine. The probability is fixed. If you win you are lucky. Beleive it or not, sometimes the machines loose. Were the casino wins is that the big better wins big then usually spends the winnings.

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