

5 slot myths: Why what you think you know is wrong

By Thomas Moore, Las Vegas Sun

Slot players are simply wrong.

Talk to people who study, market and design slot machines, and you quickly realize that many of the ideas players have about their inner workings and how jackpots are paid are myths.

In other words, players can tell when the house edge (or hold percentage) is larger for some slots or some casinos, and smaller for others. It's an important concept because casinos boast of having loose slots and many gamblers have strong ideas about where to find the loosest slots.

There's no independent way to confirm if marketing claims about loose slots are true. The Gaming Control Board does not release the house edges for individual slot machines or specific casinos. As a result, gut feeling is the only publicly available measure.

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