

Meta title: Return to Player – Why Casino RTP Matters | Parimatch

Meta description: Understanding why RTP or Return to Player in casino games matters + how your game can benefit from RTP selection.

RTP in Casino Games Explained and Why It Matters

RTP is an acronym that not enough casino gamblers understand or even pay much attention to. In this handy guide, we'll take you through the meaning and function of casino RTPs, why they matter, and how you can use them to get more out of your casino gambling sessions.

If you generally play online casino games for fun (in demo mode for example), then RTP certainly won't impact you all that much. However, for those of you that prefer to play for real money, being able to find and recognise any game's RTP percentage can help you make better choices.

Ultimately, the idea is to select great casino games based on a variety of factors, RTP being one of them. In this way, you'll not only be able to always enjoy the games that you pick, but may also see better results in your win percentages.

Of course, selecting games based purely on their RTPs is not a guarantee of success. In the end, it still makes sense to gamble responsibly and always recognise that playing casino games is based more on luck and timing.

Understanding technical perspectives such as RTP and house edge simply guide you to better choices in the games that you choose to play.

Return to player percentage (RTP) explained

RTP stands for return to player, and it essentially refers to the amount of money that a player can expect to get back from any casino game that they play. RTP is given as a percentage based on 100 units, making it easy to see at a glance the payout level per game.

Here's an example of RTP in practice:

Let's take a popular slot like [Ted Megaways](#) as our example. This slot features 6 reels with a staggering 117,649 ways to win. The RTP of this game is rated at 96.03% which is calculated over long term play, with shorter terms of playing time creating lower percentage variables.

What this boils down to is that if you put in £100, you can theoretically expect to get back £96.03 on that £100 spent. The higher the RTP percentage, the higher your expected return should be.

However, as mentioned earlier, this is a long term calculation. In other words, this is what you could expect to see when playing the game for an extended session of constant play.

High RTP percentages do not necessarily guarantee high wins. Like all casino games, some sessions will be better than others. So don't look at the RTP percentage as written in stone, since the chances of losing are as high as they are for winning.

Why is RTP always less than 100%

Let's take another really popular casino game as an example:

If we look at the RTP of a game like [First Person Lightning Roulette](#), we see that it actually offers two different sets of RTPs:

1. RTP for a straight up bet = 97.10% with a house edge percentage = 2.90%

2. RTP for any other bet = 97.30% with a house edge percentage = 2.70%

So, in this example it's easy to see that this game offers a very nice low house edge and slightly higher RTP for all but one betting option. That's very good news for [roulette fans](#). We'll use this slightly higher RTP to explain why RTP is always less than 100%.

If you were to wager that same £100 playing First Person Lightning Roulette, you could expect a return of £97.30. This means that the house (the casino) keeps £2.70 of your money. The best way to think of this percentage that the casino keeps is as a fee for playing their game.

Ultimately any casino is a business and, like all businesses, must add a percentage on the price of their goods or services. This is how the casino stays in business, turns a profit, and is able to continue supplying top casino games to you, the customer.

Examples of casino game RTPs

As you may have guessed by now, RTP percentages vary quite a bit from one game to another, from one genre or game type to another, and from one betting option within a given game to another.

All online casinos are required to publish the RTP information of their available games. A really [good casino](#) will make this information very easy to access, making game selection easier. With so many great casino games to choose from these days, being able to see the differences in RTP between each genre is quite interesting.

Slots

Of all casino games, slots tend to vary in RTP quite a lot more. This is because slots come in all sorts of configurations with all sorts of bonus rounds, [jackpots](#), payline configurations and many other features.

Generally speaking, the RTP of land-based casino slots will range between 70% and 90%. Online casino slots on the other hand tend to start a bit higher, usually around the 94% RTP mark. Online slots are also superior at higher RTP levels, with some slots offering as much as 98%.

A great example of a fun slot that features an RTP of 94.58% is [Viking Fury – Spinfinity](#). Those looking for something a bit higher can try their luck at [Marching Legions](#) which features an RTP of 98.12%.

Table games

The game of [blackjack](#) is considered to be the most popular casino game of all, not surprising considering its RTP can be as high as 99.72%. A great place to start would be [Infinite Blackjack](#) with an RTP of 99.47% or [Lightning Blackjack](#) with an RTP of 99.56%.

Roulette on the other hand is a slightly different kettle of fish with RTP depending more on the type of roulette being played. Generally, [American roulette](#) will offer an average RTP of roughly 94.74%, [European roulette](#) around 98.37%, and French roulette around 98.65%.

Conclusion

RTP plays an indispensable role in helping you to distinguish between good games and bad ones. Knowing how RTP works and why it exists should help to improve your overall experience when playing your favourite casino games online.

Here's some reassurance regarding RTP:

Reputable casinos are governed by the rules and regulations of the [Gambling Commission](#). The Commission requires software providers to monitor their game's performance to ensure that each title meets the necessary requirements.

All games are subject to annual audits, with harsh penalties for casinos/software providers that fail to meet these standards. Actual RTP must match the disclosed theoretical RTP and, after one million plays, the margin of error for any game RTP must be 1.09760% or less.

FAQs

Is higher or lower RTP better?

Higher RTP percentage is always considered to be more advantageous to the player. However, no RTP can assure the player of those stated RTP figures, since there are many factors involved in playing any casino game.

How does RTP work in casinos?

RTP is the calculation of the amount of money that a player can expect to get back from any casino game that they play. This is based on a % of 100 units. An RTP of 97% means your return on £100 would be £97.