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History Of The Slot Machine

By Eric Madsen

Charles Fay invented the slot machine in his workshop in San Francisco in 1887 and he named it

the "Liberty Bell". The Liberty Bell contained 3 reels with 20 symbols per reel and operated pretty much in the same way as today's slot machines except it was completely mechanical, while today's slot machines are mostly computers with very few moving parts. Fay rented the slot machines to gambling establishments and refused to sell the manufacturing and distribution rights to his slot machines. He had a very lucrative business and charged a 50% commission of all money played. Within a relatively short period of time, Fay's invention was so successful that he began to work overtime in his workshop to meet the demand for his slot machines.

Herbert Mills, in 1907, a Chicago manufacturer created a slot machine very similar to Fay's 'Liberty Bell' and named it the 'Operator Bell'. Mills produced and distributed his slot machine at a higher rate than Fay's 'Liberty Bell', and experienced even greater success by 1910. The 'Operator Bell' slot machines were very common in the United States of America. The slot machine reached a peak in popularity in the 1920's and 30's and became common place throughout the US. With this new popularity, new laws were introduced and passed to outlaw slot machines in many states. In spite of this, slot machines continued to be popular throughout America during the 1920s and 1930s. During the late 1940's, Bugsy Moran a well known Chicago mobster, added slot machines to his Flamingo Hilton hotel in Las Vegas. Within a short period of time the profit from slot machines exceeded that of table games.

The slot machines were nicknamed "one arm bandits" by many, because the pulling of a handle on right side of the machine actuated the reels. The slot machine remained a mechanical device until the 1980's when most of the mechanical guts were replaced by circuit boards and computer chips. The modern slot machine is a computer! The computer chip is programmed to pay out a certain percentage of the money taken in. The program uses a random number generator (RNG) to calculate which symbols will come up on the pay line. This random number generator creates new numbers all the time, 100 of thousands of numbers per minute. Depending on the numbers that are generated and the instant you push the spin button, those numbers will indicate the placement of the symbols on the pay line. Now that you have a general idea of how the modern slot machine works, have fun and good luck.

To view other articles on slot machines and tutorials please go to

<http://www.slots.onlinebettingreview.com>

The \$600,000 Quarter – A True Story

By Rocky Ramsey

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My father has what can only be described as fantastically good luck or horribly bad luck. You'll have to be the judge with this one. This is a true story.

Several months ago my parents went to a Biloxi casino and were waiting in line for breakfast. The casino, being thoughtful for its guests, not to mention making a few extra bucks for the casino, had a line of slot machines that could be played while people waited in line to get into the restaurant.

Dad decided to play a progressive slot machine while he waited. He dropped a few quarters in, but wasn't winning very much. Then he dropped in two quarters and pulled the handle. Maybe it was his lucky day. The first wheel came up Jackpot. The next wheel came up Jackpot. The last wheel came up Jackpot. He got all three Jackpots! \$600,000!!!! That's what he would've won if he'd put three quarters in the slot machine. Because he only put two quarters in the slot machine, he didn't win anything. Nothing. Nada. Not only that, he lost the two quarters in the slot machine. I guess that's why they call it a one-armed bandit.

Rocky Ramsey publishes Movies, Money and More, A humorous site featuring movie reviews, entertainment news, save/make money and more. You don't know what you're missing if you don't take a look. <http://www.MoviesMoneyandMore.com>



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