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[Narrator] The lottery is obviously pretty hard to win,but of course, we had to test it ourselves,so we got a few Wired colleagues to play a scratcher game.I didn't win anything,I did not win anything.Nothing.I got nothing. I lost.But I didn't. Nothing.I have won \$5, so I'm up by \$2.[sad trombone music][Narrator] Scratchers are just oneof the many lottery games out there.Beyond that, you have draw games both the state and national level, andn particular, the Powerball,which keeps on making the newscaine because the jackpots are so big.They are definitely lotteries that are easierto win than other lotteries.When you gamble normally, a bigger chance of winning means lower payout.So, for example, this is familiar from roulette where,if you bet on red or black, you get less money in returnthan if you bet on a single number where you get a lot more return because your odds of winningwith red or black bet is much higher.Similarly, your odds of winningon a Powerball or Mega Millions ticket are very low,about one in 300,000,000.

[Narrator] Let's look at that one more time.Your chances of winning the Powerball jackpot equalabout one in 300,000,000. There are all kinds of lottery prizes out thereand some of them are still pretty big,but they're not \$1,000,000,000.[Narrator] Next, playing certain numbers.Well, you're not gonna increase your chancesof winning by some strategyabout how you pick the exact numbers that you pick.However, for games like Powerball and Mega Millions,what you'd like to do, if you win the jackpot,is to be the only one who wins the jackpots,you don't split it..So, with that perspective in mind,you'd like to pick unpopular numbers. you'd like to pick numbers that other people will pick.Don't pick dates, for example because a lot of people gamble based on that. If you look at the ticket where you pick your numbers,don't just pick a column of numbers on that ticket,for example, because some people will do that.[Narrator] Repeat winners, like Richard Lustig, wonover \$1,000,000, ... for playing sequential numbers.Now, this won't increase your odds of winning.That kind of thing is gonna give you the same chanceof winning the jackpot as any other method of choosing.However, if you look at a ticket like that, it looks weird.So many sequential numbers help you not sharethe jackpot, which is good.I don't know, but that/show it strikes me as a mathematician.[Narrator] So, what are some ways that people attemp to increase their odds of winning the lottery?First, playing every single number combinationn the drawing.So, for Mega Millions and Powerball,that's not really a feasible choice'cause there's 300,000,000 tickets.It's super hard to go the store and buy that many tickets.You need a whole army of helpers.It's a complicated endeavor,but for smaller state level lotteries,which have fewer tickets that you have to buy,and also a smaller jackpot, people have done that.So, in particular, in New South Walesin 1986, a syndicate did that in Virginia in 1992,and then with the Irish National Lottery.Now, in these cases, they didn't actually succeed in getting 100% of the tickets,but they got enough that they got lucky and they did win the jackpot.[Narrator] Now, if you do you actually decide to do this,there are a bit of logistics involved.You're actually gonna have to go to the stores and buy those tickets.You can't just pay the clerkin a lottery store to buy those tickets'cause they're not allowed to do thatby most lottery regulations, and there's another "gotcha" that's really obvious,which is it could happen that someone else also wins the jackpot and you have to split it with them.So, as someone trying to pursue this strategy,you absolutely want to keep your eyes open to that possibility.[Narrator] Finally, some states have a higher chanceof winning than others.Statisticians and economists have mappedit out states that have a high rate of return.A good recipe to lookfor is you want a lottery where maybe not a lot of people are buying ticketsand your jackpot is pretty big.So, there's a classic example of Oregon in 1999.They had an \$18,000,000 jackpotand yet, they didn't sell that many tickets, and what the market got pre big,they didn't take some of that moneyand increase the size of the smaller jackpot, you have to take the right number;it's about one in 9,000,000 chance but the smaller prizes are much more likely to win.So, if you could buy some,just not all, of the tickets that's situation,like, say you could buy 1,000,000 tickets,your odds of winning the jackpot are notso big, one in nine,but you're gonna win a bunchof the lower tier prizes, which are now bigger,and if they're enough bigger,you're gonna make money out of your total investment.[upbeat music:]It's really hard and unusual to be in a situation where youcould reasonably expect to make money on the lottery.It's gambling.You might get lucky, but it's really getting lucky,but I'm not telling you don't buy lottery tickets.I personally buy lottery tickets.I buy them for the fantasy to thinkfor a few days about, oh,what happens if I win this big jackpot?And that's really worth something.[upbeat music] Gambling that involves the drawing of numbers at random for a prizeThis article is about the gambling game. For uncertain outcomes in decision theory, see Lottery (probability). For other uses, see Lottery (disambiguation). This article may need to be rewritten to comply with Wikipedia's quality standards. You can help. The talk page may contain suggestions. (July 2022) A lottery drawing being conducted at the television studio at Texas Lottery Commission headquarters Lottery tickets for sale, Roper, India. 2019 A lottery (or lotto) is a form of gambling that involves the drawing of numbers at random for a prize. Some governments outlaw lotteries, while others endorse it to the extent of organizing a national or state lottery. It is common to find some degree of regulation of lottery by governments. The most common regulations are prohibition of sale to minors and licensing of ticket vendors. Although lotteries were popular in the United States and some other countries during the 19th century, by the beginning of the 20th century, many forms of gambling, including lotteries, were outlawed as illegal in the United States. In the United States, the government has been the largest provider of lotteries since the 1960s. In the United Kingdom, the government has been the largest provider of lotteries since the 1990s. A lottery can be a fixed amount of cash or goods. In this format, there is risk to the organizer if insufficient tickets are sold. More commonly, the prize fund will be a fixed percentage of the receipts, a popular form of this is the "50–50" draw, where the organizers promise that the prize will be 50% of the revenue.[citation needed] Many recent lotteries allow purchasers to select the numbers on the lottery ticket, resulting in the possibility of multiple winners. The first recorded signs of a lottery are keno slips from the Chinese Han dynasty between 205 and 187 BC. These lotteries are believed to have helped to finance major government projects like the Great Wall of China.[1] From the Chinese Book of Songs (2nd millennium BC.) comes a reference to a game of chance as "the drawing of wood", which in context appears to describe the drawing of lots. The first known European lotteries were held during the Roman Empire, mainly as an amusement at dinner parties. Each guest would receive a ticket, and prizes would often consist of fancy items such as dinnerware. Every ticket holder would be assured of winning something. This type of lottery, however, was no more than the distribution of gifts by wealthy noblemen during the Saturnalian revelries. The earliest records of a lottery offering tickets for sale is the lottery organized by Roman Emperor Augustus. The funds were for repairs in the City of Rome, and the winners were given prizes in the form of articles of unequal value. The first recorded lotteries to offer tickets for sale with prizes in the form of money were held in the Low Countries in the 15th century. Various towns held public lotteries to raise money for town fortifications, and to help the poor. The town records of Ghent, Utrecht, and Bruges indicate that lotteries may be even older. A record dated 9 May 1445 at L'Eccluse refers to raising funds to build walls and town fortifications, with a lottery of 4,304 tickets and total prize money of 1737 florins[2] (worth about US\$170,000 in 2014).[3] In the 17th century it was quite usual in the Netherlands to organize lotteries to raise money for the poor. The name Sorteo de Navaja was used for the first time in 1892. The Spanish Christmas Lottery is the second longest continuously running lottery in the world. This includes the years during the Spanish Civil War when the lottery draw was held in Valencia after the Republic of Spain was called Lotto or Senenua. When people wanted to bet more frequently than twice a year, they began to substitute the candidates names with numbers and modern lotto was born, to which both modern legal lotteries and the illegal numbers game can trace their ancestry. [citation needed] King Francis I of France discovered the lotteries during his campaigns in Italy and decided to organize such a lottery in his kingdom to help the state finances. The first French lottery, the Loterie Royale, was held in 1539 and was authorized with the edict of Châteaurenard. This attempt was a fiasco, since the tickets were very costly and the social classes which could afford them opposed the project. Between 1757 and 1836, for a period of about 80 years with some interruption during the French Revolution, the French state ran a profitable lottery.[4] The project was born out a series of initiatives to fund the École militaire. Instrumental to the birth of the Loterie were Giacomo Casanova and the Calzabigi brothers (Giovanni and Ranieri). Casanova defended the project in a series of conversations with Madame de Pompadour, the French mathematician Jean d'Alembert, Joseph de Paris Duverney, intendent of the École, and the French minister of foreign affairs.[4] Unlike modern lotteries where the state can never lose, in the French lottery the state could lose, but a wise choice of the payoff made losses so improbable as to ensure a profit for the state.[4] An 1809 lottery drawing at Coopers' Hall in London Although the English probably first experimented with raffles and similar games of chance, the first recorded official lottery was chartered by Queen Elizabeth I, in the year 1566, and was drawn in 1569. The 400,000 tickets, sold for 10 shillings each, were bought by the nobility and the gentry. The lottery was organized by the Secretary of the Admiralty, John Davies, and the lottery was held in London. The lottery was held in London in 1569, and was drawn in 1569. 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See: 1518,378994,00.html was it actually called Lotto 6/49? If so then perhaps a Lotto 6/49 (Germany) article can be created. 23skidoo 01:57, 13 January 2006 (UTC)[reply] Hi - I have written most of the Lottery Math article, and, though not really important, there's a slight error in this article's reported odds for 5 balls (no no bonus ball). You say that it's 1 in 35,492 - but I have calculated it as 166474/3 = 55491.3333 recurring (see bonus ball section), which rounds to 1 in 55,491. I am confident I am right about this, because I have calculated all outcomes for this lottery as fractions, and they add up to 1 exactly (as they should). --New Thought 00:30, 11 March 2006 (UTC)[reply] A very reasonable explanation for this has been given here.--New Thought 15:56, 11 March 2006 (UTC)[reply] Actually I don't get this odd (for 5 balls with no bonus), BC lottery lists it as 1:55,492, but I get it as 1:54,201 and that is what other identical lotteries list in other countries (6/49 in Poland or 6/49 Germany - scroll down). For 6.4.3 I get identical odds as listed and all odds add to 1.0 in my case. 142.103.8.38 (talk) 23:37, 8 May 2009 (UTC)[reply] How does it make sense that you win 9% of the pool with 4/6 #'s but only 4.75% with 5/6 #'s... Is this to suggest you win more money if less numbers hit? --Preceding unsigned comment added by 70.55.142.23 (talk) 04:46, 24 November 2007 (UTC)[reply] I agree, if anyone knows the answer, please share. Why would getting 4 numbers be better than getting 5? 69.156.37.253 (talk) 02:37, 17 January 2008 (UTC)[reply] Simple - the pool reflects the total prize money for all winners in that category. There are fewer people that get 5/6 numbers, so sharing the pool of 4.75% results in a larger payout per winner than sharing the pool for the 4/6 winners. For example, in the latest Lotto 6/49 (16-Jan-2008), there were 258 winners with 5/6 numbers, each getting \$1,939.50 (total pool is \$500,391.00, 4.75% of all winnings for that drawing), whereas 12626 winners had 4/6 numbers, each getting \$75.10 (total pool is \$948,212.60, 9% of all winnings for that drawing). Mindmatrix 15:22, 17 January 2008 (UTC)[reply] Ahh! Excellent, I had not thought about it that way! Thank you very much for this clarification! --Preceding unsigned comment added by 199.202.95.19 (talk) 18:20, 21 January 2008 (UTC)[reply] Was slightly confused, as for example, if you hit 3/6 numbers the "win" is \$10, now obviously this does not imply that the entire prize pool for 3/6 is \$10, but rather each person who hits 3/6 gets \$10. Therefore, I had assumed that the same premise held true of 4/6 and 5/6, respectively. Thanks again! --Preceding unsigned comment added by 199.202.95.19 (talk) 18:25, 21 January 2008 (UTC)[reply] Added "Share of ..." to make it more clear 216.232.61.241 (talk) 23:35, 1 November 2008 (UTC)[reply] Why is the term 'social conservatives' applied to the Lotto 6/49 as a form of gambling with out any support for the use of the term? Where does the evidence for social conservatives view of gambling come from?Schoeppe (talk) 06:02, 17 March 2008 (UTC)[reply] Last Wednesday (May 21, 2008), the jackpot was \$3,010,652. The article says that the jackpot prize is of at least \$3,500,000. Obviously, that is incorrect. So, what is the minimum jackpot? The article should be corrected but I don't know what the minimum is. 76.65.71.14 (talk) 00:58, 24 May 2008 (UTC)[reply] I don't know, but this may explain it somewhat. Perhaps the advertised value is the total pot available to be won, instead of just the grand prize. Mindmatrix 14:28, 24 May 2008 (UTC)[reply] I've reverted an edit which changed the accuracy of the odds of winning; while correct, it did introduce a subtle usability issue. First, all of the numbers in the table should have the same accuracy, for consistency. This is because readers may not detect the difference between a comma and period, and may be confused by what appears to be decreasing odds for fewer numbers. Second, there's no real advantage to it. However, if you'd like greater accuracy, please limit it to one decimal place - anything more is superfluous. Mindmatrix 23:20, 17 June 2008 (UTC)[reply] I think a table should be added to more clearly define the spiel games for each region. Extra is mentioned, but missing is the method of play, top prize, and the difference between BCLC and WCLC Extra. It could show the region, game name, method (ie. quantity of numbers), and top prize. I'd do it, but I don't have time right now, and I haven't done much with tables before.Lest69 (talk) 01:47, 8 August 2008 (UTC)[reply] Why does the % of what you win for the top prize drop to 40% after the jackpot reaches 30 million? | can't think of a logical reason for this. (The reason is that when the prize grows beyond 30 million, the change in % winnings for each category changes such that more people have a greater chance they will win a % of the jackpot. This reduces the chance that one person will win the larger jackpot. It allows more people to win a % of the larger pool)--Preceding unsigned comment added by 72.45.97.225 (talk) 05:20, 22 January 2009 (UTC)[reply] There's one for the WP:Did you know: The two largest jackpots in history shared the same 3 numbers - 11, 20, and 37. Weird... OEnglish (Talk) 04:17, 24 February 2009 (UTC)[reply] Wow, after following the (now-undated) wikinews link I learned another weird fact... the 2nd AND 3rd largest jackpots in history were won by 3 people in Ontario and 1 person in Quebec, jeez, they're always from Ontario... OEnglish (Talk) 04:25, 24 February 2009 (UTC)[reply] That's just demographics; the combined population of Quebec and Ontario is about 62% of the country. -- Preceding unsigned comment added by Dicrostonyx (talk • contribs) 00:35, 22 July 2016 (UTC)[reply] This page is good, but some information is needed: 1. How many people have won the jackpot since 6/49 started? 2. How many win the jackpot each year? 3. Where are most winners coming from? --Preceding unsigned comment added by John Lincoln (talk • contribs) 21:35, 10 May 2009 (UTC)[reply] The statement "Indeed, casual conversations with Canadians reveal that it is common knowledge that the odds of winning the jackpot are about "1 in 14 million" " does not have a reference. It should. Could someone provide one or at least tag it? I do not know how.174.6.130.25 (talk) 11:22, 21 June 2009 (UTC)BeeCier[reply] Done. Good eye. I've tagged it with {{Weasel-inline}} for now. -- ø™ 19:17, 21 June 2009 (UTC)[reply] How are the numbers picked? Are they picked by a computer or by physical draw?174.6.130.25 (talk) 11:22, 21 June 2009 (UTC)BeeCier[reply] they are picked with a Ryo-Catteau Lantana ball machine see --Preceding unsigned comment added by 173.34.95.41 (talk) 12:44, 16 October 2009 (UTC)[reply] Regarding this edit, I think there's some good content there that could have been retained or salvaged perhaps with some rewording. For instance the mention of the media coverage is factual and informative and also sourceable. -- ø™ 05:57, 24 September 2010 (UTC)[reply] I]]2This edit request by an editor with a conflict of interest has now been answered. What I think should be changed: in the section "2022 reformat," this article states that "The jackpot will increase at the discretion of the ILC, rather than being directly determined by the game rules." While this is technically correct, phrasing that more accurately reflects the actual game experience would be "The Gold Ball jackpot will start at \$10 million and increase by \$2 million each time it is not won up to a potential jackpot of over \$60 million." Why it should be changed: As written, the article is technically correct in that it reflects the letter of the game rules, however these rules are kept intentionally broad to allow for flexibility in the way jackpots are administered (as they are often set in alignment with sales). All game rules for all national lotteries in Canada are positioned this way, as formal changes to the game rules must be publicized six months before they take effect -- as you can imagine, this does not leave much latitude to offer higher or lower prizes reflective of that week's sales. A more accurate reflection of the way jackpots will grow (noted in the phrasing above) has been publicized separately from the official game rules in each lottery region across the country. References supporting the possible change (format using the "cite" button):[3][4][5][Towns121 (talk) 18:51, 18 August 2022 (UTC)[reply] That's what the article says already? I had edited it after more recent PR/coverage mentioned it would be \$2 million. ViperSnake151 Talk 20:45, 18 August 2022 (UTC)[reply] So you did -- this can all be disregarded. Thank you! Unfortunately I'm quite new to Wikipedia and I'm not sure if I need to close or withdraw this edit request...or how to do that :]Towns121 (talk) 18:10, 19 August 2022 (UTC)[reply] References ^ "Changes to Lotto 6/49 as of the September 14, 2022, draw". lotoquebec.com. Lotto Quebec. Retrieved 18 August 2022. ^ "CHANGES TO LOTTO 6/49 ARE COMING THIS FALL". OLG.ca. Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation. Retrieved 18 August 2022. ^ Weston, Greg. "Changes to Lotto 6/49 are coming this fall". ALC.ca. Atlantic Lotteries. Retrieved 18 August 2022. ^ "LOTTO 6/49 is Changing!". WCLC.com. The Western Canada Lottery Corporation. ^ "Lotto 6/49 Retailer Information Brochure" (PDF). BCLC.com. The BC Lottery Corporation. Retrieved 18 August 2022. Retrieved from " 4 The following pages link to Talk:Lotto 6/49 External tools (link count transclusion count sorted list) - See help page for transcluding these entries Showing 5 items. View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)User talk:Uniquely Me (links | edit) User talk:76.64.195.41 (links | edit) Wikipedia:WikiProject Spam/LinkReports/totomatic.info (links | edit) Wikipedia:WikiProject Spam/LinkReports/ccctestonline.com (links | edit) Wikipedia:WikiProject Spam/LinkReports/arabswin.com (links | edit) View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500) Retrieved from " WhatLinksHere/Talk:Lotto_6/49" We all want to know how to win the lottery.Winning the lottery is the dream for many of us. It's a great way to make money without a job! Having a ton of cash to spend on whatever you want and of course the financial security that comes along with a lottery win is why players bought more than \$83 billion in tickets in 2019.While the lottery sure is popular, your chance of winning it is pretty slim.In fact, the odds of winning a Powerball is roughly 1 in 292.2 million and your odds of winning Mega Millions are roughly 1 in 302.5 million.But still, somebody has to win the lottery and that somebody could be you.Although there may not be any winning formula to picking up a prize, there are things you can do that may increase your chances. Need Easy Extra \$300+/Month for Free? FreeCash: Get paid up to \$497.82 per offer - test apps, play games, and complete surveys for fast cash! Start earning today! Earn Haus: Earn up to \$25 per survey, plus get paid the same day via PayPal. Venmo, or check! Join Earn Haus now! InboxDollars: Over \$57 million paid to members for watching videos, shopping, and completing surveys. Claim your \$5 bonus instantly when you join! Product Report Card: Get paid to review products from home (payouts from \$0.50 to \$500)! Join for Free! KashKick: Earn money watching videos, shopping, surfing the web, and more - PayPal payments are fast! Start earning with KashKick now! Swagbucks: Watch videos, shop online, take surveys, and more - get \$10 instantly when you sign up! Join now and start earning! Here are some simple tips to help you win the lottery. 1. Purchase more tickets If there ever was a "key to winning the lottery", that would be it! To win in gambling, you have to obviously play the game! The more tickets you have, the more chances you have of winning the lottery. It's that simple. But, if you buy multiple tickets, you'll be spending more cash upfront. And there's no guarantee you'll get any of that cash back. But it definitely improves your odds of winning the lottery. 2. Start a lottery syndicate/pool Like I said above, buying more tickets improves your chances of winning the lottery. But it can get expensive. A good alternative is to join a lottery pool. This allows you to get more entries without spending more money. So you improve your odds without having to part with the extra cash. Of course, you have to share your winnings, but sharing millions of dollars is still better than not winning at all 3. Most winning lottery numbers Whether or not the stats on previous draws can help you to win in the future is questionable. But looking back on the stats could help you to choose the winning numbers. According to statistics from LottoNumbers.com, the most commonly drawn numbers for the Mega Millions lottery between 2017 and 2020 are: 10 - Drawn 28 times 17 - Drawn 28 times 31 - Drawn 28 times 48 - Drawn 28 times 70 - Drawn 28 times 14 - Drawn 27 times 62 - Drawn 27 times 4 - Drawn 25 times 8 - Drawn 25 times 11 - Drawn 25 times 28 - Drawn 25 times 43 - Drawn 25 times 24 - Drawn 24 times 34 - Drawn 24 times 42 - Drawn 23 times 1 - Drawn 23 times 60 - Drawn 23 times 3 - Drawn 22 times The site also reports that the most commonly drawn numbers for the Powerball lottery between 2015 and 2020 are: 23 - Drawn 52 times 32 - Drawn 52 times 64 - Drawn 47 times 69 - Drawn 46 times 61 - Drawn 45 times 68 - Drawn 44 times 41 - Drawn 43 times 59 - Drawn 43 times 3 - Drawn 42 times 12 - Drawn 42 times 28 - Drawn 42 times 63 - Drawn 42 times 53 - Drawn 41 times 21 - Drawn 40 times 56 - Drawn 40 times 62 - Drawn 40 times 20 - Drawn 39 times 57 - Drawn 39 times So depending on which lottery you're doing you could choose some of those numbers. Keep in mind that LottoNumbers.com also has lists of common numbers for other lottery games, so it's definitely worth having a browse of the site's stats. 4. Don't choose consecutive numbers So, don't go with 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 for example. If, for example, you're playing a lotto with 5 numbers where the numbers go up to 55, then make sure the total numbers fall between 104 and 176, as studies show that 70% of jackpots have numbers that fall in this range. 5. Don't choose numbers from the same group or ending with a similar digit Another tip for increasing your odds is to avoid choosing numbers that end with a similar digit or that fall in the same number group. 6. Choose rarer numbers You may have to split your winnings if you do win the lottery. If you want to keep more of the pot for yourself, then try to choose rarer numbers. These rarer numbers that can increase your chances of getting a higher payout, rather than your chances of winning. You could look up some stats to find out which numbers are chosen least often. According to one paper, the twelve most unpopular lotto numbers for a lottery between 1 and 80 are 32, 29, 10, 30, 40, 39, 48, 12, 42, 41, 38, and 18. These numbers are chosen 15 percent to 30 percent less often than other numbers. 7. Don't miss out on a lottery win More often than you'd think, people forget to check their numbers and don't realize that they've actually won! Billions of dollars in lottery prizes go unclaimed each year. So don't be one of those people who forgets and has money sitting there to claim. Always double-check your lottery tickets so you don't miss a win. Keep your ticket safe and then set a reminder to check your ticket on the drawing date. 8. Check tickets you find I have read many stories of people who win the lottery scratch off by simply picking up scratch cards on the ground and having it checked in a convenient store. You can do the same with lottery tickets. The odds of winning may not be in your favor, but it doesn't cost you anything to check the tickets you find. Someone else's lost ticket might be your win! Sometimes people throw out what they think is a losing ticket, but in fact, they just didn't bother to check the numbers, they misread the ticket, or they checked the wrong drawing. So it's always worth checking a discarded lottery ticket if you find it. 9. Increase your chances of winning the lottery with second-chance games Some lotteries offer second-chance drawings on non-winning tickets. So it gives you another chance to win! Just complete the form on the back of the ticket, send it in, and you'll have another chance to win money. Don't give up just because you didn't win the first time! 10. Play the right games While there are no lottery winning systems, playing the right games can improve your chances of winning the lottery. The lottery isn't just one game. Every state has a variety of lottery games, each of which has different odds of winning. So before you spend money on a ticket, make sure you read the odds of each one, and choose games with better odds to increase your chances of winning. Also, consider rarer lotto games. Since Powerball and Mega Millions are national lotteries, lots of people enter them, meaning you often end up splitting a jackpot. This lowers the value of your prize. 11. Secure your winning ticket The last thing you want to do is lose a winning lottery ticket. To make sure you keep your lottery win secure, sign your ticket on the back. This can help to prove it's yours if it gets lost or stolen. Also, I remember hearing of a cashier nearby who pretended a customer's lottery ticket was a losing one, when in fact it was a winning one. Sadly, there are unscrupulous clerks who will pocket your ticket and tell you it was a losing one. So never give your ticket to a clerk and ask if you've won. Check the ticket yourself beforehand to see if you're a winner. Then you can verify the ticket yourself. You can easily check online or in newspapers for the winning numbers. Also, if you decide to cash a lottery ticket by mail, make copies of both sides of the ticket in case it gets lost on the way. Good Luck! While there's no winning formula I can give you to increase your chances of winning the lottery, there are tips you can try like choosing commonly drawn numbers and joining a lottery pool that can help you to increase your odds. So follow our tips on how to win the lottery and let us know if you have any tips of your own in the comments section below. Please remember to gamble responsibly, and never spend more than you can afford. Playing the lottery should be considered entertainment, and not as a way to make money.