
Casino Progressive Jackpots

Written by Matt Kennedy | Last updated: 27 March 2026

Progressive jackpots are some of the biggest prizes available at online casinos. Unlike regular fixed jackpots, which pay out a set amount, progressive jackpots grow over time as players place bets on the game. A small percentage of each wager goes into the jackpot pool, and it keeps building until one lucky player hits the winning combination and takes home the lot.

The sums involved can be staggering. Progressive jackpots regularly climb into the hundreds of thousands of pounds, and some of the most popular games have paid out multi-million pound prizes. It's that life-changing potential that makes progressive jackpots so appealing to players.

How Do Progressive Jackpots Work?

The basic mechanics are fairly simple. Every time someone plays a progressive jackpot game, a small portion of their bet is added to the central jackpot pool. This happens across every spin, every hand, and every bet placed on that game. The jackpot keeps growing until it's won, at which point it resets to a base amount and starts building again.

To win the progressive jackpot, you typically need to achieve a specific outcome - this could be landing a particular combination of symbols on a slot game, or getting a specific hand in a table game. The exact trigger varies depending on the game, and it's always explained in the game's rules or paytable.

One thing worth knowing is that some progressive slots require you to place the maximum bet to be eligible for the jackpot. Others trigger the jackpot randomly, meaning any spin could potentially be the winning one. Always check the rules of the specific game you're playing so you know what's required.

Types of Progressive Jackpots

Not all progressive jackpots are created equal. There are several different types, and understanding the differences can help you decide which games to play.

Standalone Progressives- These are confined to a single game at a single [casino site](#). The jackpot only grows from bets placed on that specific game, so the prize tends to be smaller compared to networked jackpots. However, the odds of winning may be slightly better.

Local Progressives- These link together several games within the same casino site. Bets from all the linked games contribute to the same jackpot pool, which means it grows faster and can reach higher amounts than a standalone progressive.

Networked (Wide Area) Progressives- These are the big ones. Networked progressives connect the same game across multiple casino sites, all powered by the same software provider. Every player across every connected site contributes to the jackpot, which is why these prizes can reach millions of pounds. These are the jackpots that make headlines when they're won.

Progressive Jackpots on Slots

Slot games are the most common home for progressive jackpots, and many of the biggest jackpot wins in online casino history have come from progressive slots. In these games, the jackpot is funded by a percentage of every spin made on the game.

Some progressive slots have multiple jackpot tiers. You might see a Mini, Minor, Major, and Grand jackpot within the same game. The smaller jackpots hit more frequently but pay out less, while the top-tier jackpot is rarer but offers a massive payout. This tiered approach gives players more chances to win a jackpot of some size, even if the biggest prize is harder to trigger.

Because a portion of each bet goes towards the jackpot, progressive slots often have a slightly lower base game RTP (Return to Player) compared to non-progressive slots. This is the trade-off for having a shot at a much larger prize.

Progressive Jackpots on Table Games

Progressive jackpots aren't limited to slots. Several popular table games also feature progressive jackpot options, including Blackjack, Caribbean Stud Poker, and various poker variants.

In table games, the progressive jackpot is usually offered as an optional side bet. You place an additional wager - typically a fixed small amount - alongside your regular bet. If you hit a specific hand, such as a royal flush in poker, you win the progressive jackpot.

These table game jackpots tend to be smaller than the biggest slot jackpots, mainly because fewer players opt into the side bet. The house edge on progressive side bets is generally higher than on the main game, so they're not the most efficient bet from a pure odds perspective. That said, the entertainment value and the chance of a big win make them popular with plenty of players.

Tips for Playing Progressive Jackpot Games

If you fancy trying your luck on a progressive jackpot, here are a few things to keep in mind:

Check the rules- Make sure you know whether you need to bet a specific amount to qualify for the jackpot. There's nothing worse than hitting the right combination only to discover you weren't eligible.

Manage your bankroll- Progressive jackpot games can eat through your budget quickly, especially if they require maximum bets. Set yourself a spending limit and stick to it.

Understand the odds- The chances of winning a progressive jackpot are very slim. Think of it like a lottery - it could happen, but don't bank on it. Play for the entertainment and treat any jackpot win as a bonus.

Play on licensed sites- Always play at a site holding a valid UK Gambling Commission licence. This ensures the games are fair and that any jackpot you win will actually be paid out.

Remember that credit cards can't be used for gambling in the UK, so you'll need to deposit using a debit card, e-wallet, or another approved payment method. If you need support or advice around gambling, [GambleAware](#) is there to help.

Progressive jackpots add an extra layer of excitement to online casino gaming. While the odds of hitting the big one are long, the possibility of a massive payout from a single spin or hand is what keeps players coming back. For more on how casino games work, explore our [guides section](#).

Responsible Gambling: Gambling should be fun and never seen as a way to make money. Only gamble with money you can afford to lose. If you feel you may have a problem, visit [gambleaware.org](https://www.gambleaware.org) or call the National Gambling Helpline on 0808 8020 133. All sites featured on Top Online Bingo Sites are licensed by the UK Gambling Commission. You must be 18+ to gamble.

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