
Online bingo- is it fixed?

Written by Matt Kennedy | Last updated: 27 March 2026

Do you ever feel like online bingo might be fixed? Maybe you've had a run of bad luck and started wondering whether the system is rigged so that only the operator wins. It's a perfectly natural thought - especially after a string of losses - but the reality is quite different.

The software used to operate online bingo relies on a **Random Number Generator (RNG)**, which means all the numbers drawn are completely random. No human being is choosing the numbers, and no algorithm is designed to make you lose. The outcome of every game is based purely on chance.

How Random Number Generators Work

An RNG is a piece of software that produces a sequence of numbers with no discernible pattern. In online bingo, the RNG selects which numbered balls are drawn and in what order. Each number has an equal chance of being called at any point during the game, just like in a traditional bingo hall where physical balls are drawn from a machine.

The key difference is that instead of a mechanical ball blower, the digital version uses complex mathematical algorithms to generate random outcomes. These algorithms are designed to be completely unpredictable, and they produce results so quickly that thousands of games can run simultaneously without any issues.

Independent Testing And Regulation

If you play at **UKGC-licensed bingo sites**, you can be confident that the games are fair. The UK Gambling Commission requires all licensed operators to have their software independently tested by approved agencies. These testing bodies examine the RNG to confirm that outcomes are genuinely random and that the games operate as advertised.

These audits aren't a one-off event, either. Licensed operators face ongoing scrutiny, and the testing agencies conduct regular checks to make sure standards are maintained. If an operator were caught tampering with their software, they'd lose their licence and face serious legal consequences. Frankly, it's not worth the risk for any legitimate operator - the penalties far outweigh any short-term gains from rigging games.

The Heavy Deposit Effect

So if bingo isn't fixed, why does it sometimes feel like the same players keep winning? This is a question that comes up regularly, and there's a straightforward explanation for it.

Players who buy the maximum number of tickets for each game naturally have more chances of winning. If someone purchases 50 tickets while you buy 5, they have ten times more chances of having the winning card. It's simple probability.

This is known as the 'Heavy Deposit Effect'. While these players might appear to win frequently, they're also spending considerably more money on tickets. When you offset their ticket purchases against their winnings, they might not actually be making much profit at all - or they could even be losing money overall.

The gambling regulator in Gibraltar actually published guidance about this effect on their complaints page, because it generates so many queries from players who assume something dodgy is going on.

To address this, many **bingo sites** have introduced ticket purchase limits for individual games. This caps the number of tickets any one player can buy, levelling the playing field and giving everyone a fairer shot at winning.

Why Some Rooms Feel Harder To Win In

Another factor worth considering is the number of players in a room. In a busy room with hundreds of players, your chances of winning are naturally lower than in a quieter room with just a handful of people. The odds are spread across more tickets, so wins come less frequently for each individual player.

If you're finding it hard to win, try playing at off-peak times or in less popular rooms where there's less competition. Your chances of taking home a prize will improve simply because there are fewer people to compete against - though the prize pots may be smaller as a result.

Can The Site See Your Cards?

Another common concern is whether the bingo site can see your cards and deliberately avoid calling your numbers. The answer is no. The RNG operates independently of any player data. It doesn't know which numbers are on your tickets, and it doesn't adjust its output based on who's playing. The draw is completely blind.

Protecting Yourself

While online bingo isn't fixed, it's still important to play responsibly and choose your sites wisely. Stick to operators licensed by the UK Gambling Commission, and look for sites that display information about their RNG testing and certification.

If you ever feel like gambling isn't fun anymore, organisations such as [GambleAware](#) offer free advice and support. You can also use tools like deposit limits and session reminders to help manage your play.

For more information on how online bingo works, check out our [bingo guides](#).

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 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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