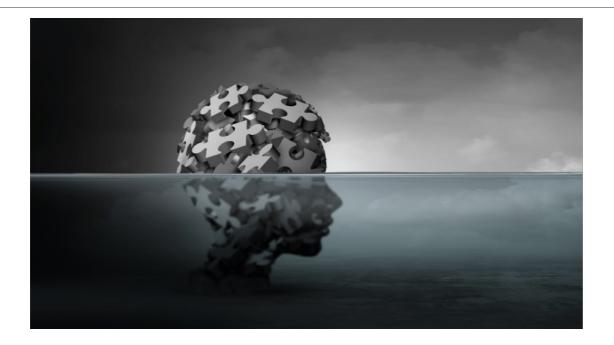


Why Free Offers Fascinate Us: A Psychological Take



Slot machines have conquered the gambling world – this game type is undeniably the most popular in online casinos. And what a gaming session without additional bonuses? Operators face stiff competition and are forced to delight their members with multiple benefits. Free spins are among the most widespread promotion types, allowing users to spin the reel in their favourite slots longer without additional investments. FS are incredibly popular among risk seekers, and they gladly explore the available promotions. At the same time, online casinos get the chance to increase customer engagement and gain loyalty from passionate gamblers.

For many, free spins are just a bright offer for boosting the initial bankroll and having the opportunity to win more in the best slots. However, most users don't even notice how online casinos can affect players' perceptions and actions through this juicy deal. What are the psychological reasons behind the FS appeal to gambling lovers?

The Psychology of Free

The human mind is prone to have a special approach to something free, and it also concerns casino bonuses. It's not a secret that gambling is risky and can often lead to losses. However, using free spins cannot result in budget holes, which is why players claim them. Players can have priceless entertainment opportunities without investing their funds; in addition, the monetary rewards can bring real wins, which are delightful for every adrenaline hunter.

Modern online casinos offer low-cost services; for instance, it's often enough to deposit \$1 and get ten spins for the best slot machines. Despite the cheapness, players still search for something free, like free spins or other promotions. The <u>Zero Price Effect theory</u> can be a perfect explanation in this case. It implies a phenomenon where people select to get something for free even if they have to wait for it instead of immediately investing a bit and receiving what they want. In this case, the "free" concept triggers a person's brain.

Online casinos successfully use this option to attract players: for example, they send pop-ups offering to claim free spins with a few clicks. At that moment, users don't really think about whether they actually want to get the bonus and spend it on a limited number of slots. The possibility of claiming the reward causes positive emotions, so most users will likely get the deal.

The Thrill of Chance

Slot machines work on the RNG, generating completely random results. Therefore, there are equal chances of getting a win or a loss. The more spins a user makes, the higher the opportunity to receive the coveted cash prize. Online casino games are all about excitement, so increasing © For personal and private use only. Reproduction must be permitted by the copyright holder. Email to copyright@mindbyte.eu.

the chances for the winning outcome delights every player. Gamblers are thrilled with the possibility of claiming free spin promotions, as they can trigger additional opportunities and provide users with more rounds in their favourite games.

Uncertainty follows every player in online casinos, as no one can know for sure which result the following spin will bring. However, additional rewards stimulate dopamine releases, bringing users more confidence in their actions during the gaming session. The thrill of getting more opportunities for free brings more positive emotions, which is why casinos often offer additional incentives to engage customers.

Risk vs Reward Perception

It's essential for people to evaluate the potential correlation between the risk and the reward they can eventually receive. This rule also works in online casinos, where players tend to analyse the landscape to calculate their possibility of winning. Gambling fans tend to assess the potential bonus value and predict which benefits their usage can bring. This is one of the main <u>psychological factors</u> motivating users to claim free spins and other promotions.

Free Spins in Action

Many online casinos offer free spins and no deposit bonuses to their members as a separate incentive or as a part of bonus packages. Therefore, players have multiple chances to claim the juicy promotion. FS for newly registered users is a common option; here, players can try their luck with zero investments. Users should only join the chosen platform and claim the offer to use it immediately on featured slot machines. In this case, they not only can explore the thrill and adrenaline of the gambling world but can also get tangible real-money wins.

Most people would gladly grab this opportunity to try their luck, especially considering it's free. Therefore, online casinos use this trick to allow users to assess the operator's service and discover all the benefits they can get. Many users immerse themselves in the gambling world and remain loyal to the chosen website, so free spins are the perfect promotional mechanism.

Behavioural Economics Insights

Evaluating this aspect is essential when discussing the psychological impact of free spins on the human brain. For instance, loss aversion is a common phenomenon, indicating that the potential loss causes more emotions than the prospect of getting an equal benefit. In casinos, it's often manifested by players aiming to avoid losses at any cost. In this case, promotions are helpful, as they provide users with additional spins or rounds, so operators successfully use additional perks to keep customers engaged.

The endowment effect is another principle where people value what they already have unless they know what they didn't get. For instance, imagine yourself winning \$1,000 in slot machines. By definition, every player will be happy with such a prize. But what about if you know that another casino member hit a \$10,000 jackpot? Human psychology works in such a way that the person will be disappointed despite their personal win. Free spins help to balance this phenomenon, providing players with more opportunities.

Maintaining Psychological Health

Despite the allure of free spins and bright slots to spend them, the casino industry still hides some unpleasant secrets. Gambling is risky and addictive, which is why players should develop <u>self-control</u> and keep track of all their actions on the gaming platform. Free spins are attractive, and it's challenging to resist the temptation to claim them.

However, users must stick to responsible gambling principles and ensure they don't experience any symptoms of compulsive behaviours. These include constant thoughts about casinos, anxiety, chasing losses, borrowing money to play more, etc. Noticing signs requires a user to be alerted and turn to qualified support.

Bankroll management should be the key priority for maintaining a balance between entertainment and avoiding potential problems. Users must monitor their expenses and income and never exceed the limits. Moreover, it's critical to remember that gambling is just a fun pastime, not a lifestyle!

Final Insight

Online casinos can skilfully manipulate players' behaviours, and offering free spins and other bonuses is a significant part of a well-thought-out strategy. Gambling operators can impact human psychology by implementing the concept of free or providing users with immediate gratification. In this case, users tend to explore the thrill and allure of casino slots with more excitement as the perceived value instantly grows. These tricks help online gaming establishments increase customer engagement.

However, it's critical for players to track all their actions and follow responsible gambling principles. The seemingly innocent entertainment can lead to compulsive behaviours, so users should be attentive and do everything possible to avoid them.

This article is part of the HealthManagement.org Point-of-View Programme.