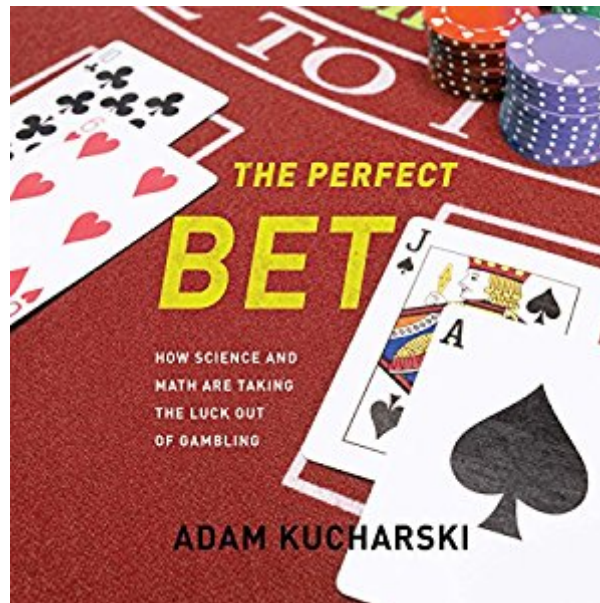




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Perfect Bet: How Science And Math Are Taking The Luck Out Of Gambling



Synopsis

Bringing together ideas from mathematics, psychology, economics, and physics, *The Perfect Bet* traces the origins of successful betting methods. From the simple to the intricate and the audacious to the absurd, Adam Kucharski reveals the long and tangled history between betting and science and explains why gambling continues to generate insights into luck and decision making today. Covering exploits and ideas from across the globe, he meets the teams behind hedge funds that capitalize on inaccurate sports betting odds and explains how PhD-level pundits are using methods originally developed for the US nuclear program to predict sports results. Kucharski reveals why winning at chess depends on luck - but victory in checkers does not - and why poker is one of the ultimate challenges for artificial intelligence. He also explores the difficulties of mimicking human behavior and explains what caused one hedge fund's rogue algorithm to lose them \$400,000 per second in the summer of 2012.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book after listening to an article on BBC Radio 4. The book talks about betting of course but looks at the role maths and the various sciences play in gambling. I was thoroughly tickled to learn how experiments in friction on a roulette ball were scuppered by the presence of fog at the University of California Santa Cruz campus, particularly as I am familiar with Santa Cruz and it's penchant for foggy days. This book was so interesting that I have read it in one day. Not a common thing for me, but it is a nice mix of history, maths, and sets out some practical theories that are of interest to me in general.

A very accessible, well written, extraordinarily analytical, entertaining and very informative book written by someone who demonstrates a complete understanding of the material.

Very interesting read for someone with a science or math background. I thought it might encourage me to quit gambling, but it did not.

Thoughtful discussion of the intersection of science and gambling. Much of the content is a rehash of Fortune's Formula and Richard Munchkin's book Gambling Wizards. If you are interested in the development and future of robotics you'll enjoy this book. If you're looking for detailed gambling stories there are better places.

Interesting but not a how to book. The use of computers in trading on the stock market is scary stuff.

Well written and extremely interesting. Covers a wide range of how science and math have been applied to casino gambling, sports betting and the securities markets.

anyone interested in gambling, or any game combining luck and skill, can profit fro this book, plus
Its very entertaining

I was hoping for many example of how I could duplicate what others have done but all is given is this person bet on this or that not how it was done.Many times the author mentioned that mathematicians had written papers on betting but had not given examples of their work and here he goes and does the exact same thing. This is more of a cloudy historical accounting of what others have done rather than a guide to replicating the work.

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