



12 Best Books for Gamblers of Any Level

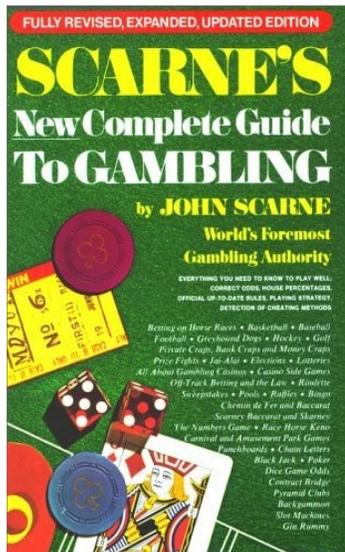
If you are a novice gambler or a seasoned pro, there are many interesting gambling books to fit your reading wants and needs. Some books offer fantastic tips and guides to better your gambling skills, while others are just interesting reads for those that understand the ins and outs of the game. It can be frustrating to purchase one of the many books on gambling only to find out it is a poorly edited, misinformed, or miserably boring piece of work.

Luckily, we've taken a look at these most popular and helpful books in gambling and created a list to help guide you through your purchase. If you want to learn something new, get beginner's tips, or just have something to read on a rainy Sunday, we've got a book on this list for you. Take a look at these 10 gambling books and find something to add to your bookshelf, today!

Beginner's Guides and Tips

In our Beginner's recommendations we will take a look at guides and informative books that are not only easy to understand, but provide a level of knowledge suitable for entry-level gamblers. Even if you have never bet on a thing in your life, these picks will have information you can follow and techniques you can implement.

1. **Scarne's New Complete Guide to Gambling – John Scarne**
Published – August 7th 1986
Good Reads Rating – 4.15 / 5 stars





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John Scarne is well-known in the gambling instructional world. In fact, he is considered one of the most well-regarded experts on gambling who ever existed. He wrote dozens of books on the art of gambling and took all of that information to create a comprehensive collection of remarkable gambling knowledge.

Scarne's New Complete Guide to Gambling is not only one of the best-selling gambling books on the market, but it has some of the most interesting insider knowledge available.

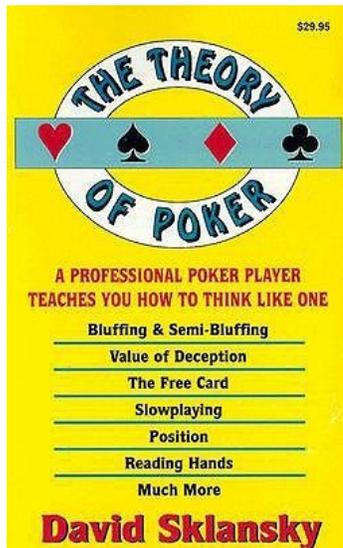
In this book you will find official game rules, odds and house percentages, advice on playing strategy, explanations to help you detect cheats and swindlers, and a review and explanation of every game and sporting event involved in betting.

We won't say there are no other great gambling guides, but any gambler would be letting themselves down to not give Scarne's book a once over!

2. The Theory of Poker – David Sklansky

Published – July 1st 1999

Good Reads Rating – 4.04 / 5 stars



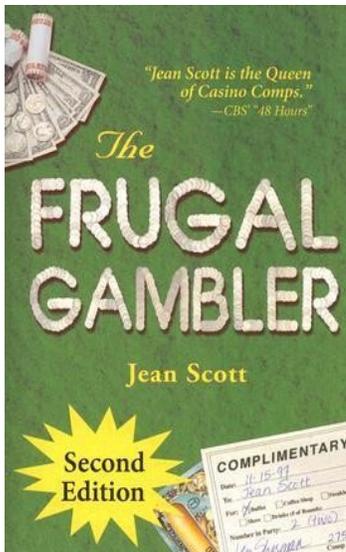
The Theory of Poker is a fantastic educational tool for beginner gamblers. This book not only covers the theory of poker, but the concepts of nearly every version of the game. In Sklansky's guide you will find information on five-card draw, seven-card stud, hold 'em, lowball draw, and more.

Sklansky not only teaches you the basic theory of poker, but also helps you to understand the importance of the theory and how it should go to mold your play-style. Learn the value of deception, the art of bluffing, the tricks to raising and slow-play, and

implied odds.

This book has so much to offer! Don't miss out on one of the most popular and thorough poker guides on the market.

3. The Frugal Gambler – Jean Scott
Published – April 1st 2005
Good Reads Rating – 3.62 / 5 stars



The Frugal Gambler is a different take on the beginner's guide. Whereas our other choices cover the actual gameplay techniques and skills, Jean Scott's guide focuses on techniques for saving money while gambling to improve overall profit.

This fun guide teaches you all the "low-roller" tricks!

Learn how to stay free at hotel-casinos, beat casino promotions, eat or drink on the house, make profit on video=poker, and fly free!

The Frugal Gambler is a thorough and well explained guide to penny pinching while gambling! Not only does Scott give you all the tips she has learned, but provides you with a plethora of resources to further your efforts.

Even if you are just planning a one-time trip to Vegas, this book could be worth your while!

Tips and Guides for Higher Levels

Higher level guide books focus on deeper and more ideological theorems around



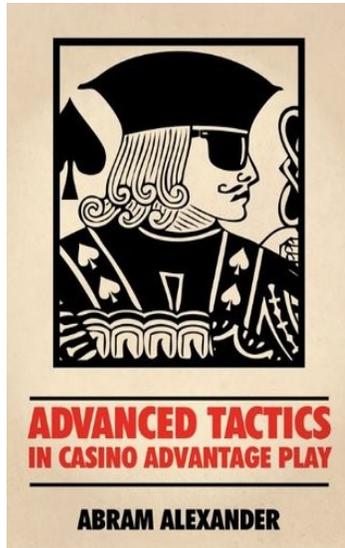
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gambling. If you don't have any gambling experience you are going to have a difficult time jumping into these picks. However, if you are an experienced player looking to step up your game, these books are just what you need.

- 1. Advanced Tactics in Casino Advantage Play – Abram Alexander**
Published – August 24th 2011
Good Reads Rating – 4.5 / 5 stars



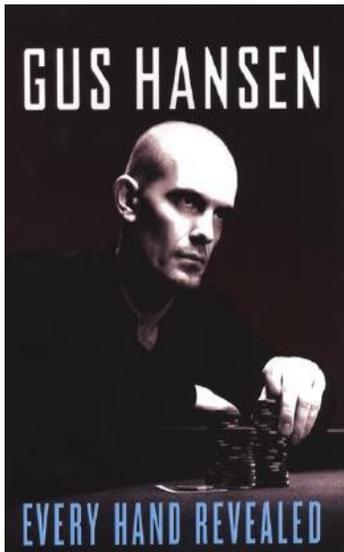
For the more nuanced gambler, a book like Advanced Tactics might be more your speed. This guide, written by Abram Alexander, delves into thoughtful discussions on the tactical approaches to shuffle tracking, card counting, and other techniques.

Alexander's book also takes a look into the complex ideology of worthwhile win rates across a multitude of games. These techniques and theories have not only been thoroughly researched through text, but also come from the professional experience of Alexander.

If you are familiar with gambling and ready to get a deeper look at the skills and theorem behind gaining an advantage, this book is a great place to start!

- 2. Every Hand Revealed – Gus Hansen**
Published – May 1st 2008

Good Reads Rating – 4.04 / 5 stars



Take a stop in the mind of professional, Danish poker player, Gustav Hansen. Hansen has an impressive record with three World Poker Tour wins, an Aussie Millions main even win, and a Poker Superstars Invitational Tournament win.

Hansen is someone you can trust to have interesting theories and techniques when it comes to poker. Now, you can learn all his trademark techniques in his book, Every Hand Revealed.

In this thorough book you will learn:

An analysis of hundreds of hands played during the Aussie millions

Gus's custom method to consistent wins

Winning with “unplayable” hands

Bluffing and pushing raises

changing your play based on prizes

and more!



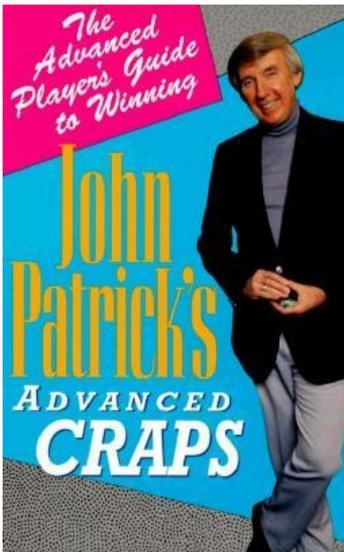
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You might need a basic knowledge of poker to really appreciate the knowledge provided in this book, but intermediate player and advanced players will both find plenty to learn here!

- 3. John Patrick's Advanced Craps – John Patrick**
Published – November 1st 2000
Good Read Rating – 3.67 / 5 stars



Sure, John Patrick's Advanced Craps is pretty game specific, and maybe you don't like to play craps, but if it is a game you have any interest in you won't find a better guide!

If you want to take your craps game to the next level, this is the guide for you. Patrick takes a look at money management, discipline, and when/ how much to bet. The system laid out in Advanced Craps provides a unique method which offers the player the best odds against the house!

Anybody who plays craps needs to have this guide on their bookshelf!

Biographies and Non-Fiction

Are you the type of gambler or gaming enthusiast that likes to know the unique history of the sport? Well, then these non-fiction picks are for you. Take a look



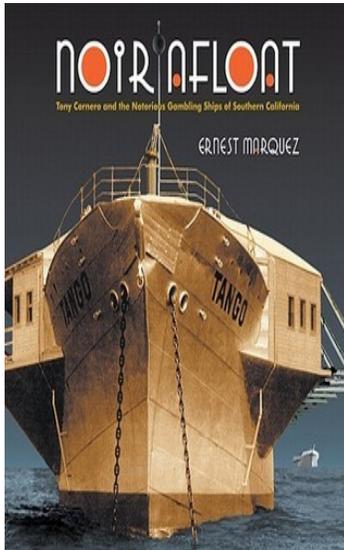
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into the history of some of the most interesting people in the gambling world. Learn about the origins of the modern gambling tradition as well as some of the seedy secrets of individual players and their cohorts.

- 1. Noir Afloat – Ernest Marquez**
Published – February 2nd 2011
Good Reads Rating – 4.3 / 5 stars



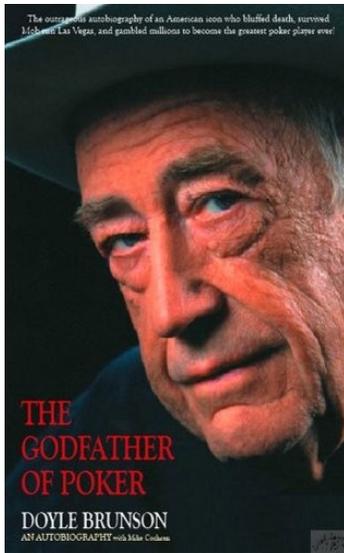
Noir Afloat: Tony Cornero and the Notorious Gambling Ships of Southern California recounts some of the most riveting and fascinating gambling history. Take a look at the dark and twisted secrets of the California gambling ships that anchored in Santa Monica Bay in the 1920's and 1930's.

This recounted bit of history is so interesting and action packed that it could easily be mistaken for fiction!

Follow a true story of murder, gambling, drinking, and general debauchery in Marquez's enticing recounting of Tony Cornero's time running the most glamorous gambling ship in the Pacific.

Once you jump into this piece of history, you won't want to leave. Every gambler should know the story of Las Vegas' founder and his time skirting the laws of prohibition, and Ernest Marquez delivers the tale masterfully.

- 2. The Godfather of Poker: The Doyle Brunson Story – Doyle Brunson, Mike Cochran**
Published – November 10th 2009
Good Reads Rating – 4.03 / 5 stars



The Story of Doyle Brunson is one of luck, failure, tragedy, triumph, and most of all – guts. Regarded as one of, if not the, best poker players of all time, Brunson has lived a long life filled with amazing tells of love and loss – betting big and winning bigger!

Don't miss out on the true story of a poker legacy in his own words. This semi-autobiography is sure to entertain you as well as give you an inside peak at some of Brunson's techniques and styles.

Take a look at one of the longest and most successful careers in poker! Brunson has lived and played through beatings, gun fights, stabbings, encounters with mobsters and murderers, and a terrifying cancer diagnosis.

This is an ongoing life story you don't want to miss!

- 3. The Smart Money – Michael Konik**
Published – November 14th 2006
Good Reads Rating – 3.85 / 5 stars



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The Smart Money: How the World's Best Sports Bettors Beat the Bookies Out of Millions is a riveting expose on one of the world's most successful sports gambling rings. If you have ever wondered how some people make millions betting on sports, this is a perfect book to add to your shelf!

Follow the true story of a former journalist who spent three years living a secret life among The Brain Trust. Now, he has documented in true journalist's fashion the intriguing ways these intense sports bettors beat the bookies out of millions of dollars.

The Brain Trust isn't the real name of the group, nor are any of the names in the book real, but rest assured that the incredible story and techniques revealed within are absolutely true. Konik's memoir of his time in the group is as mind boggling as it is entertaining.

Fiction

If you are looking to add a little entertainment to your life, these books are good options for you. Though they all fit into a gambling theme, we have picked an array of genres to display here. We hope you will enjoy one, if not all, of these fantastically woven tales of fiction.

1. **The Poker Chip – R.O. Lane**
Published – May 6th 2018
Good Reads Rating – 4.54 / 5 stars

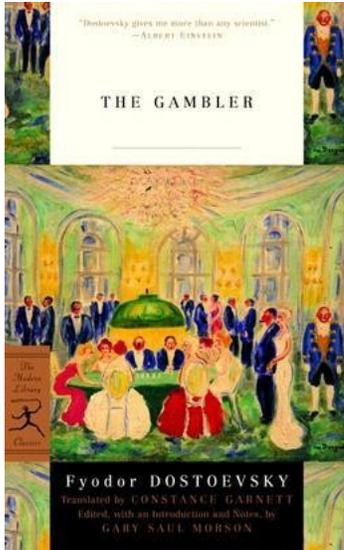


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The Gambler is a short read, but definitely worth it! It has been translated into English by Constance Garnett, but the riveting Russian culture is not lost in translation.

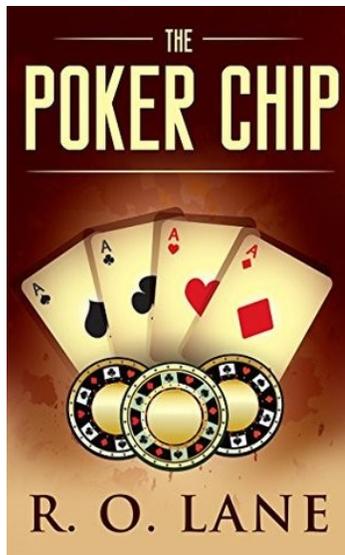
In this dim and captivating tale, we follow the journey of Alexey Ivanovitch, a young tutor for the imperious Russian general. Alexey is determined to rebel against the typical life and order of the Russian way of life, but slips into the dark world of betting, loss, and addiction.

If you are looking for a story that is more heavily gambling themed while still allowing for a clearly fictitious tone, The Gambler is a good option. Dostoyevsky creates a mesmerizing psychological drama that paints a fascinating, if not devastating, journey.

- 3. A Gambler's Anatomy – Jonathan Lethem**
Published – October 18th 2016
Good Reads Rating – 3.5 / 5 stars



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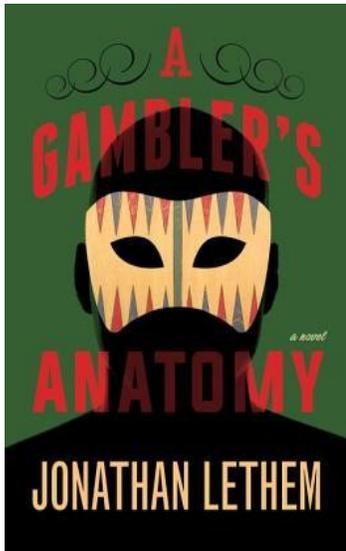
If you like westerns, some romance, and an interesting gambling theme, *The Poker Chip* is a great addition to your bookshelf! R.O. Lane is a long-time master of the Western genre, and this book is a prime example of his skill.

In this riveting tale, Vance Brennan falls in love with Lexie Moody, but their romance doesn't seem to be. Lexie is, unfortunately, married to Jeff Warren. As if things couldn't be worse, Lexie's terrible husband puts her up as a bet on his game of poker!

When he loses, Jeff devises a plan to have Lexie kidnapped and transported to Mexico where his gambling debts will be paid off. Vance knows he must save his love and heads to Mexico after her. There is danger, romance, and shocks in every chapter.

The Poker Chip is a page turner that will keep you transfixed at every twist and turn. If you want to get lost in a rugged fantasy involving the shady figures of old school gambling, this is the book for you!

- 2. The Gambler – Fyodor Dostoyevsky**
Published – April 8th 2003
Good Reads Rating – 3.75 / 5 stars



In Jonathan Lethem's, *A Gambler's Anatomy*, we get to see the riveting life of a professional backgammon player, who seems to never lose – until he does. Watch as Lethem pulls you into the downward spiraling journey of Bruno Alexander.

Alexander seems to have it all, but when his gambling stops being profitable and his attentions are skewed his life starts to slip from his control. This is a tale that makes you think, “things can't get any worse,” right before they do.

You won't want to put this book down! Paced like a good short fiction but fleshed out like a true novel, *A Gambler's Anatomy* is an outstanding book to add to any collection!

We hope you enjoy our list of the 12 best gambling books. No matter what your level of gambling mastery or your purpose for reading, there will be something on this list that works for you. You might even snag a book from each section to create the ultimate gambling book starter set!



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