



Remote gambling is any form of gambling in which a person does not have to be physically present. It is solitary and unmonitored. It can be conducted from the safety of a gambler's home, car, airplane, street corner, café, school room, board room, or any place a remote device is operable.

*Awareness of this problem needs to be a family matter. The most likely people to discover the gambling problem are family and friends, those closest to the gambler.*

Many calls to the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling's 24-Hour Helpline come from family members or friends who have discovered their loved one's gambling problem and question how they might help them.

If gambling is becoming a problem for you or someone you care about, help is available.

**We Can Help  
24-hours a day**

**1-800-426-2535**  
Chat [wi-problemgamblers.org](http://wi-problemgamblers.org)  
Text 850-888-4673



The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. provides resources, public awareness and education on gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling.



## Remote Gambling And Problem Gambling



**WISCONSIN COUNCIL**  
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

# REMOTE GAMBLING

## Gambling at your Fingertips EVERYWHERE



### What makes Remote Gambling a growing concern?

- It is immediate - accessed from anywhere, anytime
- It is a solitary endeavor
- It is more hidden than other forms of gambling
- Others know that it is a problem after their lives have been painfully affected

### Remote Gambling includes:

- Internet sites which include any form of betting imaginable
- Mobile, blackberry, tablets and other forms of Apps, text messaging, and internet access
- Cell phone, telephone
- Interactive TV

### Facts on Remote Gambling:

- Internet has over 2500 gambling sites and the number is growing daily
- Online poker has over 400 websites and growing daily
- Presently there are over 5 million transactions conducted per day, or an average of about 300 bets per second
- There is no US regulation on how the sites control payouts and percentages of payoffs. The sites could manipulate the gambler to think they are skilled and can outplay the others on the site.

### Attractive to persons who:

- Want immediate access
- Are socially shy and lack confidence
- Prefer privacy
- Are uncomfortable with physical nearness to others
- Are disabled and do not want to be seen as different
- Want to decrease social barriers based on sex, race, age, disability
- Want to be someone they are not

### Remote Gambling makes the gambler feel:

- Disinhibited-people do and say things in cyberspace that they wouldn't ordinarily say in the real world
- Interactive with others without face to face contact
- As if they can escape and get away from the real world
- Intelligent, skilled and all powerful until they start losing

### Thoughts of the Remote Gambler:

- You don't know me - anonymity
- You can't see me - invisibility
- See you later - don't relate in real time, wait for messages
- It's just a game - real money does not change hands - it's all credits
- We're equals - authority really does not exist

*There are online programs available to block gambling sites on computer, cell phone, laptop, etc...*

*Search blocking online gambling websites to find which one works best for you.*

### What Remote Gambling Provides:

- **Gratification:** No waiting, instant
- **Anticipation:** Removed, instant action, adrenalin rush
- **Companion:** Always there when needed
- **Shadow:** Always with you, cell phone mobility
- **Fantasy:** Takes you to it, changes persona
- **Expression:** In a private world, more satisfying than real life
- **Ego:** Boosts fragile/bruised ego
- **Constraints:** Lacking boundaries. Limits only by extent of cash/credit
- **Chasing:** Several times a day, PC is a beckoning finger. (Bellringer, 2006)
- **A Chance:** To lose financial resources, friends, jobs, family, freedom, etc.

**Information taken from the National Council on Problem Gambling.**

