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Sports betting odds: American, decimal and fractional

Betting odds are not the same all over the world. Depending on where you are, you will be presented with one of three different formats. It's always worth reminding yourself that the probability they are expressing is the same and that you can convert from one to another quite easily. You can compare all three formats using our free online odds calculator.

American odds

Also known as moneyline odds or US odds, it is always displayed using a bet total of R\$100.

The odds for the favorite, which will have a minus sign (-) in front of them, show the amount you need to bet to win R\$100. The odds for the underdog, which will carry a plus sign (+), show how much you will win if you bet R\$100 on your choice.

If the Kansas City Chiefs are the favorites to win, their odds might be -175, and you will have to bet R\$175 to win R\$100 a total return of R\$275. Their opponents, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, may be priced at +145, and you will have to bet R\$100 to win R\$145 a total return of R\$245.

Jayne Kamin-Oncea-USA TODAY Sports

Decimal odds

Decimal odds are used in many parts of the world, including Europe, Australia and New Zealand. The main thing to remember when you see decimal odds is that they include the stake that will be returned to you. This is not the case with American or fractional odds.

If you look at the market for a major European horse race and the favorite is priced at 3.50, that means if you stake R\$100 you will win R\$350. Decimal odds may look unfamiliar to you at first but it doesn't take long to be comfortable with them.

Fractional odds

Fractional odds are distinctly old-school and are used in the United Kingdom and Ireland. The best way to understand them is to add the numbers either side of the dash together. Once you've done that, the