

Think You Know What Dad Wants For Father's Day? A New Survey Says—Think Again

(NAPS)—Attention gift-givers: If you're planning to buy socks, a tie, or a "#1 Dad" mug this Father's Day, you might want to reconsider. According to a new statewide survey* commissioned by the Illinois Lottery, a whopping 84% of Illinois dads feel that Father's Day gets way less love than Mother's Day—and they might be right. In fact, only 41% report that they received a gift from family on their special day. Fortunately, these dads are not shy about what they'd like to receive next time.

From heartfelt to hilarious, dads across Illinois dished on their dream gifts, revealing that many would trade a tie for a tasty meal—or even control of the TV remote!

- 54% crave for a nice meal that didn't come from a microwave or delivery app
- 53% dream of a surprise family vacation where they didn't have to plan a single thing
- 18% desire a day to themselves—no spouse, kids, family, or to-do lists
- 17% want total control of the TV remote
- 14% would love a personal butler for the day to serve their every whim
- 14% long for a full day of silence

What's more, over a third of Illinois fathers admitted to faking excitement over disappointing Father's Day gifts in the past. Among the most dreaded presents?

- Socks (49%)
- Ties (38%)
- "#1 Dad" mugs (34%)



A majority—83% of dads in Illinois—say they would love to receive a lottery ticket as a Father's Day gift, a new survey finds.

- Random power tools (27%)

The good news: Most dads (60%) say spending just \$25 to \$50 is the perfect amount for Father's Day gifts—meaning the bar isn't set high, maybe it's just set wrong.

So, what do dads actually want? Here's a tip that might surprise you: 83% say they'd love to receive a lottery ticket—yet only 23% ever have. With Instant Ticket games ranging from \$1 to \$50 and available at nearly 7,000 retailers across the state, the Illinois Lottery provides a quick and convenient way to add a little fun and a welcome surprise.

This Father's Day, skip the argyle socks and give dad a moment of excitement, a chance to win big, and maybe—just maybe—a day with complete control of the remote.

For more information about the Illinois Lottery and the causes it supports, please visit IllinoisLottery.com.

The Illinois Lottery commissioned a quantitative survey in May 2025 with 500 Illinois fathers, ages 18 to 65+, to better understand attitudes, expectations, and wish lists ahead of Father's Day.