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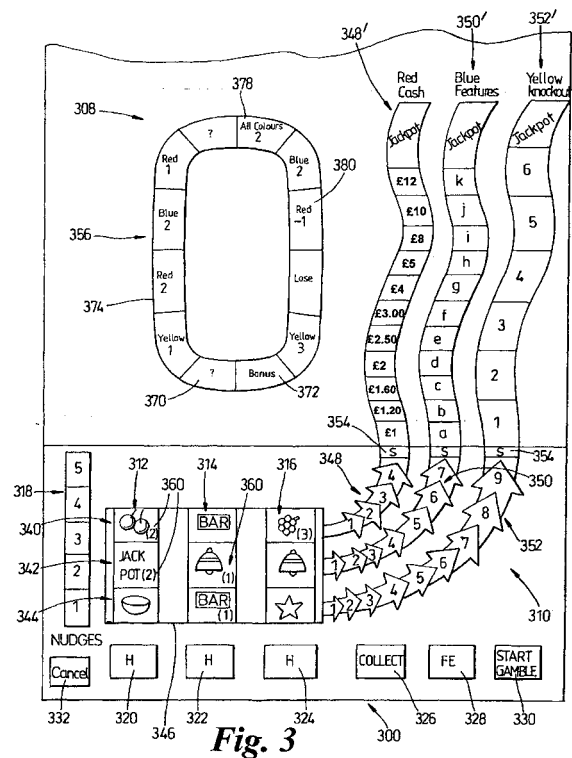
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(54) **Gaming and amusement machines**

(57) A gaming or amusement machine (300) has three reels (312, 314, 316) with a win line (342) and, visible in a reel display (346), a line (340) above it and a line (344) below it. The horizontal lines visible in the reel display (346) contribute to a respective separate one of three trails (348, 350, 352). All three trails are played simultaneously, with symbols from different reels contributing to any single trail. Nudging a symbol can make it contribute not only to its original trail (348), but also another trail (350), and possibly if nudged again to a third trail (352). Similarly, holding one reel (316) can contribute points to all three trails.





European Patent  
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 01 30 7408

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	EP 0 919 965 A (INT GAME TECH) 2 June 1999 (1999-06-02) * paragraphs [0105]-[0115]; figures 12A,13A *	1-23	G07F17/34 G07F17/32
X	EP 0 219 305 A (BARCREST LTD) 22 April 1987 (1987-04-22) * column 3, line 24 - column 4, line 63; figure 1 *	1-23	
X	GB 2 262 642 A (MAYGAY MACHINES) 23 June 1993 (1993-06-23) * page 11, line 24 - page 12, line 4; figure 1 *	1-23	
A	DE 195 34 526 A (BALLY WULFF AUTOMATEN GMBH) 13 March 1997 (1997-03-13) * the whole document *	1-23	
A	GB 2 191 030 A (BELL FRUIT MFG CO LTD) 2 December 1987 (1987-12-02) * abstract; figure 1 *	1-23	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) G07F
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 24 April 2003	Examiner Stratford, C
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone                      Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category                      A : technological background                      O : non-written disclosure                      P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention                      E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date                      D : document cited in the application                      L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 01 30 7408

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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