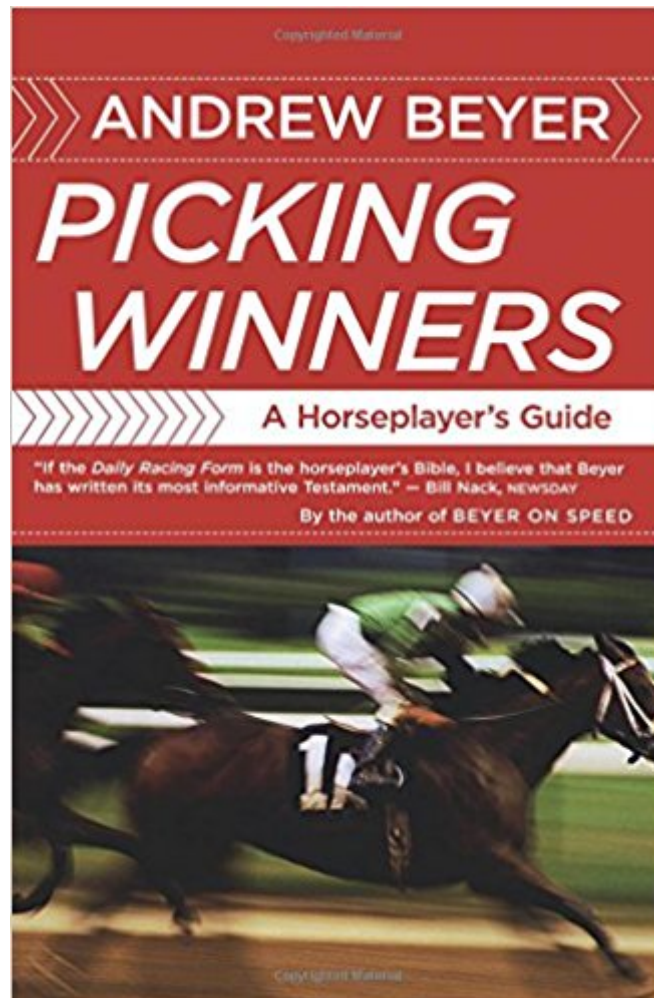




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# Picking Winners: A Horseplayer's Guide



## Synopsis

A classic guide to handicap strategies in the field of thoroughbred racing. Just as football evolved with the introduction of the forward pass and basketball with the development of the jump shot, so too was handicapping forever changed by the use of speed figures, and it all started with Andrew Beyer. With a foreword discussing the changes that have swept horse racing since the book's original publication in 1975, *Picking Winners* is essential reading both for serious horseplayers and curious amateurs.

## Book Information

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Outdoors > Individual Sports > Horses > Racing

## Customer Reviews

ANDREW BEYER thoroughly revolutionized handicapping when he created his "Beyer Speed Figures," a measure of how fast a horse has run in a given race, and an indispensable tool for horseplayers. Making the necessary calculations to develop a set of figures for each horse in each race was too time-consuming for most horseplayers, so in 1992 the Daily Racing Form commissioned Beyer and his associates to provide his speed figures for every horse competing in North America. Beyer has been a columnist for the Washington Post since 1978, and contributes regularly to the Daily Racing Form. He is considered one of the leading experts on horse racing.

If you want to improve your luck at the track, this is a good book to start with. Although the author claims that there is no sure way to pick em, he does explain all the deciding factors. I liked his stories (his experience and others'). If you want to get serious about playing the track, it takes

comparative and analytical decision-making. And this author shows you how to analyze horses' track records - with lots of examples (which i liked). It's a good read (just for the stories alone) and you don't have to read the chapters sequentially. It's a good "reference" book too.

Good read for horse junkies Although I still couldn't pick any winners

An old, dated theoretical book. Yet, many lessons are timeless for a novice horseplayer.

Great value

I'm not sure who this book is aimed at. New players? Experienced players? Seems like Beyer is almost on the verge of making a point, but then veers off in different directions that make this a tough book to read. The Kindle version is useless because the charts are so small, it's impossible to read them. I bought this because of the positive reviews, but I was very disappointed.

Although the methodology outlined in the book is now available in racing publications, the insights provided by the author concerning this wonderful game of thoroughbred racing are still meaningful, and would benefit all levels of players, from novice to expert.

Beyer's book provides a basic primer for the past time of thoroughbred handicapping. His theoretical base provokes reflection and insight as to the inner-workings of picking a winner. As of this writing, I have not had the opportunity to apply this approach to any race; however, his influence on me will be profound. The book has depth while not bogging you down with terminology. For me, the content was such that I could not lay the book down after opening the cover.

This has some good information and is a great introduction to speed figures. It does seem dated. The kindle edition has a failing with how the Daily Racing Form is shown. It is really annoying. When the DRF is displayed, it needs to be zoomed in to see the information that is referred to in the text. This makes for a disjointed read.

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