



INTRODUCING GAME PASS

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Microsoft's Xbox Game Pass subscription service offers a new way to experience games. Hundreds of games, all for less than a quarter each. I say "less than a quarter" because this isn't the first time gamers have had so many options. In the glory days of arcades, there was a similar amount of choice. But now the arcade is in your console and PC. It even lives in the cloud (with a Game Pass Ultimate subscription). But with hundreds of choices, how can you decide what to play? We've gathered 15 games to show off the variety and expansiveness of Xbox Game Pass.

Welcome To The Arcade

Designed for casual players seeking a light and accessible experience, these games welcome newcomers to Xbox Game Pass.

Escape Academy (Cloud, Console, PC)

Do you love escape rooms? Or have you always been curious but haven't had the chance to experience one? Well now you can play from the comfort of your own home. With escape rooms designed by expert escape room designers, *Escape Academy* offers you all the puzzles and fun of escape rooms, without the hassle of leaving your house. Play with friends and family in co-op, and conquer rooms that will push your mind to the limit.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Shredder's Revenge (Cloud, Console, PC)

Harkening back to the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles arcade games of the 80s and 90s, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Shredder's Revenge* is a spiritual successor to that era of side-scrolling TMNT arcade games. Playing as one of the iconic turtles (solo or in co-op), you traverse a diverse set of levels, fighting enemies while working to stop Shredder's evil plan. New and casual gamers will fall in love with the simple yet fun fighting system, while old school gamers will recognize and appreciate the game's DNA almost immediately.

Jusant (Cloud, Console, PC)

Mountain climbing is a difficult hobby to get into. Whether it's the risk involved or the physical toll it takes, it's difficult. Fortunately, there's *Jusant*. Set in a breathtaking but broken fantasy world, you're tasked with climbing to the top of a giant mountain. With innovative and easy to understand climbing mechanics, traversing the mountain is satisfying and, quite frankly, breathtaking. From artifacts that hint at a larger story, to notes that give you a look into the lives of former inhabitants, there's a rich world to discover as you climb. And nothing is more satisfying than climbing a particularly difficult section of the mountain, then looking down at how far you've come. *Jusant* is the perfect game for people who want a gentle, relaxing experience.

Sea of Stars (Cloud, Console, PC)

JRPGs have a long history of getting people into gaming. Whether it's the *Pokemon* games getting children to chase imaginary creatures or the *Final Fantasy* series pulling players into a grand fantasy epic, Japanese RPGs have always been deep yet approachable. Channeling games like *Chrono Trigger*, *Sea of Stars* is a traditional turn-based RPG that modernizes a familiar formula. It follows the Solstice Warriors, 2 warriors who use the power of the sun and moon to battle an evil alchemist. For new and casual gamers, the simple but deep combat system and great story make *Sea of Stars* great for gamers and non-gamers alike.

LEGO Star Wars: The Skywalker Saga (Cloud, Console, PC)

Making family friendly hits for over a decade, the LEGO games let you experience classic stories mixed with endless amounts of customization and LEGO based action. Approachable enough for children but offering plenty of fun for any *Star Wars* fan, *LEGO Star Wars: The Skywalker Saga* offers fun for the entire family. It's the perfect introduction to both *Star Wars* and video games for kids, and offers all 3 *Star Wars* trilogies to play through. Offering tons of unlockables that require specific characters and plenty of extra content, the game is a joy for *Star Wars* fans, old and young.

Fist Full Of Quarters

Whether you want to conquer a fantasy world, explore the universe, or play intense matches of expertly crafted combat, Xbox Game Pass has you covered. These games are built for the hardcore crowd.

Halo Infinite (Cloud, Console, PC)

The Halo franchise has defined Xbox since the very beginning. The newest entry thrusts you back into the shoes of Master Chief, a supersoldier, and

humanity's savior. Infinite is the first time the iconic first person shooter has gone open world for its campaign. Halo has always asked you to improvise your way across the battlefield, picking up different weapons and piloting different vehicles on your way to victory. Now though, you're improvising your way across a vast, hostile, open world. And as for the multiplayer, it continues to be the polished, hardcore shooter experience Halo fans have come to know and love. While Xbox's stable of exclusives continues to grow, Halo will always remain one of the brightest spots in Xbox's vast library, and is a highlight of Xbox Game Pass.

State of Decay 2 (Cloud, Console, PC)

State of Decay 2 offers gamers something a lot of zombie games don't: the full zombie apocalypse fantasy with no real compromises. From establishing a base, going on supply runs for everything from food to fuel to ammo, to crafting a cure for a dangerous blood plague that can zombify any of your community, the game thrusts you into a zombie apocalypse experience in a way other games don't. Playing as every member of your community with the fear of permadeath, the game teaches you caution pretty quickly. Between managing resources, finding new survivors for your community, handling the growing zombie threat, and managing relations with other communities, hours can pass as you conquer a world that has been claimed by the dead.

Starfield (Cloud, Console, PC)

Bethesda has always been known for crafting expansive RPG worlds. Whether it's the fantasy world of The Elder Scrolls series or the post-apocalyptic wasteland of the Fallout games, their games have always felt grander than most. With Starfield, the acclaimed studio has set its sights on space. With an aesthetic they've appropriately dubbed NASA-Punk, the game offers a future that almost seems like where our real world space exploration might lead, with its bulky space suits and barren alien landscapes. It offers all of this in a Bethesda style package, meaning plenty of colorful characters to meet, areas to explore, and enemies to fight. If you ever wanted to get lost in a universe not that different from our own, Starfield is perfect for you.

Remnant 2 (Cloud, Console, PC)

Dark Souls with guns. That phrase probably made a few people skip this entry, and that's fair. Soulslikes are not for the faint of heart, and Remnant 2 definitely continues that tradition. The game ditches Dark Souls style level design for endless, procedurally generated levels, to great effect. You traverse these levels alone or with up to 2 other players in co-op, shooting your way through a post-apocalyptic world overtaken by The Root, a race of evil trees threatening the entire multiverse. With plenty of loot and secrets to find, the game is a challenging but rewarding take on a familiar genre that any gamer could lose themselves in.

Dead Space (Cloud, Console, PC)

The original Dead Space trilogy set a new bar for horror games. Set on a space station where an alien virus has transformed the crew into terrifying necromorphs, creatures that require a lot more than a headshot to take down, you're thrust into the shoes of Isaac Clarke, an engineer fighting for survival against overwhelming odds. The remake by Motive Studio offers a new generation the chance to play a reimagined version of the horror classic. With the original campaign updated for modern sensibilities, the game offers a horror action game that feels both nostalgic and modern. For horror fans who are tired of walking simulators, the Dead Space remake offers the perfect blend of horror and action.

Secret Level

These are games that challenge the notion of what a game is. They twist genres, or even create new ones. Long time gamers who want unique experiences and non-gamers who haven't found anything mainstream to pull them into the hobby will find something to love here. These are some of the most unique experiences in gaming.

Slay the Spire (Cloud, Console, PC)

Blending roguelikes and trading card games, Slay the Spire created an entire genre: deckbuilders. Using a deck you build one card at a time to conquer a tower full of enemies, you engage in turn-based combat as one of a handful of classes, all adding their own twists to the challenging but fair battles. As you progress, you build your deck slowly but surely into something formidable. But like all roguelikes, if you die, you're thrown back to the beginning to start your journey (and deck) over. For people who like games with deep strategy, Slay The Spire is a breath of fresh air that offers a new sort of experience that easily deserves its spot in Game Pass's massive library.

Wreckfest (Cloud, Console, PC)

If the best part of racing games for you is wrecking other cars, Wreckfest is the game for you. While there are plenty of opportunities to race like more traditional racing games, wrecking other cars and causing damage tends to be the goal. With a plethora of modes and a wide range of vehicles ranging from small to gigantic, the game offers a wide range of fun races and events, and is a breath of fresh air compared to traditional racing games.

Goat Simulator (Cloud, Console, PC)

Have you ever wanted to be a goat? Serious question. Goat Simulator has you covered. With its tongue planted firmly in cheek, this janky on purpose game

has you running around, scoring points in a similar way to the Tony Hawk Pro Skater series. But instead of skateboard tricks, you're charging headfirst into traffic and destroying your way across multiple maps. Good for a quick laugh or an afternoon chasing a high score, the game offers an experience you can't get anywhere else, and it stands out as one of Xbox Game Pass's strangest games.

Phantom Abyss (Cloud, Console, PC)

If you've ever dreamed of exploring crumbling temples to recover priceless artifacts, you won't have to wait for the Xbox exclusive Indiana Jones game being developed by MachineGames. In Phantom Abyss, you play as a treasure hunter. With your trusty whip by your side, you make your way through procedurally generated temples from a first person perspective. With deep platforming mechanics and asynchronous multiplayer, Phantom Abyss is the only game of its kind, and it's definitely worth checking out for any gamer looking for something unique.

Hi-Fi Rush (Cloud, Console, PC)

In Hi-Fi Rush, you play Chai, a man whose MP3 player got stuck in his chest during surgery. This gets him labeled a "defect" by the robot empire that rules his world, forcing him to fight off foes and defend himself with the power of music. Styled like an anime with bright colors and over the top characters, you have to time your combos to the beat of an amazing alternative rock soundtrack. With a fun cast of characters and a unique rhythm combat system, this exclusive gem from Tango Gameworks is worth checking out for any gamer that loves rock, anime, or both.

Xbox Game Pass has become the arcade gamers have dreamed about all their lives. With literally hundreds of options, ranging from the hardcore to the casual to the absurd, there is a game for every gamer to fall in love with. These are just a preview of the multitude of games available on Xbox Game Pass. Hopefully they help you find your way to your next favorite. [Enter the arcade today by subscribing to Xbox Game Pass.](#)