

# MINECRAFT FOR PARENTS

## What is Minecraft?

Minecraft is a video game that can be played on PC, iOS and Android devices, and game consoles (Xbox, PlayStation). It was originally released in 2009 for PC, and is developed by Mojang/Microsoft Studios. It is a game designed for kids that focuses on imagination and creativity. Gamers *mine* for resources and then *craft* items with those resources. There is no main storyline for gamers to follow, but there are mobs—cartoon-like monsters—that can attack players. Due to this, Minecraft has an E10+ rating.

## Buying Minecraft

Players must have a Minecraft Account to play Minecraft. This requires a one-time purchase for the account. The account has to be compatible with the device. Example: Pocket Edition for iOS and Android; PC version for computer. Accounts cannot be shared are used simultaneously.

### PC or Mac Version

- ◆ Download from [minecraft.net](http://minecraft.net) for free
- ◆ Never download from any other website!
- ◆ Purchase account for \$26.95

### Console Version

- ◆ Xbox One, Xbox 360, PlayStation 4, PlayStation 3, PlayStation Vita, Wii U, Nintendo Switch, and latest Nintendo 3DS
- ◆ Cost varies per console - starting at \$19.99
- ◆ Cost includes download plus the account

### Mobile Version

- ◆ iOS, Android, Windows Phone, Kindle Fire, Gear VR, Apple TV, and Amazon Fire TV
- ◆ iOS, Android, and Kindle Fire are \$6.99 - other versions up to \$19.99
- ◆ Cost includes download of game and a Minecraft account

### Minecraft is not compatible with Google Chromebooks

More information at: [minecraft.net/en-us/download/?ref=bm](http://minecraft.net/en-us/download/?ref=bm)

## The Different Modes

### Creative Mode

The easiest mode, where players get unlimited resources to craft. Players will not be attacked by mobs and cannot die. Players can also fly.

### Survival Mode

Players start with no resources. Players have to collect resources and craft items. Players can be killed by mobs or from hunger. Players unable to fly.

### Adventure Mode

Gameplay is limited. Players usually cannot destroy or build. Players can only attack mobs.

### Single Player

Entirely safe. Players play by themselves and never interact with others.

### Multiplayer

Players can connect to servers/worlds that are both private or public, and can chat with anyone—friend or stranger.

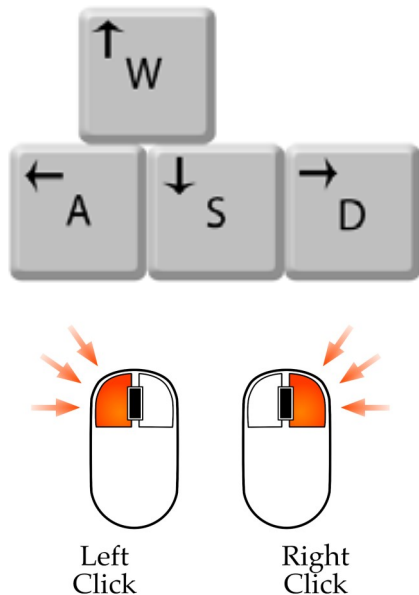
### LAN Server

Only players on same internet network can join server, making it a private server.

### Separate Server

Can be either private or public. Requires IP address or server name to join Minecraft Server.

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## PC Navigation

- ◆ Use the W, A, S, D keys to move character
- ◆ Use mouse to control characters direction
- ◆ Spacebar to jump
- ◆ Double tap spacebar to fly in Creative Mode
- ◆ Left-click on mouse to destroy blocks or attack mobs
- ◆ Right-click on mouse to build blocks or feed mobs
- ◆ Press T key to activate chat or type commands
- ◆ Press E key to access inventory and craft items
- ◆ “Hot Bar” at the bottom has easily accessible materials for quick use
- ◆ Use number keys 1-9 to use items stored in “Hot Bar”

## Safety and Security

- ◆ It is important to talk with your kids about internet safety, even with Minecraft!
- ◆ Chatting during Multiplayer Mode
  - ◇ Players/children can talk to anyone - friend or stranger - in Multiplayer Mode
- ◆ Most servers are moderated
  - ◇ Servers will often have real-time moderators and algorithms to filter inappropriate language or block personal information in the chats
  - ◇ Violators will be banned or temporarily frozen
- ◆ The game is rated E10+ (due to “Fantasy Violence”), but developers can’t monitor or prohibit the content created by players

## Resources

*Mastering Minecraft requires research!*

- ◆ EPL has variety of books available for checkout that include craft recipes, navigational tips, and more
  - ◇ Most books in Kids Library, but “Dummies” series available in Adult Services section
  - ◇ Call Number: J 793.932
- ◆ Official Minecraft Wiki:  
[minecraft.gamepedia.com/Minecraft\\_Wiki](http://minecraft.gamepedia.com/Minecraft_Wiki)
- ◆ YouTube!
  - ◇ Survive and Thrive Series by Paul Soares Jr: [youtube.com/paulsoaresjr](http://youtube.com/paulsoaresjr)
  - ◇ Common Sense Media for suggested kid-friendly YouTube Channels and information for parents:  
[youtube.com/commonsensemedia](http://youtube.com/commonsensemedia)