

Call of Duty is undeniably one of the most recognisable video games on the planet. The first game was released for the PC way back in 2003, and the franchise has spawned a whopping 16 titles to date, and featured on almost 20 gaming consoles and devices. Despite being one of the most popular games on the market. CoD has never been a stranger to controversy; themes of war, terrorism and other adult subjects parents and guardians might feel uncomfortable exposing their children to, have always been a part of the series. The latest iteration, Call of Duty: Modern Warfare, is no different, even doubling down on some of these mature themes. So with that in mind, here's a helpful guide to aid you in navigating the world of Call of Duty.

18+



What parents need to know about CALL OF DUTY: MODERN WARFARE



VIOLENCE AND GRAPHIC CONTENT

Call of Duty has been given an 18+ rating due to "Violence against voluerable and defenceless characters, mutiveless killing of isnocent characters, graphic violence and use of strong language." Despite the reting, the game is still extremely popular amengst under 185 who could be exposed to violent themse or feed language that parents and sarers may not disems suitable or age appropriate for their children.





INCREDIBLY RAW CAMPAIGN

The single player campaign in Cell of Duty. Modern Warfare focuses around a var in the fictitious Middle Eastern country of Urgisham. I leatures special forces operations, large open buttles, chemical weapons and torture, infinity Ward Inho developed the gamel law gene on recent saying this is the most realistic and grounded game they we ever made, so it stands to reason that the campaign has generated a huge amount of controvery, repocably in today's heated political climate. While younger players might not fully grasp what's going on on screen. It's bound to raise some uncomfortable questions if they we left to glay it unsupervised.



CHATTING TO STRANGERS

By far the biggest pull for players to Call of Duty is the expansive multiplayer. As well as offering up a wide variety of competitive game modes. Modern Warfare also includes some co-op gameplay modes. Meally, this means players and children can join a group with their friends and play together entire. However, players can play against or with anyease in the world and, with no filter, the language used may often be inappropriate for young children. Due to the competitive nature of gaming and the fact conversations are not incoderated, your child could also be at risk of cytherhullying.



ADDICTIVE NATURE

Call of Duty: Modern Warfare has promised to be the best yet. The game features a number of new game modes and now includes crossplay for the first time, whereby players can now play each other across any device (i.e. Zhee, Flagoriation or PC). As always tends to be the case when a new game is released, players spend large amounts of time getting to grips with the new features and the reportitive nature of COD means children can find it officials no two plantics and college.



LOOT BOXES SWAPPED FOR BATTLE PASSES

Provision versions of Call of Outy have included took boxes, which have been widely discussed in the news and are considered by critics to maenticity promote a form partialing. Players could unlock items as they progress but wouldn't know what they were parchasing beforehand. Modern Warfare however has a wageped look boxes for 'battle passes'. This means a greater level of transparency as players know exactly what they are buying, here they will be unlocked and when they will receive them in the game.





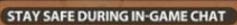
STICK TO THE PEGI RATING

It readly can't be streamed enough how much this game is not for younger children. While you could argue that most of the homits scenes are in the single player campaign, and you can just play multiplayer and co- op to avoid them, those modes are not without their shortcomings. For example, one of the killstreaks you can attain in multiplayer is white phosphorus - a characial weapon that can do indescribable things to the human body. This readly comes down to the personal judgment of the adult, and the emotional maturity of the child, but if there's still any doubt, sick to the PEG rating. "It have for a reason.



BE WARY OF GORE AND VIOLENCE

There's no getting around the fact that this is an incredibly realistic game, from the themes down to the gameplay, and that includes the amount of gree in the game. While there is an option to disable dismemberment of bodies in the game (options > general > dismemberment off) it still includes a rather visceral amount of violence that is prevalent throughout.

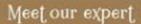


By default, Modern Warfare allows multiplayer in game lobbies to have an open chat feature. This basic ally means that exploidly in the lobby with a risk can hop in and cay whatever they like. Naturally, this could lead to some profuse beinguage or undestrable viewpoints being expressed. Turning this off is as simple as going to the game options, disking the audio tall, then extring volus that to off. Be aware that this also disables the mic on your end too, so the safest and bent option is always to make sure children are in a party with their friends before they start the game. Then they can still chull to each other without until or too register.



TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT THE THEMES

Modern Warfare at its heart, is a game about good in bad and the grey areas in between, Maryally complies characters and situations are more prevalent in today's modern age than they've ever been before, and it does carry some important political and social commentary, if you've okay letting children play the game, it's defendely worth sitting down with them to discuss the themes and why it's important to approach them citically. For example, Capitain Price is Genty's a good character, but he does questionable things in order to achieve his goals. Does this make him a bad character?



Mark Footer has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a write, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNIL AD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting garting from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.











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