

Fortnite: Chapter 2 has finally landed! With a whole host of new in-game features including a brand-new map, more water-based activities, upgraded character skins and a more streamlined arsenal of weapons, this Fortnite is promising to be the best yet. Almost all of the changes are cosmetic which means the concept of the game remains the same, with players still aiming to be the last man standing. Players will no doubt find the game much more enjoyable with so much more to explore. For parents and carers however, it pays to remain vigilant.

RECOMM



CHAPTER

BATTLE ROYALE

Battle Royale games have become very popular over the last couple of years, and most tend to follow a very similar setup. Taking fortraite as an example, 100 players drop into a map, loot buildings for weapons and armour and attempt to beat all the other players to be crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seem the Hunger Games mervice, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (assuming you last to the end) and can be restarted relatively quickly once 100 free players have been found.

IS FORTNITE ADDICTIVE?

Fortnite is at the forefront of gaming addiction discussions because it is so popular with young people. But whether it actually contributes to gaming addiction is up for debate. WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified gaming as a legitimate addiction, but this is not solely a concern with Fortnite. Signs of addiction can include initiability when not playing, lying about the amount of time played and a preoccupation with thoughts of the next gaming session. Realistically, it must be down to parents and carers to recognise these symptems and act accordingly if they think they are developing.

FREE TO PLAY... OR IS IT?

While Fortnite is technically free to play (in that you can download and play it without paying) it does come with the caveat that spending money on things like skins and emotes in-game in heavily pushed to players. The currency used in game is called V-Bucks' and can be bought with real money through the game's online stees. It's worth remembering that these purchases are absolutely not necessary, are counselfs only and that V-Bucks can be earned in game with enough play time.

SEASONAL UPDATES

Every 10 weeks er so Fertrinte is updated with a new season. This essentially adds new things like skins and emotes to the game, white also sometimes changing up the game map is interesting ways. These seasons are free to everybody and don't require additional money to play, though battle passes for each season can be bought with V-flucks. A battle pass will typically allow a player to earn experience faster and gain fun in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.



CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE

One of the wonderful things about fortnite is that it can be played coss-platform. This means that no matter what platform a person plays on IPC. PlayStation 6, 30xx One etcl they can play with friends who own the game on a different platform. To do this, an Epic Games account must first be created entire herbich is freel and then linked with your platform account. Doing this removes the age-old boundary of not being able to play together because you don't here the same console and opens up a whole new world of playing colline with friends.

IS FORTNITE VIOLENT?

Fortnite has been rated by the ESRB ((Intertainment Software Ratings Board) as teen, as it contains carbony violence and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from their real life inspirations. Characters don't draw blood a shut and instead of dying, they are simply beamed up off the map. Naturally, players younger than the recommended age limit weant to play the game and that should be at the discretion of parents and carers.



BUYING V-BUCKS

GAMING WITH STRANGERS

Top Tips For Parents

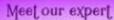
IMIT TIME, BUT BE FLEXIBL



TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS



PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF



Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a wri and presenter, He is the current gaming editor of two of the bigge-news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGsible. Starti from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understan-games and toch work, but more importantly, how to make them so







Facebook /NationalOnlineSafety