

## Blocking and reporting

Encourage your child to report bad gamer behaviour—this might be cheating, griefing or abusive behavior.

Fortnite have a support site where you can email a report to the developers for investigation <http://bit.ly/fortnitereport>

Make sure to include the player's full in-game name, spelled as accurately as possible. If it looks like the player is using unusual or uncommon characters in their in-game name, take a screenshot and send this too.

If you are concerned about possible abusive or grooming behaviour from other players, consider using the CEOP Report Abuse tool <http://bit.ly/ceopreport>

## Talk, share and enjoy

To really understand **Fortnite: Battle Royale**, play together with your child and talk with them about why they enjoy it. Talk about your concerns, and discuss how you can work together to keep safe.

Encourage them to share their gaming with you and give them the confidence to come to you if they have any worries.

### More help and support

<http://bit.ly/internetmattersfortnite>  
<http://bit.ly/commonsensefortnite>



[www.somersetelim.org](http://www.somersetelim.org)



## A Parent's Guide

### What is it?

**Fortnite: Battle Royale** is a game which combines Minecraft-style building with shooting for survival. It has been described as 'Call of Duty for kids' and has 40 million players worldwide. It can be played on the PC, Xbox or Playstation.

### Why is it popular?

The game is fast and generally lasts no more than 20 minutes. It has a silly sense of humour and is popular with YouTubers such as DanTDM and JackSepticEye. Children may have seen their favourite YouTubers playing it and want to play it themselves.

### Is it safe?

With safety settings and the involvement of parents, it can be a positive and engaging experience. The action is cartoonish rather than gory, and players work together to plan strategies and tactics. Fortnite: Battle Royale is rated PEGI 12 by the Video Standards Council for frequent scenes of mild violence.



For more information, read inside

# What do I need to know?

## The game

During the game, 100 players leap out of a flying battle bus on to a small island and then fight each other until only one is left. Hidden around the island are weapons and items, including crossbows, rifles and grenade launchers. Players must arm themselves while exploring the buildings and landscape. Zombie creatures are also hunting you, but you can collect resources to build structures where you can hide or defend yourself. As the game progresses, the safe zone shrinks, so players are forced closer together. The last player (or squad) is the winner.

Players can play by themselves, as a duo or as a squad (up to 4 players). Each time a match starts, you are playing against other Fortnite users, and can hear their conversation. Sound is very important to the game – footsteps, chests of loot opening – so players will want headphones so they can listen out for noises.

Although Fortnite is a multiplayer shooter, it has a bright, friendly visual style and it does not depict bloody violence.

## The players

Fortnite is a multiplayer game, with an online chat option which can be turned off for players your child doesn't know. It's possible to team up with a friend, or group of friends, and compete as a duo or a squad. This adds a social element, and children can chat as they play using headsets and microphones.

Many children are now forming Fortnite teams, and spending a lot of their free time playing and practising the game together.

## The cost

The game is free and players are able to unlock new items as they progress without paying anything. However, on the Xbox, you'll need a Gold Subscription to play online.

Fortnite has an in-game currency called V-Bucks. It costs £7.99 to download 1000 V-Bucks.. If you purchase a Premium Battle Pass for 950 V-Bucks, you can get exclusive clothing and items, with new items released every week. The items are purely cosmetic and don't affect gameplay or give you an advantage.



## Security, settings and screentime

To avoid children speaking to strangers during the game, set up a **Party** of friends before they play. This means that they are only **able to communicate with people they know**, and other players voices will be muted.

Although children will want to use headphones during the games, so they don't miss important noises, you should consider **setting the sound so it comes through the TV and headphones**. This means that you can hear what is being said during gameplay.

If they're playing on an Xbox or PlayStation you can use the **parental controls** to limit the length of gaming sessions.

Fortnite matches can last up to 20 minutes, and children won't want to stop playing in the middle of a game as they will leave team-mates in the lurch and lose any points they've earned for that game. You could **use a timer**, or discuss in advance **how long you are happy for them to play**.