

# What is

# MINECRAFT



Did you know...  
Minecraft has 141 million active players across the whole world!



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Have you ever imagined what it would be like to create your own world? Minecraft is a multi-platform game that can be played online or offline. This adventure game allows players to explore and create worlds using building blocks (alongside their imagination!) to customise and interact. It is extremely popular with children and young people all over the world.

## The Basic Building Blocks

- Break** - Players break existing blocks to build and explore Minecraft environments and worlds.
- Build** - Anything that a player can imagine can be created with in-game resources and items.
- Repeat** - With no end goal or finish line, Minecraft is a game players can return to again and again.

## Five Playing Modes

- Survival** - Players collect resources and build structures while surviving 'mobs' in their own world.
- Adventure** - Players travel to the worlds and places created by other Minecraft players (multiplayer).
- Creative** - Players are given the freedom to play without the danger of mob attacks in their own world. We recommend this mode for primary school aged children. As their skills develop, they can try more advanced game modes.
- Hardcore** - Players participate in the survival mode but with an enhanced level of difficulty. They cannot respawn if they die, unlike the other modes where they have limitless lives. *This is only available for the Java edition.*
- Spectator** - Players can fly around and observe worlds without interacting with it. *This is only available for the Java edition.*

## Minecraft Buzzwords

- Biomes** - Different terrains of the world (e.g., jungle, desert, etc.)
- Creeper** - In-game characters that damage worlds by exploding.
- Spelunking** - When players explore in-game caves to mine resources.
- Steve** - The basic male default skin in the game before customisation.
- Mobs** - Short for 'mobile entity', creatures that attack other characters.
- Zombie** - In-game characters that come out at night and attack players by touching them.



## Pro's

- Fosters creativity and imagination in play!
- Teaches teamwork and planning with others.
- Stimulates critical thinking and problem solving.
- Easy to use and customise gameplay modes.



## Con's

- Children and young people may experience addiction to the game.
- Creates opportunities for in-game bullying and 'attacks'.
- Suggests spending 'Minecoins' on premium items and materials.
- Uses online chat that allows interaction with strangers.

## Keep your Minecrafter safe by...

- Asking questions about the game. We recommend you set up an account with your child and help them explore.
- Turning off 'mobs' by going to creative mode if children are prone to being scared of those sort of experiences.
- Creating healthy screen time habits, since Minecraft has an addictive nature.
- Learning together how to report and block unwanted users, configuring **safety settings** and privacy settings on different **devices and consoles**.
- Talking with them about safe online gaming practices. Explain why age ratings are important and discuss the dangers of interacting with strangers online.
- Making sure they know not to share personal information such as their date of birth or location.

## AGE INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT WARNING

Parents and carers should be aware that the multiplayer mode can expose children and young people to content and language which may be inappropriate for their age, including 'bloody' battles and other mature themes.

