

# Battle Royale

# Multi-Gaming

# Fact Sheet



Fortnite is a survival action game that is fast becoming one of the most popular downloaded games of all time. This popularity is mostly due to the combination of two popular game genres.

Battle Royale is the free version of this game and can be played on PC, Xbox, PS4 and Apple and android IOS devices. In Battle Royale players can play Solo, Duo or Squad. Players battle it out against each other with the aim of being the last survivor by killing all other players. Weapons are collected, structures and destroyed for resources and build for protection. Children are playing against many other players, mostly of whom they don't know. When playing solo there is no option to choose who you play with or against. There is an open chat function available in Battle Royale, both on screen and voice, therefore it does permit chat with strangers and can expose young players to inappropriate language and content from random strangers. Voice chat can be turned off in the settings. The recommended age for Fortnite is 12 and over. This rating is given due to the mildly violent nature of the game, but there is no aggressive blood and gore.

### Potential for

Adult content	★★★★★
Violence	★★
Cyberbullying	★★★★
Grooming	★★★★★
Inappropriate language	★★★★★

In order to start an account players, need to give an email address and user name. They are not asked their age when starting up an account so there is no way of knowing the age of their opponents.

Battle Royale is a free version but other versions are not. There are also in app purchases available in order to advance in the game but they are necessary to continue play.

Being an online game there is no pause button, so screen time can become an issue for some children. It's helpful for parents to be aware of what is happening in their child's game so they can encourage them to get off at the end of a particular game or after a limited number of games as a regular point to end online playtime, rather than after a particular time.

Fortnite encourages players to think strategy and planning, working with others allows team work and collaboration. There are lots of advantages to this type of play and it is these elements that has largely let to its popularity.

### Top Tips

- Play the game yourself and with your child before allowing your child to play independently. it's actually quite fun!
- Talk to your child about what they like about the game and what strategies they might use to get ahead in the game.
- Keep an eye on in-app purchases
- Talk to children about open chat and how to report anything that they are not comfortable with, first to you and then to the game administration.
- Watch screen time, set time limits