

Re-living your childhood: Retropie

Hi there,

I'm Aryan from cse second year

"I think that inside every adult is the heart of a child. We just gradually convince ourselves that we have to act more like adults."

As a kid, the chunky joystick felt powerful in my small hands. Pixels ruled the screen, painting vibrant, if blocky, worlds. The 8-bit tunes were endlessly catchy, a soundtrack to countless adventures. Gathered around the flickering TV, friends and I took turns battling pixelated monsters or gobbling digital ghosts. High scores were badges of honor, fiercely contested. Those old retro games, simple as they were, sparked a joy that still feels vivid today.

Okay, let's dive into the contrast between retro and modern games. Back in the day, the thrill of retro classics like Pac-Man and Super Mario Bros. lay in their simple yet addictive mechanics and imaginative pixelated worlds. While challenges existed, the focus was less on direct confrontation and more on skillful navigation or puzzlesolving. Fast forward to today, and modern gaming landscapes often feature intense, realistic violence, exemplified by games like PUBG with its battle royale survival scenarios. Even within modern gaming, however, there's a spectrum. Minecraft, for instance, offers a vast, creative sandbox where peaceful exploration and building often take center stage. For those looking to revisit the magic of those earlier, less violent eras, there's a fantastic option called RetroPie. This handy game emulator allows you to play a vast library of classic games on a single device, bringing back all the nostalgic fun without the need for multiple old consoles.



Want to infuse your RetroPie setup with a fresh wave of nostalgia? While it isn't a traditional emulator, it's a fantastic collection of open-source remakes of classic arcade and console gems. Think enhanced versions of your old favourites! Getting these running on RetroPie involves treating each game as a "Port," opening up a world of updated retro experiences.

Quick Steps to Install Games:

- 1. **Pick Your Game:** Identify the specific remake you're after.
- 2. Check RetroPie Ports: See if it's already available under RetroPie-Setup -> Manage Packages -> Manage optional packages -> Ports. Install if found.
- 3. Manual Install (If Needed):
 - Get Game Files: Download the game's Linux binaries or source from its official source.
 - Create Directory: Make a folder for the game in roms/ports/.
 - Transfer Files: Move the downloaded files to this folder.
 - Make Executable: Use chmod +x /path/to/executable.
 - o Create Launch Script (.sh): In the game's folder, create a script (e.g., game.sh) with the executable path inside. Make it executable (chmod +x game.sh).
- 4. Enable Ports (If Missing): In RetroPie-Setup -> Configuration / tools -> Emulation Station -> Add/Remove Systems, ensure "ports" is enabled.
- 5. **Play!** Find your game under the "Ports" section in Emulation Station.

