Mobile phones are progressively being engineered for hosting games that feature incredible graphics and complex gameplay, which is why the mobile gaming market has grown into a [multibillion-dollar-a-year industry](https://www.gamesindustry.biz/articles/2017-04-20-mobile-games-booming-as-global-games-market-hits-usd108-9b-in-2017-newzoo) fast. From low costs, to a level of high accessibility, join us as we share the top six advantages of mobile gaming and explore why mobile games have increased in popularity.

**1. Low Cost**

The majority of mobile games on the app store are free, quick to download, and are great entertainment. The games that players do have to buy range from a few dollars to no more than $20, making them a fraction of the price of a console game. Not to mention, to even play a console game, one must first fork out hundreds of dollars on a console. As an example, a [Xbox One](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00MMTKXTA?tag=dragonblogger-20) S currently costs around $239 in the US. The low cost of mobile games, combined with the fact the gamer already owns a smartphone, means gamers are more likely to play, and purchase more games, and make in-app purchases.

We understand that the app store gaming library can be quite overwhelming, so check out the Independent’s [15 Best free iOS games](http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/gaming/best-free-ios-games-iphone-ipad-app-store-angry-birds-fallout-candy-crush-a6715271.html) and discover the best, free, games on the market.

**2. Convenience**

Mobile gaming gives players greater accessibility, you can literally play the games anytime and anywhere. Once a game is downloaded onto your smartphone, the majority of them no longer requires an internet connection as they runs through the phones internal drive. While gaming juggernauts such as Nintendo 3DS or PS Vita have portable devices, it’s still an extra device to remember and carry. Having games on your smartphone, in your pocket, is a more convenient and accessible option.

**3. Creativity**

Mobile games are relatively inexpensive, and that’s because they’re cheap to produce, [Gamespace](https://game-ace.com/blog/mobile-console-vr-game-development-cost-explained/) explains. Game developers are able to be more experimental with their concepts, create unique games and gaming experience which has led to an explosion of creativity and innovation. With every gaming company in competition for the number one game, graphics, sound, design, storylines, and the overall experience is constantly improving. For this reason Play4Fun games like [Rivers Casino](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/rivers-casino-pittsburgh/id781656234?mt=8) can bring the excitement of an authentic casino experience to your fingertips.

**4. Community**



Screenshot from minecraft realms

At the core of mobile phones is their purpose to connect people to one another. This characteristic has trickled through mobile games where online leaderboards, team work, and battles take the term ‘multiplayer’ to a new level, not to mention the chat-functions that let gamers converse while they play. Whether it’s [Minecraft](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mojang.minecraftpe&hl=en) or [Modern Combat 5](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.gameloft.android.ANMP.GloftM5HM&hl=en), player engagement prevails. Whilst having fun, players can make friends from all around the world in what is a global gaming community.

**5. Health**

Playing mobile games has been shown to provide certain health benefits including, reducing depression, stress and even [raising dopamine levels](https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/the-compass-pleasure/201110/video-games-can-activate-the-brains-pleasure-circuits-0) (which is what makes you feel good when you’re playing and winning). Playing puzzle games can help train the brain and enhance wellbeing. Mobile gaming can also help you be more healthy and boost your fitness through gamification of your fitness routine. Trending ios fitness game [Wokamon](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.wokamon.android&hl=en) is an example of how gamification can make fitness fun and last longer, meaning you’ll get fitter faster.

**6. AR Integration**



Boy playing Pokémon Go outside

Mobile games are increasingly bridging the gap between the digital and physical world, enabling players to fully explore the virtual worlds around them in a more active form of gameplay. Game developers such as Niantic are achieving higher forms of realism through augmented reality with games such as [Harry Potter: Wizards Unite](https://www.harrypotterwizardsunite.com/en/). The new AR game is due to launch mid 2018, and is expected to be Niantic’s next big hit after Pokemon GO. Keep your eyes peeled!

Contrary to the traditional belief that gaming is merely an addictive source of entertainment and diversion, recent research has proved that gaming has numerous benefits and key among them, is the development of cognitive skills in both children and adults. Just as physical exercise helps in improving and strengthening your muscles, cognitive games help to indulge one's brain in constant stimulation, thus improving the brain's performance. The following are some of the cognitive benefits of playing video games.

**1. Improves coordination**  
When an adult or child is playing a video game, he or she is not only staring at the computer inactively. The activities and actions on the screen provide a lot of mental stimulation. For one to play, he or she will need to coordinate their visual, audial and physical movement.

**2**. **Improves problem-solving skills**  
Video games involve certain rules. This means that the player has to think carefully before making any move to ensure that they stay within the required rules of that particular game. The player needs to make split- second decisions that will determine whether or not he or she will advance to the next level.

**3. Enhances memory**  
Playing your favorite video game may require both visual and audial memory. The player is required to read or listen to the instructions which might only be provided at the beginning of the game, thus the need to remember them throughout the entire game. Mastery of the keys on your keyboard helps you easily move your characters in the game. This helps improve your memory, whether short- term or long-term.

**4. Improves attention and concentration**  
Video games especially action games, have proven to be able to capture the player's attention for the entire period of the game. This is brought about by the player's need to achieve certain objectives within the game, and be able to progress to the next level.

**5. It is a great source of learning**  
Gaming is not only beneficial to adults and teenagers, but to children as well. Many modern education institutions incorporate video games as a teaching methodology. This helps these children improve their academic skills by providing video games that are specifically aimed at enhancing their cognitive and creative skills.

**6. Improves the brain's speed**  
While gaming, the brain receives multiple stimulations, both Visual and audial. According to research, individuals who play video games frequently can process these stimulators faster than others. These stimulators ensure that the brain is continuously working to interpret them.

**7. Enhances multitasking skills**  
An action game, for example, may require you to be very observant. It requires you to be able to move your joystick or keys while looking at the various features on your screen such as energy levels, oncoming adversaries, ammunitions left, available time among other factors, all which are vital to winning. This ensures that the player can observe and react accordingly to all requirements of that particular game.

**8. Improves social skills**  
Online gaming enables many players to engage in a particular game simultaneously. As such, there is constant communication between the players which in turn results in the development of meaningful as well as casual relationships among them.

This helps players meet new friends while also strengthening bonds with their old friends.Though computer games might be beneficial, there is need to play them in moderation. It is also important to pick the right game as not all of them provide the same cognitive benefits. Age should also be a factor. Small children should not be exposed to violent games.