

Final Rough Draft

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Minecraft's Infinite Possibilities of Customization

Your heart is racing 100 miles per hour and your hands are sweaty like working out while playing your favorite game. Unfortunately, when you beat it, there is nothing else to do and the fans of this game have no way to contribute or to add to the game. Fortunately for you, the popular game Minecraft holds this revolutionary ability. Minecraft is a “blocky” game made in 2011 that featured endless amounts of creativity and possibility due to the simplicity of the game. This brings me to say that Minecraft is the most customizable game to exist due to the modifications, texture packs, servers, skins, and more.

Modifications or, “mods”, are a way for players to contribute to the game without the need of being an actual developer at Minecraft. Essentially, a mod is a change to the game that players can make, on their own, with no restrictions. These mods can either completely alter the game or easily add a small convenience add-on. Generally, not all players have to code their own mod. For example, there are websites where people can share their mods, then the community

can easily download them whenever they please. Most games can't support this easy-to-use option of altering in any way, shape, or form. Frequently, most games have restrictions against these user add-ons, but Minecraft encourages this! The mods are coded in Java, which is a complicated language. However, many tutorials on the internet will assist you in the creation. With all the help of the community, people have the potential to completely change the game along with adding so many unbelievable things. You can download or upload mods to [CurseForge](#). Benefits of mods include a completely new story, new items, and animals. This sets Minecraft apart from your average game because every single game has a restriction on anything to maintain the integrity of the story. Minecraft on the other hand has all these possibilities to even make your own storyline.

Texture packs have the potential to completely alter the game's look and feeling with no experience in coding, and downloading takes a few clicks. Texture packs are folders that hold the "textures" of Minecraft blocks. You are free to edit these textures with a simple photo editor. The more complex the texture pack, the more complex it gets due to more colored squares being added and creativity being required but overall, it is really easy to make a simple texture pack. Normally, big-time Minecraft creators will create a texture pack for people to use making the game much more fun than others because the look changes. Just like mods you can find thousands of them on a website like [Planet Minecraft](#). Recently, people have turned texture packs into a much more advanced creation called "Shader packs". Shaders have an immense impact upon the game because they make Minecraft look extremely exquisite with a change in shadows, water, and movement. This new ability has influenced the community to make magnificent

pictures or worlds. Texture packs are a perfect example of how the community took a simple block game into something you might find inside a nature magazine!



Multiplayer is a way for your friends to connect from anywhere in the world to the game. The way to do this is called servers. These servers are hosted by people and there are a bunch of ways to host one, but they are all different. The way this is customizable is because you can host your own server. There are many ways to do this, but I will go over the most simple. There are websites like [Minehut](#) or [Aternos](#) that allow you to host a server for free where anyone can connect. Minecraft has the option for any server to install things called plugins. These plugins are similar to mods, but operate less powerful and are easier to set up. The plugins make it much easier to moderate or speed up your server. You can download as much as you want and you can even make your own! The aspect of server customization has activated the community to create such magnificent things. This includes Hypixel and Minehut which were both made by Minecraft players. I made plenty of memories on servers like Hypixel and it makes me happy to see new servers that are getting popular, giving people new memories.

"statista.com" states that Terraria has a total of 29 Million sales. Terraria is still just as active as Minecraft and is very similar to it. Some may argue that Terraria is the most

customizable game. However, when comparing them together closely, Minecraft beats it in a landslide. And here's why. Minecraft sold 200 million copies of the game, meaning that there is a larger community of people to think of ideas to improve the game. Additionally, Minecraft has more custom and bigger world generation than Terraria. Minecraft creates 30 million blocks north, west, and south in your world. That's 60 million blocks from end to end. Each and every single block generated is random and the world forms into biomes. Biomes are like climates that the Minecraft world holds. You can build in every single one, the possibilities are endless. Terraria however, has a 2D world where you can only move left to right which gives you a limited amount of breathing room to build and navigate. There are much more differences but these are the most important to discuss. Another point to look at is Terraria focuses a lot on the story of the game and Minecraft focuses on building and creation. Apart from all of the similarities, Minecraft and Terraria are both very different and you should play whatever you desire.

Last, but certainly not least, Mineflayer is my favorite example of how Minecraft is a customizable game. Mineflayer is an API (Application Process Interface) that allows anyone to create Minecraft bots. These bots are coded in Javascript which is extremely different from Java. These bots are really cool and I enjoy creating them in my free time. These bots can be as simple as saying "hi" in chat, then the bot responds with "hello." or all the way to the bot acting like an actual player displaying all of its data in a web server. The ability to make these bots has sparked projects that very advanced people have created. Also, these bots can make your Minecraft server or world personalized to whatever you would like. The company of Mineflayer, PrismarineJS has also created tons of additional JavaScript Minecraft APIs that are free to use. A

constant contributor states --“Mineflayer is the premiere open source Minecraft tool framework, with over 10 years of development, dozens of contributors, and tens of thousands of lines of code.”

Fortunately, you now have the outstanding ability to alter the game to whatever your mind desires. Instead of getting tired and weak with playing the boring parts of the game, you can just code a bot to do it! Instead of being disappointed in what a block looks like, change it! Minecraft has so many possibilities it makes my brain hurt. Just remember that Minecraft is your car and you are the steering wheel.