

Welcome to
Animal Crossing

New Horizons

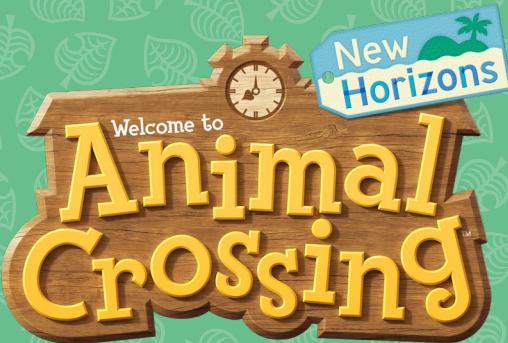


**OFFICIAL
STARTER GUIDE**

KICKSTART YOUR DESERTED ISLAND GETAWAY PACKAGE!

FUTUREPRESS





OFFICIAL STARTER GUIDE

Welcome, resident!

Welcome to the official starter guide to the Deserted Island Getaway Package! Whatever your goals and expectations for your personal island getaway may be, this guide will help you get them underway. Everything here is taken from the first chapter of the official companion guide to Animal Crossing: New Horizons. The full book is filled with useful information on every topic that's relevant to building a thriving island community. The pages presented here will give you a quick primer on the game's most important topics, and be of particular help to anyone who's playing an Animal Crossing game for the first time.



What do you want to know?

Looking for something specific? The seven chapters of the Official Companion Guide each cover a different aspect of Animal Crossing: New Horizons. This Starter Guide include the whole of **Chapter 1: Welcome to Your Island Getaway**, but we thought you might like to see what each of the other chapters in the full book are all about.

1 Welcome to Your Island Getaway!

This chapter introduces you the basics of Animal Crossing. It explains the goals of the game and the controls, and it describes how each of your NookPhone's apps work.



2 Meet the Locals

Animal Crossing: New Horizons is full of memorable and, more importantly, helpful characters you'll want to get familiar with. This chapter tells you everything about each and every one of them.



3 The Nook Inc. Guide to Island Life

In this chapter, mini-guides explain the inner workings of tools, how to earn lots of Bells and how to manage your storage. It also takes you through the entire main storyline.



4 The Great Outdoors

Nature is the focus here. Learn all about the seasons and weather, and everything you could even need to know about fishing, bug catching, flower breeding and fossil hunting.



5 The Workbench

Fancy a bit of DIY? This chapter lays everything out for you—how to gather resources, find all the recipes and exactly what's needed to craft each one.



6 Isabelle's Island Reviews

Already have a thriving island? Looking for some new goals? Here you'll learn all about how Island Ratings work, the HHA's grading system and how to use the Island Designer tool.



7 The Nook Collector's Catalog

This is the big one. Everything you can buy or customize is listed and detailed in full in this massive chapter. Anyone wanting information on a specific item will find this an invaluable resource.



Welcome to Your Island Getaway!

This Starter Guide gives you a look at chapter 1 of the official companion guide for *Animal Crossing: New Horizons*. It begins with a short overview of how *Animal Crossing* works, intended for players new to the series, then summarizes the goals of the game, its new features and the ways you can play with other players.

STARTER GUIDE HIGHLIGHTS

Getting Started	► P.8
The Goals of the Game	► P.14
New Features!	► P.18
Playing With Others	► P.25





Getting Started in New Horizons

Animal Crossing: New Horizons brings with it some control options and menus that are new to the series. To make sure you can easily get started with the game, this section briefly explains how controlling the game works.



Controls

Let's begin by taking a look at controlling the game and learning which button does what. There are a lot of buttons, but even though each one has a use, control is simple and intuitive. You can tilt the camera's angle with the Right Stick, which is useful when you need to see behind a tree or building. You can also rotate the camera when inside houses, but not in facilities such as Resident Services. There isn't any real benefit to using a Nintendo Switch Pro Controller over the Nintendo Switch Joy-Con controllers—use whichever you find more comfortable and remember to take breaks when playing.

Touch Typing
Certain apps and features such as the bulletin board and the keyboard allow you to use the touch screen of the Nintendo Switch to do things like draw and type in a way that you may find more comfortable. Be sure to try it out and see which you prefer!

Key Actions

Here are some simple actions you'll use often that are important to get used to and remember. Once you have some tools, many other actions will be possible!

Other Actions

- Digging (Shovel)
- Climbing (Ladder)
- Swiping (Net)
- Swinging (Axe)
- Fill Hole (Shovel)
- Vaulting (Vaulting Pole)
- Casting (Fishing Rod)
- Shooting (Slingshot)

Further Reading (Full Guide)

Tools and How to Use Them → P.112
Gathering Materials → P.205

Sprint



Hold **B** to run a little faster and get where you're going quicker! You never get tired, so sprint to your heart's content.

Push/Pull



Pressing and holding **A** along with moving the Left Stick when near a placed item will let you push or pull it.

Shake



If you press **A** next to a tree you'll give it a good shake, and something might fall out.

Open Doors



If a building's doors are closed, you can press **A** to open them and enter the building. Unless of course it's closed to the public or the owner is sleeping.

Jump/Sit



Simply holding the Left Stick in the direction of a chair or stool will make you sit on it. Doing the same near a small gap will let you jump over it.

Pick Up



Pressing **Y** next to an item will pick it up and add it straight to your pockets.

Character Creator

Once you start a new game, you'll be given the chance to customize your very own resident! After choosing your skin tone, you can pick from a handful of hair styles and colors. You'll also have the chance to choose the color and shape of your eyes, as well as the shape of your nose and mouth. Finally, you'll be able to put some color in your cheeks by adding some blush. Take your time and find the combination that captures exactly what you want to look like. Once you've created a villager you're proud of, press the \diamond Button to lock it in and begin your adventure!

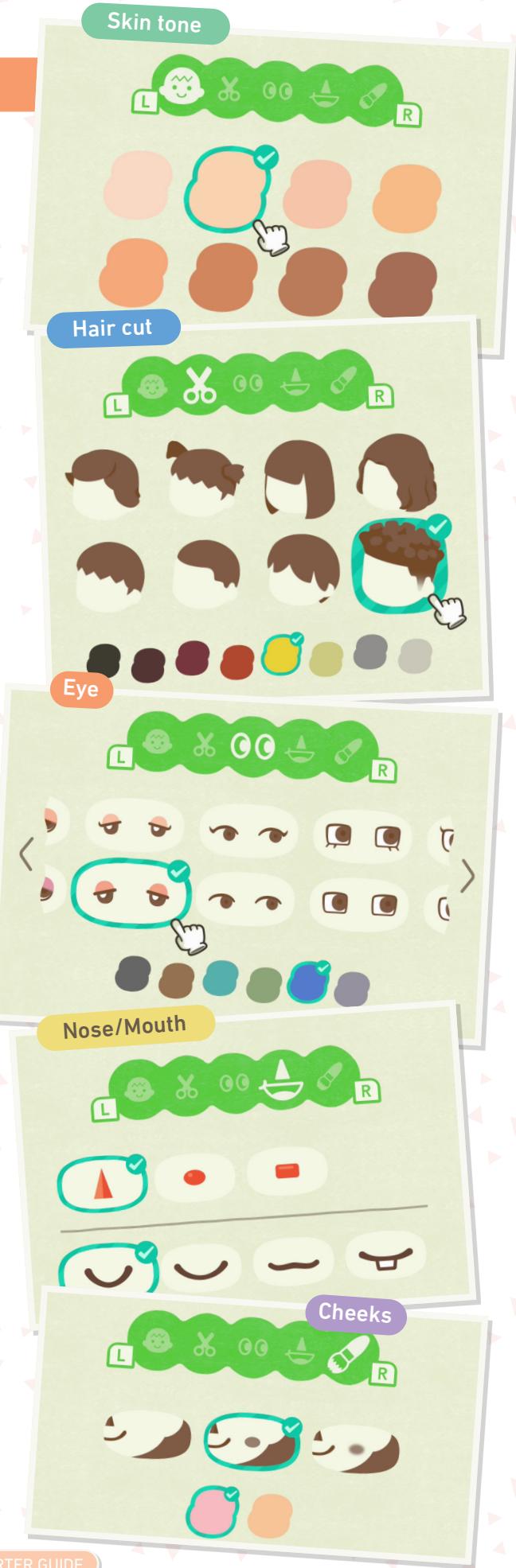
● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Character Customization Options → P.266



Changing Your Appearance Later

As you explore the island, you'll eventually find or learn how to craft a variety of mirrors. Once you've obtained one and have placed it as furniture, a mirror can be used to freely change your character's appearance at any time by pressing \textcircled{A} . The menu this opens gives you access to all the options of the initial character creator, on top of new ones you can acquire by redeeming Nook Miles. If you ever change your mind about your appearance, head to the nearest mirror and try out a completely new look!



Choosing your Island

After you make your character, you'll be asked to choose from one of four potential starting islands. Each of these islands are predefined, and will always come with a few common features, such as a river, and a series of cliffs that block access to parts of the island. As such, while there are a wide variety of possible islands you can get, none are inherently better than any other—it all comes down to what you would like out of your island. Don't worry too much if you aren't able to get the exact island of your dreams though; you'll be able to heavily alter its geography as you progress through the game.



The exact island type you choose isn't very important in the long run, so don't agonize over the decision. You won't be able to move your Resident Services building later, however, and that includes the town square, so it's one thing worth keeping in mind.

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Island Types

→ P.129



Many important characters and events can only been seen during the day time...



...while others only appear at night. Playing at different times of day can lead to many surprises!

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Weather

→ P.159

Island Visitors

→ P.54

Seasons and Events

As the days turn into weeks, the seasons will also begin to change. Depending on the time of year, you may be greeted by a shining sun or fresh layer of snow when you step outside. Much like the time of day, seasons will also play a



Spring



Summer

major role in what fish and bugs are available to catch. Many creatures are only available during specific seasons and months, so be sure to check your calendar or any number of seasonal critters may pass you by.



Autumn



Winter

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Seasons	→ P.154
Fishing Tournies	→ P.200
Bug-Offs	→ P.201
Residents' Birthdays	→ P.76



Animal Crossing's real time nature means that birthdays, contests and important dates in real life are celebrated on your island. If you have an online connection, then the game will sometimes be updated prior to these events to ensure your island will be ready for it. Events usually come with new items related to them, and characters might even dress for the occasion. A good example of this is New Year's Eve, which sees Tom Nook and Isabelle don some formal attire.

Bonus!

Online Calendar



To make keeping track of your island's goings on as easy as possible, we've created a handy online Animal Crossing: New Horizons calendar. To access it, just click on the following link or scan the QR code below:

www.future-press.com/AC/



Animal Crossing: New Horizons Online Calendar						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 May Day Tour	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 International Museum Day	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Seasonal DIY recipe Young spring bamboo						
Special Event International Museum Day						
Happy Birthday! Colton Style: Gorgeous + Elegant						

Mail

Once you've set down your tent, you'll be able to access your very own mailbox. Whenever you receive letters or packages, a small blue flag with a tiny, blinking white letter icon will appear on the box. After receiving a letter, you can head over to your mailbox and read it by pressing **A**. Your mailbox can hold up to 300 letters and packages—after it reaches this amount, the oldest letters will start to be thrown away. You'll notice that everyone who sends you mail has their own unique stationery. Most of these designs are available for your own use at the postcard stand in the airport building.

- Your Mom
- Nook Mileage Program
- Other Residents
- The Happy Home Academy
- Other Animal Crossing Players

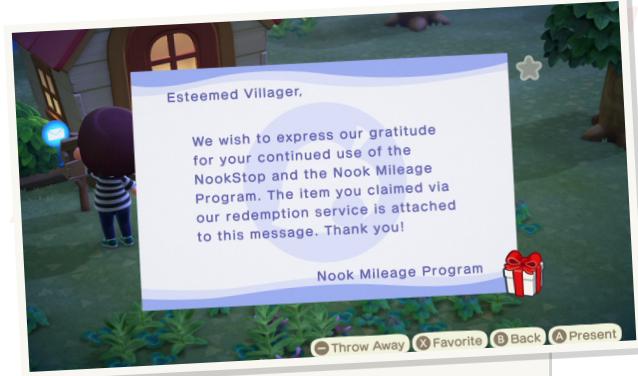
Packages



Along with letters, you will also frequently receive packages as well. Whether these be gifts from friends and family or a delivery for an online order, they can be collected from your mailbox. Once there, select the package you want and press **A** to add it to your pockets. Packages count towards the limit of your mailbox, so be sure to pick them up as soon as they arrive!

Sending Mail

You can also send letters and packages of your own by entering the Dodo Airlines building and pressing **A** while facing the postcard stand to Orville's right. Here you can send both letters and packages to yourself or other residents for 200 Bells a piece. Once you've chosen the recipient, you will be able to pick from a wide range of postcard backgrounds to personalize your message. You can only send two letters per day to a friend, and you can add a gift to the letter by using the present icon in the bottom right. Letters to other residents will always show up the day after they've been sent, but it's possible to choose the exact date you'd like the letter to arrive if you're sending it to yourself. You can even have it delivered years later!



Anything you order from the Nook Mileage Program will show up in your mailbox the following day.



There are plenty of designs to choose from. Many are seasonal and only available for a limited time, so check in regularly!

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Storing Items	→ P.125
List of Postcards	→ P.414



The Goals of the Game

While Animal Crossing is often about casually living your life and going about your day, there's no shortage of more directed activities and goals. Here you'll find some of the more rewarding tasks that you can focus on. These can be completed at any pace, but there's often a significant reward for finishing many of them. If you find yourself looking for something to do, any of these are good choices.

The Goals

- Help Tom Nook
- Improve Your House
- Donate to the Museum
- Complete Nook Mile Challenges
- Build up Your Island
- Customize Your House
- Spend Time with Friends and Neighbors
- Take It Easy



This is the humble Resident Services tent, where you'll reliably find Tom Nook.



Help Tom Nook

Shortly after you first arrive, Tom Nook will enlist your help to turn the deserted island into a vibrant community. You'll need to complete a wide variety of tasks for him, from building specific items at a workbench, to making decisions about the future of the island. Helping him will not only teach you many of the most important things you'll need to know, but will also attract new visitors to the island. Tom Nook will also reward you with many essential upgrades, such as new apps for your NookPhone. With this in mind, it's highly recommended that you help out Tom Nook whenever you can.



● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Main Storyline

→ P.127

Improve Your House

While Tom Nook's no-interest loans means there's no rush in paying them off, doing so will allow you to live more comfortably by upgrading your home with size increases, extra rooms, and a second floor. This will give you more freedom to decorate specialized rooms that are all your own. Upgrading your house is a long term pursuit and one of the best uses of your hard-earned Bells.

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Home Upgrades → P.34



Donate to the Museum

As you explore the island, news of your discoveries will be passed to Tom Nook's scholarly naturalist friend, Blathers. Eventually, Blathers will establish a museum on the island, and you can bring your newly discovered wildlife or fossils to him for appraisal and donation to the museum. Once you donate a creature or item, it will permanently be put on display for all to see with a small

note on its respective plaque denoting that you were the one who donated it. Visiting the museum allows you to view the creatures you've caught in all their glory. A fully equipped museum that contains every possible item is a sight to behold and would be a point of pride for any community. Not to mention it would make Blathers a very happy owl.



Tools of the Trade

Digging up fossils requires a shovel, while catching fish and bugs requires a fishing rod and a net. These are all tools that you can craft as long as you have the right DIY recipe and some basic materials. There's nothing like being the proud owner of a good set of tools.



Blathers graciously takes on the role of the island's museum curator. Bring him anything you find and he'll give it a full appraisal.

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

The Museum → P.38

Tools and How to Use Them → P.112

Complete Nook Miles Objectives



Not only are Nook Miles objectives a great way to stock up on the ever-useful Nook Miles currency, they will also unlock a wide variety of titles that can be used to customize your passport. Making the effort to check some of them off your list is always a good use of your time!

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Nook Mileage Program | → P.146 |
| Nook Miles+ Daily Challenges | → P.151 |



The further you get, the more options you'll have for improving your island and attracting more visitors.

Build up Your Island

Once you help Tom Nook establish the island's community, you'll find that you have a wide variety of ways to customize and improve the town. Be it creating paths, planting flower beds, building bridges, or any of the many other options available, there is no shortage of ways to shape the island to your liking. If you're in need of inspiration, the Isabelle's Island Reviews chapter starting on P.232 of the full guide will provide some ideas.

Spend Time with Friends and Neighbors

Maybe the best part of building a community is getting to know the people and their individual quirks. Be sure to check in on your neighbors often to keep in touch and let them know that they're appreciated. You can also invite players from other islands to come visit your town. Once they've arrived, you'll be able to go fishing together, take group pictures, show off your hard work, or engage in any number of other activities. To learn more about this, check out the "Playing With Others" section later in this chapter.

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

- | | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Making Friends | → P.75 |
| Meet the Residents | → P.82 |



New faces will appear as the island takes shape, each adding more personality to your idyllic surroundings.

Decorate Your House

As you build and expand your house, you'll find yourself with plenty of personal space that you can decorate according to your tastes. These rooms can be outfitted with carpets, wall-papers, furniture, or just about anything else you can find. Take some time and design your living space into something you can be proud of. If you create something especially striking, the Happy Home Academy may even take notice!

● Important resources for home decoration

Upgrading Your House	→ P.136
List of Furniture	→ P.353
Nook's Cranny	→ P.42
Happy Home Academy	→ P.238



● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Furniture Customization	→ P.352
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Take It Easy

Just kick back and enjoy your island! There is rarely any rush to get any specific task done or loan paid back, so you're free to tackle any major challenges at whatever pace is comfortable. Be sure to take some time to relax and casually stroll your island—snap some pictures, design patterns, pick weeds, or just enjoy a sunset. Take things one day at a time and have fun!



New Features!

This section tells you all about the most important features that are new to Animal Crossing: New Horizons. We'll introduce these elements here with brief descriptions, and point to other parts of this book when there's more detail available (which there very often will be).

Resident Services

Resident Services functions as the headquarters of your island. Here you and Tom Nook will work together to begin building the island into a thriving coastal getaway. The Nook Stop can also be found here, and can be used to pay your bills, do online shopping, and deposit funds into your savings account. Lastly, you'll find the recycle box here, which sometimes contains items that have been discarded by other residents. Consult P.31 of the full guide for more details!



● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Meet Tom Nook → P.32

The Workbench

Want a new table in your kitchen? Head to a Workbench for a spot of DIY! The new crafting system allows you to create an impressive array of items. In fact, for a lot of items, the only way to acquire them is by building them at a workbench. Building anything requires a DIY Recipe and some basic resources. Fortunately, there are plenty of raw materials to be found from trees and rocks all over your island. The full guide has a complete chapter dedicated to DIY, starting on P.202.



● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Gathering Materials → P.205

Recipe List → P.217

DIY Basics → P.204



Gathering materials is essential to begin your DIY activities. Once you have some, head to the Resident Services tent to use Tom Nook's workbench.

Island Bulletin Board

The Island Bulletin Board can always be found to the left of Resident Services. Here you can see any public announcements made by the other residents of the island, so checking in often is a great way to stay up to date on the latest events happening on the island. By pressing the **B** Button, you can also create your own custom bulletin posting. Once it's been opened, you can use the keyboard to type out whatever message you like, as well as hand draw a background using either the Left Stick or the touch screen of the Nintendo Switch system. Be sure to make a welcome post to greet all your visitors!



Feel free to use the touch screen to add drawings to your messages.

Dodo Airlines



Dodo Airlines operates out of the island's very own airport, and is the gateway to endless adventure for those who want to explore. By talking to Orville, you'll be able to book a flight to a friend's island or invite other friends to come visit yours. Additionally, you can redeem a Nook Miles Ticket to go on a Mystery Tour that sends you to a randomized island. Once you arrive, you'll be able to collect extra resources, including fruit that may not be native to your home, and you can even encounter potential new residents who may be vacationing there.



● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Dodo Airlines → P.50

Mystery Tours → P.51

New Tools

Animal Crossing: New Horizons brings with it lots of new tools that can enrich your island experience and make things easier. The ladder and vaulting pole are ideal for getting around an island environment, while magic wands will literally transform your wardrobe habits in an instant.

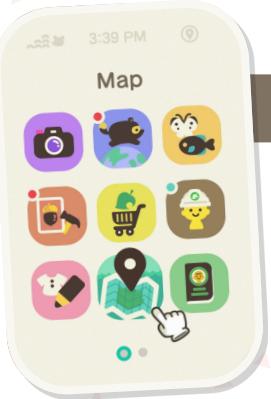
Fences

While not strictly a tool, the ability to place fences is a wonderful new addition to Animal Crossing, and acts much like a tool once you have it equipped. It lets you fence off areas, decorate paths or even create property borders, if that's your kind of thing. Creative use of this ability can have a transformative effect on your island!

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Tools and How to Use Them → P.112

Building Fences → P.141



NookPhone

Your NookPhone is one of the most important items at your disposal. If you're the island's first resident, then you'll receive it immediately upon waking up after attending the founding ceremony. Players arriving later will receive their NookPhone just after landing on the island. This handy device can be accessed by pressing **ZL**. Together, the NookPhone's apps act as an ideal overview of the game's main activities, so we'll briefly describe each of them here to minimize spoilers, and then point you to further info on each topic.



Camera

Unlock: Default App

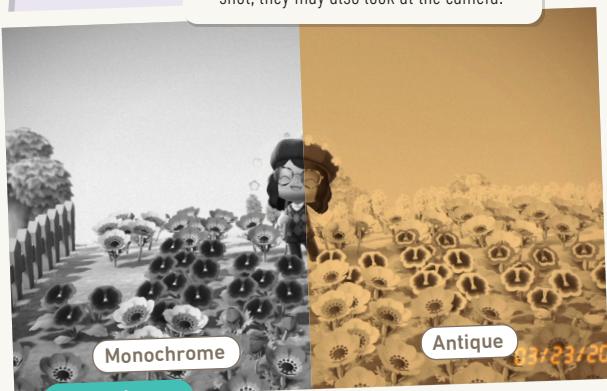
Want to capture a moment? Just pull out your phone and select the Camera app! Once you do, you'll have the ability to zoom the camera in and out using **Y** and **X**, and you can also apply a filter over the photo to alter the color. After you've found the shot you want, press **A** to snap the photo. You can then view them using the Album on the HOME Menu. Be sure to use a Reaction to strike a pose!



The game isn't paused while taking photos, so other residents can photobomb you!



Perfect for selfies. If any residents are in the shot, they may also look at the camera!



Further Reading (Full Guide)

Visit Photopia

→ P.69

Equip tools or items before opening the app to have them appear in the shot.

Press **ZR** to use Reactions to liven up your photo.



Nook Miles

Unlock: Default App

The Nook Miles app is the main way to acquire Nook Miles for use at the Nook Stop. Initially, these can only be acquired by completing certain Nook Miles Objectives, such as First-Time Seller, which is unlocked by selling an item for the first time. The goals of these objectives can vary wildly. While many are rather straightforward, some will take a sizable amount of time and effort to unlock. Once you do, however, you'll be rewarded with Nook Miles! These Miles can be claimed by hovering over the completed card and pressing **A**, and will also unlock certain exclusive titles to use on your character's passport.



Nook Mile objectives let you earn valuable Miles while doing things that benefit your island's community.



Nook Miles+

Unlock: Pay Your Moving Fee

After upgrading your tent to a proper house, the app will be upgraded to Nook Miles+. This will grant you access to an endless rotation of small, temporary challenges that can reward you with a decent amount of Nook Miles. These challenges ensure that you'll never run out of opportunities to earn Nook Miles. The first five challenges you get each day will always feature a 2x multiplier that doubles the Nook Miles earned from completing them. On rare occasions though, you'll get a challenge with a x5 multiplier that'll give you five times as many Nook Miles for completing it! If you find yourself running short, take on some of these challenges and you'll find yourself with plenty in no time.

Good Vibrations

Not sure why your controller is shaking? Check your Nook Miles app! Whenever you complete a challenge, your phone will vibrate to let you know. Be sure to claim Nook Miles as soon as you earn them!

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Nook Mileage Program → P.146
Nook Miles+ Daily Challenges → P.151

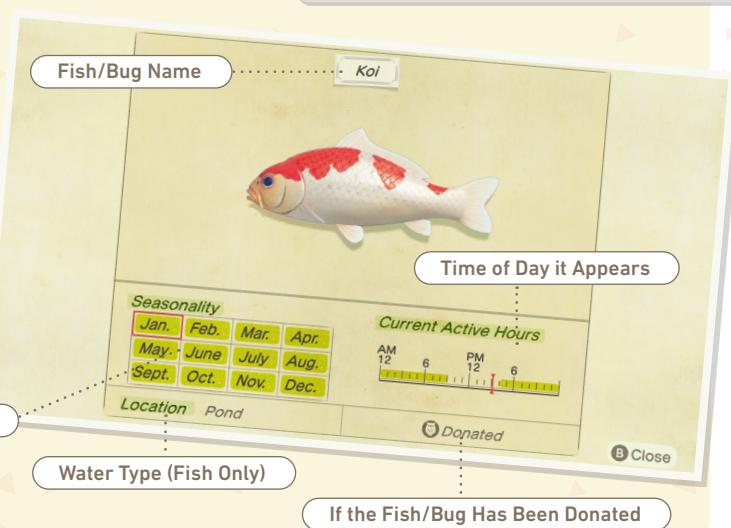


Critterpedia

Unlock: Give Tom Nook a Creature

This helpful app will keep track of all the bugs and fish that you've caught. Once you catch a new species for the first time, you can use the Critterpedia to find the season and time of day during which critters you've already caught are available. Additionally, it tells you whether or not a critter has been donated to Blathers yet. Any critter that has been donated will have a small stamp in the bottom corner.

When the Fish/Bug Appears



● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Fishing → P.175



DIY Recipes

Unlock: Complete the DIY Workshop

This app allows you to go through a complete list of the DIY Recipes you've unlocked as well as see the resources required to make them. Each Recipe belongs to a specific subcategory, such as Tools or Furniture, that you can browse through by using the **L** and **R** Buttons. This is especially useful for checking whether you have all the resources you need before trying to build an item at your workbench.

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

DIY Basics	→ P.204
Gathering Materials	→ P.205
List of Recipes	→ P.217



Once you find a recipe, use it from your pocket menu and the item you've learned to craft will permanently appear in your DIY Recipes app!



Nook Shopping

Unlock: 100 purchases from Nook Shopping at Nook Stop

The Nook Shopping app works a lot like shopping at the Nook Stop found in Resident Services. You won't get this app until much later in the game, but it's worth the wait since it allows you to shop anytime and anywhere! When opening the app, you'll be able to peruse different categories that include all the wallpapers, flooring, furniture, clothes and more that you've encountered in your catalog. Special Goods are also available for purchase through this app, so you can quickly check the daily selection without needing to drop by the Nook Stop!

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

Clothing Catalog	→ P.275
Furniture List	→ P.353



Mail order shopping brings convenience to your island.



Everything that's available from the Nook Stop's Nook Shopping option will also be available through this app!



Custom Designs

Unlock: Default App

Using this app will bring you to the customs designs menu, where you can create a wide array of patterns and designs. These designs can be applied to a wide variety of items—shirts, carpets, wallpapers, phone case, or even your own face! Simply select the design you want to apply and choose whether you want to wear or display it. If you want to remove a design you chose to wear then open your pockets, select the clothing menu, and select the item to remove it.



Once you buy the Custom Design Pro Editor from the Nook Stop for 800 Nook Miles, you'll be able to access and create Pro Designs.

These allow for a much higher level of detail and customizability than the standard Custom Designs. With the Pro Editor, you can design any part of a variety of shirts, dresses, and hats down to the most specific details. From the brims of hats to the hem of a robe, the Pro Editor gives you a wide array of colors and tools to bring whatever vision you have into reality. Let your imagination run wild!

Photo

Island Name

Comment



Passport

Unlock: Default App

The Passport app allows you to view and edit your own personal passport. This travel document highlights your name, title, a comment about yourself, the island you're from as well as the fruit native to your island, and your birthday (along with its respective zodiac sign). Once you've opened the app, pressing **A** will allow you to change your passport photo, as well as add a short comment, up to 24 characters long. You can also give yourself a distinctive title using the keywords you've unlocked by completing any of the standard Nook Miles objectives found in the Nook Miles app.

Resident Rep.

Native Fruit

PASSPORT

I love Animal Crossing!

Peach Peaches

Native Fruit

Unhindered Grandpa

Title

Jade

Born November 9th

Reg. February 1st, 2020

Resident Name

Birthday



Island Designer

Unlock: See the End Credits

The Island Designer is an app that you'll acquire after the game's credits have rolled. As you make changes to your island, you may be thinking about all the other ways you could adjust your island to truly make it yours. If so, this app might just prove that dreams can come true! Without spoiling too much, one of the app's most famed features is the landscaping tool; it really lets you give your island a unique personality. You'll need Nook Miles to unlock most of what this app can do; keep working with Tom Nook and racking up those Miles and you'll be able to do more than you've ever imagined!

● Further Reading (Full Guide)

The Island Designer

→ P.258





Map

Unlock: Default App

Selecting this app brings up the island's map. This map is very similar to the mini-map, but far more detailed. Here you can highlight important locations such as stores and neighboring houses to help you locate them if you get lost. Additionally, its grid overlay can be incredibly useful for planning the more complicated aspects of your island's layout, particularly for things such as paths. Be sure to consult this map whenever you're starting major public projects.



Call Resident

Unlock: Another Player Resident Joins Your Island

You'll unlock the Call Resident app once another player becomes a permanent resident on your island. Using this app, you can invite other residents from your island to spend time with you in Party Play mode. This mode is part of Animal Crossing: New Horizons' local multiplayer features, which are covered in full on the following pages.



Rescue Service

Unlock: Default App

Selecting Rescue Service while you're outside will immediately connect you to the local Rescue Service hotline, who will offer to pick you up from wherever you currently are and return you to your home (or other locations). It costs 100 Nook Miles to use, but if you're in a jam with no Miles to spare, it might be possible to negotiate a ride regardless... This app cannot be used when other players are on your island, but if you get stranded on your own, you can count on it to get you back to safety.



You may be wondering who the mysterious operator might be. That tune sure does seem familiar... He seems to be using some familiar phrasing too. Who could it be?

Playing With Others

There are three ways you can play Animal Crossing: New Horizons with your friends: Local Play, Party Play and Online Play. These are all different methods of inviting people to your island and vice versa, whether they're right next to you or across the globe!



Party Play

Once an island has been created, other players can move in as well by using a different profile on the same console. After you start a new game, you'll be taken straight to the island and given a NookPhone and the chance to choose where to place your tent. As soon as a second player has made their home on the island, all local residents will get a call from Tom Nook, who will install the Call Resident app. This can be used at any time to summon up to three other residents who live on the island. Once they arrive, they can be controlled by another player by connecting any Nintendo Switch controller. Keep in mind, other visitors can't be invited through Local or Online play while Party Play is active.



Any items that followers collect while using tools will be sent to the Recycle Box in Resident Services. You can collect these at any time, but be careful not to let it get too full or your fellow resident's work may be thrown away.

Followers and Leaders

As soon as another resident shows up, one player will be marked as the Leader and the rest as Followers. The Leader will get to play roughly the same as they would play alone with complete access to all standard features. This is not set in stone, though—you can change who's the Leader at any time by gently shaking the Leader's controller or by selecting the Change Leader



Followers' options are still plentiful, but are slightly more limited than you may be used to—while you're a Follower, you will be unable to use your NookPhone, open your pockets menu, or use the chat function.

option from the Call Resident app. Once you do, whichever player would like to take the role will need to press the **A** Button to appoint themselves as Leader. The camera will always stay on the Leader first and foremost. If too much distance is put between the Leader and any of the Followers however, the Follower will be transported right next to the Leader once the distance has become too great.



You can however still use tools, move furniture, and help the leader with a wide range of tasks.

Local Play

Using Dodo Airlines, you can really crank up the island party! If you have a friend nearby with their own Nintendo Switch, you can visit their island or open up your own for visits via Local Play. Just tell Orville at the front desk that you want to fly and visit an island via Local Play and he can scout

out your friend's island for you! If multiple friends have their airport gates open at once, you can pick and choose which island you'd like to visit. You also have the option to make a secret 4-digit Dodo Code, in case you'd like to keep the riffraff out.

Starting Local Play



Head into DAL



Talk to Orville



Select I Want Visitors



The Gates Will Open



When Playing as a Visitor

You can't interact as much as usual with the nature of the island, whether that means excavating stones, chopping and uprooting trees, or catching fish, unless you're Best Friends with the island's owner. You can post on another islander's bulletin board, but you'll be limited to two posts. If you change your mind about something you've posted, press \Rightarrow to delete it.

There's tons to do on your visit. You can chat with animals, who'll tell you funny things about your friends and their islands. You may even get a sneak peak at your friend's Passport Titles. There's no need to worry about doing busywork like returning lost items, though. That's what an island's representative is for!

Party Time

The presence of certain special visitors can open up some great party activities since they'll still offer their services while you have guests. K.K. Slider will still gladly hold his concert for a big group, but he'll only start it once the host sits down. Fishing Contests and the Bug-Off can also accommodate guests. The Local Play session can end in a number of ways. If you're a host, you can press \Rightarrow to end it, or talk to Orville and have this done for you. Connection errors can also cause a trip to end. Travel is tricky business!



Make sure nobody is on their NookPhone while you're trying to fly, or it may cause some interference.

The Best Friends App

Once another player visits your island, Orville will give you the Best Friends List app for your NookPhone. When a player arrives, they'll appear on the "friends" list and the "all" list. You can then press \textcircled{A} to ask to be Best Friends, giving them extra privileges when they visit. To stop being Best Friends, press \textcircled{A} choose a player and select "Quit being best friends". This app lets you see which friends are online at the moment—you can press \Rightarrow to disable this feature, in case you don't want anyone to know you're online. You can also do all this from the Nintendo Switch app on your smartphone, as well as importing old designs from Animal Crossing: New Leaf and Animal Crossing: Happy Home Designer.

Facilities

Facilities act differently during an island visit. Tom Nook and Isabelle won't be able to do much for the host island representative or their guests while the visit is happening. Just too much paperwork to do! The host will still be able to use the Recycle Box in the Resident Services Center, but if



Making donations, the Drop-off Box or the postcard service, and making custom designs will all have to wait until you get home.

you happen to be the one visiting, it's rather rude to go through someone else's stuff. The Nook Stop also won't be compatible with your account on a foreign island. The host will be able to use their own Nook Stop, but you'll have to wait until you get home.



Online Play

Online Play requires a Nintendo Switch Online membership and uses a Wi-Fi connection to allow you to play with players across the world. You can visit their islands and they can visit yours. As usual, Dodo Airlines will facilitate bringing players to different islands, and once you're on another player's island, Online Play functions basically the same way as Local Play.

Other Things to Consider

Trading items and Bells is a cinch if you don't mind picking things up off the ground—just drop whatever you want to trade, rather than placing it—placed furniture, fish tanks and insect tanks, both outdoors and indoors, can't be moved or picked up until the visit is over. If you're worried about how your island looks, we recommend doing your redecorating before your guests arrive.

In the Best Friends menu, you can press Y to open a keyboard menu and send a message to all of your Best Friends at once, or send individual

Online Etiquette

Playing with others online opens up the possibility to affect other player's islands, and not always in a positive way. If a player is doing something that you feel is offensive or particularly annoying, you can report their behavior. This can lead to consequences for the reported player, so it's best to be considerate of others and how they want their island to be.

messages by selecting a Best Friend with A . You can use the keyboard to chat with friends (or your smartphone's keyboard if you're using the Nintendo Switch app). Usually, there's a profanity filter in place to avoid nasty words being used, but this doesn't apply to messages sent to Best Friends.

When speaking to Orville, you have the option to open your island to only your Best Friends. Be sure you trust someone when you make them a Best Friend, because they'll be able to dig up your trees and break your rocks!