# Title 1: How to Play Valorant: The Complete Guide Title 2: How to Play Valorant: The Complete Guide for All Players

Featured Image: Maybe we could edit an image of a Valorant character, adding an Xbox pad to the image. We could replace a weapon with a pad. Like this: <https://www.earlygame.com/uploads/images/_imageBlock/Jett-Valorant.jpg> or this: <https://cdn1.dotesports.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/14072521/VALORANT_Jett_Red_crop.0-1024x576.jpg>

Valorant is one of the most popular online first-person shooter games to hit the scene in recent years. Its vibrant new take on the genre is a revelation that has attracted curious gamers and large audiences worldwide.

If you’re bored of traditional shooters like Counter-Strike: Global Offensive (CS:GO), you are probably thinking about how to play Valorant.

And you’re not alone.

Every day, new gamers choose the latest title from the makers of League of Legends. As its esports community grows, so do the opportunities for ambitious gamers looking for a new career.

If you have dreams of making a name for yourself on the international stage, you’ve come to the right place.

In this guide, you’ll get all the information you need to begin making your dream a reality. But if all you want to do is have a little fun three nights per week, you’ll find that here, too.

Here’s a quick look at the points that will help you learn how to play Valorant:

|  |  |  |  |
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# People Also Ask: Can Beginners Play Valorant

Yes, beginners can play Valorant. In fact, the low minimum requirements, its similarity to other first-person shooter games, and the relatively new community of gamers make Valorant the perfect game for beginners. Many players have a similar level, growing with the game as it is updated and improved. New games have to be more inclusive to appeal to different audiences. Valorant achieves this by providing gamers with characters, maps, and weapons requiring different skill levels to play.

# What is Valorant?

Image suggestion: Just some sort of glitzy promotional art? Something like this: <https://images.contentstack.io/v3/assets/bltb6530b271fddd0b1/bltc9ebc37d81a976c3/5e8cdc21baf2bd3cc4753c7a/IMAGE_2.jpg>

Valorant is one of the most popular first-person shooters in recent times. As an online multiplayer, it is a direct competitor of titles like Counter-Strike: Global Offensive (CS:GO), Overwatch, and Tom Clancy’s Rainbow Six Siege.

The game comes from a studio with a great track record. Riot Games also produced the hugely successful League of Legends. Elements of this game can be seen in Valorant, which expertly combines the battle arena genre with the first-person shooter.

Launched in April 2020, the beta version of the game was an instant hit on Twitch. Thanks to a number of high-profile influencers, the game continues to be one of the most-streamed shooters on the platform.

## About the Game

How about some lore before learning how to play Valorant?

Valorant is set in the near future, following a global event that has transformed life as we know it. Known as First Light, the event left certain people with special abilities. This changed power dynamics around the world resulted in the creation of Valorant, a secretive group of gifted agents.

As a game player, you choose one of these agents to control in 5-on-5 combat. Of the many game modes, this is Valorant’s default. Each match consists of 24 rounds, with the winning team being the first to win 13. The twelfth round is halftime, the point at which teams change positions.

Other game modes include deathmatch, plant and diffuse, spike rush, and snowball fight. The spike is Valorant’s version of the bomb. There is also an unrated mode, which lets you earn experience points without worrying about your stats.

The matches take place in futuristic landscapes, Earth transformed into sci-fi cities, claustrophobic neon corridors, and sky-borne villages.

## Similarities to Other Games

The complexity of map designs, inventive weapon inventory, character variety, and many unique abilities make Valorant one of the most well-rounded shooters on the market.

People want to know about similar games before asking how to play Valorant. Riot Games took the best aspects of games like Overwatch, Apex Legends, and Counter-Strike, and added its own special blend of fun. It is just the right mix of serious gaming and light-hearted entertainment. But in terms of similarity, it is most like Counter-Strike: Global Offensive.

For a start, both games tap into the heart of team-based games: tactical cooperation. On top of this, they share an expensive catalog of hierarchical weaponry and armor. And the variable accuracy of weapons gives users a more realistic experience.

Both games offer users the traditional game modes they know and love, all of which are played by sizable communities. The esports industry has long been dominated by CS:GO. But Valorant is causing quite a stir, too.

The main difference between the two games is the approach to characterization. Valorant is driven by the individual abilities of its characters. This is not really the case with CS:GO.

While you are here, take a look at our article on similar games: 20 Games Like Valorant: Respawn in Another World:

# Technicalities

Image suggestion: Maybe an image of a desktop computer with arrows pointing to different parts like RAM, GPU, CPU, WIFI, Microphone port, et cetera: <https://www.easypacelearning.com/design/images/content/personalcomputerhardwareparts.png>

Now, before we can turn you into the next Vasily from *Enemy at the Gates*, we need to discuss hardware and installation.

Many first-person shooters have similar gameplay. But their requirements are wildly different. Fortunately, Valorant is one of the most inclusive games on the market.

## Is the Game Free

The key to a product’s global reach is its price tag. The more expensive an item is, the smaller the customer base.

Valorant is completely free.

If you own a computer that runs Microsoft Windows, you can start working your way up the ranks today. But to get the most out of the game, you will need a couple of accessories.

## What Equipment You Need

As mentioned, you need a machine that can run Microsoft Windows. But what you might not know is that this doesn’t exclude Macintosh devices.

You can install Windows 10 on your device if it is a MacBook younger than the 2014 model, a MacBook Air or Pro from 2012, or a Mac Mini from the same year.

Next, you’ll want to get all the usual gear for a solid session of gaming.

Get yourself a sweet headset, so you can help your teammates find their way. Many gamers also use two mice to maximize aiming precision. And last but not least, make sure you have a comfortable chair with a cup holder.

## How to Get the Game

Before you can learn how to *play* Valorant, you need to *download* Valorant. Getting the game couldn’t be easier. You don’t even have to leave your throne.

Like many games these days, the content is entirely downloadable. Here’s a simple five-step guide to installing Valorant:

1. Visit the official [Valorant website](https://playvalorant.com/).
2. Click on either Play Now or Play for Free to start downloading the installer.
3. Select your preferred location for storage (a minimum of 8 GB is necessary).
4. Create and sign into your Riot Games account.
5. Launch the game and blow out some brains.

Don’t worry if you are not sure how to complete step four.

Here’s the lowdown.

## Creating a Riot Games ID

This time, you’ll need to visit the official website for [Riot Games](https://www.riotgames.com/en).

Once there, follow these instructions:

1. Click the “Create Account” button and wait to be transferred to the sign-up page.
2. Enter your email and click the “Start” button.
3. Next, enter your date of birth, a unique username, and a secure password.
4. Confirm registration.

And that’s it. You are all set.

Speaking of which…

## Settings

Many gaming guides will tell you to look at your settings before getting stuck in. But, actually, it can be a good idea to simply dive right in and play a few rounds. This helps you identify which settings you might like to tweak.

Play a couple of rounds and pay special attention to the sensitivity. How does it feel when you try to aim the weapon? Perhaps it is quicker than the game you are used to.

Of course, everyone is different. But a good standard among professional gamers is 400 to 800 Dots Per Linear Inch (DPI). If you dream of becoming an esports legend, this might be a good first step.

Another important setting to get right is the crosshair display. Some players appear to have the eyes of a hawk. Their crosshairs are almost indistinguishable from the landscape. Other players like a nice big circle when targeting their opponents. Play around with a few options and see what works for you.

In all the excitement of installing a new game, it is easy to forget the simple stuff. Brightness, contrast, and positioning vary from game to game. You might be an avid player of CS:GO trying Valorant for the first time. If so, you might find the colors a bit too vivid and distracting. Fine-tuning your settings can help to maximize your focus.

## Join Twitch or Discord

Why not join both?

Twitch is a great place to watch live streams of exciting matches. It is the platform that gave Valorant such promising popularity when it was first released.

But recently, Discord has been growing in popularity as a game streaming platform. Watching the experts is a great way to learn how to play Valorant like a pro. And this can really help you climb the ranks and get that illustrious Radiant badge.

Check out our article on Valorant’s place in the world of esports: How to Bet on Valorant: The Complete Guide

# Gameplay

Image suggestion: Just a screenshot of some gameplay, like this: <https://www.gamespot.com/a/uploads/original/1574/15747411/3680136-vlcsnap-2020-06-05-18h37m25s452.png>

## Game Mode

As hard as it is to believe, some players like to take an occasional break from 5-on-5 team play. They don’t want to take a break from the game, though. What they want is a new game mode.

Valorant has enough different modes to keep you entertained, no matter what mood you are in.

Here’s a list of the game modes:

### Rated and Unrated

Players must win 10 unrated matches before they can enter the rated or competitive matches. This is where people who want to know how to play Valorant begin. But once you’ve earned the privilege, you can still return to unrated for some fine-tuning and development.

If there are strategies you have always wanted to try without losing points, unrated is the mode for you. This style of play is no different from the main mode, which is attackers trying to plant and detonate a spike while defenders try to protect and diffuse. But unrated matches don’t affect your overall evaluation.

This gives you some unique options.

Though shorter than many other first-person shooters, Valorant matches are long. You never know what is going to happen when you start a match. Who knows? A bat could fly into your lounge through an open window. What are you going to do? Let it fly around for 25 minutes? In unrated mode, you can forfeit the match without being punished.

Another advantage of this mode is that it gives you the chance to try out some other characters. You’ll be able to master an ability you’ve overlooked. Or perhaps you just want to get familiar with a different gun. After all, operating a shotgun is nothing like zeroing in on a head with a sniper rifle.

Protect the activated spike for 45 seconds to secure your attacking team’s victory. But this is not as easy as it sounds. Each round is only 100 seconds long. And if the spike fails to detonate before that time limit, the defenders win the round.

In the competitive mode, there’s a win-by-two rule for matches that finish in a tie. Rounds will continue in overtime with teams alternating attack and defense until the kill-margin is achieved. After each overtime round, players will have the usual chance to buy weapons and abilities for the next role change.

After each consecutive couple of overtime rounds, players will be asked if they would like to vote for a draw. After two overtime rounds, six players can force a draw. After four overtime rounds, three players can bring the game to an end. And after six overtime rounds, it only takes one player to agree to the proposal.

### Deathmatch

If you want to learn how to play Valorant, this is not the mode to begin with. You choose this game mode when you want to run solo through the jungle with just a knife between your teeth. Okay, you can carry more than just a knife. But you are very definitely on your own.

A deathmatch is a free-for-all. Playing this mode will improve your ability to shoot your way out of a tight spot. In 5-on-5 matches, the pressure comes at unexpected times. In a deathmatch, the pressure is on from start to finish. Get used to it, and you’ll excel in the team modes.

There are 14 players competing for nine minutes. The winner is either the first player to reach 40 kills or the one with the most when the nine minutes are up. You heard it right… an impressive 40-kill minimum.

Loot the dead for health kits and ammunition. And be ready to respawn anywhere. Because, oh yeah, there are no abilities in a deathmatch.

### Spike Rush

This is a rapid-fire match. It’s the best of seven rounds, with the first team to win four winning the match. Considering the time players need to commit to other game modes, this is a nice option when you have a few minutes to spare and want to sharpen your skills.

Unlike in other game modes, you begin a spike rush with all your abilities ready to use. Unfortunately, this does not include your ultimate ability. But you won’t have to wait long for this, either. Ultimate ability regenerates much faster than in other game modes.

The rules are a little bit different here, though. There are more spikes because every player has one. But you have to communicate and make wise decisions as a team because one spike can be activated per round.

To level the battlefield a bit more than other modes, each player begins the round with the same gun, selected at random. This is why it’s a good idea to practice with other guns in unrated mode.

### Escalation

The name of this mode is a little misleading. Because, actually, the mode’s defining feature is the devolution of the combat.

This is a teamplay mode, with two teams of five working through a series of conditions. If you want to learn how to play Valorant at a higher level, this mode will sharpen your skills. A series of guns have been selected at random. Each player starts the round with the same gun. To unlock the next gun, your team needs to execute a certain number of opponents.

But here’s the catch: the guns get less and less impressive. Each new gun is a new level. Get to a higher level than your opponents within 10 minutes, and you win the game. Failing that, you’ll have to complete the twelve levels before the other team.

No abilities are available in this mode, either. This one is all about expert marksmanship. If you are a purist who is often frustrated by the special abilities, this is the mode for you. Find out how good your aim really is.

### Snowball Fight

In this team deathmatch mode, all agents are like Superman choking on a green cloud of Kryptonite. Okay, not exactly. They can still run around shooting people in the face. They just can’t use their powers.

The first team to get 50 kills wins the match.

And as you might expect, players have only one gun, the same gun, the snowball launcher. It’s not as playful as it sounds, though. The launcher kills agents with one shot. Your only chance at survival is accurately predicting the slow arc of the projectile.

So, keep moving and watch your angles.

Never freeze, and you’ll have a ball.

### Replication

This new game mode puts many of the same agents on the battlefield at the same time. Moreover, they are all on the same team.

The five players of each team vote for the agent they would like to play as. The computer then picks one player’s vote at random. Whichever player is chosen, everyone else gets the agent for which that player voted.

Replication matches are best-of-nine competitions. The change of role, attack to defense, and vice versa, happens after the fourth round.

## Maps

Image suggestion: here is an image of the real-world location of Valorant maps. Can we make something a bit more attractive? Map

Description automatically generated

The complexity and variation of maps are important factors in the popularity of first-person shooters. If the maps are too repetitive and poorly designed, gamers will quickly get bored of the game.

### Layout

For Valorant, one word describes the map style: claustrophobic. In general, the corridors are tighter, and the spaces are more intimate. This creates a style of play that demands fast-twitch reactions.

The main consequence of this difference is that Valorant players have a lot of places to hide.

This surprises people looking at how to play Valorant because many other games are played on open battlefields.

### Interactivity

Another important difference is how interactive the maps are for each game. Valorant wins this round. There are doors that can be manipulated, ziplines, and elevators. These can be used to escape from and surprise enemies.

### Visual

Valorant offers gamers a familiar but different architecture in terms of the visual. Its Earth has been transformed by an extraordinary event, giving it a look that will please sci-fi fans. It is vividly colorful and futuristic.

### Complexity

As a new game, Valorant is still adding to its cache of content. As such, early maps had to be as inclusive as possible. This meant making them easier to navigate. The first four maps were: The Range, Split, Haven, and Bind.

Since its launch, new maps have been released. These include Ascent, Icebox, Breeze, and Fracture. So, there are now eight maps in total.

* The Range

The Range is the very first place you should visit if you want to know how to play Valorant. Many different exercises that can help you master the other maps. It is basically a training area.

You can get to the shooting range by selecting a custom game. Look in the bottom-left corner and you’ll find the Practice button. And presto change-o, you are there.

Once in this area, you’ll have control of 30 bots that can either remain stationary or roam around. It’s up to you. If you fancy a moving target, hit F3 and watch those robotic limbs run.

Since headshots are the best way to dispatch your opponents in the other game modes, you will want to practice them here. Try multiple weapons to find out which one you prefer, using horizontal mouse movement to really zero in on those craniums.

* Split

This location consists of two territories divided by a central elevator. This center gives players the ability to move up and down at will. And this is very important here in Tokyo, Japan.

You can find these ropes in three places: A Sewer, B Rafters, and Mid Vent. And while you’re on the hunt for more advantages, grab your ultimate orbs from A Main and the Garage, or B Main.

Pick Yoru if you want a character who knows the lay of the land; although, he doesn’t seem too keen on the place many believe is his homeland.

* Haven

In the shadow of a monastery, there are three territories that can be claimed and defended. The beautiful scenery is in the heart of Bhutan. What better place to fight to the death than under a place of worship?

Use Long A to get to Site A. You can also use the Sewers, also known as A Short. Dive through the open window that looks onto the courtyard to gain access to Site B. Here, you can also use the nearby doors to get into the Garage. Site C is not far from the Garage, connected by a pathway. But if the Garage is too heavily defended, try going the Long C way.

Australia, Skye, appears to be in tune with the vibrations in this plot of land.

* Bind

In Rabat, Morocco, agents do battle in close contact. The two territories are very close. There is no middle ground where gains can be made or lost.

Use Short A, the Showers, or the Hookah if you want easy access to site A. Use the Long B and the Hookah if you’re looking for site B.

Knowing how to play Valorant like a pro means knowing how to use the teleporters and ropes. The one-way teleporters in Bind add a bit of surprise to the map. There are two of them. The first is found at Long B. Taking a trip will bring you to the attacker’s side of the Showers. The other teleporter is in Short A, connected to the attacker’s side of the Hookah.

But be careful! Using the teleporters will attract attention. They are not quiet.

Get your ultimate orbs in the Showers and Long B, one in each.

If you want an agent who knows the map well, choose Cypher, born and raised in Rabat.

* Ascent

Bomb doors are the key to success here in Venice, Italy. It’s a rather unusual-looking place, floating amongst the clouds. Look over the edge and see the underside of a neighboring island in the sky.

The courtyard is your fastest entry point to either side of the map. But it’s wide-open territory. You’ll be easy pickings for anyone with a scope and a steady pair of hands. If you’re lucky, you’ll find strong armored doors you can close and hide behind until your nerves settle.

No Italian agents in Valorant as of yet. But the South Korean Jett has an interesting connection to this land.

* Icebox

Welcome to the Arctic Circle. If you want to plant that spike in this inhospitable location, you’ll need to overcome ice and metal defenses. This excavation site is an industrial hazard to your health. Fortunately, there are zip lines and passageways to get you across the finish line.

The two-tier planting sites are unique here on Bennett Island, Russia.

But don’t be fooled into choosing Russian native, Sova.

* Breeze

Think of an ancient settlement on a tropical island. After hundreds of years, much of the architecture is in a state of ruin. Unchanged for centuries, the wide-open spaces and cave are perfect for long-range targeting.

As one of the largest maps on Valorant, Breeze can get quite windy. Use the ropes to explore this expansive landscape, particularly the upper level. For only here will you find the one-way drop doors.

But who is Thurston Wolf and what is he doing here in the Bahamas?

* Fracture

If you know how to play Fracture, you know how to play Valorant.

A radianite experiment led to a catastrophe in this top-secret facility. As such, the map is split in two. You have two options: stand your ground or take the fight into the opposing territory.

Released right after Breeze, Fracture is the exact opposite. There are lots of tight corridors and corners that are death traps in disguise. You’ll need sharp reactions to make it through this one. Choose short or medium-range weapons to give yourself the best chance.

There are two zip lines players can use to travel from one side of the map to the other. They run from one spawn side to the other.

Most Valorant players agree that this map favors defenders. So, with that in mind, why not give KAY/O a try?

Take a closer look at how two of the most popular shooters compare: Valorant Vs. CS:GO: Are They Really Similar?

## Characters and Roles

Like other popular online first-person shooter games, Valorant is built on the attack and defend gameplay model.

The 24-round match set-up helps to resolve competitions more quickly than other games. For example, CS:GO matches are played over 30 rounds.

It is a more methodical game than CS:GO, Overwatch, and Apex Legends. This quality is made more dynamic by the different abilities of each character.

Valorant characters are known as agents. Collectively, they are a new take on the attacker vs. defender model of gameplay. You see, Valorant divides its agents into four distinct sub-classes.

Depending on the class to which the agent belongs, the character has a specific role. Each role is suited to a particular aspect of the game.

You need to know these roles inside out if you want to know how to play Valorant like a Radiant. This is the only way to select wisely at each point in the game, giving you the best chance to achieve a particular goal.

Here’s the list:

* Duelists

Your frontline. These agents have the firepower and the energy to seriously deplete the opposition. If you’re looking for a couple of surprise kills, the duelists won’t let you down. They are the frag-masters.

Yoru, for example, ghosts his way into enemy territory for quick-fire kills, just like Baba Yaga.

* Sentinels

The lifesavers. These agents gather intelligence and heal the team whenever necessary. They can give you the chance to redeploy with renewed energy and aggression.

Sage, for example, can bring a team back from the brink of oblivion.

* Initiators

The game-changers. When things are going sour, these agents can change the flow with distractions. Initiators can swing the momentum back in your favor in next to no time.

Skye, for example, is uniquely distracting with her Tasmanian tiger and high-flying hawk.

* Controllers

If you need a bit of crowd control, send these agents in to clear a way forward. Their unique abilities are some of the most memorable in the game.

Omen, for example, haunts two planes, one physical and one astral.

If you’ve ever worked in an office, you know how enviable this might be.

But which agent is the right pick for you?

## Agents

Of all the available first-person shooters, Valorant has one of the richest selections of characters. Critics believe Riot Games will have to focus on only a small percentage of these characters in the near future. But for now, the selection ensures you’ll never get bored.

There are fifteen agents to choose from. Each one has a unique set of skills and a highly individual personality. Take a look at the names and faces:

1. Astra
2. Breach
3. Brimstone
4. Cypher
5. Jett
6. KAY/O
7. Killjoy
8. Omen
9. Phoenix
10. Raze
11. Reyna
12. Sage
13. Skye
14. Sova
15. Viper
16. Yoru

Of course, you can simply choose the agent that looks the coolest or the most dangerous. But it would be better to get to know all the agents and what they have to offer.

## Agent Selection

Let’s look at each agent, including the backstory, ability, kit, impact, and difficulty.

Don’t ignore the difficulty rating. Some agents have great abilities and kits but are more difficult to play with. They require an experienced gamer.

**Astra**

This Ghanian takes her name from her special ability. Just like Dr. Strange, Astra has control over her astral form. But her most impressive ability is the wall she can build to split the map in two and protect her teammates.

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**Breach**

This Swedish juggernaut is so powerful that his abilities can affect his teammates. This makes many users reluctant to select Breach. But when used in the right way, he is an agent that can make the difference in combat. However, if you are just learning how to play Valorant, Breach might not be the right choice.

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**Brimstone**

Everything is bigger in America. Brim the Big Man from Baltimore is a prime example. Perhaps this is why his kit is so poor compared to other agents. He probably wants to kill everyone with his bare hands.

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**Cypher**

Cypher used to be one of the most picked agents in the game. His cameras and tripwires made him an invaluable gatherer of intelligence. But unfortunately, recent updates have limited his impact.

However, Riot Games listens to its gamers. It is surely aware of the issue and currently working on restoring many people’s favorite agent.

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**Jett**

If you want enough speed to hit your opponent and be gone before anyone even notices, Jett is the agent for you. She is an aerial specialist, too. Taking off from the ground to make herself a more challenging target.

Thanks to her movement, Jett is one of the most picked agents in Valorant.

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**KAY/O**

If you are getting destroyed by an opponent’s ability, KAY/O can help. This agent is a suppressor, meaning he can stop other agents from using their abilities.

He is also able to suppress death, to some degree. His teammates can bring him back into the game for a limited time after being killed.

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**Killjoy**

Killjoy is a millennial menace. The German has many unique abilities, but disarming her opponents is one of the most useful. She is an expert at gathering intelligence and building innovative technology, all of which she puts to use with great effect.

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**Omen**

How can you not like Omen? The name and look make this agent one of the most individual in the game. Omen’s abilities are easy to get to grips with and rather effective on beginners.

But soon, certain attacks will become predictable and easy to guard against. So, get creative once you’ve mastered the basics.

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**Phoenix**

If you’re looking to turn on the heat, Phoenix is the agent for you. He is able to control fire, put up walls, and attack without getting injured. How? His special ability gives him the option to teleport back to the start of his special ability with full health.

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**Raze**

This Brazilian is the right mix of everything. But this is the general description of duelists. She is an explosives specialist who can change the game. In fact, she is so explosive her ability had to be toned down in a recent patch.

Pick Raze if you are new to the game and need an easily controllable agent capable of inflicting a lot of damage.

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**Reyna**

Staying in South America, we have the vampire from Mexico. Naturally, one of her abilities is regeneration. This is what gives vampires their longevity.

And just like the legends of Dracula, she can become vapor in the air, virtually invisible to her prey. Another recognizable trait is selfishness. She is great at protecting herself but not much of a team player.

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**Sage**

Sage is a great team player. Her healing abilities go beyond self-preservation. She is able to restore the health of the rest of the team.

Sage is such a gifted healer that she can bring agents back from the land of the dead.

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| Impact |  |
| Difficulty |  |

**Skye**

This Australian is an animal whisperer, with a Tasmanian tiger and a hawk as allies. Her ability to quickly arm herself and take advantage of flashes makes her a formidable agent.

Skye’s signature ability is control of that target acquiring hawk. And speaking of abilities, Skye is perfect for people learning how to play Valorant.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **Rating** |
| Ability |  |
| Kit |  |
| Impact |  |
| Difficulty |  |

**Sova**

This Russian makes Robin Hood look like an amateur. Sova is an expert archer who can send arrows around corners to hit their targets.

His ultimate ability is reusable. Once the timer is activated, it can influence the battlefield three times.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **Rating** |
| Ability |  |
| Kit |  |
| Impact |  |
| Difficulty |  |

**Viper**

Some know Viper by her real name, Sabine. If you want to plant a spike, this American is the agent you want on your team. She can create a cloud of poison that significantly impairs the other agents, making it the perfect place to plant the spike.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **Rating** |
| Ability |  |
| Kit |  |
| Impact |  |
| Difficulty |  |

**Yoru**

Yoru looks like he belongs in Tekken. But the other agents rarely see him. He is a master of stealth. The Japanese assassin gets the job done without being seen. This is the fitting choice for a nation that gave the world the ninja.

But be advised, Yoru is a character that requires an experienced player. His abilities can only be used effectively when the player knows how to play Valorant: a real map and strategy expert.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **Rating** |
| Ability |  |
| Kit |  |
| Impact |  |
| Difficulty |  |

Each agent has four abilities, one of which is called an ultimate ability. But using them is not that simple.

## Buy phase

This is the place where you load yourself out for combat. There is a buy screen before each round gets underway.

This is your chance to purchase more suitable weapons and those oh so special abilities. But be warned, you’ll only be as rich as you deserve. If you have performed well, you’ll be rolling in it. If you only killed one agent and spent more time respawning than firing your weapon, you’ll barely be able to buy a knife.

You start the first round with one ability and a sidearm. If you want to finish the game high on that leaderboard, you will need more weapons.

Help your teammates, buy them guns, and donate them funds if you can. It’ll all come back to you when your team wins. But the big bucks are to be found in kills. It’s the kills that win rounds, which in turn win matches, and winning matches means more coins.

### Abilities

Like almost everything in the world of gaming, the best things must be unlocked. As such, you only get one ability for free at the start of each round. This is important information if you are learning how to play Valorant. You will need to be patient and use your abilities wisely.

You can use your experience points to purchase an additional two abilities during the Buy Round. This means you need to use your abilities wisely. The result is a game that elevates tactics above spam kills.

As for the special ability, you cannot simply purchase this during the Buy Round. You have to earn a certain number of points. And how do you get these points? There are many ways. Points can be found around the map, earned by killing opponents and accumulated through the success of the whole team.

You’ll find all the traditional abilities you’ve experienced while playing CS:GO, Overwatch, and Apex Legends. And then you’ll discover many new sci-fi-themed abilities, such as the barrier building, like Sub Zero sculpting a wall of ice in Mortal Kombat.

### Weapons

If you want your kills to outnumber your deaths, you are going to need some serious firepower. The only way to make sure you are the victor is to have better weapons than everyone else.

But what’s in the Valorant war chest?

Fortunately, you don’t need to know how to play Valorant to enjoy this part of the game. The variety and detail show the developers’ craftmanship.

Each weapon is different. Some have serious stopping power. They can kill your opponent with one shot, but they are not especially accurate. This is a common trend in first-person shooters. What you gain in power, you lose in accuracy, and vice versa.

Here are some of the highlights:

The Operator has one-shot stopping power. It is a bit less accurate if used while the agent is moving, but it is a popular gun in the Valorant community.

The Marshal is a similar weapon, only more accurate. And this improvement also applies to firing while moving.

If you’re looking for an assault rifle, you could do a lot worse than the M4A4. It is a multipurpose weapon that gives you both rapid fire and relative accuracy.

And then there’s the Vandal. If you are looking for a weapon that is equivalent to the AK47, this here’s the gun for you.

Here’s the full list of weapons and their price tags:

**Sidearms**

Classic (free at the start of each round)

Shorty (150 Creds)

Frenzy (450 Creds)

Ghost (500 Creds)

Sheriff (800 Creds)

**Submachine guns**

Stinger (950 Creds)

Spectre (1,600 Creds)

**Shotguns**

Bucky (850 Creds)

Judge (1,850 Creds)

**Machine guns**

Ares (1,500 Creds)

Odin (3,200 Creds)

**Rifles**

Bulldog (2,050 Creds)

Guardian (2,250 Creds)

Phantom (2,900 Creds)

Vandal (2,900 Creds)

**Sniper Rifles**

Marshal (950 Creds)

Operator (4,700 Creds)

# Pro-tip for Using the Weapons: Remember the Recoil

It might not seem like something to be aware of. But even switching from one assault rifle to another can be a very different experience. This has a lot to do with recoil. If you know how the weapon will respond when it is fired, you can get better at using it. For example, if the recoil of your weapon makes you aim higher, you can remember to move the crosshairs down a touch each time you fire. So, if you miss the first shot, you are more likely to be successful with the second.

# Skills

Image suggestion: Something like a screen with a character’s abilities displayed, like this: <https://staticg.sportskeeda.com/editor/2020/06/1b4d8-15919624881972-800.jpg>

Despite what the older generations think, first-person shooters require a lot of dedication. But aside from this, there are some innate skills you’ll need to sharpen.

### What Skills Are Needed?

If you are thinking about how to play Valorant, this is a good place to start. Let’s begin with the qualities you may or may not possess.

An eye for accuracy, fast-twitch muscles, an ability to manage stress and anxiety, and a strategic mind. This is a good start. But these abilities will only get you so far.

You are gonna have to learn how to cooperate with the other members of the team. If you cannot put aside personal fame and your kill count, you might not be on the winning side at the end of the match.

Learn how to make a sacrifice and offer support that puts you in danger. In short, you need to be selfless when your team needs you.

## Is Valorant Difficult?

No, Valorant is not difficult, at least not when compared to other first-person shooters. Games like Counter-Strike: Global Offensive and Tom Clancy’s Rainbow Six Siege are often considered two of the more difficult games on the market. A lot of this has to do with their age. You see, these games have been around for a long time. The players know the game mechanics and the maps like the back of their own hands.

Valorant is much easier because the players are all learning how to play the game at the same time. Sure, some players are more experienced than others. But in the end, the game is much more inclusive. In fact, this is its defining feature.

Check out our article on another popular first-person shooter: Thank Us Later: We Ranked the Top Fortnite Players in 2021

# Key Takeaways

Valorant is one of the most popular online first-person shooter games on the market. It is both exciting and easy to pick up and play with no experience.

The many characters, abilities, and game modes make this a game that will keep users entertained for a very long time. And Riot Games is constantly adding new content, following a more frequent schedule of updates than many of its competitors.

If you are looking for a new first-person thrill for machines with low specs, Valorant ticks all the boxes.

If there is a drawback to the game, it is that players can only experience Valorant if they prefer to do their gaming on a Windows device. The game is not yet available for consoles. But this doesn’t make a lot of sense. Surely, Microsoft will release Valorant on the Xbox soon.