

= Angry Birds ( video game ) =

Angry Birds is a puzzle video game developed by Finnish computer game developer Rovio Mobile that started the Angry Birds franchise . Inspired primarily by a sketch of stylized wingless birds , the game was first released for iOS and Maemo in December 2009 . Since that time , over 12 million copies of the game have been purchased from the iOS App Store , which has prompted the company to design versions for other touchscreen @-@ based smartphones , most notably those using the Android , Symbian , Windows Phone and BlackBerry 10 operating systems . The series has since expanded to include titles for dedicated video game consoles and for PCs . A sequel named Angry Birds 2 was released on July 30 , 2015 @,@

In the game , players use a slingshot to launch birds at pigs stationed in or around various structures with the goal of destroying all the pigs on the playing field . As players advance through the game new types of birds become available , some with special abilities that can be activated by the player . Rovio Mobile has supported Angry Birds with numerous free updates that add additional game content , and the company has also released stand @-@ alone holiday and promotional versions of the game .

Angry Birds has been praised for its success for leveraging a combination of addictive gameplay , comical style , and low price into a viable franchise with long @-@ term potential for profit . The game 's popularity has led to the production of additional versions of Angry Birds for personal computers and gaming consoles , as well as a market for merchandise featuring its characters and even long @-@ term plans for a feature film or television series . With a combined tally of over 2 billion downloads across all platforms as of January 2014 , including both regular and special editions of the software , the game has been called " one of the most mainstream games out right now " , " one of the great runaway hits of 2010 " , and " the largest mobile app success the world has seen so far " .

= = Gameplay = =

In Angry Birds , the player controls a flock of multi @-@ colored birds that are attempting to retrieve their eggs , which have been stolen by a group of hungry green pigs . In each stage of the gameplay , enemy pigs are sheltered by structures made of various materials such as wood , glass , and stone resembling children 's toy building blocks . The objective of the game is to eliminate all the pigs on the level . Using a slingshot , players launch a limited set of birds with the goal of either striking the enemy pigs directly or damaging their surrounding structures , causing the blocks to collapse and squash the pigs . The player must set the angle and force of the bird 's travel by pulling back on the slingshot ( using intuitive touch @-@ controls in the mobile versions ) . The launch process is quick and casual , with no visible trajectory data , and a player simply selects a point in the X @-@ Y field behind the launch post from which the virtual slingshot will be released . In various stages of the game , additional objects such as TNT crates and rocks are incorporated into the structures , and power @-@ ups may be used to enhance the birds to attack hard @-@ to @-@ reach pigs .

There are several different types of birds used in the game , distinguished by their color and shape . In the earliest levels only the basic red bird is available . As the player advances through the game additional types of birds become available . Some birds are effective against particular materials , and some have special abilities that may be activated by the player while the bird is airborne . For example , a yellow bird speeds up , a blue bird fragments into three birds , a black bird explodes , a white bird can drop an egg @-@ shaped projectile , a pink bird can trap objects in bubbles , a green bird boomerangs back and an orange bird expands and inflates . The pigs also vary , with hardness relative to their size . Small pigs are weaker and are easily vanquished by direct hits or by debris from the damaged structures , while larger pigs are able to withstand more damage before succumbing to defeat . In addition , some pigs wear hats or armor , making them even more resistant to damage .

Each level starts with the quantity , types , and firing order of birds predetermined . If all of the pigs are eliminated after the last bird is launched , the level is completed and the next level is unlocked .

If all of the birds run out and the pigs are not killed , the level is incomplete and must be repeated . Points are scored for each pig killed as well as for damage to , or destruction of , structures , and hefty bonus points are awarded for any unused birds . Upon completing each level , players receive one , two , or three stars depending on the score received . Players may re @-@ attempt unlocked levels as many times as they wish in order to complete them successfully or to earn additional points to get more stars .

= = Development = =

In early 2009 , Rovio staff began reviewing proposals for potential games . One such proposal came from senior game designer Jaakko Iisalo in the form of a simulated screenshot featuring some angry @-@ looking birds with no visible legs or wings . While the picture gave no clue as to what type of game was being played , the staff liked the characters , and the team elected to design a game around them . In early 2009 , physics games , such as Crush the Castle , were popular flash @-@ based web games , so the Rovio team was inspired by these games . During the development of Angry Birds , the staff realized the birds needed an enemy . At the time , the " swine flu " epidemic was in the news , so the staff made the birds ' enemies pigs . Angry Birds was the studio 's 52nd produced game and on its initial release , the game didn 't sell many copies . After Angry Birds was a featured app on the UK App Store in February 2010 and quickly reached No.1 there , it reached the No. 1 spot on the paid apps chart in the US App Store in the middle of 2010 and then stayed there for 275 days . The initial cost to develop Angry Birds was estimated to exceed ? 100 @,@ 000 , not including costs for the subsequent updates . For the iOS version , Rovio partnered with distributor Chillingo to publish the game to the App Store . Chillingo claimed to have participated in final game polishing , such as adding visible trajectory lines , pinch to zoom , pigs ' grunts , birds ' somersaults on landing . Since then Rovio has self @-@ published almost all of the later ports of the game , with the exception of the PSP version , which was produced under license by Abstraction Games .

When Rovio began writing new versions of the game for other devices , new issues came to light . As the team began working on a version for Android systems , they observed the large number of configurations of device types and versions of the Android software . The number of combinations of software version , processor speed and even user interfaces was significantly larger than that for the iOS version . Ultimately , the team settled on a minimum set of requirements , even though that left nearly 30 types of Android phones unable to run the game , including some newly released phones . It was released on October 15 , 2010 . One month after the initial release on Android , Rovio Mobile began designing a lite version of the game for these other devices .

In early 2010 , Rovio began developing a version of Angry Birds for Facebook . The project became one of the company 's largest , with development taking over a year . The company understood the challenges of transplanting a game concept between social platforms and mobile / gaming systems . In a March 2011 interview , Rovio 's Peter Vesterbacka said , " you can ? t take an experience that works in one environment and one ecosystem and force @-@ feed it onto another . It 's like Zynga . They can ? t just take FarmVille and throw it on mobile and see what sticks . The titles that have been successful for them on mobile are the ones they ? ve built from the ground up for the platform . " The Facebook version incorporate social @-@ gaming concepts and in @-@ game purchases and entered beta @-@ testing in April 2011 ; the game became officially available on Facebook in February 2012 .

Improvements for the game include the ability to synchronize the player 's progress across multiple devices ; for example , a player who completes a level on an Android phone can log into their copy of the game on an Android tablet and see the same statistics and level of progress .

= = Release = =

The initial iOS version of the game included a single episode entitled " Poached Eggs " , which contained three themed chapters , each with 21 levels . From time to time , Rovio has released free

upgrades that include additional content , such as new levels , new in @-@ game objects and even new birds . As updates have been released , they have been incorporated into the game 's full version offered for download from each platform 's application store .

The first update released on February 11 , 2010 added a new episode called " Mighty Hoax " , containing two new chapters with 21 levels each . Updates released on April 6 , 2010 added the " Golden Eggs " feature , which placed hidden golden eggs throughout the game that would unlock bonus content when found , and a new episode called " Danger Above " , which initially contained a single chapter of 15 levels . Two later updates added two more chapters to " Danger Above " , each with 15 levels . " The Big Setup " episode , released on July 18 , 2010 , added a new chapter with 15 levels and additional Golden Egg levels . " The Big Setup " was later given two more chapters of 15 levels each .

A fifth episode , called " Ham ' Em High " , launched on December 23 , 2010 , in celebration of the game 's first year in the iOS App Store . " Ham ' Em High " contained 15 American Old West @-@ themed levels in a single chapter ; updates on February 4 , 2011 and March 18 , 2011 each added one new 15 @-@ level chapter . " Ham ' Em High " also introduced the Mighty Eagle , a new bird that may be used once per hour to clear any uncompleted levels . The Mighty Eagle can also be used in previously completed levels , without the once @-@ per @-@ hour limit , to play a mini @-@ game called " Total Destruction " in which the player attempts to destroy as much of the scenery as possible , both with the standard birds and the Mighty Eagle ; achieving 100 % destruction earns the player a Mighty Eagle feather for the level .

The Mighty Eagle is offered as a one @-@ time , in @-@ game purchase , and was initially only available for iOS , as its App Store customers have iTunes accounts with pre @-@ linked credit cards . In late 2011 , Rovio also added the Mighty Eagle to the Chrome App version of the game . Rovio has begun testing an Android update called the " Bad Piggy Bank " with the Elisa wireless service in Finland and T @-@ Mobile , which allows users to charge in @-@ app purchases , such as the Mighty Eagle , to their mobile phone bills . The service went live on Android with the release of version 2 @. @ 2 @. @ 0 in August 2012 , using Google Play 's transaction system , which allows both mobile billing and credit cards , allowing both Android phones and WiFi @-@ only tablets to unlock the features . This version also added the powerups from the Facebook version and added an option to pay to remove ads , allowing Android players to enjoy the game ad @-@ free as iOS players do .

The sixth episode , " Mine and Dine " , was released on June 16 , 2011 with 15 new mining @-@ themed levels and a new Golden Egg . An August 24 , 2011 update expanded " Mine and Dine " with two more 15 @-@ level chapters .

The seventh update , " Birdday Party " , was released on December 11 , 2011 to commemorate the second anniversary of the first release of the iOS version into the iTunes App Store . It included 15 new birthday cake @-@ theme levels , as well as updated graphics and the addition of elements from the spin @-@ off games , such as the scoring graphic seen in Angry Birds Rio and the introduction of the orange bird that first appeared in Angry Birds Seasons . The update was later released for Android and Microsoft Windows . The eighth update was released initially to iOS on March 20 , 2012 in a lead @-@ up to the release of Angry Birds Space . The new update included an animated tutorial , enhanced gameplay , all new UI graphics , and the first 15 levels of " Surf and Turf " , the Angry Birds Facebook @-@ exclusive episode ( see below ) ; another 15 levels were added later , with the iOS version receiving the power @-@ ups first seen in the Facebook version .

On October 9 , 2012 , the final chapter of " Surf and Turf " was released . Along with that , a new episode called " Bad Piggies " was released . This is to advertise the new Rovio game , Bad Piggies . Another update was released on December 11 , 2012 , the 3rd anniversary of the game 's release , with 15 new levels to " Birdday Party " and 15 new levels to " Bad Piggies " . The second set of 15 levels in " Birdday Party " introduced the Pink Bird to the game . 15 more levels were later released for the " Bad Piggies " episode on March 7 , 2013 . On the same day these final 15 levels were released , Angry Birds became " Free App of the Week " on the Apple App Store until March 14 , and became an instant hit on the Top Free App charts on the App Store until March 18 , when the app returned to the normal price of \$ 0 @. @ 99 .

On June 17 , 2013 , Rovio teased on its Facebook page that Red , the main protagonist of the game , would receive an ability in a new episode . On June 26 , Rovio released a YouTube video , uncovering three new facts : the episode would be called Red 's Mighty Feathers , the update would come in July , and the Angry Birds app icon would receive a new design . On July 3 , 2013 , the update was released , with fifteen levels of all @-@ new gameplay . Instead of knocking over the pigs ' castles , your goal is to keep the pigs from stealing the egg and leaving the playing field with it . The pigs arrive in waves of complicated vehicles , and the only available bird is Red , whose new ability is to target the nearest pig . There is no score , and the three stars are awarded by completing three objectives in one try . The first objective is to finish the level without getting your egg stolen . The second is to pop all the pigs in the level . The third is to use fewer than or equal to a certain amount of birds to clear the level . Because some people were skeptical about the new gameplay , Rovio later announced that they would add levels to the episode based on the original level style . On September 16 , 2013 , Rovio added 15 levels to the episode using the original style and these levels include manual targeting for Red Bird .

On November 26 , 2013 , Rovio added a 30 @-@ level episode called Short Fuse that transforms the Bomb 's explosions into highly @-@ destructive electrical pulses , adds a powerup that transforms any Bird into a Bomb Bird and 3 different potions that can change the pigs . On December 11 , 2013 , Rovio added 15 levels to episode Birthday Party ( cake 4 ) to celebrate its fourth birthday . On March 4 , 2014 , 15 levels were added to Short Fuse and the power @-@ up icons were updated . On July 22 , 2014 , a 15 @-@ level episode called " Flock Favorites " that is inspired by fans ' favorite episodes ( Poached Eggs , Danger Above , Mine and Dine , Bad Piggies , Red 's Mighty Feathers , Short Fuse , Surf and Turf ) was added .

On November 23 , 2014 , in partnership with ( RED ) and Apple Inc . , an update to the app were was exclusive to iOS . In this update , there was added special ( RED ) -themed Golden Egg level and Red 's power from the Red 's Mighty Feathers episode as an stand alone power @-@ up , that when purchased , can be used forever ( 1 use per level ) and 100 % of the money went to the Global Fund to end AIDS . This purchase was only available until December 7 .

On December 11 , 2014 , in honor of the Angry Birds ' 5th birthday , an episode with 30 user @-@ inspired levels was added . On June 23 , 2015 , Flock Favorites was added with 15 levels inspired by previous episodes . On December 11 , 2015 , in honor of Angry Birds 6th birthday , new 15 levels were added to Birthday Party .

== = Ports == =

Since its initial release for the Nokia N900 multimedia Internet device , and Apple 's iPhone and iPod Touch mobile digital devices , Rovio has released versions of Angry Birds for additional devices . An iPad @-@ exclusive version , Angry Birds HD , released with the iPad mobile digital device in April 2010 . In August 2010 , Angry Birds was made available to the Palm Pre phone running Palm 's webOS operating system through its App Catalog online store . Symbian ^ 3 phones received a version of the game in October 2010 , which initially includes only the " Poached Eggs " and " Mighty Hoax " episodes . Angry Birds works on Kindle Fire and Kindle Fire HD .

In May 2010 , Rovio announced plans for a version for devices using Google 's Android operating system , with a beta version being released through the Android Market ( now Google Play ) in September 2010 . The full Android version of the game was first released instead on GetJar in October 2010 , though it was subsequently released on Android Market within days . Rovio officials noted that GetJar had a more global reach than Android Market , and GetJar 's availability on other smartphone platforms ( including Symbian ) would make cross @-@ platform promotion of the game easier . Unlike the previous versions , Angry Birds for Android is a free , ad @-@ supported application , as paid applications aren 't available on Android in some nations . An update called " Bad Piggy Bank " enabled players to buy out the in @-@ game ads .

In October 2010 , Microsoft suggested on one of its websites that a Windows Phone version of Angry Birds was in development . Rovio complained that Microsoft had not asked permission to make such a statement , noting that at that time it had not committed to design a Windows Phone

version . Although Rovio asked Microsoft to revise its site to remove references to the game , a Windows Phone version was ultimately released in June 2011 .

Near the end of 2010 , Rovio stated that it was developing new ports of the game , this time for devices outside of the mobile phone market . In January 2011 , three of those ports launched . First , Sony announced the release of Angry Birds for its PlayStation Portable handheld system in the form of a PlayStation mini game that includes nearly 200 levels from the original game ; the version is also playable on the PlayStation 3 . Next , Rovio announced the release of a Windows version of the game on January 4 , 2011 , available for sale exclusively from the Intel AppUp center , which included 195 levels at launch and plans for exclusive features not available on the smartphone versions . One day after the Windows version was released , the Mac App Store launched , with one of the first offerings being its own version of Angry Birds . Ports of Angry Birds have also been proposed for the Wii and Nintendo DS systems , and a 3D @-@ enhanced version of the game was proposed for release on the LG Optimus 3D in October 2011 .

The popularity of Angry Birds has helped spread the game to other devices that were not initially designed as gaming machines . Barnes & Noble announced that a future update for its Nook Color e @-@ reader will let the Android @-@ based device run applications , including a port of Angry Birds . In June 2011 , Rovio announced plans to partner with Roku to include a version of Angry Birds on a new model of its Internet @-@ connected set @-@ top box , the Roku 2 XS .

In May 2011 , an in @-@ browser HTML5 version of Angry Birds was released in beta form . The game uses WebGL or Canvas and is distributed through the Chrome Web Store for use with Google 's Chrome web browser . It runs on any WebGL- or Canvas @-@ enabled browser , and features exclusive content when played on Chrome , such as exclusive levels and the so @-@ called " Chrome Bombs " . The version includes offline playability and features 60 FPS gameplay with a selection of graphics settings to accommodate a variety of hardware capabilities .

In October 2011 , during Nokia World 2011 , it was announced that Angry Birds would come preloaded in Nokia 's Asha series of Series 40 touch handsets , aimed at emerging markets such as India , China and South Africa . In December 2011 , Rovio released Angry Birds HD , Angry Birds Seasons HD and Angry Birds Rio HD on the BlackBerry PlayBook tablet from Research In Motion . In January 2012 , Angry Birds was released for devices using Bada OS .

In February 2012 , Angry Birds made its official debut on Facebook . It is known as Angry Birds Friends since May 23 , 2012 . The version launched with two chapters from the original game , along with then exclusive " Surf and Turf " chapter . The Facebook version adds a number of new power @-@ up items , with a maximum of two in use per level . For example , the Super Seeds power @-@ up will make the launched bird larger and thus more powerful , while the King Sling power @-@ up makes the slingshot stronger and able to launch birds higher and faster . Power @-@ ups can be purchased in @-@ game or given by friends who also play the game . " Surf and Turf " would later be included in the original mobile versions of the game , starting with iOS . The Facebook version features weekly tournaments among your friends , with the top 3 winners earning free in @-@ game " Bird Coins " which can be used to purchase power @-@ ups . There was a unique Green Day themed chapter , however it was removed in December 2012 .

At the 2012 Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles , California , Rovio and distribution partner Activision announced plans to bring Angry Birds and two of its spin @-@ off games , Angry Birds Seasons and Angry Birds Rio to the PlayStation 3 , Xbox 360 and Nintendo 3DS systems . Bundled together as Angry Birds Trilogy , the games will be built specifically for their respective consoles , taking advantage of their unique features , such as support for PlayStation Move , Kinect , high @-@ definition displays and glasses @-@ free 3D visuals .

It is also available for Nintendo 3DS , Wii and Wii U as part of Angry Birds Trilogy .

A motion controlled version of the game has also been released as a Samsung Smart TV App .

= = Episodes = =

Total levels : 602 ( 555 levels in original mode , 15 Egg Defender levels and 32 Golden Eggs and it is excluding The Red Special )

= = Reception = =

Reviews for Angry Birds have been mostly positive . Chris Holt of Macworld called the game " an addictive , clever , and challenging puzzler " , and Pocket Gamer 's Keith Andrew said Angry Birds is " a nugget of puzzling purity dished out with relish aplenty " . Jonathan Liu of Wired News wrote that " going for the maximum number of stars certainly adds a lot of replay value to a fairly extensive game " .

Reviews for the first versions of the game that did not use a touch @-@ screen , the PlayStation 3 / PSP version and the Windows version , have also been positive , but with some disagreement over the different interfaces . Will Greenwald of PC Magazine , in his review of the PlayStation Network version , said that the control scheme on these platforms is good , " but they 're not nearly as satisfying as the touch @-@ screen controls found on smartphone versions " , and that the PlayStation 3 version appeared " blocky and unpleasant , like a smartphone screen blown up to HDTV size " . Conversely , Greg Miller of IGN preferred the analog control setup of the PSP version , saying it " offered me tiny variances in control that I don 't feel like I get with my fat finger on a screen " . While giving the game a positive review , Miller concluded , " There 's no denying that Angry Birds is fun , but it could use polish ? such as sharper visuals , a better price and smoother action . " Damien McFerrin of British website Electric Pig reviewed the PC version , saying " the mouse @-@ driven control method showcases many distinct advantages over its finger @-@ focused counterpart " .

Angry Birds has also been described critically as impossible to understand the playing rules criteria by game critic Chris Schiller of Eurogamer.net , which has ' a contemptuous attitude towards its players , keeping them just frustrated enough not to switch off and play something else instead.'

Angry Birds became the top @-@ selling paid application on Apple 's UK App Store in February 2010 , and reached the top spot on the US App Store a few weeks later , where it remained until October 2010 . Since release , the free , limited version of Angry Birds has been downloaded more than 11 million times for Apple 's iOS , and the full @-@ featured paid version has been downloaded nearly 7 million times as of September 2010 . The Android version of the game was downloaded more than 1 million times within the first 24 hours of release , even though the site crashed at one point due to the load , and over 2 million downloads in its first weekend . Rovio receives approximately US \$ 1 million per month in revenue from the advertising that appears in the free Android version .

According to Rovio , players log more than 5 million hours of game time each day across all platforms , along with 200 million monthly active users . In November 2010 , Digital Trends stated that " with 36 million downloads , Angry Birds is one of the most mainstream games out right now " . MSNBC 's video game news blog has written that " [ n ] o other game app comes close " to having such a following . The Christian Science Monitor has remarked , " Angry Birds has been one of the great runaway hits of 2010 " . In December 2010 , in honor of the one @-@ year anniversary of the release of Angry Birds , Rovio Mobile announced that the game had been downloaded 50 million times , with more than 12 million on iOS devices and 10 million on Android . By January 2014 , the game had reached 2 billion downloads , including Angry Birds , Angry Birds Seasons , Angry Birds Rio , Angry Birds Space , Angry Birds Star Wars I & II and Angry Birds Go ! . On Christmas Day 2011 alone , 6 @-@ 5 million copies of the various Angry Birds games were downloaded across all supported platforms .

In the history of the Apple App Store , Angry Birds holds the record for most days at the top of the Paid Apps chart , having spent a total of 275 days at the No.1 position ; Angry Birds Rio has been No.1 for a total of 23 days , ranking ninth on the list . In Apple 's " iTunes Rewind " list of the most popular iTunes Store media for 2011 , Angry Birds was the top @-@ selling paid iPhone / iPod app on the App Store and its free version was the fourth @-@ most downloaded . The game 's two special @-@ edition versions , Angry Birds Seasons and Angry Birds Rio , were also ranked in the top 10 for paid iPhone / iPod apps , while its iPad @-@ exclusive Angry Birds HD versions were the top @-@ selling and top @-@ downloaded iPad apps for the year . Mattel also made a few board

games based on the app . These were called Angry Birds : Knock on Wood , Angry Birds : On Thin Ice and Angry Birds : Mega Smash .

= = = Awards = = =

In February 2010 , Angry Birds was a nominee for the " Best Casual Game " award at the 6th annual International Mobile Gaming Awards in Barcelona , Spain . In September 2010 , IGN named Angry Birds as the fourth best iPhone game of all time . In April 2011 , Angry Birds won both the " Best Game App " and " App of the Year " at the UK Appy Awards . At the 2011 Webby Awards , Angry Birds was awarded " Best Game for Handheld Devices " .