

= What 's Cooking ? with Jamie Oliver =

What 's Cooking ? with Jamie Oliver is a cooking video game for the Nintendo DS narrated by celebrity chef Jamie Oliver . It was developed and published by Atari , Inc . (Atari , SA subsidiary) and released in North America on October 21 , 2008 , and in Europe on October 24 .

The game features several recipes , each listing preparation times , ingredients and courses . In addition , What 's Cooking ? can be used as a shopping list to remind players what items to purchase , and it can act as a timer to count down from a specified time and make an audible sound when it is done .

The game was first revealed by Atari at the Games Convention 2008 . The game was poorly received after its release ; video game critics gave it an aggregated score of 49 % at Metacritic . Reviewers generally agreed that presenting a cooking guide as a video game was a good idea , but they found that the game was poorly executed and mediocre as a result .

= = Gameplay = =

What 's Cooking ? is an interactive cookbook and food preparation video game with recipes that each list preparation times , ingredients and courses . Recipes can be sorted by criteria such as dishes that take less than 20 minutes to prepare , or vegetarian @-@ only meals . After opening a recipe , an ingredient list is presented . Items on the list can be earmarked and added to a shopping list as a reminder to purchase in the future . A timer option is also available , which counts down from a specified time and makes an audible sound when it is done . Before doing any real cooking , a virtual representation of each step in the recipe is given on the screen that must be performed by the player . The Nintendo DS touchscreen and stylus are used to perform tasks such as whisking eggs , pouring sauces and cutting vegetables . Tutorials are also available to teach the player how to perform simple cooking preparation tasks . While cooking , the Nintendo DS responds to audible commands ; saying " next " into the device 's microphone will move the recipe on to the next step . One hundred recipes are included in the game , and players can create their own dishes in the game . Afterward , they can share them with others via Wi @-@ Fi . In addition to the game 's cooking aspects , What 's Cooking ? features challenges in which the player uses the stylus to chop , stir , and serve as quickly as possible .

= = Development = =

What 's Cooking ? was first revealed by Atari at the Games Convention 2008 . The game is narrated by Jamie Oliver . In an interview with Official Nintendo Magazine , Oliver noted that he tries to make his games as " three dimensional as possible " , and he wanted to " make it relevant " to the player . The developers also wanted to make the game as interactive as possible .

= = Reception = =

What 's Cooking ? was generally poorly received by video game critics , receiving a 49 % aggregated score on Metacritic . IGN 's Daemon Hatfield called disguising a cooking tutorial as a video game a " pretty brilliant idea " , but only as long as it was done well . He stated that both the cookbook and food preparation halves of the game were not strong enough to make the game worth purchasing . Hatfield commented that the game 's controls are " terribly unintuitive , and the cookbook doesn 't offer anything its physical counterpart can 't for cheaper " . He was also disappointed that there were no pictures to illustrate each step , and not every cooking process is explained . Eurogamer 's Ellie Gibson was satisfied with the number of recipes available , most of which were " pretty easy to follow " . Gibson , however , preferred to see instructional videos to observe how a recipe was made before making it .

In their review of the game , Official Nintendo Magazine commented that the stylus @-@ controlled cooking tutorials are not user @-@ friendly , and the recipe sharing is as good as it could be since

players can only use ingredients and methods from recipes that they have unlocked through playing the game . They felt that the game attempts to appeal to gamers rather than aspiring chefs , concluding , " [The game has] some great recipes but the experience is marred by some fiddly cooking games . "