

= Slackers CDs and Games =

Slackers CDs and Games , often shortened to Slackers , is a small chain of entertainment retailers located in the Midwestern United States . The store specializes in both new and used video games and music . It was founded in 1993 in Columbia , Missouri by Kurt Jellinek and Paul Zacharias , originally as a music store . The store is known for selling local independent music , its collection of classic games , and for giving a lot of credit for trade @-@ ins . In 2007 , the store raised some controversy for stockpiling Nintendo Wiis . As of 2009 , there are 10 locations in Missouri and Illinois .

Jellinek has said that the name " Slackers " comes from being a slacker in college ? playing video games and listening to music during their free time . A new store would be opened every few years , in various separate locations , so as not to lose business by placing two stores close together . Jellinek and Zacharias manage the chain of stores with a hands @-@ on approach .

= = History = =

The original idea behind Slackers first occurred in 1990 . Along with some friends , Kurt Jellinek and Paul Zacharias went to a Don Henley concert , and began thinking about owning their own music store . At the time , the two were undergraduate students , and decided to focus their studies on business management and becoming entrepreneurs . Slackers CDs and Games was officially founded in 1993 , by Jellinek and Zacharias , in Columbia , Missouri . Jellinek and Zacharias opened the store after graduating from Saint Louis University , using only their own collection of 1 @,@ 500 music CDs . The name originated from their generation being considered slackers before being given a chance to prove otherwise . Although business was slow at first , with the store sometimes only making US \$ 30 in a day , business eventually increased . After 2 years they were able to open a second location in O 'Fallon , Illinois . As of 2009 , there are 10 locations in the states of Missouri and Illinois , eight of which are in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area , and two of which are in Mid @-@ Missouri .

= = Praise and criticism = =

Slackers CDs and Games won an award for best used CD store in 2006 from the Riverfront Times . The Times cited its collection of vinyl records and independent and rare music CDs as the basis for the award .

Since the store buys video games from all consoles , it is known for its collection of classic titles . However , they do not require the box or manual for cartridge based games .

The store is also known for giving more credit for trade @-@ ins than its competitors . In 2005 , Vox Magazine had the same four games (Halo , Metal Gear Solid 3 , NHL 2004 , and Madden NFL 2005) priced at EB Games , Game Crazy , and Slackers CDs and Games , with the trade @-@ in values being \$ 16 @.@ 50 , \$ 26 @.@ 82 , and \$ 45 respectively .

= = = Wii Controversy = = =

On December 20 , 2007 , the store raised some controversy when Ars Technica reported that the chain was stockpiling Nintendo Wii systems to sell at a higher profit while telling retail customers that the chain did not have any systems in stock , and were not expecting any .

On December 21 , 2007 , Kurt Jellinek responded on the Slackers website by stating that the article was sensationalist and misleading . Jellinek said that , of the 44 units the chain had , five were sold on eBay for \$ 399 @.@ 99 , with a couple of units still in stock , and 35 were held for specific customers and sold at the MSRP . The remainder were given away .

Some sites believe this may violate Nintendo 's enforcement of the Wii 's \$ 249 retail price , and may prevent the store from receiving future products from Nintendo . Nintendo has refused to comment on the issue .

