

Plants vs. Zombies

Plants vs. Zombies is a video game franchise developed by PopCap Games, a subsidiary of Electronic Arts (EA). The first game, *Plants vs. Zombies*, was developed and released by PopCap before its acquisition by EA. After PopCap Games's acquisition, EA helped expand the game into a franchise on many platforms and few different genres.

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History

Main series

On April 1, 2009, PopCap released a music video for the song "Zombies on your Lawn" to promote *Plants vs. Zombies*.^[1] A PopCap spokesperson, Garth Chouteau, revealed in an *IGN* interview that *Plants vs. Zombies* would be released soon on PC and Mac.^[2] On April 22, 2009, PopCap released an official game trailer of *Plants vs. Zombies* on YouTube.^{[3][4]} During the promotion of *Plants vs. Zombies*, PopCap released a demo version of the game that allowed you to play the game for thirty minutes.^[5] *Plants vs. Zombies* was officially released on May 5, 2009, for PC and Mac.^[6]

PopCap Games and its assets were bought by EA on July 12, 2011, for 750 million dollars.^[7] Fifty employees were laid off in the Seattle studio of PopCap Games on August 21, 2012, to mark a switch of focus to mobile and social gaming.^[8]

On August 20, 2012, PopCap announced that they were working on a sequel to *Plants vs. Zombies*.^[9] Its release date would be set at late spring of 2013.^[10] However, the game's status was in doubt shortly after the announcement when the company went through a period of layoffs.^[8]












In May 2013, PopCap Games released a trailer revealing a sequel to the first game, titled *Plant vs. Zombies 2*:

Plants vs. Zombies



Genre(s)	<u>Tower defense game</u> (Mainline games) <u>Third-person shooter</u> (<i>Garden Warfare</i> games) <u>Digital collectible card game</u> (<i>Plants vs. Zombies Heroes</i>)
Developer(s)	<u>PopCap Games</u>
Publisher(s)	<u>Electronic Arts</u>
Creator(s)	<u>George Fan</u>
Platform(s)	<u>Microsoft Windows</u> <u>OS X</u> <u>iOS</u> <u>Xbox 360</u> <u>PlayStation 3</u> <u>Nintendo DS</u> <u>DSiWare</u> <u>Android</u> <u>Windows Phone</u> <u>PlayStation Vita</u> <u>BlackBerry Tablet OS</u> <u>BlackBerry 10</u> <u>Xbox One</u> <u>PlayStation 4</u> <u>Nintendo Switch</u>
First release	<i>Plants vs. Zombies</i> May 5, 2009
Latest release	<i>Plants vs. Zombies: Battle for Neighborville</i> October 18, 2019

Release timeline

2009		<u><i>Plants vs. Zombies</i></u>
2010		
2011		
2012		
2013		<u><i>Plants vs. Zombies 2</i></u>
2014		<u><i>Plants vs. Zombies: Garden Warfare</i></u>
2015		
2016		<u><i>Plants vs. Zombies: Garden Warfare 2</i></u> <u><i>Plants vs. Zombies Heroes</i></u>
2017		
2018		
2019		<u><i>Plants vs. Zombies: Battle for Neighborville</i></u>

It's About Time.^{[11][12]} The game was soft-launched for the iOS in Australia and New Zealand on July 10, 2013^[13] and was officially released on August 14, 2013, as a freemium title.^[14] The game featured new locations and plants along with the addition of plant food, a power-up that can be used to enhance a plant for a short period and can either be bought using in-game currency or acquired by defeating zombies that are glowing green.^[15]

In July 2019, EA announced *Plants vs. Zombies 3*, another free-to-play mobile title in the series. It was launched in a pre-alpha state for Android in July 2019.^{[16][17]} The game soft-launched in February 2020 in the Philippines, Romania, and Ireland.^[18] It was then made unavailable in October 2020, becoming unplayable in November 2020. EA has plans to release an improved version of the game in the future.^[19]

Spin-offs

A spin-off called *Plants vs. Zombies Adventures* was announced in March 2013^[20] and was released on May 20, 2013, on Facebook. The game added new locations and new plants. It also had a gameplay feature in which the player had a limited amount of plants and had to grow more plants at an in-game farm.^[21] In July 2014, it was announced that *Plants vs. Zombies Adventures* would close down on October 12, 2014.^[22]

Plants vs. Zombies: Garden Warfare was announced at E3 2013 as a multiplayer third-person shooter game developed for PC and consoles.^{[23][24]} *Plants vs. Zombies: Garden Warfare* was released on February 25, 2014, in North America and on February 27, 2014, in Europe.^[25] A sequel, *Plants vs. Zombies: Garden Warfare 2*, was teased in June 2015 and officially announced at E3 2015.^{[26][27]} The game was released on February 23, 2016.^[28] On March 10, 2016, PopCap announced *Plants vs. Zombies Heroes*, a digital collectible card game in the style of tower defense. It was soft released to certain countries on the same day,^[29] and was fully released internationally on October 18, 2016.^[30]

In August 2019, a closed beta of a follow-up to *Plant vs. Zombies: Garden Warfare 2* codenamed "Picnic" was made available to select players through invites.^[31] On September 4, 2019, EA announced the game under the title *Plants vs. Zombies: Battle for Neighborville*. It was released at an early access state that same date. The game was fully released on October 18, 2019.^{[32][33]}

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External links

- Official website (<https://www.ea.com/ea-studios/popcap/plants-vs-zombies>)
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