

VIDEO GAME timeline

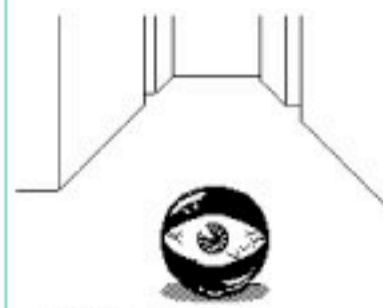
As the world of video games continue to evolve, we take a look back at popular consoles and video games that helped make Nintendo, Sony, and Microsoft the giants they are today



1972
The world's first home video game console, the Magnavox Odyssey, sold 330,000 units in it's lifetime



1974
Gran Trak 10, the first racing arcade game, is released. It is the first arcade game to use ROM.



1974
Maze Wars is released. Considered to be the earliest first person shooter.



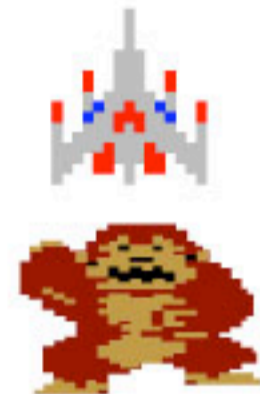
1977
Nintendo releases Color TV Game 6, packing 6 variations of "Light Tennis" (pong)



1979
Notable Releases: Asteroids Lunar Lander Monaco GP Flight Simulator



1980
Notable Releases: Pac-Man Missile Command Defender Centipede



1981
Notable Releases: Galaga Donkey Kong Frogger



1983
Nintendo releases the Family Computer console in Japan and is later released in the United State as the Nintendo Entertainment System; 62 million units sold

1984
Notable Releases: Dragon Buster Tetris Balloon Fight Gauntlet 1942 Paperboy



1986
Notable Releases: The Legend of Zelda Out Run Bubble Bobble Dragon Quest Metroid



1988
The Sega Mega Drive (Sega Genesis in the US) is released. Sega's most successful console sold 29 million units

Notable Releases: Altered Beast Super Mario Bros. 3 Power Pad



1990
Nintendo releases the Super Famicom (SNES), the best selling console of the 16-bit era sold 49 million units

Other Releases: Neo Geo Game Genie TurboExpress Bonk's Adventure Super Mario World F-Zero

1993
Notable Releases: Ridge Racer Star Fox Virtua Fighter Atari Jaguar 3DO



1996
Nintendo releases the N64. The last significant cartridge based home console was released in colors, it sold 33 million units sold

Other Releases: Resident Evil Crash Bandicoot Sega Super GT



1994
Notable Releases: Killer Instinct Virtua Fighter Earthworm Jim



2000
Sony releases the PS2, 138 million units sold and is the best selling console to date

Other Releases: Perfect Dark Chrono Cross Shies of Arcadia



2001
With their first venture into the video game console market, Microsoft releases the XBOX, 24 million units sold



2004
Sony releases the first handheld console to use an optical disc, the Playstation Portable



2005
Microsoft releases its second console, the Xbox 360

Other Releases: Gran Turismo 4 Guitar Hero

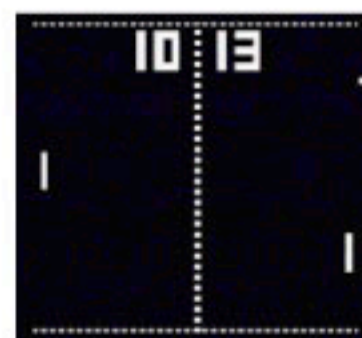


2009
Nintendo releases the Nintendo DSi and Sony releases the PSP Go.

1st Generation



1967
German-born television engineer Ralph Baer and his coworkers design the first video-game console that works on a standard television and dub it "Brown Box". They develop a chase game, allowing players to control two squares chasing each other on the screen. A modified toy gun is made and able to distinguish spots of light on the screen. 12 Other games are made



1972
One of the earliest arcade video games, PONG, is a simple tennis game that became the first commercially successful video game



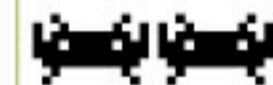
1976
Atari releases Break-out. The prototype was designed by Apple cofounders Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak. Blackberry's current variant is called Brick Breaker



1977
Atari releases the Video Game Computer System (Atari 2600 or UCS). It is the most successful video game console of its time



1980
Mattel releases the Intellivision video console; releasing a total of 125 games during it's lifetime



1978
Notable Releases: Space Invaders Space Wars Bee Gee



1977
Atari opens the first Pizza Time Theatre (later Chuck E. Cheese's), a video arcade pizzeria



1982
Notable Releases: Q-Bert Tron Megamania Dig Dug Pole Position Joust



1983
Sega Releases the SG-1000 to the Japanese market finding only minor success



1985
Nintendo releases the NES in the US. Super Mario Bros. is released and sells 10 million copies before year's end, eventually being the top selling video game until 2008 with 40 million copies sold



1986
Sega releases the Sega Master System as a competitor to the NES



1987
Notable Releases: Megaman Street Fighter Metal Gear Final Lap Castlemania Contra Final Fantasy Phantasy Star Maniac Mansion



1989
Bundled with Tetris, Nintendo releases the Game Boy and is an instant success; selling 118 million world wide

Also Released: Power Glove TurboGrafx-16 Prince of Persia



1991
Notable Releases: Road Rash Street Fighter II Tecmo Super Bowl Sonic the Hedgehog Sega CD

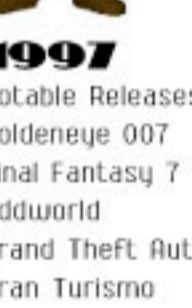


1992
Notable Releases: Mortal Kombat Virtua Racing Kirby's Dream Land Mario Kart Air Combat Philips CD-i



1994
Sony releases the PlayStation Console and is heavily influences the end of the cartridge; 125 million units sold.

Other releases: Sega Saturn Neo Geo CD Sega 32X



1997
Notable Releases: Goldeneye 007 Final Fantasy 7 Oddworld Grand Theft Auto Gran Turismo

1999
Sega releases the Dreamcast. Considered to be ahead of its time and the pioneer of online gaming, the Dreamcast sold 10.6 million units



2001
Nintendo releases the Gameboy Advance. With several different variants and colors, 81 million are sold

Other Releases: Paper Mario Devil May Cry Halo



2001
Nintendo releases the Gamecube. Nintendo's first console to use optical discs; 21 million units sold

2002
Notable Releases: SOCOM Animal Crossing Kingdom Hearts Uice City Splinter Cell Medal of Honor



2004
Nintendo releases the Nintendo DS sporting a touchscreen and stylus

Other Releases: Fable Halo 2



2006
The Sony Playstation 3 and the Nintendo Wii are released just 8 days apart from each other; both enter the 3 way console war

2nd Generation

3rd Generation

4th Generation

5th Generation

6th Generation

7th Generation