OK TO PLAY?

Check the Ratings on Every Computer & Video Game Box

Rating Symbols on the Front of the Box

Early Childhood — may be suitable for ages 3 and older. Contains no material that parents would find inappropriate.

Everyone — may be suitable for ages 6 and older. Titles in this category may contain minimal cartoon, fantasy or mild violence and/or infrequent use of mild language.

Everyone 10+ — may be suitable for ages 10 and older. Titles in this category may contain more cartoon, fantasy or mild violence, mild language and/or minimal suggestive themes.

Teen — may be suitable for ages 13 and older. Titles in this category may contain violence, suggestive themes, crude humor, minimal blood, simulated gambling and/or infrequent use of strong language.

Mature — may be suitable for ages 17 and older. Titles in this category may contain intense violence, blood and gore, sexual content and/or strong language.

Adults Only — should only be played by persons 18 years and older. Titles in this category may include prolonged scenes of intense violence and/or graphic sexual content and nudity.

Rating Pending — title has been submitted to the ESRB and is awaiting final rating. (This symbol appears only in advertising prior to a game's release.)

Content Descriptors on the Back of the Box

(See reverse side of this detachable card for a complete listing of content descriptors.)

For more information about the ESRB ratings, go to **www.ESRB.org**

Helpful Tips for Parents

> **Check the ratings.** Use both ESRB rating symbols and content descriptors to select appropriate games for your children. Before you go shopping, visit **www.esrb.org** for specific ratings information.

> **Consider your child's personality, maturity and abilities.** Video game ratings provide guidance. Parents should use this knowledge to help them decide which games are appropriate for their children.

> **Don't stop at the ratings.** Speak to older children and other parents, rent before purchasing, read game reviews, and try out demos of games online or in stores where games are sold.

> **Play video games with your children.** Playing or observing helps you understand your child's video game experience, while providing a fun parent/child activity.

> **Use parental controls.** Newer video game systems allow parents to restrict specific game content by rating. Check with the manufacturer of your video game system for more information, or ask a video game retail sales associate about the availability of parental controls.

> **Be cautious with "online-enabled" games.** Many popular games can be played with friends (and strangers) over the Internet. Often, these games contain live chat or other user-generated content that is not rated by the ESRB and may not be consistent with the rating assigned to the game.

> **Be aware of "mods" that can change a game.** Downloadable programs ("mods") can alter game content and the game's age-appropriateness. Some mods can contain viruses or spyware, making them dangerous to your family computer.

> **Set household media-use rules.** Establish rules for your children and encourage open communication about their media use so they recognize what you feel is inappropriate content.

For more parent information, tips and resources on computer and video games, visit **www.esrb.org/about/resources.aspx.**

Some video games are for kids. Some aren't.

CHECK THE RATINGS ON EVERY COMPUTER AND VIDEO GAME BOX TO HELP CHOOSE THE RIGHT GAMES FOR YOUR FAMILY.

ESRB
ENTERTAINMENT SOFTWARE RATING BOARD

A Message from Glenn Coffee,

Oklahoma State Senator
Co-President Pro Tempore, Oklahoma State Senate

Do you know what's in that computer or video game your child wants to buy or rent? Just as with movies and TV shows, today's video games are made for players of all ages, which means that some have content that may not be suitable for all children.

That is why I want you, the parents, to know that there is a way for you to make informed decisions about which games are right for your families—the video game rating system.

In this brochure, developed in collaboration with my office and the Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB), you will find all the information you need to understand the rating system and determine which games are appropriate for your child. Additionally, some of the newest video game consoles can be programmed using the rating system to play only the games you've selected.

I encourage you to use this rating system. It's a powerful tool to help you and your family make the most of your computer and video game entertainment.

Glenn Coffee

About the ESRB & the Computer & Video Game Rating System

In order to make informed purchase decisions, parents should check the ESRB rating on every computer or video game box. The Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB) is a non-profit, self-regulatory body established in 1994 by the Entertainment Software Association™ (ESA). The ESRB independently assigns ratings for computer and video games and enforces advertising guidelines adopted by the interactive entertainment software industry.

CHECK THE RATINGS *ON EVERY* VIDEO GAME BOX.

The ESRB rating system has two parts:

Rating Symbols (printed on the front of game packages) suggest age appropriateness;

Content Descriptors (printed on the back) indicate elements in a game that may have triggered a particular rating and/or may be of interest or concern.

Parents and other consumers can search for rating information before they go shopping by visiting **www.esrb.org.**

ESRB Content Descriptors & Definitions

Alcohol Reference	Reference to and/or images of alcoholic beverages
Animated Blood	Discolored and/or unrealistic depictions of blood
Blood	Depictions of blood
Blood and Gore	Depictions of blood or the mutilation of body parts
Cartoon Violence	Violent actions involving cartoon-like situations and characters. May include violence where a character is unharmed after the action has been inflicted
Comic Mischief	Depictions or dialogue involving slapstick or suggestive humor
Crude Humor	Depictions or dialogue involving vulgar antics, including "bathroom" humor
Drug Reference	Reference to and/or images of illegal drugs
Fantasy Violence	Violent actions of a fantasy nature, involving human or non-human characters in situations easily distinguishable from real life
Intense Violence	Graphic and realistic-looking depictions of physical conflict. May involve extreme and/or realistic blood, gore, weapons and depictions of human injury and death
Language	Mild to moderate use of profanity
Lyrics	Mild references to profanity, sexuality, violence, alcohol or drug use in music
Mature Humor	Depictions or dialogue involving "adult" humor, including sexual references
Nudity	Graphic or prolonged depictions of nudity
Partial Nudity	Brief and/or mild depictions of nudity
Real Gambling	Player can gamble, including betting or wagering real cash or currency
Sexual Content	Non-explicit depictions of sexual behavior, possibly including partial nudity
Sexual Themes	References to sex or sexuality
Sexual Violence	Depictions of rape and/or other violent sexual acts
Simulated Gambling	Player can gamble without betting or wagering real cash or currency
Strong Language	Explicit and/or frequent use of profanity
Strong Lyrics	Explicit and/or frequent references to profanity, sex, violence, alcohol or drug use in music
Strong Sexual Content	Explicit and/or frequent depictions of sexual behavior, possibly including nudity
Suggestive Themes	Mild provocative references or materials
Tobacco Reference	Reference to and/or images of tobacco products
Use of Alcohol	The consumption or use of alcoholic beverages
Use of Drugs	The consumption or use of illegal drugs
Use of Tobacco	The consumption or use of tobacco products
Violence	Scenes involving aggressive conflict. May contain bloodless dismemberment
Violent References	References to violent acts

When a content descriptor is preceded by the term "Mild," it is intended to convey low frequency, intensity or severity of the content it modifies.