



The power to do more

GAMES TO MAKE YOUR BORING EID BETTER

ASIF AYON

The season of infinite beef bhunas and house invites are here. Eid-ul-Azha is that time of the year where you are thrust into so many family gatherings that by the end of the day, you just want to relax all by yourself with some video games. So with that here are a couple of games that we recommend for all platforms for the coming week.

MOBILE GAMING



Shadowgun Legends

Platform: Android, iOS

One of the best looking games on mobile; Shadowgun Legends is a fast-paced FPS to get seeped into during these holidays. The game is frantically paced similar to Doom (2016) for PC

and is rich in content and it only keeps on getting better with each update. The game, however, chugs quite a bit on lower end smartphones but anything last gen or current gen can run the game just fine.

SCORE: 4.8/5

Garena Free Fire

Platform: Android, iOS

It's best to acknowledge that PUBG isn't the only battle royale style game out there. Garena Free Fire is a free battleground style game and it will run on virtually

every Android device out there. The game isn't as good looking as PUBG but unlike PUBG, rounds in Free Fire are faster paced. The only issue is getting used to the controls, but all it takes is a little practice.

SCORE: 4.4/5



PC AND CONSOLE GAMING

Yakuza

Platform: PlayStation 4, PlayStation 3, Microsoft Windows

The vacation is long and you will need something like Yakuza 0 to distract you for the long hours. As a representative of an incredibly enriching open-world franchise, Yakuza 0 lives up to its predecessors and builds on their successes. A plethora of side quests, an organically rich combat system similar to the sleeper hit Sleeping Dogs; Yakuza 0 is worth the buy on your choice of a gaming system.

SCORE: 4.4/5



Fortnite

Platform: PlayStation 4, Nintendo Switch, Microsoft Windows, Xbox One, iOS, Macintosh operating systems

An unsurprising recommendation is given how it's perhaps the biggest game in the world as we speak. For those reading, that hasn't played Fortnite yet or has shied away from it still, know that it's not the most played game for no reason. It is incredibly fast paced, it has the polish of an AAA game and once mastered, the building mechanic feels nothing short of brilliant. So boot up Fortnite and prepare for the perfect weekend awaiting you.

SCORE: 5/5

Dead Cells

Platform: PlayStation 4, Nintendo Switch, Xbox One, Macintosh operating systems, Microsoft Windows and Linux

The newest game on this list, Dead Cells ticks most of the boxes as the latest perma-death roguelike game out on the market. The level design is meticulous and the weapons and gadgets on display are well balanced and varied. You learn from your mistakes and no death comes as a defeat but rather a learning process. It's challenging but fair, rewarding but not "gritty" and is nothing short of surprising for the Fall season of gaming.

SCORE: 4.8/5



Launchers and the great escape from bad UIs

Android launchers allow users to overhaul and customise their Android phones' user interface according to their preferences. There is real interest in launchers within the android community and for good reason too. Let's take a look at some of the reasons why launchers are so dominant on Play Store.

THE FREEDOM OF CUSTOMISABILITY AND CHOICE

The reigning kings of customisability are Nova Launcher and Action Launcher. From the option of having multiple docks on Nova Launcher, to Action Launcher's cover and shutter feature which lets you hide folders under a selected app; these features only scratch the surface of these launchers. You can customise your app drawer, the scroll speeds, the size of icons, the size and color of individual labels and virtually anything you can think of. They are the most used launchers because of the immense customisability they offer. The other kind of launcher known as Design Launchers, focus more on presentation whilst offering some customisability. Microsoft Launcher, Google Now Launcher, Evie Launcher, Leena Launcher



and many others focus on specific themes and ideas and runs with them. At this point in time, there is virtually an android launcher catered towards each individual's preferences.

KEEPING THINGS FROM GETTING BORING

With the knowledge of all the aforementioned android launchers, you are now a victim of choice. The beautiful thing about that is that you don't have to settle for bad optimisation or lack of customisability. When talking about launchers with Mohammad Ishtiaque, Contributing Writer at

Bytes, he said, "I used Action Launcher for a while because it seemed more manageable, but then it started slowing everything down." This allowed him the opportunity to switch to Nova Launcher. With the sheer number of launchers out in the market, if one of them acts up on you, you have the chance to switch to another one. More so than that, if you're getting tired of your phones look you can always change launchers.

The fact that android launchers exist and we can delve into switching out our android smart phones' UI whenever we please is a gift. Unless you're an iPhone user, you can go on appreciating the customisability and uniqueness of all the android launchers at your disposal for years to come.

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BROWSER EXTENSION Things you need to know to protect yourself

Some of us don't even know what a browser extension is? Simply put, a browser extension is a sort of like a plug-in for your browser that adds certain functions and features to it. Extensions can modify the user interface or add some web service functionality to your browser. For example, extensions are used to block ads on Web pages, translate text from one language to another, or add pages to a third-party bookmark service such as Evernote or Pocket.

Almost all popular

browsers support

extensions — you

can find them for

Chrome, Safari,

Opera, Internet

Explorer, and Edge.

But, as we've men-

tioned, extensions can be

both convenient and dangerous.

We love the browser extensions and these extensions have made most of our lives simple and easy. However, these can be dangerous as it's a great way to sneak up on you and your activities that are done through the browser. Most of us, consciously or unconsciously are using at least 6 or 7 browsers and most of us never go through the terms and condition. It might be safer not to use them at all, but that's inconvenient, so

we need a way to use extensions more or less safely.

Here's how:

- Don't install too many extensions. Not only do they affect computer performance, but they are also a potential attack vector, so narrow their number to just a few of the most useful.

- Install extensions only from official web stores. There, they undergo at least some scrutiny, with security specialists filtering out those that are malicious from head to toe.

- Pay attention to the permissions that extensions require. If an extension already installed on your computer requests a new permission that should immediately raise flags; something is probably going on. That extension might've been hijacked or sold. And before installing any extension, it's always a good idea to look at the permissions it requires and think about whether they match the functionality of the app. If you can't find a logical explanation for the permissions, it's probably better not to install that extension.

- Using proper anti-virus software is another way to thwart most of these attacks.

