

FIFA to expand gaming and e-sports portfolio

World football's governing body FIFA said on Friday that it will widen its gaming and e-sports portfolio to ensure that controlling rights don't lie in the hands of one party.

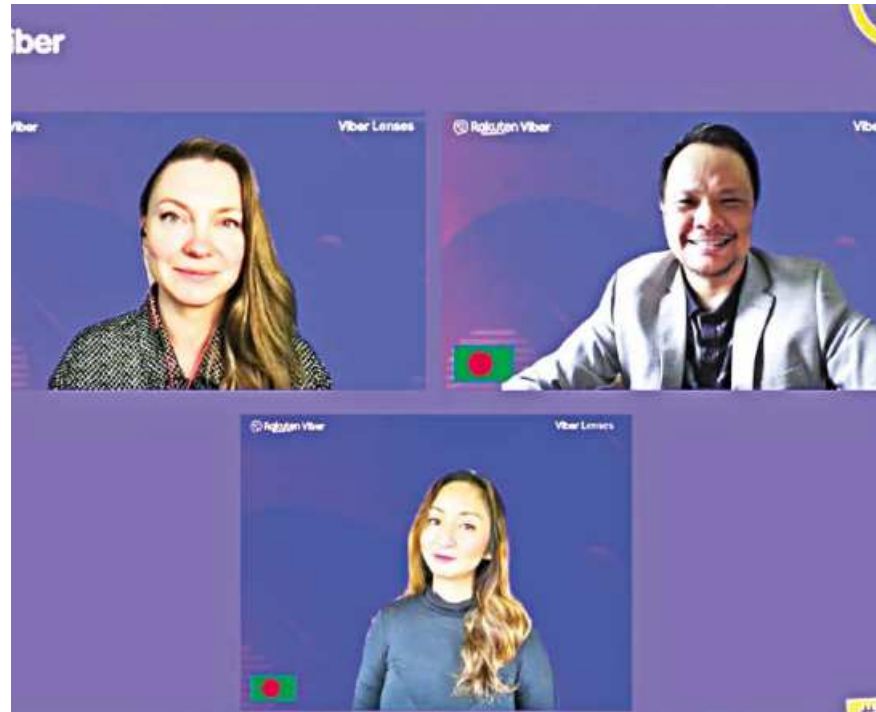
This comes after a report by The New York Times earlier this week that said videogame publisher Electronic Arts is struggling to renew the contract that would let EA use FIFA's name for its top-selling soccer franchise.



"The future of gaming and eSports for football stakeholders must involve more than one party controlling and exploiting all rights," FIFA said, adding that technology and mobile companies are now actively competing to be associated with FIFA, its platforms, and global tournaments.

"FIFA" game publisher EA said last week that it was reviewing the naming rights agreement with FIFA, which is separate from all other official partnerships and licenses EA has in the football arena.

EA's current contract expires next year after the Qatar World Cup, with FIFA seeking increased revenue, and EA pushing to expand the FIFA brand into new areas, like NFTs and highlights of real games.



Rakuten Viber launches AR-augmented Viber Lens in Bangladesh

ZAKIA SAMEEN NOOR

Rakuten Viber has officially launched its AR-augmented Viber Lens in Bangladesh on 14th October 2021, through a virtual launching event.

According to a press release, Viber is partnering with Snap Inc to incorporate augmented reality into its in-app camera, alongside filters like animal masks, fantasy effects and more, with the first batch of Viber Lens.

"We are pushing the boundaries of AR with the launch of our all-new Viber Lens. Our users who are separated from family due to the current pandemic are looking at more meaningful ways to keep in touch and share more memorable moments," said Anna Znamenskaya, Rakuten Viber Chief Growth Officer at the launching event. "The Viber Lens brings imagination to life in exciting ways. We believe this will

spur the development of innovative and exciting new additions to our products in the future."

David Tse, Senior Director for Rakuten Viber APAC said, "Viber Lens is a unique feature that enables users to make conversations that are more creative, engaging, and vivid. We have included the most advanced AR capabilities to Viber Lens while sticking to our commitment of providing high-security standards for messages, videos, and pictures that are exchanged over the application. Apart from that, we are also looking forward to launching additional local lenses exclusive to our users in Bangladesh. We are pleased to bring these features to our Bangladeshi users and offer them more creative ways to express their thoughts and feelings."

EDITOR'S NOTE

Only '90s kids would remember

This issue is all about living the '90s dream. I mean, we feature a tribute to Grand Theft Auto in the centrefold. Need we say more? But if you're not a '90s kid, and erm, just a kid, fret not. How about you go back to your computers and find out how GTA used to be back in the day? As for the rest, we are excited about all the new DC movies and games coming out next year, so we list down a few here on this page. Keep reading to find out what else we have in store for you this week. Have a great weekend!

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DC Fandome 2021 roundup: biggest announcements

On Saturday, DC Comics and Warner Bros. held their second annual Fandome, revealing new trailers for upcoming films and shows such as The Batman, The Flash, and Black Adam. We also got a look at the Suicide Squad: Kill the Justice League game's storey trailer. Here's a rundown of some of the most important announcements.

The Batman

We have a second trailer for The Batman. In Matt Reeves' adaptation of the Dark Knight saga, we didn't learn much more about the characters. However, the trailer revealed a Selina Kyle/Catwoman who appeared to be a master of disguises, as well as a Riddler who was far scarier than previous iterations. The Batman will be released in theatres on March 4, 2022,

after several pandemic-related delays.

Black Adam

Black Adam, starring Dwayne Johnson, has been in development for years, but the long-awaited film is finally here, with a teaser trailer that features not only Johnson's character but also several members of the Justice Society of America who will be making their debuts.

Johnson made an appearance at FanDome and said he was "born to play Black Adam," before showing a scene from the film in which some archaeologists hit Black Adam with an electric blast. In exchange, he disintegrates one of the other characters, catches a bullet out of thin air, and then levitates away. Black Adam will be



released in theatres on July 29, 2022.

The Flash

The long-awaited The Flash gets a sneak

peek at FanDome, bringing not only Ezra Miller's superfast hero but also the return of both Ben Affleck and Michael Keaton's versions of Batman. The teaser features Keaton's voice-over, as well as a glimpse of the unmistakable Batman cowl at the end. It will be released in theatres on November 4, 2022.

Suicide Squad: Kill The Justice League

Suicide Squad: Kill the Justice League, which was announced at last year's FanDome and is the first game from Rocksteady Studios, the team behind the beloved Batman: Arkham, in nearly six years, debuted a new trailer at this year's event. The game will be released on Xbox One X/S, PlayStation 5, and PC in 2022.

Hate corporate training programs? There's a way out

REHENUMA RAYSA

Corporate training programs are designed and executed for the sole purpose of the professional development of employees. The lessons learnt from the sessions are expected to be applied in their jobs in order to improve their organisational performances.

These sessions enable employees to educate themselves on different topics, work on their communication as well as many other interpersonal skills, and in the process, enhance individual productivity. The advantages of participating in such training

Scope of learning within the workplace training opportunities

The first and foremost aspect that is to be focused on is the format or structure of the training sessions. The building out of outline or curriculum of the corporate training programs needs to be planned out thoroughly. It is disappointing if a significant amount of resources and efforts put into an activity fails. Employees' uninterest stems from the irrelevant training content.

Additionally, a collective evaluation to determine if the training objectives were met can help keep the improvement ascending and achieve the desired outcome in training sessions, which were suffering failure and low engagement rate before.

Promote intensive learning

If there is a lack of opportunity to take advantage of the training processes in your workplace, you can resort to learning on your own. You can try asking your company to provide you with options to facilitate intensive learning. There are various learning materials available outside of your workplace too.

So, you can try out different books, local coaching, online courses, or other e-learning platforms, to mention a few, to find out a range of varying choices and decide upon what type of content or practices work the best for you according to your personal learning style or methodology.

Employers can step in to help their employees by making these options accessible for them. Their involvement in creating a comprehensive instructional action plan can be remarkably helpful since information is often dispersed, and employees require at least initial guidance. Therefore, if done right, these personalised methods and techniques can support you to excel in corporate spaces with your newly acquired skills efficiently.

Weave learning into the company's culture

Learning at workplaces does not need to be centred around corporate training programs. Learning should not be bound by concentrated hours anyway. Hence, modification of learning approaches is your best bet now. You can set a routine keeping your working hours in mind to learn as you go about your day. Identify a couple of dedicated time slots between your free periods of time when you are in a proper mindset to take in information and cultivate knowledge.

Constant learning is literally the only way for companies to meet their operational goals. It also enriches the quality or the representation of their works. Employers can also access their policies to show their employees the bigger picture and convey the message of how important learning is in a more feasible and effective manner. This system can immensely help motivate the employees and ensure employee satisfaction.

Lastly, you can continue to revise your learning system and update it from time to time to advance your journey of occupational development.



opportunities are never in question. However, despite its numerous benefits, there are employees who cannot help but despise the process.

Some employees do so as they feel awkward to adapt themselves in an unknown setting that does not allow them to reach their full potential of learning, while some employees remain disengaged because they cannot go along with certain managerial arrangements as those do not attract or suit them well. If you find yourself belonging to this criterion, consider taking the following initiatives.

Surveys can make the process easier, as they can help supervisors decide which trend to adopt and which to eliminate based on the obtained feedback of the employees.

Employees can be vocal about their experiences, priorities, and opinions. This can help employers to come down to the most suitable option jettisoning the rest. Meanwhile, seminars or training can be conducted utilising various training delivery methods to help everyone included to reap the rewards.

This approach can be helpful in dealing with outdated training practices as well.



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Caring for your car in rainy days: here's what you need to know

ARFIN KAZI

It's a cloudy morning, you decide to take your clean car out and run some errands. But just as you take it out and start driving, suddenly it starts to rain. By the time you finish your errands, the car is all wet and by the time you drive it home, the wheels accumulate more mud and grime which ultimately sticks to the body and paint of the car.

But fear not, rather than keeping your car sitting around and letting it dry on its own, here are a couple of prudent tips on how you can keep your car clean and paint protected.

Protection outside

It's important for your car to be dry from the rainwater after being driven in wet conditions because rainwater in general, is slightly acidic in nature and could leave behind deposits of grime and debris. If the car is not washed properly, the rainwater could also cause discolouration of the paint and, worst of all, rust.

Thus, even if you decide not to want to wash your car completely, it's better to just rinse your car with tap water which will cause less damage to the paint. Naturally, you would want to wash your car every 7-10 days to keep the paint



and the overall exterior in optimal condition. Make sure to wash your wheels properly and make sure to wash off mud and grime from the tire walls.

Interior

During rainy days, the main issue that arises after the car is left sitting for some time is a damp odour through the vehicle. To prevent weird odours which do not seem to cover even after using half a bottle of air freshener, take out your mats and wash them with hot water and

detergent. After that, leave the mats out to dry in the sun completely before putting them in the car again. If the damp smell remains, your interior seals might have a leak from where water might sip inside.

Long-term protection

The best way to protect the paint of your car from dust

and grime sticking from rainy days is by getting your car ceramic coated. Ceramic coatings make the surface of the paint hydrophobic; making the surface slippery and repellent to water droplets. It also ensures grime to not stick on the surface, protecting it from feather scratches on the paint.

Extra tips

Always have your wiper fluid reservoir topped up when going out on a rainy day. Make sure to wipe your windshield wiper clean and free from dust particles. To keep the windshield of the car free from streaks and water accumulation, clean the windshield with a car cleaning clay bar and wax it to make sure water does not stay stuck on the screen and blur your vision.

PHOTOS:
AYAN RAHMAN KHAN

Games that defined the '90s: a tribute to Vice City and San Andreas

OROBI BAKHTIAR

Rockstar Games has confirmed that Grand Theft Auto III, Vice City, and San Andreas are all getting HD remasters. There's going to be a version called Grand Theft Auto: The Trilogy - The Definitive Edition that includes all three games. Besides the PC (via the Rockstar Games Launcher), PlayStation and Xbox, the Nintendo Switch will also host the collection. In 2022, it will come to iOS and Android devices. There is no information about the price or release date yet.

There is a great chance you haven't had a chance to play these earlier influence games, particularly if you grew up on Grand Theft Auto V (which is understandable given it's eight years old). It might seem strange to play a GTA game where you cannot swap protagonists, but Claude's tale, Tommy Vercetti's tale, and CJ's tale are all still lively.

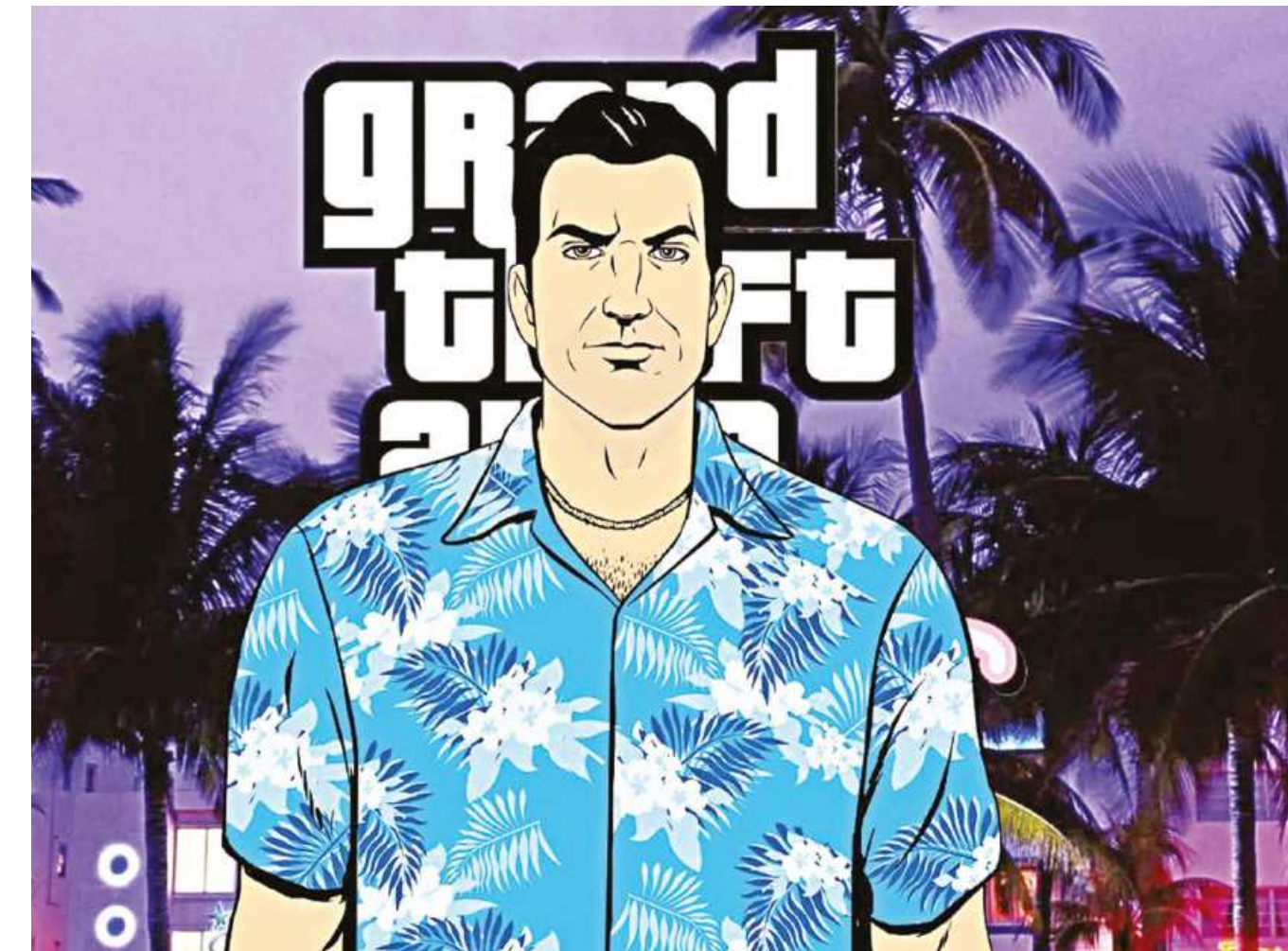
In order to pay tribute to our childhood, we are going down memory lane with games that defined it.

a desert, and even a mountain and many hills.

The game is centred around the return of Carl Johnson (also known as CJ) to his gang (the Grove Street Families), and their subsequent return to power. Carl Johnson is Grand Theft Auto's most customizable protagonist due to the possibility in-game to change his clothes, tattoos, hairstyle, and even his body mass in which he can be fat, skinny, or muscular.

Early 3D-era games did not provide as much customization, swimming, and

At its release, this game received massive praise, especially for its comparatively decent interpretation, humour, and mod elements.



Having a new, charismatic character and the possibility of playing in the city of Miami, GTA Vice City was able to revolutionize the series. Luxury cars, fast boats, nightclubs, yacht parties, and a subworld of crime and drugs made for a very complete narrative that had us captivated as the protagonist.

As if this were not enough, Vice City included the possibility of changing our clothes to blend in with the environment, buying safe houses in which to keep our cars and controlling the city, and carry out new activities that helped us to merge with the city in anticipation of everything that would come later with GTA San Andreas, GTA IV and GTA V. All this was joined by an eighties soundtrack and moved, disrespectful, great, of which many will still remember Lazlow, Fernando, RJ Pepe and that 'La Vida es Una Lenteja' of 'Radio Espantoso'

GTA Vice City: Bangla

Bangla GTA Vice City is a Bangladeshi video game developed by Maruf Mostafa. It was released on 15th November 2004 for Microsoft Windows in Bangladesh, and on 1st June 2005, it was released for Microsoft Windows as well in Bangladesh. Due to its insane popularity, it was also released in India.

At its release, this game received massive praise, especially for its comparatively decent interpretation, humour, and mod elements. Initially, it was supposed to be published by Daffodil Multimedia Ltd. but when they asked the developer to replace the native Bangla in dialogues with modern Bangla, the game was later published by Maruf Mostafa himself because he believes in Bangladeshi culture. During that time, no one had ever heard of Bangla dubbing for video games. Swagging Miami con men sounding like they're from Barisal? Who would have thought it?

Vice City allowed gamers to drive around Miami in a variety of vehicles. A gamer would hear songs playing in the background once they got in their cars. Artists such as Megadeth, Judas Priest, Mötley Crüe, and Twisted Sisters contributed to the official soundtracks of Vice City. But what about the Bangla version? One of the reasons it became popular in Kolkata was because it featured songs by musicians of Kolkata

GTA San Andreas

Rockstar Games continues to reference the highly successful GTA San Andreas game in their future games.

San Andreas has left a lasting legacy in GTA 4, the DLC episodes, and even GTA Online, as every game since has mentioned it in some way. Unlike GTA Advance, which faded into obscurity, Rockstar Games still pays tribute to the critical and commercial success of San Andreas. By far the largest and most complex playing field of any 3D Universe game, San Andreas consists of three fully-realized cities: Los Santos, San Fierro and Las Venturas, and includes vast expanses of countryside, forests,

climbing as CJ did. As of 2017, San Andreas is the only 3D or HD-universe game which has the ability to change body mass (through eating and exercising - or lack thereof) in exactly the same way.

GTA Vice City

For many, GTA Vice City put us inside the skin of the best character in the series: Tommy Vercetti, a toy Ray Liotta who is caught up in a trap set by 'one of our 'in collaboration with the FBI and the DEA. While riding the streets of his own criminal emporium, Tommy is fleeing the cops and seeking revenge, and he has a partner with whom he will try to relive the best of Miami Vice.

Revealed: Amazon manipulated search results to promote its own brands

Amazon.com Inc has been repeatedly accused of knocking off products it sells on its website and of exploiting its vast trove of internal data to promote its own merchandise at the expense of other sellers. The company has denied the accusations.

But thousands of pages of internal Amazon documents examined by Reuters including emails, strategy papers and business plans show the company ran a systematic campaign of creating knockoffs and manipulating search results to boost its own product lines in India, one of the company's largest growth markets.

The documents reveal how Amazon's private-brands team in India secretly exploited internal data from Amazon.in to copy products sold by other companies and then offered them on its platform. The employees also stoked sales of Amazon private-brand products

about other brands on Amazon.in, including detailed information about customer returns. The aim: to identify and target goods - described as "reference" or "benchmark" products - and "replicate" them. As part of that effort, the 2016 internal report laid out Amazon's strategy for a brand the company originally created for the Indian market called "Solimo." The Solimo strategy, it said, was simple: "use information from Amazon.in to develop products and then leverage the Amazon.in platform to market these products to our customers." The Solimo project in India has had an international impact: Scores of Solimo-branded health and household products are now offered for sale on Amazon's U.S. website, Amazon.com.

The 2016 document further shows that Amazon employees working on the company's own products, known as private brands or private labels, planned to partner with the manufacturers of the products targeted for copying. That's because they learned that these manufacturers employ "unique processes which impact the end quality of the product." The document, entitled "India Private Brands Program," states: "It is difficult to develop this expertise across products and hence, to ensure that we are able to fully match quality with our reference product, we decided to only partner with the manufacturers of our reference product." It termed such manufacturer expertise "Tribal Knowledge." This is the second in a series of stories based on internal Amazon documents that provide a rare, unvarnished look, in the company's own words, into business practices that it has denied for years.

Amazon has been accused before by employees who worked on private-brand products of exploiting proprietary data from individual sellers to launch competing products and manipulating search results to increase sales of the company's own goods.

In sworn testimony before the U.S. Congress in 2020, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos explained that the e-commerce giant prohibits its employees from using the data on individual

sellers to help its private-label business. And, in 2019, another Amazon executive testified that the company does not use such data to create its own private-label products or alter its search results to favour them.

But the internal documents seen by Reuters show for the first time that, at least in India, manipulating search results to favour Amazon's own products, as well as copying other sellers' goods, were part of a formal, clandestine strategy at Amazon and that high-level executives were told about it. The documents show that two executives reviewed the India strategy senior vice presidents Diego Piacentini, who has since left the company, and Russell Grandinetti, who currently runs Amazon's international consumer business.

In a written response to questions for this report, Amazon said: "As Reuters hasn't shared the documents or their provenance with us, we are unable to confirm the veracity or otherwise of the information and claims as stated. We believe these claims are factually incorrect and unsubstantiated." The company did not elaborate. The statement also did not address questions from Reuters about the evidence in the documents that Amazon employees copied other companies' products for its own brands.

The company said the way it displays search results doesn't favour private-brand products. "We display search results based on relevance to the customer's search query, irrespective of whether such products have private brands offered by sellers or not," Amazon said.

Amazon also said that it "strictly prohibits the use or sharing of non-public, seller-specific data for the benefit of any seller, including sellers of private brands," and that it investigates reports of its employees violating that policy.

The unfiltered documents offer insights into Amazon's aggressive use of its market power that could intensify the legal and regulatory pressure the company is facing in many countries.

Read the full version of this article on our website, www.thedailystar.net/toggle.

The 2016 document further shows that Amazon employees working on the company's own products, known as private brands or private labels, planned to partner with the manufacturers of the products targeted for copying.

by rigging Amazon's search results so that the company's products would appear, as one 2016 strategy report for India put it, "in the first 2 or three search results" when customers were shopping on Amazon.in.

Among the victims of the strategy: a popular shirt brand in India, John Miller, which is owned by a company whose chief executive is Kishore Biyani, known as the country's "retail king." Amazon decided to "follow the measurements of" John Miller shirts down to the neck circumference and sleeve length, the document states.

The internal documents also show that Amazon employees studied proprietary data



TRACK YOUR CYCLE

Here are our top picks for period tracker apps

SAMILA SOBHAN

Period cycles vary from woman to woman but normally last for 28 days on average. Many women around the world experience irregular period cycles, one of the common reasons being PCOS, and tend to miss their period.

Therefore, it is absolutely important to keep your period on surveillance to identify symptoms for potential menstrual health issues and to be aware of when a doctor consultation is imperative. Other than that a registered period cycle can monitor your fertility and ovulation cycle. Here are the top period tracker apps recommended by women who regularly log their periods.

Period Calendar

Period calendar tracks your period and predicts your next cycle based on previous input data. Moreover, it shows fertility window, pregnancy chances, etc. Other than the basic cycle recording, this app provides a platform for women to record their likely symptoms, height and weight, and any other health-related information.

As an avid user of this application since 2017, I have had a comfortable experience, in the sense that it was easier for me to remember my previous cycle. What has immensely helped is that P.C. notifies you about your upcoming period before two days. That way you get to prepare yourself and remember to have menstrual products on you whenever you step out of the house.

With an astounding 4.9 rating on the app store, the app has an intimate user-base wherein women share

and converse about their day-to-day experiences, etc., and also includes a personal diary. The app is suitable for both iOS, where you have the option to sync app data with Apple Health and Android platforms.

Flo Period and Ovulation

Besides regular cycle tracking, Flo is special as it is password-protected, and has a secret chats section, where users seek answers to their personal questions. You can track your water intake, sleep duration, moods, and your physical activity as well.

Flo's pregnancy mode, designed for women who are trying for a baby assists them by monitoring diagnoses results, display your fertile window, and keep track of your baby's growth. You can find useful, educational information on menstrual and women's health overall, find informative articles, quizzes, and surveys among many. Find Flo, with a 4.7 rating, on App Store and Play Store.

Period Calendar - Amila

Recommended by women all over the world, Period Calendar by Amila is effortless and provides an accurate prediction of the new cycle. Parallel to other tracking apps, this app has a community-building platform and a personal diary to log in symptoms, acne, mood swings, even doctor appointments. Follow period trends, yearly

calendars through visual representations and charts.

The app notifies users 2 to 3 days before the starting of the next cycle and also alarms users when they are late or have forgotten to input their period. Amila separately has a pregnant tracker application where you can track contractions, weight measurements, find tools for easier labour, and valuable pregnancy tips and information on the baby's development. Amila has a whopping 4.9 rating on Play Store. The application is compatible with both Android and iOS.

P Tracker

Period Tracker or P Tracker's algorithm initially anticipates a period cycle to be of 28 days and gradually assimilates trends by calculating an average based on the past 3 months' data to provide an accurate forecast. The icon on the home screen is designed to be discreet as it simply reads "P Tracker."

Other features include daily noting of moods with emoji icons, bodily measurements, symptoms and also informs you of your fertility window with an automatic flower appearing on the screen on the day of ovulation. Cloud backup, accessing data through emails and a free account creation make this app super easy to operate. P Tracker is well trusted among users as showcased by a 4.6 rating. It is available on both Play Store and App Store.

My Calendar

The last pick of the series is an elegant, minimalistic app that is bright pink in colour. My Calendar caters to users' individual needs and helps them with irregular cycles and further educates them about birth control, contraception, etc. Ovulation and upcoming period reminders are kept discreet and the calendar can be password protected to secure the user's private details.

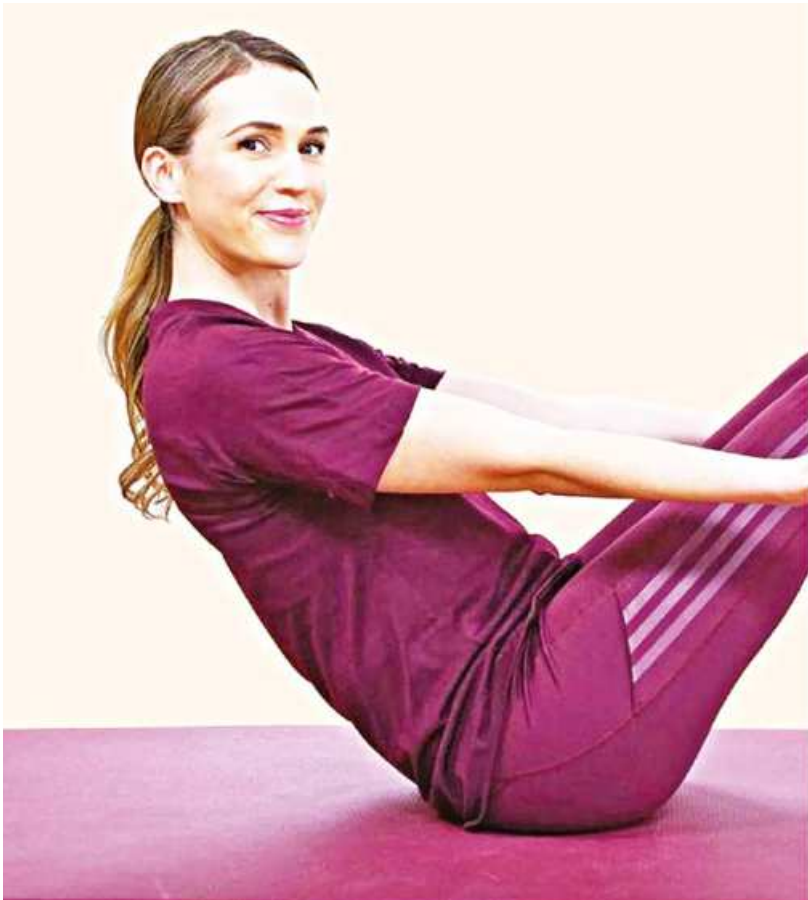
Contrary to other tracking apps, My Calendar furthermore calculates your Body Mass Index (BMI) for you. With a convincing 4.9 rating, the app readily adapts to your period courses and notifies you about the period that is knocking on your door. Prepare for those stressful days by downloading My Calendar on your Android and iOS devices.



ILLUSTRATION: ZARIF FAIAZ

Check out these fitness experts on YouTube to get into your daily streak

REHENUMA RAYSA



YouTube has strived and become a reliable resource for fitness enthusiasts. An effective workout session equals increased productivity as well. Here we enlist our top picks to help you get into the exercise groove.

Chloe Ting

Fitness influencer Chloe Ting's channel consists of videos on hardcore high-intensity interval training sessions, as well as healthy food

recipes mentioning the calorie counts. These videos are also created keeping the working out together in the real-time format in mind. Her workout advice and guidance on individual fitness concerns are so on point.

Her channel features various free workout programs in the playlist section focusing on sculpting and toning of the body along with offering numerous fitness tips. Although the repetition of the same music is challenging at times, the inclusion of music at least helps keep up the motivation for long. Hence, there is no wonder why she is going strong and succeeding in her journey as a fitness guru with more than 22 million subscribers on her YT channel, with many of her videos amassing millions of views.

Yoga With Adriene

Despite the popularity of intense aerobic workout exercises, some are drawn towards yoga for its unique benefits. In international Yoga teacher Adriene Mishler's yoga-dedicated YouTube channel, the ancient science of yoga comes in well-organised yoga classes. She has included an array of yoga sessions that targets the entire body, as well as specific areas of the body. This channel features a slew of 30-days-challenges. Meditation practices are also included in her posted tutorials.

You will find everything from beginner and intermediate level to advanced and specific yoga workouts and so much more. Her infectious, calming, upbeat, friendly-



natured personality makes the process efficient. Moreover, since she talks her viewers through the process by instructing them with detailed narrations of what exercise is improving which part of one's body, it adds valuable attention to the effort, ensuring that the process remains easy to follow and enjoyable for the audience.

Pick Up Limes

The foods we eat have a significant impact on our physical well-being. This channel's zen-like representation of everything related to food consumption and so much more helps us take our determination to follow through with our workout regimen up a notch. Sadia Badiie, a certified dietician's incredibly versatile channel, is an ideal space for learning the basics.

She educates us on Nutrition, enables us to understand our relationship with food and



helps us fall in love with the process by sharing nutritional information. She promotes a healthy lifestyle by cooking varieties of easy yet delicious healthy recipes with pdfs and blogs providing acute measurements and nutrient values, explaining meditation or other health-related topics, and providing us with hacks to mindfully curate our lifestyles. She includes all sorts of subjects in the discussion of her high-quality content.

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ঠিক যেমন রূপচর্চার আভিজাত্য মানেই

অ্যান্ডালিনা

সোপ

রূপচর্চার আভিজাত্য...