

digit **FastTrack**

YOUR HANDY GUIDE TO EVERYDAY TECHNOLOGY

To **Mobile Gaming**

- Action
- Platformers
- Racing
- Puzzle
- Tower Defence
- RPG
- Casual
- Word Games
- Sports
- Runners
- Music
- Android Exclusives
- Windows Phone Exclusives
- Blackberry Exclusives
- iOS Exclusives





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MOBILE GAMES

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Every smartphone OS has unique pros and cons. In this section we bring you the best of the exclusive titles on each platform

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COVER DESIGN: PETERSON PU

Introduction

You enjoy reading Fast Track each month because it brings to you interesting new ways to use technology, not just for work but also for play. What better tech than your own mobile device to showcase the best games available in categories such as action, RPG, sports and music (head over to the table of contents for a quick look at the categories being covered).

Mobile games have gone from humble beginnings (remember Snake?) to full-blown near console quality releases in the past decade. The devices they're played on are continuously evolving and with hardware improving every year, the possibilities are almost endless. Today's generation will begin their mobile gaming experiences on iPads, superphones and other such devices. Yes, times have changed. Games like Angry Birds have become a quintessential inclusion on most devices now. This year we have phones with 2GB RAM and quad core processors. No one thought that was possible a few years ago.

Symbian ruled the mobile operating system world when it came to gaming quite a while back. Since then, Apple has taken the world by storm with iOS and the App Store that have not only created an environment completely dedicated to apps but also provides users with high quality app downloads. Android followed suit gradually and today we see games launching on both platforms simultaneously. You can enhance your experience using technologies such as AirPlay and Miracast which allow you to mirror your iOS or Android device display to a big screen TV. Android supports controllers as well and big name studios have native controller support in their games on Android. The games that don't work well on touchscreens benefit by this. Meanwhile, Microsoft and Sony have been ruling the console space. Windows Phone has been riding on Microsoft's Xbox brand by getting exclusives and Xbox Live integration in many of

its games. Some games like *Skulls of the Shogun* take it to the next level by fully merging the ecosystem that allows you to play on your Xbox and continue playing from the same spot where you left off on your Windows Phone device or Windows 8 tablet.

Coming back to the topic covered in this Fast Track, the games mentioned here go from popular games to obscure but awesome games and even some premium console level games. There's something for every type of gamer here. To make things simple for you, there are symbols representing which platforms each game is available on and short links taking you straight to download the app or to the developer's website in case of multi-platform games. If you're one of those who likes being able to boast about apps dedicated solely to the platform his/her phone is on, there is a chapter dedicated to games which work only on BlackBerry, Apple, Android or Windows platforms. There's also a QR code for each title that you can scan using any QR code reading app.

From games that help you kill time to open world role-playing games with over 60 hours of gameplay, this Fast Track has you covered. We hope you enjoy discovering these amazing games and have fun playing them. We sure had fun compiling them for you. 

ACTION

Want to shoot some zombies in the face
or protect your country from a terrorist
attack? These are the games you should be
looking at

Action games are by far the most popular game category around and it's easy to see why. They let you do things that you normally can't or won't do. Whether it's donning a spacesuit and taking down aliens or becoming a soldier and fighting for your country or just running down a zombie with a chainsaw, action games let you live vicariously in a way few other games can.

Thanks to the advancement in the hardware on mobile devices, these days we have action games that are almost on par with PC or console games, at least on a technical level. You also see increasingly more effort being put into the plot and gameplay aspect of these games, so they don't just look like advertisements demonstrating the hardware capability of your mobile device.

Here we've chosen some of the best action games around today that you can play on a mobile device and they're sure to get your heart racing. Some require purchase while others are free.

GTA Vice City



Grand Theft Auto Vice City is one of the most iconic games of all time. It has been a fan favourite in the series since it released and is now celebrating its 10th anniversary, Rockstar brings it to iOS and Android. It's hard to believe that the game is over 10 years old now because almost everyone who played it remembers the absolutely



brilliant radio stations and beyond annoying RC Copter mission. GTA Vice City took what was good with GTA III and made it even better. You play as Tommy Vercetti in an 80s Miami environment working for various people and taking part in killing frenzies along the way. GTA Vice City was one of the first really good and popular open world games.

Now on iOS and Android, GTA Vice City comes complete with high-resolution graphics and all the radio stations from the PC version. On Android it even has controller support making it the definitive version to play if you own a tablet such as the Nexus 7. The gameplay works surprisingly well on a touchscreen and the game has aged extremely well. Get yourself a dose of 80s retro nostalgia and classic PC



gaming with GTA Vice City 10th Anniversary.

Price: ₹270

Link: <http://dgit.in/gtaanniv>

Super Mega Worm Vs. Santa 2



Super Mega Worm has been available on iOS and Mac for a long time. It's a great retro pixel art action platformer that's beyond addictive. Super Mega Worm vs. Santa 2 is a sequel to



the original SMW Vs. Santa game. You control a mechanical worm trying to eat people and animals while destroying any vehicles. You also get power ups and increase in size, are able to jump more and gain more firepower as you eat more. The controls are very responsive and the iOS version has iCade controller support. Santa's toy factories are destroyed thanks to the chaos and the great mega worm.



Price: iOS (₹55), Android (Free ad-supported)

Link: <http://dgit.in/supermegawormsanta2>



God of Blades



God of Blades by White Whale Games is a hauntingly beautiful side-scrolling action game. It has a unique art style and after spending a minute playing it you realize how far from your average casual game it is. The game has you in an auto-run mechanic

swiping to fight enemies approaching you. You can also throw fire at them but the actual gameplay is more or less swiping to attack or block. The enemies are quite complex and the more you play, the more swords you unlock. Most might think that the gameplay is monotonous but when



you actually play the game, the art and music make it worth it.

Price: ₹170

Link: <http://dgit.in/godofblades>



Sonic CD



Porting classic games to touch devices is almost never done correctly. This is why Sega worked with an outside developer to bring Sonic CD to touch devices. The current

incarnation of Sonic CD is the best one by a long shot. Sonic the Hedgehog games are usually fast-paced action games and this one is no different. Sonic travels through time using the power of Little Planet to protect the time stones from his arch nemesis Dr Eggman (AKA Dr Robotnik). You even end up fighting a metallic version of yourself in the game. Sonic CD even features the original Japanese soundtrack, which adds to the



nostalgia factor.

Price: Free trial, ₹270

Link: <http://dgit.in/soniccdlite>

Plants Vs. Zombies



PVZ isn't an unknown game. It's an award-winning tower defense action game that has some of the best gameplay around. Your main objective is to protect your house from zombies by planting different



things on your lawn. As you progress, you unlock more plants and items to use against the zombies while they get stronger and in some cases become giant zombies. The music in the game is very catchy and the best part is the mini game mode you unlock when you finish story mode. The game is available on multiple platforms (though it's now unavailable on Android



in India) but is best enjoyed on an iPad.

Price: ₹55

<http://dgit.in/pvziosbd>



Super Hexagon



If you're looking for guns and shooting then you won't find any here. But that doesn't make Super Hexagon any less of an action game, as you'll find out within the first three seconds of playing this game, as that's how long you're going to last the first few times you play it.

Super Hexagon's beauty lies in the utterly relentless pace of the game, where you have to move a small triangle around while trying to find a gap through the walls closing towards you from all sides. This is not a game for those who give up easily but those with more patience, perseverance and more importantly great reflexes that will be rewarded with a gaming experience that can be almost intoxicating.



There are six levels in total, with the easiest one being named Hard, and for good reason too. Completing the first three unlock the remaining three, which is easier said than done.

If you enjoy some fast-paced 2D action with peppy 8-bit tunes playing in the background, Super Hexagon is hard to beat (pun definitely intended).



Price: iOS (₹165), Android (₹165), BlackBerry (₹150)

Link: Dgit.in/FTSuperHexagon

Max Payne Mobile



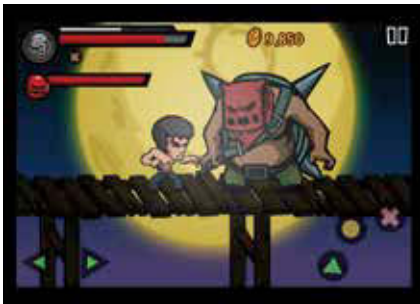
Max Payne was a third-person shooter released on PC more than a decade ago. On the mobile, it will delight first-timers and thrill existing fans.

It has a gripping storyline of a NY cop who gets wrongly framed for the murder of his loved ones. In his pursuit to seek justice, he uncovers the bigger picture. The story is told in the form of a graphic novel with a voiceover narration by the protagonist. The game has tons of action and is the first one to feature the Matrix-inspired “Bullet Time” feature, a.k.a super slow motion.



Price: ₹170

Link: dgit.in/FTMaxPayne



KungFu Warrior



This game is about a KungFu Warrior character (reminiscent of Bruce Lee) who has to avenge the death of his master by the ugly-looking villains. The game looks pleasing to the eye and its modus oper-

andi is two-dimensional kick-and-punch action. Bad guys of different varieties keep coming at you with their knives and guns, and you must keep whopping them. You'll start unlocking newer combos and upgrading your skill/gear as you progress. There are multiple ways to move along the campaign to get to the final boss battle of that mission. All in all, a fun game.



Price: iOS (₹110), Android (Free)

Link: dgit.in/FTKungFu

Major Mayhem



Major Mayhem is an excellent shoot-and-cover style game with beautiful graphics. Your character has to complete a series of missions killing the masked bad guys. You don't have to control character



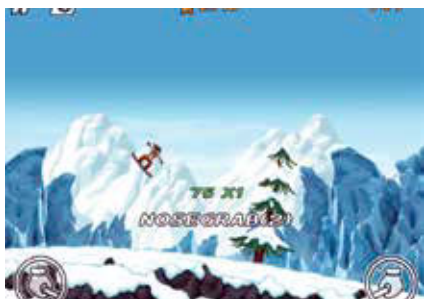
movements; just tap on the enemy to shoot. But the enemy shoots back, so you have to be careful not to get hit. It's not just mindless shooting — there are hostage situations and some run-jump-fire moments in the game. You get access to newer weaponry including guns, grenades and an assortment of other tools of destruction as you progress. There are 45



levels and 4 game modes that'll keep you hooked to this game.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTMajorMayhem



iStunt 2



iStunt 2 lets you control a cool teenager on ice-skates, surfing his way through dangerous routes. You use the motion controller to keep the skater aligned, and controls on the screen let you jump, duck and

even do mid-air maneuvers to earn extra points. In case you crash, the on-screen character's falls are captured realistically thanks to ragdoll physics. The graphics are pretty neat and the music is upbeat matching the pace of the game. You can change riders and boards as you collect stars and experience points sliding off railings and shifting mountains.



Price: iOS (iPad compatible) (Free), Android (Free), Windows Phone (₹187), Symbian (₹15)

Link: dgit.in/FTiStunt2

Overkill



Overkill is an action-packed first-person shooter game with pretty decent graphics. You have single-player and multi-player missions and a survival mode. You can choose from a variety of fast-



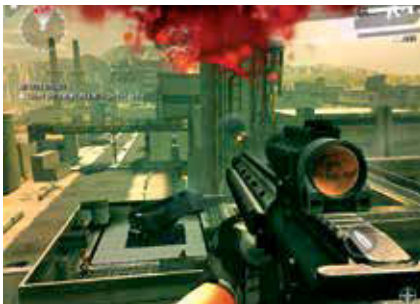
shooting guns such as the AK-47, MP7 and even sniper rifles. The enemies have a ticking animation indicating that they're nearing a lock on their aim. You can navigate the crosshair by touching anywhere on the left side of the screen. You can use flashbangs and even call an airstrike when too many baddies are onto you. There's also this cool gesture to reload the



gun by simply shaking your device.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTOverkill



Modern Combat 4: Zero Hour



If you're looking for a console quality experience on your mobile device, look no further than Gameloft's Modern Combat 4: Zero Hour. The latest in the series of war-based

first-person shooters, Modern Combat 4 turns the dials all the way to eleven when it comes to the action and the visuals. The game includes some solid first-person shooting in various environments and has both single-player and multi-player modes. The best part, however, are the visuals, which are some of the best we've seen on a mobile game. If you're a COD or Battlefield



fan, this one should be on top of your list of must-have games.

Price: iOS (₹55), Android (₹55)

Link: dgit.in/FTModernCombat



Dead Trigger



Dead Trigger is the quintessential zombie shooter game. You know, one of those games that you just can't get enough of. If you're a fan of that type then you'll find Dead Trigger ticks all the right boxes. The

action is as bloody as you can expect and you get tons of weapons, including a chainsaw, to either accurately or slowly kill your undead friends. Along with the thrilling shooting action, the game also features some amazing graphics. Best of all, it's free of charge but if you want you can spend some money to unlock some cool new weapons in the game



and enjoy the game better.

Price: iOS (Free), Android (Free)

Link: Dgit.in/FTDeadTrigger

Shadowgun



Shadowgun is a sci-fi third-person shooter. Easily one of the best shooter games on the mobile platform, Shadowgun combines a lengthy and enjoyable campaign with intuitive controls. The visuals, once



again, are top-notch but if you want to experience them in all their glory, you have to play the game on an NVIDIA Tegra 3 based device, where you get additional effects such as water, rag doll physics, particle effects and enhanced shaders and textures. Shadowgun, developed by Madfinger Games, is worth the \$5 price tag and is a must-have for fans of



shooter games.

Price: iOS (₹245), Android (₹278)

Link: Dgit.in/FTShadowGun



N.O.V.A. 3



Gameloft makes it a habit of taking a bit of inspiration from console games for its mobile games. One of its such “inspired” games is Near Orbit Vanguard Alliance 3 (N.O.V.A. 3), the latest in the series of sci-fi first-person shooter games

clearly modelled after the successful Crysis series of games. Although you don’t quite get a nanosuit here, you do get a solid first-person shooting experience that will keep you hooked for hours. Add to it the excellent visuals and N.O.V.A. 3 is a fairly easy game to recommend.



Price: iOS (₹390), Android (₹390)

Link: Dgit.in/FTNova3

Horn



Horn is a story of a young black-smith’s apprentice who one day wakes up in a place where he’s all alone and everyone he knew has been turned into strange and gigantic monsters. Your job is now to defeat them all and turn them back into the people they once



were. This third-person action game has a really intriguing story line coupled with casual action and puzzle solving elements. It also features a lengthy campaign so you get plenty of bang for your buck. All in all, a very entertaining game that would be loved by people of all ages.



Price: iOS (₹377), Android (₹377)

Link: Dgit.in/FTHorn



The Walking Dead: The Game



The Walking Dead: The Game is based on the comic book series of the same name. The game is a direct adaptation of the desktop and console versions and maintains the same episodic format, with optimizations done for touch input. If you've already played the PC or the console version of the game, then you already know what to expect. If you haven't then you're in for a pleasant surprise. Although it's an action game, The Walking Dead doesn't actually need you to do any of the actions. All you have to do is press the appropriate prompts that appear on the screen and the character performs the action. Even the dialogues you say have to be chosen from a list of options and what you say and do affects the other characters and the progression of the game dramatically. Choices and dialogues pop up on the screen with timers, and you have mere seconds to pick an option.

The Walking Dead is a survival horror game involving lots and lots of zombies and bloody action. If you're into that sort of thing and can appreciate the distinctive method of playing the game then you'll love



The Walking Dead.

Price: Free

Link: Digit.in/FTWalkingDead

Dead Space



Most gamers would be familiar with the Dead Space series on the PC and consoles. Heralded as one of the finest survival horror game series of all time, Dead Space doles out frantic action sequences and edge-of-the-seat horror sequences in equal amounts. Now, publisher EA has brought the same action to the small screen. Technically, Dead Space for mobile is not a port and is actually a new game with a new story based vaguely on the events of the other games. That aside, it still provides the same heart-pounding action sequences that the series is known for. The necromorphs are back and as lethal as ever. Dead Space for mobile provides a lengthy, enjoyable campaign with attractive visuals and an intuitive control system that makes this mobile version almost as enjoyable as its desktop and console counterpart.

If you enjoy playing survival horror games and are a fan of the Dead



Space series in general then this is an absolute must-have.

Price: ₹390

Link: Dgit.in/FTDeadSpace

Paper Monsters



Paper Monsters is a 3D side-scrolling platformer. The game has a unique visual style where the world and all the characters in it are apparently made of paper, and this can be seen in their rough, geometric shapes. Paper Monsters is a very casual, laid-back sort of game for those who enjoy a bit of platforming but without any of the fast-paced running, like in Rayman Jungle Run mentioned ahead in this section. The general visual design and the gameplay will be especially popular among the kids, but even if you're an adult it's hard not to be charmed by



the simplistic nature of the game.

Price: ₹55

Link: Dgit.in/FTPaperMonsters



Rayman Jungle Run



Want some 2D side-scrolling action? Look no further than Rayman Jungle Run. Modeled after Rayman Origins that came out on the PC and consoles, Rayman Jungle Run is a brand new game that maintains the fantastic visual style of Origins — Winner of numerous Game of the Year and Platformer of the Year awards.

Rayman Jungle Run is a fast-paced 2D action game designed with a touchscreen in mind. You only have to bother with one control and that's jump. The character automatically runs on the screen and you just have to time your jumps to cross over the gaps and collect the gold-colored 'Lums'. This might sound quite easy but most certainly isn't. The game's frantic pacing is one of the highlights, and if you're not quick enough to keep up with it you're going to be left behind.

If there's anything even better about it, it's the game's visuals, which are absolutely jaw-dropping. The character designs and animations are top-notch and one of the best we've seen, not just on a mobile platform but anywhere.

Rayman Jungle Run is an absolute must-have for fans of fast-paced



action games.

Price: ₹188

Link: Dgit.in/FTRayman

Wild Blood



Wild Blood is a third-person action adventure game that follows the story of Sir Lancelot as he attempts to rescue Queen Guinevere from King Arthur and the sorceress Morgana Le Fey. The game, available for iOS (iPhone and iPad) and Android, features a lot of hack and slash action and reminds one of the God of War



series from the PlayStation. It's based on the new Unreal Engine (UE3), which means the visuals are top-notch. Once done with the lengthy campaign there's also a multi-player mode to pit your skills against real people's. Overall, a solid action game for those who are fans of good old-fashioned sword swinging. The game requires approximately 2Gb of



free space in order to install so make sure you have that much.

Price: ₹390

Link: Dgit.in/FTWildBlood

RACING

Looking to burn some virtual rubber?

You have come to the right place

There are few things that can match the thrills of a fast supercar and fewer still of having a bunch of them racing against each other. Unfortunately, not all of us can indulge in this sport but that's where these racing games come in. Not only do they let us race cars we can only dream of owning in some of the fanciest locations around the world but also do things you just can't in real life. Such as hitting a wall at 300kph and walking out alive.

We have included some popular titles such as Asphalt 7 and Real Racing 2, which are two very diverse games. While one encourages you to drive rash and break the law the other requires disciplined driving around a track. But racing doesn't just have to be about cars, which is why we have Riptide GP, where instead of driving cars on the street or the track you are racing jet skis on a water track. And for those with simpler tastes, there is Hill Climb Racing.

If you're a petrolhead, these games should be on the top of your list.

Need for Speed Most Wanted



Need for Speed Most Wanted for mobile is based on the PC and console game of the same name, which itself is a reboot of the 2005 game. As with the other two games, Need for Speed Most Wanted for mobile focuses as much on cop chases as on outright races. Not only will you have to outrun your



opponents in this game to win the race, but you also have to outrun the cops who are out to get you. The game features a wide range of popular, branded supercars and dozens of tracks and races, so the action continues

for a long time. Highly recommended for racing fans.

Price: ₹275
Link: <http://dgit.in/ZR4Xvm>

Hill Climb Racing



Hill Climb Racing is a simple yet insanely addictive game. Although not exactly a racing game in the strictest sense of the term, Hill Climb Racing has you driving a car on a bumpy road to see how far you can go. The game employs some of the



most amusing physics we have seen in a game and it's hard not to laugh when the car flips over and your driver snaps his neck (yes, that's strangely funny in this game). The best part? It's completely free of cost. Hill Climb Racing is



a great pickup-and-play title that anyone can enjoy.

Price: Free

Link: <http://dgit.in/Ya8dBi>



Real Racing 2



There are arcade racers and then there are simulators. Whereas arcade racers let you play fast and loose without worrying too much about things like driving discipline and vehicle physics, simulators

demand accuracy and precision in driving. Real Racing 2 falls in the latter category, where you drive popular cars from top manufacturers on some of the most famous tracks around the world. There are rules to follow here and things like physics to keep in mind. This game is for those who respect the art of racing and want to do things the way the professionals do



it. Within the virtual world, of course.

Price: ₹270

Link: Dgit.in/FTRealRacing2

Riptide GP



Riptide GP differs a bit from most racing games out there, wherein instead of cars you now have jet skis to race across a water track. The game features some very realistic physics and water effects. It features seven different jet skis which you can



race across twelve different tracks. Race your opponents to the finish line and pull off some mid-air stunts with your jet ski for extra boost. Riptide GP is a fun racing game for those who might want something



other than cars.

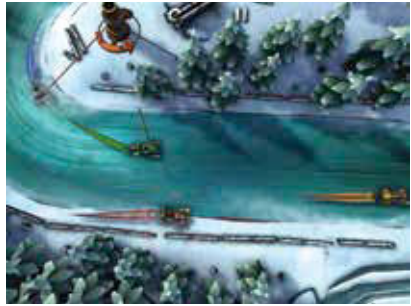
Price: ₹110

Link: <http://dgit.in/WbYyux>

Slingshot Racing



Slingshot racing as the name suggests isn't your average car racing game. It is a steampunk visual masterpiece written exclusively for touchscreen devices. The real gameplay difference in a race here is the



grappling hook that slingshots you around corners. The racing takes place in a bird's eye view arena. This game has many modes and the career mode has 80 races with different objectives. The environments you race in are awesome. The pickup mode has you racing to collect cogs in a track and the chomper had has you racing away from a chomper along the track. It also



has local four player multiplayer.

Price: ₹55

Link: <http://dgit.in/slingshotracing>

Asphalt 7: Heat



Asphalt 7 is an absolute treat for racing game fans. It's got loads of cars to choose from made by popular car makers. Soundtracks in the game create that vibe you get when you see *Fast & Furious* movies. You can either play Career mode, have



Quick Races with types such as Drift, Elimination, or the Burnout-esque Beat 'em all mode. There's also multi-player over the internet, Wifi or Bluetooth. Graphics are fantastic and the landscapes of cities are believable. The best part is when you activate Nitro and the screen goes blue and blurry, as you



try hard to stay on the road.

Price: ₹55

Link: dgit.in/FTAsphalt7

Bike Race Free



Taking a break from photorealistic graphics, Bike Race Free is a simple game where you ride what looks (and vaguely sounds) like a dirt-bike across mazes. The controls of the game are simple – accelerate, brake, and tilt the device left or right to control the angle of the bike. Using these, you will need to navigate over numerous tracks with increasing difficulty. These tracks have bumps, inclines, declines and spirals that range from straightforward to unusual, so the laws of physics are put to test. You have 13 bikes to choose from, and



Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTBikeRace

GT Racing: Motor Academy



GT Racing is a racing simulation game with career mode as well as multiplayer of up to 6 players. You'll get behind the wheels of over a 100 popularly branded cars from brands like Audi, Nissan, Ferrari, Ford etc. There's a wide variety of tracks to race on in beautiful locales; from sunny cities to snow-clad mountains to the dusty off-roads. You'll keep unlocking more cars and events as you earn more credits and XP in the game. But if you want to access everything at once, you have the facility of an in-app



purchase to unlock it all.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTGTRacing

Race, Stunt, Fight 2!



Remember Roadrash? Well, this game is sort of a modern-day reminder of what fun that game used to be. In Race, Stunt, Fight 2, you can cause total anarchy on the road as you ride your mean machine. You can choose between a street bike, a Harley

or even a cop-bike. The objective of the game is not just to come first, but also to beat the crap out of your opponents, before they do you the honors first. You have weapons straight from hell to choose from — a baseball bat, chainsaw, shotgun, even the flamethrower. You get power-ups as you



tread your path.

Price: Free

Link: digit.in/FTRSF2

PUZZLE

From point and click adventures and board games to architectural swiping, puzzle games on mobile devices cover everything

Puzzle games on touch devices include everything from board game puzzles to indie masterpieces and point and click classics. Point and click games should always be played on touch devices. It makes them much better because you actually feel like you're in complete control when the very motion of touching causes a reaction as opposed to doing the same with a mouse click. Games such as World Of Goo that debuted on consoles and PC are never as much fun on those devices. The puzzle category is also very popular with independent developers probably since this genre allows them to express themselves. Gesundheit on iOS is a great example of how one individual can do everything from drawing art to composing the soundtrack for it and ending up being featured by Apple. Puzzle games also include shape games such as Slice It! that involves geometric knowledge. Also included here is Huebrix by Yellow Monkey studios developed in India. More and more games in this category are now being developed for touch and then ported elsewhere. The best part about these games is that they make you think and the experience of figuring out the next move is very rewarding.



Machinarium



Machinarium is one of the most famous indie puzzle games out there. It's a point and click adventure that redefined the genre. While most point and click games allow you to interact with almost any object on screen, Machinarium lets you only play with what's within your character's reach. The game has no audio or text dialogues. A few tutorial bubbles show gameplay tips to you. You play as a robot named Josef who begins in a garbage dump full of scraps where you start off by trying to reassemble yourself. From the very get go you learn how to interact with things and eventually try and get to a city. The main story is amazing and the game has won awards for the same. The puzzles get harder as you go ahead and there are even some literal brainteasers in there such as when you have to break out of prison. If you get stuck, there's a mini game in the options that you must complete to see a sketch of what you need to do in the current scene. As mentioned earlier, there's no dialogue at all in the game. Everything is done with actions and sketches. Another thing that makes this game great is its brilliant soundtrack. It plays a huge part in making this game what it is today. One important tip for gameplay is that items picked up earlier will be needed at some point later. You may forget what you have picked up. That can't be emphasized enough. Machinarium is best played on an iPad or Android tablet as opposed to a phone because of its scale. Machinarium



is just that darn good.

Price: ₹220

<http://dgit.in/machinariumft>



Blueprint 3D



Blueprint 3D as the name suggests involves blueprints of 3D structures and objects. When you start playing you see an open sheet with lines and words all scrambled up. You slide your

finger across the screen to rotate the cluster of lines and words to make them align, which happens only in one orientation. You keep trying by sliding over all planes and in every direction to make everything align perfectly. The game has its own soundtrack but has an option to let you play your own music as well. You can even use its 3D blueprint camera to take pictures



and share the puzzles with your friends.

Price: ₹55

Link: <http://dgit.in/blueprint3dios>

Pudding Monsters



Zeptolab is known to create memorable games with friendly characters such as Om Nom and Cut The Rope. Its latest game Pudding Monsters is no less. Your main objective is to slide pudding blobs together onto tiles on the screen that have stars. These star tiles are close to each other so the bigger your blob, the higher your chances of getting three stars.

There are objects on the board that help or make things worse for you and you'll often



end up sliding your pudding outside causing the charming pudding characters to express themselves. The puzzles are unique and fun. Though there's no comparison to Angry Birds, this is yet another game that can be



enjoyed by users of all ages.

Price: Free with ads, ₹110

Link: <http://dgit.in/puddingmonstersft>

Checkers 2 Players



With more and more board games coming to tablets and phones, game-play is often dependent on bluetooth connectivity or having a particular device on the same network as another or even signing up for accounts on services you'll never end up using later. Checkers 2 Players does things the old school way. It's just a replacement for a board of checkers and nothing more.



sliding pieces off. The themes for the board and pieces are great.

Price: ₹ 270

Link: <http://dgit.in/checkers2players>



Windosill



Windosill is an art game. Your iPad becomes your windowsill taking you through some of the most visually appealing puzzles out there. Windosill isn't like any game you have ever played before. You explore a dream world of eleven

completely unique and beautiful environments. You play as a toy train engine, and the main objective of every level is to get the cube into the hole above the door on the right. How you get the cube changes each time. While it may look like a kids game, it's anything but that. It can take anywhere between 30 minutes to 3 hours to complete and is meant to be played in a



single sitting.

Price: ₹170

Link: <http://dgit.in/windosillft>

Osmos HD



Osmos is an Independent Games Festival Winner. It has also won an Apple Design Award in addition to a multitude of other awards for its brilliance. Osmos is an ambient game that is best enjoyed with a good pair of ear-



phones. You experience an elegant dream world and start out as a sphere trying to grow by absorbing things smaller than you. Tapping on any direction will eject matter and propel you. Ejecting matter reduces your size so be very careful. The game is all about being patient and executing thought out moves. You have to be quick in some of the game modes though. There are many different organisms you interact with such as attractors, repulsors and others similar to yourself.

The two main modes are Odyssey and Arcade. Odyssey gives you 27 levels of basically a glorified tutorial for what to expect and how to play difficult levels. Arcade mode lets you pick any level and play it at any difficulty. If the game is moving too fast or too slowly for you, gestures help you increase or decrease the pace. These can be very useful in some of the modes that involve very small mass ejections to move slowly. As expected, Osmos has a very outer space-esque soundtrack that makes you feel like you're in another world while playing it with ear-phones on.

The game has been built completely keeping multitouch in mind so you can go wild. While it does work on phones as well, this game is best played on tablets and has a local multiplayer



option as well. We last heard that the game is a big drain on your phone



battery (around 2-3% per minute) so have your charger ready.

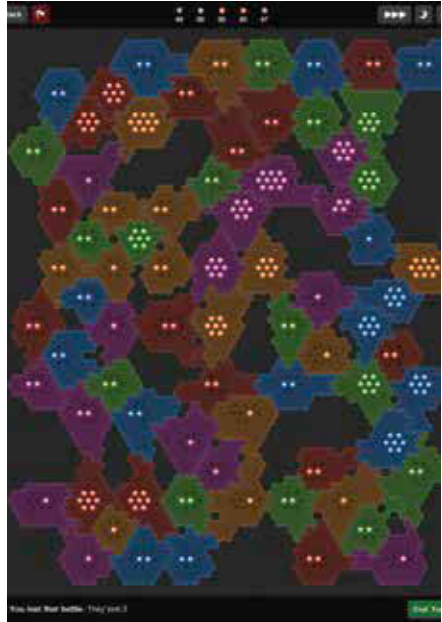
Price: Free demo, ₹170

Link: <http://dgit.in/osmosmobile>

Strategy



Strategy takes the concept of annexing nations and wars and brings it down to a minimal level. World domination was never this addictive. Your offence and defense strategies are put to the test as you start out with few regions indicated by your colour and have dots inside them. Occupied dots indicate your troops. You start a battle by tapping one of your regions and then an adjoining one with fewer dots than yours. The game is all about chance. The occupied dots are hexagonal dice so they're rolled to decide who wins this small battle.



There are tons of maps that are randomly generated and you can play against the computer or other players. If you win a small battle, you continue your turn until you lose a battle. There will be more than four different empires indicated by colours playing on a single map and it is every man for himself.

There are four difficulty settings and the last two are insanely difficult. You'll most probably not be able to go beyond one move in brutal difficulty. The local multiplayer game can be played on one device by passing it to up to five players. There are tons of options to customize the gameplay from how fast the computer plays to how your troops behave. You can set your troops to stick to the borders or stay where they are. Each decision made in these settings will change the game for you and the replayability factor is very high.



Price: ₹110

Link: <http://dgit.in/strategyios>

World of Goo



World of Goo by 2D Boy has been around for a while. It is a point and click physics-based puzzle game where you create large structures using goo balls. Your aim is to interact with and get as many goo balls as possible to escape through the pipe. There are five chapters in the main story and each chapter has many levels within it. Each chapter is set in a completely different environment and the looks alone will blow your mind before you have the time to start playing a level and enjoy the epic level



music. Each chapter has its own unique goo balls with unique abilities as well. The first one has green ones that can be reused while the black ones can't be used again. The Information Superhighway that is filled with programming humour has green and red colour goo balls that fly in a path of 0s and 1s (there's a binary joke in there somewhere) and can't be placed any other way. White goo balls in the second level are sleeping and can be stretched when woken up to form water droplet-like structures. Throughout the game there's an unseen character known as the Sign Painter who guides you through the new levels with tips and tricks and a great sense of humour. The first chapter ends with goo balls escaping on eyeballs that can fly. The other mode of gameplay is World of Goo Corporation that allows you to create an infinite structure with the goo balls you've saved. Each level has an OCD number that is the maximum result that can be achieved in the level. World Of Goo is available for



phones and tablets but best works on an iPad or Nexus 7.

Price: Free demo, ₹270

Link: <http://dgit.in/worldofgooft>



Little Inferno



From the creators of World of Goo comes another piece of gaming brilliance in the form of Little Inferno. Little inferno is a sand-boxed puzzle game played from a first person perspective. You possess the Little Inferno Entertainment Fireplace that allows you to burn multiple available objects such as toys and other household things to keep warm. The outside temperature is dropping and in between games, the weatherman drops in to inform you of the current weather. When you burn something, money is earned and you use that to buy more items to

burn from the mail order catalogues. It may seem like the game has in-app purchases but it is completely in-app purchase and paid upgrade free. The objective in this part of the game is to burn things together to try and solve the riddles by executing a combo. This not only earns you more money but also gets you to the next catalogue faster. The objects you interact with also affect other objects; a hair trimmer ends up destroying firewood while you try and burn both of them. Objects such as tablets and cans of soda explode differently and many of them have short mini games after exploding. There's a game of duck tapping similar to the classic game Duck Hunt or spider eggs tapping after a tarantula has been set ablaze. The combos that you need to achieve to solve riddles get much harder as the game progresses and they involve burning items across catalogues. This may annoy people because some of the combos are nearly impossible to guess. Through the game you are also sent messages from your neighbour by post that eventually get burnt as well. Are you sensing a theme here? The end of the game is the best part. The



story and commentary is so good it sends you into introspection.

Price: ₹270

Link: <http://dgit.in/littleinfernoios>



Gesundheit



As with most of the other games featured in this category, Gesundheit is an indie masterpiece. You play as a little green pig with a horrible allergy trying to escape monsters by sneeze shooting. The monsters

eat your snot and settle there giving you more room to explore and collect the star fruits. The game has lovely hand-drawn graphics and an original soundtrack. The puzzles in the game become extremely difficult as the enemies which include humming birds and location-aware monsters start appearing. The gameplay is very rewarding. Gesundheit is one of the best



gaming experiences you can have on an iPad.

Price: ₹170

Link: <http://dgit.in/gesundheithd>

Zen Bound 2



Zen Bound 2 is a sequel to the multiple award-winning Zen Bound game that was only available on the iPhone. The game exemplifies puzzles and meditation. Your main aim is to wrap a rope around various



sculptures while making sure to cover maximum area. Zen Bound 2 also features paint bombs to make wrapping easier and makes full use of the accelerometer of your device with tilt control. The soundtrack has a very calming effect on you. The game gets difficult as you play through and try and finish all 100 levels. It also includes every level from the original game



with redone high-resolution graphics.

Price: ₹170

Link: <http://dgit.in/zenbound2ft>

EDGE Extended



Edge involves you controlling a rolling cube around a maze of blocks while trying not to fall over the edge. You have to collect prisms and avoid the obstacles that become dynamic as you go ahead in the game. Moving platforms and walls that throw you off the level are just some of the obstacles. You control the cube by swiping. One thing that sets this game apart barring the looks is the all-new 3D engine that was created for the game. It looks great on high-resolution screens such as the iPad with Retina Display, and the engine allows the game to change perspective



in a level very smoothly. There are over 40 levels in the game and to make things even better it introduces a dark cube that triggers wall movements or shows you new things in the levels to add to the overall fun. Upon completing the levels in the game, you're presented with a new mode that lets you race against yourself as you played the game earlier. This is similar to how you see a replay in Super Meat Boy on PC or Xbox. Edge ran into legal trouble with EA on launching the first game but Edge Extended has been doing brilliantly since its launch. It was also included in Humble Android bundles that are worth checking out to get games DRM free with soundtracks. Speaking of soundtracks, Edge Extended features songs from the first game and 23 newly written songs to go along with the levels. Most indie games have the best soundtracks. The game is beyond worth it.



Price: ₹170

Link: <http://dgit.in/edgeext>

McPixel



McPixel is a very sarcastic and dark retro point and click game that involves you interacting with almost everything in the environment while trying to save the world. You have to prevent stuff from blowing up and try and dispose of the bomb that's usually hidden in each scene. You have only 20 seconds to finish this task and everything you do affects



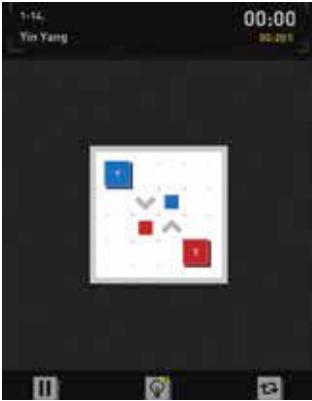
how the rest of the scene will play out. The music is great and the scene endings when you have failed are even better. The best part is that this game was advertised on The Pirate Bay. Everyone was encouraged to try the game before buying the full version. It was the first game to use a torrent site to advertise. The game has multiple gameplay modes. After completing the story mode, you unlock the ending mode and can always play endless mode that gives you random scenes. The story mode is split up into different levels each represented by McPixel at a stage in life. If you have interacted with every element in a scene and completed it, you get a gold star that unlocks more levels. So once you're done playing through the 100 levels, there are more to unlock. It is a great game to pass time when you have a few minutes to kill. While it is available for PC/Mac as well, point and click games work best on touch screens.



Check the website as well which behaves like the game does.

Price: Free Lite version, ₹170 full version

Link: <http://dgit.in/mcpixelft>



Huebrix



Huebrix is a fun puzzle game by Indian developer company Yellow Monkey Studios. The game involves colored blocks of a certain number. Your goal is to fill the puzzle with blocks of all colors by swiping and spreading them around in a grid. Sounds quite simple but it's actually deviously tricky to fill the puzzle with all the colored blocks. There are also special blocks that add or subtract

color blocks, make them move in a particular direction only or allow only a certain block to occupy that space. Heubrix is a real brain-teaser of a game



and completely worth the \$0.99 price.

Price: Platform: iOS (₹55), Android (Free)

Link: Dgit.in/FTHuebrix

Contre Jour



Contre Jour is a puzzle game that is in equal parts beautiful and challenging. The game uses wonderful artwork and animation design and lovely background music that stays with you long after you've stop playing the game. The puzzles involve you moving the character across the



screen towards the goal while collecting light orbs. The character itself can't be moved so you have to alter the environment to move it around the screen. The gameplay of Contre Jour occasionally reminds one of Cut the Rope but



it's the quality of the artwork that sets Contre Jour apart.

Price: Android (₹110), iOS (₹170), Windows Phone (₹165)

Link: Dgit.in/FTContrejour



Splice



Splice is a tricky little game that involves rearranging biological patterns into symmetric forms. Every puzzle consists of a biological pattern that is out of order. Your job is to rearrange the pieces in the correct

order. You can move individual pieces around but then the ones attached to that also move with it. Certain pieces split up when you tap them, creating more of them. You need to figure out which piece to move where. Don't be fooled by the game's colorful visuals and soothing music. This one is a real head-scratcher.



Price: iOS (₹220), Android (₹162)

Link: Dgit.in/FTSplice

Spirits



Spirits gets its name from the lithe white creatures that you control in this game. You need to help these little things reach the spirit world but before that you need to help them traverse

the obstacles in their path. Each spirit has multiple abilities that lets them move around the obstacles. Just tap on them to invoke the right ability. Your goal is to get as many of them across while sacrificing as few as possible.

Just like some of the games we've discussed before, Spirits uses a highly artistic and beautiful visual style and marries it with a hauntingly beautiful soundtrack that perfectly complements the calm and soothing nature of the game. The puzzles are no cakewalk, however. While completing a level is not particularly difficult, completing it with the recommended number of spirits is quite challenging, especially at later levels. There is always the temptation to use as many spirits as possible but it takes some skill to get



the job done with as few as possible.

Price: iOS (₹275), Android (₹161)

Link: Dgit.in/FTSpirits



Freeze



Freeze is going to put the accelerometer on your phone or tablet to good use. The game involves moving an object around a maze to the goal by moving your device from side to side. Sounds simple enough but the levels are anything but. The gameplay can go from challenging to maddeningly difficult at times, not that it's a bad thing. The name comes from the ability to freeze the object in mid air, turn the device and control where it falls next. Freeze may be a bit rough around the edges but it's definitely fun for those who



like a bit of a challenge. And it's free to boot.

Price: iOS (₹55), Android (Free)

Link: Dgit.in/FTFreeze



Where's My Water



Where's My Water is a popular puzzle game based on the story of an alligator named Swampy, who has taken refuge in the sewers. As other alligators keep disrupting the water pipes, Swampy can't take a shower. Your job is to find ways to get the water to flow to the pipe to aid his bath. Okay, childish storyline aside (hey, it's a Disney game — what do you expect?) the trick in the game is to get the mostly limited quantity of water across pipes to

its destination. There are counter-productive obstructions that'll make it



a tough gig as you progress the levels.

Price Free

Link: dgit.in/FTWhereismyWater

Where's My Perry



Conceptually, Where's My Perry is similar to Where's My Water mentioned before, but instead of a pro-hygienic alligator, you have a bird donning the role of an agent of law enforcement. There's an evil professor who has trapped him into these puzzles, that you need to solve to break him out. Like the previous game, the objective is to create a path for the water to reach the pipe that frees Perry from his trap (transporting him into the next one). In this game, you have to deal with lasers that turn water



to steam and layers of ice that keep growing further.

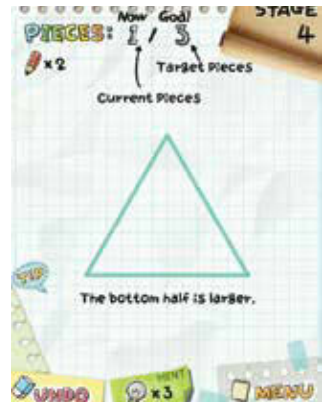
Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTWhereisMyPerry

Slice it!



Slice It! will tease the geometric part of your mind quite well. Its design look childish, but it will get your head scratching as you progress the levels. The objective of the game is simple — you get basic geometric shapes such as a triangle, rectangle etc. which you must make into equal parts in the specified number of moves. There are hints that you can look at in case you're stuck. You can also undo a move. The best part of this game is that it really pushes your



mind to visualize to achieve the task.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTSliceIt



Rail Maze



Rail Maze is an interesting puzzle game. The premise of the game involves a locomotive and its bogies that need to be taken from their starting point to their destination. The puzzle is in the randomly arranged path of railway tracks with circular knobs that make the train go in a particular direction. You need to turn all the knobs in accurate positions first, then click to release the train from its parking shed. If all goes well, the train reaches its destination safely and you proceed to the next maze. But even if one knob isn't pointing correctly, it causes a derail, thereby restarting the level.



Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTRailMaze

RPGs

From retro pixel art to full-blown open world environments, RPGs on touchscreens have come a long way.

The role-playing game genre on mobile devices is a niche one. While most people get their quick fix from casual games like Angry Birds and the like, there is a group of people who like to play long and immersive games on their smartphones and tablets. RPGs often offer over 20 hours of gameplay and are expensive for the same reason. They are high quality games and have epic story lines. More and more RPGs have been recoded with touch in mind and are a joy to play. For instance, tapping enemies in real time battles is much easier than having to use a directional pad to select them. Thanks to better hardware we are even seeing some PlayStation 1 RPGs like The Bard's Tale make their way to smartphones and tablets. Some developers are also making use of in app purchases so you can get a taste of the game before shelling out money for the rest of the story. The games featured in this category are the cream of the crop when it comes to immersive gameplay and if you are a retro gaming fan, you will end up playing all of them.

Final Fantasy IV



Final Fantasy IV is one of the most famous RPGs of all time. It still is considered to have the best story amongst all the games in the Final Fantasy series by many. Not only does it have 50+ hours of gameplay but it also has an amazing soundtrack done by Nobuo Uematsu. It was released



Time Battle that has become a staple in every Final Fantasy game.

Price: ₹ 890

<http://dgit.in/FinalFantasy4>

Chrono Trigger



Chrono Trigger is a timeless classic (no pun intended). Unlike Final Fantasy IV on iOS, Chrono Trigger is completely 2D. You play as Chrono and your quest takes you through time with your companions to the past, future and even the end of time. The game

was first available on the SNES back in the day and is finally available on iOS and Android. The planet's future is at stake and only you can save it. Chrono Trigger also features music by award winning composer, Yasunori Mitsuda. The game has been adapted for touch and is much easier to play



now. Android version has online DRM so get it on iOS.

Price: ₹ 550 iOS, Android

<http://dgit.in/ChronoTriggeriOS>

Superbrothers : Sword & Sworcery EP



Sword & Sworcery EP (henceforth #sworcery) is the most beautiful adventure game you will ever experience. The pixel art visuals are stunning and the in game music is perfect. You explore a mystic realm and retrieve the Megatome while summoning sprites through musical puzzles. The game is also affected by the real time phase of the moon with accurate data so it is to be played over multiple sittings. #sworcery has won multiple awards and is a niche game. Sharing quotes from the game to twitter while playing is a nice addition. It is best enjoyed on an iPad with good headphones.



Price: ₹ 270. iOS , Android

<http://dgit.in/sworceryiOS>



10000000



10000000 is a unique RPG that involves running through dungeons while matching puzzles mashing up the popular genres of mobile gaming brilliantly. You combat monsters by swiping rows and columns of tiles to match a pattern in the puzzle below and different tiles correspond to different objects. Matching shields can protect you from damage and matching swords or staves can be used to attack. Match stone and wood to collect resources to protect the castle. If you have played endless runners like Temple Run or Jetpack Joyride, this game has objectives as well that reward you upon completion.



All items earned are available in your next run which is awesome.

Price: ₹ iOS, Android Rs 110

<http://dgit.in/10000000iOS>



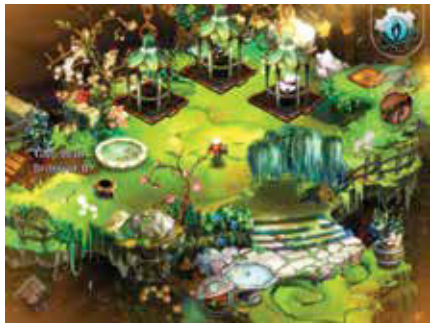
Bastion



Bastion is another award winning game in this collection. It has received praise for its amazing art style and music. Being one of the best sellers on Xbox Live Arcade, it was only natural for Supergiant Games to have ported the game to iOS and they've done an amazing job. They have rewritten the



controls keeping in mind the touchscreen and have also made the traditional controls available as an option. You play as The Kid in a fantasy world after an unfortunate calamity that destroyed the city of Caelondia. The highlight of this game apart from the visuals and music is the narrator speaking your every move and telling you about stuff within the game. His voice will stick with you long after you have finished the game. You play through different environments that end with you collecting a shard and quickly retreating. Experience points help you increase your health and it's great fun to experiment with the unique weapons available. Bastion for iOS has iCloud save file sync as well which more games need to incorporate.



iOS (iPhone 4S and above/ iPad 2 and above)

Price: ₹ 270

<http://dgit.in/BastioniOS>

Final Fantasy Dimensions



As we've mentioned before, Final Fantasy is one of the most iconic game series ever. Square Enix has put out many amazing games since its first games in the 80s. With the newer Final Fantasy titles making full use of modern hardware and graphics,



fans of the classic FF games were often left in the cold. FF Dimensions was developed specifically for iOS and Android devices. It goes back to the roots of what made the series great. The game has an amazing story and classic battle system. You start playing as the warriors of light sent to investigate the crystals while the warriors of dark are sent to steal the crystals. Square Enix even had chiptune BGM composed for the uber retro fans.



Price: ₹ 1100 on Android, Free on iOS with in app purchases to unlock the story.

<http://dgit.in/FFdimensions>

The Bard's Tale



Given the most popular games on mobile devices like Angry Birds, one wouldn't expect a full-fledged 3D RPG like The Bard's Tale to be available. But with devices getting better hardware more games like



this are coming to mobile devices. The Bard's Tale is the biggest android game ever. It is full of humour and loads of action as you embark upon your huge quest. The game lets you explore vast towns and forests and face over 50 enemies. The visuals are great and gameplay is fun. The best part about the Android version is native support for popular gamepads like Xbox 360 and PS3 controller. The game also includes the classic trilogy.



Price: ₹ 110 iOS (sale price), Android ₹ 350, BB Playbook.

<http://dgit.in/tbebardstalerpg>

CASUAL

So you are waiting for your bus and want something to entertain you till then? These are the games you should be looking at.

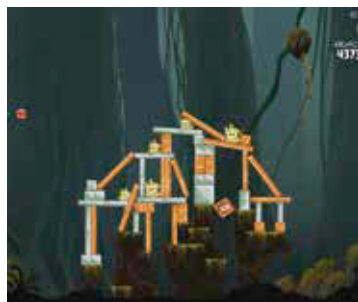
It's hard to say what makes casual games so addictive. Perhaps it's the simple nature of the gameplay. Or the ability to just pick it up and quickly play a level without having to invest too much time and energy playing an entire campaign. Or the thrill of getting that high-score and comparing it with your friends'. Or perhaps it's the combination of all of these factors.

We have lined up quite a few casual games for you here. Unlike the puzzle games, there is not much thinking required to play these games. Sure, you still need to have skills to get the job done effectively. Take Fruit Ninja, for instance, where being able to string together combos can mean the difference between an average score and a great score. But even if you're not particularly great at them, you can still enjoy these games and progress ahead without breaking into a sweat. And the levels are all short, so you can quickly start and end a game. Perfect for when you have to kill some time.

Angry Birds Star Wars



Star Wars needs no introduction and neither does Angry Birds. So what happens when two of the biggest franchise combine “forces”? You get a game, that despite what one might think, isn’t as tired and repetitive as you’d expect. The birds



have gone through a complete overhaul and most of them feature completely new abilities, such as light sabers and the ability to use the Force to blow blocks out of your way and destroying the evil pigs, who are now dressed as Storm Troopers. Angry Birds Star Wars is a surprisingly fresh take on



an old game and worth a shot.

Price: Platform: iOS (₹55), Android (Free), Windows Phone 8 (₹65)

Link: digit.in/FTABStarWars

Fruit Ninja



There is not much to say about Fruit Ninja that hasn’t already been said in the past several years since it released. It’s still one of the best casual games around and satisfies that natural urge we all have in our hearts, of slicing fruits with a ninja sword. Over the years it has gone through several changes, gaining



new fruits with new abilities and a multi-player mode on the iPad but the core gameplay remains the same: slice as many fruits as you can and score as high as possible to unlock more blades and backgrounds. It might be old but Fruit Ninja is still one of the best ways around to kill time (if you didn’t know that already).



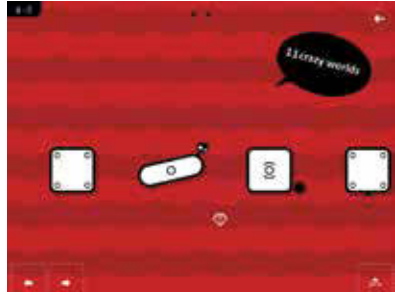
Price: Platform: iOS (₹55), Android (₹66), Windows Phone (₹55)

Link: Digit.in/FTFruitNinja

They Need To Be Fed



In they need to be fed, you have to, well, feed the little black monsters. However, instead of controlling the monsters themselves, the game makes you control the little characters (that look suspiciously like children)



over obstacles and finally straight into the open mouths of the monsters. Each level has you jumping over floating objects that get more and more hostile as the levels progress. They Need To Be Fed may look like a very simple and boring game on the surface but the clever levels have just the right amount



of challenge that makes it hard to put down once you pick it up.

Price: Platform: Android (₹55), iOS (₹55)

Link: Dgit.in/FTNeedToBeFed

Twist Pilot



Twist Pilot is a fun new puzzle game from Zynga, the makers of Farmville. While it may seem a bit juvenile on the surface with its cartoony animation style and overly cheerful music, there is no denying that at its heart Twist Pilot is very enjoyable. You are in control of this constantly rotating band-aid and you have to navigate it through



obstacles and tight corners keeping in mind its rotation, without touching the sides. If you hit the sides too many times, it's game over. Despite the simple premise, Twist Pilot is quite fun once you get over the feeling that



the game has been made only for kids.

Price: Platform: Android (₹55), iOS (₹55)

Link: Dgit.in/FTTwistPilot

Sprinkle



In Sprinkle you basically play as a hose of water mounted on a crane. A planet is being bombarded by fiery meteor fragments that are burning everything in their path. It's your job to put out the fire and save the day. You get a limited quantity



of water and you have to use it wisely to put out all the fire while saving as much as possible to get a higher rating. You can control the firing angle of the water cannon and bounce the liquid off surfaces to access hard to reach spots. Sprinkle makes use of some of the finest water physics we have seen



in a mobile game so far.

Price: Platform: iOS (₹110), Android (₹110)

Link: Dgit.in/FTSprinkle

Collision Effect Lite (Free)



Collision Effect Lite is a beautiful looking game set in a galactic backdrop. The objective of the game is simple – you have orbs of different colours appearing from all four corners



of the screen. You have to tap the orbs of matching colours using as many fingers as you can, accelerating them towards each other to merge. But it's not that simple – you have to make sure that orbs of different colours don't collide, else it's Game Over. If you seek to challenge your mind, it has a puzzle



mode too where it's not just all about the hand-eye coordination.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTCollisionEffect

Air Wings



Air Wings is a multiplayer only game where you have to fly a paper airplane and destroy the others. Surroundings are made out of real world objects and the weapons in your fighter are pencil missiles, spit wads, and rubber bands. You even have a thrust of air to make your plane fly. You have a variety of paper planes and toy planes after purchasing an upgrade. The game uses 6 axes of control in modern iOS devices, giving delightfully precise motion when controlling the planes. The only thing missing from this game are single player campaigns since you have to be online to play.



Price: Free

Link: digit.in/FTAirWings



Frisbee Forever



Frisbee Forever is a fairly simple game – a Frisbee with endless flying abilities has to be navigated across a path to collect stars. The paths become increasingly complicated as you pass the levels, collecting experience points and medals along the way. You can either use the edges of the touchscreen or the motion sensors to fly your Frisbee. But we found both methods to be over sensitive so it takes some time getting used to. It has bright scenic graphics and background scores that'll put a smile on your face. Your dog might feel jealous if you're seen playing this game!



Price: Free

Link: digit.in/FTFrisbee



Occupied

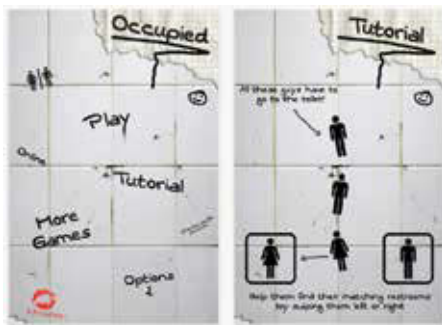


Occupied is an ‘embarrassingly’ simple game where only a few things are expected from you – minute attention and probably some discretion while playing it on full volume. The game needs you to put an ongoing queue of people into their suitable restrooms. But in the unfortunate event that you put a guy in the ladies room, a huge feminine shriek and it’s game over. Other than man and woman, you also have bathrooms for kids, dogs and even aliens. It keeps getting tougher as restroom signs keep switching and power outages come your way etc.



Price: (₹55)

Link: digit.in/FTOccupied



Traffic Panic



Another absolutely painless game that you can single-handedly play; you just need good hand-eye coordination and good timing. Traffic Panic puts you in the seat of a traffic signal controller at an intersection. Unfortunately, cars from the opposite signal seem to have a green light turned perpetually on. Now, traffic on your side will keep piling up unless you take risky manoeuvres to clear it off in time. A flick of a switch keeps toggling the signal from red to green. But one wrong move, and you’ll get to witness from simple car crashes to huge explosions with a crazy pile up.



Price: Free

Link: digit.in/FTTrafficPanic



Relic Rush



Relic Rush is an extremely simple game with a completely retro feel. You control the fearless hero by a single touch through over 100 levels in environments like jungles and volcanoes. Tap anywhere and hold to avoid hazards. Each level is filled with more enemies and hazards and you learn how each object behaves as you play. The objective of the game is to pass 8 levels and collect idols. You are allowed infinite lives but are scored depending on how quickly you clear all the levels. A game with one touch controls that looks this good is definitely worthy of playing



for when you have time to kill.

Price: iOS Rs 55

Link: <http://dgit.in/relicrush>

Doodle Jump



This is the game that made accelerometer controlled infinite jumping popular. Doodle Jump arrived on the App Store very early and coupled with its addictive gameplay and lovely drawn visuals took everyone by storm. You guide the doodler by tilting your device as he jumps up and avoids obstacles while trying to get power ups like the jetpack and spring shoes. Tap above the doodler in the direction of the enemy to shoot at it. There are paper tears and other obstacles that must be avoided. Did we mention how addictive it is? You have been warned.



Price: iOS, Android, Windows Phone, Blackberry ₹55

Link: <http://dgit.in/doodlejumpiOS>

Sonic Jump



While most folks would compare Sonic Jump to Doodle Jump, it must be noted that Sonic Jump was released way before Doodle Jump or the App Store existed on Sony Erickson devices in a basic form. Sonic Jump is another take on getting through different zones to collect rings only this time the action is akin to Doodle Jump for readers familiar with that game. You control Sonic with your device accelerometer and collect rings while avoiding enemies and other obstacles. The soundtrack has that typical Sonic charm. Sega has been doing some great stuff with the franchise. It is definitely worth playing.



Price: iOS, Android ₹110

Link: <http://dgit.in/SonicJump>

Mutant Mudds



Platformers on iOS can go either way. The gameplay can be fantastic with a great story only to be let down by clunky touch controls. Fortunately Mutant Mudds on iOS has great responsive controls. You play as Max trying to save the earth from the aliens known as Mudds. The game begins with Max watching TV and quickly escalating to him setting out to destroy the aliens. As with any platformer you can jump or shoot and here tapping jump again enables the jetpack. One unique thing about this game is the amount of hidden stuff and the way you change perspective in a level to play in the background or foreground.



Price: ₹55

Link: <http://dgit.in/mutantmudds>

League Of Evil 2



League Of Evil was critically acclaimed on iOS. Its sequel is even better. The world is at stake when scientists team up to form the league of evil. You play as a super agent who can save the



world. The comic book visuals are lovely. The game is one of the most fun platformers you will ever play. It has great responsive controls and the levels are challenging. There are over 100 levels that let you destroy scientists with amazing boss battles. Your progress is synced across devices with iCloud. The game also supports iCade gamepads via Bluetooth.

Price: iOS Free demo, ₹110

Link: <http://dgit.in/LeagueOfEvil2>

WORD GAMES

It's so easy to get hooked on to word games especially if they're right on your mobile phone! If you love word games as much as we do, you must give our list a peek!

We've been playing word games for as long as we can remember. From puzzles to solving crosswords, or even making up new words, word games have managed to keep us busy for hours. Solving word puzzles in English class as kids was a mandate. Vacations have been incomplete without that board of Scrabble. An evening with friends turns into a fun one only after you've squabbled over a game of Taboo. And let's not forget Hangman; it's like everybody has their own version of the game. Remember how you spent an hour waiting for your date but you didn't really care because you were so engrossed trying to solve a crossword puzzle? That's the power of word games. Which is why, we couldn't have possibly missed out on word game apps for your mobile now, could we? So after hours of scouring and playing and coming up with words that don't even exist, we have here a list of some of the cleverest word games out there for your mobile phone! Say hello to wordy time wasting and goodbye to productivity.

Ruzzle



This game has been making lots of noise in the world of mobile games is Ruzzle. The game that launched in mid-2012 has now become one of the most popular mobile games of 2013. Ruzzle is quite a simple social word puzzle game. The game involves two players — you and your friend or even a random player. Both of you have exactly three minutes to find as many words as possible across the grid of letters. Unlike Scrabble, Ruzzle comes with very few limitations.

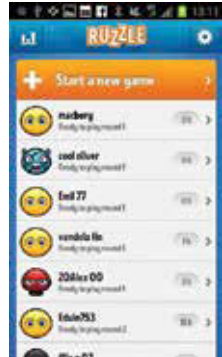
Ruzzle lets you swipe up, down, left, right and diagonally to find words. Not to forget, it integrates Facebook beautifully. Ruzzle lets you sign in and play the game with friends and family from Facebook. Word-puzzle lovers,



you'll fall in love with Ruzzle instantly.

Price: Free

Link: <http://dgit.in/1OUDjMW>



Words With Friends



If you'd trade your right hand to play Scrabble all day long, Words With Friends is for you. Although the game is by no means officially connected to Scrabble, Words With Friends is more or less a social game version of Scrabble for mobile. It lets you play the game of Scrabble with any of your friends and family, picking when to play each word at your own discretion. The multi-

player word game developed by Zynga allows you to build words crossword puzzle style. It lets you look up friends by their respective usernames or even through Facebook. The game also lets you play with a random opponent. While playing Words With Friends, you can also chat with your opponent.



Need we say more?

Price: Free

Link: <http://dgit.in/XPQxvd>

Wordfeud

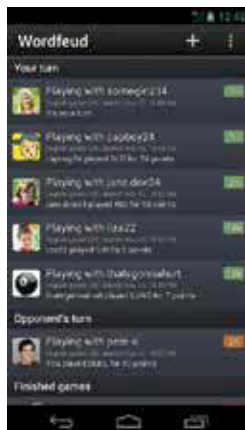


Another game that will remind you of Scrabble is Wordfeud. Although Wordfeud is not as visually attractive as Words With Friends, it's pretty swift. The board of the game looks almost like the Scrabble board. Wordfeud also lets you invite friends or pick random players to compete with. The app has an in-built chat feature that lets you chat with your competitor while playing the game. Just like Scrabble, Wordfeud requires you to create words of high value to score points. The only drawback of Wordfeud is that it lacks a practice mode or single-player mode. But if you're crazy about Scrabble, Wordfeud is the closest you'll come to it on mobile.



Price: Free

Link: <http://dgit.in/ZwWWtj>



Wordament



Windows Phone users, who don't get to experience the joys of Ruzzle - fret not. Because you have Wordament! Wordament is one of the best word games on Windows Phone that lets you compete at solving word puzzles within a span of two minutes. Like most other social word games, Wordament lets you compete against your friends and family. The game comes with a 4x4 grid, where you can swipe horizontally, diagonally, vertically, cross path or swipe in any direction as long as the letters connect. To score points, you have two whole minutes to come up with as many words as possible. Simple and fun, isn't it?



Price: Free

Link: <http://dgit.in/Wordament>



Hanging With Friends



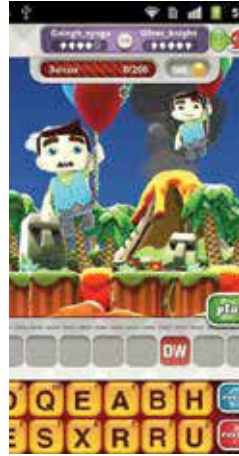
Remember Hangman, the game you used your school blackboard for the most? Miss it, don't you? Why miss it when you can still play it with Hanging With Friends! Zynga's Hanging With Friends lets you form a 4-8 lettered word and send it to your opponent to guess it. The opponent then solves your word and sends a word of his own. What's cute is that instead of the traditional stick figure hanging from the rope, Hanging With Friends lets you create a player avatar hanging from the rope. Every time your guess is wrong, the player avatar frowns. Not to forget, you can play Hanging With Friends with your friends from Twitter,



Facebook or even random opponents.

Price: Android (Free), iOS (₹163)

Link: <http://dgit.in/12YrOjs>



Hangman by Spice



Hangman by Spice is the typical game many of you must have come across by now; the key differentiator is the variety of relevant themes, thereby making guessing the words interesting and maybe easier too. The yellow-colored theme is particularly pleasant to view. You have a dictionary theme, where words that are part of the SAT, TOEFL, GRE and GMAT tests appear. If you're a movie buff then you'll love the Hollywood celebrity one. You also have categories such as music, sports and even mobile games. As you pass each stage, you unlock achievements and



earn badges as prizes.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTHangmanSpice



Spell Rift



Spell Rift has a unique take on word games. From the looks of it one would assume it was just another slide-to-create word game but it's far from just that. Spell Rift has tons of special tiles and these tiles don't just give you "double word score". You create words by sliding over tiles or rocks with letters on them and what makes this game stand out are the special tiles such as the virus one that slides over other tiles infecting them or the vacuum one that sucks the tile below it. There are 21 levels and each one



has different objectives.

Price: ₹220

Link: <http://dgit.in/spellriftipad>



SpellTower



SpellTower is one of the better looking word game of the lot. You drag your finger over letters to form words and get a higher score for larger words. The game has 4 main modes. Tower mode allows you to play with no pressure to try and eliminate as many letters on the screen grid. Puzzle and Ex Puzzle (higher minimum word length) modes add a row for every word you make and you have to ensure no letter tile touches the top of the screen. Rush mode adds new rows with time. The



game has a very Tetris feel to it and has a great local multiplayer.

Price: ₹110

Link: <http://dgit.in/spelltowergame>



Lumicon



Lumicon is a very simple word game that involves you dragging letters that slide into a row above to form words and pop them off. The game has a neon look to it and the soundtrack gets your adrenaline rushing. Popping word combos increases the multiplier and gives you powerups. The difficulty system is ingenious. It changes depending on how you play and there are these annoying freeze tiles that try and make the game much harder. Think of how



Scrabble would be on Star Trek and you get Lumicon.

Price: ₹110

Link: <http://dgit.in/lumicon>

SPORTS

Going beyond just realistic graphics,
modern sports games on mobiles
reimagine the sports and are fun to play

Sports games have come a long way. Better hardware makes for more realistic graphics with better AI. Mobile sports games are plagued with bad controls for the most part unless the developer actually isn't lazy and rethinks the control scheme for a touchscreen. EA released a gamepad touchscreen app that allowed multiple people to control players in FIFA 12 on iOS with iPods or iPhones. This amplified the game's enjoyability. Mobile sports games have something for everyone. There are multiple games for every sport now (including kabaddi). For football fans, there's FIFA or Real Football. There are also many cricket games such as Stick Cricket that everyone will have heard about. Then there are the games such as Wonderputt that completely blow your mind with their creativity. Most people still think sports games only include FIFA and cricket games. Don't be afraid to try something new. The games featured here go beyond your everyday sports games. Given how well franchises such as NBA and FIFA work on smartphones and tablets, don't be surprised if just like FIFA 13, games launch on tablets at the same time as they do on consoles.

Virtua Tennis Challenge



Virtua Tennis is the FIFA of tennis. Sega has released a new game from the franchise for touchscreens called Virtua Tennis Challenge. Sports games are usually clunky on touch-



screens because of the controls. Virtua Tennis Challenge, though has four different modes of control. The swipe mode is the best for ease of playing. The game features clay, grass, hard and indoor courts and you can compete through competitions around the world, play an exhibition match or even play against someone over Wi-Fi or local multiplayer over bluetooth. The game's difficulty setting is very accurate and if you set it too high, it's



insanely difficult.

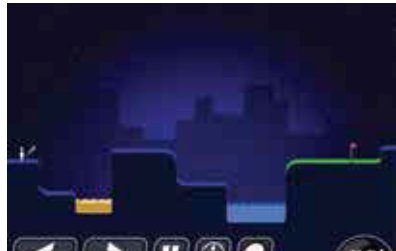
Price: Free trial, ₹270 for full version

Link: <http://dgit.in/virtuatennisfree>

Super Stickman Golf 2



Super Stickman Golf was one of the all-time best mobile games. It was a unique take on golf in a 2D environment with a strong emphasis on powerups. Super



Stickman Golf 2 takes it to the next level. There are now 20 courses, more characters with customizations and an all-new online multiplayer mode. The new courses are dynamic making them even harder to play. The controls are simple. Aim and tap once to confirm and start the power bar and once more to swing at that power level. Super Stickman Golf 2 is a great sequel



to the original loved golf game.

Price: Free ad-supported or ₹55

Link: <http://dgit.in/superstickman>

Wonderputt



Popular flash games often make their way to tablets. Wonderputt is the most creative reimagination of mini golf ever. It has won multiple awards for its art style. It takes golf and converts it



into an adventure with cows, ski slopes and even torpedoes. The 18 holes are by far the most creative holes ever played. The best part is how the holes adapt and change depending on your game. There are also rainbow collectibles across the course. You control the golf ball by pulling it with your finger and releasing in the direction of the hall. Your surroundings change after completing a hole



differently each time.

Price: ₹55

Link: <http://dgit.in/wonderputtgolf>

FIFA 13



Football fans (or maybe just fans of the FIFA game by Electronic Arts) will love this year's latest iteration of the game. Claimed to be the most authentic football game on the App Store, FIFA 13 takes advantage of the



graphics capabilities of iOS devices creating stunning visuals to be seen on a handheld. The star features of FIFA 13 include 'Ultimate Team' where you get to mix and match the best of the best football players from around the world. The game features 30 leagues and 500 authentic teams. You also have online multiplayer as an option in this version.



Price: ₹275

Link: dgit.in/FTFifa13

Stick Cricket



For the cricket fans, this simple game should provide a quick fix every now and then. Stick Cricket (we suppose the name is based on the stick-figured players in the game) puts you in control of the batsman facing the oncoming ball. You can respond by using the two on-screen controls on either side of the screen.



practice session (dubbed 'Academy'), 5 Over All Star Slog, World Domination etc.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTStickCricket



Pro Snooker 2012



You could put on your leather jacket, ride your Harley into the local pool joint, and shoot a few rounds with beer and friends for company. But for whatever reason if that's not possible, there's always Pro Snooker 2012. It's a realistic

and easy-to-play snooker game for touchscreen devices. You have a plethora of choices in tables, types of balls etc. As the game begins, you can pan your view in all directions to aim for the prize. You have finegrain controls over power and point of impact on the cue ball. You can change camera angles



between 2D and 3D.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTProSnooker



Air Hockey



It's that one game most of us love to play IRL (In Real Life) at a game arcade. The premise of the game is simple — there's a puck that floats on an air cushioned table and you must score a goal by hitting it at the opposite post. You can play against the computer or multiplayer with friends and their iOS devices. But what if there's just one device? You can actually sit on either side of the iPad and play face-to-face! For other platforms such as Android and Win-



dows Phone, similar games are available bearing the same name.

Price: ₹55

Link: dgit.in/FTAirHockey

RUNNERS

Put on your running shoes, because it's
time to run like you've never run before.
Walking? Ain't nobody got time for that

Runners or endless running games are essentially a subset of casual games. These games have all the attributes of casual games, such as the highly addictive gameplay and their pick up and play nature. In endless running games, the character runs continuously and it's your job to keep him going. You'll come across various obstacles in your path along your way and as long as you're alert you can dodge them all. There are also objects and rewards to collect at times.

What makes these games addictive is the magic number at the end: the high score. It's what keeps you going and coming back for more. Couple this with an addictive gameplay and it's really hard to stop playing. It's because of this why games such as Temple Run or Jetpack Joyride are so popular. These games can't match the high quality graphics of some of the other titles from other genres in this book, but they more than make up by keeping your interest level high thanks to the increasingly difficult challenges that will make you play again and again and again.

Canabalt



Canabalt is the quintessential endless running game and also one of the oldest on the mobile platform. It's a 2D side-scroller where your character runs from one rooftop to another and you have to tap the screen to make him jump in time.

You'll jump over falling obstacles, narrow building windows and office chairs while rushing past crumbling buildings. Your objective is to last as long as you can, jumping over all the obstacles that come your way and try not to embarrass yourself as you miss another open window and smash face-first into the side of a building.



Price: ₹164

Link: Digit.in/FTCanabalt



Jetpack Joyride



This is one of those games that has been around for ages but still manages to be fun. Everything about the game is amusing — from the fact that you're riding a jetpack made out of a machine gun in a science

facility to the little scientists running around and the various powerups. As you fly about, you must press and hold to increase your flying height to avoid lasers and collect coins. At the end, you get to try your luck at a slot machine, where you can earn more coins and points or even get revived for a second chance.



Price: Free

Link: Digit.in/FTJetpackJoyride



Sonic Dash



Just like in Sonic Jump, Sega takes a tried and tested recipe for mobile game success with the endless runner and Sonic Dash. Sonic Dash adds Sonic the Hedgehog, his enemies and rings to your average endless runner. The game itself is really fun to play but is plagued with in-app purchases like most other endless runner games. Nevertheless, Sonic Dash is worth it for hardcore Sonic fans. The game also



play and is a lot of fun to play even if you're not a Sonic fan.

Price: ₹110

Link: <http://dgit.in/sonicdashiOS>

Ski Safari



Ski Safari brings together animals, an avalanche and a beyond catchy soundtrack to give you one of the best runner (or in this case, skier) games out there. You begin in a cabin and an avalanche pushes your bed out on to



the slopes. The skiing begins after hitting a rock and you collect coins and attempt combos and tricks with the environment to increase your multiplier. You can jump on penguins and use them as skis and even jump on the back of a monster before converting it into a sled. The game is addictive and fun.



Price: ₹55

Link: <http://dgit.in/skisafari>

Granny Smith



Mediocre Studios is proving to be anything but mediocre with quality releases like this. Granny Smith loves her apples and there's a thief on skates after them. She skates quickly to try and get them before he does. The physics



in the game are amazing and the smooth jazz music is great. After each level you see a vintage style sepia reply as well. Granny Smith has the best graphics



on Tegra 3 devices.

Price: ₹110

Link: <http://dgit.in/grannysmithft>

Subway Surfers



One would think that the world has enough Temple Run clones but Subway Surfers does things a little differently. Firstly, there's no accelerometer control, which is a huge plus for many people. You control Jake or any of the other characters along a subway avoiding trains and swiping to change lanes. You get coins and powerups while running away from the inspector and his dog for spray painting on trains. Subway



Surfers also relies heavily on forward gameplay with powerups that can be bought with coins as well. The cartoon art style is great and it's a must-



have game.

Price: Free

Link: <http://dgit.in/subwaysurfersft>

Into the Dead



Into the Dead is a runner game with a scary premise — you're the lone survivor in a world full of zombies. With the dark foggy night serving as a background, the only background music in this game is the character's heavy breath as he keeps running. In classic mode, you need to dodge zombies all around you, collecting ammunition on the way as your only form of defence. Then there's 'massacre' mode where the objective is to kill as many zombies as you can. You can equip yourself with upgraded guns and other armour. Just don't walk into a zombie, else it's game over for you.



Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTIntoTheDead



Agent Dash



You'll have a nostalgic feeling coming over you when playing Agent Dash. The gameplay is pretty similar to the running, jumping and dodging of Temple Run. The difference here is in the scenery, as you play the role of a tuxedo-clad secret agent, who goes about collecting diamonds on his way. The objective of the game is to destroy all the villainous bases. To help you out, there are spy gadgets such as jetpacks, parachutes and a slo-mo effect as well. You'll also have shooting weapons which you'll use while running and dodging lasers or boiling lava.



Price: Free

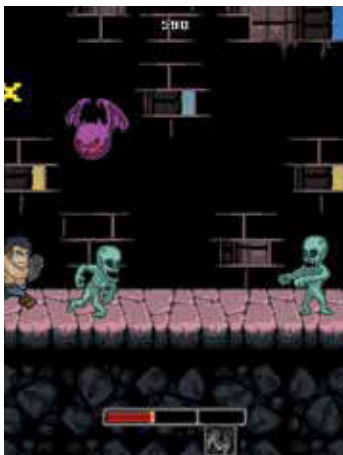
Link: dgit.in/FTAgentDash



Punch Quest



Punch Quest is a celebrated arcade-style fighting game. This 2D runner game puts you in control of a macho guy with the kind of smirk on his face that reassures you that he's gonna kick ass. You've got controls on either side of the screen to serve different types of punches to all kinds of scary monsters. You'll unlock special abilities and supermoves as you progress in the game. You can make the chore of whooping the bad guys more gruesome by acquiring special skills such as being able to ride a dinosaur that shoots lasers



through its mouth, or to break eggs that turn you into a gnome.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTPunchQuest

Off the Leash



Off the Leash starts with a tale of a police chief who wants all dogs to be captured. The game starts with you controlling a running dog by simply tilting your device. There's a timer on top which keeps ticking down to the number of seconds remaining before the cops catch you. You need to navigate the dog to collect food and coins along the way, and come across other dogs who follow your lead. It's not all that simple — there are obstructions that can slow you down,



so you need to avoid running into them. A cute game to try out!

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTOffTheLeash

MUSIC

Music has always been an important aspect of games but sometimes music plays a major part in gameplay as well

Music games have been around since the very first video game console. They started out as just basic games that allowed you to compose basic tunes using the 8 or 16 bit sounds. Now you have games that adapt to your music or that allow you to play along to any song on your device in patterns on a screen that are as close as it gets to playing real music for most non-musicians. There are also games that take previously winning formulae and combine them with music such as Bit.Trip Beat that borrows from the classic Pong. You also have games like Symphonica that add classical music to the Guitar Hero esque gameplay equation with a full-blown plotline. Music is and always will be an important part of gaming. Having access to your music library on your smartphone or tablet allows developers to even create games that adapt to your music. Beat Hazard Ultra has enemies and visuals that adapt to the current song from your library. Games like that push the bar further with what can be done with something as simple as a touchscreen and headphones.

Bit.Trip Beat



Bit.Trip games have been around for a while. Bit.Trip runner is the most popular of the lot. Bit.Trip Beat takes the simple concept of the classic pong and adds a whole new element to it — that of music. You control the paddle by tilting or sliding and skillfully block incoming pixels from the right. The backgrounds are trippy and animated and you earn multipliers as you block sequences. The more you block, the better is the song you hear while playing. It seems pretty easy but gets insanely difficult later. The catchy beats and visuals are



worth experiencing.

Price: ₹55

Link: <http://dgit.in/bittripbeatdroid>

Beat Hazard Ultra



Beat Hazard Ultra is a unique embodiment of your music in a game. You control a spaceship and your firepower depends on the song. The game is chockful of tons of different powerups and the visuals are seizure inducing when the beat picks up in songs. The experience of watching enemy ships and firepower change according to your song is mindblowing. The easy mode has you in control of the ship's position with auto aim while the two-stick mode is much harder since you have to aim as well. The boss



rush mode is great.

Price: ₹270

Link: <http://dgit.in/beatbazardios>



Symphonica

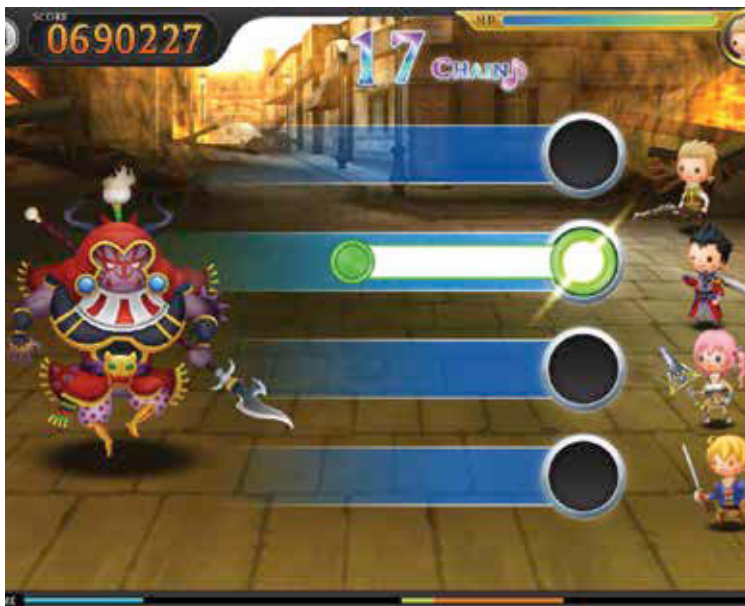


Everyone is familiar with games like Guitar Hero and Rock Band. Music games that involve you pressing buttons or tapping in a certain pattern along with a song have been popular since a long time now. Symphonica brings that to classical music. The story features you playing as Takt, the conductor trying to be the best. There are lengthy narratives that may be a bit much in some cases but the overall gameplay is very well executed and in the hard mode can be pretty challenging. While the overall concept is nothing new, being able to play hundred-year-old classics in a modern music game style is wonderful. The first few chapters are free while the others can be unlocked via in-app purchases.



Price: Free

Link: <http://dgit.in/symphonicaipad>



Theatrhythm Final Fantasy



Square Enix has been releasing some of its classics on iOS and Android recently. In a shocking move, Theatrhythm Final Fantasy (Henceforth TFF) which was previously only available on Nintendo 3DS released on iOS a few months ago. TFF combines your average music game that involves forming patterns and tapping along with a song with a Final Fantasy RPG. The game allows you to play music from every Final Fantasy game and while two tracks are available for free, the others can be bought via in-app purchases. There's battle mode and field music mode and the difficulty of the game is



insane at higher levels. Instant buy for FF fans.

Price: Free

Link: <http://dgit.in/theatrhythmff>

EXCLUSIVES

Android, Windows, BlackBerry 10, and iOS

Every smartphone OS has unique pros and cons. We bring you the best of the exclusives on each platform in this section.

Apps and games on a platform are very important. There is no point owning a smartphone or tablet if you don't make use of the apps available within the ecosystem. Just as with market share, iOS and Android are the leading platforms when it comes to games for mobile devices. In the last year many iOS only games like SpellTower and Superbrothers : Sword and Sworcery made their way to Android. Android and iOS have been continuously getting the big name games on day one. Microsoft finally realized how important Xbox Live integration was and that has led to them getting some great exclusives to the platform that sync with their Xbox counterparts. Each platform has its own advantages. iOS is always the first choice for a game developer to release something because of the vibrant ecosystem and almost no fragmentation. Android is more lenient with its operating system so games can make use of adding controller support which is awesome for games like GTA Vice City. Windows Phone right now has the advantage of Microsoft's Xbox ecosystem and achievements. We look at the current cream of the crop when it comes to exclusives on different platforms.

ios

The strength of iOS as a gaming platform keeps increasing with the iPod Touch currently being one of the best selling mobile gaming devices around

While it doesn't directly make games, Apple has made life very easy for game developers. Since iOS 5, Game Center has been on every iOS device and with its achievements and challenges feature, has garnered almost every game to implement it. Games like Letterpress take full advantage of Game Center turn based multiplayer. In fact, as iOS devices get much more powerful each generation, Apple always gets a few game developers to show off their new games on new hardware. In the last year we have seen near console quality graphics with games like Sky Gamblers Air Supremacy and the now defunct Infinity Blade Dungeons. Below you will find some games that are definitely worth trying out on iOS. But be warned, by the time you read this they may no longer be exclusive; developers have a tendency to port to other platforms very quickly.

Fieldrunners 2



Fieldrunners 2 is a tower defense game and a significant improvement over its predecessor, which was already a good game. The series, which despite its size is quite detailed, is known for the tiny lovable characters and animation

style. The game also features a great variety of amazing towers and plenty of maps that will offer hours of fun gameplay. If you're a fan of tower defense games, you'll definitely love Fieldrunners 2.



Price: Free

Link: Digit.in/FTFieldRunners2

Letterpress

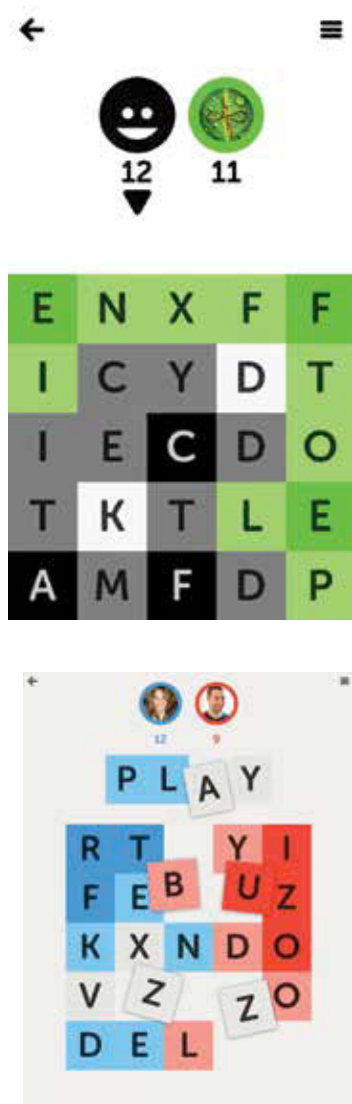


Letterpress is a great game for many reasons. Developer of the game, Loren Brichter accomplished two things with Letterpress. He created an extremely addictive and beautiful word game while also making complete use of Apple's Game Center. Letterpress is a turn-based word game that relies heavily on Game Center multiplayer. You create words by tapping tiles within a 25x25 grid. Words can't be repeated and tiles don't need to be next to each other to form words like in most other games. Tiles you use turn blue while tiles the opponent uses turn red. The winner is decided by the player who has the most number of tiles of his colour when every tile in the grid has been used once. The rules aren't complicated and the game gets you hooked pretty quickly. All aspects of the game have been designed well. It's filled with subtle animations such as a game exploding into tiles when you remove them. Letterpress also has themes that are unlocked via an in-app purchase. The free game lets you play at most one game at a time while the in-app purchase of ₹55 unlocks more.



Price: Free, ₹55 to unlock full game

Link: <http://dgit.in/letterpressft>





Bold Poker

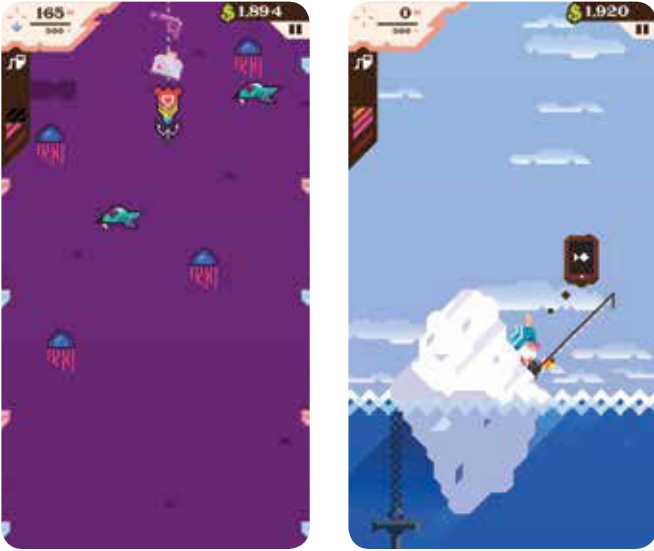


More and more board and card games are coming to smartphones and tablets. EA took it to the next level with Scrabble on iOS when it allowed an iPad to be used as a board and iPhones or iPods to be used as tile racks. Now, Bold Poker goes even beyond that. Not only is it the best-looking poker game ever, but it's also a really fun experience. The game uses local multiplayer and each iOS device can act as a different element of the game. The ideal combination of devices would be the iPad as the board and token along with iPhones or iPods as pocket cards for each player. Up to 12 people can join in when one device hosts a game. The cards look great and the detailing goes beyond just looks with cards being flipped by your accelerometer motion as you peek at them. As one would expect in a good quality game, there are card flipping sounds that are the icing on the cake. Bold Poker is by far the most innovative and expensive way of enjoying a game of Texas Hold 'em Poker with your friends. The game is universal.



Price: ₹220

Link: <http://dgit.in/boldpokerios>



Ridiculous Fishing



This newly released game has generated quite a hype around it. The developers of Super Crate Box, SpellTower and Hundreds also created Ridiculous Fishing. If that isn't a superstar indie line-up we don't know what is. Ridiculous Fishing (RF from now on) adds a quirky sense of humour and absolutely spectacular cartoon art style to fishing. You drop your lure into the water. You control its position by tilting your device and try to avoid obstacles. You should go as deep as possible before reeling in your line while trying to catch as many fish as possible. The tune that plays while reeling in is the same tune that plays as you go deep but reversed. Developers putting in the effort for small things like this make iOS what it is today. The second part of this involves shooting the fish that jump out of the water. You earn more by catching more fish and can use that to upgrade your equipment. Another amazing thing about RF is no in-app purchases. You want to keep returning to the game once you've played it. Ridiculous Fishing was a work



in progress for a long time and the wait was well worth it.

Price: ₹170

Link: <http://dgit.in/ridiculousios>

MetalStorm: Online



MetalStorm: Online is a modern air combat game with 80 fighter jets to choose from. It has single-player campaign modes, a survival mode (a.k.a last man standing) and an online mode where you can challenge your friends using iDevices to a duel. The game starts with a tutorial, explaining how to use the motion sensors to maneuver the jet and the onscreen controls to shoot or defend. The graphics are fairly realistic and gameplay is fun, especially when playing multiplayer. Even if you're playing individually, you fly with



a team, taking down the scum.

Price: Free

dgit.in/FTMetalStorm

Asteroids: Gunner



Atari's classic Asteroids has made its way into Apple's iDevices with Asteroid: Gunner. You navigate spacecrafts orbiting the galaxies in search of precious materials. You must save yourself from incoming asteroids and other ships by giving them the slip or shooting at them; breaking them into several pieces. The controller to the left allows you to move the ship 360 degrees and the one to the right lets you control the gun mounted on top, which also rotates entirely. Collecting objects along the way gets you



upgrades for your ship, or you can buy a better one altogether.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTAsteroids

Infinity Blade



This game was used by Apple in its launch keynotes to showcase the prowess of its iOS device graphics capabilities. The story is set in medieval times where a knight avenges his father's death, by thrashing the lights out of unworldly demon



fighters. You don't really have to control the character's movements; the game progresses on with cut-scenes, showing off awesome visuals along the way. Although it can get repetitive, slashing swords by swiping across the touchscreen is plenty of fun! You collect money and points along the

way to buy better weapons, upgrade armour and get other powers.

Price: Free
Link: dgit.in/FTInfinityBlade

Tiny Wings



In Tiny Wings, you control a bird with tiny wings who can't fly. To make it fly, you take advantage of the terrain which helps gain speed to string together large jumps and cover great distances by fluttering as long as possible. You must tap on the screen for the bird to descend downwards

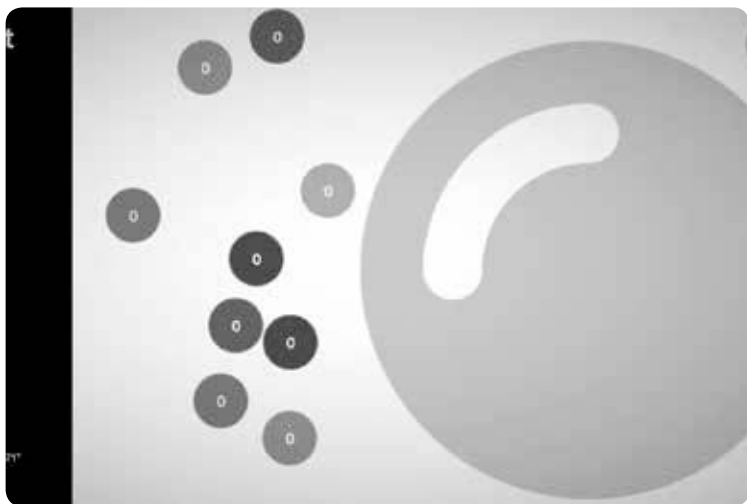


and follow the curve of the terrain upwards. Time it right and you'll send the bird flying out of the curve. String a few of them and soon you'll find yourself soaring through the skies. Despite its simple nature, Tiny Wings offers

an incredibly satisfying experience. And it looks great to boot.

Price: ₹55

Link: Dgit.in/FTTinyWings



Hundreds



From the creators of the hugely successful Canabalt comes another masterpiece of a game in Hundreds. Hundreds is a minimalistic puzzle game with a great visual style and amazing sounds. Your main objective in the game is to tap and hold grey circles to increase their size and overall value till the combined value is 100. The game makes use of multitouch controls which are needed in levels involving different kinds of circles that need to be pressed together. The circles move within the screen and the two circles that are pressed must not come into contact with each other. You'll end up frustrated at first with some extremely difficult levels but the gameplay is rewarding. There are also enemy spinners and other objects that change the equation for you. There are a hundred levels and the game gets Super Hexagon (mentioned elsewhere in this booklet) level difficult in many of them. Another really good gameplay aspect is how the game introduces new enemies and elements slowly instead of relying on a tutorial to teach you how each level works. Hundreds is a perfect example of what a mobile game should be. It's addictive, fun and pretty frustrating when you can't



complete a level. Completely worth it.

Price: ₹270

<http://dgit.in/hundredsios>

ANDROID

With fewer restrictions than iOS, the Android gaming ecosystem has grown faster than anything else in the last 2 years.

Google's mobile operating system has come a long way from getting badly written ports and delayed games to having games launch on the same day as they do on iOS. Most big developers target both operating systems together now. Android also has a huge advantage in allowing people to play games with external controllers. Many big name games like GTA Vice City and NOVA 3 support Bluetooth controllers on Android. This is great for games like that where a touchscreen is often more of a hindrance. NVIDIA has also invested heavily in their Tegra Zone games where games run better on android devices with Tegra hardware such as the HTC One X or the Nexus 7. Most big games have a THD (Tegra High Definition) version available which is the definitive version when it comes to graphics. In fact Android's game ecosystem is growing so fast that in the last few months various gaming consoles powered by Android and Nvidia have been announced such as the OUYA or Shield.

Shapes and Sound



In Shapes and Sound, you can choose to be either a circle, square or a triangle. Depending upon the shape you choose, you have to absorb the shapes that keep flying in that resemble your own shape and shoot down other shapes. So if



you are a circle, you absorb circles and shoot triangles and squares for points. You can change shape on the fly by swiping up, left or right, which changes the gameplay as well as the background music. The game uses a very simple but attractive visual design with wonderfully soothing



background music.

Price: ₹ 54

Link: Dgit.in/FTShapesAndSound

Puddle THD



When it comes to exclusives, it's hard to beat Puddle THD. Not only is the game exclusive to Android on mobile, it's also exclusive to just those devices running on the NVIDIA Tegra



hardware, then this game is an absolute must-have.

Price: ₹ 289

Link: Dgit.in/FTPuddleTHD

WINDOWS PHONE

Windows Phone has only recently started getting great games thanks to Microsoft bringing Xbox Live to it.

Windows Phone has been playing catch up with iOS and Android for a long time now. Microsoft has finally realized its gaming strength lies in Xbox and that it needs to connect it to its smartphone platform. Xbox Live games on Windows Phone, while more expensive than other games, offer Xbox Live achievements and in some cases syncing progress over to the same game on Windows 8 and Xbox Live Arcade. For instance, Wordament which was previously exclusive to WP is now also on iOS and has Xbox Live achievements which makes it the first iOS game to have XBL achievements. WP 8 brought better hardware to the platform so more graphic intensive games like Asphalt 7 and the like are available on the platform. Hopefully more big name developers will bring their games to WP soon so it actually has a chance to compete with the big two in mobile gaming. The way Microsoft is going forward, there might even be an Xbox gaming tablet in the future to take full advantage of the vibrant Xbox game ecosystem. We've featured two of the best games out there that are exclusive to Windows Phone.

Skulls of the Shogun



Skulls of the Shogun brings many things to Windows Phone and Microsoft's complete ecosystem. It is an exclusive to Microsoft right now and is one of the best if not *the* best game available on Windows Phone right now. It is a turn based strategy game. The story is however really funny unlike most strategy games. You start as General Akamato who is a skeleton in the afterlife. You get five moves per turn and have to protect your generals who also dole out larger damage to the opponents. The general powers up with skulls from the dead enemies and there are a few bonuses for others.



The music in the game is great. 17 bit studios went all out with this game and it is easy to see why Microsoft wanted it to be exclusive. Another thing Skulls introduces to the platform is proper cross play across Windows Phone, Windows 8 and Xbox Live Arcade. The implementation is really good and the Windows Phone version has Xbox 360 achievements which is important to many people. Be warned that while it runs really well on WP7 devices, the visuals need some improvement on the high-density



WP8 device screens.

Price: Windows Phone Free trial, ₹260

Link: <http://dgit.in/skullssbogun>

ZOMBIES (on teh phOne)



ZOMBIES (on teh phOne) (henceforth Zombies) like most Windows Phone exclusives debuted on the Xbox and was ported to Windows Phone. Zombies is a birds eye view shooter that you control with an on screen directional pad and a shoot button. The music will remind you of old punk music and coupled with the flashy visuals, you won't see the zombies coming and



will be “dedz!”, as the game puts it. The WP version of the game has two more modes than the Xbox version that are Time Viking and ENDL3SS ZOMBIES!!!! I MAED A GAM3 W1TH ZOMBIES 1N IT!!!! is the same as the Xbox game. Time Viking has you play as a Viking travelling through the future to be assaulted by ninjas and a cat with a laser beam on its head. This mode is a side scroller as opposed to a bird's eye view one like the first one. Endless Zombies has an instrumental background track that is a lot less distracting and is otherwise more or less the same. Zombies has Xbox



achievements as well, and is well worth the price of entry.

Price: ₹ 160 Windows Phone free trial,

Link: <http://dgit.in/zombieswp>

BLACKBERRY 10

Their handsets may have been made for business, but that doesn't mean the BB Boys don't play

The most popular game we've seen people playing on the BlackBerry is Breakout – it is somewhat synonymous to people playing Snake or Bounce on Nokia phones. BlackBerry phones were almost never advertised for their games; they had a more important task to achieve – delivering emails on time and being the personal information managers of people at work. One advantage BBs had over other phones with respect to games is the trackball and more recently, the optical trackpad. Using this was a fine-grain way to maneuver a game as compared to a traditional four-way D-pad. All that changed with the introduction of BlackBerry 10 – as the new overhauled operating system has been able to attract some modern day touch screen-based titles to the store. Now, BlackBerry is on a level playing field against competitors iOS and Android, because the hardware and the software seems to be ready for Gaming. In the section below, we bring to you some of the nicer games available for the new platform. While some boast of great graphics capabilities, others have a fantastic gameplay despite the simplistic designs. The games may or may not be exclusive but hey, they're definitely worth checking out if you're a BB 10 user. Many of these games are also compatible with the BlackBerry PlayBook tablet, that runs the QNX tablet OS.

Beach Buggy Blitz



Beach Buggy Blitz is a racing game taking place on a tropical island. The visuals of this game are stunning. You're driving a dune buggy on the coastline for as long as you can, collecting coins along the way. There's a countdown timer ticking which you have to beat by reaching the next checkpoint



the screen or tilting the device.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTBeachBuggy

Sector Strike



Sector Strike is based on the concept of space-craft shooters that we surely might have come across, but now with great graphics. Your aircraft flies eastward against a variety of oncoming enemy fighters. Your job is to keep knocking them out. The interesting thing about this game are the controls; your craft lies where-



ever you touch the on the screen. And there's no separate firing controls; the moment you move, you start shooting as well. The enemy comes flying in different patterns while shooting at you, so you gotta dodge as well. There

are a lot of power-up options.

Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTSectorStrike

PewPew



PewPew is a super simple-looking game that is actually a multidirectional shooting spacecraft game. Instead of going for realistic graphics, the world of PewPew is designed with simple colored lines. But that doesn't seem to be disturbing the gameplay at all. You have controls on either side to move and shoot in 360 degrees – just like Atari's Asteroid. You have two different types of gameplay – Shoot the baddies, or the one where you're in boxed in and have to dodge oncoming objects. A genius feature of the game, it automatically pauses the moment you lift your finger



off the controls.

Price: Free

Link: digit.in/FTPewPew

Eat all Brains



Eat all Brains reverses the concept of zombie apocalypse games. In this world, you play a zombie. In order to survive, you must feed on brain. It's a runner game where you'll have to make the character jump from one ledge to another as you get your fix for the grey matter conveniently floating in the air. There are power-ups in the forms of blood packets, that accelerate your motion (funnily, this zombie's pretty fast to begin with against the common notion of slo-mo zombie movements). There are obstacles in the way that will make you fall, signalling



a 'Game Over'.

Price: Free

Link: digit.in/FTEatallBrains

F1 Paper Racing Lite



This is not an F1 simulation game; far from it. This is not even a car racing game, actually. The overly simplistic graphics of the game basically have a piece of paper on which you have an F1 car sketch. The objective of the game



is to make the car reach from its starting point to the destination 'square'. There's a track that leads to the end. Now, you press and hold the car and pull it backwards to give it a push. There are different obstacles on the way which you'll have to steer clear of.



Price: Free

Link: dgit.in/FTF1PaperRacing

Chasing Yello



Chasing Yello is based on the story of a goldfish named 'Yello' who is captured by an overly irritating little girl. The pet fish escapes and its your job to keep him out and running (sorry, swimming). It's a linear runner game with a top-down view and uses motion sensors in the phone to maneuver the fish. You will come across obstacles that you will either need to



power-ups to escape.

Price: Free

Link: digit.in/FTChasingYello



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