



*The combination of the PEGI age label and content descriptors helps parents and those purchasing videogames to ensure that the game they buy is appropriate for the age of the player.*

## HOW CAN I SEE IF A GAME IS SUITABLE FOR MY CHILD?

The age rating of the game is shown **on the front and back of the box**. Do not hesitate to ask for the advice of retailers who are qualified to give information on PEGI. This way, **you can be sure that the videogame your child will be playing is age appropriate.**

## WHO RATES THE GAMES?

Game ratings are **assigned by NICAM, an independent European institute specialised in rating content**. As the PEGI administrator, they check each videogame and grant a licence that allows the publisher to display the age label and specific content descriptors on the game packaging.

## EACH PLAYER CAN FIND THE GAME THAT SUITS THEM BEST

Videogames are one of the top leisure activities in Europe. Even though there are as many adults as children playing games today, prior **knowledge of a game's content is vital**. While most games (50%) are suitable for players of all ages (rated 3), there are many that are only suitable for older children and young teenagers. A smaller portion of games (5%) is specifically made for adults only (rated 18).

The videogames industry has long been committed to age ratings. The PEGI system was launched in 2003 and its

efficiency is based on its ability to provide the consumer at the time of purchase with appropriate advice. The rating considers the nature of the content and age suitability according to criteria developed and assessed by experts.

PEGI is used and recognised throughout Europe – PEGI rated products are marketed in more than 30 countries today – and has the enthusiastic support of the European Commission. It is considered as a model of European harmonisation in the field of the protection of children.

[www.pegi.info](http://www.pegi.info)  
[www.pegionline.eu](http://www.pegionline.eu)



# THE AGE RATING SYSTEM FOR VIDEOGAMES



**KNOW WHAT YOU BUY. KNOW WHAT YOU PLAY.**



## TWO LEVELS OF INFORMATION TO GUIDE YOU

An icon that indicates the minimum recommended age.



IMPORTANT: The PEGI rating considers the age suitability of a game's content, not the level of difficulty.

## A series of game content descriptors.

These icons are displayed on the back of the game box and indicate, where required, the nature of the content. There are 8 icons, depending on the type of content.



Game contains depictions of violence



Game contains bad language



Game may be frightening or scary for young children



Game depicts nudity and/or sexual behaviour or sexual references



Games that encourage or teach gambling



Game refers to, or depicts, the use of drugs (including alcohol and tobacco)



Game contains depictions of, or material which may encourage, discrimination



Game can be played online

## PEGI ONLINE

The development of online videogames presents gamers with new possibilities. PEGI Online is an addition to the PEGI age rating system to ensure the protection of minors in an online gaming environment and to provide information about online games.



Websites displaying the PEGI Online logo are committed to respecting the requirements set out in the PEGI Online Safety Code:

- To keep the website free of all illegal and offensive content created by users
- To remove all undesirable links
- To provide appropriate reporting mechanisms
- To provide a coherent privacy policy

