

# GAMER GUIDE

## Mario Kart World Edition

Enable launch control, rev those engines, and fuel your knowledge.



# WHAT IS MARIO KART WORLD?

As the 16th entry in the iconic Mario Kart series, Mario Kart World is the latest mainline entry. The game was released alongside the Nintendo Switch 2 on 5 June 2025.

Mario Kart World is the biggest title in the series to date, with more than double the number of characters for players to unlock, a plethora of Karts, and now up to 24 players, compared to a maximum of 12 in the previous entry.

The game brings the Mushroom Kingdom to life like never before, harnessing the power of the Nintendo Switch 2 to create the most beautiful tracks to date. With 32 tracks at launch, and an open-world Free Roam mode to explore at your leisure, while unlocking some shiny cosmetics, Mario Kart World has it all.

Let's put the pedal to the metal, enable launch control, and drive into all the essential Mario Kart World details that players must understand. Our comprehensive guide will cover the critical facets, including the drivers, unique Karts, the best combos, game modes and tracks, items, and driving technique tips.

# MEET THE DRIVERS

Mario Kart World features the most playable characters ever in the series, with over 50 for players to choose from. Mainstay favourites such as Peach, Mario, and Bowser are joined by new additions such as Piranha Plant and Cheep Cheep.

Each character has a different combo of primary stats, namely Speed, Acceleration, Weight and Handling. Determined by their Weight stat, characters fall under different weight classes, from Featherweight all the way to Heavyweight.



# MEET THE DRIVERS

DRIVER	WEIGHT CLASS	KEY ATTRIBUTES
Baby Daisy, Baby Peach, Para-Biddybud, Swoop	Featherweight	Highest Acceleration, High Handling, Lowest Weight
Cheep Cheep, Toad, Toadette, Koopa Troopa, Baby Mario, Baby Luigi, Shy Guy, Daisy, Lakitu, Baby Rosalina	Lightweight	Versatile, Good Acceleration and Handling
Mario, Luigi, Peach, Yoshi, Pauline, Birdo, Bowser Jr., King Boo, Rosalina, Dolphin, Penguin, Cataquack, Piranha Plant	Mediumweight	Balanced All-Rounders, No Distinct Strengths or Weaknesses
Bowser, Wario, Waluigi, Donkey Kong, Pianta, Wiggler, Chargin' Chuck, Cow	Heavyweight	Highest Speed & Weight, Low Acceleration & Handling

Nintendo can and likely will add more characters with either game updates or DLCs. While it is tempting to stick to your favourite character, we strongly urge players to try out different racers of all weight classes to find the perfect fit.

## PRO TIP:

Pick up and eat Dash Food on the tracks and out in the open world to unlock different outfits for many of the characters.

# THE UNIQUE KARTS

With over 40 vehicles to choose from, Mario Kart World players are spoiled for choice. From regular Karts and Bikes to those big ATVs, you can drive through the Mushroom Kingdom in style.

There are 11 Karts available at the start of the game, and more are unlocked by collecting Coins. For every 100 Coins, players unlock a random Kart. There are also some secrets in the Free Roam mode to discover, but we'll leave that up to you!

TYPE	AVAILABLE FROM START	UNLOCK THROUGH COINS
Karts	Baby Blooper, Chargin' Truck, Plushbuggy, Rally Kart, Standard Kart, Zoom Buggy	B Dasher, Big Horn, Bulldozer, Blastronaut III, Buggybud (Bidbuggy), Bumble V, Carpet Flyer, Cloud 9, Hot Rod, Li'l Dumpy, Mecha Trike, Pipe Frame, Rally Romper (Tiny Titan), Reel Racer, Ribbit Revster, Roadster Royale, Stellar Sled.
Bikes	Cute Scoot, Mach Rocket, Rally Bike, Standard Bike	Dolphin Dasher, Fin Twin, Hyper Pipe, Loco Moto, R.O.B. H.O.G., Tune Thumper, W-Twin Chopper.
ATVs	Funky Dorri	Bowser Bruiser, Dread Sled, Junkyard Hog, Lobster Roller, Rallygator.

# THE UNIQUE KARTS

Karts are further separated using a combination of stats we see in the drivers, namely: Speed, Acceleration, Weight, and Handling.

Players can customise their favorites Karts via a wealth of sticker decals. There are over 1,000 to unlock, so have fun with it!



## PRO TIP:

When you start playing Mario Kart World, we suggest trying the Rally Kart, the Rally Bike, and the Funky Dorrie. The size of Karts matters, and their handling differs significantly from one type to the next.

# BEST DRIVER/KART COMBOS

We've introduced all the Mario Kart World drivers and vehicles, and stressed how they differ greatly, thanks to four unique stat types. Now comes the fun part: finding the perfect combo to suit your driving skills.

The best Driver/Kart combos depend on what you want to accomplish. For example, for Time Trails, you'll enjoy as much speed as possible. If you are competing online against other players who use items wisely, you might want to recover quickly, which means using a lightweight character with a Kart that features high acceleration.

- Best Online Ranked combo: Baby Blooper Kart with Toad, Shy Guy, Cheep Cheep or Koopa Troopa.
- Best Time Trial combo for top speed: Stellar Sled with Bowser.
- Best Bike Combo: Mach Rocket with Mario or Luigi.
- Best Beginner Combo: Baby Blooper with Peach or Rosalina.
- Our Favourite: Chargin' Truck with Wario.

There is no "wrong" combo. Anything can work, especially if you prefer a specific playstyle. Heavy-weight combos might be perfect for those who want to run over others, and featherweight combos allow for the best handling around those sharp corners.

## PRO TIP:

Try out many different combos. Heavy combos are more difficult to handle and require mastering specific driving techniques.

# GAME MODES & TRACKS GALORE

First and foremost, there are three distinct engine power classes in Mario Kart World, forming the basis of the game's difficulty and speed: 50cc, 100cc, and 150cc. Mario Kart World features new and returning game modes aplenty. Let's take a look.

## GRAND PRIX

The core Mario Kart experience that fans know and love is the Grand Prix. Players race through four tracks, earning points based on their placement in each track. There are eight Grand Prix races, with four tracks each, for a total of 32 tracks.

- Mushroom Cup: Mario Bros. Circuit, Crown City, Whistlestop Summit, DK Spaceport.
- Flower Cup: Desert Hills, Shy Guy Bazaar, Wario Stadium, Airship Fortress.
- Star Cup: DK Pass, Starview Peak, Sky-High Sundae, Wario Shipyard.
- Shell Cup: Koopa Troopa Beach, Faraway Oasis, Crown City, Peach Stadium.
- Banana Cup: Peach Beach, Salty Salty Speedway, Dino Dino Jungle, Great? Block Ruins.
- Leaf Cup: Cheep Cheep Falls, Dandelion Depths, Boo Cinema, Dry Bones Burnout.
- Lightning Cup: Moo Moo Meadows, Choco Mountain, Toad's Factory, Bowser's Castle.
- Special Cup: Acorn Heights, Mario Circuit, Peach Stadium, Rainbow Road.

# GAME MODES & TRACKS GALORE

## KNOCKOUT TOUR & RALLYS

As a new game mode in Mario Kart World, Knockout Tour sees players compete in very long races, encompassing multiple tracks. At each checkpoint, players must reach a specific minimum placement or face elimination. The further the Knockout Tour progresses, the fewer players remain. The mode gets more difficulty the further you progress, and ultimately, only one racer is declared the victor, while all others are eliminated.

- Golden Rally: Desert Hills, Mario Bros. Circuit, Choco Mountain, Moo Moo Meadows, Mario Circuit, Acorn Heights.
- Ice Rally: Sky-High Sundae, Starview Peak, Dandelion Depths, Cheep Cheep Falls, Peach Stadium, Crown City.
- Moon Rally: Bowser's Castle, Toad's Factory, Moo Moo Meadows, Dandelion Depths, Cheep Cheep Falls, Faraway Oasis.
- Spiny Rally: Boo Cinema, Starview Peak, DK Pass, Salty Salty Speedway, Peach Beach, Wario Shipyard.
- Cherry Rally: Peach Beach, Dino Dino Jungle, Koopa Troopa Beach, DK Spaceport, Whistlestop Summit, Desert Hills.
- Acorn Rally: Toad's Factory, Wario Stadium, Choco Mountain, Peach Stadium, Cheep Cheep Falls, DK Pass.
- Cloud Rally: Airship Fortress, Shy Guy Bazaar, Mario Bros. Circuit, Crown City, Faraway Oasis, Great? Block Ruins.
- Heart Rally: Shy Guy Bazaar, Airship Fortress, Dry Bones Burnout, Mario Circuit, Moo Moo Meadows, Peach Stadium.



# GAME MODES & TRACKS GALORE

## **Time Trials**

In this Mario Kart World game mode, players can chase records in their chosen CC classes. It's the only mode without any distractions from other races or items on the ground.

You can hone your skills on each map offline, or go online and compete against the Ghost data of other players. Players are provided with three Mushrooms per Time Trial to use for specific boosts or shortcuts on a map.

## **Battle Mode**

Battle Mode features two different game types, perfect for those who want to get away from the stress of Grand Prix or Knockout Tour. You can play via local multiplayer with friends or online.

The first game type is Balloon Battle, where the goal is to pop as many of your opponents' balloons as possible to score points. Then, there's Coin Runners, where you must try to collect the most Coins possible. Attack your opponents, causing them to drop their hard-earned Coins, and remember to dodge attacks to keep your Coins safe.



# GAME MODES & TRACKS GALORE

## **VS Race**

Supporting a considerable number of players (24), VS Race mode is a highly customizable experience in Mario Kart World, where you can set the engine class (50cc, 100cc, 150cc), restrict specific items (if you want to), and create specific customised rules aplenty. Generally, there's a three-lap format, but you can customise the number of tracks in each experience.

## **Free Roam**

With the new Free Roam game mode, the developers have turned Mario Kart World into an open-world experience. Players can explore the vast, interconnected world alone at their leisure, with friends, or randoms online.

Free Roam is all about having fun and exploring the massive world, with all its biomes and tracks. As you explore, there are a myriad of side activities to discover, from P-Switch missions that trigger skill-based challenges such as sliding on rails or hitting those perfect jumps. In Free Roam, players can also discover secrets in the form of hidden collectable items, including Peach Medallions.



## **PRO TIP:**

Use Free Roam to test out new Driver/Kart combos, score various unlockables, or just hang out with friends. After all, this mode focuses on player freedom.

# ITEMS & POWER-UPS

As you race through the world, or in specific game modes such as Grand Prix, you'll see item blocks to pick up simply by driving over them. It's a massive part of Mario Kart World, as you can activate these items for power-ups or use attack-based items to spoil your opponent's day.

## NEW MARIO KART WORLD ITEMS

ITEM	EFFECT
Coin Shell	When thrown, coins will appear in your trail, allowing you to collect coins as a boost.
Ice Flower	For a while, each press of the L Button throws an ice ball. Karts hit by an ice ball will freeze and slow down.
Hammer	When thrown, the hammer will fly forward in a parabolic arc and can hit your opponents. After they are thrown, they remain as physical obstacles on the track.
Question Block	For a time, every time you press the L button, you can get several coins that will spawn.
Kamek	Transform everyone except you to look like the same character.
Dash Food	Gives you a boost of speed and can also change your character into another outfit.



# ITEMS & POWER-UPS

ALL MARIO KART WORLD ITEMS	
ITEM NAME	EFFECT IN MARIO KART WORLD
Banana	Spins the karts that drive over it.
Triple Bananas	Three Bananas will orbit your kart that you can throw in front of your Kart.
Dash Mushroom	Gives your kart a short movement speed boost.
Triple Dash Mushrooms	Three Dash Mushrooms will orbit your kart.
Golden Dash Mushroom	For a period of time, use a Dash Mushroom with each press of the L Button.
Mega Mushroom	You use it to enlarge yourself and gain an advantage over your rivals by crushing them.
Green Shell	The object travels in a straight line and knocks over the first kart it hits.
Triple Green Shells	Three Green Shells will orbit your kart, and you can launch them in a straight line.
Red Shell	Hones in on the kart in front of you and knocks it over.
Triple Red Shells	Three Red Shells will orbit your kart that you can launch toward the opponent in front of you.
Spiny Shell (Blue Shell)	Hones in on the lead kart and knocks it over.
Fire Flower	For a while, each press of the L Button throws a fireball. Karts hit by a fireball will spin.

# ITEMS & POWER-UPS

ALL MARIO KART WORLD ITEMS	
ITEM NAME	EFFECT IN MARIO KART WORLD
Boomerang Flower	Throws a boomerang up to three times. Any karts hit will spin.
Bullet Bill	Transform into Bullet Bill for a while. You will speed along the course automatically, knocking over any karts you hit.
Bob-omb	Explodes after a specific period of time or when a kart hits it. Karts caught in the blast will spin or be knocked over.
Super Horn	Emits a large sonic blast to knock away nearby karts and items.
Coin	Gives you two coins. The more coins you have, the faster your kart becomes.
Boo	Your kart will turn invisible for a particular time, allowing you to pass through obstacles like Bananas. Additionally, it also steals an item from another player.
Blooper	Shoots ink at all karts in front of you, obscuring their vision for a while.
Feather	Use to jump over and dodge obstacles and attacks!
Super Star	Makes you invincible for a while. Your speed is also increased, and any kart you hit will be knocked over.
Lightning	Lightning strikes all opponents and destroys any items that they're holding. They'll also be shrunk and slowed down for a while.

## PRO TIP:

Use Free Roam to test out new Driver/Kart combos, score various unlockables, or just hang out with friends. After all, this mode focuses on player freedom.

# DRIVING TECHNIQUES: TIPS FOR BEGINNERS

Mario Kart World might seem very straightforward at first, as you simply accelerate, brake, and turn. However, there are dozens of driving techniques to master. Consider the driving techniques as your beginner tips in our guide.

Once you know precisely how to use these techniques, you'll be able to battle for a podium finish in every online or local multiplayer race. Let's start with the new driving techniques, exclusive to Mario Kart World.

## NEW DRIVING TECHNIQUES

### Charge Jump

Hold the drift button while driving in a straight line to charge, then release the button to perform a Charge Jump.

### Wall Riding

Jump from a rail to a wall, while using a Charge Jump or with the Feather power-up.

### Rail Slide

Perform a Charge Jump to get onto a rail, or drive onto them from a higher elevation.

### Rewind

Only in singleplayer. Hold down the D-Pad Down button until you return to a previous position if you get into trouble.



# DRIVING TECHNIQUES: TIPS FOR BEGINNERS

## DRIFTING TECHNIQUES

### Standard Drift

Hold the R button to slide around a corner, charging up Mini-Turbos in the process.

### Mini-Turbo

Short speed boosts accumulated during drifts, marked by blue sparks appearing under your kart.

### Super Mini-Turbo

Longer version of the mini-turbo, which is achieved by holding a drift for a longer duration. Sparks change to orange.

### Ultra Mini-Turbo

Longest duration mini-turbo. Sparks have a pink colour.

### Snaking

Chain short drifts from side to side on straightaways to continuously activate Mini-Turbos.

## JUMP BOOST TECHNIQUES

### Jump Boost

Press the R button right before launching off a ramp to perform a trick and gain a slight speed boost.

### Charge Jump

Hold down the drift/hop button while driving straight and release it to perform a large hop and a trick

### Wall Jump

Hop off a wall to perform a trick and receive a slight boost.

### Bounce

Press the hop button right after bouncing off another player to perform a trick and gain a boost.



# DRIVING TECHNIQUES: TIPS FOR BEGINNERS

## STANDARD RACING TECHNIQUES

### **Rocket Start**

Hold down the acceleration button at the starting countdown when the timer hits two seconds to launch with a speed boost.

### **Drift**

Hold down the R button to slide around corners, charging up the aforementioned Mini-Turbos in the process.

### **Slipstream**

Stay behind another player for a speed boost.

### **Jump Boost**

Press the R button just before leaving a ramp to trigger a slight speed boost.

### **Spin Turn**

Press both the accelerate and brake buttons at the same time to change direction quickly.

### **Drift Brake**

Quickly tap the brake button while driving to take tight turns with ease, all while charging your boost.

### **Lakitu Rocket Dash**

If you fall off a track, quickly press the A button once Lakitu rescues you to give yourself a nice little speed boost, which helps with recovery.

Once you master every technique we've previously mentioned, beating your friends in local multiplayer and crushing online opponents becomes a reality.





# THANK YOU

The best page