

# GAMER GUIDE

MINECRAFT  
EDITION



the need to know you didn't know you needed



# WHAT IS IT?



*Minecraft* is a sandbox video game developed by Mojang Studios. Players explore a block-like, procedurally generated virtual world where they can discover and extract raw materials, craft tools and items, and build structures, earthworks, and simple machines.

Depending on the game mode that a player selects, players can fight hostile mobs, cooperate with or compete against other players in the same world and so much more. When it comes to *Minecraft*, the world is virtually your oyster. There is also a wide variety of user-generated content such as modifications, servers, skins, texture packs, and custom maps, which add new game mechanics and possibilities.

# MINECRAFT

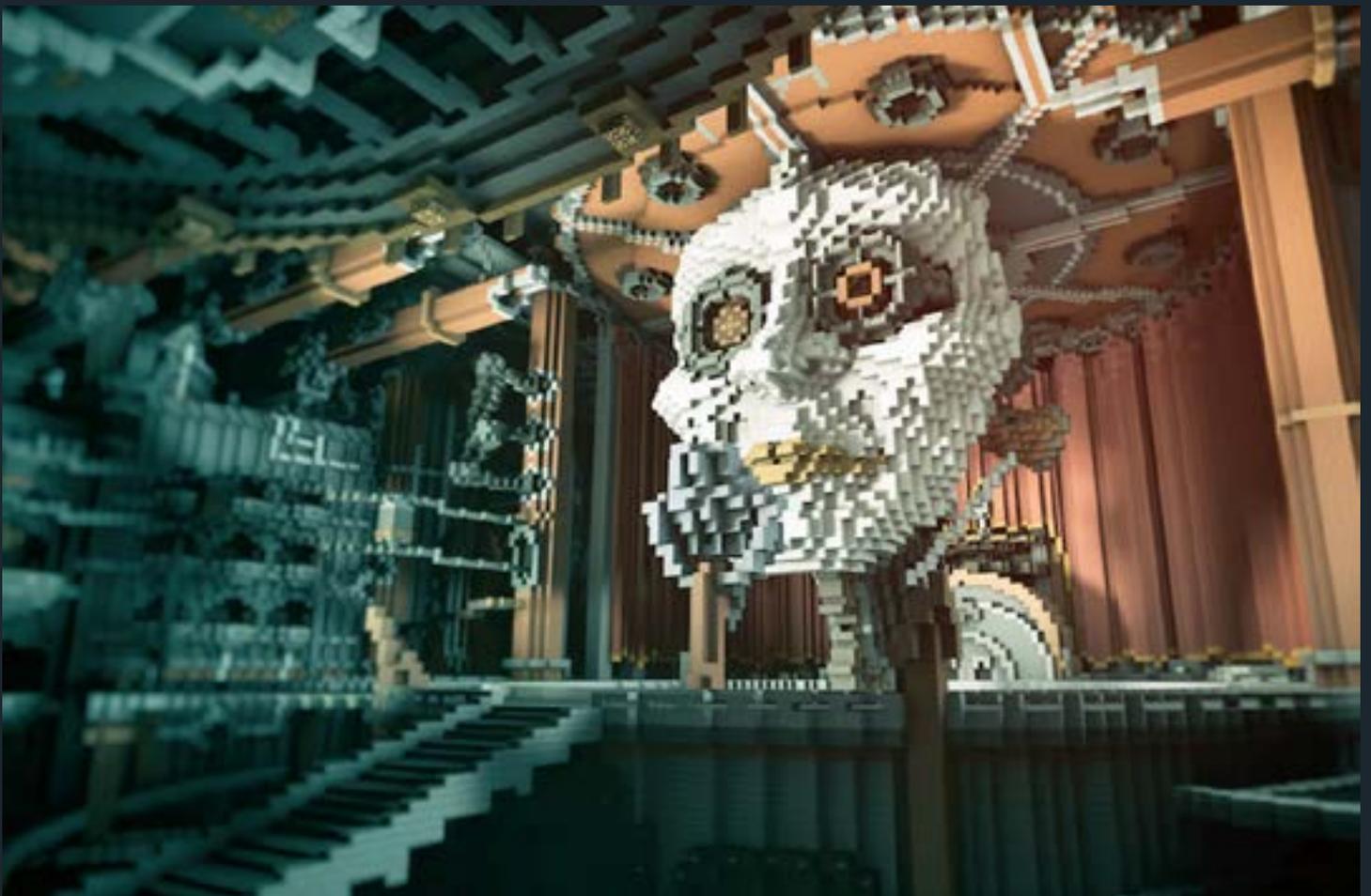
*Minecraft* received critical acclaim, winning several awards and later being cited as one of the greatest video games of all time.

# BREAKDOWN THE BASICS

## Mechanics

Starting off in *Minecraft* for the first time can be overwhelming when you're faced with so many options and possibilities! This guide will attempt to make that less intimidating but *Minecraft* is a BIG game. No matter how much reading you do, at the end of the day the best knowledge comes from experience, and it's totally okay to just start playing and work it out one swing at a time.

Depending on each player's preferences, they'll go for a different game mode or gameplay experience. However, not all of them have exactly the same features, which is why knowing what players are getting themselves into is key before starting a new world. Here are a few things to know about game modes, as well as how many of them there are in the first place.



## Modes

Among the many reasons why *Minecraft* is still so popular these days is its variety of game modes. Despite being primarily a survival sandbox game, the game offers so much more for players to do, and a multitude of different goals and objectives they can set for themselves. It's that freedom in particular that players always love coming back to.

## Block Reach

Block Reach means how far the player can stand in order to be able to touch or interact with a specific block. Standing too far will make a block unavailable or out of reach, so knowing the limit is a game-changer for any player.

## Hardcore

Every *Minecraft* world, aside from creative, can be given a difficulty rating: Peaceful, Easy, Normal, Hard. However, for players wanting even more out of the game, there's still one more level: Hardcore. Hardcore is actually its own game mode, with Hard difficulty and with specific rules. It's probably the most challenging way to play the game.



## Creative

Creative mode completely removes any survival aspect from the game, and turns *Minecraft* fully into a sandbox building game. Anything and everything in the world can be interacted with easily, and mobs will tend to ignore the player. However, the player can still die in creative, if they jump into the void and don't actually fly up to save themselves.

## Adventure

Adventure mode is one of the unique modes that don't usually do well when played with normal *Minecraft* maps. The reason for that is the inability of players to break blocks in Adventure mode, which makes crafting and harvesting materials impossible.

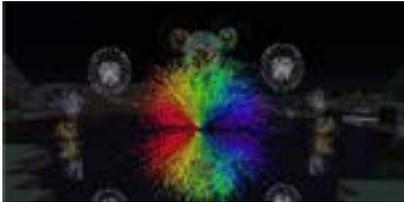
The great thing about *Minecraft* is that it's a game that's meant to be shared. Although playing it alone can be rewarding, some of the best experiences usually come with playing it with friends. Multiplayer is available for all game modes, from survival, to creative to even hardcore worlds. If survival servers seem like a boring idea, there are also tons of creative building-only servers where players can hone their design skills.

# Crafting

You'll use the various items you acquire to build new tools for yourself and expand your home base (if you choose to have one). It is called *MineCRAFT* after all. Here are some of the cool things that you can craft with the right resources.



**A Map:** Once you explore a large part of the *Minecraft* overworld, maps suddenly become essential items. Without them, it's hard to remember where everything is, from certain biomes to specific structures. Yet, unless you choose to spawn with a map and manage to hold onto it, you're going to need to create one.



**Fireworks:** There's a lot of things to do in *Minecraft*, but few know that you can actually make fireworks. The recipes can't be found in the recipe book even when the player has all the required items, which can be a bit frustrating for the casual player, because it requires going into the Wikipedia page of the game and looking for the information.



**Fishing Rod:** With how much there's to do in *Minecraft*, it might seem like fishing isn't exactly a big priority. Here's the thing: if you're patient and stick to it, there's a lot that you can gain from a fishing rod. From tons of food to experience points for your enchantments to even finding some extremely rare treasures, it's worth investing in a good one.



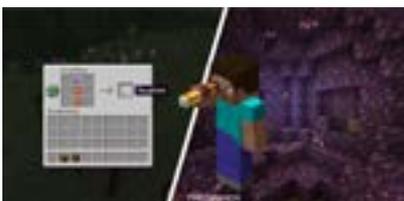
**Lantern:** Back in the early days of *Minecraft*, light sources were limited, with the likes of torches and Jack o'Lanterns being relied upon heavily. Lighting technology has moved on a lot since those literally darker days. And one of the additions has been lanterns. These items not only provide plenty of light, but they're nice to look at too.



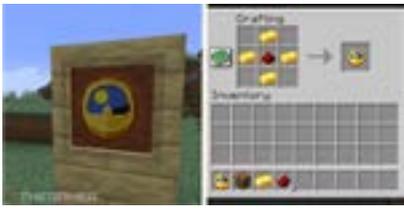
**Compass:** The *Minecraft* overworld is a giant place with many different biomes. So it's easy to lose track of your surroundings while you traverse the landscape looking for every resource available. That's why it's always useful to have a compass with you.



**Recovery Compass:** Among the many treasures that *Minecraft's* Ancient Cities hold is the recovery compass, an item that finally solves a problem players have long been facing. All too often you die on some far-flung adventure, and unless you had coordinates on screen, there's no way to know where you died in order to travel back and collect your belongings.



**Spyglass:** For the longest time, the OptiFine mod was one of the only ways for *Minecraft* players to be able to zoom in on something in the distance. However, since the 1.17 update, the first part of Caves and Cliffs, Mojang has decided to provide a convenient in-game way of zooming into the horizon and inspecting things from afar easily.



**A Clock:** In addition to the wide range of blocks in *Minecraft*, there is lots more to explore and do. As well as raising animals and defeating monsters, you can also craft! There are tons of small gadgets, including the clock, which can be held or used in redstone contraptions.



**A Stonecutter:** Introduced in the 1.14 update for *Minecraft*, the stonecutter is one of the many new villager workstations with their own unique functionalities. The stonecutter hasn't received the kind of attention as many other workstations, such as the anvil, smithing table, or even the grindstone. It's an underrated tool that makes the life of builders, in particular, ten times easier.



**Paper:** Paper is one of the most important resources in *Minecraft*. However, actually finding it, farming it and crafting paper isn't exactly done the way it is in the real world. For example, rather than using trees, players will need to find sugar cane. Here's a guide on how to make paper and what uses this material has.

*Minecraft* would be impossible to cover every aspect of the game but the above gives you a good start. There are a ton of items you can build for your home base which include:

Bed | Grindstone | Blast Furnace | Candles  
| Concrete | Pumpkins | Dyes | Wool | Lightning Rod  
| Paintings | Beacons | Note Blocks



## Environment

You'll need to delve deep beneath the surface and into vast networks of caves in order to obtain the resources you want. Those who love adventure often find themselves in cave systems that can be much larger than initially thought to be. Both veterans and newcomers should be familiar with the tips and tricks that make traversing caves a walk in the park.

- Have A System To Avoid Getting Lost
- Explore At Your Own Pace
- Know What Level You're On
- Be Careful With Lava
- Fall Damage Is Real
- Dig Around Resources
- Don't Get Comfortable
- Look For Branching Paths
- Overuse Torches

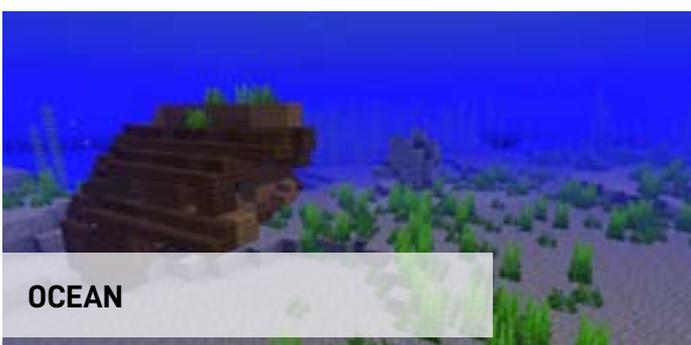
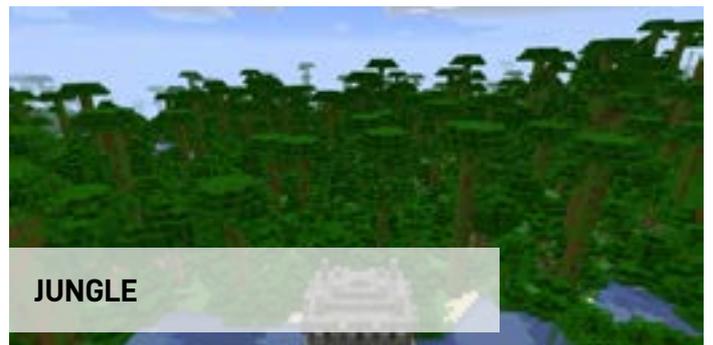
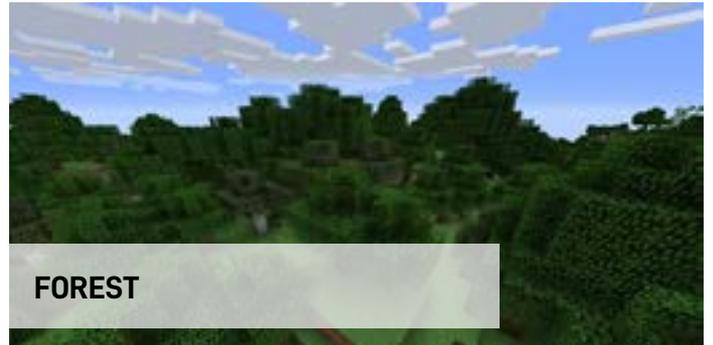


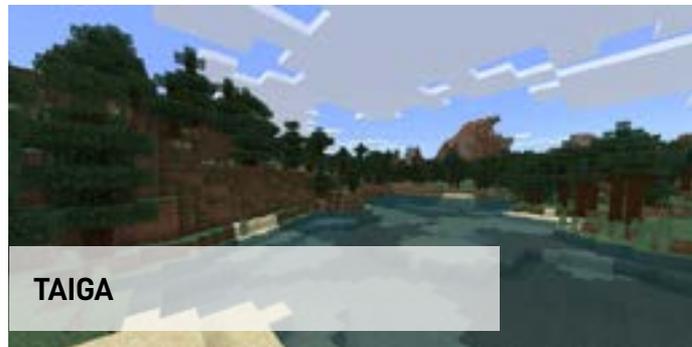
Exploring is super fun in *Minecraft* and the thought of finding diamonds or some other weird mystery in a dark cave can become exciting. That doesn't mean players should rush out the door unprepared and set themselves up for failure though.

It's important to gather all of the necessary items and tools needed and place any unneeded stuff in storage. Crafting sufficient torches and equipping a good set of armour should also be part of the mental checklist a player runs through before plunging into the dark unknown. We'll get into combat and survival tips later on.

## Biomes

Each one of *Minecraft's* biomes is unique, but some are just more exciting or dynamic than others. Here is a list of the biomes to look out for.





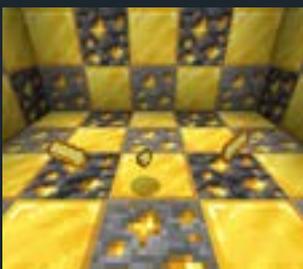
## Resources



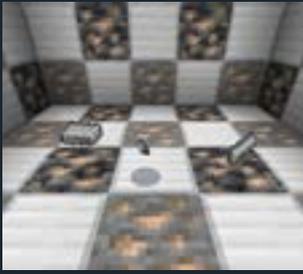
The last two updates to *Minecraft* have seen the addition of new materials, from Netherite to Amethyst and now **Copper**. Copper isn't a brand-new idea for many *Minecraft* players who have been playing the game and its mods for years now. In fact, a lot of modpacks have already played with the idea of copper as an important crafting resource, but with 1.17 this has become official.



**Emeralds** are rare gems that reside underground, and there are many uses for Emeralds in *Minecraft* that may make you want to obtain them.



**Gold** is an incredibly valuable resource in *Minecraft*, allowing you to craft numerous items, barter with Piglins, and so much more. As is true in real life, however, gold can be difficult to come by — getting your hands on this sparkly metal is often easier said than done.



**Iron** is arguably *Minecraft's* single most useful resource, seeing use in countless crafting recipes. While you'll likely outgrow iron weapons and armour by the late game, you'll still find yourself needing heaps of the stuff for things like rails, anvils, and even beacon pyramids. But in spite of this, iron's ubiquity as a crafting ingredient is not reflected in how easy it is to find.



**Diamonds** are a major milestone for *Minecraft* players. While Netherite may have eclipsed diamonds in terms of power and usefulness, diamonds are still an invaluable material for any player's efforts in the game.



Not all substances are as easy to obtain as wood. Some require a bit of knowledge and the right tools to acquire. One such substance is **Obsidian**. The volcanic rock has been in the game since the early days. For new players, however, it's not instantly clear how to mine it. After all, if you go at it with an iron pickaxe, you'll be wasting your time.



**Amethyst** is one of the new materials introduced in *Minecraft's* 1.17 Caves and Cliffs update, Part I. This purple crystal is different from most other resources in the game due to not being an ore that's found in solid stone or deepslate. Amethyst is actually a crystal, which must be mined from special crystal blocks found in specific geode structures.



With the 1.17 update of *Minecraft*, we were given a wide range of new blocks such as the **Deepslate Block**. The Deepslate Block set released with the first part of the Caves and Cliffs update in early June. The first part of the update only included mobs and block variations. The rest of the update is expected to launch later this year. It will include new biomes and mobs to interact with. For now, we can explore all the deepslate block variations added to the game.



## ✱ Exploration, Combat, And XP ✱

The more you explore, the more *Minecraft* rewards you with new mobs, biomes, and items. You'll need to be able to survive on your own, defeat any unruly creatures that come your way, and know what's rare so you can bring it home with you.

We won't be able to go over everything but know that you need to focus on managing your hunger with various food items to consume, look out for fall damage and ensure you're gaining XP as you battle various monsters and animals in their habitual biomes.

Between the building, exploring, and crafting, there's quite a bit to get caught up with as the game sees new updates frequently. Combat is mostly straightforward, but there are a few tricks to the trade, so to speak.



Here is a general list of tips for combat:

- Gather A Lot Of Resources Early
- Enchantments Make A Difference
- Invest In Your Sword
- Use Spacing Effectively
- Blocking Is A Thing
- Use The Environment
- Wear The Best Armor You Can
- Take Your Time
- Use Range Whenever Possible
- Experience Eliminates Fear



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# CONCLUSION

Mojang's ever-popular open-world sandbox adventure *Minecraft* is one of the most iconic and popular games of the last decade, dating back to its release in 2011. It's a game that brings people of all ages and walks of life together within a world of blocks that's extremely in-depth but works with surprising simplicity. There's a ton to learn and it's always being updated and evolving so prepare to be a student every time you log in.