

GAMER GUIDE

GTA EDITION



the need to know you didn't know you needed



WHAT IS IT?



Grand Theft Auto or *GTA* is a long-running gaming franchise from Rockstar Games, each game centring around the wheelings and dealings of a criminal protagonist - played by you. One of the most popular games in the franchise is the 2004 *GTA: San Andreas*. It took the world by storm with its incredible open-world approach and controversial gameplay. In this guide we'll be looking at *GTA V* and its spin-off multiplayer *GTA Online*. Played in either first or third-person, this action-adventure game is set in the fictional state of San Andreas (loosely based on southern California) and the streets of Los Santos (you guessed it, based on Los Angeles) are your stomping ground.



So how exactly do you build an empire on the mean streets with the odds stacked against you? No need to do the dirty work, we did it for you:

BREAKDOWN THE BASICS

Gameplay

You will follow the story of not one, but three lead protagonists as you play through the single-player campaign. You can switch between them at will outside of missions. These missions are the key to progressing through the story and unlocking more content and areas to explore.



Most of the story happens around heists which means most of the missions involve lots and lots of driving and shooting. Enemies can be taken down with melee attacks, explosives and a wide assortment of firearms. As you progress you need to think more strategically and use your environment in fights too. Duck and cover, always remember to duck and cover!




Naturally, as you climb the ranks to kingpin you have to commit some crimes. Unfortunately, this has a side effect of becoming “wanted” by local law enforcement. The higher your “wanted” level, the more aggressively the police will pursue you, and just like IRL you really don’t want to get caught! A five-star wanted level is quite lethal, featuring helicopter and SWAT teams. If you manage to hide or evade long enough for the cool-down meter to appear, you are almost home free.




When you aren’t driving around the city in your favourite vehicle, plotting to overthrow rivals or executing grand heists, you can participate in hobbies and activities that can earn you cash and improve your skills

Character Customization

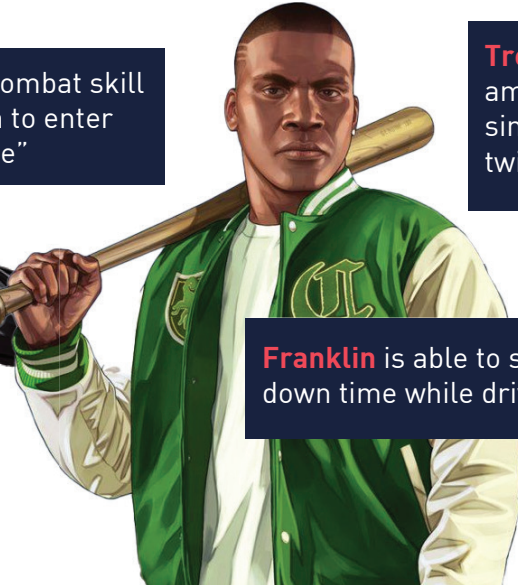
In single-player mode you control three characters: Michael De Santa, Trevor Philips and Franklin Clinton. Each of them has a set of eight skills in specific areas such as firearms and driving. These skills are improved through gameplay, however, each character has a specific skill with a higher default level of expertise. There is also the eighth “special” skill which determines how effectively each character performs their unique ability.

A stylized illustration of Michael De Santa, a middle-aged man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit over a light blue shirt. He is holding a silver handgun with both hands, looking directly at the viewer with a serious expression.

Michael's combat skill allows him to enter “bullet time”

A stylized illustration of Trevor Philips, a man with a large, scarred head, wearing a white t-shirt. He is holding a lit dynamite stick in his right hand, looking intensely at the viewer.

Trevor takes half the usual amount of damage while simultaneously dealing twice as much to enemies.

A stylized illustration of Franklin Clinton, a young Black man wearing a green and white varsity jacket. He is holding a wooden baseball bat over his right shoulder, looking forward with a determined expression.

Franklin is able to slow down time while driving

Vehicles

Vehicles are one of the key mechanics in *GTA V*. First of all, the sheer size of the map requires a lot of travelling. So much so that there are aircraft and even submarines to explore the massive open-world map in the game. Secondly, it's literally in the name, *Grand Theft Auto*. A wide array of vehicles spawn all across the map. There are super custom sports cars, motorbikes, SUVs, vans, aircraft, emergency vehicles, and even a tank! *GTA V* has more vehicles than any other GTA game to date (over 600) which means there is no shortage of cool autos to acquire for your collection. Where will you store all of these special acquisitions? Just keep reading.



Properties

As a growing underground entrepreneur you will need to make some money of your own, be able to lay low when things get a little hot, and store all of your sparkling, ill-gotten gains. The solution to all of these concerns can be summarized under properties. Embrace your inner businessman with sixteen established enterprises in single-player. When you need to hide out from the cops you have a selection of safe houses to choose from, depending on how much cash you've raked in. Now as your vehicle collection grows you have warehouses, hangars and a marina to secure them.



Weapons

When you're looking to get some bang for your buck there is no shortage of weapons to choose from. There are Handguns, Shotguns, Machine Guns, Assault Rifles, Sniper Rifles, Melee Weapons, and more. Not only can you buy a wide assortment of these weapons, you can also modify them with attachments to change performance.

BEGINNER'S TIP

Assault rifles are the most reliable, go-to weapon when you're starting out in the game. Until you figure out your style and find your own faves try the Advanced Rifle for all your gunfight needs!

Hobbies

So far we've covered the serious business, but even a career criminal wants to chill sometimes. Get a hobby! Sure, hobbies improve your skills or earn you cash, but they're also fun! So let your hair down with the following activities:



TIPS AND TRICKS

FOR GTA ONLINE

GTA Online, the game's online multiplayer mode, allows up to 30 players to play a variety of cooperative and competitive game modes. While it is based on *GTA V*, there are some major differences and we'll highlight these below:

Freeplay Basics

Freeplay is the live open-world version of Los Santos and Blaine County. You'll find missions and heists, businesses and safehouses just like single player. There is one major difference though, there are other players like you. There are no protagonists and the character you create can be as much like you (or unlike) as you wish! You will need to build a crew, whether they are IRL friends or people you recruit in the game.

The voice chat feature has a few different settings that give you the power over just how much or how little you want to communicate in-game. When you don't feel like engaging with other players you can activate **passive mode** - this means you cannot attack other players and they cannot attack you. There are also events that will take place in freeplay from time to time, players compete for rankings and special bonuses.

Whenever you're in doubt, consult your iFruit - this trusty cellular companion is the gateway to pretty much everything in freeplay!

* Careers +

Careers are a little different in this game. Since there are no storylines to follow and no protagonists, it all comes down to forging your own path. How will you dominate the hood?



EXECUTIVE

If getting your hands dirty is not your thing then perhaps an illicit goods import and export empire is more your speed.

Exclusive perks will give you status in the city, and create career opportunities for your friends along the way.



BIKER

It's you and your motorcycle club against the world. This is not the high life of white-collar crime. This is the underbelly of Blaine County featuring off-the-grid businesses and recruiting prospects to turn profits. Push product, work together to complete Clubhouse contracts & challenges, and earn your career exclusive benefits.



GUNRUNNER

The guns in southern San Andreas don't come from thin air. Your illustrious, dangerous career as an arms dealer awaits! Not only are the most badass player on the block, but you also get your own underground Bunker. This subterranean fortress provides you with a fully kitted base of operations. What are you waiting for?

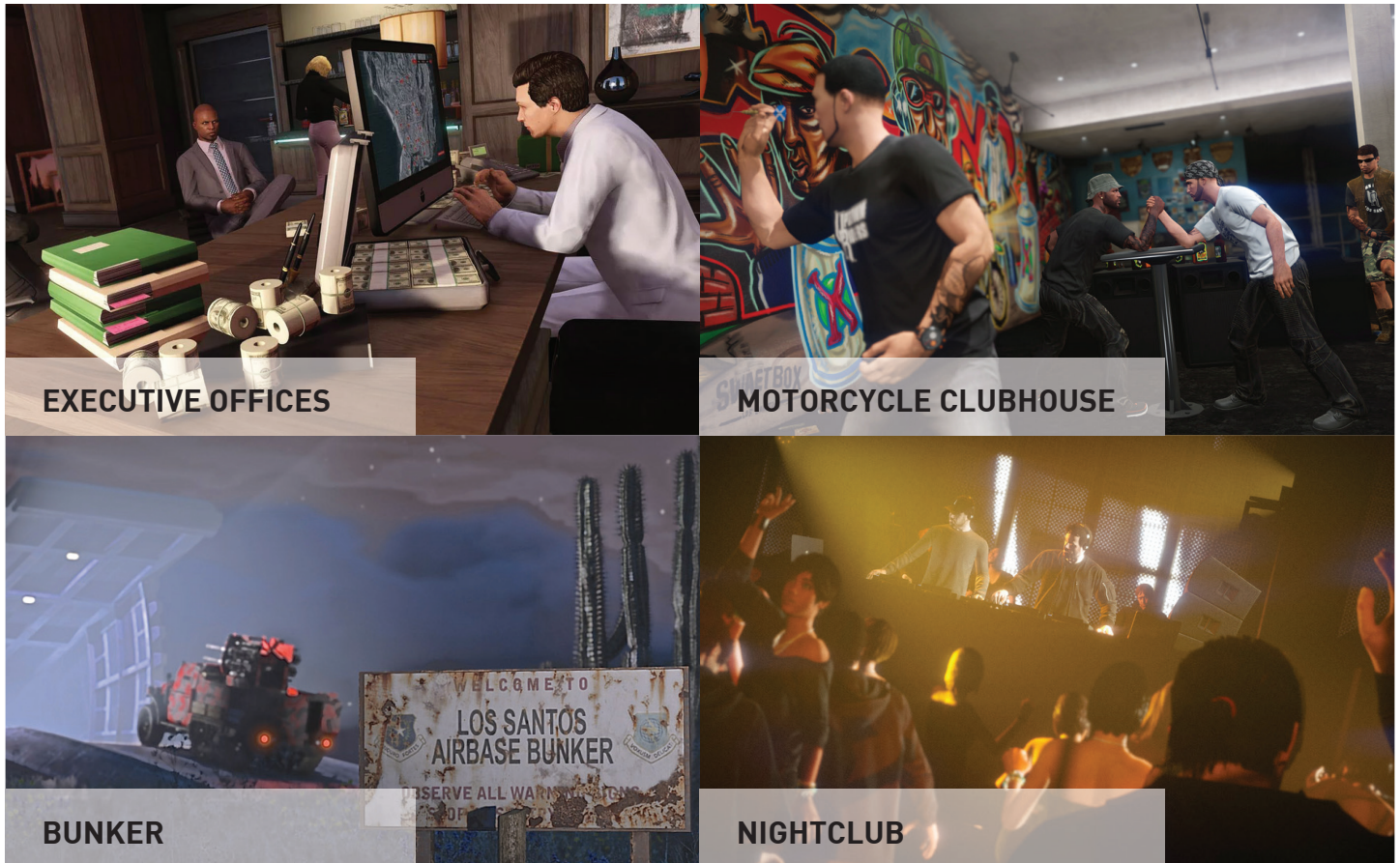


NIGHTCLUB OWNER

If you march to the beat of the EDM drums then the Nightclub Owner career might be the one for you! They are the beating heart of Los Santos' nightlife and it's up to you to choose a banging location, build its popularity, pick DJs, and make your club the place to be!

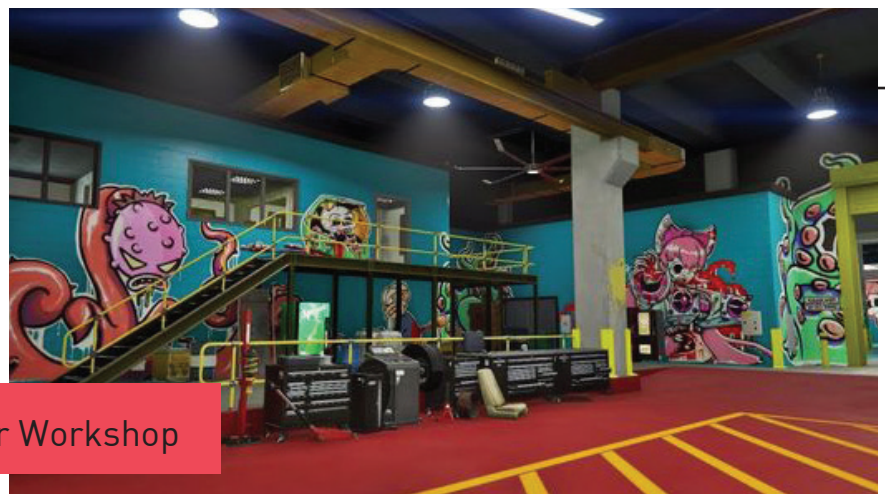
✱ Properties

Much like in single-player, properties allow you to store vehicles and have a safe base of operations. All properties with personal quarters, including Apartments, can be set as spawn points. Each career has a specific property attached.



There are also some properties that allow access to unique content.

Arena War Workshop - Daredevil racers can modify vehicles geared specifically for maximum carnage. This is additional content so if you fancy yourself an automobile gladiator then head over to the official Arena War website to purchase it.

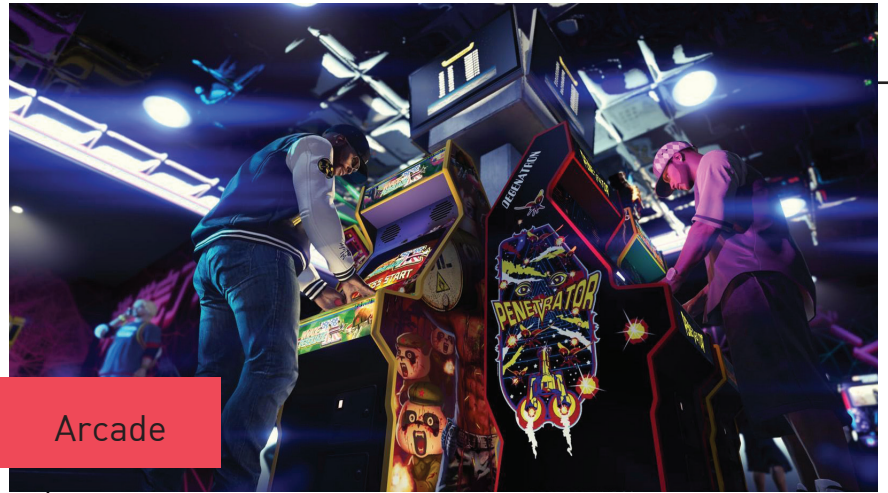




The Diamond Casino Master Penthouse - this elite penthouse atop The Diamond Casino & Resort how you know you've made it in Los Santos. Owning a penthouse allows players access Casino Story Missions and Casino Work as well.

The Diamond Casino Master Penthouse

Arcades - these businesses form part of the mission strategy to take down The Diamond Casino in The Diamond Casino Heist.



Arcade



Auto Shop - The Auto Shop gives the player access to Robbery Contracts. These Contracts bring access to even bigger jobs such as taking on the IAA, Merryweather, and more. It also comes with a showroom-quality, 10-car garage, a modification bay for your Personal Vehicles, access to Exotic Exports.

Auto Shop