

GAMER GUIDE

ZELDA: TEARS OF
THE KINGDOM
EDITION



the need to know you didn't know you needed



WHAT IS IT?



It's finally here! Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom, the highly anticipated action-adventure game developed and published by Nintendo for the Nintendo Switch. Released in 2023 as the sequel to the critically acclaimed The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild, Tears of the Kingdom builds upon its predecessor's success by expanding the breathtaking open world of Hyrule, offering players a newfound arena of exploration. As the legendary hero Link, players find themselves on a perilous quest to aid Princess Zelda in thwarting the malevolent mummified Ganondorf's sinister plot to annihilate the cherished land of Hyrule.



Tears of the Kingdom was born from the realisation that the ideas for downloadable content (DLC) for Breath of the Wild had grown beyond a mere expansion. After a tantalising teaser showcased at E3 2019, the full unveiling of Tears of the Kingdom took place at E3 2021, leaving fans eagerly awaiting its eventual release in May 2023. With its remarkable enhancements, sprawling open world, and an emphasis on fostering exploration and experimentation, the game received widespread acclaim. It soared to extraordinary heights, amassing over 10 million units sold at the time of writing this guide.

BREAKDOWN THE BASICS



As the valiant hero Link, players are granted the freedom to traverse the sprawling landscapes of Hyrule, as well as the newly introduced areas of the Sky Islands and the Depths, in search of valuable weapons, resources, and quests to undertake. The game offers a multitude of exploration options, allowing players to navigate their surroundings on foot, engage in brisk running, mount a trusty steed for swift horseback travel, scale towering cliffs with climbing prowess, and take to the skies using the trusty paraglider.

Unveiling an array of exciting new mechanics, Tears of the Kingdom introduces Zonai devices, advanced technological tools that empower players in combat, propulsion, exploration, and more. Replacing the runes from the previous instalment, five new powers come to the forefront: Ultrahand, Fuse, Ascend, Recall, and Autobuild. The Ultrahand ability grants Link the power to manipulate and transport various objects, merging them together to create inventive vehicles and constructs when combined with Zonai devices. The Fuse power allows Link to combine different materials, equipment, or objects found within the world, augmenting the attributes and durability of shields and weapons. The iconic Shrines and Korok Seeds make their triumphant return, beckoning players to uncover their hidden secrets.

Venturing into the Depths, accessed through chasms scattered across the surface, presents new challenges in the form of a nefarious substance known as Gloom. Many denizens of the Depths are tainted by this sticky, malevolent substance. Prolonged exposure to Gloom or encounters with Gloom-covered enemies inflict harm upon Link, temporarily depleting one heart of his health. To restore his vitality, Link must either retreat to the Surface or seek out Lightroots, radiant plant life found within the Depths that revitalises his health, ensuring his ability to continue the arduous fight against darkness.

Mechanics



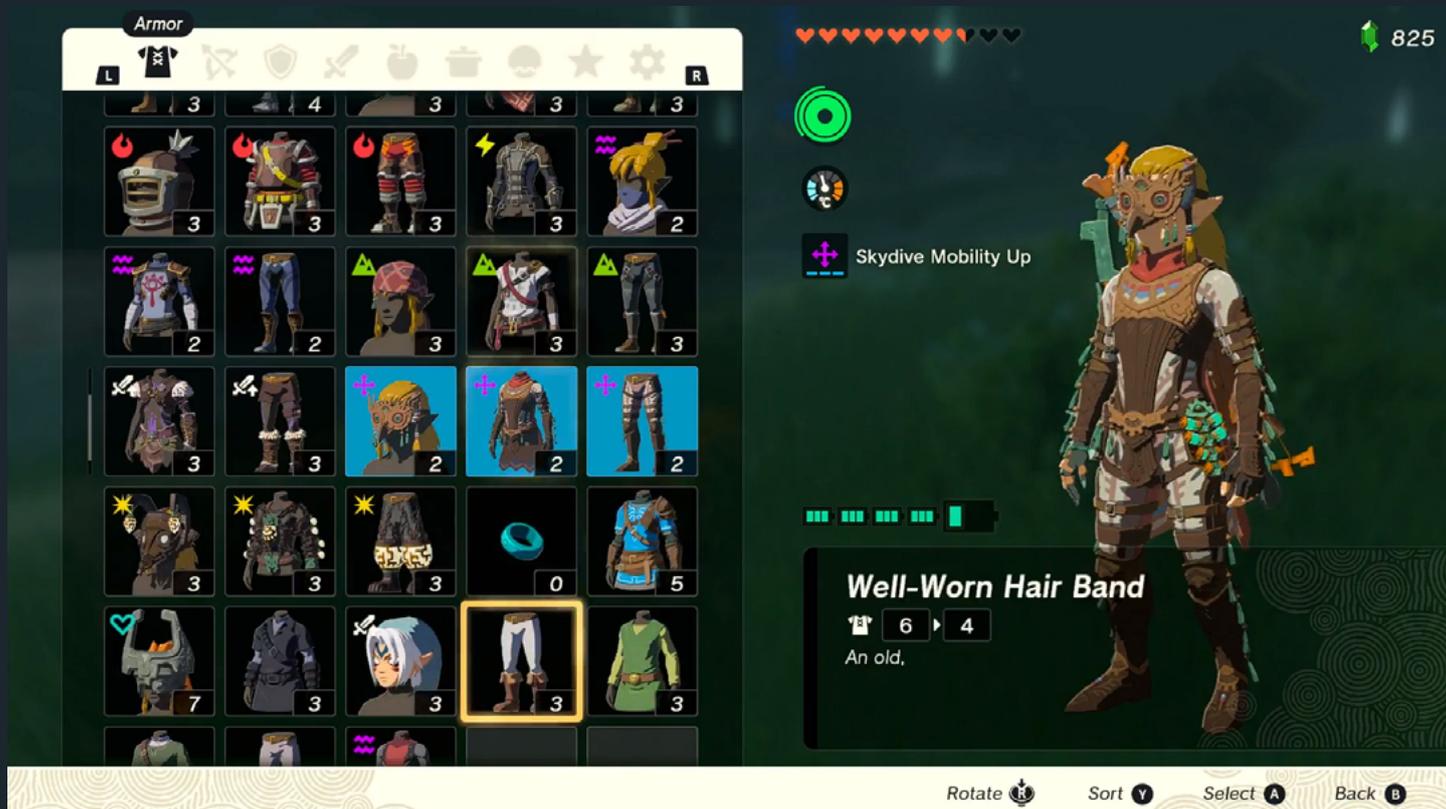
Combat

Combat can be challenging. The combat mechanics include weapon durability, tricky timing, and boss-specific tactics. Set yourself up before fights with weapons aplenty as well as consumables that will exploit the weaknesses of the enemies you're fighting.

While Link is a sword-swinging dapper warrior, sometimes a little stealth is required. Sneaking up behind enemies to execute a Stealthstrike will often save a lot of trouble. In the event you find yourself in extended combat, dodge! Dodge, duck, and roll! Dodging avoids damage but also gives you plenty of time to observe the enemy's movements so you can attack more effectively. Enemies, especially bosses, have a number of basic attacks and additional heavy attacks. Learning them can make you more efficient in combat and help take down those extra tough bad guys.

Weapons

Weapons can be found throughout the world and they come in many shapes and sizes. Each have unique stats as well as differing durabilities. Weapons degrade with each hit and will eventually break, which means you need to ensure that you have enough weapons in your inventory before getting into combat.



Armour

Link must don armour to defend himself from the evils threatening him. There's unique armour pieces as well as caps, tunics, and trousers. Each item has base defensive ratings, and there is a possibility for bonus stats such as resistances, climbing speeds, or even special abilities.

You can purchase armour or find them in chests throughout the game. You can also upgrade your armour through the Great Fairy Fountains and it's always a good idea to increase the stats. While you're at it, wearing full sets of armour can also provide bonuses.

Cooking

Much like the previous title *Breath of the Wild*, *Tears of the Kingdom* brings the heat. In the kitchen that is! Cook up a range of delicious dishes and helpful elixirs and keep track of all the recipes that you discover with the handy new recipe book feature.

To start cooking up a storm all you need to do is find a cooking pot in the wild or deploy a Zonai Portable Pot from your inventory. Open your inventory, choose up to five ingredients, and add them to the cooking pot.

Meals are made from ingredients such as meat, vegetables, fruits, and edible plants that can be harvested throughout the world. They restore health and can add handy buffs too! If you're just looking for the buffs, concoct a drink from monster parts, bugs, and other goodies. Delicious...

Exploration

Tears of the Kingdom is an open-world game, so players are free to explore the world at their own pace. Running and swimming consume stamina which can mean that you end up in a difficult situation if you don't keep an eye on it. The game has incorporated the ability to build and customise vehicles for travelling through the world, including boats and flying machines.



Puzzles & Zonai Devices

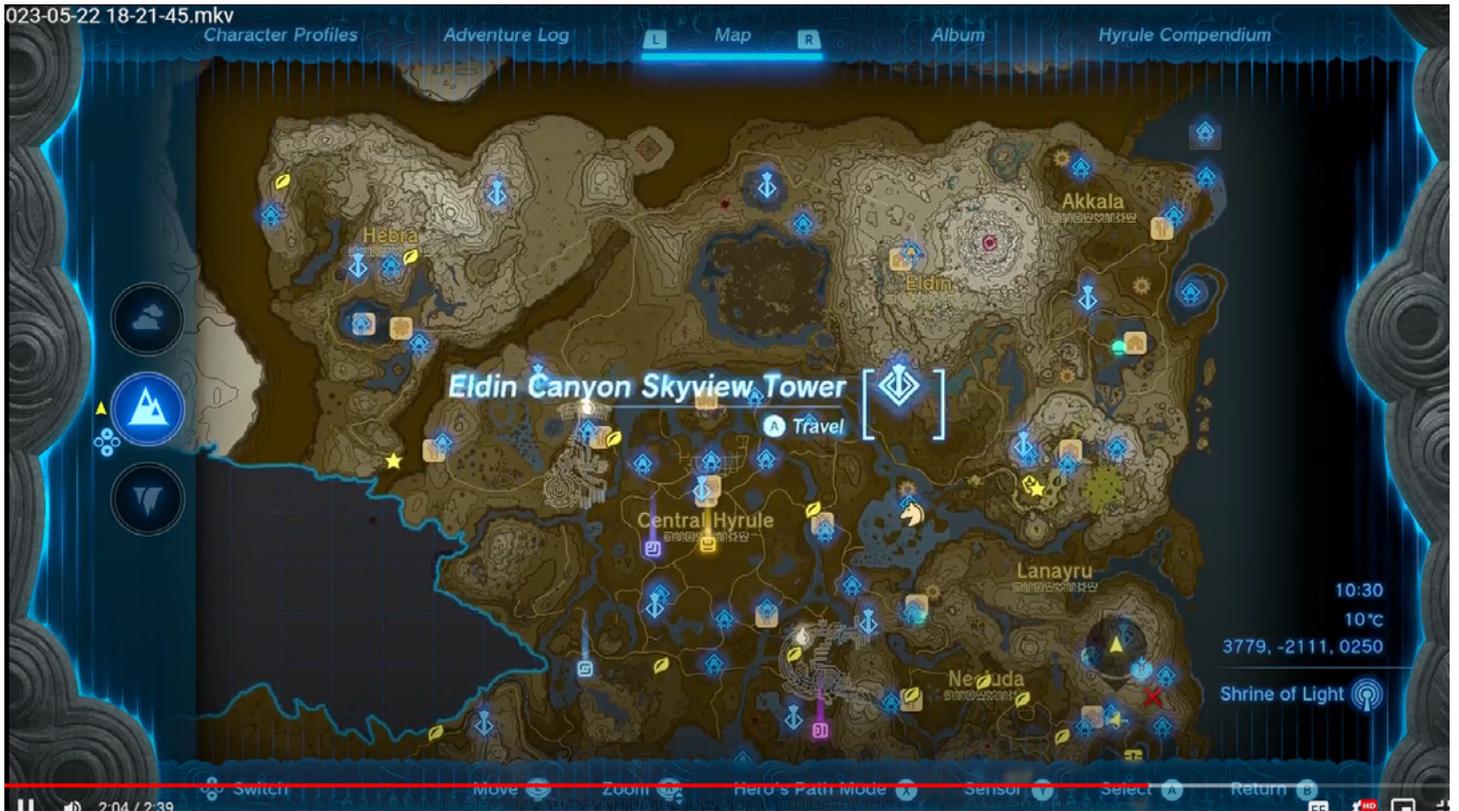
There are many puzzles in Tears of the Kingdom. These puzzles can be simple, such as finding a key to open a door, or more complex, such as using Link's magic to create platforms or move objects around. Most of these can be found in Shrines. When Link clears these small, tricky dungeons he earns really useful rewards. Players should also search the world for Korok Seeds to increase Link's inventory capacity.

Zonai Devices are technological devices that Link can use for combat, propulsion, exploration, and more. There are many different Zonai Devices, each with its own unique abilities:

- The Ultrahand: allows Link to pick up objects, move objects, and attach different objects together.
- The Fuse: allows Link to combine materials, equipment, or certain objects in the world to a shield or a weapon to increase its attributes and durability.
- The Ascend: allows Link to move upwards through solid surfaces.
- The Recall: can be used on an object to "rewind" its movement.



Environment



Hyrule

Hyrule is the main setting of Tears of the Kingdom. It is a large and diverse land, with a variety of climates and environments.

Some of the key locations in Hyrule include:

- The Great Plateau: The Great Plateau is the starting area of Tears of the Kingdom. It is a small, isolated area that Link must explore to learn the basics of the game.
- Kakariko Village: Kakariko Village is a small village located in the Akkala region of Hyrule. It is a friendly and welcoming place, and it is home to a variety of shops and services.
- Hateno Village: Hateno Village is a large village located in the Hateno region of Hyrule. It is a centre of technology and innovation, and it is home to a variety of shops and services.
- Zora's Domain: Zora's Domain is an underwater city located in the Lanayru region of Hyrule. It is home to the Zora, a race of fish-like people.
- Gerudo Town: Gerudo Town is a desert city located in the Gerudo Desert region of Hyrule. It is home to the Gerudo, a race of women warriors.
- Rito Village: Rito Village is an avian village located in the Hebra Mountains region of Hyrule. It is home to the Rito, a race of bird-like people.
- Goron City: Goron City is a volcanic city located in the Eldin Mountains region of Hyrule. It is home to the Goron, a race of rock-like people.
- Akkala Citadel: Akkala Citadel is a fort located in the Akkala region of Hyrule. It is home to the Akkala Rangers, a group of soldiers who protect Hyrule from its enemies.
- Hyrule Castle: Hyrule Castle is the seat of power in Hyrule. It is located in the centre of Hyrule Field, and it is home to the King of Hyrule and his royal family.



The Sky Islands

The Sky Islands are a group of floating islands that are located high above Hyrule. They are a dangerous place, as they are home to a variety of dangerous enemies and creatures.

Some of the key locations in the Sky Islands include:

- The Great Sky Tower: The Great Sky Tower is the tallest tower in the Sky Islands. It is home to the Master Sword, a powerful sword that is said to be the only weapon that can defeat Calamity Ganon.
- The Sky City: The Sky City is a large city that is located in the center of the Sky Islands. It is home to a variety of different races, including the Hylians, the Zora, the Gerudo, and the Rito.
- The Sky Temple: The Sky Temple is an ancient temple that is located in the Sky Islands. It is said to be the home of the Goddess Hylia, the creator of Hyrule.

The Depths

The Depths is a new area that Link can access via chasms on the surface. The Depths is a dangerous place, as it is home to a new threat, a goopy substance called Gloom.

Some of the key locations in the Depths include:

- The Gloomheart: The Gloomheart is the source of Gloom. It is located in the center of the Depths, and it is protected by a powerful boss.
- The Lightroots: The Lightroots are large, light-emitting plants that are found throughout the Depths. They are the only source of light in the Depths, and they can be used to heal Link's Gloom damage.
- The Depths Shrines: The Depths Shrines are small, puzzle-filled dungeons that Link can clear to earn rewards.

TIPS & TRICKS



Follow the rabbit

Looking for a nearby cave entrance? Try to spot a blue, rabbit-like creature called a Blupee which will lead you to the opening. Keep following it as it may even show you a safe route through the cave or help you find hidden treasures.

Who needs weapons

Link acquires the Ultrahand ability early in the game. You can solve puzzles and build machines with it, but you can also use it in combat! Build heavy-hitting combat machines using Zonai Devices or simply pick up heavy stuff to drop on enemies.

Shield secrets

While it's technically not a secret, you might not be aware of how awesome the shield can be. You can fuse items to your shield turning it into a weapon that damages while you block, or applies elemental affects such as freezing or burning. There are many options, so get creative.





CONCLUSION

With its vast landscapes, inventive mechanics, and a harmonious blend of exploration and combat, Tears of the Kingdom offers an unforgettable adventure. It promises to captivate fans and newcomers alike, drawing them into an immersive world where heroism, discovery, and perseverance reign supreme!