

Learn This: Game Systems for Those Of Us Who Don't Know the Difference Between Nintendo, Sony and Microsoft Consoles

☒ Twenty years ago we bought our son a Nintendo. That was the last time I felt up-to-date on the game system world.

Today gaming isn't just for kids anymore. It's for kids and adults of all ages; it's for fitness, eye-hand coordination, relaxation, sports improvement, strategy-development, cooking and much more. I recently asked my 21-year old daughter to give me some insight into the current world of gaming. Here are her descriptions of the three competing gaming companies and her comments on each.

Nintendo:

- Japanese Company
- Translated from Japanese to English, Nintendo means **"leave luck to heaven."** (Potential Jeopardy question.)
- Product evolution is Nintendo (NES), Super Nintendo (SNES), Nintendo 64, GameCube (GCE), **Nintendo Wii** (pronounced "we") which was introduced in 2007 as the world's first interactive gaming system.
- Handheld players evolved from Gameboy, Gameboy Color, GameBoy Advanced, GameBoy SP, to Nintendo DS (Dual Screen.)
- Least expensive systems.
- Most famous game of all time from any company is made by Nintendo: the Mario series.
- Add-ons include the cross-bow and the steering wheel.

- Comments: *More family-oriented; games are colorful and happy. The Wii took the company from competing on graphics to competing on interactivity. My favorite games because there's never been much blood.*

Sony:

- Japanese Company
- Product evolution is PlayStation 1, PlayStation 2 and PlayStation 3, introduced in 2006.
- Widely recognized as the gaming system with the **best graphics**.
- More premium systems can play older version games.
- **PlayStation 3** has a Blu-ray high definition DVD player.
- The handheld player is the PSP (PlayStation Portable.)
- Comments: *I never had a strong attachment to this player; I watched my brother play but never wanted to play myself. I think the games available are limited.*

Microsoft:

- US Company
- Product evolution is Xbox and the **XBox 360** introduced in 2006.
- The Xbox 360 has a DVD player and an HD DVD player can be added.
- Music can be uploaded from CDs and can be listened to regularly or instead of game music.
- MS introduced the **Halo series**, which is a first-person shooter game and is one of the best-selling games of all time.
- The system allows play by Internet with players around the world.
- No handheld is currently available.
- Comments: *Cool that you can play your music through it, but I despise Halo because of its violence.*

Now go impress your kids, your grandkids, your neighbors' kids, and that new doctor you just hired.