

# Becoming a **professional** gamer

**If you're a very good video game player, perhaps you could become a professional gamer. But it's not easy.**

You have to love playing games, and you have to spend a lot of time playing them. The first thing to do is to decide what game you want to play as a professional. Then you have to spend as much time as possible playing it, and learning everything you can about it.

It's important to play the game against better players. You have to find out how they play differently from you. And you must practise by working hard on the things that are difficult for you. Also, don't try to improve too many things all at the same time.

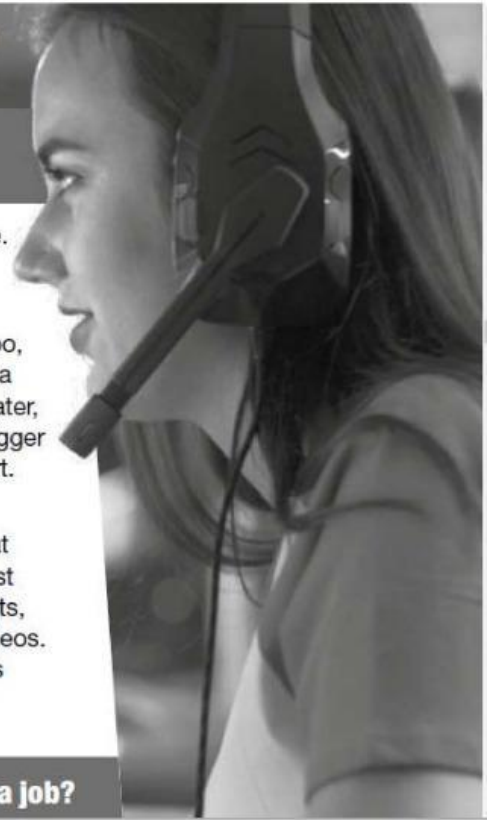
But practising on your own will not be enough. Soon, you must join a group of gamers. It's the only way to become a great player. Talking with others about

how you play is really good for your game. Learn the rules of the group before you join – each group is different.

Taking part in tournaments is important too, starting with small local tournaments. It's a great way to see if you play well or not. Later, when you play better, you should enter bigger tournaments with more players taking part.

Mark Durant, a professional gamer, says it's very important to stay fit, too. Sitting at a screen all day is very bad for you. So last year while he was travelling to tournaments, he designed and made some exercise videos. Gamers can use them in their hotel rooms because there's no time for doing fitness classes or other activities.

**Do you think you could do this as a job?**





**2** For each question, choose the correct answer.

- 1 What advice does the writer give in the first paragraph?  
A Try a few games and spend time playing them.  
B Choose one game and just practise playing that.  
C Learn all about a game before you play it.
- 2 The writer says you should play against better players to learn  
A things you must not do.  
B other ways of playing.  
C how to do everything better than them.
- 3 What does the writer say about joining a group of gamers?  
A It's a good idea for some people.  
B If you want to play better, you have to do it.  
C Some groups are more helpful than others.
- 4 The writer says that taking part in tournaments helps you  
A find out how good you are.  
B play better more quickly.  
C meet other players.
- 5 What did Mark Durant do last year?  
A He made some exercise videos.  
B He went to fitness classes.  
C He opened a hotel for gamers.



**TIPS FOR SUCCESS**

- The questions are in the same order as the information in the text.
- Compare the questions and options to the text carefully.