

Reading 3

Skills:

- Details

Getting started: How often do you play video games? What's your favorite video game?

GOOGLE STADIA



The image shows the Google Stadia logo, which consists of a stylized 'S' made of three curved lines in orange, red, and pink, followed by the word 'STADIA' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. To the right of the logo is a black Stadia DualSense wireless controller with orange accents on the analog sticks and buttons. The controller is shown from a three-quarter perspective, resting on a red surface.

Google Stadia is Google's streaming service, which allows users to play games in **4K** from a Chrome browser. Available to stream on devices such as Android (and eventually iOS) phones, laptops, tablets, and televisions via Chromecast Ultra, Google Stadia effectively replaces the traditional game console. You have access to several of the biggest games on the market, including Mortal Kombat 11, Destiny 2, Borderlands 3, and Darksiders Genesis, and updates are handled on the server, so you never have to wait before playing your games.

Not all of Stadia's most impressive features are integrated yet, but Google recently showed its long-awaited connection to YouTube, allowing you to click a link from within a video's description to be taken to it on Stadia. Viewers watching a streamer on YouTube will be able to instantly jump into their game to play with them or use a sharing system to replicate their save file and play from where the streamer left off. They'll even be able to start playing games directly from YouTube ads in as little as

five seconds, and they can access the Google Assistant for tips on how to clear tricky sections of games they're playing.

Stadia will also receive exclusive games, with a few hundred titles added to the service overall while it continues to be updated with new features. However, the service has a long way to go if it wants to compete directly with xCloud or with the new PlayStation 5 and Xbox Series X consoles. That should happen eventually, as Google's internal development staff is growing, led by veteran producer Jade Raymond. It also recently acquired Journey to the Savage Planet creator Typhoon Studios.

Stadia is certainly one of the most robust game-streaming services today, but we would still suggest waiting until it receives a better game lineup. Still, if you don't own a traditional console, it's a quick way to jump into top gaming, and you can cancel your subscription if you decide Google Stadia isn't for you. You can currently access the free version, which caps its games at 1080p resolution. The Pro option costs \$10 a month and allows 4K streaming, along with a library of "free games" each month and discounts.

The main issue with Stadia is in its library, which is currently limited to just over a hundred games, a tough situation when competing with entire libraries of thousands of games across PlayStation and Xbox. However, the good thing is that it's comparable to those platform's services, PS Now and Xbox Game Pass, at least in terms of price.

**Adapted from <https://www.digitaltrends.com/gaming/best-game-streaming-services/>*

Glossary:

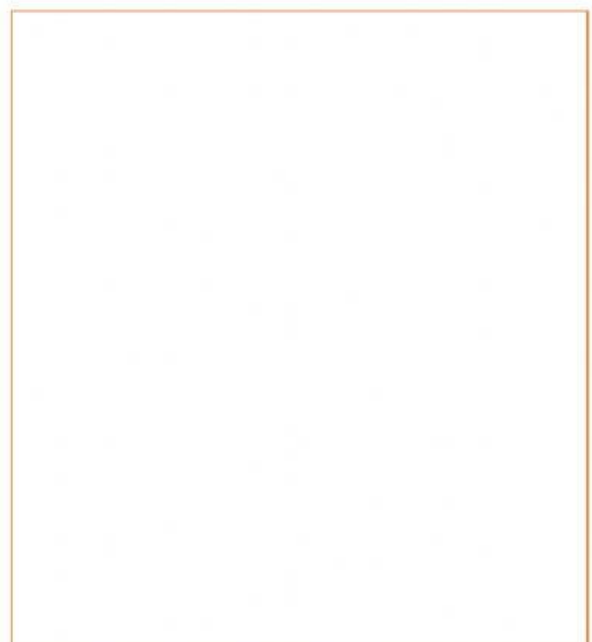
- **4K:** 4K resolution refers to a horizontal display resolution of approximately 4,000 pixels.

Complete the following Reading Map:

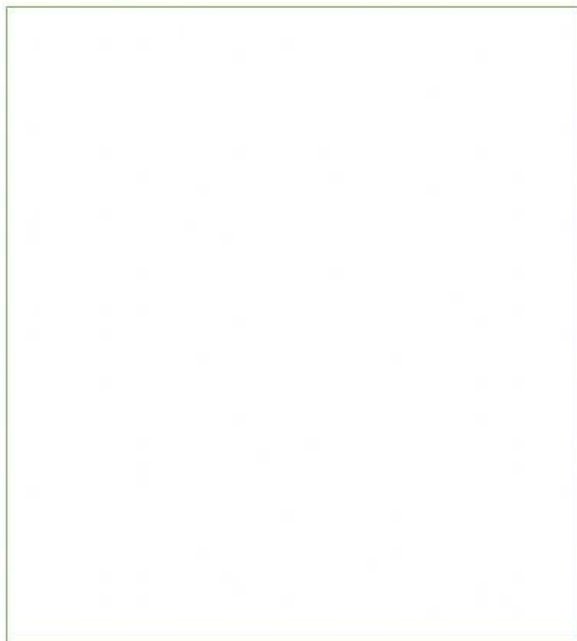
Pros of using Stadia



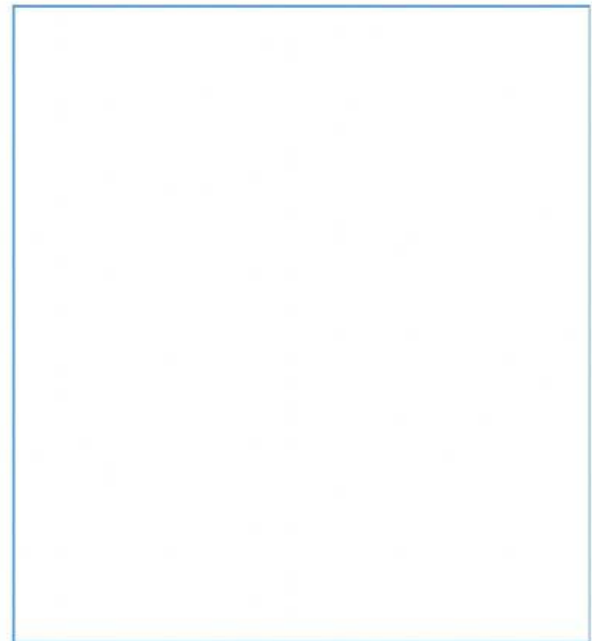
Cons of using Stadia



Solutions to compete against the top platforms



Challenges



Just 100 games approximately	Expand their game catalogue.
Their experienced staff is growing	You Access to top games
Playing games in 4K	It's still under construction
You don't have to wait a long time for a game load.	Google acquired Typhoon Studios
Reasonable prices as those offered by other gaming platforms.	Be a real rival to Xbox and PlayStation
Easily Access tips to clear certain sections.	Free games and discounts for those who pay subscription.
You can connect through YouTube	Stadia Will receive exclusive content
As you watch a game being streamed, you can immediately access the game and play	You don't lose time waiting while updates are installed.
	You don't need a console