Reading 3

Skills:

- Details

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

GOOGLE STADIA

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

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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.

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Complete the following Reading Map:

Pros of using Stadia

Cons of using Stadia

Solutions to compete against the top platforms

Challenges

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Just 100 games approximately

Their experienced staff is growing

Playing games in 4K

You don't have to wait a long time for a game load.

Reasonable prices as those offered by other gamin platforms.

Easily Access tips to clear certain sections.

You can connect through YouTube

As you watch a game being streamed, you can immediately access the game and play

Expand their game catalogue.

You Access to top games

It's still under construction

Google acquired Typhoon Studios

Be a real rival to Xbox and PlayStation

Free games and discounts for those who pay subscription.

Stadia Will receive exclusive content

You don't lose time waiting while updates are installed.

You don't need a console

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