

20TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!

NINTENDO POWER

CASTLEVANIA UNLOCKED

BEATS BOSS IT

STAR WARS: THE COOL BEAN

TOAD UNLOCKED

TOAD PRIMER, UNLOCKED

FRONT OF PEARL
THE FALLEN SIDE

BAIRD JAMES
DUNNARD

THE
TOAD PRIMER
UNLOCKED

TOAD PRIMER
UNLOCKED

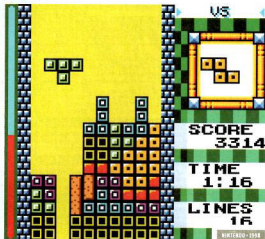
MAD WORLD

From the producer of *Okami* and *Viewtiful Joe*
comes the most original action game in years.

Future
Entertainment



Game Boy & Game Boy Color

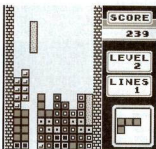


TETRIS DX

With all due respect to Pokémon, no single title meant more to the early days of handheld gaming than Tetris. The first portable version came packed with the original Game Boy and quickly spread Tetris fever from

hardcore gamers to nongamers, from kids to adults. The Game Boy Color's enhanced DX edition—with its color graphics and extra modes—remained, in our minds, the best version of the game until Tetris DS took the crown eight years later. While the block-

dropping superpuzzler is great on consoles, it's a perfect match for quick pick-up-and-play sessions on the go. If we could have only one game on a desert island, it'd be Tetris.



After endless hours of Tetris, we forgot our complaints that the Game Boy didn't come with a Mario game.

BEST VIRTUAL BOY GAME: VIRTUAL BOY WARIO LAND

Since 14 games were released for the Virtual Boy in North America, we're spotlighting only the best one: 1995's Virtual Boy Wario Land.



It boasts the same great action-exploration the series is famous for, plus neat 3-D effects that add to the fun of searching for treasure.



02	THE LEGEND OF ZELDA: LINK'S AWAKENING NINTENDO • 1998 Link's Awakening was a dream come true—a full-fledged Zelda adventure you could take anywhere. Fun Facts: former Nintendo Power staffer Dan Osnes wrote the game's English script.	
03	POKÉMON RED/POKÉMON BLUE NINTENDO • 1996 This is the Pokémon pair that ushered in the world-shaking phenomenon that is Pokémon. Something about the game just won't let us stop playing until we've caught all 251.	
04	THE LEGEND OF ZELDA: ORACLE OF SEASONS NINTENDO • 2001 A magic rod that let you alter the landscape by changing the season was this game's exciting hook. Throw in an underground realm, and you get a deep and highly original Zelda title.	
05	THE LEGEND OF ZELDA: ORACLE OF AGES NINTENDO • 2001 Shifting between time periods in Oracle of Ages was cool, and interfacing with Oracle of Seasons to unlock extra content was even cooler. Two new Zelda games at once? Yes, please.	
06	POKÉMON GOLD/POKÉMON SILVER NINTENDO • 2000 This second set of all-new Pokémon games took the series to the next level by adding 100 extra Pokémon and various new features and enhancements, including full-color graphics.	
07	SUPER MARIO LAND 2: 6 GOLDEN EGGS NINTENDO • 1992 While the original Super Mario Land is primitive even by Game Boy standards, its sequel still shines with classic Mario hopping and bopping and impressive graphics for a handheld.	
08	DONKEY KONG NINTENDO • 1994 The only true follow-up to the arcade classic, Donkey Kong for Game Boy added to the original's four stages with 99 new ones, introducing brand-new elements and complex puzzle-solving.	
09	WARIO LAND 3 NINTENDO • 2000 The pinnacle of Mario's early action-platform adventures, which are famous for his bushy attacks, his various powered-up forms, and his greedy eye toward treasure-hunting.	
10	KIRBY'S DREAM LAND 2 NINTENDO • 1995 While the original Dream Land was great, the sequel introduced Kirby's now-trademark ability to steal his enemies' powers, adding a fun lot of extra strategy to a great action-platformer.	
11	METAL GEAR SOLID NINTENDO • 1998 This wholly original adventure added elements from the samurai 3-D console title to push the series' hallmark espionage action well beyond that of its previous 2-D installments.	
12	METROID II: RETURN OF SAMUS NINTENDO • 1991 The only Game Boy edition of Metroid introduced many new weapons and items that became series regulars, such as the Space Jump, Plasma Beam, Spiker Ball, and Spring Ball.	
13	POKÉMON PUZZLE CHALLENGE NINTENDO • 2000 After Tetris, this block-matching game is as addictive as a puzzle gets. Although Puzzle Challenge is pretty much the same game as Tetris Attack, we give it the nod for its few extra features.	
14	MEGA MAN V CAPCOM • 1994 All of the Game Boy Mega Man games were excellent, but Mega Man V stood above the rest thanks to an original cast of celestial-themed bosses and all-new weapons such as the Mega Arm.	
15	TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: FALL OF THE FOOT CLAN NINTENDO • 1990 The beauty of TMNT was its straightforward but polished action. The graphics and sound were amazing for Game Boy in 1990.	
16	MARIO'S PICROSS NINTENDO • 1995 This largely forgotten gem offered the same type of compelling picture puzzles as Picross OS, but more than a decade earlier. For our money, Picross blows away similar fads, such as Sudoku.	
17	DR. MARIO NINTENDO • 1990 If you've got puzzle-game fever, Dr. Mario is the cure. Eliminating viruses gets increasingly addictive as you play, and the three-color/shade-matching system was ideal for the Game Boy.	
18	KID ICARUS: OF MYTHS AND MONSTERS NINTENDO • 1991 This little-known follow-up to the classic NES platformer outshines its predecessor with levels that scroll in all directions and the helpful ability to slow your descent by flapping your wings.	
19	SHANTAE CAPCOM • 2000 A beautiful half-genie fights pirates with animal transformations and snags of her ponytail—what's not to love? The superb music animations pushed the Game Boy Color to new heights.	
20	OPERATION C NINTENDO • 1991 Not only does Operation C have all the fast-paced short-'em-up thrills that you'd expect from Contra (except a two-player mode), but it's also the game that introduced the series' homing gun.	