

Overview

Many parents don't realize that a gaming console can also be an Internet gateway – including to the web and chat rooms. Some gaming consoles can be used to watch DVDs or TV as well. Fortunately, all major gaming consoles now come with parental controls – no need to buy or even download anything. Different gaming consoles offer different options, but all offer the ability to enforce the ESRB game ratings, as well as shut off Internet access, making them very safe for even young children – when configured properly.

We Recommend:

Ages up to 7: Use parental controls to enforce age-appropriate game ratings, disable Internet access.

Ages 8 to 10: Use parental controls to enforce age-appropriate game ratings, disable Internet access.

Ages 11 to 13: Use parental controls to enforce age-appropriate game ratings, use online features with caution.

Ages 14 to 17: Use parental controls to enforce age-appropriate game ratings, manage contacts and online interaction.

Important Features

- ✓ **Auto Alert.** Can be programmed to send automatic e-mail alerts triggered by specific events, such as attempting to access inappropriate content.
- ✓ **Block Communications.** Allows the blocking of chat and messaging through a gaming console.
- ✓ **Block DVD.** Block the playing of DVDs on the console.
- ✓ **Block Internet.** Block all online access.
- ✓ **Block Private Information.** Can be configured to block the transmission of private information such as name, phone number, etc.
- ✓ **Block Purchases.** Can be configured to block purchasing games, etc. on line.
- ✓ **Contact Management.** Control over who can contact children.
- ✓ **Monitor.** Allows the recording of gaming console communications.
- ✓ **Multi Profile.** Allows for the creation of multiple user profiles with different levels of filtering, blocking, and monitoring.
- ✓ **Rating Enforcement.** Allows the restriction of games by ESRB ratings (Everyone, Everyone- 10, Teen, etc.)
- ✓ **Time Management.** Ability to limit Internet and/or computer use to preset times.
- ✓ **TV/DVD Rating Enforcement.** Ability to block movies and TV based on ratings systems.
- ✓ **Web Filter.** Includes a web filter for inappropriate content if the console includes a web browser.

Product	Multi profile	Time Management	Auto Alert	Contact Management	Block Private Info	Rating Enforcement	Block Internet	Block DVD	Block Communication	Monitor	Web filter	TV /DVD Rating Enforcement	Block Purchases
Microsoft X Box	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Microsoft X Box 360	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Nintendo DSi	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	No	No	NA	Yes
Nintendo Wii	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	No	No	NA	Yes
Sony PlayStation 2	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Sony PlayStation 3	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sony PSP	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	No	Yes	NA	Yes