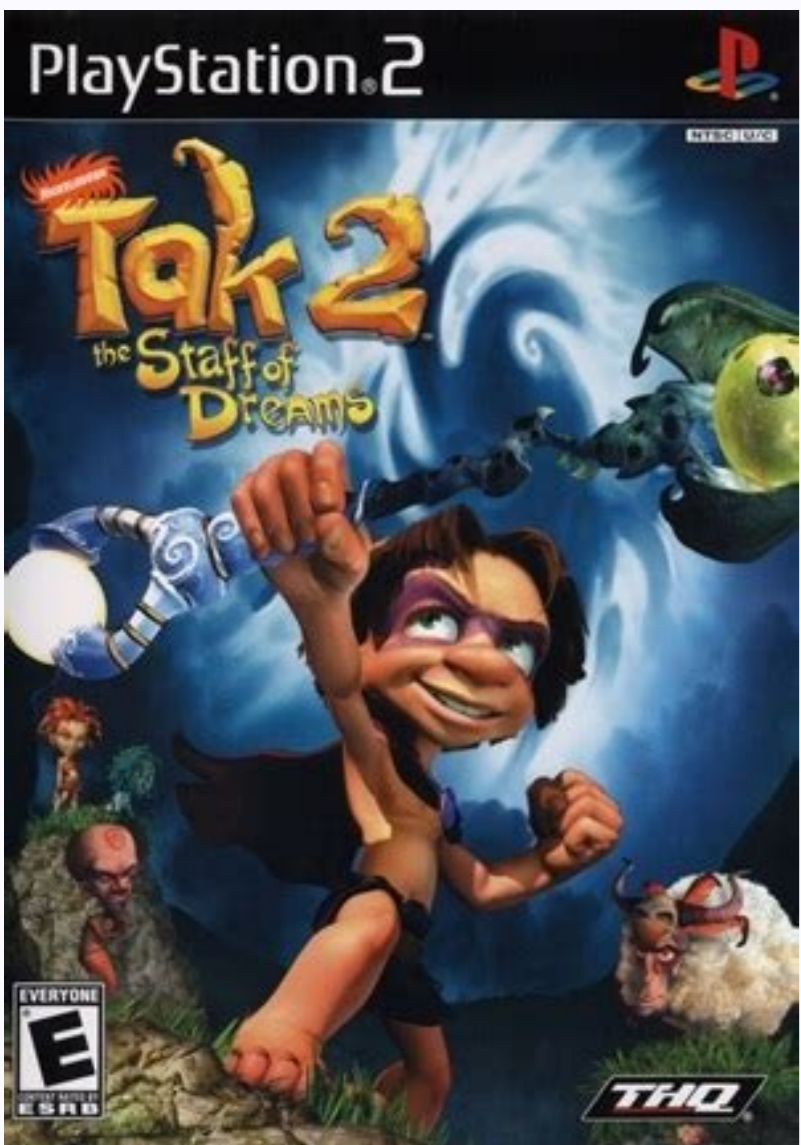
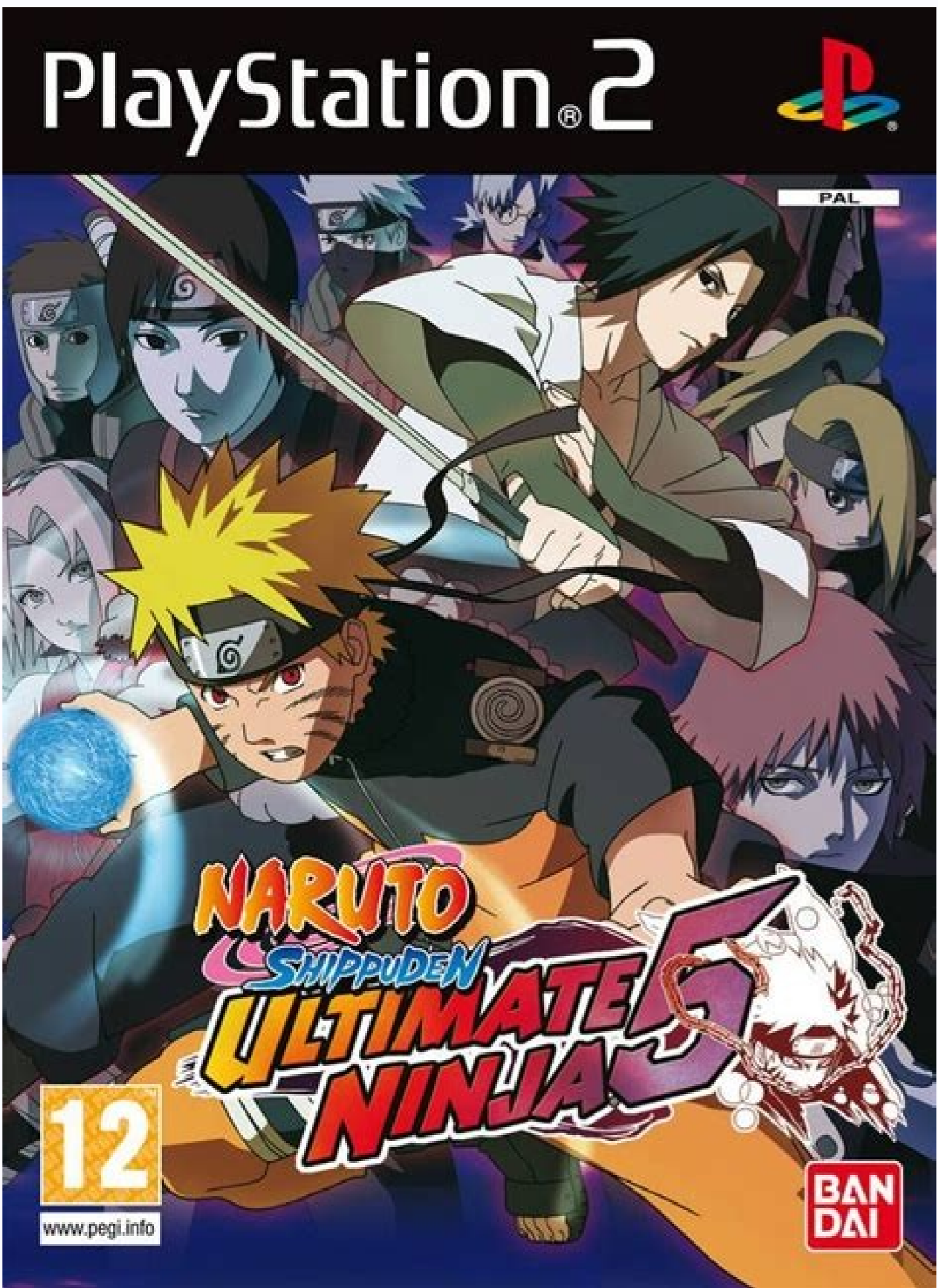


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The PlayStation 2 is somewhat of a forgotten console, especially since there have been three upgraded consoles since then. However, if you've been gaming for a long time, you still remember what this retro console was like. Two decades later, there are still plenty of PS2 games that you can purchase if you're interested in enjoying a little bit of nostalgia or taking a break from the PS4 and PS5 hype. It's no surprise that the PS2 is among the most successful video game consoles of all time, moving a whopping 158 million units worldwide. The PS2's unprecedented success also meant that new games came out in droves. There were hundreds of legitimately good games for PS2, which makes narrowing that list down to the absolute essentials a daunting task. We've tried to do just that here. Separated by genre, here are our picks for the best PS2 games of all time. Further reading Action Adventure Fighting First-person shooters Music Platformers Racing Role-playing Sports Editors' Recommendations Dying to play classic games like Viewtiful Joe or Tekken 3 on your PS4? Well, you might just be in luck. A recent rumor has indicated that Sony is working on PS1 and PS2 backwards compatibility for the PS4 — sidestepping the need for game streaming completely. Even better, a number of "select titles" are supposedly running natively at 1080p. Ahsan Rasheed, a noted insider in the gaming industry, made a number of tweets today claiming that Sony plans to support PS1 and PS2 titles on its latest console. While it's no surprise that Sony is working on bringing its back catalog to the PS4, it was largely assumed that the PlayStation Now game streaming service would fill that role. Instead, we might have access to the entirety of the PS1 and PS2 library running on the PS4's hardware itself. It's easy to imagine Sony selling emulated classic titles on PSN, but this could also mean that PS1 and PS2 game discs could be played seamlessly. Be excited: 1. Local PS2 / PS1 support on PS4 w/ native 1080p rendering for select titles. 2. Bluray+Media Player updates— Ahsan Rasheed (@thuway) March 25, 2014 @reptilescorpio Number 1 I've known for a good minute, but software is still buggy and not every game works. Please be excited.— Ahsan Rasheed (@thuway) March 25, 2014 More importantly, Rasheed claims that some titles will even be capable of rendering natively at 1080p. While the details like textures and shaders would likely be left untouched, the game itself could be made to run at resolutions never possible with the original hardware. For example, the Dolphin emulator can take the classic 480p GameCube version of The Legend of Zelda: The Wind Waker, and make it render beautifully at 1080p. If Sony is working that same kind of engineering magic on its emulator for the PS4, we can expect classic games to look better than they've ever looked before. Last generation, we saw a mountain of HD remakes of PS2 games. Titles like God of War and Shadow of the Colossus were ported to the PS3, and given a complete graphical makeover. This rumored 1080p emulation won't magically make low-res PS2 textures crisp and clear, but it's much easier than hiring a porting company to completely redo all of the assets. Even long-forgotten PS2 budget titles could benefit heavily from a higher native resolution, anti-aliasing, and an anisotropic filter. No company in its right mind would fund an HD remake of Mister Mosquito, but a properly implemented emulator could make even a strange title like that beautiful on the PS4. Editor's note: Nino Tasca is one of the two guys over here who keep our site running. Like our new Build-It section? Those cute related links? Table of Contents at the bottom of the article? Well we couldn't have done it without Nino and his compatriot, Pete Soderling. Still, we almost didn't get that last round of revisions done... It seems that Nino's got his hands on a copy of Madden 2003 and a PS-2 network adaptor, and the combination of Melissa Stark and real, live opponents pretty much put him out of commission for a while. Apparently his wife had to physically kick him out of the house so he could finish our development project. Here's his story. In my opinion, there have only been 3 major milestones in the last 20 years of video game technology. Early 80's - Introduction of Intellivision brings home-gaming to the masses. Mid 80's - Tecmo Bowl introduced for original Nintendo system. Early 90's - John Madden video game football series created by EA Sports. Sure, you can make an argument that advanced gaming systems, cuddly Aibo, and many other technologies discussed in our article on Game Engine Anatomy should be added to the list. But, for my money, none of these can hold a candle to the fun of slicing up a defense with Bo Jackson on the ancient, 8-bit NES. After a decade of rushing to the store every time a new version of Madden was released, gamers can now finally get excited about a new milestone. On August 27 millions of lives around the world were drastically altered when Sony released the Network Adaptor for Playstation 2. The Network Adaptor brings a childhood dream to life - Online Gaming has finally arrived! For those of you that didn't get that last sentence, let me repeat it. Online Gaming has finally arrived!! I bought the Network Adaptor last week and it really couldn't have come at a better time in my life. When I was in college there was always somebody around who was willing to grab a controller for some intense, head-to-head Madden action. After college, nothing really changed. I moved in with some friends and didn't have to look for a good game of Madden. (Although we did have a six-month Tetris fetish thrown in there that still bothers me to this day) But now I'm recently married and living with my wife. My wife is great and all, but she brings nothing to the table when it comes to video game opposition. I have been forced, against my will, to play against the computer for the last couple of years and my skills have atrophied. Enter the \$40 Network Adaptor (PS2). Even in the age of video game remakes, remasters, and VR, nothing can quite replace the joy that many experience from playing the classics. Retro gaming is alive and well, although the players from the 8-bit days are at least 30 years old now! Whether you're an old-head or new-age gamer who started on the PlayStation, Xbox, or Nintendo Switch, there are some video games from the '90s that will simply never fade with time—Super Mario World, Chrono Trigger, and Final Fantasy VI, for example. With one of the most beloved game libraries of all time, the Super Nintendo Entertainment System (or SNES) is home to all of these titles. The console was Nintendo's first dabble into the world of 16-bit, coming late to the party after the TurboGrafx-16 and Sega Genesis. Despite not arriving as timely as these consoles, the SNES quickly made an afterthought out of both. Luckily, even for those who don't own a pricey retro console, SNES games can still be enjoyed on PC—even within the browser. In this article, let's take a look at the best SNES emulators to play games online. Play Emulator Play Emulator is a popular online emulation website that features multiple different consoles. Its SNES library is one of its most impressive, and getting started is very easy. Play Emulator currently features 911 playable SNES games. It's got all the classics, such as The Legend of Zelda: A Link to the Past, EarthBound, and Super Metroid, but it also has some obscure titles that players may not find elsewhere, such as Same Game Mario. Like Same Game Mario, many of the lesser-known titles are Japanese releases. A few more include Super Bikkuriman, Super Famista 5, and Gekisou Sentai Car Rangers. After clicking on a game, it will begin loading in an SNES emulation frame sized at 640x480. Simply click the Run Game button and the ROM will begin downloading and initializing. Once loaded, it will begin playing as if the cartridge was placed into the console and turned on. Here's how Play Emulator's controller settings are mapped to the keyboard by default: Start: Enter>Select: ShiftUp: UpDown: DownLeft: LeftRight: RightY: SB: ZA: XX: CL: AR: D Clicking outside of the emulation window will automatically pause gameplay, which is great if playing while doing something else (such as work). When a game in the SNES emulator, a menu bar will appear at the bottom-left of the emulation frame when hovering the cursor over it. Here's what these icons represent, from left to right: Full-screen modePause gameChange controller settingsDownload state (saved game file)Load state (saved game file)Reset gameEnable/disable sound Play Emulator is a complete solution to playing SNES games online, offering all of the major features most players want. SNESLive Unlike Play Emulator, SNESLive is an online emulation website built exclusively around the SNES. This allows for the website to cater specifically to the console and its games, offering a randomized, a top 50 list, and playable games by genre. SNESLive offers a smaller game library than Play Emulator, at just under 300, but it has less fluff—the games available, such as NBA Jam, Donkey Kong Country, and Mega Man 7, consist mostly of popular titles and the best SNES games of all time. Each game's page offers a full paragraph

