EVOLUTION of the PlayStation®

The first PlayStation transformed the way we game and raised the standard for gaming consoles. It has been through many changes over the years, becoming smaller, faster and more powerful. But one thing we've never observed would exist in a gaming console. Join us for a look at the journey of the PlayStation.

PlayStation

Released

1994: Japan
1995: North America, Europe and Australia

Cost

$299 / £185

Features:

- Real-time 3D graphics technology
- The first PlayStation featured the fastest processor in gaming
- This was the first game console to feature CD technology

Below: An all-in-one plug-and-play console unit

Controllers:

- The first controller featured the triangle, circle, x and square as the main buttons.
- The Dual Analog (DNF) featured two thumb sticks.
- The DualShock (1998) allowed players to feel the game's action through the vibration feature.

Graphics:

PlayStation graphics from **Grand Theft Auto 1**

Games

Top-Selling Games:

Gran Turismo	10.85 million units
Final Fantasy 4	9.8 million units
Gran Turismo 2	9.3 million units
Tomb Raider 2	8 million units
Metal Gear Solid	7 million units

PlayStation 2

Released

2000

Cost

$299 / £185

Features:

Sony and Toshiba worked together to create new technology for the PS2, including the Emotion Engine & CPU.

The PlayStation 2 was a three-in-one entertainment and media machine:
- Video games
- DVD player
- DVD Player knew technology of the time

A Network Adapter was released in 2002, this allowed users to play online some games online

The EyeToy (2003) is a camera that captures a player's movements then displays them on the PlayStation, making gaming hands-free for better gameplay.

Controller:

- A total pain in the backend (player's movement and pressure.
- They were hard-wired, allowing better grip.

The DualShock 2 kept the same look, but was more accurate.

Graphics:

Face buttons could tell how much pressure you were putting on the controller.

PlayStation 2 graphics from **Grand Theft Auto 3**

Games

The PS2 game library included around **10,000 games,** more than any of its competitors.

Top-Selling Games:

GTA: San Andreas	10.85 million units
GTA : Vice City	9.8 million units
GRAN TURISMO 3	9.3 million units
Grand Theft Auto 3	8 million units
METAL GEAR SOLID	7 million units

PlayStation 3

Released

2006

Cost

20GB: **$499 / £310**
60GB: **$599 / £375**

Features:

The version featured a cutting-edge Cell processor, large hard drive, HDMI capabilities and a Blu-ray™ disc player.

The release of the PS3 also brought the launch of the PlayStation Network. The PlayStation's users could now connect to the internet, download games and have cloud storage for their games, watch Netflix, YouTube, MP3, Disney Tidal and more.

In 2008, Sony released the PS3 Slim:
- Smaller and lighter
- Took up 33% less space
- Lower price of £300 / £165
- Used 34% less power

Controllers:

The Sixaxis:

- The Sixaxis, released with the PS3, tracked players' movements in six axis. This allowed players to change the direction of their character.
- It was the first wireless PlayStation controller.

DualShock 3:

- It added the vibration feature.

- DualShock 3 (2007) brought the vibration feedback feature back.

- Been endorsed by Peripheral Development and Technology program of Video Game Controllers.

Graphics:

PlayStation 3 graphics for **Grand Theft Auto 4**

Games

Top-Selling Games:

Grand Theft Auto V	13.51 million units
Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3	12.51 million units
Call of Duty: Black Ops	11.89 million units
Call of Duty: Black Ops II	10.72 million units
Gran Turismo 5	10.55 million units

PlayStation 4

Released

November 2013

Cost

U.S. - $399
UK - £399

Features:

The new PlayStation 4 runs on a single-chip custom processor.

It has **8GB** of **GDDR5** RAM.

You can turn the PS4 off in the background, so it stays on and you'll be playing again within seconds.

You can share your gameplay live to your friends on Facebook and they can respond by typing comments in real time.

Users will be able to play games while they are still downloading it.

The PS4 also features Remote Play which will allow users to use the following as second screens for certain games:
- PS Vita™
- iPhone
- iPad

You can also chat with up to **eight other gamers** while you play.

The Blu-ray player is 3D capable and has PS3's.

PlayStation 4 Eye

No more external wall screens for monitoring player games. The tracking tech will monitor your body movement, so the user doesn't have to worry about where the controller is in relation to the wifi.

In order for this to work properly, the PS4 will need to be in a different room to the TV where you can get that clear up one running.

Users can take no music while playing games.

The PS4 is compatible with social networks, allowing players to tie their Facebook profiles to their game and play under their real names and compete with their Facebook friends.

Controllers:

There are no 'Start or Select buttons on the DualShock 4, but there are 'Share' and Option buttons.

With the Share button you can upload and save your gameplay footage and communicate with your friends via Facebook and Twitter.

Analogue sticks are now concave.

There is a headset jack with a mono speaker inside.

PlayStation 4 Eye tracks all controllers and their movements.

The light bar on the front changes colors depending on which player you are.

Graphics:

PlayStation 4 graphics for **Watch Dogs**

PS4 Sales

Sony sold **2.1 million** consoles in 14 countries during the first 18 days of sales.

Between November 15 and December 28 2013, Sony sold **9.7** million PS4 games online and in stores.

In 2013 **4.2 million** PS4 consoles were sold around the world.

The Xbox One, also released in November 2013, only sold **3 million** consoles.

Sources:
http://uk.playstation.com, computerandvideogames.com, giantbomb.com, http://uk.playstation.com, sony.com, uploadvr.com, gamesradar.com, ngohq.com, forbes.com, engadget.com, gamesjobs.com, techradar.com, gamesindustry.biz, polygon.com, joystiq.com, gamespot.com, ibtimes.com, cgi.com, gamespy.com