

Pocket Guide

# ENTERTAINMENT Ratings

Movies  
Video Games  
Music



## Movies

Ratings appear in ads for films, movie listings and at theaters.

### **G**

#### **General audience**

All ages admitted.

### **PG**

#### **Parental Guidance Suggested**

Some material may not be suitable for children.

### **PG-13**

#### **Parents Strongly Cautioned**

Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

### **R**

#### **Restricted**

Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

Media ratings systems are a starting point for children and parents — one resource for information to help protect children from violence in movies, games and music.

### **NC-17**

#### **No one 17 and under admitted.**

Rating descriptions sometimes are published in newspaper listings or movie reviews; you also can find them at theaters and at [www.mpa.org](http://www.mpa.org). Some descriptions you might see are:

- Rated **PG** for mild language and violence.

- Rated **PG-13** for mature themes and a scene of violence.

- Rated **PG-13** for violence, including bloody aftermath of a shooting.

- Rated **R** for language and strong bloody violence.

- Rated **R** for strong graphic horror, violence and gore, and for language.

## Video Games

Age-based ratings are on the front of video game packages and in ads.

### **EC**

#### **Early Childhood**

Content suitable for children age 3 and older.

### **E**

#### **Everyone**

Content suitable for children 6 and older;

game may contain minimal violence, some comic mischief or some crude language.

### **T**

#### **Teen**

Content suitable for those 13 and older.

Game may contain violent content, mild or strong language and suggestive themes.

*A word to parents about restricting access:* The Internet Content Rating Association has a content advisory system that indicates violence, nudity, sex or offensive language on Internet sites. The system, RSAC on the Internet (RSACi), allows the use of blocking software or browsers to restrict access to sites it has rated. RSACi ratings related to violence include:

- Level 0** None – or sports related
- Level 1** Injury to human being
- Level 2** Destruction of realistic objects
- Level 3** Aggressive violence or death to humans
- Level 4** Rape or wanton, gratuitous violence

### **M**

#### **Mature**

Content suitable for those 17 and older. Game may include more intense violence or language than products rated T and may include mature sexual themes.

### **AO**

#### **Adults Only**

Content suitable for adults only. Game may include graphic depictions of sex and/or violence.

Products rated **AO** are not intended to be sold or rented to anyone under the age of 18.

The Entertainment Software Rating Board assigns content descriptions to video games. You will find these on the back of video game packages, at [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org) or at 1-800-771-3772. Some descriptions you might see are:

**Federal Trade Commission**  
**[www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)**

**National Association of  
Attorneys General**  
**[www.naag.org](http://www.naag.org)**

**Office of Juvenile Justice and  
Delinquency Prevention**  
**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**[www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org](http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org)**

**YWCA of the U.S.A.**  
**[www.ywca.org](http://www.ywca.org)**

- Mild Animated Violence
- Animated Blood
- Mild Realistic Violence
- Realistic Blood
- Animated Violence
- Animated Blood and Gore
- Realistic Violence
- Realistic Blood and Gore

### Games on the Internet

The Entertainment Software Rating Board Interactive (ESRBI) provides age-based ratings for interactive web sites.

These ratings appear on a site's homepage if the entire site is rated; on the first page of the rated section if that is the only section that is rated; or where a game is accessed if that is the only part of a site that is rated. The ESRBI ratings are:

### ECI

#### Early Childhood Interactive

Content suitable for children age 3 and older.

### EI

#### Everyone Interactive

Content suitable for children 6 and older.

### TI

#### Teen Interactive

Content suitable for ages 13 and older.

### MI

#### Mature Interactive

Content suitable for ages 17 and older.

### AOI

#### Adults Only Interactive

Content suitable for adults only.

The ESRBI provides content descriptors for online games and interactive sites that signal violence, nudity, sexual themes,

strong language and the use of alcohol, drugs or tobacco. Some descriptions you might see are:

- Mild Violence
- Violence
- Graphic Violence
- Strong Hate Speech
- Weapon Making
- Suicide

### Coin Operated Video Games

A color-coded "traffic light" system advises players whether games have strong or mild violence, language or sexual content.

### Green

Suitable for all ages.

### Yellow

*Animated Violence - Mild* – Scenes of violence involving cartoon-like

characters in combative activity with violent elements that do **not** result in bloodshed, serious injury or death to characters.

*Life Like Violence - Mild* – Scenes of violence involving human-like characters in combative activity with violent elements that do **not** result in bloodshed, serious injury or death to characters.

### Red

*Animated Violence - Strong* – Scenes of strong violence involving cartoon-like characters which result in bloodshed, serious injury or death to characters.

*Life Like Violence - Strong* – Scenes of strong violence involving human-like characters which result in bloodshed, serious injury or death to characters.

## Music

Some compact discs or cassettes have labels that say "Parental Advisory - Explicit Content." These labels indicate that the recording may contain strong language or expressions of violence, sex or substance abuse. Individual record companies provide these labels voluntarily. If you have questions, ask about the lyrics.

## Resources

Motion Picture Association of America  
www.mpaa.org

Entertainment Software Rating Board  
www.esrb.org

Internet Content Rating Association  
www.icra.org

American Amusement Machine Association  
www.coin-op.org

Recording Industry Association of America, Inc.  
www.riaa.com