

# How to install the Android SDK (Software Development Kit)

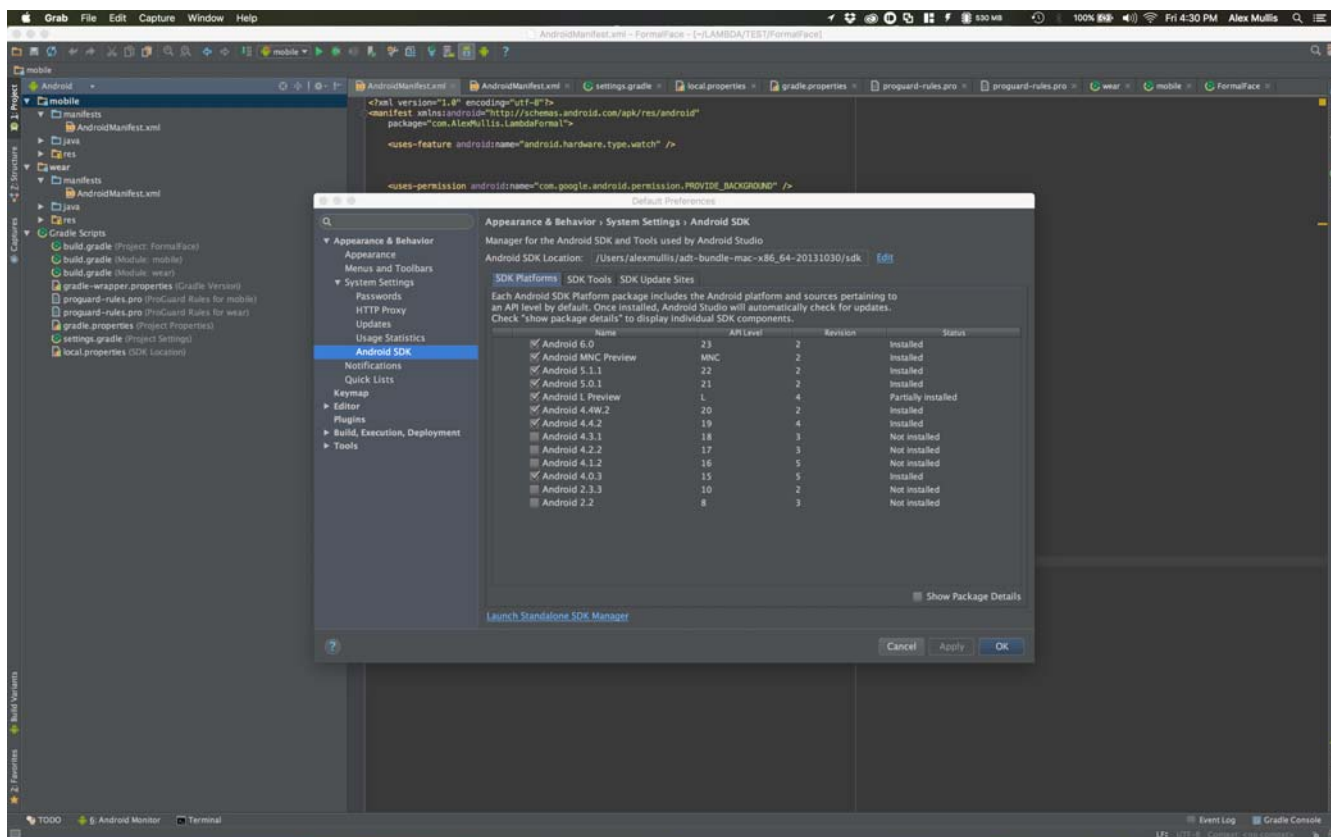
([HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/APPS/](https://www.androidauthority.com/apps/))

([HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/HOW-TO/](https://www.androidauthority.com/how-to/))

([HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/NEWS/](https://www.androidauthority.com/news/))

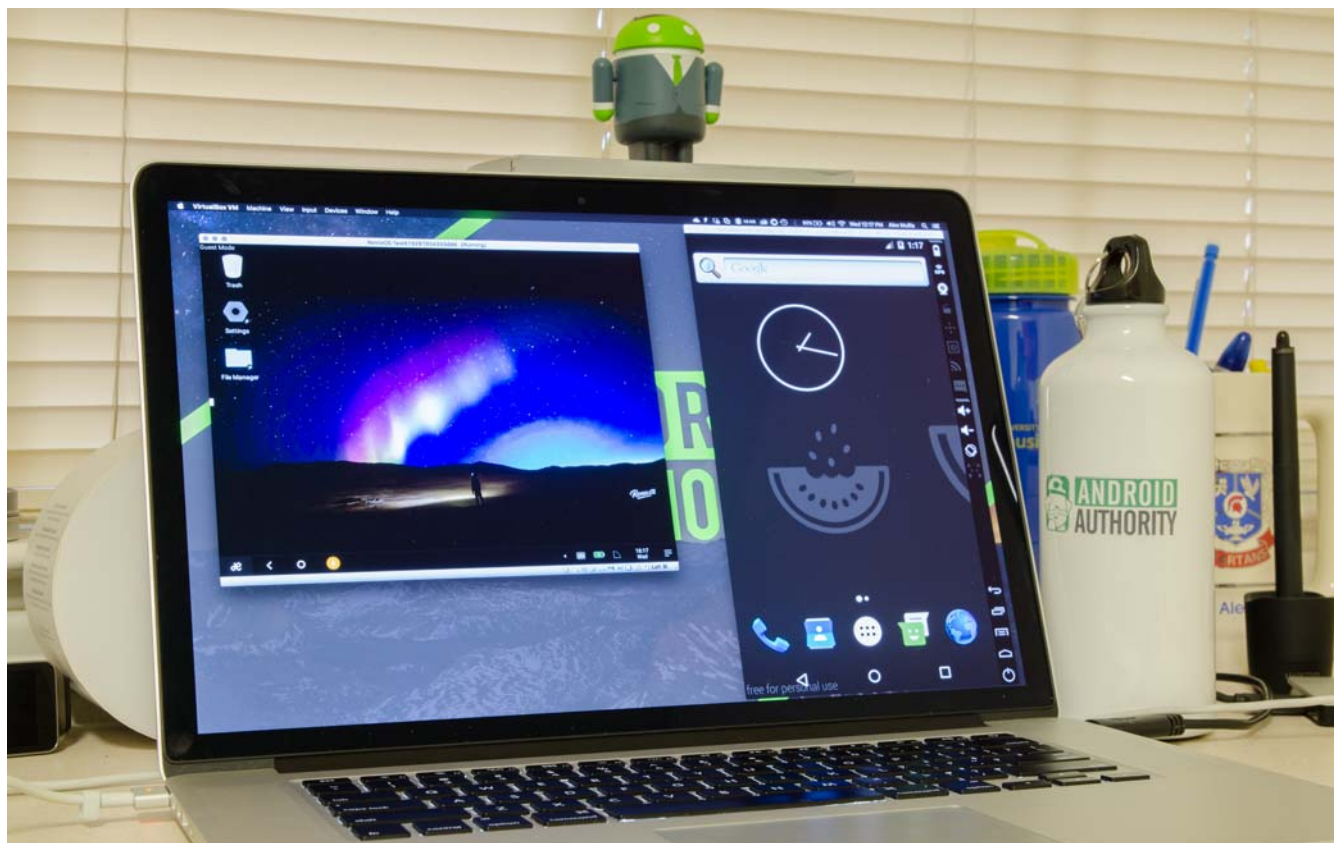
BY ALEX MULLIS ([HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/AUTHOR/ALEXMULLIS/](https://www.androidauthority.com/author/alexmullis/)) / JUNE 29, 2017

**907**  
**SHARES**



Android is the world's most popular mobile operating system, so Google has spent a lot of time making developing for it as easy as possible. This is where the Android Software Development Kit comes into play. There are a few ways to download the Android SDK and some prerequisites that are necessary before you can start developing. Let's get started.

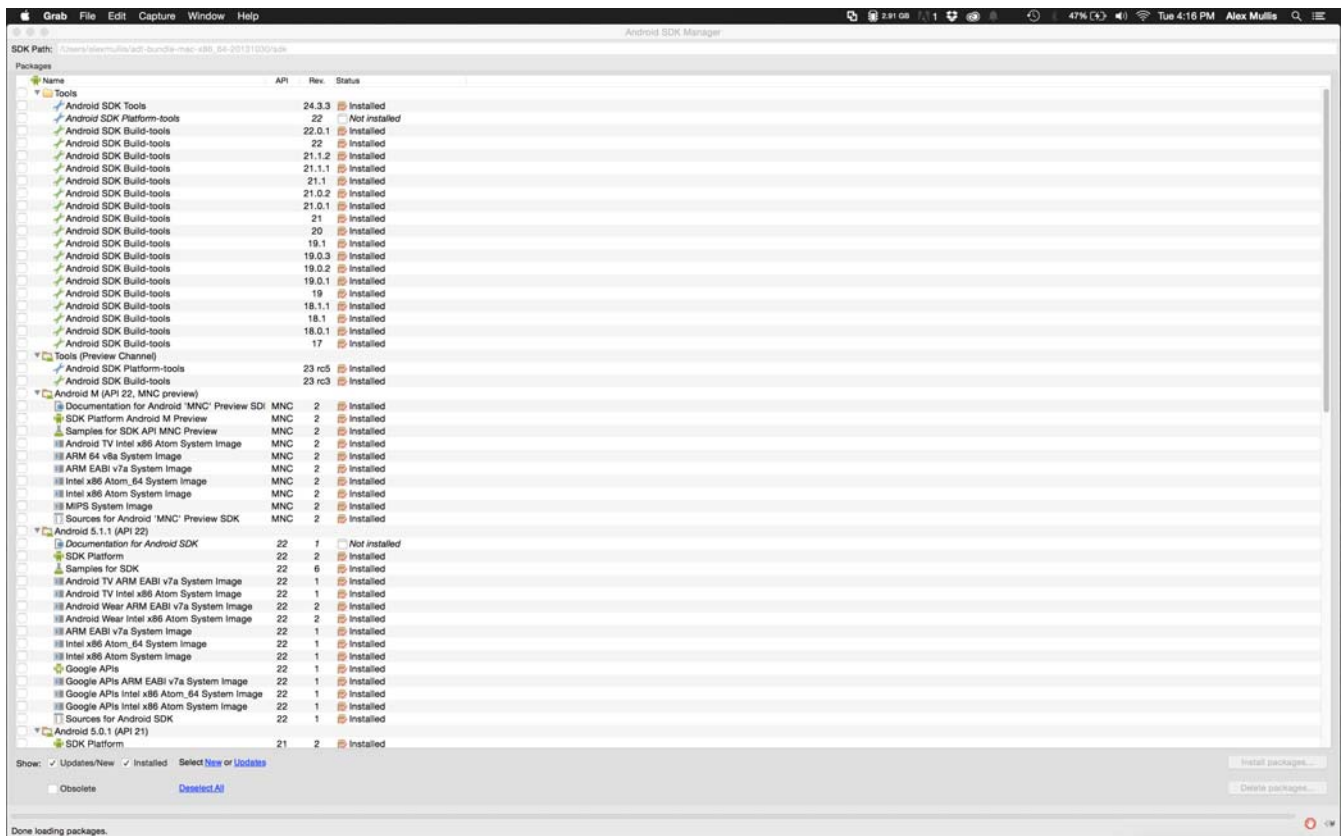
## Get your computer ready



You need to get your computer setup and ready to go before you can install the Android SDK.

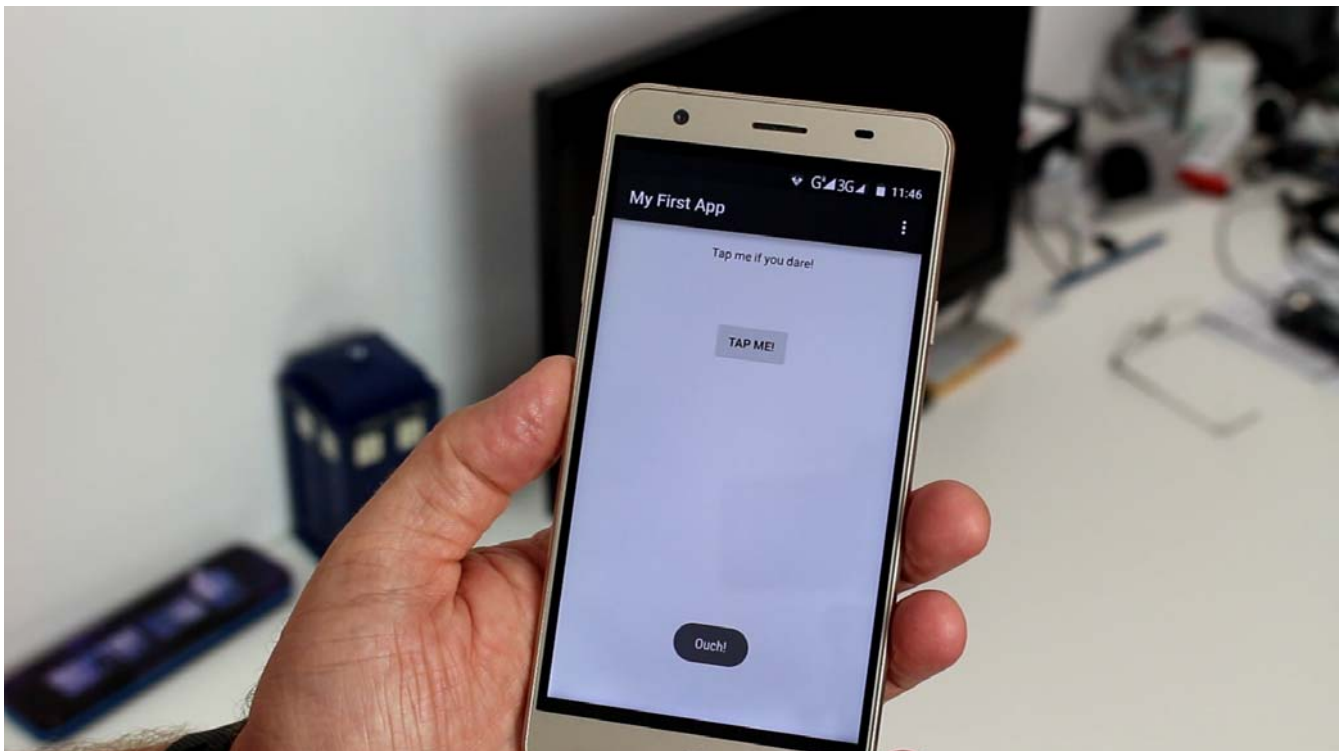
The first thing to do is install the Java Development Kit for the latest version of **Java 7** (<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/jdk7-downloads-1880260.html>), using Java 8 will not work, but you can have both installed without any issues. As far as your operating system goes, almost all OSes will work, including x86 (32bit) and x86\_64 (64bit) based systems running Windows and Linux and x86\_64 Intel based Macs. Google has gone to great lengths to make sure everything works well on any system, so this should not be an issue.

## Install the Android SDK itself



There are two very simple options to install the Android SDK, you can either download just the SDK by itself or download Android Studio which includes the SDK. Let's start with the Android Studio method.

## Android Studio



Google released an all-in-one program for developers that includes a full blown IDE, virtual machine manager and, of course, the Android SDK. This is the simplest, and more than likely the best, way to use the Android SDK. All you have to do is download Android Studio from **here** (<http://developer.android.com/sdk/index.html>) and follow the onscreen prompts. It's that easy, and once everything is setup you can learn how to use Android Studio with this excellent **guide** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/android-studio-tutorial-beginners-637572/>) and learn everything about the Android SDK **here** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/make-your-android-app-stand-out-677524/>).

## Downloading the stand alone SDK package

This is more complicated but still very simple. Keep in mind though that there is no real advantage to downloading the SDK by itself, even if you plan on using a third party engine, as they will usually just download it for you anyway. If you do plan on going this route go **here** (<http://developer.android.com/sdk/index.html#Other>) to download the SDK. Once downloaded unzip the folder and put in a known, accessible spot.

Depending on your operating system there are a few different ways to open the Android SDK.

If you are on Windows just double-click the SDKManager.exe file in the root of the SDK directory. On OS X and Linux go to the “tools/” folder in the SDK and open up a terminal window and type:

SELECT ALL

SELECT ALL

```
android
```

to open the SDK Manager, if that does not work drag the android executable into the terminal window and hit enter. Once open, make sure to install the packages listed below, as well as any others relevant to what you want to accomplish.

- Platform-tools are used to support new and existing features of Android, including the Android Debugging Bridge, bmgr and logcat. The Android Debugging Bridge (ADB) can be used to see what is causing errors and what processes are running as well as other things. bmgr is a tool used to manage the backup manager on an Android device with an API level of 8 or higher. It can be accessed by using the ADB.
- Build-tools are made to work with the Platform-tools but can be updated independently if needed. These include JOBB, ProGuard and zipalign. JOBB allows you to build encrypted and unencrypted APK expansions in OBB format. ProGuard is able to shrink and secure your app by removing unused items, renaming classes and the like, this makes it harder for people to reverse-engineer your app and it makes the overall size smaller which is also a bonus. Zipalign optimizes .apk files to start in a certain alignment relative to the start of a file.
- The SDK-tools are required and are used no matter what version of Android you develop for, these include: build-tools, debugging-tools and image-tools along with others.
- The Android Debugging Bridge (ADB) and fastboot are also included in case you ever need to get your device out of a jam as well. Fastboot can be used to flash or wipe partitions to your device in case something happens, this is very easy to **do** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/how-to-manually-install-android-lollipop-nexus-device-windows-linux-563546/>). The ADB can be used to troubleshoot issues with your device and apps.

Once all of this is installed you are ready to start developing!

## Wrap up

Gone are the days of worrying about using Eclipse and downloading the Android Developer Tools separately and having to go through loops to get everything working. Google really outdid themselves with Android Studio, enabling essentially a one click installation of everything needed to start developing for Android. But if you just want the Android SDK by itself that is also not a problem and can be easily configured. So what are you waiting for? Start developing!

([HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/APPS/](https://www.androidauthority.com/apps/))

([HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/HOW-TO/](https://www.androidauthority.com/how-to/))

([HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/NEWS/](https://www.androidauthority.com/news/))

ANDROID STUDIO ([HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/TAG/ANDROID-STUDIO/](https://www.androidauthority.com/tag/android-studio/)) /

ANDROID SDK ([HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/TAG/ANDROID-SDK/](https://www.androidauthority.com/tag/android-sdk/))

Android SDK (<https://www.androidauthority.com/tag/android-sdk/>), Android Studio (<https://www.androidauthority.com/tag/android-studio/>)



Alex Mullis (<https://www.androidauthority.com/author/alexmullis/>)  
@A\_BUTTON117?LANG=EN ([HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/A\\_BUTTON117?LANG=EN](https://twitter.com/A_BUTTON117?LANG=EN))

**907**  
SHARES

# COMMENTS

SHOW 26 COMMENTS

# 10 best upcoming Android games

(HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/APPS/)

BY MITJA RUTNIK (HTTPS://WWW.ANDROIDAUTHORITY.COM/AUTHOR/MITJARUTNIK/) / 3 DAYS AGO

357 SHARES



<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-android-games-316202/>  
<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-android-adventure-games-527052/>  
<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-action-games-for-android-526314/>  
<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-racing-games-235254/>

If you're a gamer, there's lots to be excited about in 2018. We're expecting to see a number of **great titles** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-android-games-316202/>) from well-known developers like Ubisoft, Telltale Games, and Niantic Labs.

Here are ten upcoming games we're most excited about. The games fall into different categories like **adventure** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-android-adventure-games-527052/>), **action** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-action-games-for-android-526314/>), and **racing** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-racing-games-235254/>), so there should be something in there for everyone.

## 1. Tom Clancy's ShadowBreak

In this game you step into the shoes of a tactical commander in the ShadowBreak squad composed of military specialists from across the globe. Assemble a team and take down enemies by crafting different strategies.

You can engage in real-time PvP battles, provide overwatch as you deploy your unit to attack your opponent's bases, and much more.

The game is packed with features to help you achieve goals faster and easier. You can upgrade your weapons, unlock unique gun perks, and collect as well as upgrade unique modern military operators, among other things.

*Tom Clancy's ShadowBreak* is already available, but only in a handful of countries — it hasn't been released in the U.S. and a lot of other major markets. It's free to play, offers in-app purchases, and requires a network connection.



([HTTPS://PLAY.GOOGLE.COM/STORE/APPS/DETAILS?ID=COM.UBISOFT.SNIPE&REFERRER=MAT\\_CLICK\\_ID%3D501A781583410C12A2B94CBBC3B2BE44-20180115-6918](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=COM.UBISOFT.SNIPE&referrer=mat_click_id%3D501A781583410C12A2B94CBBC3B2BE44-20180115-6918))

## 2. DC Unchained

In *DC Unchained*, you'll visit locations including Gotham City and Metropolis to take on opponents as a member of the Justice League like Superman or Batman.

If that's not your thing, you can follow the story of a villain like the Joker, Harley Quinn, Catwoman, or Lex Luthor. You also have the option of assembling a dream team by joining the forces of heroes and villains.

The game isn't officially out yet, but it is already listed on the Google Play Store and available for download. This allows the developer to get feedback from users and make changes to the game before it formally hits the market. It may be unstable though, so you're likely better off waiting until *DC Unchained* officially launches.



([HTTPS://PLAY.GOOGLE.COM/STORE/APPS/DETAILS?ID=COM.FTT.DCPROJECT.AS.GL&HL=EN](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=COM.FTT.DCPROJECT.AS.GL&hl=en))

## 3. GRID: Autosport

The upcoming *GRID: Autosport* is a racing game featuring over 100 cars and tracks. You can choose between touch or tilt controls and set the difficulty level from super-easy to ultra-realistic, depending on your skills.

There's an extensive career mode available that allows you to recruit new members to your team and get sponsors on board in addition to racing.

The game is already available for iOS devices and is coming to Android sometime in the first half of this year. A more specific time frame has not been given.

### EDITOR'S PICK

**10 best car games for Android**  
There are a bunch of different types of car games. Some are simulations, others are racing games, and others still are puzzle games. The topic grew rather quickly on mobile. Racing games

## 4. PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds: Battlefield





*PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds*, an online Battle Royale-style shooter, became the breakout gaming hit on PC and Xbox One last year. Tencent is bringing **the game to mobile devices soon** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/playerunknowns-battlegrounds-pubg-mobile-china-play-store-tencent-817991/>), called *PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds: Battlefield*.

The game takes place on an island, where you compete with other players after jumping out of an airplane. Once you hit the ground, you have to find weapons and start taking down your opponents quick. The last man standing wins.

The game will first be released in China, although a specific time frame has not been revealed yet.

## 5. Harry Potter: Wizards Unite



Niantic Labs, the developer behind the popular *Pokemon GO*, is working on a new title called *Harry Potter: Wizards Unite*. The upcoming AR game is being developed in partnership with Warner Bros. Interactive Entertainment and will let players “learn spells, explore their real world neighborhoods and cities to discover & fight legendary beasts and team up with others to take down powerful enemies.”

No other details are known about the game at this point. But based on the success of the company's previous titles and the popularity of Harry Potter, it could be a smash hit.

No word on an exact release date yet, but you can sign up on the official website of the game to get notified when it launches.

([HTTPS://WWW.HARRYPOTTERWIZARDSUNITE.COM/EN/](https://www.harrypotterwizardsunite.com/en/))

## 6. The Walking Dead: The Final Season

The fourth and final season of the extremely popular *The Walking Dead* series will be released sometime this year too. Developer Telltale hasn't shared a lot of details about the game, but it did mention Clementine will be in the lead role.

### EDITOR'S PICK

10 best Android horror games

When we first wrote this article a few years ago, the horror games genre wasn't great. There were a few good ones. However, the quality deteriorated quickly after that. The last couple of years

The third season — A New Frontier — ended with Clementine going out to look for AJ. In the last season, the story will revolve around what happens when she finds him. According to the developer, players will also be able to shape Clementine's future by making decisions about who she wants to be, who she wants to be with, and more.

Unfortunately, there's no word on when exactly the game will be released. To learn more about it, check out Telltale's summer update video above.

## 7. Final Fantasy XV Pocket Edition Preview

Square Enix describes this game as "an all-new adventure that retells the beloved story of *Final Fantasy XV*." It will have an all-new art style with touch-based controls, though it appears to have all the same mechanics as the console version.

The story goes like this: After years of fighting, the nations of Lucis and Niflheim agree to a truce. As a symbol of peace between the two, Noctis, the crown prince of Lucis, is to marry the Lady Lunafreya of Tenebrae. You step into the shoes of the prince, who sets off for his wedding on the eve of the signing ceremony. To get there, he has to overcome many dangerous challenges.

The game is already listed on the Play Store, where you can pre-register to get notified when it goes live. The first chapter will be free to play, while the other nine will cost you a few bucks. The developer has not revealed when exactly the game will be released.



([HTTPS://PLAY.GOOGLE.COM/STORE/APPS/DETAILS?ID=COM.SQUARE\\_ENIX.ANDROID\\_GOOGLE.FFXVPE&HL=EN](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.square_enix.android_google_ffxvpe&hl=en))

## 8. Tekken



*Tekken* is a classic **fighting game** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-android-fighting-games-568247/>) to get your blood pumping. Its Story Mode lets you take on the role of legendary fighter Kazuya Mishima and battle your way through a map-based campaign. You can also try out the Dojo Challenge, where you have to build a team and compete against friends and other players around the world online.

There are over 20 characters available to collect in *Tekken*, and each has a unique fighting style. You can also upgrade and unlock more than 20 special moves for each character to take your fighting game to the next level.

To play the game once it is released, you'll need a decently powerful smartphone though. It requires an Exynos 8890/Snapdragon 820 chipset or higher under the hood along with at least 2 GB of RAM.

The launch date has not been revealed yet, but the game is already listed on the Play Store where you can pre-register. Hit the button below if you're interested.



([HTTPS://PLAY.GOOGLE.COM/STORE/APPS/DETAILS?ID=EU.BANDAINAMCOENT.TEKKENMOBILE&HL=EN](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=EU.BANDAINAMCOENT.TEKKENMOBILE&hl=en))

## 9. Black Desert Mobile

*Black Desert Mobile* (<https://www.androidauthority.com/black-desert-online-mobile-trailer-794028/>) is an open world action game. Its story revolves around the Kingdom of Valencia and the Republic of Calpheon, which are fighting over Black Stones — magic artifacts that increase the power of armor or weapons.

You have to complete various quests and take down a number of enemies. As you progress through the game, your character receives experience points that increase their fighting power and allow you to fight more powerful opponents.

There are five characters, seven battle modes, and various lifestyle activities, like mining, logging, and fishing available in the game.

*Black Desert Mobile* is expected to launch sometime this month, though only in South Korea — the developer's home country — at first. Check out the trailer above to see what the game looks like in action.

## 10. PayDay: Crime War

Already a popular **first-person shooter** (<https://www.androidauthority.com/best-fps-games-android-691761/>) on PCs and consoles, *Payday* is coming to Android. *Payday Crime War* is a multiplayer, team PvP title, where two teams go head to head with different goals. One team takes on the role of criminals trying to perform a robbery, while the other steps into the shoes of a SWAT team trying to prevent the crime.

Up to eight players can take part in a match, which can take place in different locations. As you progress through the game, you can get new weapons and additional abilities to step up your game.

Developer Overkill Software has set up a website for the upcoming game, claiming it's "coming soon to mobile." An exact date has not been shared with the public yet.



These are the some of best upcoming Android games to keep an eye out for, although we're sure plenty of other interesting titles will make their debut this year. Have we missed any major ones? Let us know in the comments.

([HTTPS://WWW.ANROIDAUTHORITY.COM/APPS/](https://www.androidauthority.com/apps/))

GAMING ([HTTPS://WWW.ANROIDAUTHORITY.COM/TAG/GAMING/](https://www.androidauthority.com/tag/gaming/))

Gaming (<https://www.androidauthority.com/tag/gaming/>)



Mitja Rutnik (<https://www.androidauthority.com/author/mitjarutnik/>)

**357**  
SHARES

## COMMENTS

SHOW 1 COMMENTS