

# PIRATES OF GAMES

**“Copy” is the most widely used function in this computer age. Despite highly protected copyright acts and increased processes and laws, it is still keenly observed that piracy does exist...Tanaya Adarkar throws light on the piracy factor**

**T**his is the era of “copy cats.” Or this is the age of new age sharing concepts where if you have a game, it can be copied at the owner’s discretion?

Safal Mehta, 23, an avid follower of video games says, “Over the years, companies have come out with various methods to try to keep people from copying and distributing games. When I was younger, I distinctly remember trying to find my code wheel for Pool of Radiance before the game would even start up, or trying to find word 30 on page 15 just so I could play Indiana Jones and the Fate of Atlantis. He adds after a pause, “But in recent years, I’ve seen games use 16-digit authentication codes, online activation, and requiring the DVD to be in the DVD drive for the game to even start. Yet this doesn’t make me mad at all. It’s a minor inconvenience that I can live with, because the process is usually quick and painless.”

Preyas Agarwal, 21, thinks the other way, “I think the very idea of copy protection goes against the core of consumer rights. Even, telling me exactly how to use the product that I’ve purchased seems to be counter-intuitive. Locking down how many times somebody can install a game, even if they don’t know how to pirate games, could be seen as treating an innocent person as a criminal without cause. I believe that by giving somebody money in exchange for a disc, you can own the disc and be able to do what you wanted with it. A game is a commodity like any other, isn’t it?”

“Software is not a commodity. If you leave your bike outside and somebody steals it, you would probably want it back. You can do the same thing with a DVD or game, but you

can’t do it with the information stored on it!” says Hritesh Shah, 26, who works with a leading games creation company (does not want to mention the company name).

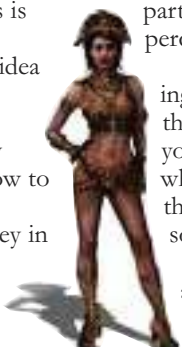
He explains the problem that companies today are facing “The problem is that due to piracy. Companies are locking down their products with the previously mentioned copyright protection. And while, for the most part, it is not persuasive, sometimes it can make life difficult for a small percentage of computer users.”

Some make the excuse that copying games is no different than loaning a game to a friend. While it may seem that way, the difference is that the copies exist at the same time as the original. You might lend your favorite watch to your best friend, but you can’t wear the watch while your friend has it. Or, for that matter, give 100 of your friends the exact same watch, too! But many people do this with computer software.

“It is against the law to duplicate a copy for personal use without authorization but it still hasn’t managed to stop it from happening. It is happening and might continue to happen!” says Safal Mehta.



Image Courtesy: Google



Indiana Jones and the Fate of Atlantis

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## The Power Tablet

**If you are looking forward to buy a tablet PC then HP’s TX2000 can be the best option to choose from as it is way cheaper than other Tablet PCs with all the features. Here is a review from the users themselves.**

**I**f you don’t believe in love at first sight then here is something that will definitely change your mind. “The sleek design and black shiny body will catch your eyes and the feature available will certainly blow your mind. That’s what happened with me when I went to buy a laptop. After seeing this I was just unable to think of other available options” says Daksh Singhal an HR executive.

Though this model was launched in January 2008 but the company has recently reduced the price from Rs 87, 000 to Rs 57, 990. A price cut of almost Rs 30, 000 makes this the most wanted tablet in market. “I saw this model when it launched but it was not affordable for me but when I heard the reduction in price I just didn’t want to miss the chance and now as a user I feel even the old price was worth it” says Karan Jaiswal an MBA student.

“It has many cool features and some of the best that I like is the 4 GB RAM which makes it

fast. No matter how many programs are running, the PC never goes slow. Moreover, it has a huge storage space of 250 GB. Other features include one touch access to DVD player, music and picture and it also comes with a remote control that makes it easy when you are watching movie or listening to music” explains Pratik Mehta a software consultant.

“The only flaw in the model is the outdated graphic card which could be a problem for gamers but I am quite ok with it as I am not that much into games” says Pratik.

You will really love it in slate form as the touch screen is really good and writing with stylus (pen) is real fun. Though this is a fancy for many, it is a real help for animators as they have got the stylus in their hand instead of the hectic mouse or the touch pad. So drawing and sketching is easier than before.

“Whenever I start my PC in front of my clients for product presentation, the first question they ask before or after the presentation is not about my product but about my laptop. It might sound funny but many of my colleagues envy me because of this. For me, owning this is a royal experience!” says Sanjay Jain a Marketing Professional.

Though this may not be ‘The Best’ tablet PC available in market but the breakthrough price definitely brings it closer to that category. So don’t miss this power tablet dose if you are planning to take one?

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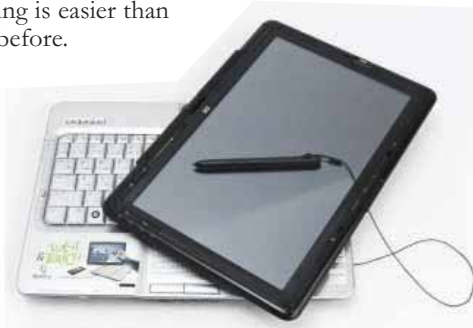


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