

Sony Console

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Videogame consoles have become a booming business worldwide. Together with computer games, they represent an industry that has surpassed the epic and colossal movie industry with respect to scale and revenue. With its humble beginning back in the 1970's upon the release of the Atari 2600, no one would have ever guessed the business would grow to the peaks it has reached today.

The makers of these consoles, and the consoles themselves, have become household names around the world and even on offices. Atari, Nintendo, Sega, and now Microsoft and Sony are the gaming giants that have at one time or other dominated the market. Today, the market is led by the Sony console PlayStation, and its follow up the PlayStation 2. By the time Sony arrived on scene with its first console, the PlayStation, in 1994, the industry was already almost twenty years old and was clearly dominated by Nintendo and Sega. In fact, the Sony console was first designed with the original intention of being a modification to the already hugely popular Super Nintendo Entertainment System (SNES). When Nintendo and Sony could not come to an agreement on the details of their association, Nintendo took their idea to a different company, and Sony continued its PlayStation design with the new intention of making it an independent console. When the Sony console was finally released, it met with immediate and large scale success around the world. All of its original games sold millions of copies, and began the roots for a variety of sequels. The Sony console was the first to read game information stored on CDs as opposed to the clunky and often dysfunctional ROM cartridges used by previous gaming systems. Although there were some complaints about the laser scanning system used by the PlayStation eventually burning out, reducing the lifespan of the console, many game players still preferred the CD format over the older cartridge concept. The Sony console could even read regular audio CDs, doubling as a CD player as well as a gaming system. Sony's PlayStation 2 console was released in 2000, and the Sony console gaming industry was boosted with its enormous success. Even in the face of fiercer competition coming from Microsoft's Xbox, the Sony consoles continue to dominate the market. The future of the industry is anything but clear, however. With the recent release of the Xbox 360, and the upcoming release of the PlayStation 3, only time will tell in Sony consoles will continue their line of successes.