

fallout new vegas beginners guide

Fallout New Vegas Beginners Guide

Fallout New Vegas, developed by Obsidian Entertainment and released in 2010, is an open-world role-playing game set in a post-apocalyptic world. The game is renowned for its deep narrative, rich character development, and a vast array of choices that impact the story. For newcomers to the game, navigating the Mojave Wasteland can be daunting. This guide aims to provide essential tips and advice to help beginners get started on their journey through this iconic title.

Understanding the Basics

Before diving into the world of Fallout New Vegas, it's important to familiarize yourself with the game's core mechanics, systems, and the setting itself.

The Setting

Fallout New Vegas is set in the remnants of a post-apocalyptic Nevada, primarily around the city of Las Vegas, also known as the New Vegas Strip. The game occurs in the year 2281, roughly 200 years after a nuclear war devastated the Earth. Players take on the role of the Courier, a character who is ambushed while delivering a mysterious package, setting off a series of events that will determine the fate of the New Vegas region.

Character Creation

One of the first and most crucial elements of the game is character creation. Here are key points to consider:

1. **S.P.E.C.I.A.L. System:** Your character's attributes are determined by the S.P.E.C.I.A.L. system, which stands for Strength, Perception, Endurance, Charisma, Intelligence, Agility, and Luck. Each attribute affects different gameplay aspects, such as combat, dialogue options, and survival skills.
2. **Skills:** After setting your S.P.E.C.I.A.L. attributes, you'll choose skills that will enhance your abilities in various areas, such as Gunplay, Repair, Lockpicking, and Speech. It's advisable to focus on a few key skills that align with your play style.
3. **Traits:** At the beginning of the game, you can select traits that provide unique benefits and drawbacks. Choose wisely, as these traits can significantly impact your gameplay experience.

Gameplay Mechanics

Understanding the gameplay mechanics is essential for survival in the Mojave Wasteland. Here are some key elements you should know:

Combat System

Fallout New Vegas features a mix of real-time combat and a turn-based system known as V.A.T.S. (Vault-Tec Assisted Targeting System). Here's how to make the most out of combat:

- V.A.T.S.: Use V.A.T.S. to pause the action and target specific body parts of enemies. This system allows you to plan your attacks strategically and can be a lifesaver in tough encounters.
- Weapons: Experiment with different weapons to find your preferred combat style. Ranged weapons, melee weapons, and explosives each have their advantages. Make sure to keep your weapons repaired to maintain their effectiveness.
- Stealth: Sneaking can be a viable option for avoiding combat altogether. Use stealth to approach enemies undetected and either steal items or take them out quietly.

Exploration

The vastness of the Mojave Wasteland offers numerous locations to explore. Here are some tips for effective exploration:

- Be Prepared: Always carry a variety of supplies, including food, water, ammunition, and stimpaks for healing. You never know when you'll encounter hostile creatures or challenging environments.
- Use Fast Travel: As you discover new locations, use the fast travel system to quickly navigate the map. This is especially useful for returning to towns or quest areas.
- Map Markers: Pay attention to map markers; they indicate points of interest, quests, and important locations. Utilize them to plan your journey.

Quests and Factions

Quests form the backbone of Fallout New Vegas, driving the narrative forward and providing opportunities for character development. Understanding the factions can greatly impact your playthrough.

Main Questline

The main questline revolves around your character's journey to uncover the truth behind the package you were delivering. Throughout this journey, you will encounter various factions, each with their own motivations and agendas. Completing quests will often involve making crucial decisions that will affect the outcome of the game.

Factions

The game features several factions vying for control of the New Vegas region. Here are the primary factions you will encounter:

- New California Republic (NCR): A democratic republic seeking to restore order in the wasteland.
- Caesar's Legion: A brutal autocracy led by Caesar, who aims to conquer the Mojave.
- Mr. House: The enigmatic owner of the New Vegas Strip, who has his own plans for the region.
- Independent: You have the option to forge your own path, rejecting the influence of the NCR, Caesar's Legion, and Mr. House.

Your choices regarding these factions can lead to various endings, providing immense replay value.

Survival Tips

Surviving in the harsh environment of Fallout New Vegas requires resourcefulness and strategy. Here are some essential survival tips:

Resource Management

- Collect Everything: Loot everything you can. Items such as scrap metal, electronics, and food can be useful for crafting and trading.
- Crafting and Repair: Utilize the crafting system to create useful items from gathered materials. Repairing weapons and armor can save you a lot of caps in the long run.

Companions

- Companion System: You can recruit companions throughout the game, each with unique

abilities and quests. Companions can assist you in combat and carry extra items. Make sure to develop your relationships with them to unlock their full potential.

Save Often

- **Frequent Saving:** The game allows for multiple save slots. Save frequently, especially before major decisions or challenging encounters, to avoid losing progress.

Final Thoughts

Fallout New Vegas is a richly detailed game that rewards exploration, strategic thinking, and player choice. As a beginner, take your time to immerse yourself in the world, experiment with different play styles, and enjoy the intricate storylines. Whether you choose to side with a faction, go rogue, or carve your own path, the Mojave Wasteland is full of adventures waiting to be discovered.

By following this beginners guide, you'll be better equipped to tackle the challenges that lie ahead. So grab your gear, prepare for the journey, and make your mark in the world of Fallout New Vegas!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the best starting build for a beginner in Fallout: New Vegas?

A good starting build for beginners is to focus on a balance of Speech, Guns, and Repair. This allows you to handle combat effectively while also enabling you to negotiate with NPCs and repair your weapons.

How should I approach character creation in Fallout: New Vegas?

Consider your playstyle when creating your character. If you prefer combat, invest in Agility and Strength. If you enjoy dialogue options, focus on Charisma and Intelligence. Use the S.P.E.C.I.A.L. system to tailor your character.

What are some essential early-game perks to choose?

Some essential early-game perks include 'Rapid Reload' for quicker weapon reloading, 'Educated' for more skill points, and 'Confirmed Bachelor' or 'Lady Killer' for dialogue advantages.

Where can I find good weapons early in the game?

You can find good weapons early on by exploring the areas around Goodsprings. Look for the 9mm Pistol in the gas station and the Hunting Rifle in the nearby cliffs.

How can I manage my inventory effectively?

To manage your inventory effectively, regularly sell or break down items you don't need, prioritize carrying weapons and chems that suit your playstyle, and utilize companions to carry extra weight.

What factions should I consider aligning with as a beginner?

As a beginner, consider aligning with the NCR or the Followers of the Apocalypse as they provide helpful quests and resources. Avoid the Legion until you're more experienced.

How do I heal and manage health in Fallout: New Vegas?

You can heal by using Stimpaks, sleeping at beds, or consuming food items. Always keep a stock of Stimpaks and consider investing in the 'Survival' skill for crafting more healing items.

What are some tips for combat in Fallout: New Vegas?

Use cover strategically, aim for headshots to conserve ammo, and utilize V.A.T.S. for targeted attacks. Always keep an eye on your health and use healing items when necessary.

How can I earn caps quickly in the early game?

You can earn caps quickly by selling excess weapons and armor, completing quests for rewards, and scavenging for valuable items like chems and food that you can sell.

What should I know about companions in Fallout: New Vegas?

Companions can provide combat support and carry extra items for you. Each companion has unique skills and stories, so choose ones that complement your playstyle. Be mindful of their happiness, as it affects their performance.

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