Whether you've been playing since Generation I or you're new to the pokémon training methods, there's plenty to learn about Pokémon games. Maybe you haven't played a Pokémon game in a while and want to know where to pick up, or maybe you want to learn more about Pokémon games in general to find out if you'll enjoy playing them. The Pokémon franchise is huge, but fortunately, Pokémon games tend to be as fun for new players as they are for those who have been playing for years, collected all the trading cards, and watched all the shows. Read on to delve deeper into the world of Pokémon games. Important considerations ConsoleSince Pokémon games are released by Nintendo, they are available primarily on Nintendo consoles. While there are some mobile apps available, you will most likely need a Nintendo console, like the Switch, to play. If you have a particular game in mind, check its compatibility with your console before you buy. GenerationAll Pokémon games belong to a certain generation, grouped with other Pokémon games released at the same or a similar time. Each generation has its own exclusive Pokémon (although many Pokémon exist over several generations) and is set in a different region. The first Generation I game was released in 1996. Generation I includes Pokémon Red, Blue and Yellow and is located in the Kanto region. Generation II includes Pokémon Gold, Silver and Crystal and is located in the Johto region. Generation III includes Pokémon Ruby, Sapphire, Emerald, FireRed and LeafGreen and is located in the Hoenn region. Generation IV includes Pokémon Diamond, Pearl, Platinum, HeartGold and SoulSilver and is located in the Region of Sinnoh. Generation V includes Pokémon Black, White, Black 2 and White 2 and is located in the Unova region. Generation VI includes Pokémon X, Y, Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire and is located in the Kalos region. Generation VII includes Pokémon Sun, Moon, Ultra Sun, Ultra Moon, Let's Go: Pikachu! and let's go: Eevee! and is set in the region of Alola. Generation VIII includes only Pokémon Sword and Shield and is located in the Galar region. PlotWhile each game varies a little, they all follow a similar plot. You start the game as a complete beginner Pokémon trainer who is gifted a Pokémon to work with. Your goal is to capture and raise Pokémon, making them strong enough for you to defeat all the region's gym leaders and go on to beat even harder enemies (in previous games, you must fight elite four, but in Sword and Shield, you have to complete the Champion Battle). There are additional subplots to keep things interesting. GameplayPokémon games are generally turn-based RPGs, so fighting is not in real time. Instead, choose a move to unleash on your enemy, which in turn unleashes a move on you. This keeps Pokémon matches at a more leisurely pace, which many players enjoy. When you're not struggling, you your way from city to city in the region. The area between cities is where you will find wild Pokémon to catch and other Pokémon trainers to battle to increase the strength of your Pokémon. Did you know? The regions of Pokémon games are generally based on real locations. For example, Alola is based in Hawaii and Galar is based in the UK. STAFFBestReviewsThe total number of Pokémon over all games now exceeds 1,000, but you won't be able to catch them all in each game. Most generations have about 100 Pokémon. GymsMost cities in your game region have a gym. You must challenge these gyms and defeat the leader to get on with the game. EvolutionMany, but not all, Pokémon evolve into new shapes as they become stronger or using elements such as the moonstone. Faq. What age group are Pokémon games suitable for? A. Pokémon games are rated E for everyone, which means there is nothing unsuitable for young children in them. That said, young sters can find certain elements of the gameplay tricky, so they are usually best enjoyed by players of 8 to 10 and above. What's great about Pokémon games is that they appeal as much to older players as to youngsters, and many adults enjoy playing them as well. Q. What is the difference between a main game and a spin-off? A. Pokémon main games are those listed under the Generations subtitle above and follow the standard plot of catching and raising Pokémon with the goal of defeating gym leaders. Spin-off games are set in the world of Pokémon, but have different plotlines. For example, the game Detective Pikachu was about solving mysteries with a Pikachu. Q. How can I use Pokémon types to my advantage? A. All Pokémon have at least one type, but some have two. All types have strengths and weaknesses against other types. Electric types are strong against water types, for example, so if you hit a water type Pokémon with an electric pull, it will earn twice as much damage. Millions of players took to their phones to trap animated monsters in Pokemon Go this weekend, but some players undoubtedly got caught themselves by free game purchases. With its innovative use of augmented reality technology, zero costs to enter and a tie-in to a storied gaming franchise, the app already has more installations than Tinder and may soon overtake Twitter on daily active users, according to data from SimilarWeb.Pokemon Go is just the latest example of a free-to-play or freemium game going viral. But for players who come so into the game they are willing to use big to get ahead in the game, the game will be far from free. Minimum cost: $0; maximum cost: ? Just like with any free-to-play game, the minimum price for playing Pokeom Go is zero, but the maximum is potentially hundreds of dollars. That's because you can use real-world money to Poke Mønter, and in-game currency Can be used to buy items to help you capture and develop the games of eponymous animated characters. The Pokemon Company says purchase items are for players who want to improve their Pokemon Go experience even more. My colleague spends money on Pokemon coins - Elisabeth Page (@MissEllieCakes) 11. Some in-game items will cost you $10 or more, and the largest cache of in-game coins you can buy costs $100 in actual real U.S. dollars. Anyone determined to collect all the 151 Pokemon in the game could spend as much or more if they are not willing to walk or drive around town in search of the animals on their own. Most people who play a freemium game will probably never make an in-app purchase. A study from Swrve, a mobile marketing and research firm, found that in February this year, only 1.9% of mobile game players active in a month made an in-app purchase during this month. Pokemon are really draining my battery and making me loave from buying coins - Kaylyn Brown (@KLynPaige) July 9, 2016But the paying players spent meaningful amounts - an average of $24.66 each, the Swrve study found. And once you've made an in-game purchase, you'll probably make another one: 56% of the payers who bought something in the game within their first 14 days of getting a freemium game make a repeat purchase. That may be one reason why Nintendo shares are growing strongly - the stock closed down 24.52 per cent. One analyst, Mia Nagasaka of Morgan Stanley MUFG Securities estimated that Pokemon Go made between $3.9 million and $4.9 million on its first day alone. Don't get caught up in a 'brokey' ballAll that money is great for Nintendo, and walking around outside there are probably some Pokemon Go players making questionable decisions about how much to spend even when reading this. Girls-date a guy who will spend $100 on you for 14,500 Pokémon Go coins – MacKenzie (@Kenzstevenson) July 11, 2016If you're thinking of becoming a paying user yourself or already having, here are some tips to make sure you don't end up with tons of Pokemon but no cash in your checking account. Give yourself a reflection. Whether you play the game from time to time or you've just stayed up all night and run out of your smartphone battery twice to play it (no judgment), in the middle of a gaming session is probably not the best time to make a buying decision with real-world consequences. Instead, put the phone down for a few minutes to do something else, such as talking to a loved one, eating a snack or following step 2 below. Actually find space in your budget. If you feel tempted to buy Poke Coins or another in-game item in a freemium game, treat it like any other item and add it to your weekly or monthly budget. On way you can get an idea of what you want to give in real life to get these virtual elements. Stick to your budgeted limit. Don't allow yourself to spend more than you've budgeted for, and if you're tempted, force yourself to go back to your budget and find space all over again. See your expenses outside. Pokemon Go is unique in that it gets players out and about finding Pokemon in the real world. That's probably a good thing for many players (even if it led to a wave of real-world robberies); just make sure you don't end up busting your gas budget or getting tricked into overspending on companies trying to cash in. What do you think? Have you ever been tempted to spend on a freemium game like Pokemon Go? Follow me on Twitter: @claesbell. @claesbell.