

3,000 Xbox 360s on pre-sale at eBay

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eBay said Monday almost 3,000 Xbox 360 games are available for pre-sale, ahead of the official sale of the product at midnight Tuesday.

The much-anticipated Microsoft game console will be going on sale when the clock strikes midnight nationwide, but the online auction house said about 9,000 Xbox 360s have been pre-sold for the past two weeks.

eBay said that the average price sold was \$550. Many have been bundled with game cartridges, the company said.

Microsoft said Monday over 4,500 retailers nationwide will be opening at midnight Tuesday to sell the Xbox 360 game console.

"The debut of Xbox 360 marks one of the biggest consumer launches in Microsoft's history," Robbie Bach, president of the entertainment division, said in a news release.

The company said that Best Buy is its retail partner for the Xbox 360 launch events, and its stores will open at 9 a.m. on Nov. 22.

In addition, Microsoft said more than 3,500 gamers from around the world descended on an Xbox 360 oasis in California's Mojave Desert Monday night to celebrate the arrival of the console at an exclusive launch party called Xbox 360: Zero Hour. The system launches Dec. 2 in Europe and Dec. 10 in Japan.

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