

Microsoft opening online computer games shop

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People play a multi-player video game during an introduction of "Xbox Live" in Hong Kong. Microsoft on Friday announced plans to open an online shop stocked with downloadable games for play on personal computers running on its software.

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Games for the Windows Marketplace website will launch at gamesforwindows.com on November 15, according to the Redmond, Washington-based software titan.

"We set out to create a digital store built for PC gamers end-to-end," said Microsoft PC and gaming senior global director Kevin Unangst.



"And by integrating with our existing Xbox LIVE and Windows Live services, we've made it easier than ever for millions of gamers to see for themselves how easy buying PC games can be," Unangst said.

Xbox Live is an online gaming community managed by Microsoft.

Marketplace will launch with a portfolio of 100 games including blockbuster titles such as "Fable" and "Grand Theft Auto," according to Microsoft.

Videogame makers that will have titles at the online shop include Rockstar, Capcom, Square Enix, and Warner Brothers Interactive Entertainment.

"We plan to deliver some of our biggest and best PC franchises on Games for Windows Marketplace from day one," said Christian Svensson, corporate officer and vice president of Strategic Planning and Business Development at Capcom.

"Digital distribution continues to drive growth in PC gaming, and we're excited to partner with Microsoft and bring amazing games to this growing marketplace."

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