# GTA 6 launch guide: everything to do before November 19

Dates, unlock times, editions, storage, settings and an 18-step checklist on two sheets of paper. Every fact is labelled: [CONFIRMED] Rockstar or Take-Two said it, [REPORTED] a named source did, and anything else is general advice.

| LAUNCH | PRE-LOAD | PLATFORMS | PC |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Thu Nov 19, 2026** | **Thu Nov 12** | **PS5 · Xbox Series X\|S** | **Not announced** |

## The dates [CONFIRMED]

| DATE | WHAT HAPPENS |
|---|---|
| Mon Nov 9 | Take-Two reports quarterly results, the last official financial update before launch. |
| Thu Nov 12 | Digital pre-load opens on PS5 and Xbox Series X\|S. The boxed Standard Edition ships, with a download code, not a disc. Pre-load is not early access. |
| Thu Nov 19 | Grand Theft Auto VI launches. Grand Theft Auto VI: The Album (34 original songs) arrives the same day. |
| Fri Nov 20, 9 PM PT | The Game Awards 2026 eligibility cut-off. GTA 6 qualifies by one day. |
| Fri Dec 11 | Grand Theft Auto VI: Original Score by Justice, 30 tracks, on streaming, CD and vinyl. |

## Unlock times by region [REPORTED] PlayStation Store timestamps; Rockstar has not published a schedule

| REGION | UTC | LOCAL EXAMPLE |
|---|---|---|
| New Zealand | Nov 18, 11:00 | Midnight, Nov 19 (Auckland) |
| Central Europe | Nov 18, 23:00 | Midnight, Nov 19 (Berlin, Paris) |
| UK, Ireland, Portugal, Iceland | Nov 19, 00:00 | Midnight, Nov 19 (London) |
| United States and Canada | Nov 19, 05:00 | Midnight Eastern; 9 PM Pacific on Nov 18 |
| Mexico and Central America | Nov 19, 06:00 | Midnight, Nov 19 (Mexico City) |

A region unlocks all at once. Xbox normally mirrors PlayStation's timing; Microsoft has not published its own schedule.

## Editions and prices [CONFIRMED]

| EDITION | PRICE | WHAT YOU GET |
|---|---|---|
| Standard | $79.99 | The game. Digital, or a boxed download code (no disc). |
| Ultimate | $99.99 | Digital only. Adds six vehicles in the Paradise Garage, the Vice City Style outfits, Goodtime Gear, and Ultimate Edition shops and content. |
| Every pre-order | Included | Vintage Vice City Pack: a '55 Vapid Stanier, the Shore Court garage, outfits for both leads and a weapon pattern. |

## Storage and download time

Install size [REPORTED] 210 GB on PS5 (PlayStation Store tracker, October 27). Rockstar has not confirmed it, and there is no Xbox figure. **Clear about 260 GB** to cover the game and a day-one patch.

| CONSOLE | USABLE SPACE |
|---|---|
| PS5 (launch model) | about 667 GB |
| Xbox Series X | about 802 GB |
| Xbox Series S (512 GB) | about 364 GB |

| CONNECTION | AT 210 GB |
|---|---|
| 25 Mbps | 19 to 23 hours |
| 50 Mbps | 10 to 12 hours |
| 100 Mbps | 5 to 6 hours |
| 200 Mbps | 2.5 to 3 hours |
| 500 Mbps | about 1 hour |
| 1 Gbps | 30 to 40 minutes |

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## The 18-step launch checklist

### BEFORE NOVEMBER 12

- ☐ **Clear about 260 GB**
  Settings, Storage. Move or delete what you have finished.
- ☐ **Pick an edition and pre-order**
  Standard $79.99 or Ultimate $99.99. Pre-orders get the Vintage Vice City Pack.
- ☐ **Boxed copy on PS5? Check the region**
  PlayStation codes only work with an account from the same country. Xbox codes are region-free.
- ☐ **Book your days off**
  Thursday November 19 and Friday November 20, if you can. Properly.
- ☐ **Set up your TV**
  Game Mode on, HDR calibrated once.
- ☐ **More storage? Decide now**
  An internal SSD (PS5) or expansion card (Xbox) takes time to arrive.

### NOVEMBER 12 TO 18

- ☐ **Redeem your boxed code the day it arrives**
  Pre-load starts only once the code is on your account.
- ☐ **Start the pre-load on November 12**
  Rest mode with downloads allowed. Check it finished.
- ☐ **PS5: turn on Console Sharing and Offline Play**
  Settings, Users and Accounts, Other. Lets you play if PSN falls over.
- ☐ **Know your unlock time**
  See the table on page one.
- ☐ **Mute the spoiler words**
  Character names, "ending" and "final mission", on every app you use.
- ☐ **Optional: finish your GTA replay**
  Vice City to V in 18 days, if you started on November 1.

### NOVEMBER 19

- ☐ **Check for the day-one patch before midnight**
  Open the game's store page and let any update finish.
- ☐ **Charge the controller and headset**
  The one everyone forgets.
- ☐ **Food and water within reach**
  Jason and Lucia have to eat. So do you.
- ☐ **Phone on do not disturb**
  The group chat will survive one evening.
- ☐ **Decide: story first or explore first**
  Edge reports the map opens relatively early.
- ☐ **Read nothing after midnight you did not write**
  Our pages stay spoiler-free. The rest of the internet will not.

**Overnight settings.** PS5: Settings > System > Power Saving > Features Available in Rest Mode > Stay Connected to the Internet, on. Xbox: Settings > General > Power options > Sleep, not Shutdown.
On PlayStation, starting a pre-load ends the right to cancel a digital pre-order for a refund, unless the item is faulty.

## Notes

## Keep up

Launch guide: sixstarswanted.com/launch.html
Unlock times: sixstarswanted.com/news-what-time-does-gta-6-unlock.html
Start here: sixstarswanted.com/start-here.html
RSS: sixstarswanted.com/feed.xml

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