Overwatch is getting cross-platform play on PC and console



Overwatch launched in 2016, but it's getting a significant feature soon. Blizzard Entertainment is releasing a cross-play beta that will let PC and console gamers play in matches together. The developer says the update is coming "soon."

Until now, the communities on PC, Xbox, PlayStation, and Nintendo Switch were segmented, but this update should make it easier to find online matches to join, whether it's with your friends or with random players. Some of the most popular online titles feature cross-play support, like *Fortnite* and *Call of Duty Warzone*, and it bodes well that this feature may be supported earlier on in the game's upcoming sequel, *Overwatch 2*.

Cross-play is a welcome, if overdue, feature to have in *Overwatch*, but it might not be all that you're hoping for. The update doesn't enable cross-progression between multiple copies of the game that you might own. So, your collection of

skins and XP level on, say, Nintendo Switch, won’t carry over to other platforms and vice versa. Though, that might not be the case in the future. In a recent Reddit AMA, *Overwatch* technical director John Lafleur said “given the additional complexities of cross-progression, it would probably make most sense to tackle cross-play, first and then explore progression as a potential add-on, if we go this route.”

Blizzard says that in order to jump into the cross-play beta, you’ll need to make a Battle.net account, if you haven’t already (it’s been a requirement for PC players, but it has been optional on console). You’ll then need to link your respective console account to Battle.net within your account settings. Doing this will allow you to play with friends you have added on Battle.net instead of friends that exist within your console’s own friends list.

If you get a Battle.net account and log into Overwatch by the end of 2021, you’ll receive a “golden” loot box, which guarantees a legendary-tier in-game item.

Correction: *An earlier version of this article said the cross-play beta was available now, but Blizzard says it instead will be coming “soon.” We regret the error.*

https://www.theverge.com/2021/6/9/22524108/overwatch-crossplay-pc-playstation-xbox-nintendo-switch-console