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The Future Arrives May 24—Overwatch™ Prepares for Battle on PC, PS4™, and Xbox One

Play Overwatch™ free May 5-9 during open beta for all three platforms

Pre-purchase the team-based shooter of tomorrow TODAY at www.playoverwatch.com/buy and get a head start on the open beta for you and a friend†

IRVINE, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Assemble your team and prepare your defenses—the fight for the future is about to begin! Blizzard Entertainment today announced that *Overwatch™* will arrive in stores on Windows® PC, PlayStation®4 computer entertainment system, and Xbox One starting **May 24**.†† Heroes from around the world can join the coming conflict by pre-purchasing Blizzard's team-based first-person shooter today at www.playoverwatch.com/buy.

This Smart News Release features multimedia. View the full release here:

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20160307006229/en/>



In addition to receiving the previously revealed Noire skin for Widowmaker, *Overwatch's* ice-cold assassin, players who preorder or pre-purchase the game for PC, PS4™ system, or Xbox One will also get a two-day head start on the upcoming *Overwatch* open beta for themselves and a friend.† In the open beta, players will have an opportunity to play all 21 heroes and experience the intense action, tactical depth, and vibrant world of *Overwatch* prior to the game's release. Following the head-start period on **May 3-4** for those who have preordered, gamers everywhere will be able to assemble a team of friends and check out the game *free* during the all-access period from **May 5-9**. To learn more about the open beta, players can visit the [official website](http://www.playoverwatch.com/beta).

"*Overwatch* is a team shooter for everyone, with deep, cooperative gameplay, fast and fun competitive action, and a diverse range of larger-than-life heroes," said Mike Morhaime, CEO and cofounder of Blizzard Entertainment. "We think PC and console players everywhere will have a great time in the game, and we're excited to give everyone a chance to try *Overwatch* out for themselves ahead of its May 24 launch."

The Story So Far. . . .

In *Overwatch*, players join the ranks of a legendary force of soldiers, scientists, adventurers, and oddities, and clash on the battlefields of a near-future Earth. The game features a diverse cast of **21 heroes**—each with their own unique arsenal of extraordinary weapons and incredible abilities. Teamwork is critical as players complete objectives, swap heroes on the fly, and combine their powers to game-changing effect—the action is intense, immediate, and fun.

Overwatch: Origins Edition (PC) (Photo: Business Wire)

Since the world last caught up with *Overwatch* at BlizzCon® 2015, Blizzard has introduced a number of game features in the ongoing closed beta test. In a new map type, **Control**, teams battle to capture and hold objectives in locations such as an omnic village in the mountains of Nepal and a high-tech skyscraper in a Chinese metropolis. *Overwatch's* new **progression system** awards players with **Loot Boxes** containing an array of cosmetic items to personalize heroes, including sprays,

emotes, voice lines, and skins such as Punk Tracer and Safari Winston.

In addition to **Quick Play** mode, which automatically matches players with teammates and opponents of similar skill online, players can test their mettle against computer-controlled opponents in a new **Play Vs. AI mode**, while **Custom Games** allow players to set special rules for hero switching, damage modifiers, and more. And there's more to come in the future: Blizzard plans to patch in new heroes and maps post-launch at no additional cost. To keep up with the latest *Overwatch* news, head to the [official website](#).

Meanwhile, In Stores Everywhere. . . .

Windows PC, PS4™ system, and Xbox One gamers will be able to join the fight for the future by picking up *Overwatch: Origins Edition* (SRP: \$59.99), which comes with hero skins for five characters based on their storied pasts—Blackwatch Reyes (Reaper), Strike-Commander Morrison (Soldier: 76), Overgrown Bastion, Security Chief Pharah, and Slipstream Tracer. It also includes a cache of *Overwatch*-themed content for several Blizzard Entertainment games, including a Baby Winston pet for *World of Warcraft*®, Tracer hero for *Heroes of the Storm*®, and more—visit www.playoverwatch.com/buy for the complete *Origins Edition* details.^{†††}

Overwatch will also be available in a limited-edition, retail-only Collector's Edition (SRP \$129.99, Windows/PS4™ system/Xbox One), which contains the digital content from *Origins Edition* along with a full-color visual sourcebook, the *Overwatch* soundtrack, and a high-quality collectible statue of Soldier: 76—the vigilante alter ego of former *Overwatch* commander Jack Morrison. Windows PC gamers also have the option to download a digital PC edition (\$39.99, digital only), which provides the core *Overwatch* experience.

Overwatch will be available in English, Latin American Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese, German, European Spanish, French, Italian, Polish, Russian, Korean (PC only), Japanese (PC and PS4™ system only), and traditional and simplified Chinese (PC only).^{††} *Overwatch* has been rated T for Teen by the ESRB.

For more information about *Overwatch*, visit the [official website](#). For screenshots, videos, and other media, visit the Blizzard Entertainment press site at <http://blizzard.gamespress.com/overwatch>.

With multiple games in development, Blizzard has numerous positions currently available—visit <http://jobs.blizzard.com> for more information and to learn how to apply.

[†]Offer available by pre-purchasing digitally through www.playoverwatch.com/buy or preordering at select retailers until April 29, 2016—players should check with their local retailer to find out whether they are participating. Players who previously pre-purchased or pre-ordered *Overwatch* at participating retailers are also eligible to participate—players should contact their store for details.

^{††}Beta/launch plans for mainland China will be announced at a later date.

^{†††}[Battle.net](#) account required. *World of Warcraft*®, *StarCraft*® II, *Heroes of the Storm*®, and *Diablo*® III content available on Windows/Mac®. *Hearthstone*® content available on Windows/Mac/iOS/Android. *Heroes of the Storm* Tracer hero will also be available separately—further details will be announced at a later date.

About Blizzard Entertainment, Inc.

Best known for blockbuster hits including *World of Warcraft*® and the *Warcraft*®, *StarCraft*®, and *Diablo*® franchises, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc. (www.blizzard.com), a division of Activision Blizzard (NASDAQ: ATVI), is a premier developer and publisher of entertainment software renowned for creating some of the industry's most critically acclaimed games. Blizzard Entertainment's track record includes nineteen #1 games* and multiple Game of the Year awards. The company's online-gaming service, [Battle.net](#)®, is one of the largest in the world, with millions of active players.

*Sales and/or downloads. Based on internal company records and reports from key distribution partners.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-looking Statements: Information in this press release that involves Blizzard Entertainment's expectations, plans, intentions or strategies regarding the future, including statements about *Overwatch*, including with respect to its launch date, features, and gameplay, are forward-looking statements that are not facts and involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Factors that could cause Blizzard Entertainment's actual future results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements set forth in this release include unanticipated product

delays and other factors identified in the risk factors sections of Activision Blizzard's most recent annual report on Form 10-K and any subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. The forward-looking statements in this release are based upon information available to Blizzard Entertainment and Activision Blizzard as of the date of this release, and neither Blizzard Entertainment nor Activision Blizzard assumes any obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements believed to be true when made may ultimately prove to be incorrect. These statements are not guarantees of the future performance of Blizzard Entertainment or Activision Blizzard and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, some of which are beyond its control and may cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations.

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