Best Budget Smartphones for Casual Gaming

Description

Best Budget Smartphones for Casual Gaming in 2024

Gaming on smartphones has evolved significantly over the past few years, with even budget devices now capable of running popular titles smoothly. While flagship phones offer the best performance, not everyone needsâ??or can affordâ??high-end specs. For casual gamers who enjoy titles like *Call of Duty Mobile*, *PUBG Mobile*, *Genshin Impact*, or *Asphalt 9*, a budget smartphone can provide an excellent experience without breaking the bank.

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In this guide, weâ??ll explore the **best budget smartphones for casual gaming in 2024**, focusing on key factors like **processor performance, display quality, battery life, and cooling systems** to ensure smooth gameplay.

Key Features to Look for in a Budget Gaming Smartphone

Before diving into the recommendations, itâ??s important to understand what makes a budget phone suitable for gaming:

1. **Processor (Chipset)** â?? The most critical factor. Mid-range chipsets like the **Snapdragon 680, 720G, 732G, 778G, or MediaTek Helio G96/G99** offer a good balance between performance and efficiency.
2. **RAM & Storage** â?? **6GB RAM** is the minimum for smooth multitasking, while **128GB storage** ensures enough space for games and apps.
3. **Display** â?? A **90Hz or 120Hz refresh rate** makes gameplay smoother, while an **AMOLED or IPS LCD panel** with **Full HD+ resolution** enhances visual clarity.
4. **Battery Life** â?? Gaming drains battery quickly, so a **5,000mAh battery** with **fast charging (18W or higher)** is ideal.
5. **Cooling System** â?? Some budget phones include **vapor chambers or graphite sheets** to prevent overheating during long sessions.
6. **Software Optimization** â?? Phones with **clean Android (or near-stock UI)** and **long-term software updates** perform better over time.

Best Budget Smartphones for Casual Gaming (2024)

1. POCO X6 (Best Overall Budget Gaming Phone)

Price: ~$250 â?? $300
Key Specs:
â?? **Chipset:** Snapdragon 7s Gen 2 (4nm, up to 2.4GHz)
â?? **RAM/Storage:** 8GB + 256GB (expandable via microSD)
â?? **Display:** 6.67â?³ AMOLED, **120Hz**, 1800 nits, Full HD+
â?? **Battery:** 5,100mAh, **67W fast charging**
â?? **Cooling:** Vapor chamber
â?? **Software:** MIUI 14 (Android 13), 2 major OS updates

Why Itâ??s Great for Gaming?
The **POCO X6** is one of the best budget gaming phones in 2024, thanks to its **Snapdragon 7s Gen 2**, which outperforms many older mid-range chips. The **120Hz AMOLED display** ensures smooth visuals, while the **67W fast charging** means less downtime. The **vapor chamber cooling** prevents thermal throttling, making it ideal for longer gaming sessions.

Gaming Performance:
â?? *Call of Duty Mobile:* **High graphics, 60FPS** (smooth)
â?? *Genshin Impact:* **Medium settings, 30-40FPS** (playable)
â?? *PUBG Mobile:* **HDR graphics, Ultra frame rate** (stable)

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2. Redmi Note 13 Pro+ (Best for Battery & Display)

Price: ~$350 â?? $400
Key Specs:
â?? **Chipset:** MediaTek Dimensity 7200 Ultra (4nm)
â?? **RAM/Storage:** 8GB + 256GB (UFS 3.1)
â?? **Display:** 6.67â?³ AMOLED, **120Hz**, 1800 nits, Full HD+
â?? **Battery:** 5,000mAh, **120W fast charging** (19 mins full charge)
â?? **Cooling:** Vapor chamber
â?? **Software:** MIUI 14 (Android 13), 3 major OS updates

Why Itâ??s Great for Gaming?
The **Redmi Note 13 Pro+** is a powerhouse in the budget segment, featuring the **Dimensity 7200 Ultra**, which rivals Snapdragon 782G in performance. The **120Hz AMOLED display** is vibrant, and the **120W charging** is a game-changer for gamers who hate waiting. The **vapor chamber cooling** keeps temperatures in check during intense sessions.

Gaming Performance:
â?? *Genshin Impact:* **High settings, 40-50FPS** (smooth)
â?? *PUBG Mobile:* **Ultra HD, Extreme frame rate** (stable)
â?? *Call of Duty Mobile:* **Max settings, 90FPS** (smooth)

3. Realme Narzo 60 Pro (Best for Cooling & Performance)

Price: ~$250 â?? $300
Key Specs:
â?? **Chipset:** MediaTek Dimensity 7050 (6nm)
â?? **RAM/Storage:** 8GB + 128GB (expandable)
â?? **Display:** 6.7â?³ AMOLED, **120Hz**, 950 nits, Full HD+
â?? **Battery:** 5,000mAh, **67W fast charging**
â?? **Cooling:** 3D VC Cooling System
â?? **Software:** Realme UI 4.0 (Android 13), 2 major OS updates

Why Itâ??s Great for Gaming?
The **Realme Narzo 60 Pro** is a hidden gem for gamers, offering the **Dimensity 7050**, which is nearly as powerful as the Snapdragon 778G. The **120Hz AMOLED display** is great for visuals, and the **3D vapor chamber cooling** ensures sustained performance. The **67W charging** is also a big plus.

Gaming Performance:
â?? *PUBG Mobile:* **HDR graphics, Ultra frame rate** (smooth)
â?? *Genshin Impact:* **Medium settings, 35-45FPS** (playable)
â?? *Call of Duty Mobile:* **High graphics, 60FPS** (stable)

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4. Samsung Galaxy M54 (Best for Software & Longevity)

Price: ~$300 â?? $350
Key Specs:
â?? **Chipset:** Exynos 1380 (5nm)
â?? **RAM/Storage:** 8GB + 128GB (expandable)
â?? **Display:** 6.7â?³ Super AMOLED+, **120Hz**, Full HD+
â?? **Battery:** 6,000mAh, **25W fast charging**
â?? **Cooling:** No dedicated cooling (but optimized for efficiency)
â?? **Software:** One UI 5.1 (Android 13), **4 years of updates**

Why Itâ??s Great for Gaming?
The **Galaxy M54** is one of the few budget phones with **long-term software support**, making it a great investment. The **Exynos 1380** is a solid mid-range chip, and the **120Hz AMOLED+ display** is excellent for gaming. The **6,000mAh battery** ensures long gaming sessions without frequent charging.

Gaming Performance:
â?? *Call of Duty Mobile:* **High graphics, 60FPS** (smooth)
â?? *PUBG Mobile:* **Balanced graphics, High frame rate** (stable)
â?? *Genshin Impact:* **Low-Medium settings, 30FPS** (playable)

5. Motorola Moto G84 (Best for Stock Android Experience)

Price: ~$250 â?? $300
Key Specs:
â?? **Chipset:** Snapdragon 695 (6nm)

â?? **RAM/Storage:** 12GB + 256GB (expandable)
â?? **Display:** 6.5â?³ pOLED, **120Hz**, 1300 nits, Full HD+
â?? **Battery:** 5,000mAh, **30W fast charging**
â?? **Cooling:** No dedicated cooling (but efficient chipset)
â?? **Software:** Stock Android 13, **3 years of updates**

Why Itâ??s Great for Gaming?
The **Moto G84** offers a **clean Android experience** with **no bloatware**, which helps in smoother performance. The **Snapdragon 695** is not the most powerful, but it handles casual games well. The **120Hz pOLED display** is a highlight, and the **12GB RAM** ensures smooth multitasking.

Gaming Performance:
â?? *Call of Duty Mobile:* **Medium graphics, 60FPS** (smooth)
â?? *PUBG Mobile:* **Smooth graphics, High frame rate** (playable)
â?? *Genshin Impact:* **Low settings, 25-30FPS** (basic playable)

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6. Infinix GT 10 Pro (Best for Cooling & RGB Lights)

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Price: ~$220 â?? $250
Key Specs:
â?? **Chipset:** MediaTek Dimensity 8050 (6nm)
â?? **RAM/Storage:** 8GB + 256GB (expandable)
â?? **Display:** 6.67â?³ AMOLED, **120Hz**, Full HD+
â?? **Battery:** 5,000mAh, **45W fast charging**
â?? **Cooling: Dual-fan cooling system** (unique for budget phones)
â?? **Software:** XOS 13 (Android 13), 2 major OS updates

Why Itâ??s Great for Gaming?
The **Infinix GT 10 Pro** stands out with its **dual-fan cooling system**, which is rare in budget phones. The **Dimensity 8050** is a **flagship-level chip** for the price, making it great for gaming. The **RGB lights** on the back add a gamer aesthetic.

Gaming Performance:
â?? *Genshin Impact:* **Medium settings, 40-50FPS** (smooth)
â?? *PUBG Mobile:* **Ultra HD, Extreme frame rate** (stable)
â?? *Call of Duty Mobile:* **Max settings, 90FPS** (smooth)

Final Verdict: Which Budget Gaming Phone Should You Buy?

Phone	Best For	Price Range	Key Strengths
POCO X6	Best overall performance	$250 â?? $300	Snapdragon 7s Gen 2, 120Hz AMOLED, 67W charging

Phone	Best For	PriceRange	Key Strengths
Redmi Note 13 Pro+	Best battery & display	$350 â?? $400	Dimensity 7200 Ultra, 120W charging, 120Hz AMOLED
Realme Narzo 60 Pro	Best cooling & performance	$250 â?? $300	Dimensity 7050, 3D VC cooling, 67W charging
Samsung Galaxy M54	Best software & longevity	$300 â?? $350	Exynos 1380, 6,000mAh battery, 4 years updates
Motorola Moto G84	Best stock Android experience	$250 â?? $300	Snapdragon 695, 120Hz pOLED, clean UI
Infinix GT 10 Pro	Best cooling & RGB lights	$220 â?? $250	Dimensity 8050, dual-fan cooling, 120Hz AMOLED

Best Pick for Most Gamers: POCO X6

If you want the **best balance of performance, display, and battery life**, the **POCO X6** is the top choice. It offers **flagship-level features** at a budget price.

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Best for Long Battery Life: Redmi Note 13 Pro+

If you prioritize **battery life and fast charging**, the **Redmi Note 13 Pro+** with its **120W charging** is unbeatable.

Best for Cooling: Infinix GT 10 Pro

For gamers who play **long sessions**, the **Infinix GT 10 Pro** with its **dual-fan cooling** is a great pick.

Best for Software Updates: Samsung Galaxy M54

If you want a phone that **lasts years** with **regular updates**, the **Galaxy M54** is the best option.

Conclusion

Gaming on a budget no longer means compromising on performance. The **POCO X6, Redmi Note 13 Pro+, Realme Narzo 60 Pro, and Infinix GT 10 Pro** are some of the **best budget smartphones for casual gaming in 2024**, offering **smooth gameplay, high refresh rate displays, and efficient cooling** without costing a fortune.

Whether you prioritize **raw performance, battery life, or software longevity**, thereâ??s a budget gaming phone that fits your needs. Happy gaming!

Category

1. Uncategorized

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Author
vvfvw

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