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Persona 4 is not just one but two different adaptations. The first of these was the release of the original anime that followed the events of the first version of Persona 4 that came out on PS2. This would run for more than 20 episodes, telling the story of the main events in the game while paying homage to some of the side content as well. It was produced by A-1 Pictures, and it contained both a Japanese voiceover version as well as an English one with many of the returning actors from the video game itself, including some of the most renowned voice actors in the industry. However, it did not end with just this version alone. With the release of Persona 4 Golden, an adaptation of the new content in that version came out, giving us the anime's look at the new character Marie and some of the events that happened in that game. Unfortunately, this version was never dubbed with English voiceovers, so players who are interested in checking out this version of Persona 4 will have to deal with the English subtitles instead. And it does not seem like there will be an English dub of this second anime series in the future, either. Sequels and Spin-offs Furthermore, anime was not the only genre that Persona 4 dove into after its initial game. There are some sequels and spin-offs that have come out since the original game that have expanded the storyline and gameplay into new and different territories. The first spin-off game was Persona 4 Arena, which was considered a direct follow-up to the plot of the original game. It traded the turn-based JRPG battles for 2D fighting arenas in which the characters had a more action-based experience with Persona 3 heroes thrown in the mix. That said, it did not shy away from telling its own lengthy story, with visual novel segments breaking up the individual fights themselves. It was not long before it received its own sequel in Persona 4 Arena Ultimax that continued the story from that game and concluded it. What is interesting is that, while Persona 4 Golden is only available for PC in modern-day systems, Persona 4 Arena Ultimax is coming to current consoles and PC in the near future. It will bring the entire fighting game spin-off sub-series to the modern age for new players to experience for the very first time. The spin-off Persona 4 games did not stop there, either, as we then received Persona 4 Dancing All Night, which was a rhythm-based story-driven experience. Also considered a sequel of sorts to the original Persona 4, this only centered around the characters of 4, and that was it. And if that was not enough, either, players were then given the Persona Q games on the Nintendo 3DS. This took the series back to its roots with a first-person dungeon-crawling adventure that featured the casts of Persona 4 and 3 joining together once more for an interesting mission. It would then be followed up by a sequel of its own on the 3DS that would see Persona 4 characters join together with 3 and 5's main cast. FAQs Answer: This is going to be a question that is highly subjective and will, in the end, come down to your personal take. For me, I can give you a quick review of Persona 4 to let you know my thoughts on this great game. In my opinion, Persona 4 is the weakest of the latter trilogy of Persona titles (3, 4, and 5), but that does not at all mean that it is a bad game. In fact, it is a great game that just so happens to be slightly below two amazing and masterful JRPG experiences. What makes Persona 4, in particular, so great is that it contains the classic turn-based battle system from previous games, but it did include some fluid changes to make it more appealing and faster than Persona 3. At the same time, it has an aesthetic and style that almost gives off a 1980s vibe to it, even though the game is set more than 20 years after that period of time. Persona 4 is also one of the most story-driven games in the series, with the serial murders case taking up the breadth of the adventure in a gripping way. We also get to see this through the eyes of the main cast of characters that is, albeit, a bit smaller than previous games, but it allows them to all shine in their own ways. This is helped through some improvements to the social links system and other everyday mechanics, like working a job, that help to elevate this game into the upper echelons of JRPG titles to ever release. Answer: This is a tough one. I have watched the anime and did so after playing the game, but there are some issues with the anime that make it difficult to suggest unless you already beat the game. I thought it would be a good watch for a family member who might not play the game but want to enjoy the story, but that was not the case. The animation is a bit lackluster most of the time, even with the newer Golden version, and the English dubbing is still unavailable for the superior Persona 4 Golden anime version. Both are a shame because, while I and many others prefer the English subtitles for most anime, the returning voice actors from the game were great in the anime. It does not help, either, that you miss out on the fantastic turn-based battle system and other elements that are in the games. While I'm normally more partial to anime, this is one place where I would not consider the Persona 4 anime good. However, it is a decent watch for players who have beaten the game. Answer: I would say that absolutely, yes, Persona 4 is still good to this day. I, personally, played it a little over six years since its initial release using the much better Persona 4 Golden version on the PlayStation Vita. That is where I recommend playing it if you can, as I believe that it still holds up today. The gameplay and turn-based battles can feel a little slow in this modern time, and the characters look like toys, but the aesthetic and look of the game are just as impressive as when it was first released. What is worth noting, though, is that while Persona 5 is probably the best game in the series to start out with as a beginner, it is going to be somewhat difficult to go back to Persona 4 after playing that game. It will feel much slower and less intuitive, so it might be best to play these games in order if you can. Answer: Not at all, but there are some horror-ish elements to Persona 4. Coming from the Shin Megami Tensei series that is quite dark and all about demons ending the world, there are some minor creepy elements in the form of the Personas themselves. That said, outside of the shadows and Personas, there is little in the way of this game that is horror. Even the serial murders storyline is not too dark that it makes this game lose its more comedic feel. In fact, I would say out of Persona 3-5; this is the least dark and horror-like of the bunch. In any way, there should be no problem for players who do not like scary games. Answer: The answer is yes, Persona 4 and 5 are in the same universe. They are in chronological order, with several years of time separating the various games from one another. That said, there are elements of each that are shown in their respective games, including the main characters. For instance, Rise is one of the main party members in the group in Persona 4 as an idol taking a break from performing. In Persona 5, which takes place several years later, it is shown that Rise is back to performing with a poster of her shown throughout the train stations in Tokyo. It does not stop there, either, as Persona 3 is also in the same universe as those two games. In fact, Yukiko, another main character from Persona 4, makes an appearance in Persona 3 Portable on PSP, where her younger self is shown briefly years before she would become a hero in her own game. Then there are the aforementioned spin-off titles that include the casts from all three games or a mix of them joining together onscreen, including Persona 4 Arena and its sequel Ultimax, the two Persona Q games on Nintendo 3DS, and more. The Persona 4 overview guide was only able to cover the surface-level details of the various parts and mechanics of the fourth main entry in the series. As such, it is only meant to be a gateway into this particular game. If you want to know more about the Persona series beyond this title, though, we've got you covered. We highly recommend checking out one of our other guides, too, such as the one that we created going over the Persona 3 Evoker item. If you have never played Persona 3, it is a great game to start with or even pick up after playing Persona 4, as both games were originally released on the PS2 and later on handheld systems. Something went wrong. Try again later Reviews: 0User Lists: 6Alright I just got "Intimate" with Yukiko, so that means she is now my girlfriend right?And also, I got my social link with Chie up to Level 9 and it gave me the option to ask her to become my girlfriend, I said the other thing but will I get another chance to ask her? And also can I have multiple girlfriends? What happens if I do?16 years ago Reviews: 30User Lists: 28Yeah, in the context of the game, being "intimate" is the equivalent to having them be your girlfriend, so Yukiko is indeed that. If you choose to deny the opportunity like you did with Chie, however, you don't get a second chance; they just become close platonic friends at that point. You can also have multiple girlfriends if you opt to do so, although if you start going out with another girl while being romantically involved with another, there's a chance that you'll have your dates with the new girl get intercepted. It's an interestingly awkward spectacle to behold, to say the least.16 years ago Reviews: 0User Lists: 6Reviews: 3User Lists: 5 Reviews: 0User Lists: 6BoG said: "Venatio said: "Pepsiman said: "Yeah, in the context of the game, being "intimate" is the equivalent to having them be your girlfriend, so Yukiko is indeed that. If you choose to deny the opportunity like you did with Chie, however, you don't get a second chance; they just become close platonic friends at that point. You can also have multiple girlfriends if you opt to do so, although if you start going out with another girl while being romantically involved with another, there's a chance that you'll have your dates with the new girl get intercepted. It's an interestingly awkward spectacle to behold, to say the least." Should I bother with reloading my old save and asking Chie to be my girlfriend? I mean, I liked Yukiko more anyway but I kinda wanna see what happens when you have multiple girlfriends? Is it worth it?" Every girl in the game was my girlfriend. Worth it? Absolutely. "What are the consequences if you run into each other? Do they get pissed off and break up with you? Did you get any problems while playing?16 years ago Reviews: 8User Lists: 0Maybe my memory is a bit foggy, but I'm pretty sure you can only have one "official" girlfriend at a time and if you say you don't want to be their bf/ when you max their SL, then you never get a second chance to be an item later in the game. I'm not 100% certain, but I believe that's how it worked in the game.16 years ago Reviews: 3User Lists: 5I didn't have any problems at all. Once Yukari saw Ai and I together, but I talked my way out of it." XDSounds awesome!16 years ago Reviews: 2User Lists: 30Fuuuuuuuck. Just messed up getting Naoto as my girlfriend on my second playthrough. Which is partly the reason why I bothered with a second playthrough. :(14 years ago Reviews: 0User Lists: 0 Are there any specific benefits to dating anyone in particular? Obviously Yukiko is the sexiest :) haha. 6 years ago Reviews: 2User Lists: 30@sized27: It makes no difference except for a couple of small scenes. No gameplay rewards. You get their ultimate persona either way.6 years ago Reviews: 0User Lists: 3 "Dating" grants the same benefits a platonic relationship, but has a couple extra scenes later in the game where you hang out in your room. In base Persona 4 there is no penalty for dating multiple girls, but in Golden you get an extra scene where you have to choose.Also, Chie is best girl, everyone knows this.6 years ago Reviews: 0User Lists: 5If you're playing Golden with the goal of being a pimp, feel free to date multiple girls if you want some extra scenes on Valentine's Day.But if monogamy is your way, then stick to one. You can always explore other options in subsequent new game plus runs.6 years ago Reviews: 0User Lists: 0 This thread took an 8 and a half year break and then just kept rolling like nothing happened.6 years ago Reviews: 0User Lists: 6Alright I just got "Intimate" with Yukiko, so that means she is now my girlfriend right?And also, I got my social link with Chie up to Level 9 and it gave me the option to ask her to become my girlfriend. I said the other thing but will I get another chance to ask her? And also can I have multiple girlfriends? 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You can always explore other options in subsequent new game plus runs.6 years ago Reviews: 0User Lists: 0 This thread took an 8 and a half year break and then just kept rolling like nothing happened.6 years ago Being a Social Stats are a mechanic in Persona 4 Golden that open more in-game responses and Social Links once they've reached specific levels. These are broken up into five different levels that will accumulate points based on the protagonist's reactions or what he chooses to do in his free time. These stats include Kindness, Understanding, Expression, Knowledge, and Courage. Courage, as its name indicates, allows players to be more forward when the protagonist is interacting with other characters. If his Courage isn't high enough, he won't be able to skip class (Moon Arcana) or give responses that might give him more points towards a Social Link. In Persona 4 Golden, Courage has fewer methods of leveling up compared to the other Social Stats, but it's not impossible to max out on a first playthrough. Different Ways to Increase Courage Courage's five levels are: Average Reliable Brave Daring Heroic To fully max out Courage, players will need to accumulate 140 or more Courage points. Some early-game responses allow players to gain one or two points towards Courage, but getting to the next level will soak up some of the protagonist's free time. Books and Jobs The best ways of getting Courage points are by reading certain books and working at the hospital. Make sure to check the bookstore by the gas station in the Shopping District. The books that will influence the protagonist's Courage are: The Lonely Man Forever Macho *100 Ghost Stories * "100 Ghost Stories" will double the amount of Courage gained from the hospital job. Reading will take up the protagonist's afternoon or evening time. The best time to read is in between dungeons or on days when there aren't as many Social Links available. Classmates (such as Yosuke, Yumi/Ayane, and Naoki) won't want to spend time with the protagonist on specific days of the week, or when exams are coming up. Take advantage of this time to read Courage-raising books. On May 25th, a hospital job will appear on the Bulletin Board by Aiya's (Chinese Diner) in the Northern Shopping District. Applying for this job is how players can start the Devil Social Link (Uehara), but simply working there will add a point towards Courage. Unfortunately, the hospital job is only accessible in the evening/night on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Other Methods of Increasing Courage Once Yosuke pesters the protagonist about getting "motorcycles," players will be able to ride a scooter outside Inaba starting June 9th. Taking the time to explore the area will give a point towards Courage. It's also necessary to ride the scooter out to the beach to complete the Hermit Social Link. Keep in mind that once Okina Station and the beach are unlocked, riding the scooter to these areas won't award any more Courage points. Return to a dungeon once it's been cleared and there will be a powerful Shadow in the boss room. These optional bosses are much tougher, so it's not recommended to challenge them until later in the game. However, defeating them is another way to gain Courage. Finally, eating at Aiya's will give five points towards Courage depending on the type of beef bowl they're serving up for that day. Visit Aiya's on April 19th to get five Courage points. Players can also eat some of the food that's left in the fridge at home. For example, players will gain an increase in Courage for eating the food on May 2nd. Not all refrigerated food will give Courage. Keep in mind that eating "bad food" rewards Courage, but it will waste evening/night free time. The earliest day players can eat rotten food from the fridge is on April 25th. Be sure to check the fridge from April to October. As most players have probably noticed, answering questions correctly will give points towards Social Links. There are also some answers that are blocked off if the protagonist's Social Stat isn't at a certain level. One Social Link in Persona 4 Golden is completely locked until the protagonist has enough Courage. Players will need Level 3 (Brave) Courage to start the Moon Arcana/Ai Ebihara's Social Link. Ebihara will make an appearance during Rank 4 of the Strength Arcana (Kou or Daisuke). Ebihara will be in Classroom Building 1F on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons, so speak to her after reaching Rank 4 of the Strength Arcana and once Courage is at the proper level. It's not necessary to max out all Social Links in one playthrough to beat the game, but completing the Moon Arcana will unlock the fusion for Sandalphon, an Ultimate Persona. Be warned that it's very easy to Reverse the Moon Arcana if players give the wrong response to Ebihara. This will put the Social Link "on hold," and players will need to make up with Ebihara before they can hang out with her again. Avoid reversing Social Links to save time. As mentioned earlier, having enough Courage will allow players to answer with the more "daring" responses. This includes standing up to other characters who may be harassing one of the protagonist's Social Links. Doing so might give points towards one of the other five Social Stats, thus making it easier to max them out as well. Persona 4 Golden is available now on PSP and Steam. A release for PC, PS4, Xbox Series X/S, Xbox One, Xbox Game Pass, and Nintendo Switch is scheduled for 2023. MORE: Persona 5 Royal: All Mementos Requests