

# 5 Classic Point and Click Adventures for the Absolute Beginner

Give your grey matter a workout with these gems.

In an ocean of CODs and FIFAs, think of the humble point and click adventure genre as your inflatable life raft. Peacefully drifting in over the waves to save you from drowning in mass-market pollution.

They say a change is as good as a rest, so why not shift away from your usual diet of footy and WW2 slaughter, and dip your toes into something new?

In particular, the point and click genre which is rammed full of entertaining adventures to unleash your mind and with such a broad range of titles, there's undoubtedly something for everyone; classic stories of humour, intrigue, and suspense. If you hadn't already guessed - and as the name suggests - these games are driven through a cursor which you point and click to perform various actions (usually attributed to a verb such as Walk, Open, Pull, Use, etc).

If point and clicks are indeed new to you then make these 5 games your first stop:

The Secret of Monkey Island, Lucasfilm Games, 1990



No chickens were harmed in the making of this game.

Set in the pirate-age Carribean, The Secret of Monkey Island is a tale of scurvy encrusted pirates, mystical voodoo and three-headed monkeys. Starring Guybrush Threepwood as the swashbuckling pirate-wannabe, you'll guide him on a journey of self-discovery, encountering cannibals, nefarious salesmen, and ghost-pirates.

As one of the most popular, well-loved titles in the point and click genre, Monkey Island is a perfect game to start with. It's not too difficult yet remains a challenge with plenty of booty laughs to plunder along the way.

Indiana Jones and The Fate of Atlantis, Lucasfilm Games, 1992



Looking for love in all the wrong places.

In a wholly original story worthy of a cinematic release, Indiana Jones and The Fate of Atlantis sees Indy return to action against the evil might of the Nazi war machine, as they face-off in search of the legendary sunken city of Atlantis. Award-winning and million-unit plus selling, this game was critically praised and is widely regarded as a classic within the genre.

It's an exhilarating, globe hopping adventure as you'd expect from an Indiana Jones game, one which takes in the delights of New York City, Monte Carlo and Algiers along the way.

Can you stop the Nazis from harnessing the power of Atlantis in their quest for world domination?

Broken Sword: The Shadow of the Templars, Revolution Software, 1996



Road safety advice abound in Broken Sword.

With a serious, shadowy plot featuring biblical references, The Knights Templar, terrorist explosions and clowns, Broken Sword is a real feast of storytelling. In it, you assume the role of American tourist George Stobbart who is trying to unravel a conspiracy of some magnitude. Broken Sword will take you to real and fictional locations across Europe and the Middle East as you enjoy its beautifully composed score, elegant graphics and challenging puzzles.

Another fantastic point and click adventure which is multi award-winning, sold in bucket loads and spawned several sequels. It also broke out on to tons of platforms, PS1, PC, iOS and Android to name a few, meaning you could even tackle this one on the 07.58 Manchester to Euston!



## Loom, Lucasfilm Games, 1990



It was early days but Grandma's jumper didn't look great..

Based on a curious, fantasy story, Loom is a departure from the typical point and click and stars a cloaked, protagonist by the name of Bobbin Threadbare. Lucasfilm dropped the verb-based interface and opted to have you click on objects to interact with them and learn spells, known in the game as drafts. Each draft is a set of musical notes and will perform a function, be it Opening or Night Vision - in turn equipping you with the tools needed to progress through the story.

With a musical theme running throughout the game, you can expect the score to be impressive - and it is! A classical music score from Tchaikovsky permeates the fabric of Bobbin's quest and brings its own memorable magic.

Loom is certainly a classic owing to its sheer quirkiness and is an interesting game to try after some of the others on this list; see how they compare and make up your own mind whether it deserves its critical acclaim.

## Day of the Tentacle, LucasArts, 1993



Every day's a history lesson in Day of the Tentacle.

Day of the Tentacle (DOTT from hereon in) is the sequel to another fine point and click masterpiece, Maniac Mansion (Lucasfilm Games, 1987). In DOTT you assume control of three main characters - Bernard, Hoagie and Laverne - as they try and stop an evil purple tentacle, ingeniously named, Purple Tentacle, from taking over the world.

You must guide the hapless trio through a time travelling adventure spanning different periods in history. DOTT has a gorgeous, cartoony look and a hilarious story which sees you solving some devilish puzzles, making use of the ability to freely switch between each character; remembering that changes in the past can affect the future... A wild, historical time-travelling beaut of a game that regularly features in top 100 games lists.

## Conclusion

So there we have it, 5 true classics to start you off. While the majority of point and click games originate on PC, you'll also find console variants if you do some digging. The recent remastered release of Day of the Tentacle is available to buy on the PS store for example.

If you're keen to don your adventure boots and seek out more questy goodness then some notable mentions that didn't make the cut are: Leisure Suit Larry, Maniac Mansion, Grim Fandango, Sam and Max Hit the Road, and Beneath a Steel Sky. Be sure to check out [GOG.com](https://www.gog.com) and [Steam](https://store.steampowered.com) to add them to your library!

**Which point and click games have you played recently? Any classics that deserve to be on this list? Let us know in the comments below.**

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