Video games

Doing your homework on this purchase might be the most fun you have all holiday season

Mark Luce is a freelance writer based in Kansas City, Mo., where he still can’t figure out Halo or Halo II.

The learning curve is steep. Ice for tennis will be 35 times more powerful than PlayStation 2 and twice as powerful as Xbox 360. While many liken the earthly gaming experience like playing Gran Turismo HD on PS3 with a widescreen HDTV ($499 to $599), Nintendo Wii: Seemingly chump change in cost compared to the others, but Nintendo is rolling the dice on a new controlling system, a two-pronged attack featuring the Wii-Remote and the wonderfully named Nunchuck. The controllers move based on your movement. So, if playing a tennis game, you actually swing your arm to hit the ball. The learning curve is steep. Ice for tennis elbow not included ($250).

Whichever system you or your child chooses, keep in mind that new games come with two controllers. To beat the high cost of new games, don’t forget to check out the growing number of traditional and online stores that sell used games, which often can be picked up for much less. Remember, too, to play before you pay.

Happy holidays.

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