

Plug 'n' Play TV Games

A system to represent all the various “TV Games” out there. These little machines were self-contained devices that, as the name implies, you plug into your TV and start playing. The device itself was usually the controller, but not always. [Here's a cool video about them.](#)

One of the more prolific manufacturers of them was Jakks Pacific, of which [a community created wiki has some examples of.](#)

Due to their self-contained nature, they're usually only emulatable by highly specialized emulation software. It's no surprise that it's handled by [MAME](#).

This system scrapes metadata for the “tvgames” group and loads the plugnplay set from the currently selected theme, if available.



Credit MetalJesusRocks

<https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/159385274285176031/>

Quick reference

- **Emulator:** [MAME](#)
- **Folder:** /userdata/roms/pluginplay
- **Accepted ROM formats:** .zip, .7z

BIOS

No TV Games emulator in Batocera needs a BIOS file to run.

ROMs

Place your TV Game ROMs in /userdata/roms/pluginplay.


Emulators

MAME

[MAME](#), the Multiple Arcade Machine Emulator, is a multi-purpose emulation framework which facilitates the emulation of vintage hardware and software. Originally targeting vintage arcade machines, MAME has since absorbed the sister-project [MESS](#) (Multi Emulator Super System) to support a wide variety of vintage computers, video game consoles and calculators as well. MAME doesn't use an individual “core” for each system like RetroArch does, instead the ROM itself usually

contains the necessary information to accurately emulate it, thus making it specific to the version of MAME it was made for. Overall it's a very complicated subject, we have a [guide specific to arcade](#) just for it.

MAME configuration

MAME offers a **Menu** in-game ([H0TKEY] +  or [Tab] on the keyboard). This can be used to manually adjust inputs or game settings. If you're having issues with a specific game, check the [MAMEdev FAQ for that game here](#). For MESS systems specifically, you might find more information on [MESS's wiki](#). All options can also be edited by opening the `mame.ini` file.

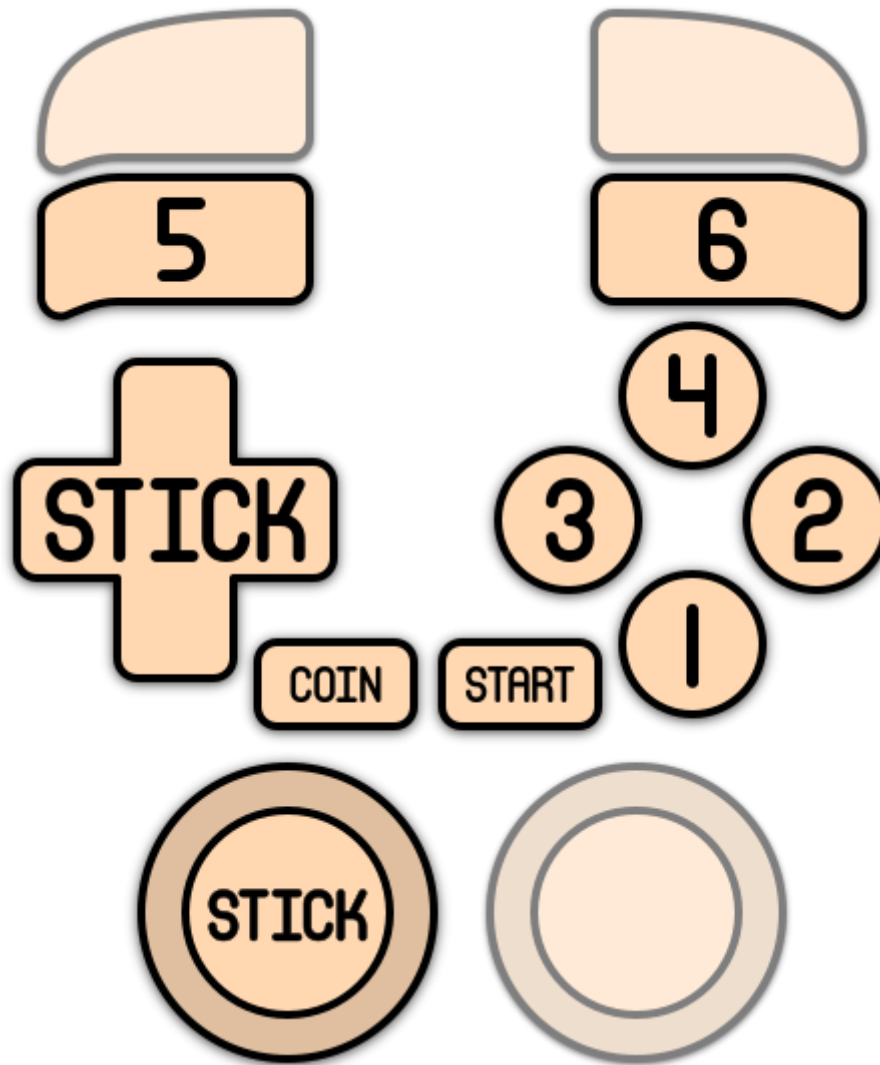
Standardized features available to all versions of this emulator: `plugnplay.videomode`, `plugnplay.decoration`, `plugnplay.padtkeyboard`

ES setting name batocera.conf_key	Description ⇒ ES option key_value
Settings that apply to all versions of this emulator	
GRAPHICS BACKEND plugnplay.video	Choose your graphics rendering ⇒ BGFX bgfx, Accel accel, OpenGL opengl.
BGFX BACKEND plugnplay.bgfxbackend	Choose your graphics API ⇒ MAME Detect automatic, OpenGL opengl, OpenGL ES gles, Vulkan vulkan.
BGFX VIDEO FILTER plugnplay.bgfxshaders	Apply a particular visual effect ⇒ Off None, Bilinear default, CRT Geom crt-geom, CRT Geom Deluxe crt-geom-deluxe, Super Eagle eagle, HLSL hlsl, HQ2X hq2x, HQ3X hq3x, HQ4X hq4x.
CRT SWITCHRES plugnplay.switchres	CRT monitor SwitchRes support ⇒ Off 0, On 1.
TATE MODE plugnplay.rotation	Rotating display to vertical mode rendering ⇒ Off None, Rotate 90 autoror, Rotate 270 autorol.
ALT DPAD MODE plugnplay.altdpad	If the D-Pad does not work properly ⇒ Off (Default) 0, DS3 Orientation 1, X360 Orientation 2.

Controls

The TV Game's controls were usually specific to the game itself. In general, the way MAME handles this is by simply numbering the buttons, incrementing them as needed, up to six standard buttons and a directional stick.

Here are the default TV Games's controls shown on a [Batocera Retropad](#):



Troubleshooting

Further troubleshooting

Most questions are answered in the [generic arcade guide](#).

For further troubleshooting, refer to the [generic support pages](#).

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