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Back in 1993, Nintendo changed the way players looked at games with the introduction of the Super FX chip. The new chip was hardwired into the original Star Fox on the Super Nintendo and provided stunning 3D space combat (for the time) and a resurgence in life for the aging Nintendo console. Fox McCloud returned on the Nintendo 64, but this time with rumble and once again provided not only stunning visuals, but something Nintendo players were not used to – voice acting. In addition, N64 players were treated to some heated four-player action.

It's now 2011 and Fox has once again been called to the aid of Nintendo hardware in need. As if to say, "We haven't forgotten you hardcore fans. Or we did, but now we've remembered you", Nintendo dusted off yet another classic and ported it to the Nintendo 3DS. Everything you loved in the original Star Fox 64 is here and updated to take full advantage of the new system including flashy new graphics, lighting and 3D effects. And the 3D effects add a new aspect to the game that goes beyond just the looks.

Unlike the way Nintendo has approached gaming over the last few years, the Big N has chosen to put gameplay before gimmicks. I know I'll catch some heat for that, but there's no denying that the Nintendo Wii has put the novelty of motion controls before accuracy, precision and hardcore gameplay. There's no gimmicky gameplay in Star Fox 64 3D though. You have the option to use the gyro functions of the 3DS, but in all honesty this game I better with them left off. You might not look like a over-enthused teenager from a Nintendo commercial waving your 3DS in the air, but this game is better using the basic controls.

e control setup is basic in fact and will feel familiar to those who are old enough to drink alcohol or owned the original on the Nintendo 64. It's nice to pick up a Nintendo game and have that familiarity. It's not often a title comes along that is both "pick up and play" as well as deep and fun. Star Fox 63 3D manages to pull this off.

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REVIEW SCORE: 7.5 OUT OF 10

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