



# immortal

## The Immortal Joystick

**Manufacturer: Immortal Joysticks**

**Price: Starts at £100 depending on configuration, plus shipping**

**From: [www.immortaljoysticks.co.uk](http://www.immortaljoysticks.co.uk)**

Saying the Immortal Joystick is hands down the best retro styled joystick you can buy is a brash statement. But it is one I feel is accurate to those who have had the pleasure of gaming with the peripheral. It is a thing of beauty and smacks of quality and durability. A gaming environment is often an industrial one, especially in the retro gaming scene. The Immortal's diecast aluminium enclosure, combined with high quality arcade parts, ensures that even a prolonged session of *Daley Thompson's Decathlon* can be shrugged off with ease.

Sure, it's an expensive unit, but you know your money has been well spent the second you place it on your desktop and prepare for that epic *Superfrog* or *Manic Miner* session. As mentioned above, the casing is metal which guarantees a longevity you won't see on some other brands. Couple that with premium arcade parts, such as Sanwa Denshi, Seimitsu and



One of the many colourful configurations your stick can be made in.



Optional rocker switches provide "button for jump" and autofire functionality.

Suzu Happ, that you can choose on purchase to match your style of gameplay. Add braided cables and a range of colours to make even the most hardened supermodel blush, and you have a product that can only make you smile.

The Immortal Joystick comes in two sizes, and Andrew (aka AmigaForMortals) will happily discuss all the custom options available before you buy. You can even discuss custom joystick and the button layouts/positions, so the stick will fit you perfectly. We all hold our sticks differently, so having the option to truly design one around your personal grip and hand placement ensures long gaming sessions never become a chore, or end with stiff joints. Especially handy for some of us older gamers!

Of course, one option we didn't have in the golden days of gaming was the ability to add simple things like mapping jump to a button, instead of pushing up. With the Immortal Joystick, this is one of the enhanced options that can be made available for you if you wish. You can also choose an autofire option, if that's your cup of tea. And unlike most other "button for jump" options available for modern joysticks, this one keeps "up" mapped on the joystick as well, so those pesky ladders on platform games won't become a problem. The switch is a quality rocker too, that will not snap or break no matter how hard you (within normal limits) try.

It's all part of the custom service offered by Andrew at Immortal Joysticks - you simply have to let him know what you want, and it shall be done with a full consultation. This is a professional and a personal service right down the line.

The Immortal Joystick should work with any retro gaming system you wish, although you will have to work with Andrew to ensure pin layout is appropriate for the system you want to use it with. As of right now, the joystick is confirmed as working with the Amiga 500, 500+ and 600 and should work on all other models. The ZX Spectrum is supported via a Kempston interface, the likes of which come as default on the common divMMC device.

The Commodore 64 and Amstrad CPC6128 have also been tested. Out of the box, with standard Atari pins and a DB9 connection, you should have no problems with Atari, VIC-20, C128 and more. Anything that does not work can also be corrected by way of adaptors for different pin layouts, so the choice is truly yours. You want one

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for your MSX? Not a problem.

Of course, none of this matters without knowing how it plays when gaming! It's perfect. There is zero latency on the build I have, and a promise that this will be the same on all builds. The stick and buttons are - as mentioned - quality arcade parts, and therefore the response is as expected... flawless.

The build quality inside the casing matches that on the outside. The bottom of the unit opens easily for possible future maintenance and cleaning, and soldering is perfectly on point and extremely solid. The wiring is tight and the braided cabling is secure with no loose connections. I have already used the word "quality", but it truly is the best way to describe how amazing this joystick feels.

In conclusion, the Immortal Joystick is one of the finest pieces of retro gaming engineering I have experienced to date. I stand by my original opinion upon first using the stick - whether retro gaming or modern, it's the best game controller I have personally used in the past 40 years. 🚀

### Pros:

- Heavy, durable build
- Quality parts that will last the next 30 years
- Fully customisable including stick and button layout to fit your hands and style
  - Great support

### Cons:

- Your partner will complain that all you do is play games

