

Blizzard Shuts Down Vanilla WoW Private Server With 150k Active Players - KitGuru

While World of Warcraft is a major player in the MMO market, there are still many people who prefer the vanilla experience. This was before Blizzard made any major changes or added new content. For those people, there have been private servers available to get a nostalgia fix but one of the largest and most active servers is being shut down this week, following a cease and desist from Blizzard.

Nostalrius servers provided vanilla WoW to 800,000 players when it opened up. More than 150,000 players are still active, according to a petition that was created by the Nostalrius team to convince them to change their minds. The petition has attracted close to 47,000 supporters as of the writing.

Unless Blizzard makes a change, Nostalrius will shut down on April 10th.

A letter to Blizzard, in an attempt to save the servers, has been published. It explains why the vanilla service exists and expresses gratitude for the "amazing journey" for all of us and the 800,000 players who registered accounts, as well as the 150,000 active players. We faithfully reproduced the original progress you created through patches, content releases. The Ahn Qiraj raid, a powerful and formidable warrior, was to be released next month.

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"However, the French provider hosting the server received a formal request from US and French lawyers to shut down our services due to Copyright Infringement. This was prior to a lawsuit. As soon as we received the information, we decided to schedule the final shutdown of our World of Warcraft realms, as requested."

"This message is intended to make it clear that we hope for changes in the link between Blizzard legacy servers and volunteer-based legacy servers. Our community was never seen as a threat to Blizzard. It sounds more like a transverse area where players can continue to play old World of Warcraft games until a new expansion is available. A huge and powerful community of supporters that remains attached to future Blizzard gaming companies as we have in no other company.

Blizzard has yet to respond to the petition or comment on the open letter.

KitGuru Says: Blizzard has turned a blind eye to private servers in the past but it looks like this one in particular gained a larger following than they were comfortable with. It will be interesting seeing what Blizzard responds to the open petition and letter. Would you guys like to see Blizzard allow vanilla WoW servers to exist? I'm a fairly novice player of the game (I

began last year), and I'd love to see what it was like back then.