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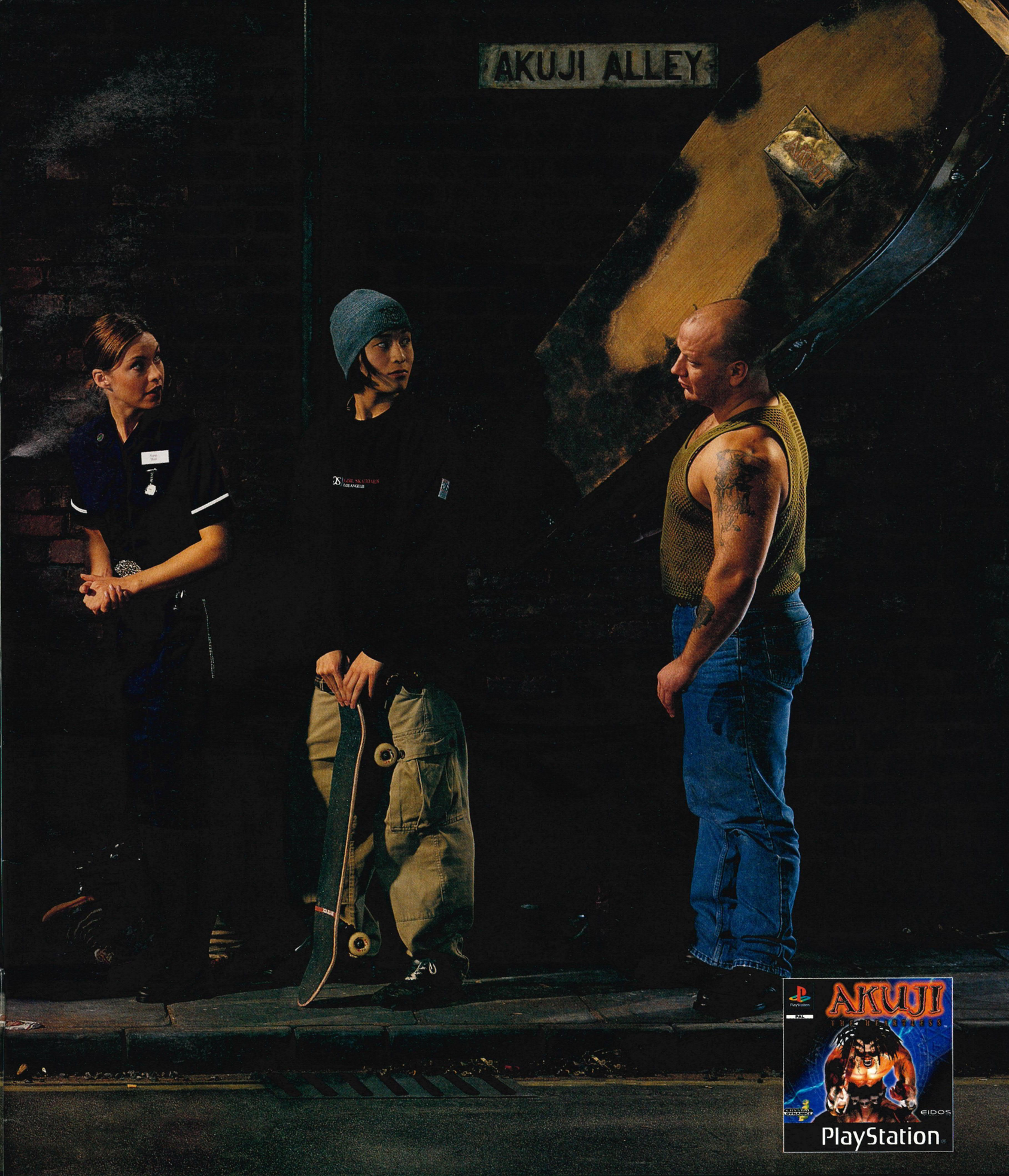




EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PLAYSTATION!

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WHAT ON EARTH'S POSSESSED THEM?
Goat Line
666
"This game is wicked" OFFICIAL PLAYSTATION MAGAZINE
PlayStation

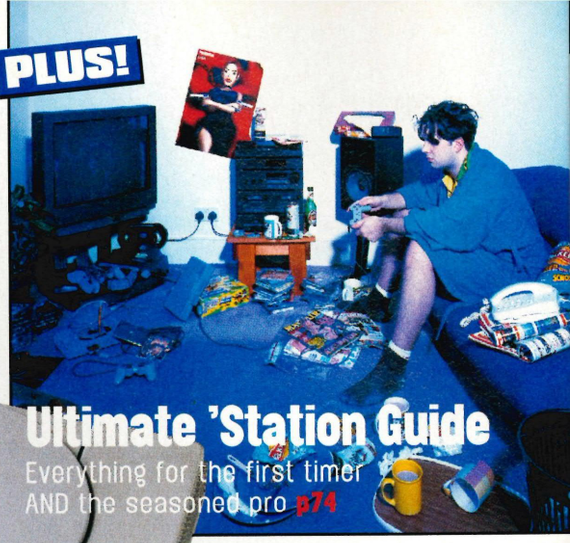


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PlayStation plus Loading



Ultimate 'Station Guide
Everything for the first timer AND the seasoned pro p74

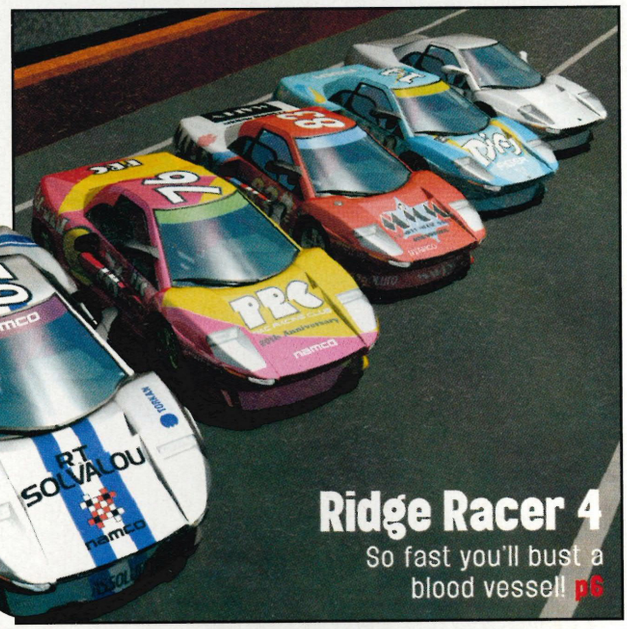
The Works

Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver
Bloody, gory and better than Tomb Raider? We've got a first look p46





plus Q&A p65
Your PlayStation problems solved...

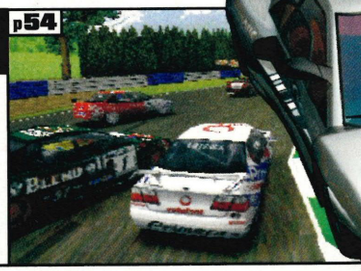


Ridge Racer 4
So fast you'll bust a blood vessel! p6

Instant Expert

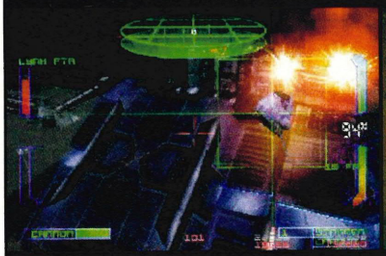
Tips you have to know

TOCA 2 p54 The second part of our course-by-course guide to this tasty racer. Start your engines, let's go!



Blab p18 Games you've got to know about!

G-Police: Weapons of Justice **Gex: Deep Cover Gecko** Warzone 2100 **KKND2** Glover **Bloodlines** Rollcage **Prince Naseem Boxing** Poy Poy 2 **and more!**



p18 **G-Police 2: The cops get tooled up**



p20 **Gex: Deep Cover Gecko: He's back**



p22 **Warzone 2100: Tanks a lot**



p24 **Rollcage: Barmy wheel bonkers**



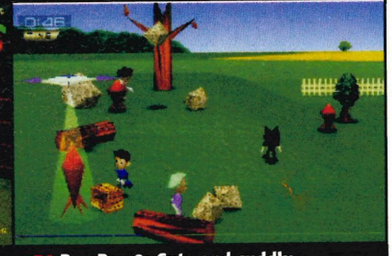
p26 **Glover: Handy new platformer**



p30 **KKND 2: Rucking mutants at war**



p33 **Prince Naseem Boxing: In the ring**



p34 **Poy Poy 2: Cute and cuddly**

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Tel: 0171 972 6700; Fax: 0171 972 6710; email: andrew.holmes@ecm.emap.com. To order **back issues** call 01858 435350.

The Mix



■ Abe's Oddysee: the green guy's going on the cheap. Well cool



■ Time Crisis: A platinum shoot 'em up thriller

EVERYONE'S A WINNER!

p40 **£19.99: the year of the platinum game. We tell all...**

Rated ON TEST

Every new release this month!

p80 Akuji the Heartless
Voodoo brother goes rampant

p82 Dodgem Arena
Bumper pucking fun

p83 Shanghai
You may get a bored game

p84 Pool Hustler
Wahey! It's a pub sim

p86 VIVA Football
Top footy action with zillions of teams

p87 NBA Live 99
More basketball dross from the US

p88 Monkey Hero
Cute primate goes on the rampage

p89 Atlantis
Adventure game sans adventure

p90 Tiger Woods 99
You get to be golf's boy wonder

p91 Kensei
Beat 'em up looking a tad tired

p92 Devil Dice
Fiendishly satanic puzzler. Well cool

The Knowledge p101

Every 'Station game rated, plus Totty You Forgot, Batman's Guide to women and more...

UPDATED EVERY MONTH

The Knowledge

Your essential massive guide to every PlayStation game and all the gear...

We promise that every game and every product here has been tested by us. We're independent: we don't take bribes, we don't worry about what our advertisers think, we don't games and we never bullshit you. We always tell you what we really think about a game, so yo trust us when you rent or buy...

HOW WE RATE STUFF

0-50%.....Total toss
51-60%.....Just toss
61-70%.....Only OK
71-80%.....Good, not great
81-90%.....Almost classic
91-100%.....Essential play

best buy — Top PlayStation gear to boost your gameplay.

winner — A great game (91% plus) you've just got to play.

Want it — Only worth renting. Don't buy it!

Platinum — Games available for under twenty quid!

PLUS

p101 Rental charts
p102 DIY hypnotism
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p104 Bad moments in life: part four
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Rental Chart

BLOCKBUSTER

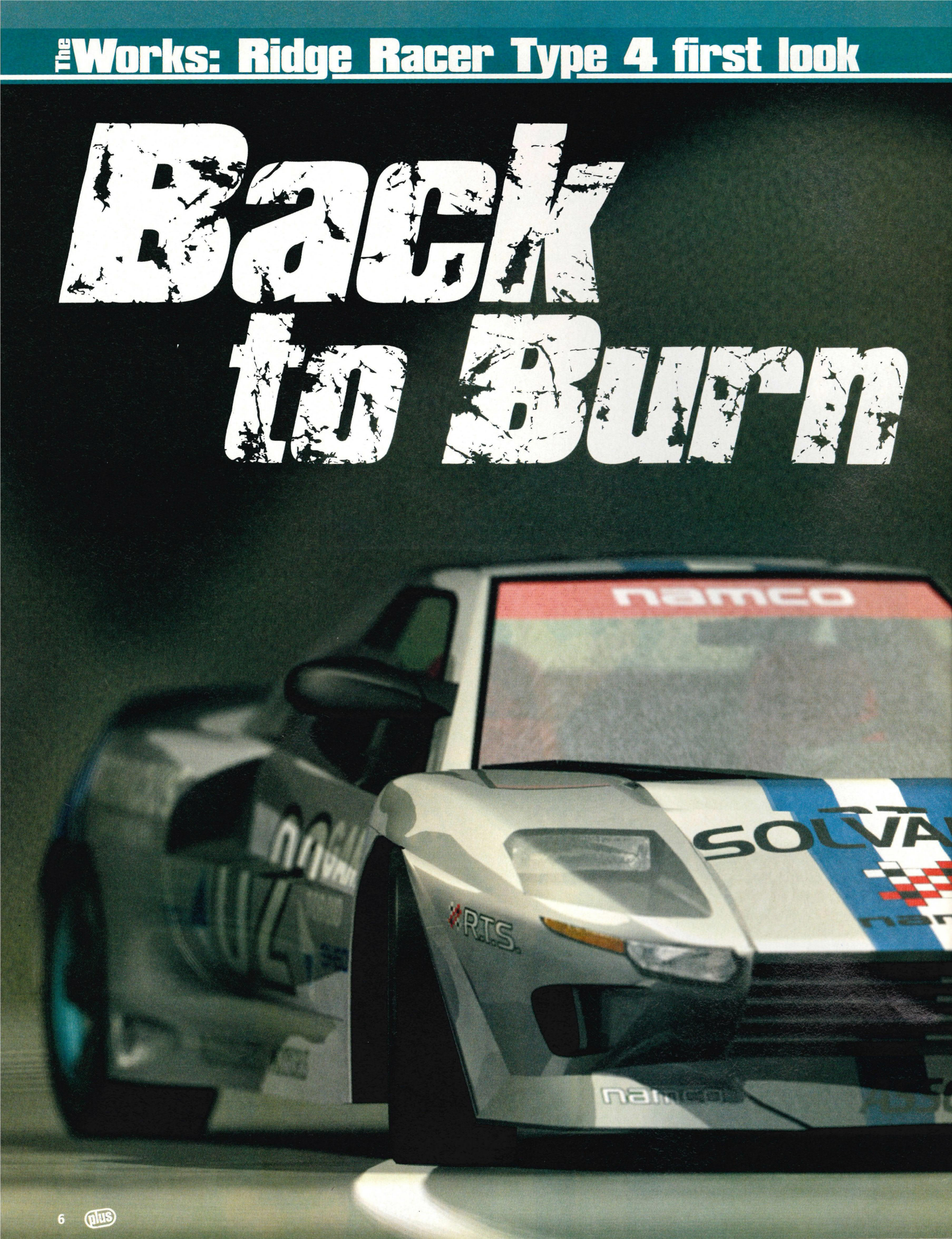
Wanna try before you buy? The hottest rentals this month

Key: (NE) New Entry
(RE) Re-Entry
(4) Position Last Month
(-) Same Position

1. (8) FIFA 99 (EA) Footy floats your boat, apparently
2. (NE) Crash Bandicoot 3 (Sony) Brilliant platformer goes top ten
3. (NE) Brian Lara Cricket (Codemasters) Lose the Ashes in your front room
4. (RE) Grand Theft Auto (Platinum) It's a steal. Ha, ha, ha
5. (NE) Tomb Raider III (Eidos) Threes up for Lara, eh lads?
6. (NE) TOCA 2 (Codemasters) A rally, rally good game, yah?
7. (NE) Abe's Exoddus (GT Interactive) Abe's second coming. Nice



Back to Burn



■**OUT** MAY ■**BY** SONY ■**COSTS** TBC ■**PLAYERS** 1-2 ■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, JOGCON
■**WE LOOK AT** SPEED, HANDLING, GRAPHICS, TRACKS, THE R4 BABE, SPEED (AGAIN), POCKETSTATION COMPATIBILITY



Just why did you buy your PlayStation? Did grey go with your decor? Did you think, 'what this room needs is more wires'? Think again. THIS is why you bought that 'Station...

A new Ridge Racer game qualifies as a dyed-in-the-wool, bona fide EVENT in our world. Stick the words 'ridge' and 'racer' on the box and it's a guaranteed seal of dashing good looks, high speed thrills and tyre-munching action. Here it is, a game that REALLY threatens to give Gran Turismo a run for its money... Ridge Racer 4. »

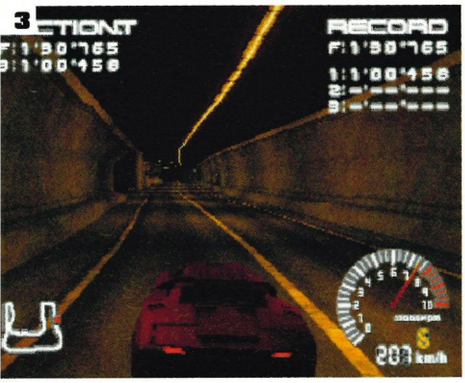
The Works: Ridge Racer Type 4 first look

Nice to have you back

S'been a while, eh? Last time we saw you was, oh, two years back now. Been a lot happening in that time. The old place has changed some, you know? How? Well, um, don't know how to say this, but there's this new fella called Gran Turismo. Bit tasty so I hear. Kinda... er... taken your place, you know?







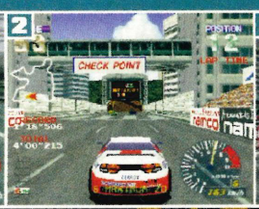


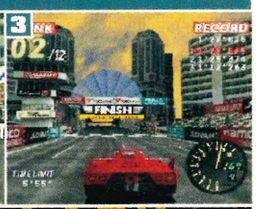
1 Ridge is back and he ain't too happy 'bout this Gran Turismo upstart... **2** But time away's been spent wisely... **3** He's looking polished. VERY fast and smooth... **4** Better get the hell outta Dodge...

Un, deux, trois, quatre...

Back in the days BGT (that's Before Gran Turismo) the Ridge Racer games ruled the racing roost. The third one, called Rage Racer, set new standards in race technology and was rarely seen unaccompanied by the words, 'the best racing game on the PlayStation'. So you can understand just how excited we get when a new Ridge Racer comes along to challenge the young pretender...







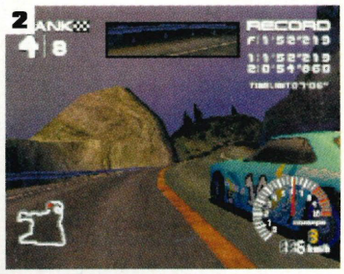


1 Ridge Racer. We worshipped its smooth lines and gazed in awe at its speed... **2** Ridge Racer Revolution. We worshipped its smooth lines and so on... **3** Rage Racer. We... You get the picture **4** Ridge Racer 4. You know we're going to worship its smooth lines and gaze in awe at its speed...

How's she handle?

It's early days yet and you'll have to wait till we give this the kind of full test normally reserved for a new line of cosmetics. From what we've seen, R4 handles like a babe. Powerslides – remember them? You will if you've played the other three. If not, just imagine the angry squeal of tyres as you wrestle your mota 'round 90 degree corners...











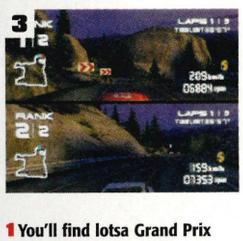
1 How does she handle? Well early results from the boroughs indicate... **2** She handles like a dream, mate **3** Naturally, different cars drive in different ways **4** And RR veterans'll find the other drivers are more hostile this time around **5** Which has got to be a good thing

Whassappenin?

There's a whole heap of stuff in here just waiting to bear your teethmarks. Enter the Grand Prix mode and you get to pick one of three teams for some worldwide motoring. Then there's the time trials, and of course the two-player mode. Yup, this definitely passes our 'loads to do' test.







1 You'll find lotsa Grand Prix stuff to be a-doing... **2** As well as Time Trial kinda shit in there... **3** And, hey, look that two-player mode is brand spanking new! Time to get excited we thinks...

PocketStation

It's one massive shame we haven't got lots of PocketStations hanging around the office, because there's an option on here to use one. How this is actually going to work, we don't know yet. However, our resident guesser, who guesses for an hourly rate and is available for weddings, birthdays and other functions, reckons you'll be able to store and swap Ridge Racer cars on your little PocketStation gizmo. Very cool, eh?



■ Look, there it is. Teasing us...

'Eye-punishing speeds!'

Faster than... something fast

The copy that landed in our office to the sensual sound of stretching trouser fabric was fast. How fast? Try our PlayStation 'Fast Things Equation' to find out...

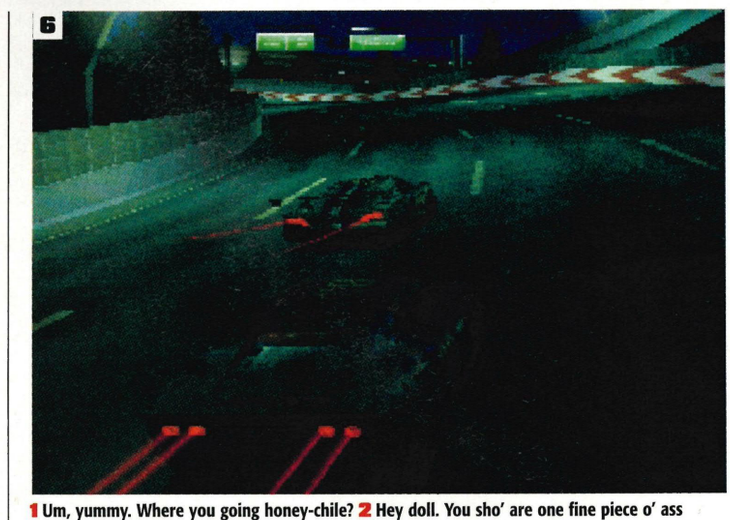


■ Take one Linford Christie ■ Add a dash of jet fighter ■ Some Darren Day ■ A large sporty car thing all adds up ■ Ridge Racer Type 4

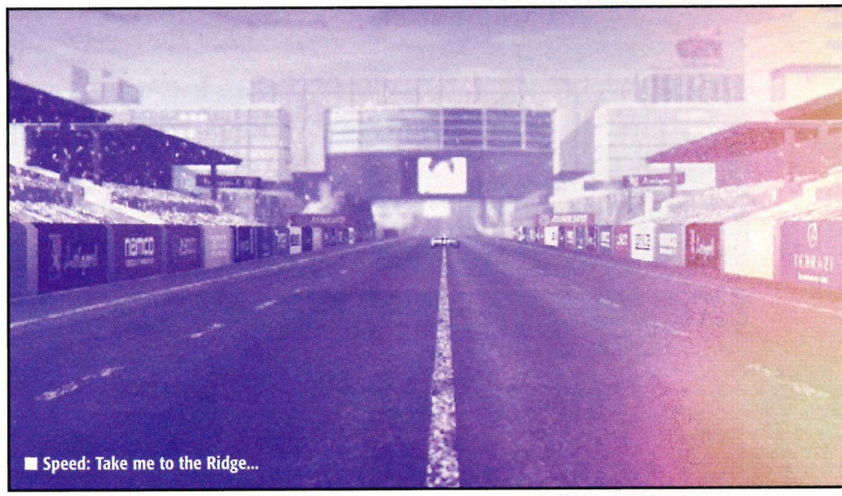
Lookin' good there, RR

'John, I'm having an affair, your cat's been run over in the street, and the doctor rang to say you'll need an operation on your cock.' Bad things to hear, eh? But what if we were to tell you that Ridge Racer 4's graphics are shit? How much worse would that be? They're not of course. But you're still gonna need that operation...





1 Um, yummy. Where you going honey-chile? 2 Hey doll. You sho' are one fine piece o' ass 3 And things don't get all shitty when you're speeding along, neither 4 The way the tail-lights leave traces has us busting trouser seams 5 And you won't ever be seeing none of that nasty scenery-building-itself stuff either 6 The replay graphics give it good-style too



■ Speed: Take me to the Ridge...

Speed garage

To begin with, R4's garage is going to be looking a little on the bare side. It's up to you to spare its blushes by filling it with cars. Fahsands of 'em. Well, 380 actually. That's right, there are – allegedly – 380 cars in here somewhere. And wait till you see what you can do to their bodies...



1 Take a look in the garage. Hmm, more than just an old ironing board and tool kit in there 2 Now let's have a looksee and check what we can do with these things 3 And a tinker with the paint job seems to be in order, too 4 Remember kids. Win more races, win more cars. It's that simple

»

The Works: Ridge Racer Type 4 first look

C'mere and play...

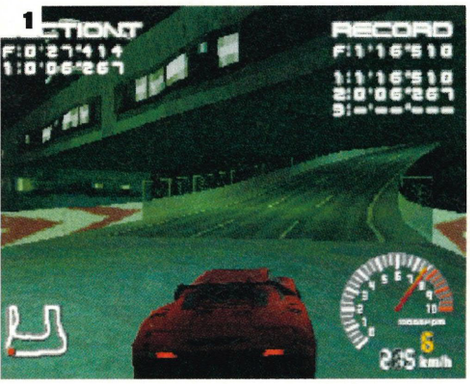
Even when Rage Racer (bless it) was rocking our world, some stone-hearted cynics were lip-curlingly cynical about it. There's no two-player mode, they muttered darkly among themselves. Well, thanks to the lads in white coats at Ridge Racer HQ, that kind of revolutionary scum'll be keeping quiet this time around. Say hello to two-player heaven...

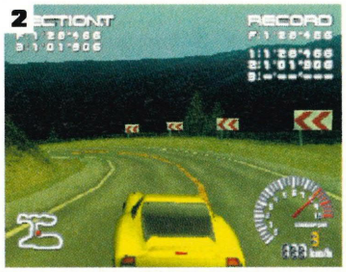


1 From what we've seen so far, R4's two-player game looks smart... 2 It still plays fast and smooth.... 3 And it looks darn purty too

Just the tracks, ma'am

The Ridge Racer boffins always came top at track-making school and that's a fact. Gran Turismo's weak link was its tracks, but here's where Ridge Racer 4 cleans up. If you're already a fan of the games, you'll know the fascination with slopes they have and there's mucho slope action on here. As well as lotsa twists and turns...



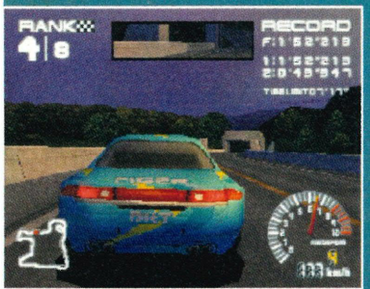




1 More hills than Christmas with Benny, Harry and Lauryn... 2 They'll be naming psychiatric wings after corners like this... 3 And, lest we forget, the gorgeous graphics in here allow for some amazing stuff going on in the background. Check out the chopper...

So, yes, it's fast

It's a bad sign when you have to start comparing games. But the only way we're going to convince you Ridge Racer Type 4 has more speed than Sandra Bullock, Keanu Reeves and the dodgy bloke with small packets of powder in The Red Lion is to tell you it's going to use Gran Turismo as its whipping boy. So it's fast.



■ We don't ever pick up a joypad for less than eye-punishing speeds these days



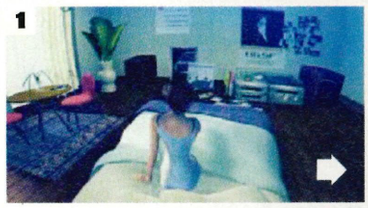
■ Sad you just can't tell from these screenshots really how retina-hurting this is

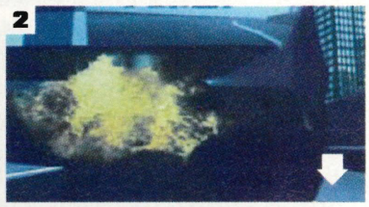
plus We'd like to say...

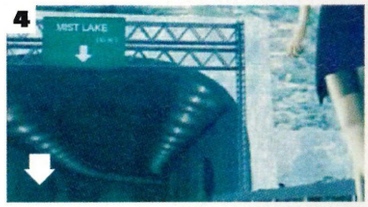
OK, you might not have played Gran Turismo. But you've at least heard of it, right? And trust us, as far as racing games go, that's the baby to beat. Whether Ridge Racer Type 4'll do it remains to be seen. But from what we've played, this should be the scrap to end all scraps...

Them graphics again

Did we mention the fact that this is shaping up to look mighty damn fine? We did? Oh, then you'll be wanting to skip this bit, then. The bit where we tell you that Ridge Racer's legendary opening scenes are looking every bit as cooking as usual...







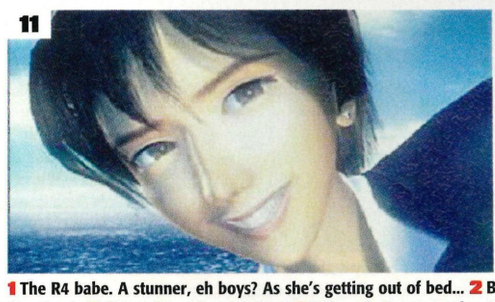
















1 The R4 babe. A stunner, eh boys? As she's getting out of bed... 2 Boy racers are burning rubber in the streets 3 'Think I'll go for a walk...' 4 'Where better to go than through this tunnel...' 5 The annual boy racers' meet is in full swing 6 'That hurt...' 7 'I've broken my heel' 8 Here comes a boy racer. Can he help? 9 He'll be good for a ride at least... 10 'Get your coat, love...' 11 'And hop in...'

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Got something you're desperate to share with the world of PlayStation? Get writing... (If your question is just about games or tips, use our coupon on page 70, we'll pay the postage and print an answer in PlayStation plus.)


■ Iron Lady: A Lincolnshire favourite

OPINIONS! WE GOT 'EM

Hi! I'm writing in about the up-and-coming FF VIII. I think this'll be absolute shag-in-pants in the ARSE! In short, SHITE! **Yeah, yeah. We think we know what you mean** WHO would want to sit and play with something not real and only one inch long? OK, I am talking pure CRAP about the characters' height but so what, you get my point, yeah? **Look really hard. You don't have a point, do you? So how can we get it?**

Steve Simmons, e-mail chappie

GALLERY WALLS

I've noticed your pictures of Lara Croft are always new and Tomb Raider websites don't have them in their gallery. Where do you get them? **From Lara R Us – we get a trade discount** Anywayz, keep up the good work!

Allan Jay

SCUM SCUM

Hi, I was wondering if you could help me out. I was recently browsing through the April 98 issue of PlayStation plus and noticed this really cool game. It was called Scum and it said it would be out soon. I have been waiting since then and still no Scum. Is it really coming out? **If you were a regular reader instead of a fly-by-night, casual, when-it-suits-you sort of person you'd know that Scum was our hilarious April Fool's joke.**

Hannah Mitchell

PS I know you guys are busy but could you write to let me know? **That'd save you having to buy the mag, wouldn't it? How convenient**

THE CHEQUE'S IN THE POST

That Ross Birch had the right idea about Emma, the model from earlier in the year. She's the sexiest you've had. I'm sending a £50 note in the post to pay for a photo of her in the mag. **Funny. It hasn't arrived** It should be on its way. And who should play Lara? Helen Baxendale. Easy.

Bob

PS Oh, and Leicester? Yeah, they're OK. Europe this season lads? **What, all of us together? On holiday, perhaps**


■ Hel's belle: The gorgeous Miss B

RICE AS NICE

We want more rice. They should also be allowed to vote in a rice republic. The rice republic should be in LINCOLN like me. Me and my mate Matt are both half-man half-egg fried rice although he has a little bit of lemon rice in him.

The rice-loving Robert Adie

RICE BLOKE AGAIN (YAWN)

You have a very good magazine BUT the thing on how to hold a gun was really CRAP. **It was heaps better than your piss-poor rice gags** Could someone make a game involving egg fried rice? It could have subplots with lemon rice or even basmati rice. **See what we mean... Jeez, it's not just the landscape that's dull in the Fens, eh?**

Robert Adie

PS Some pics of Teri Hatcher or Margaret Thatcher would be good.

SIGH...

Please don't put any more pictures of vibrating men in your mag! I wouldn't mind vibrating women as much! See Ya!

Grim Reiper

SIGH...

I completed Final Fantasy VII without the Knights of the Round materia! **You the man**

Michael Parker

class LARA: FACT ALRIGHT

You like your letters short – well I'll try and make this concise and succinct but there's a lot to take in. First, you try to find Lara Croft in your last issue – the Beaver Patrol item – by flicking through a phone book looking for her father, a Mr Croft. Oh dear, WRONG! It's Lord Croft – first name Henshingly and, obviously, he's going to be ex-directory. You should have tried Who's Who for the address of his London club. Secondly, you seem to have forgotten that he disowned Lara so had you contacted him he wouldn't have acknowledged her existence anyway. Thirdly, you promise to work out where Lara really lives – this I must see. I presume you know that she's no longer living in her ancestral home but has a modern purpose-built property – then again, perhaps you don't.

Dr John Salvatore, Birmingham

Our resident Lara expert writes: You're correct that by looking for a Mr Croft we were, indeed, looking for the wrong person. That was a joke. However, there are inaccuracies in your letter I must address. Firstly, why would Lara be living in her ancestral home when, as you attest, her father has disowned her? No, in fact, Lara was the one doing the disowning. She did not want to marry the Earl of Farringdon as her parents wanted and so decided on a life of archaeology and travel guide writing.

Back from Hull

Bry's back. And so are his mates...

Hi! Bry from Hull here. **Bry, in case you don't know, is a Hull City supporter who thinks Premiership football's crap...** I am replying to those Scouse tossers Michael, Ian and Mark. Firstly, I'd like to ask them how often they go to see Liverpool because to call yourself a supporter of any team, I feel you must go to at least half of the home games plus some away games otherwise you are merely a follower of that team. As for Hull City going to Anfield to face Michael Owen and Paul Ince it really doesn't bother us, because by the time you're reading this we will already have dumped Aston Villa out of the FA Cup **Whoops, you're no Mystic Meg, are you Bry?** and hopefully we'll get drawn to another Premiership club like Liverpool so we can embarrass them as well.

By the way, is there anyone out there who agrees with me that Nationwide football is better than Premiership football? **Listen Bry. All joking apart: how can it be better? If it was better, clubs would struggle to be relegated from the Premiership, Sky would pay millions of pounds to the Nationwide League and everybody would be glued to Grimsby Vs Ipswich.**

Bry, Hull

PS You best be nice to me this time 'cos I'm about to take out a subscription to this mag **Piss off**

Please allow me to address one of your readers. Bry from Hull. You wrongly assume people laugh at Hull City because they happen to be clinging onto the rectal end of Division Three. Don't you realise we laugh at them because they're shite! **Logic alert! Isn't the reason they're at the bottom of Div Three because they're shite?** Now I am well aware Grimsby Town don't have much to shout about, but at least we can stay awake for 90 minutes, and we have recently played at Wembley.

Bry, I would like to say this: STOP TALKING SUCH UTTER BOLLOCKS!! HULL CITY ARE CRAP. I know because I come from Hull! True, you have the most violent fans in Britain but is that something to be proud of?? **No, that'll be something to be ashamed of** Sort your football knowledge out.

The Chunksta



■ Don't recognise this? 'Course you don't

»

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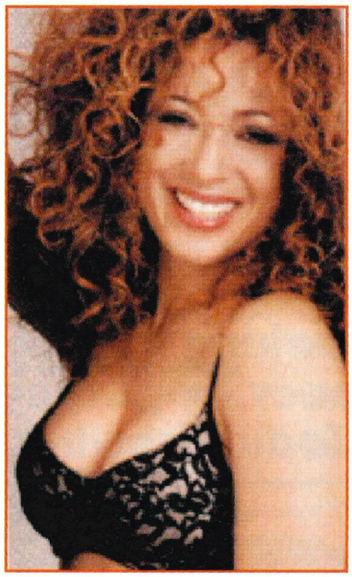
PlayStation

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VERBAL

Wild? He's furious

The art of road rage begins at home



■ Tina Turner once modelled bras y'know

I read a letter in your December 98 issue from Ben Wild in Leeds. He reckons he'll get mad if anyone 'pisses with' GT... What a wanker **Gee, that's a bit strong. Bet you've never even met the fella. Might be a lovely bloke** I bought GT about three months ago and I can honestly say it is a pile of shit. There is no way it can compare to TOCA 2 or Colin McRae Rally, the two best racing games on the PlayStation. The gameplay is bollocks and graphics are sub-standard **Either you're not being serious or you're crap at Gran Turismo. We favour the crap theory** Ben Wild is obviously a complete tosser who lives in a cupboard away from the real world **But at least he can play Gran Turismo** Anyway, moving on to the Tomb Raider film debate, Alex Kingston is definitely the only totty in contention for the role **Is she better at GT than you, too?**

RS, Birmingham

LEVEL BEST

Can you help us to complete the first level in Tomb Raider III as we're stuck and any help will be kindly accepted. **Sure, all you need to do is guide Lara to the end of the level, killing things, pulling levers and jumping around a lot** If you can help us on our quest then we'll be loyal to the best PlayStation mag.

Lisa Shepherd

LORD SAVE US

I've been turned into a turkey by the Pope because I farted on a church bench and he wants to stuff me with a load of vegetables and eat me for Christmas dinner, it's not fair. I'm going to give Saddam Hussein a ring and... **Got to stop you there. This is an attempt at cutting edge, satirical humour, right? Well don't bother next time, eh? Twat**

Gobbal Degook, Newcastle

Gun perv

Beware: he's packing

I have just bought International Track and Field and was wondering if you could print a picture of Denise Lewis, maybe the one where she is wearing body paint. Cheers.

Mark, High Wycombe

PS Did you notice the error in Tomb Raider III. If you look at the shotgun on the inventory screen it has a full-length foregrip suggesting it is a semi-automatic shotgun. But when you use it in the game, Lara has to pump it after each shot. Oops. **Are you a member of a gun club, Mark? Do you get erections during Arnold Schwarzenegger films? Seek help**

SCAREDY DOG

My mate's dog is scared of Lara, but my cat loves her. He sits beside me and purrs everytime I kill a dog. Well, he used to, but now he's dead, but hey! To finish the letter, is it just me or are you guys just the funniest? **No, it's not just you. We all think we're the funniest too**

Spandex Bay

YANK'S ALOT

All I have to say to Dan Grubb **Geezer who likes Americans – weird** is, if you like Americans so much go and live there. Then you can sample their 'nice food' and 'great movies' and learn their history of turning up too late for World War II and claiming all the credit. You Yankee-loving ponce, you.

S Nagorski, Wolverhampton

PS Leicester City are is **(sic)** cack. You all know Wolves are the greatest. **Do we? Well we do now...**

LUCKY HEATHER

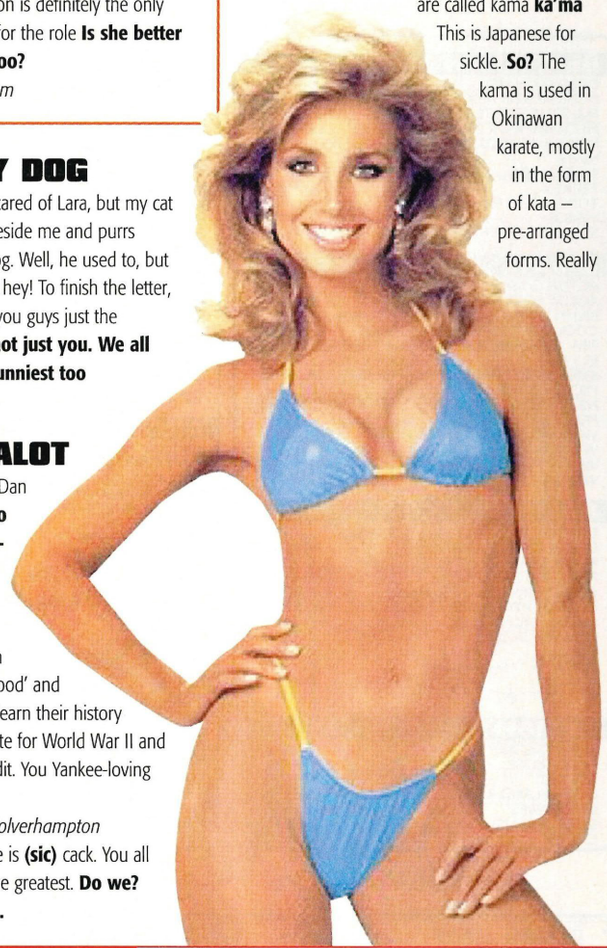
In the last few mags you've been doing totty you forgot in The Knowledge section. The last one was Daisy Duke from the Dukes of Hazzard, and I think the next one should be Heather Thomas who was in the Fall Guy. **Cripes! You're right. Truly she is totty we forgot!** She's a mega babe I used to drool over while growing up but what is she doing now? **Thanks for reminding us, she'll go into the coffers for future forgotten totty. In the meantime, here's a reminder...**

Mark Peter, Bucks

SCARY MORON ALERT

Re: Page 34 'Back To School' in the last issue. **An advert, you cretin** As you obviously can't be arsed to do your homework I would just like to enlighten you as to what the 'Axe-type thing' actually is. **WE don't really care. It was an advert** The Axe-type thing, often wielded in pairs, are called kama **ka'ma** This is Japanese for sickle. **So?** The kama is used in Okinawan karate, mostly in the form of kata – pre-arranged forms. Really a simple farming implement, it was used as a weapon to combat the oppressing Japanese military. **Did you copy that from a book?** So now you know. PCs kick the PlayStation's butt! Check out Half-Life, must be the best game ever and you can internet multiplayer. Still, I like your mag because it has babes and lively adult content. PC mags are anorak, boring and they don't have tits! Cue the snidey remark re: tits, yeah, yeah. **Tits like you, you mean** Cheers then.

The Janitor?



O.A.P.'s corner

They're getting on a bit now



■ Geri's new job was working out fine

In your December 98 mag you gave Actua Golf 3 90%. We think this is a grave injustice as we have rented this game and thought it was not at all realistic. **You're both women and you were allowed to play it, so it can't be that realistic...** We are aged 42 and 41 and play a lot of golf so we should know! In your review you said, 'Dual Shock controls beat button controls hands down,' this is not true as we and our friends have played the game and think it is harder to master the Dual Shock controls. **True, harder to master. But, like the golf itself, worth mastering. Hey, you should know...** We have decided to review the game ourselves and decided to be generous and give it 22%.

Eve & Jessica Jones Ashford, Middlesex

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WARNING : LIVE WIRE! AHEAD



Includes pumping soundtrack, mixed by the legendary international 'house' DJ, Allister Whitehead of Cream and Ministry of Sound fame.

MARCH '99

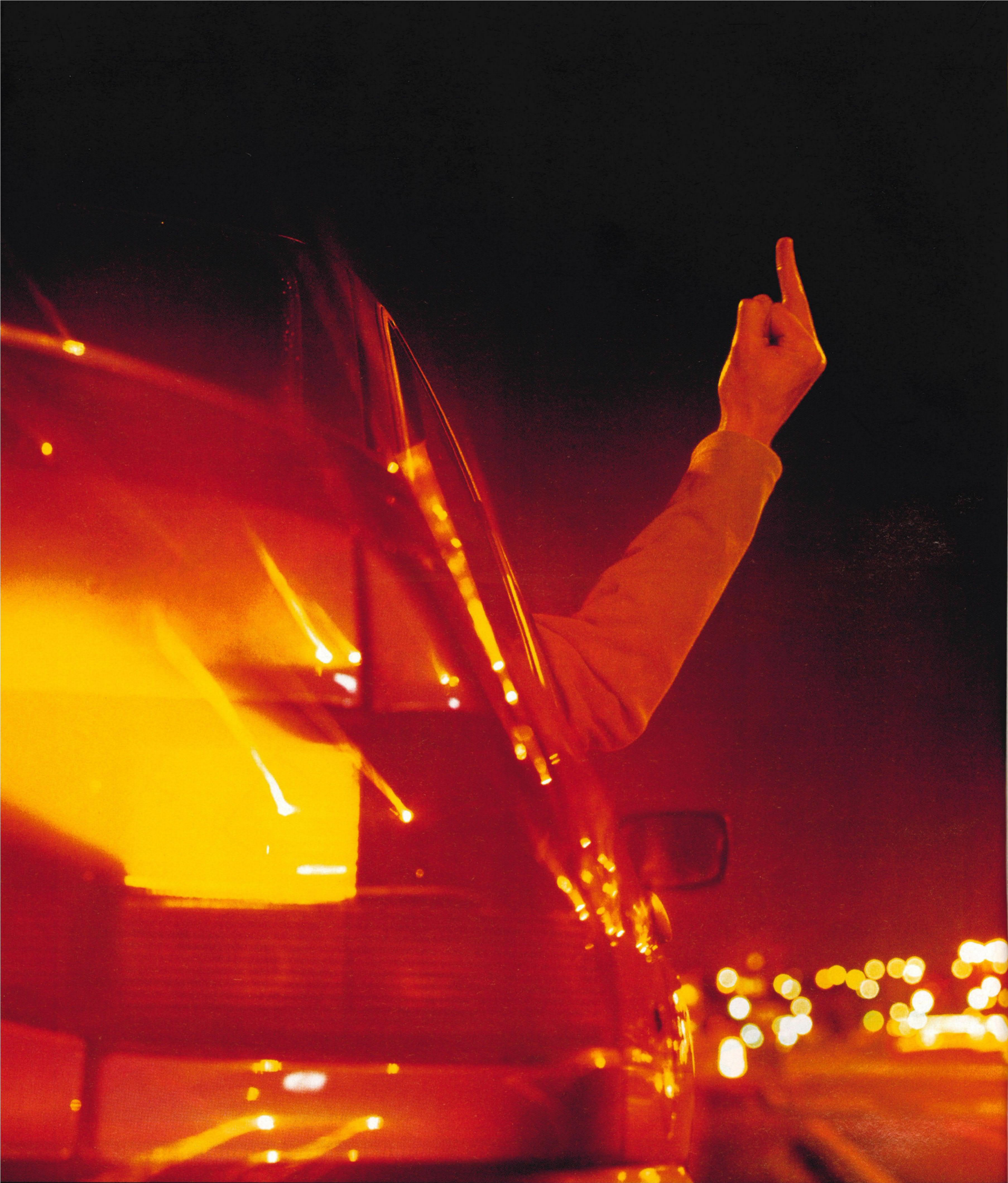
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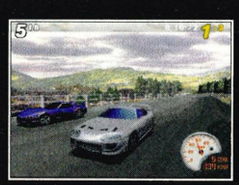


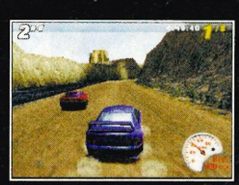
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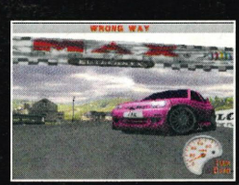
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MAX POWER RACING

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Blab

■ p20 Gex: Deep Cover Gecko
■ p22 WarZone 2100
■ p24 Rollcage
■ p26 Monster Seed

'So you're looking for the best game in town? The one with the sexiest hostesses, the sharpest dealers and the strongest liquor? Then you've come to the right place amigo...'



'An arsenal that'd make Arnie weep...'

■ p26 Glover
■ p27 FA Manager
■ p28 Blood Lines
■ p30 KKND 2
■ p32 Virus
■ p33 Prince Naseem Boxing
■ p34 Poy Poy 2
■ p35 Retro Force

■ **OUT** MAY ■ **BY** PSYGNOSIS ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

G-Police: Weapons of Justice

update

'Step away from the vehicle, sir. Cranial fluids can stain the bodywork.'

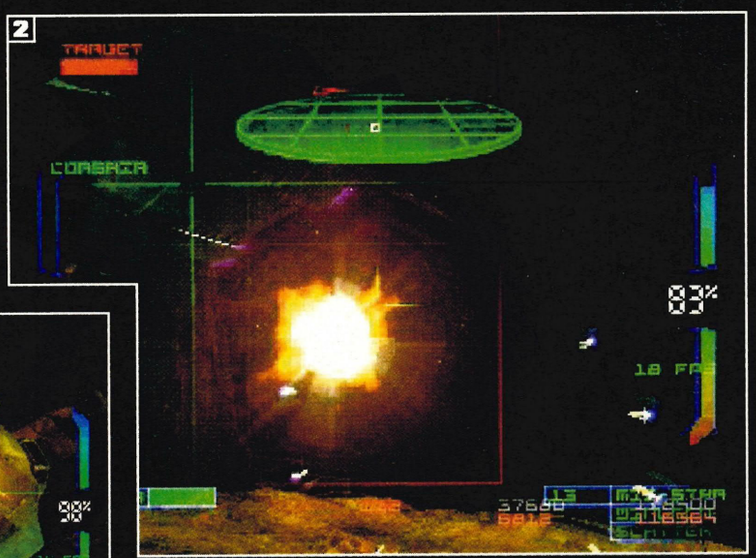
Cops! Why not bypass all those wily magistrates and oily sleazebag lawyers? It's simple. Just use high-end military hardware to vapourise anyone who even looks like they might be thinking about committing a crime. Simple. Yup, the good ol' G-Police, the coppers who bring a new meaning to the phrase 'Zero Tolerance' are back in town. And they've got more guns than ever before. Gulp.

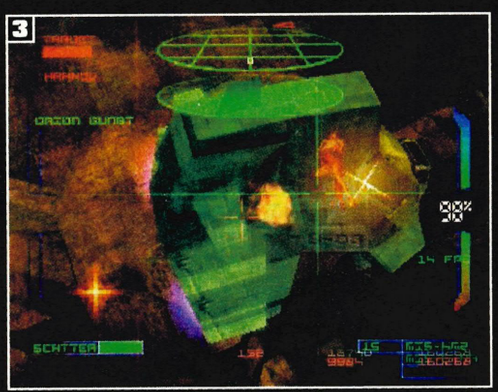
Hit my G-spot!

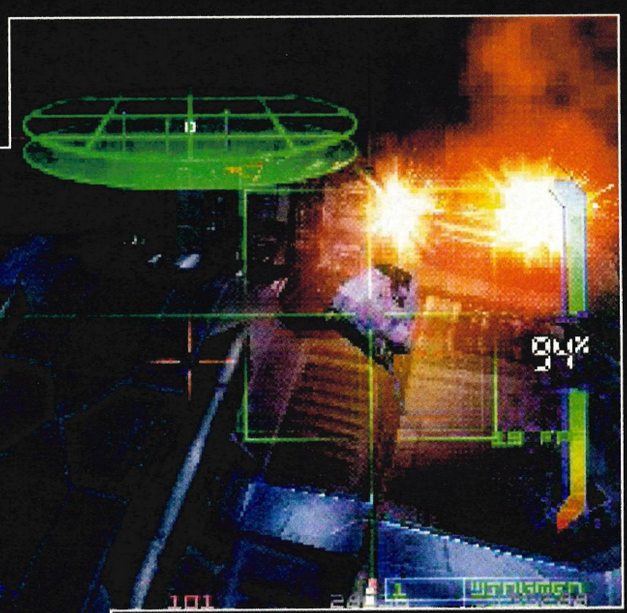
But thing is, the crims in Jupiter's dark future (that's the G-filth's manor, by the way) are tooled up muthas in their own right. But with each of the five G-cop vehicles tooled with an arsenal that'd make Arnie weep with joy, they're on a loser taking on the boys and gals of the G-force. Like, bigtime. Parking violation? You'll get a faceful of the old armour-piercing, sunshine...

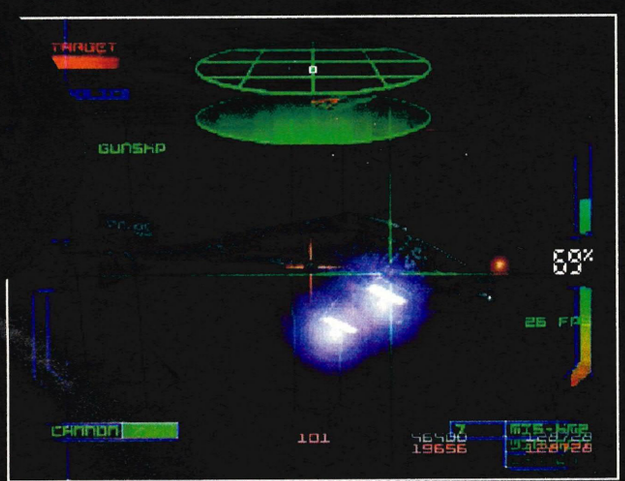
plus Looks like a killer. Plenty of fibrous gameplay topped with a healthy measure of Lip-Smackin' High-Resolution Flashy Graphics. Mucho coolio.







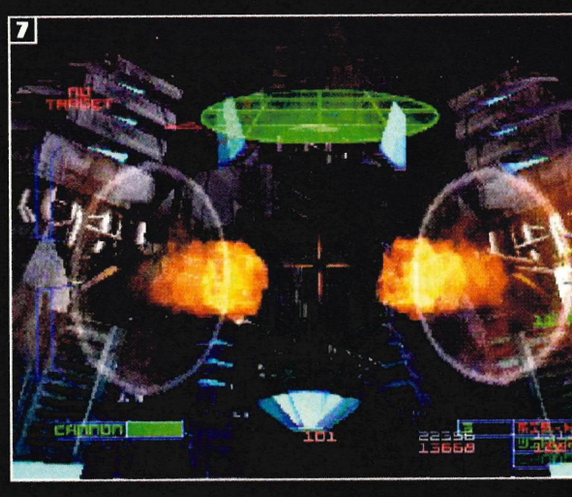




■ G-Police chopper. Comes equipped with velour trim and fearsome weapons of mass destruction as standard. A 0% finance plan is available







1 'Ello, 'ello, 'ello. What have we here? 2 Let's be 'avin' you, sunshine 3 The Flying Squad do their full flying schtick 4 You're nicked, matey! 5 Community policing in action 6 A green thing from the future. Stay frosty 7 A huge spacecraft has committed a crime. Kill! Kill!

■ **OUT** MARCH ■ **BY** EIDOS ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Gex: Deep Cover Gecko

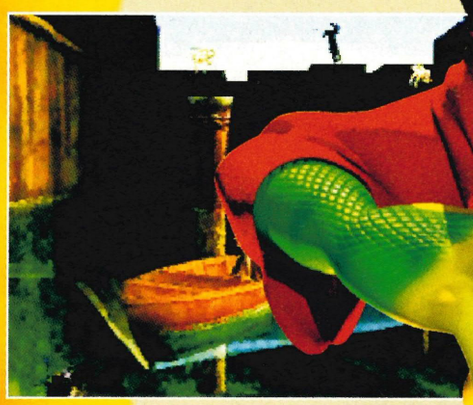
update

The lizard with the world's shittest jokes is back.

Ah, the sequel. The annual sweeping of cobwebs from an old game to make way for a handful of new features. But bugger me with a fish fork if this one isn't different. Platformer. Green lizard. Special agent. Cheeky one-liners. Top 3D graphics. That, in a nutshell, is the all-new and improved Gex.

Lizard king

Full credit to the lads, these new screenshots look mighty tasty. But it ain't just a case of all graphics and no gameplay. No sir. Gex: Deep Cover is stuffed full of enough cool ideas to give Crash a serious run for his money. On top of the usual platform action, this time round you get to go scuba diving, gliding, snowboarding, launch fireballs, control burros, crocodiles, camels and army tanks.

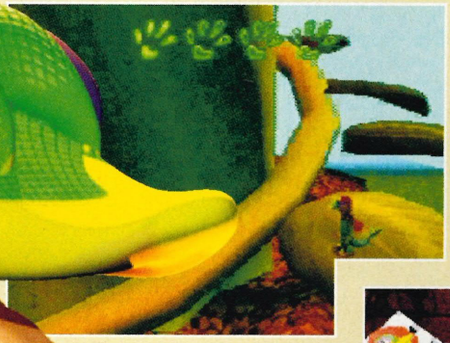


■ Indiana Gex. Whadaya mean it's not funny?

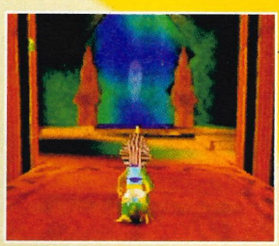
Funny stuff

Gex's trademark one-liners are back for the third game in the series, with over 1,000 wise-cracks and celebrity impressions. There's loadsa film-inspired locations to explore, like the Saving Private Gex military level, or the Cowboy Eastwood's spaghetti western level. Best of all are the all-new video sequences starring Baywatch babe Marliece Andrada as the beautiful Agent Xtra. That oughta get your lizard bulging.

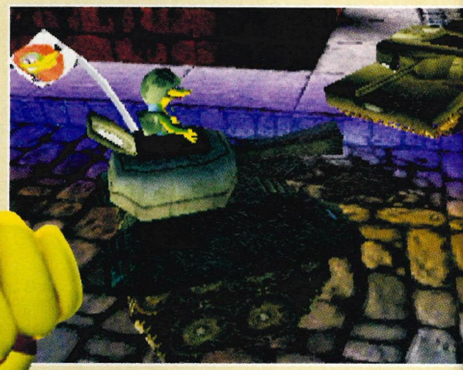
***plus** Mucho platforming action showing lots of early promise. We're tipping this one for success.*



■ Be thankful Leslie Phillips ain't doing the voice this time around



■ More crap jokes? You betcha



■ The Saving Private Gex level is side-splittingly funny. No really



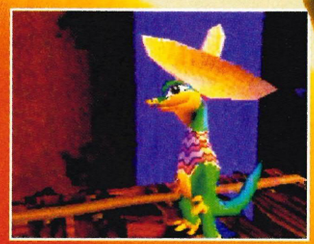
■ Expect new playable characters...



■ And loadsa new bonus levels...

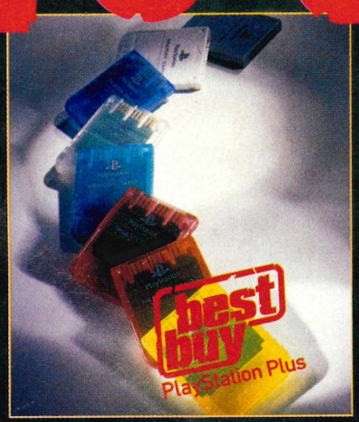


■ And cool new vehicles this time around



■ Gex in a stupid hat. Hilarious

START AS YOU MEAN TO GO ON.



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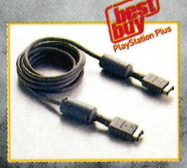
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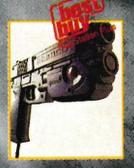
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■ **OUT** MAY ■ **BY** EIDOS ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK

Warzone 2100 update

Droids, nuked landscapes and enough guns to make a coke warlord shit his britches...

Strategy games. They're fun and all, but the side effects are unspeakable. Growing a beard. Liking real ale. Starting to involuntarily quote entire pages from the manuals for Soviet fighter planes. It's grim. But this 'un's looking like it might break the mould.

It's strategy, right, but a) the graphics don't stink of shit and b) there's enough frenzied shoot 'em up action in there to make you sweat blood. We like it already.

Busting ass

Gangs of berserk droids roam the post-apocalyptic landscape. You're the don of one these gangs. Make your droids go berserk at other droids. Train your droids. Get 'em new guns. Command units of them in clever strategic chess-with-guns scraps over massive, lush bits of scenery. In real time. With real killing. We like.

plus A war game. And you don't need a one-atom-wide asshole to play it. Sounds mighty fine. This 'un's looking and playing pretty shit-hot at the mo. And we just love war. One to watch.







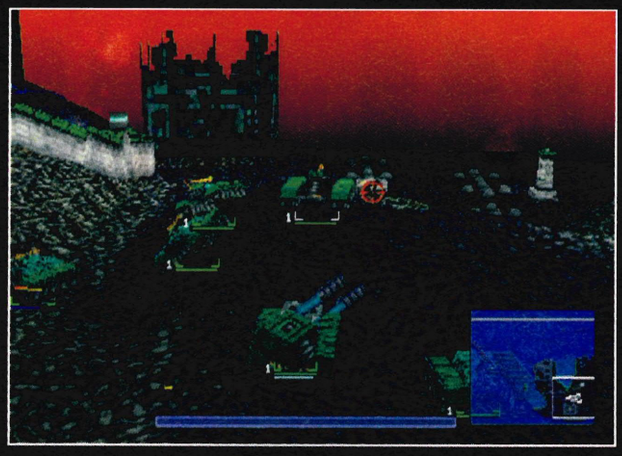






1 Yup. Strategy action that doesn't look like dogshit. Most surreal **2** All non-green vehicles must be eliminated. It's a political thing **3** An enemy camp gets it in the ass **4** But these raiders soon shift their attention to the camp's 'front bottom' **5** Taking on big fortifications is all part of the fun **6** But big fortifications don't last long up against your righteous gun salvos. Yeah. Bend over and take it... bitch **7** Look closely. There's a little footsoldier with a crosshair over him. His long-term career prospects are pretty minimal. Sad, really





■ Work hard, and you'll be rewarded with new flavours of hardware. Tasty



■ Termination with extreme prejudice. And with lots of pretty lights

PlayStation

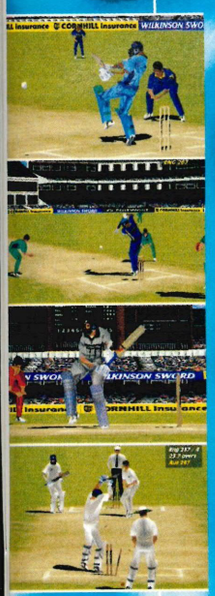
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"So slick, you could be watching it on the telly."

PlayStation Pro
9/10

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"Not just a great cricket game, a great sports game."

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■ **OUT** MARCH ■ **BY** PSYGNOSIS ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK, STEERING WHEEL

Rollcage update

War-torn landscapes. Fast cars. Huge guns. Like Mad Max gone, er, mad...

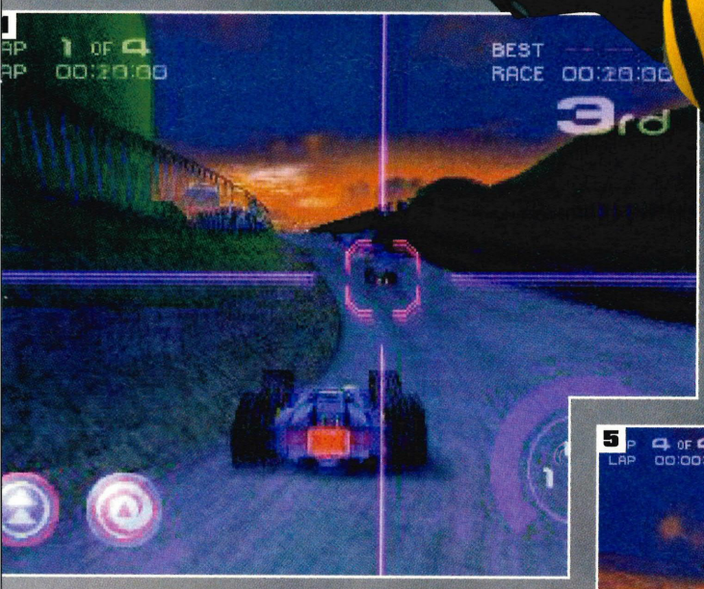
Tooled-up Monster Truck-ettes blast seven shades of shit out of each other with disco-light-coloured weaponry while driving at ludicrous speeds up and down the walls of rather natty-looking sci-fi racetracks. You don't need us to tell you that this is the kind of classic entertainment formula we should be proud to pass on to future generations...

The Wacky Racers want blood!

And as if looping the loop over the ceiling while unleashing hails of fluorescent electric megadeath wasn't cool enough, the kind Rollcage lads have made it so you can shoot buildings near the track and topple 'em onto your fellow racers. Yup, we'll have that cake with extra icing Mr Baker, if you please.

And there's something about people turning into meat paste under the ruins of buildings we've just destroyed that gets us frisky. Don't ask us why...

The more we see of this, the more our blood pressure becomes localised just above our scrotes. Fast and feisty doesn't even cover it. Wait impatiently now. It will come. It will come.



1



2



3



4



5



6

"Ludicrous speeds! Electric death!"





7

8



9

10



11

1 Cars with enormous pain-bringers stuck on them: it's a bloke thing, orright? **2** ... and this'll get your hormones bubbling up goodstyle. How does that feel, sir? **3** Rollercoaster shit **4** With added high explosive **5** You've Been Maimed **6** Split-screen mode: so cool it hurts **7** Thrills... **8** Spills... **9** Kills... **10** And all with a background of tasteful seaside scenery... **11** Two-player mode: spurt!

■**OUT** SPRING ■**BY** SUNSOFT ■**PLAYERS** 1-2
■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Monster Seed

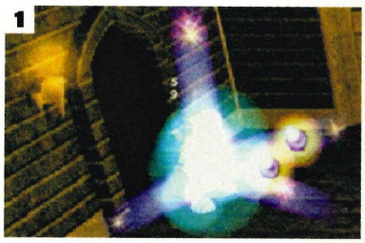
Sounds like a cool horror/porn flick. Is in fact another role-playing game. Bummer.

Remember at the end of school term when you were allowed to bring your toys in? There you'd be with your complete set of Star Wars figures recreating the Battle of Hoth, and over in the corner there'd be a bunch of twatty social lepers with a fantasy role-playing board game. Well, times have changed. Final Fantasy VII has made role-playing cool. So it should come as no surprise there's another one in the works for your 'Station.

Different? Nah

This un's your bog-standard role-playing gubbins, with the usual assortment of spell-casting, puzzle-solving, dragon-summoning and battles. Graphics are looking a bit ropey at the mo, but then these sort of games are notorious for being crapola on the visual side of things. It's gameplay that's most important, in which case Monster Seed could well turn out to be all right by us...

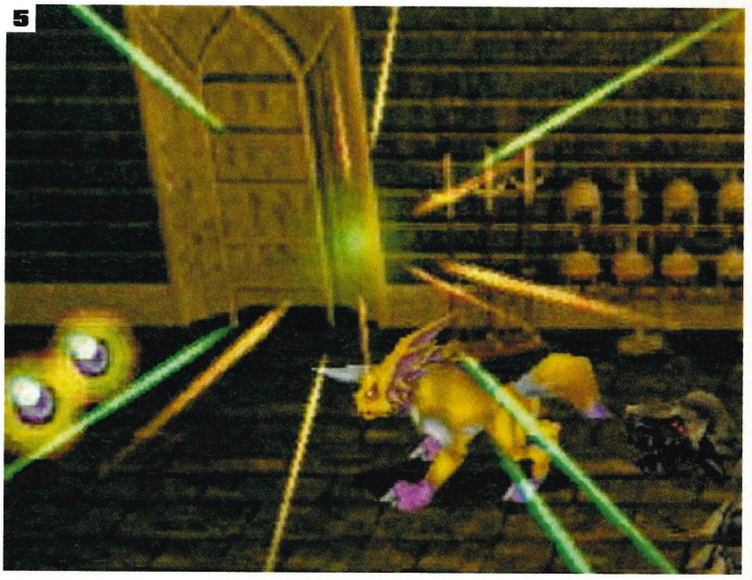
***plus* Not looking radically different from any other goblin-slaying affair. We're not gonna hold our breath.**











1 Flash, bang, wallop and it's game over **2** 'Giant rabbits! Ahhhh! Run for your lives! We're doomed for sure!' **3** There's a fair bit of text to get through **4** Explore the town sections and find new items **5** Battle scenes don't look as good as those in Final Fantasy VII. But it's early days yet

■**OUT** SUMMER ■**BY** HASBRO ■**PLAYERS** 1
■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK

Glover

Alfresco platform weirdness starring a disembodied glove. It's the surreal thing...



■ Laughter-inducing big red nose. Sigh



■ Frankenstein goes electric

In game designers' offices, there's nothing the lads fear more than their daily dose of 'medication'. 'I feel fine, really! What ARE these purple tablets I have to take every morning? They can't be good for me, can they? They make me think I have fibres growing out of my tongue and tribes of lemurs living in my coal cellar! I don't even have a coal cellar! I demand an explanation, damn you!'

The way of weird

...or at least that's the only explanation we can come up with for Glover. You play a disembodied glove. It gets weirder. You have to battle your way through level after level of pumped-up technicolour using a magical ball, with which you can walk on water, go bowling or just go enemy-bopping. It's odd. No, odder than that.

***plus* Mighty odd, but the N64 version was a birrova beezer. We got hopes for this little fella.**



■ 'The sun shines out of our behinds...'



■ Glover reaps the whirlwind. Using a ball

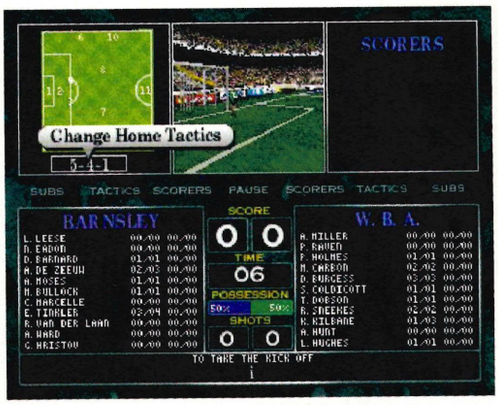


■ A comedy robot takes on a mean sumbitchin' glove. Who will triumph?

■ **OUT** MARCH ■ **BY** EIDOS ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

FA Manager

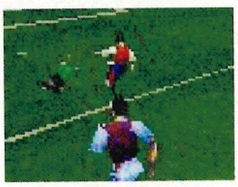
If the most you can manage is an erection, FA Manager probably isn't for you...



■ Chart your team's progress through the league



■ Villa are doing well at the mo

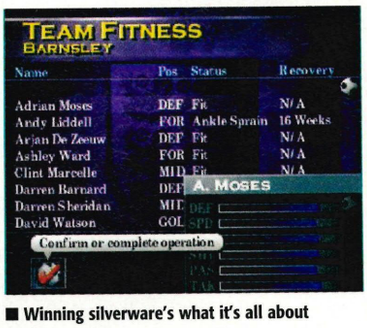


■ Makes a change, doesn't it?

So Hoddle's in the shit unless England can claw back some points against Poland in March, Wenger's not having a good time of it with Arsenal's recent loss of form and Dalglish is still cashing his Giro. But them's the stresses and strains of top football management. As you can find out for yourself with FA Manager.

Head honcho

As the guv'nor in charge of the squad, you've gotta deal with all the day-to-day hassles of managing a real life club. Sticking to a tight budget to keep the board of directors happy, signing star players to pull the punters in, winning silverware, studying players' form to select the best team for each fixture and choosing the right game plan are just a handful of the tasks the manager undertakes.

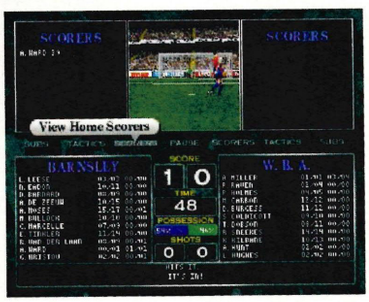


■ Winning silverware's what it's all about

Sweet FA

This un's got the lot. 'Cos it's the only footy management game endorsed by the Football Association, the programmer spods have been given details of players' contracts, wages, bonus structures and general 'behind the scenes' dealings to help create the most realistic footy management game around. Sounds all right to us.

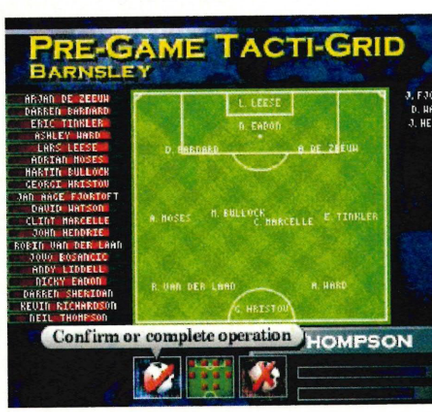
***plus** It's gonna be a very close run thing between this and Premier Manager 98. But then, Brian,0 I've always said it was a marathon not a sprit at the end of the season. We'll keep you posted...*



■ Home win. Nice one



■ Position your players anywhere you want



■ Choose the right strategy for your team



■ Glover vs not-very-sinister snowman



■ Puzzled? You will be



■ Huge holes in the ground come as standard

■ **OUT** SPRING ■ **BY** SONY ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Bloodlines

Rough stuff tig for grown-ups who like violence...

Chase me, chase me – oh you are rough. Uh-oh camp overload. But in a single sentence Bloodlines has been explained: you're either chasing or being chased. But hey, ain't that life in a nutshell?

21st century tig

First onto the glowy squares has the power, that's the *power* to jump on more glowy squares, until you've jumped on enough to win. Simple.

But wait, is that someone else trying to catch you, duff you up, and take the power, so now you got to chase them? We think it is. Didn't we play that in the playground? Except we called it 'tig', and it was as low-tech as was humanly possible to achieve.

Runaround... now

The areas you run around in are a type of open-plan gothic assault course, with nice little archways and plinths all littered with über power-ups and bits you step on to get propelled high into the sky. This is some crazy shit all right.

The characters have special moves to unleash so expect plenty of fisticuffs, plus there's a balance of power that never settles till the last moment. The way this is shaping up it should be nailbiting stuff.

Not likely to be the king of games, but what we've seen has it winning ways – which might make the finished article a dark horse.



■ Gents this way please, ladies over there



■ Bright light, bright light



■ 'Tig' was never this much fun


■ If you get this, then feel free to gloat. Hard



■ It takes a special kind of curry to do this



■ Lots of big jumping platforms



■ If you get on the platform you have the power. Get on three then you the man


■ Do you like the pretty lights?



■ Now that's a lovely open fire



■ If it glows run towards it: the worst that can happen is you'll die



■ That man is movin' and groovin', and Ready Brek glow's on



■ Watch that trap door, or you're gonna...duh too late

'Nail-biting stuff... plenty of fisticuffs...'

■ **OUT** SPRING ■ **BY** CRYO ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Dreams

Dreams – a meaningless load of headstuff, or a weird French game, you decide

They can be bad. Or wet. They can come true. You can have them during the day. And Freddy Krueger lives in them. What are they? Why, they're dreams is what they are and now someone's had the bright idea of making a game all about them. Whatever you do, don't fall asleep...

Demons and stuff

So there you, standing on a floating grass patch, what have you got? Demons for mates that's what. And like all bona fide game heroes you've got to face up and do a load of confronting – it's like, good for the soul or something. Cut to cute bloke dressed in a tin foil suit, yep this geezer'll be there to help out with a bit of spectral guiding. Strange? Yup, we think so...

plus Seems a bit cackola at the mo, or is just scoring high on the weirdomeoter?









1 Hello funny man **2** Demon die **3** Fire-eating gone wrong **4** Floating platforms, whatever next

Dinner party chit-chat

Stuck for that crucial ice-breaker?

Imagine the scene. Posh dinner party. Lounge suits all round. As you nibble at the hors d'oeuvres, the host leans over to you. Her voice is husky as she coos, 'What are your top tips for PlayStation this year?' Lost for words? Don't be...

You say:

1. Gran Turismo 2
'Actually, Clarissa, I'm betting on Gran Turismo 2: with more cars like Ferraris and Lamborghinis in the mix, it's looking positively divine darling. Would you pass the port?'

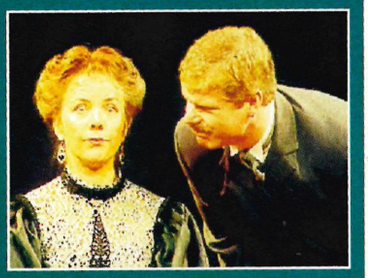
2. Driver
'Racy little number, this one. You play a getaway driver, planning escape routes and running from the law. It's looking naughty, but rather good fun – a bit like Grand Theft Auto with fabulous graphics. This Stilton is delicious.'

3. Time Crisis 2
'It's not out for a while yet, but it's looking like a healthy slab of raw, two-player killing. A top choice in the arcade, too.'

4. Metal Gear Solid
'A bit of a cliche, to be honest, but my money's still on Metal Gear Solid. 3D spying action with a splash of Bond. Mmmm. May I have another of those delicious canapes, Clarissa, my love?'



■ 'Seconds Kate? Ah, now I can just see through that slightly gaping button hole'



■ A stony poker face was necessary for the successful 'guess who's farted' game at dinner

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■ **OUT** SEPTEMBER ■ **BY** ELECTRONIC ARTS ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

KKnD 2

Scorched earth policies, high-collateral damage. Are you up to it?

Kind, Konsiderate and a Dab hand in the kitchen? Nah. Kuddle Kylie and Dannii? We wish, but sorry: nope again. What can KKnD stand for?

Let's see: we've got a whole heap of radiation-scarred mutants running about here and we've got enough guns to mount a successful two-for-one deal. Kill, Krush and Destroy it is, then...

Missions briefing

The lowdown is you either get to play as the 'evolved' or the 'survivors'. This means you drag your team all over the post-apocalyptic landscape carrying out missions for your leader. The missions could be ickle little skirmishes or full-on battles. What is cool though, are the types of weapons available to you. There are huge spiders, scorpions and giant wasps – all loaded up with some serious weaponry.

Slaughter unlimited

In a nutshell KKnD2 is a war strategy game. No-one could claim the graphics are anything but adequate, but the beauty's supposed to be in the gameplay. And judging by this early preview that could just be its main strength. Either way, it's dead easy to get into, with loads of strategies to choose from and huge landscapes to explore.

***plus** Looks like it'll be a prayer answered for warmongers everywhere.*



■ Molten lava, not the best place to wage war



■ Best believe us this ain't an island to choose for summer hols, the natives are a tad hostile



1



2



3



4



5

'Every warmonger's prayers answered...'

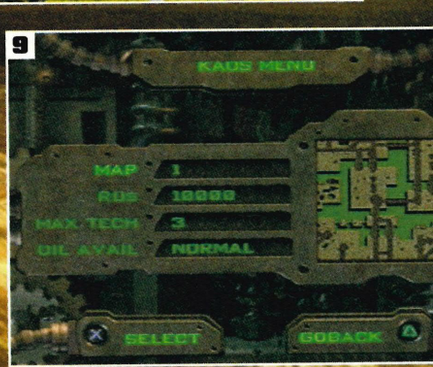






■ Jeez, this is total and utter carnage





1 When they fight, they fight hard 2 We counted them out, and we counted them in 3 In war nobody wins. 'Cept the skilled gamer that is 4 Sydney's bid to host the Olympics was dealt a deadly blow 5 Think Airplane times ten 6 Mayday, mayday 7 Don't get it wrong now 8 Accept total chaos 9 This kind of information is on a strictly need-to-know basis, due to its completely dull nature...

■ **OUT** APRIL ■ **BY** CRYO ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Virus

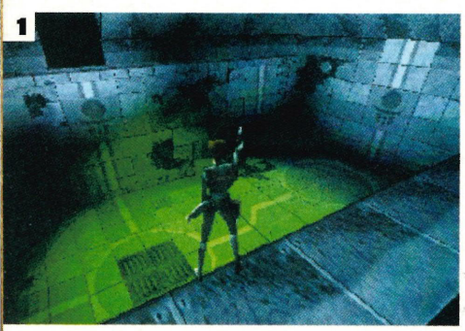
Alien meets Tomb Raider. Sounds cool...

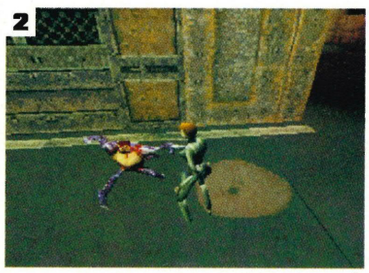
A terrible mutating virus has been unleashed onto an unsuspecting public. But the clap clinic isn't going to be able to put this one right. It'll take a gun-toting babe with high-calibre firearms to sort out this mess. Well it's better than a swab down your Jap's eye.

The chick from the flick

This is the game based on the forthcoming Hollywood flick, Virus, which stars the old-enough-to-be-your-mother-but-you-would-anyway Jamie Lee Curtis. It's got all the makings of a top 3D adventure game, with the usual mix of brain-busting puzzles, level exploration and in-yer-face action. Graphics are looking a bit ropey at the mo, but it's early days yet.

***plus** It's too early to call. Games based on movies are usually crap. This 'un could be the exception.*







1 Ah, the lovely Jamie Lee Curtis 2 Never afraid to get her kit-off for the cameras 3 Though she keeps her clothes firmly on for this game. Bugger

Beaver patrol

The endless search for Lara's gibbon

Each month, we bust ass trying to bring you hot pics of Lara's lambpot. We've already asked jazz mag supreme Men Only and an innocent man called Mr Croft. So far, dismal failure has been our reward. This month: Plus go abstract...

Washington Zoo Bloke: Hello, Friends of the National Zoo, how can I help you?

plus Minion: Yes, I understand you run an adopt-a-species scheme. I was interested in possibly adopting a species for my niece, Lara Croft...

WZB: We have quite a range of...

plus Minion: Well, I was specifically interested in adopting a small tree. Or perhaps a bush?

WZB: Mmm. We have a range of shrubs in the Africa Garden, some of which...

plus Minion: Now, if I were to adopt a species, would you send me a picture of it?

WZB: Yes, there's a full information pack available to adopters.

plus Minion: So... we could get a picture of Lara Croft's bush? (Guffaws)

Next month: more rib-tickling harassment of innocent public servants...



■ **Lara Croft: Three in her hand is worth two in her bush. We think. Apparently...**

■ **OUT** TBC ■ **BY** GT ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Sensible Soccer: Euroclub Edition

Since when has soccer been sensible? And since when has football been 'soccer'?

Apparently, many moons ago, according to those with long memories and round, rose-tinted specs there used to be a version of this on another console in a different time. It was revered as the best thing since sliced bread and was a gift to football lovers everywhere. This is its bastard cousin, updated for our very own 'Station.

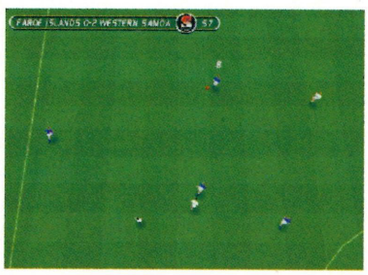
Do you still love me?

But then even Jimmy Greaves looked good in his day, and look at the 90s version of him. And Sensible Soccer: European Edition so far looks – and more importantly plays – as if it were more atuned to old alcoholic than a World Cup squad member. Mucho work is going to have to be done on this for it to compete in today's multi-endorsed, slick as you like football gaming world. May have to rip it up and start again, eh lads?

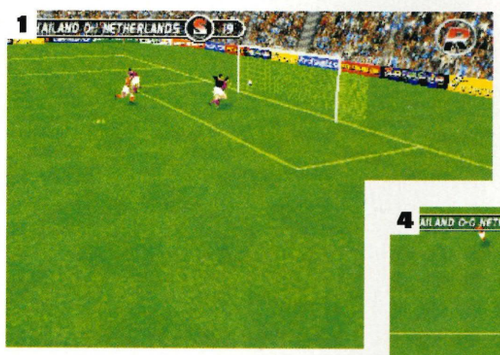
***plus** There are a kitbag full of footy games out there and it would take something pretty bloody special to throw the form book out the window. We don't think this is the game to do it though...*



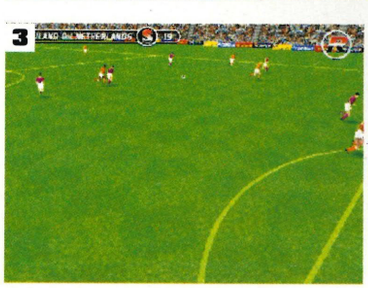
■ **This is the replay, graphics OK...**

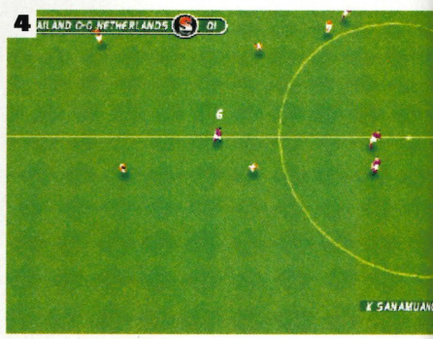


■ **This is the gameplay. What is going on?**









1 Thailand vs Netherlands... 2 Should be a good game then... 3 Except this is the world of Sensible Soccer, so you can't see and you can't control 4 So you might not be saving up for this one

■ **OUT** MARCH ■ **BY** CODEMASTERS ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Prince Naseem Boxing update

The world's favourite fighting dwarf hits the 'Station. Hard.

Your average boxing videogame's got about as much playability as Naz has modesty. Stinking's been about average, and even the best ones have only risen to the level of 'lousiness' or 'craphood'. That's all going to change. Soon. The Prince who is king is hitting the 'Station, and it looks like his own game's going to be one real bobby dazzler...

Nah, faster than that!

Other boxing efforts won't be able to see this fella for dust. Lightning-fast is the name of the game. And the boxing tactics bit looks like it's no slouch either. Thinky-type stuff is big on the menu, with a shitload of blocking, dodging and general beating moves, you'll need your wits about you. Wits are also required for the all-new boxing management, where you'll train a fighter up to take on the world's finest. It's all looking mighty tasty...

***plus** Can the Prince manage to do a boxing game that isn't tat? The odds are stacked, but things are looking hopeful for our hirsute pal. Fingers crossed, lads...*







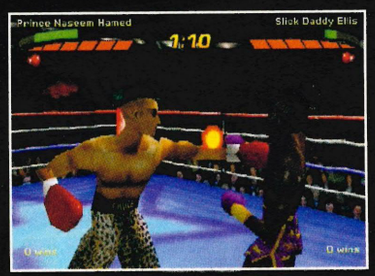








■ Slick Daddy Ellis had inherited his shorts from an exotic dancer in Vegas. Sergeant didn't mind



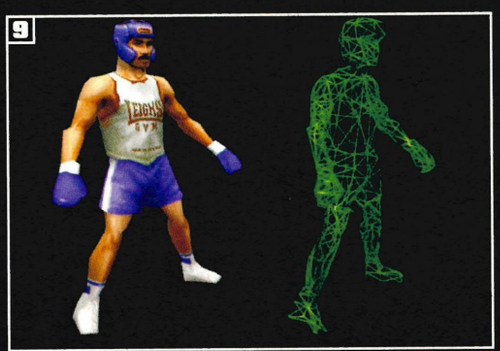
■ The trademark Naz jab. Awful sore



■ But Slick Daddy Ellis wants a second helping









1 Naz corners some unfortunate bastard **2** And leathers him. Well, what did you expect? **3** Come ahead then, wide boy. Cumaaaaawwwwn! **4** Let's get it on! In a strictly sex-free sense, y'understand, old chap **5** Just line 'em up and knock 'em down **6** Naz does one of those nippy little dodges we all love **7** So-called Daddy meets his doom with an unearthly calm **8** Going down, bitchy boy **9** Proton discharge from a high-yield cyclotron reduced this mustachioed oaf to a weird green skeleton. Pray they don't turn it on Naz himself! **10** Cowed, beaten and humiliated, Naz's opponent prepared for a final 'blow'

■**OUT** EASTER ■**BY** PSYGNOSIS ■**PLAYERS** 1
■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Kingsley

And you thought this kind of thing only happened to N64 owners...

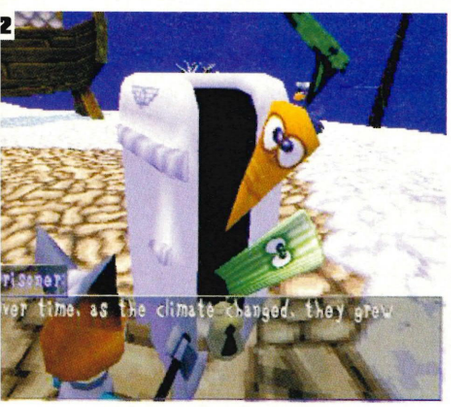
Bright colours,cute animals, near-fatal levels of colourfulness. It's like Prozac for children! Like we want the little bastards to be any happier than they are now. They don't work. All they have to do is frolic and be appealing. It's disgusting. But anyway, here's another game aimed squarely at the little critters...

Cute till you puke

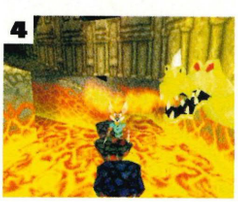
Nauseating little animals with big eyes who insist on engaging in cute, morally wholesome 'quests'. We've all seen 'em. And now the 'Station's got its very own: Kingsley the fox cub. You can turn the page now, if you like. It's the usual platformy, fighty, talk-to-small-animals-y adventure shit. With big eyes. Don't say we didn't warn you.

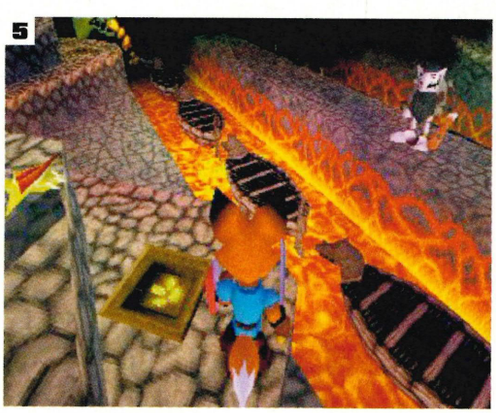
plus Looks polished. But we'll shoot it down like a dog if it's really as kiddie as we're promised...











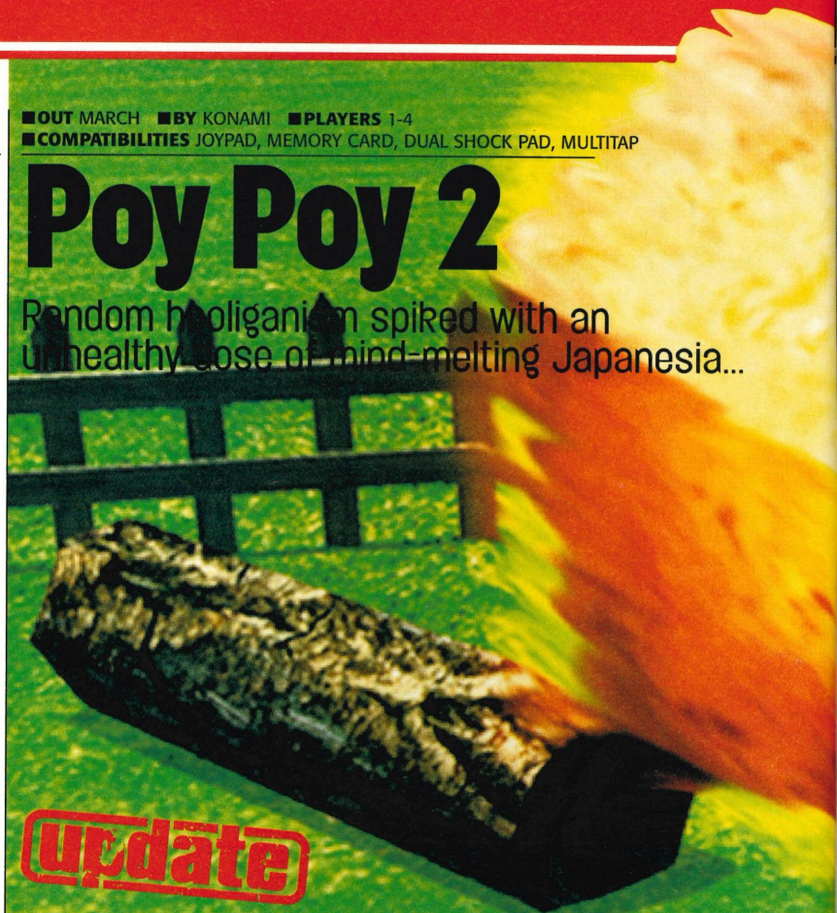


1 Filbert the Fox found himself in previously unchartered waters **2** The stuff in the fridge had taken on a life of its own **3** Carrots and crabs were giving poor Kingsley no pleasure at all **4** Ol' dragon breath needed to clean up her act **5** So how come the barges don't burn then? **6** Cunning boy Kingsley, you get the girl

■**OUT** MARCH ■**BY** KONAMI ■**PLAYERS** 1-4
■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

Poy Poy 2

Random hooliganism spiked with an unhealthy dose of mind-melting Japanesia...



update

Little people with big eyes scampering around brightly coloured arenas hurling huge rocks at each other with spine-splintering force. And if that sounds good to you, you're obviously a morally and spiritually well-adjusted individual. Congrats. Welcome to the club. And eat my fat rock, ya wimpy bastard!

Poy? Poy. Poy!

What you got to do is pick up whatever objects or poweruppy doodahs are lying around and chuck 'em at the other little fellas in the arena. If you get really narked, you can even pick up other blokes and chuck them. Lucky you, since there are loads of poweruppy things and loads of blokes hanging about. Repeat these steps until either you or they are dead. Simple, yet classically elegant, we're sure you'll agree.

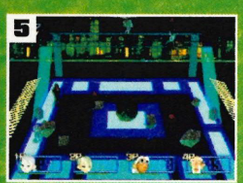
plus The first Poy Poy was a fine source of multiplayer merriment. For four players, games just don't come any finer. And this is looking like a chip off the old block. Coolio...











1 Unwise Poy Poy-ster falls victim to a giant crab **2** The eyes have it **3** Throwing lumps of granite for fun and profit **4** Tired of pulping your pals with rocks? Torch 'em instead **5** More rocks

■ **OUT** MAY ■ **BY** PSYGNOSIS ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK

Retro Force

The aliens are coming! Quick, scramble one tiny spaceship to deal with the menace!

Never in the field of human conflict have so many been vapourised by so few. Yup, it's back to the old school for one of those one-spaceship-against-an-entire-bug-eyed-civilisation 2D shooters. You know the drill. The aliens'll attack in a straight line down one narrow strip of land with the weakest aliens lining up to get theirs first. Go get 'em, bad bwoy!

Fire retro rockets!

Kill everything that moves in your narrow strip of terrain. It's that simple. Oh, and keep moving forwards, mind. The graphics are the kind of retro 2D-ish nonsense you'd expect, but with a splash of Essence de PlayStation to keep the eye-candy fiends happy...

plus Should have fans of the old school secreting fluids like there's no tomorrow...

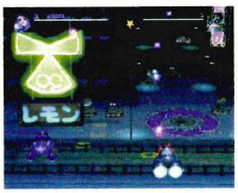


■ Bright colours, Japanese geezers. Run for it!

■ Box? Missile? Log? The choices are endless

■ Contenders – ready! Bits of masonry – ready!

■ Jeff's giant log brought him the happiness and fulfilment he'd always dreamed of. Briefly



■ Alien menace approaching...

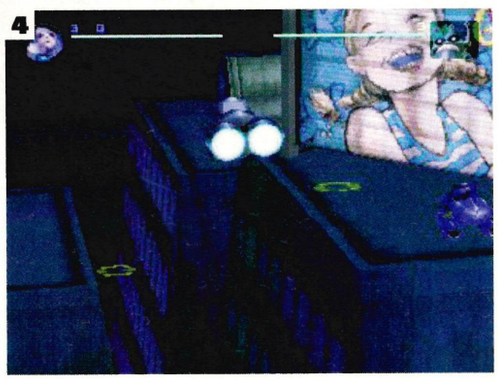


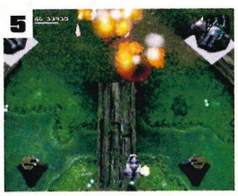
■ Avaunt thee, bug-eyed fiend!

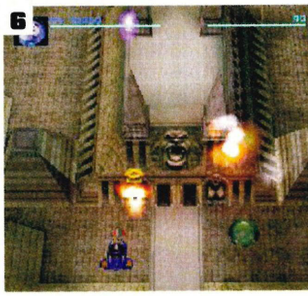












1 Big explosions. No, bigger than that **2** Your weapons range from small... **3** ...to ludicrously big. Cool **4** Dubious poster alert **5** Plenty o' explosive death **6** Odd interior design **7** Even odder...

■ **OUT** SUMMER ■ **BY** KONAMI

Beat Mania

Mastery of the wheels of steel has long been a fast-track to creating rising damp in laydeez gussets. Fact. Sadly, this new home hip hopping kit for the 'Station seems unlikely to have the same effect. But informed sources (ie us) say it's a 'right laugh' nonetheless. What you do is take one highly unusual peripheral – here's one (right) we prepared earlier – and use the little spinny discy bits to scratch samples whenever DJ Konami tells you. You can even do freeform scratching and stuff once you get good enough. It all sounds kind of odd, but it's bonzer to play. Honest. You have our word on it.









1 Phat! Slammin'! It's da bomb! **2** Yo yo yo, wussup? DJ Konami spinning the acetate... **3** Sadly, the game has yet to be de-Japaneseified. Soon, soon...

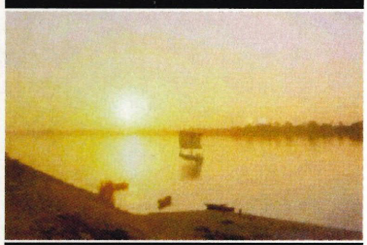
Syphon Filter

■ **Out:** Summer ■ **By:** Sony

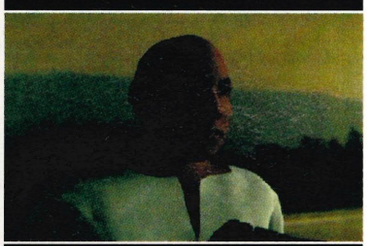
Killing people's fun whatever the weather, but murder connoisseurs prefer stealthy ninja-type strikes to balls-out thuggery. Some of the time, anyway. Stealth's big in soon-to-touch-down spy 'em up Syphon Filter, a nasty-ass twisty-turny thriller that looks the bollocks...

Egypt

■ **Out:** April ■ **By:** Cryo



■ Red sails in the sunset. Fun central



■ Boy does this bald twat have stories to tell

Egypt is kind of looking like Tomb Raider with all the action surgically removed. Thinking caps will be required bigstyle as you point and click your way through the Pharoh's tomb in search of goodies. Clever. But before you go getting excited, bear in mind this is from the folks who brought you atrocities like Versailles and Atlantis. The horror, the horror...

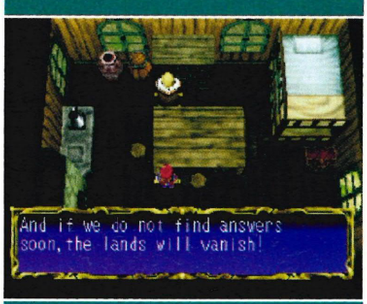
Granstream Saga

■ **Out:** April ■ **By:** Cryo

More odd RPG nonsense from our sushi 'n' suicide-loving chums from the Orient. On a kind of elves/swords/dark powers tip, this 'un has had the spods drooling across the pond in the good ol' U S of A. Lookswise it's no great shakes, but RPG gimps say it's the dog's gameplay-wise, with all the spells, wordy dialogue and epic shit that fills their gimpy hearts with joy. We're still to be convinced.



■ Weird bearded blokes talk shite at you constantly. This one asks you to make tea

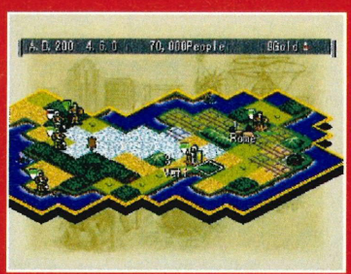


■ The lands will vanish, huh? Pull the other one. It's got big, shiny bells on

Civilisation 2

■ **Out:** March ■ **By:** Activision

It's turn-based! Strategic! Thoughtful! But before you turn away in disgust, listen up: this little fella's got enough in-depth war shit stuffed into it to destroy lives. Addictive? Heroin is as nothing next to it. PC types lost their lives on it. Beware.



■ Be a Caesar-type bloke!



■ We saw. We conquered. We came

■ **OUT** MARCH ■ **BY** CODEMASTERS

No Fear Downhill Racing

Some people insist that the actual function of mountain bikes isn't as an urban posing accessory. Madness, pure madness. They insist on using their bikes to ride down 'mountains'. If you don't believe us, here's a whole game about it. A game that is, incidentally, looking like a stonker...









1 Pedlars of filth **2** Rather natty in-bike view **3** Avaunt thee, Satan! This race is mine **4** Nice buns, mused George

■ **OUT** DECEMBER ■ **BY** SONY

Final Fantasy VIII

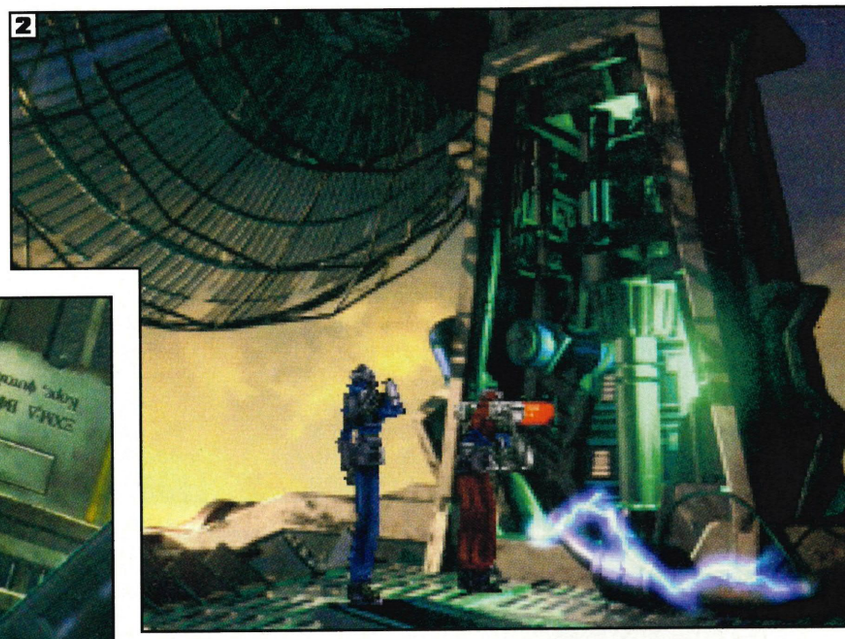
The Jap demo of Final Fantasy VIII was all well and good, but at the end of the day, the entertainment potential of watching people called Gibberish talking gibberish to each other, while casting 'Gibberish' spells left and right isn't that great to be fair.

All that has changed with the arrival of dubious role-playing effort Brave Fencer Musashiden in the land of the Yank. There's a FFVIII demo on there that makes sense. Yay! And it's looking like it's got even more epic RPGish sweep and general coolness than the original. More details next issue...



■ Yet more kooky interior design





1 Oi! Shite-for-brains! Wot you starin' at? 2 Mind that lightning, now!

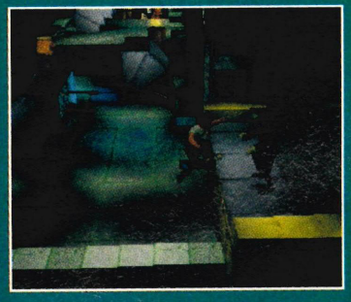
Jackie Chan's Stuntmaster

■ **Out:** September ■ **By:** Sony

The chirpy chappie who kicks people and splinters crucial bits of his skeleton to make you laugh is coming 'Stationwards. We've always worshiped Mr Chan with a passion that verges on mental illness, and Stuntmaster's looking like it might capture that Jackie magic bigstyle. But how? Try fast, ridiculous stuntery mixed up with hyper-speed chopsocky, all to the cheesy tune of Real Authentic Jackie Comments. Hopefully, they'll make sure his mouth moves long after he's stopped speaking...



■ Jackie goes airborne. We're betting on a spinal when he hits concrete



■ Of course, Jackie runs everywhere he can at ridiculous speeds. That's his job

Carmageddon

■ **Out:** Summer ■ **By:** SCi



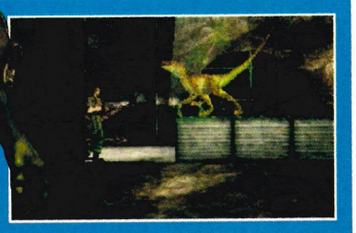
■ Huge car. Just add mangled pedestrian...

Ever fancied having completely no morals whatsoever, and being constantly consumed by insane, animalistic bloodlust? If so, you're in luck, because if the tabloids have it right, that's what JUST ONE GAME of Carmageddon will do for you. Forever. Yup, the game where you kill cars and mash pedestrians into the tarmac hitting 'Station, and it's looking fine. Our morals are on hold already...

Release dates

These're are the dates we've been told. But we can't guarantee them...

RELEASED	REVIEWED
JAN 22	
Player Manager	
Max Power Racing	90% Jan 99
Pool Hustler	79% Feb 99
MegaMan Legends	40% Jan 99
Megaman X4	40% Jan 99
Soul Blade (Platinum)	90% July 98
Lost World (Platinum)	41% Feb 98
Wild Arms	88% Oct 98
JAN 29	
NFL Blitz	86% Dec 99
NFL Extreme	71% Nov 99
Tiger Woods	78% Feb 99
FEB 5	
Eliminator	
FEB 12	
South Park	
Live Wire!	65% Jan 99
Global Domination	
FEB 19	
Asterix	
Kensei: Sacred Fist	75% Feb 99



■ Dinos going cheap. Or is that cheep?

ALL DATA SUPPLIED BY Game Departments NO.1 FOR MAIL ORDER!!

■ **OUT** SEPTEMBER ■ **BY** ELECTRONIC ARTS

Dungeon Keeper 2

A PC classic, this fella, and the 'Station incarnation's already looking mighty promising. You're the don of a dingy underground shithole filled with hurty traps and pointy-teethed monsters. For some unknown reason, badly-dressed twats called stuff like Morgan the Mighty come and 'have a go' in your shithole again and again. Your job is to make 'em die in pain. Then you nab their loot, head down to Monsters-R-Us and the Excruciator Trap Mart, re-stock the old dungeon and wait for the next lot. Easy.





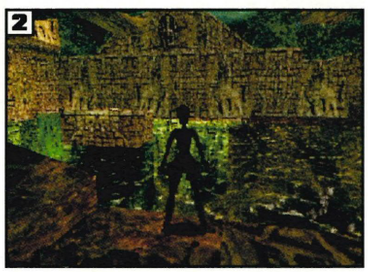
1 Pitiful mortals! 2 Yeah. You read that right. Don't mess, dickwad

Tomb Raider III bug-gered

Maker comes clean over game mess-up

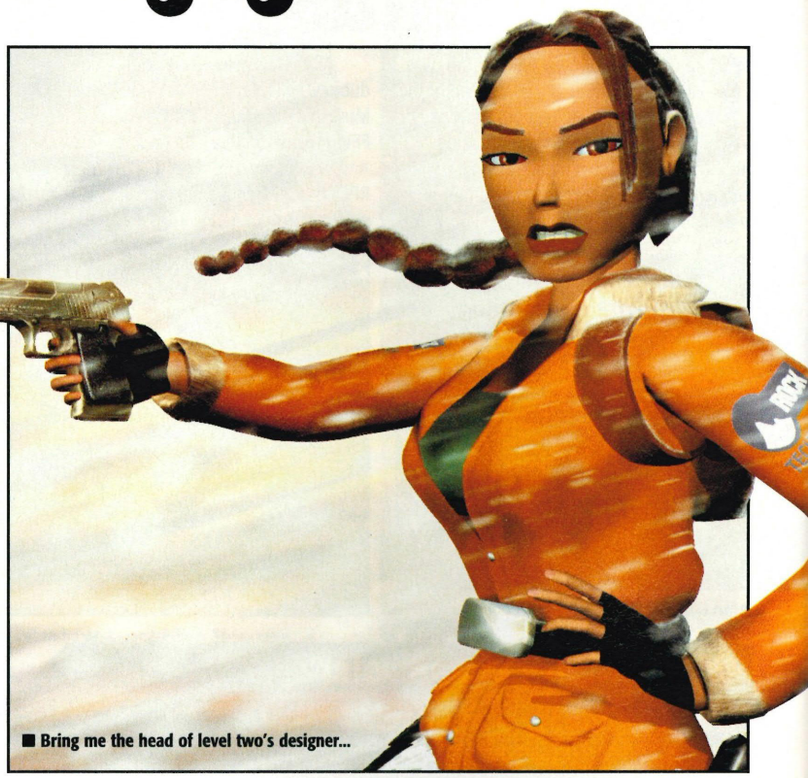
Santa leave a copy of Tomb Raider III in your sack this Chrimbo? Then you might be experiencing problems getting off the second level. Core's Adrian Smith had this to say, 'At Temple Ruins, if you save your game in the room with the Statue (at the bottom of the slope) and then go back into that room later in the game (there is no reason to) then you won't be able to go through doors that have already been opened, thus you won't be able to complete the level.' Nice one. He continued, 'The solution to this is to not save the game in this room and don't return to it.' There you go, even Lara, yes Lara, has her flaws. Sigh.







1 You might well look embarrassed, Lara 2 This bit's fine 3 But it all goes pear-shaped in this room



■ Bring me the head of level two's designer...

'Hail to the King, baby!'

Duke Nukem: Time to Kill and Abe's Exoddus' publisher, GT Interactive, has just launched two new internet sites aimed at fans of the PlayStation games. Duke's site is for the more 'mature' audience, containing Duke's top ten pick-up lines, a psycho-analysis of Duke and a bucket-load of game information. Abe's site isn't quite as entertaining, but does contain interviews, artwork and registration for an Oddworld newsletter. If you've got internet access, check 'em out at www.duke-nukem.com and www.oddworld.com.



■ Duke on the internet? Pigs might indeed fry

Sony gets tough

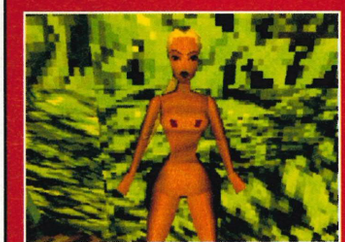
Pirates scuppered

■ **Sony's war on** videogame piracy hotted-up this month with the release of a new, specially sealed 'Station. Previously, importers have opened PlayStations to insert a chip, enabling the machine to play import and pirate games. The new batch has a protective seal preventing access. A specific machine is now required to open PlayStations, which Sony will use to repair faulty units.

NUDE RAIDER

■ **It's every schoolboy's** ultimate fantasy – Lara Croft nude. As God intended. In her birthday suit. Butt-naked. Well now it's a reality. The Xplorer V2 cheat cartridge not only helps games Joeys through the toughest bits of Gran Turismo, Resident Evil 2 and Tekken 3, but also lets you get a glimpse of Lara's pink bits. But hold on there Tiger. The only way you can actually do this is by copying in two and a half pages of code from the Xplorer internet site. Do that with one of these babies in the back of your 'Station and you can play through the first level of Tomb Raider III with a naked Lara Croft.

To save you the bother we did it for you and admittedly it's not quite as arousing as we'd hoped it would be. Her hair colour changes to blonde and she hasn't got any pubes. But if shaven ravers are what gets your trouser snake bulging, this is definitely for you. The Xplorer V2 cheat cartridge is available in most High Street shops and will set you back around £29.99. For the sad, the desperate or the very lonely only, we thinks.



■ Post-surgery, Lara's nips went square

New Namco controller

Now you go from steer to eternity

Coinciding with the recent launch of Ridge Racer Type 4 in Japan, game developer Namco has just released its new Jog Con controller. The new pad allows you to play the top new racer with the aid of a small steering wheel in place of the twin analogue sticks. The wheel is analogue and also force feedback, which means you get to feel every knock and bump on the road. We've played with it a fair bit over the Christmas break and reckon it could well be worth the outlay when it's released in this country later this year.





■ And yer-hands upon the Jog-Con

Sequel city

Rehashed game designs for PlayStation this year

■ **The sequel to** monster masher Rampage World Tour, is being developed for the PlayStation. The all new Rampage 2: Universal Tour, builds on the success of the original by including a new storyline, improved graphics, more characters and more levels.

■ **The word is** that the much-awaited sequel to Sony's Parappa the Rappa is on its way later this year. Details are thin on the ground at the moment, but it looks likely that the game will be rock 'n' roll based as opposed to the first hip-hop version and will feature a new character, Ramy. Sounds promising.

■ **The third game** in Namco's popular Ace Combat series has been revealed to the Japanese press. Details are still very scarce, but expect to see the latest state-of-the-art fighter planes and vastly improved graphics.

■ **Squaresoft has confirmed** the pined-after Final Fantasy VIII will hit the shops in Japan on February 11th. The game will span a massive four discs, one more than Final Fantasy VII, and will retail at a costly £69 a pop. However, If we was you, don't hold your breath and don't expect it in this country at least this side of Christmas.



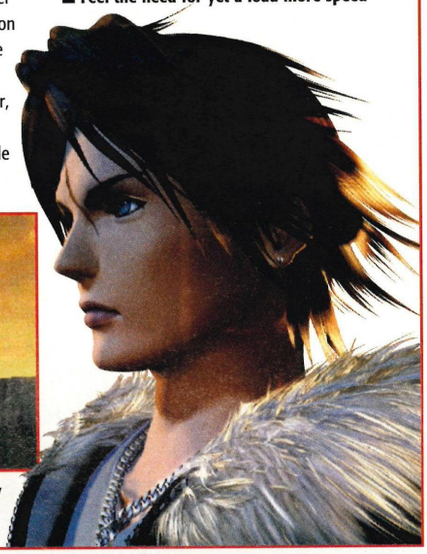
■ **Rumours that young gents were already saving for FF VIII have been confirmed...**

■ **One of the** best games of last year, Grand Theft Auto, is to get a sequel. DMA Design has been working on the project development for 18 months. Expect an autumn release.

■ **Just a rumour**. Psygnosis is reportedly working on a new addition to the incredibly successful WipEout series. There's no official word as of yet, but don't be surprised if it surfaces late this summer.



■ **Feel the need for yet a load more speed**

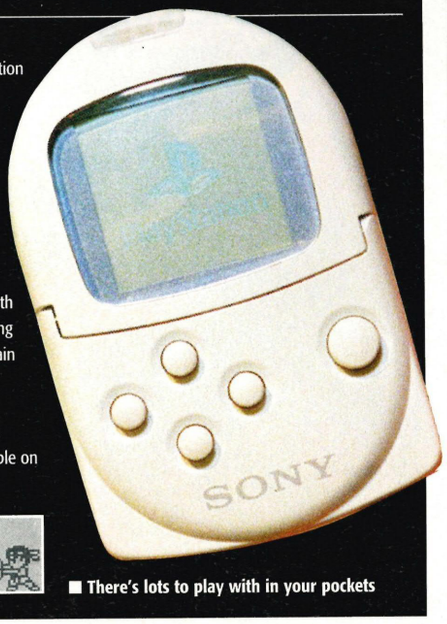


PocketStation Latest

You remember the PocketStation, right? It's Sony's little gizmo that plugs into the PlayStation and lets you play mini-games, download characters and swap information with other PocketStations. Well it turns out that several prominent software companies are making their games compatible with the device. We already know that Namco has made Ridge Racer Type 4 compatible, with hidden cars being unlocked with the gadget.

Now Capcom is getting in on the act with the forthcoming Street Fighter Zero 3, allowing users to save characters to the device and train them up for battle. Likewise, Squaresoft has confirmed that Final Fantasy VIII will use the PocketStation, though it's not known in what capacity. The PocketStation should be available on these shores this summer.





■ **There's lots to play with in your pockets**

Loadsa Metal Gear

Toys for the boys and box sets on their way

Action figure manufacturer, McFarlane Toys, has just launched an official line of Metal Gear Solid toys in the States. The series features highly detailed 6" figures of the game's main characters – eight in total – with Snake, Vulcan Raven, Psycho Mantis and Vulcan Raven among them. Each come supplied with an assortment of weapons and other cool accessories. A UK release appears unlikely in the near future, but rest assured we'll keep you posted.

In related news, Konami has just announced plans to release a special limited edition Metal Gear Solid box-set for UK gamers. The pack will retail at £59.99, and features an array of goodies including the game, T-shirt, postcard pack, soundtrack, double-sided poster, dog tags, a Silent Hill demo disc and poster. Supplies are going to be severely restricted, so get in there early.



■ **Despite the cold weather Hunter never wore a shirt**

Other stuff

Bits we couldn't keep to ourselves

■ **SCi's controversial road** rage game, Carmageddon, will be winding its merry way onto the PlayStation this summer. Expect the usual knee-jerk outcry and reaction from concerned parents and hypocritical Members of Parliament alike. It's probably not going to make complete hardened criminals out of the lot of you though, eh?

■ **Saboteur is the** new hack 'n' slash 3D adventure game from Eidos. It's being described as a sword-wielding spy thriller set in a futuristic city. And the basic idea behind the gameplay is to track down the enemy agents and eliminate them all. From what we've seen and heard it could well be a bit of a winner.

■ **A new 3D** action/adventure game based around the forthcoming Disney film adaption of legendary swinger and best mate of the ol' primates Tarzan is in development. The game is said to incorporate platform and puzzle elements, similar to Core's Tomb Raider.



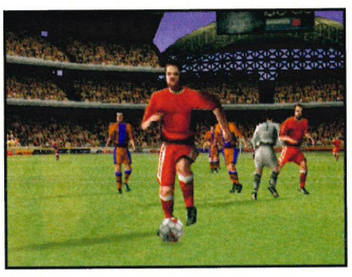
■ **Saboteur: sword-fighting in vests**

■ **Sony has reportedly** scrapped its Geoff Boycott cricket game, following the star's recent conviction for battering his former lover. Sony has already spent over £1million developing the title, which was due to be released next summer.

■ **UEFA Champions League** is a top new footy game from the geezers that brought you Michael Owen's WLS 99. It's got top 3D graphics, loads of tournaments and a peachy arcade management mode. Sounds tops.



■ **Europe: Leicester City played there once**



■ **Check out the ball. It's flat. Seriously**



YOU WANT GAMES, BUT YOU AIN'T GOT THE WEDGE? NOT QUITE READY TO SELL YOUR FRESH 'N' HEALTHY RIGHT KIDNEY? STEP RIGHT THIS WAY. WE GOT SOME STUFF YOU NEED TO SEE...

You're nosing ahead of Uganda and Paraguay on the bank's list of major debtors. You think you're being stalked by your own bank manager. Mother Hubbard would be proud of the storage space round your gaff. But you still got a games monkey on your back needs feeding. The solution? These pages. Your guide to 'Station life on the cheap.

EVERYONE'S A WINNER!

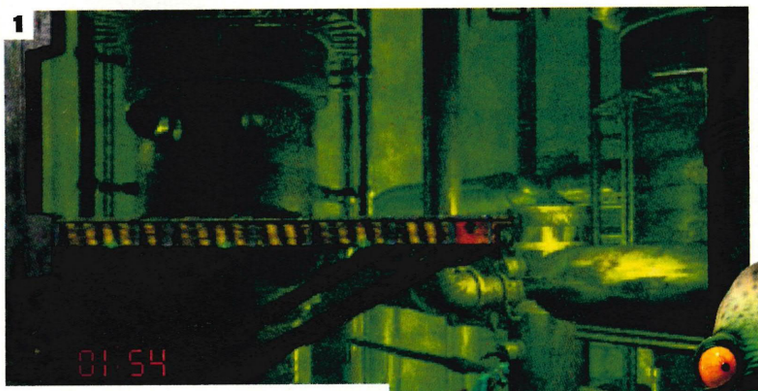
■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** GT ■ **COSTS** £19.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

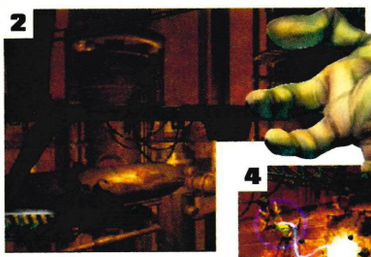
ODDWORLD: ABE'S ODDYSEE

SPECIAL OFFER! ONLY £20! plus one shiny new penny free!

Weird egghead putz turns Platinum. Blow gaskets in your head for only £20!

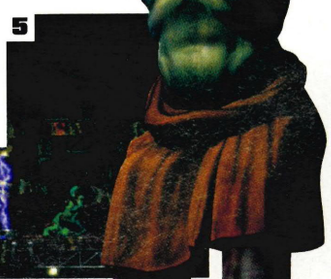
Meat. We love it. From the smallest sausage to the biggest steaming shank of dead pig. But on Oddworld, some green schmuck called Abe's leading all the meat on an abbatoir walkout. And you have to play him. Odd indeed...











1 Abe gets cunning. Like, all the time 2 Oooh. Nice shadowy bits 3 Abe sits in the corner praying 4 Shrykull power. It hurts, y'know 5 And for your viewing pleasure... a bomb!

Puzzles

This game will do your head in. Bigtime. The game's divided into screens, and there're all sorts of obstacles to avoid, machine-gun toting baddies to possess with your magical green bonce, and hidden tricks and traps to dodge. Believe us, getting places will really raise your blood pressure...



■ Abe possesses a pointy-headed slig



■ Clever Abe uses levers to bring death



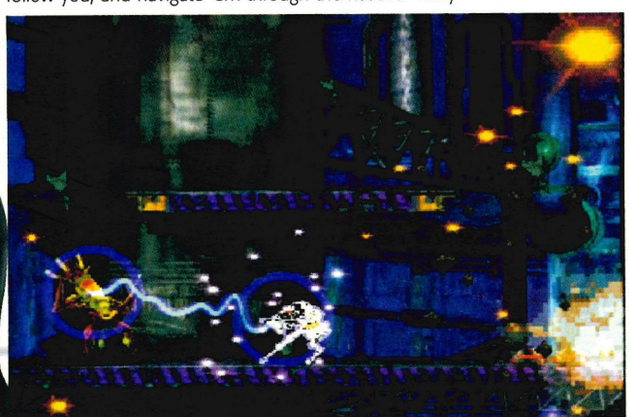




1 No! Watch out for the thing! 2 Sligs just luuurve prison camp chic 3 Green twats attempt to make good their escape

Mudokon mania

But it ain't just a question of 'jump hole, avoid angry alien, avoid carelessly scattered bits of high explosive'. Thing is, for all the machine-gun toting nasties and deathtraps that you've got to avoid, you've got to help your dumb Mudokon mates past as well. Talk to the bonedomes, get 'em to follow you, and navigate 'em through the nasties. Tricky.

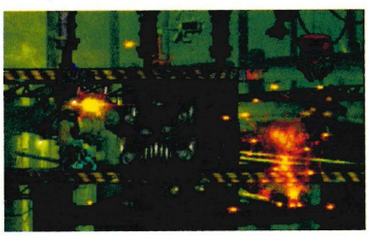


■ Dark Powers of Abe pt. 3: later, you'll get to zap folks with hideous jolts of lecky

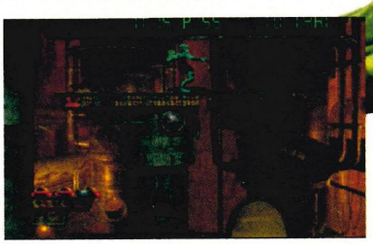
Cheapskate cheats!

Stuck on Abe's? Look no further than this handy box, free with every purchase!

Level select, hold R1, press: ↓ → ← → ● ● ● △ ● ● → ←
And to skip those tricky voice puzzles: during the game, hold R1 and press: △ ↑ ● ← ✕ ↓ ● → Any sound'll now get you through a voice puzzle...



■ Some unlucky bastid cops a grenade...



■ Devious Abe avoids huge clusters of mines

winner Still looking the bollocks and stuffed with gameplay goodness too. Some of the puzzles will boil your gonads, but this is a must-see. **Rob**

PlayStation plus RATED 91%

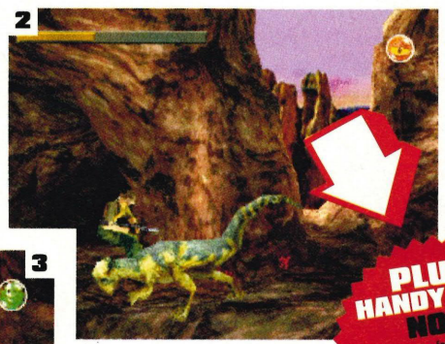
■OUT NOW ■BY EA ■COSTS £19.99 ■PLAYERS 1
■COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

THE LOST WORLD

Einstein's fourth law. Movie licenses = bollocks to the power of shite. Listen up.

You've seen the movie. Special-effectsed-up Hollywood gashola guaranteed to take the taste out of your popcorn. But have they managed to make the game as bone-grindingly tedious as the flick was? Oh yes. And how.







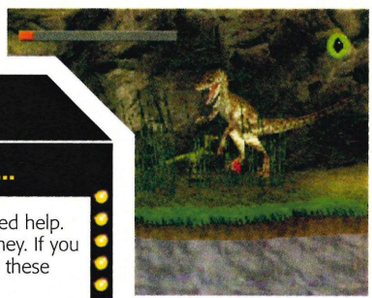
1 Velociraptors go bananas **2** And some slightly larger dinos follow suit **3** And again. Sheesh.

PLUS HANDY HINT NO.1

Save money on fertiliser by simply playing Resident Evil 2 in the garden. Farmers can save too, by inviting huge squads of gamers to play Res 2 while squatting in their freshly-tilled fields.

Gameplay

Variety is something The Lost World isn't short of. In some levels you'll be a Compy avoiding herds of Brontosaurus. At other times a T-Rex, hunter or the movie love interest, Sarah. Problem is, it all amounts to the same leap-from-one-platform-to-another type gameplay, which is as interesting as the inner workings of the International Monetary Fund.



Tips for the top

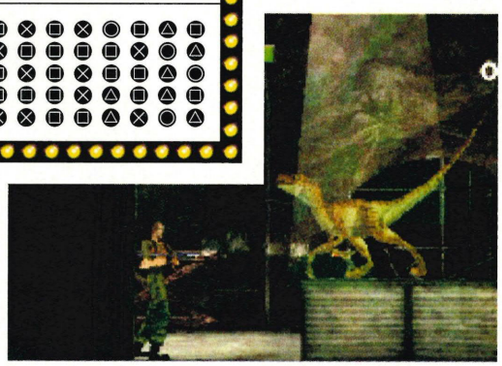
Lizard-bashing made easy...

Got the Lost World? Still playing it? You need help. The kind of help we can't give, sadly. But hey. If you fancy having all DNA keys and 99 lives for these characters choose these passwords:

COMPY	⊗ ⊗ ● △ ■ ⊗ ■ ⊗ ● ■ △ ■
HUNTER	■ ■ △ ● ⊗ ■ ■ ■ ■ ⊗ ● △
RAPTER	⊗ ⊗ ● △ ■ ⊗ ■ ⊗ ■ ■ △ ●
T-REX	⊗ ⊗ ● △ ■ ■ ■ ⊗ △ ■ △ ■
PREY	■ ■ △ ● ⊗ ⊗ ■ ■ △ ⊗ ● △



■ A rather large dinosaur



■ A much smaller dinosaur. You're dogfood, lizard lips...

Even at twenty quid a pop, we can't recommend The Lost World. It's irritating to play, a dog to look at and has nothing to do with the movie. Bollocks. **Lee**

PlayStation plus
RATED 41%

■OUT NOW ■BY SONY ■COSTS £19.99 ■PLAYERS 1
■COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, G-CON 45

TIME CRISIS

Mindless slaughter! Non-stop popping! You know you want it!

John Rambo in a dork haircut goes after an endless stream of jumpsuited schmucks, methodically upping the lead content of their internal organs. Very few of them will ever play the piano again. A winning formula? You betcha.

Here's blood in your eye!

Pop 'em. Drop 'em. Or for extra amusement, unload an entire clip into their lower torso and watch 'em go into a strange convulsive dance before hitting the deck. Yup. There's enough agonising death in here to keep even the most twitchy borderline psychopaths happy. No blood, mind, but you can't have everything...





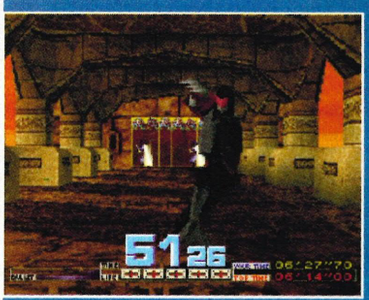


1 For you... perhaps a kidney shot **2** Danger. You heard the man **3** Gutshot. The connoisseur's way to plug 'em. Believe it

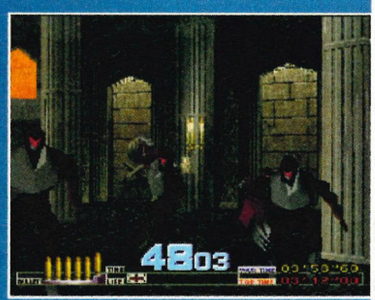
Guns

Hardware. It's what the kids want

Time Crisis works nice and sweet with the G-Con 45. But if you fancy getting a slice of that arcade-action footpedal shit, you could do worse than check out the Nu-Gen Assassin lightgun. You can do the whole ducking and diving bit using the footpedal, see? Just like you do in the arcades. And it looks like a real gun, so you'll feel that bit more butch. Worth a punt.



■ Bullet in the bonce. A timeless classic



■ D'you feel lucky, punk? Well, do you?



■ A particularly tasteful green jumpsuit here



■ Although the blue ones are pretty vile too

Bang, bang you're dead

People with dicky tickers take note. Much stress is on the menu. For starters, it isn't just copping caps that can bring you low: if you run out of time, you die too. Plus, reloading is big on the menu: you've got to duck and dive out of the action to pick up clips. And when the seconds are running low, this is Bad News.









1 Kill helicopters! **2** Kill forklift trucks! **3** And, of course, kill hundreds of people

PLUS HANDY HINT NO.2

You're stuck on a game, but the idea of phoning one of those premium-rate cheat services really sticks in your throat. Why not save money by committing suicide instead? Remember, most methods of suicide are absolutely free.

■ A highly stupid ninja decides to take on a bloke with a handgun... using a big stick. Oops

Done for murder

In the brain food stakes, this clocks in around the Weightwatchers shake level. Point your dinky PlayStation lightgun at anything that so much as twitches on the screen. Shoot until the movement ceases. Keep doing this. Do it fast. Do it some more. It WILL be simple enough for you. Even if you're a few lobotomy victims short of a Bewitched concert...







1 Slaughter your way through the hotel staff **2** Then move on to these workmen **3** Big explosions too. It's your lucky day

winner A total stonker. Non-stop violence. Non-stop adrenalin. If your knuckles have been disappointingly rosy recently, this'll bleach 'em Persil white. **Rob**

PlayStation plus RATED 91%



'I smell positively fragrant in comparison'

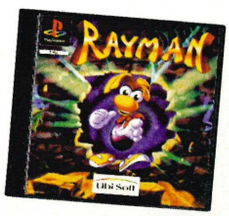
cheap and stinky!

Oi! So-called bargain! You smell! Pooey!

Bargain hunters beware. Out there in the cheap seats are games that stink. There are games that suck. Here are some of the worst of the worst...

Monica Lewins-'key'

	Sucks hard
	Sucks long and vigorous. Some dress spillage
	Sucks it big. A virtuoso pink oboe soloist



RAYMAN
COSTS £19.99

Saccharine-sweet cutesy platform garbage starring an irritating twat with no legs. No barf bag can be big enough.



ROAD RASH 3D
COSTS £19.99

Road Gash, more like. Bike racing effort that's generally reckoned to be slightly uglier than sin. Mondo piggoso...



TOMMI MAKINEN RALLY
COSTS £19.99

A shocker. The smiling Finnish oaf brings you Hell on a CD. Pure pain. Uggghhh.



THREE LIONS
COSTS £19.99

Ugly and shit. Slightly less appealing than sex with a rabid Doberman.



NEED FOR SPEED
COSTS £19.99

Stinko racing game. Dull, piss-ugly and almost fatally tedious. Sucks like a Hoover. You don't need this. At all.

■**OUT** DECEMBER ■**BY** ACCLAIM ■**COSTS** £39.99 ■**PLAYERS** 1-2
■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

PANDEMONIUM 2

Turn the brightness up way high and set your brain on 'Deep Fry'...

Dumb, mental fast-jumping action with enough bright colours and flashing lights to kill most epileptics dead. And with an impressively cantilevered filly bouncing about for the cameras. Can't say fairer than that...

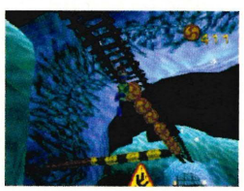




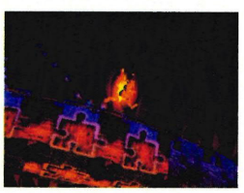
■ Coolio colourful action



■ The underwater looks lush



■ Nikki's well hung...



■ And the jester's red hot

Cheap 'n' cheatful

Need some budget tips?

Stuck? Don't be. Just enter these little beauties on the password screen and then prepare to psychedelically pslip easily through the levels:

NEVERDIE invincibility
GETACCESS level select
MAKMYDAY permanent powered-up weapon

SAVE! MONEY! NOW!

Platinum games? Pah! This is your chance to really clean up! Just use these handy tokens as occasion demands and watch the spondulicks pile up. You can save £££££s! And quite possibly other symbols such as '*'s and '>'s too!

PlayStation Plus Money saving voucher

£10 off your next parking ticket!

Just fix the magistrate with a stare and say 'I love Paris in the springtime' to redeem your money-off token. Works especially well for Freemasons.

Can only be used in conjuction with ten pounds cash

PlayStation Plus Money saving voucher

You have to sleep in the wet patch

It won't save you money. But it saves other stuff, like stains on your jim-jams. Hand this to the lady of your choice, and she'll to spend the night in your shared bodily fluids.

Can only be used in conjuction with ten pounds cash

PlayStation Plus Money saving voucher

£20 off a 'good going over'

When contracting that tattooed fellow in the pub to give someone a 'going over' present our handy certificate to save, save, save. NB: This is not valid for burglary or murder.

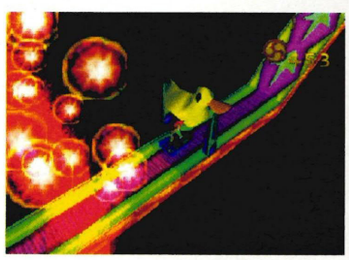
Can only be used in conjuction with ten pounds cash

PLUS HANDY HINT NO.3

Save money on Crash Bandicoots 2 and 3 by simply playing Crash 1 again. NB: this amazing technique will also work perfectly with Cool Boarders 2 and 3, or with any of the several thousand FIFA games released in the last couple of years...

Millions of colours. Man

The kind of visuals that ex-hippies see at inconvenient moments like while they're manoeuvring JCBs or meeting Princess Anne are the main drag in Pandy 2. Colours. Millions of the bastards. Like, faaaar out, man. Once you've got your head round the visuals, it's jumping time. Run, little man! Hurdle that psychedelic vision! And the next one! We ain't got all day!



■ Cream over these gorgeo lighting effects



■ Run, jump and shoot. Couldn't be easier...

Bright-coloured weirdness served at insane speeds. But the gameplay's kinda meat-and-potatoes, and we're caviar-and-bubbly kinda guys. Rob

PlayStation Plus
RATED 79%

More Cheap Stuff!

MORE BARGAINS HERE NOW!

What? More? We hear you cry. Yup. It's your lucky day, along with thousands of other happy, happy PlayStation plus readers. The World of Cheap™ is at your fingertips...

Cheap! Non-platinum! Don't ask us why!



TOMB RAIDER II

£29.99 TOYS 'R' US

Lara's back! It's her front that we're really concerned with, mind, but still no bad game to go with the girl...

NEED FOR SPEED III

£29.99 HMV

So the first two Need for Speed games nearly busted our office cackometer. But this one's a beezer. Take our word for it.

FORSAKEN

£19.99 TOYS 'R' US

Underground dungeons filled with flashing lights and spaceships that want to kill you. Talk about a boy magnet.

ASSAULT

£29.99 VIRGIN

This is one helluva balls-out sci-fi blaster with more than healthy amounts of decapitation and severe injury as standard. Cool.

WORLD CUP 98

£19.99 VIRGIN

Highly moron-friendly kickaround with all your favourite teams stuff competing for the World Cup.

The hard sell

What you find down the games exchange



You know the drill. Grit teeth. Grab fistful of games. Wipe away tears. Head to exchange shop. And here's the valuation score according to the friendly lads down at Department 1. Call them on 0171 916 8440.

TOMBRAIDER 3: WORTH £28 PART EXCHANGE

...or 3 1/2 copies of Tomb Raider 1 at £8 exchange



...or 2 1/2 copies of Tomb 2 at £12 exchange



...or 28 copies of Cybersled at £1. Although why you'd have even one beats us...



■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** BMG ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

LEGACY OF KAIN: BLOOD OMEN

Pint of arterial, please barman. And a pack of dry roasted scabs.

This game is so gothic it wears eyeliner and freely admits to owning CDs by the Fields of the Nephilim. Vampires, all manner of medieval shit, dark magic, so-called quests and fountains of blood hot from the jugular. It's got 'em all...

Fangs for the memories

We'll not mince words. Graphically, this stinks like a dead fish marinating in Swampy's crotch. But the gameplay and atmos are soooo on the money that we're able to forgive it its godawful looks. This is top-notch 2D adventure action with a nice line in vamped-up slaughter. And... wait for it... plenty to get your teeth into. Snarf snarf.



■ **Kain can turn into a wolf, a bat and mist**





■ **It doesn't look much but it's pretty damn tasty to play**





1 Stick to the shadows, eh? 2 She-ite, that's one helluva nosebleed 3 Bloody gruesome

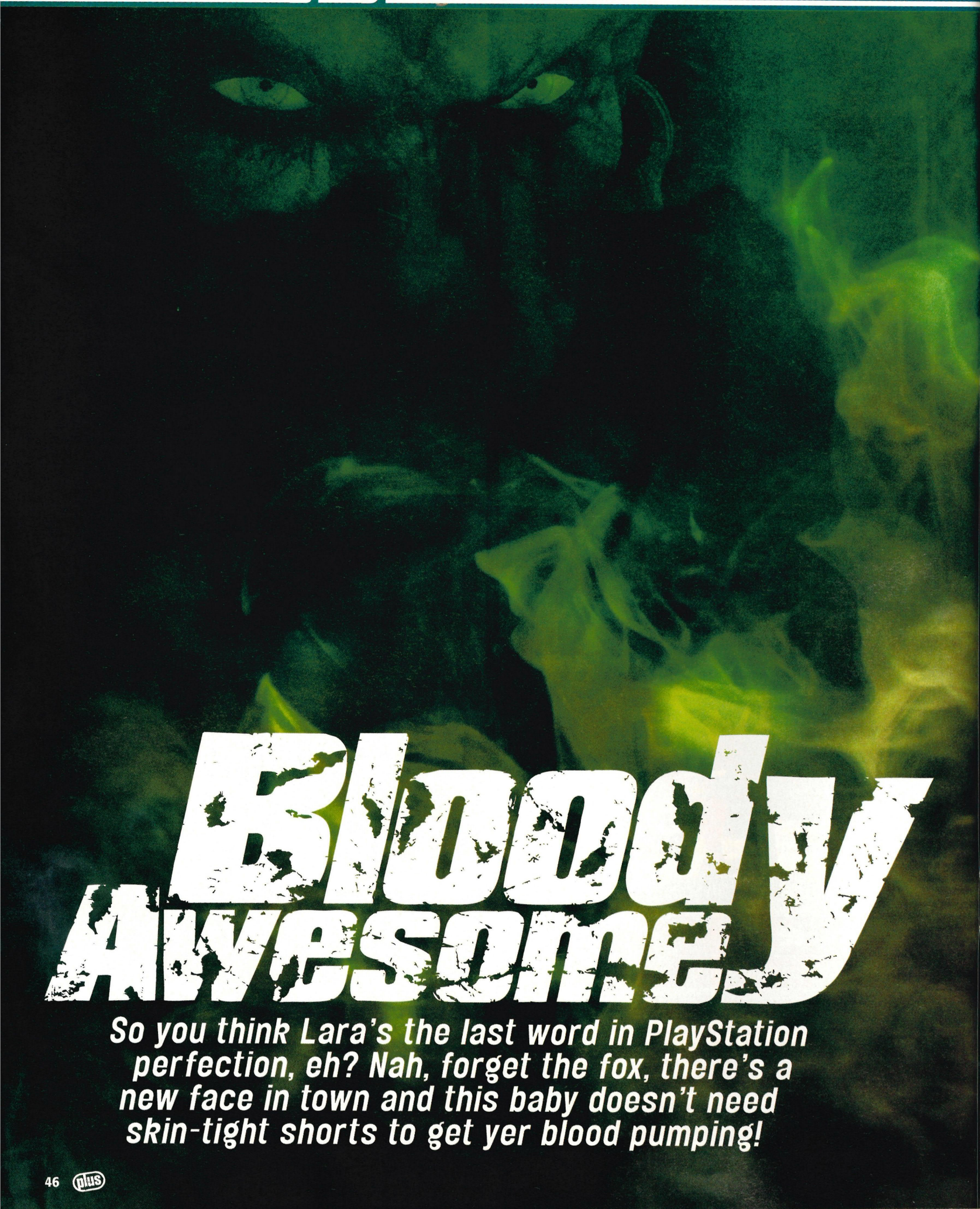
Bleedin' brilliant cheats

Blood! Death! Fountains of gore! And... errrr... a small measure of dishonesty...

Fancy a magic refill? Suits you, sir. Just hit: ➡ ➡ ● ● ⬆ ⬇ ➡ ⬅
Thirsty? A blood refill more to your taste? Just hit: ⬆ ➡ ● ● ⬆ ⬇ ➡ ⬅

So it looks like shit. Deal with it. This has gameplay to go and enough stoopid goth atmos to keep Nick Cave unhappy for weeks. Simply delicious. Buy one now. Rob

PlayStation plus RATED 88%

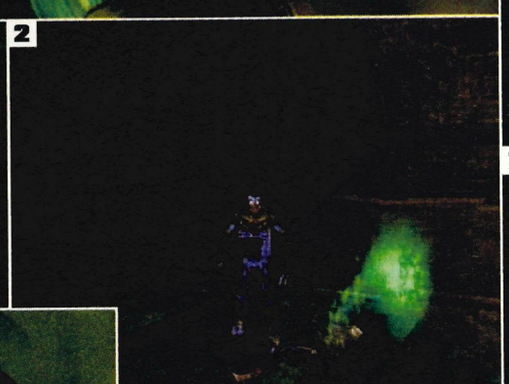
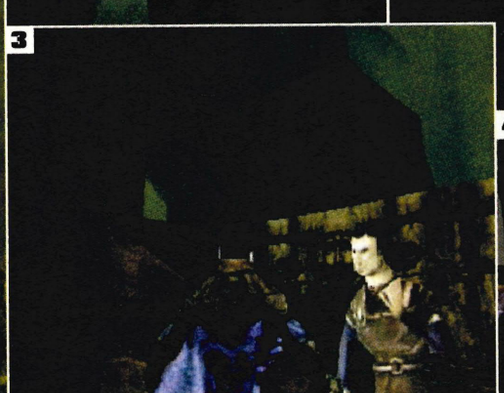


Bloody Awesome

So you think Lara's the last word in PlayStation perfection, eh? Nah, forget the fox, there's a new face in town and this baby doesn't need skin-tight shorts to get yer blood pumping!

■**OUT** MARCH ■**BY** EIDOS ■**PLAYERS** 1 ■**COMPATABILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD
■**WE LOOK AT** GRAPHICS, STORY, COMBAT, TOMB RAIDER III COMPARISON, PLAYER SKILLS, ENEMIES, LOCATIONS

Soul Reaver's been testing our trouser elastic since we first saw it last year. This is the game to get your dual shocks vibrating like a washing machine on spin cycle. This is gonna blow you away. It'll take more than holy water to keep this monster at bay...





1 Our hero Raz has had his wings clipped so he can only glide 2 The green glowy thing is a soul which Raz must feed on 3 Us humans don't take kindly to vampires, so fight 'em 4 Ambushed! Zomboids attack the undead hero 5 Some of the locations are dark and moody 6 Go faster stripes 7 This is one helluva good-looking game

The Works: Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver

What we like

Spirit level

You can't die in Soul Reaver 'cos you're already dead. Instead you're thrown into the Spectral Plane. It's a nasty kinda place, where all the walls are warped and distorted, and evil demons hunger for vampire blood. You can only return to the Real World by bagging these badasses and sucking their souls, gathering enough energy to travel back from the undead.



1 The Real World. Nuthin' exciting here... 2 But the same room in the Spectral Plane looks totally different. Awesome 3 You'll need to switch to the Spectral Plane to reach some bits of the game

Bleedin' goyjush

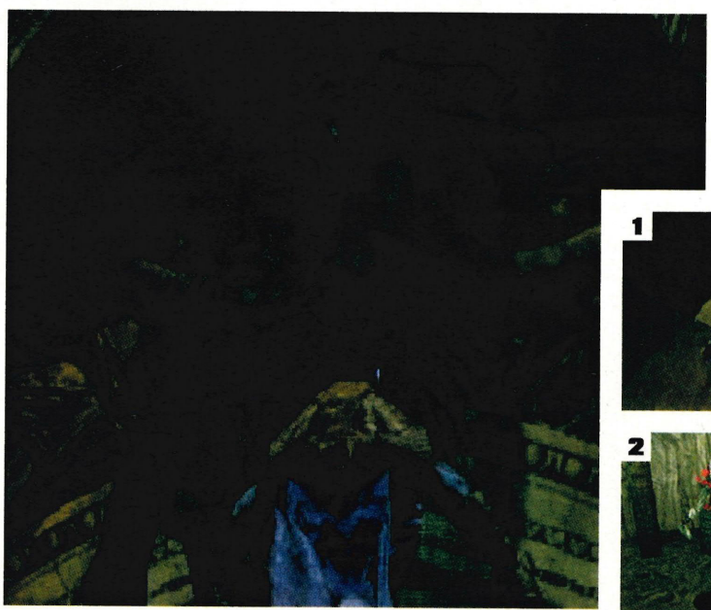
Soul Reaver looks so goddamn good you'll be puzzle-solving with a stiffy, guaranteed. It's dead detailed, more so than any of the Tomb Raider lot. This means the game's full of creamy-looking locations, from scary gothic temples to awesome underwater caverns. And it's all made a shit-load better thanks to the best lighting we've seen for ages. Take a look, we bet you're feeling frisky already...



■ Some of the rooms in this baby are blummin' massive. Just take a look...



■ As you drift down from up high, the level slowly comes into view



■ The detail on the glyph statues is absolutely gobsmacking

Horror story

The storyline's long enough to fill a book the size of the Bible, but here's the edited version. Evil vamp Kain has kids. Raziel is the first born. Raz gets cocky when he grows wings. Kain takes offence. Kain snips his wings and chucks Raz into the Spectral Plane. Raz wants revenge. And that's about all you need to know, but remember this: if your Dad was some giant-sized blood-sucker, would you really go back for more? Didn't think so...



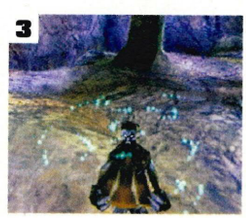
■ Raz's has been cast out by the daddy, King Kain, so he wants revenge...





1 But first he's gotta battle past stacks of weird 'n' wonderful nasties... 2 Before he can finally face the big-toothed one. Stake and chips, anyone?









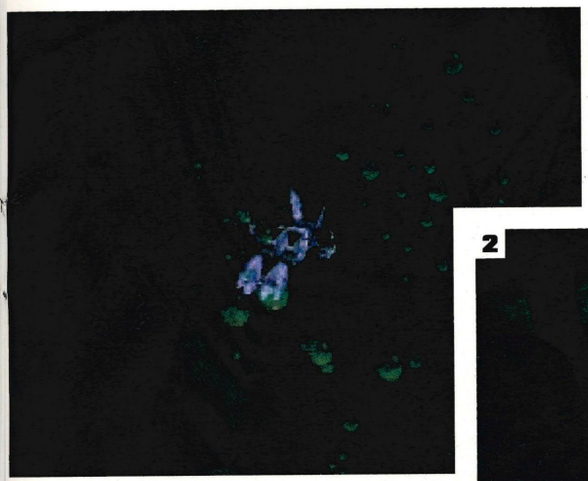


1 Get the best outta this slick mutha using the look button 2 Those zombies don't like it up 'em 3 Too much booze does this to you 4 Cream over these lush lighting effects 5 She-ite, you can even see Raz's reflection in the water

'This is the Big Daddy of adventures'

Raz's skills

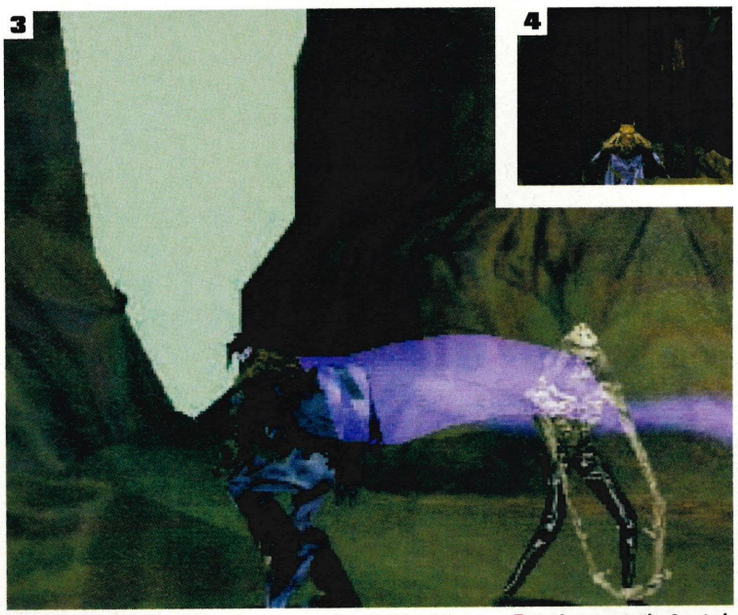
Before Raz was cast into the Underworld by Kain, he was gifted with the ability to fly. Now his wings have been snipped so gliding's the only thing they're good for. However, by solving puzzles Raz can earn new powers. These take the form of glyphs which must be collected and include the ability to swim, climb walls, moves objects by running around them (!?), walk through barriers and switch between the Real World and Spectral Plane.







■ Only take the plunge when you've collected the water glyph, otherwise you'll burn



1 Get the wall-climbing skill and you can reach extra bits of the game 2 Moving over to the Spectral Plane allows you to solve puzzles you cannot otherwise do 3 Run fast enough and you can shift objects without touching 'em 4 See those bars? Get the glyph and walk on through

Puzzles

Soul Reaver's spurting with action, but don't get the wrong idea about this baby. It ain't all gut-spilling y'know, there's a hefty whack of problem-solving to be done too. Don't worry, you won't have to be some genius to get anywhere in the game, but you'll have to do yer fair share of block-shifting to get the bonus items.







1 See that statue? It's got the glyph you need... 2 To get it you need to shift these blocks and put 'em in the right order 3 Get it right and the special power's yours

The Land of Make Believe

Soul Reaver's an absolutely enormous game. This ain't no poison dwarf, this is the Big Daddy of adventures: a big, bouncing bastid of game which'll take you ages to wade through. It's got variety stamped all over it but best of all is it's one big continuous world which means you never have to wait while it loads up the next level. Jeez, it's amazing what technology can do these days...

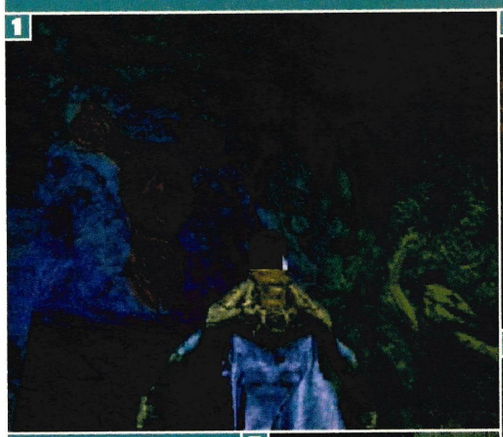


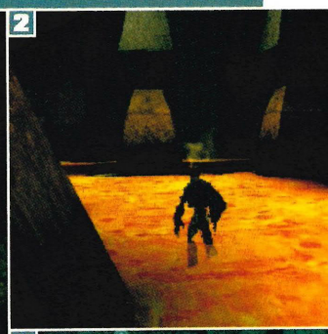
■ It's one helluva giant if his skull's that big



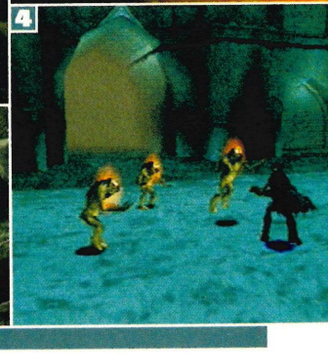
■ Raz stumbles across this cool industrial area

»



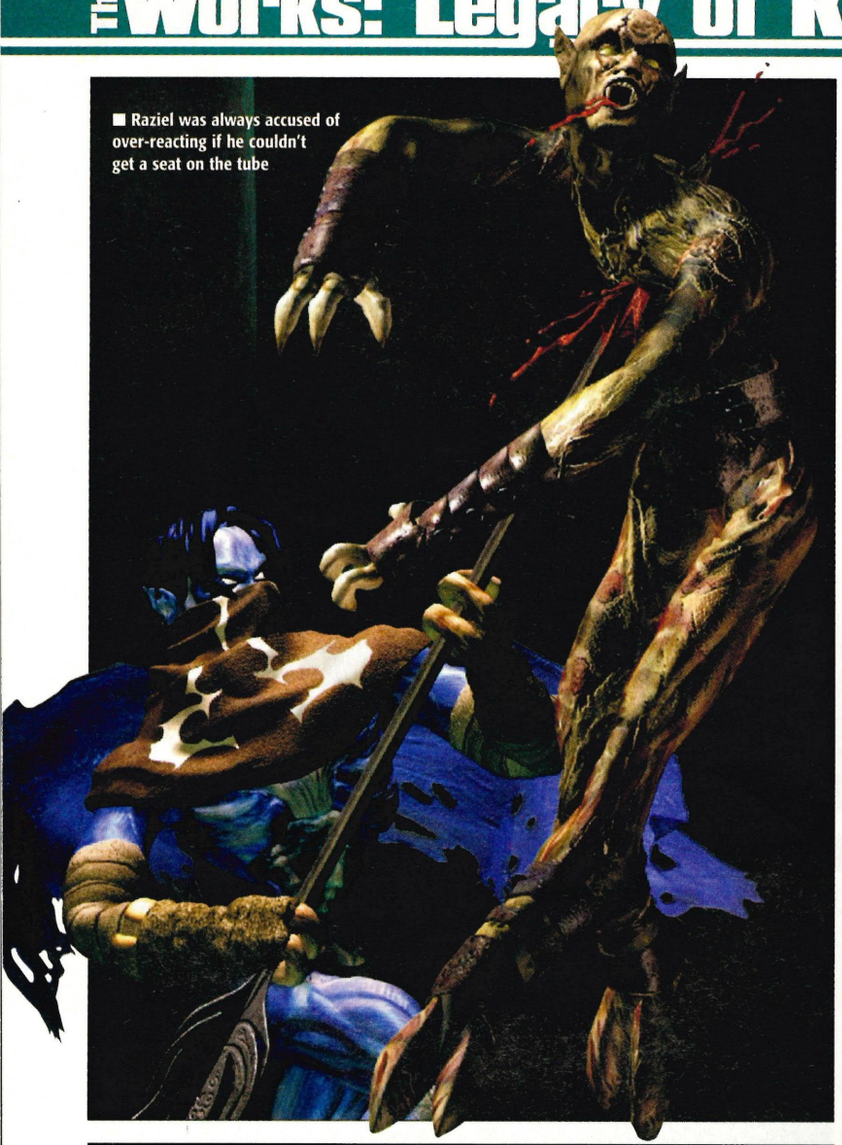






1 It's dark down in the caves, but torches provide a little illumination 2 Unless you've got fireproof hooves you've got to keep on the move in this hell-hole 3 One wrong move and you'll fall to your death 4 Cool these hot-heads down with a claw swipe

The Works: Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver



■ Raziel was always accused of over-reacting if he couldn't get a seat on the tube

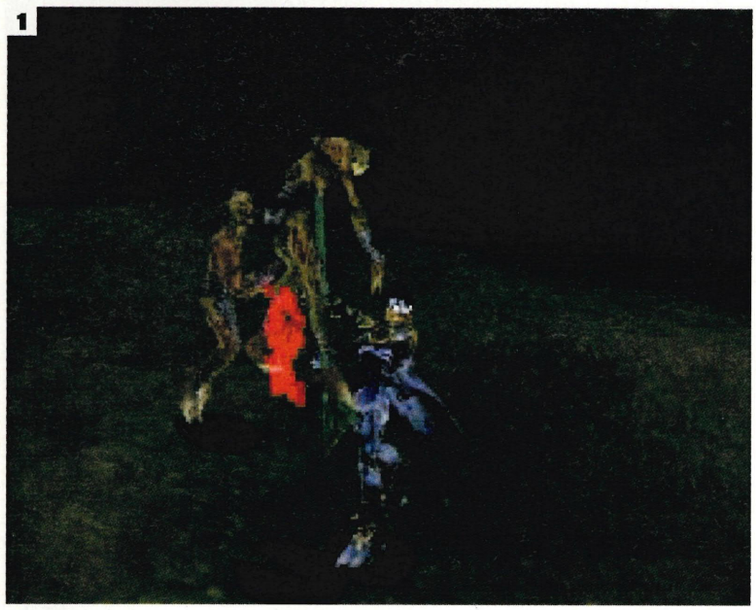
plus

We'd like to say...

We've already said it could be better than Tomb Raider III, but there's one thing holding it back: Raz. If you had the choice of a buxom-brunette or some disfigured vamp, who would you go for? You'd choose breast over brawn every time. But if it's a cool game overflowing with great new ideas you're after, our money's on Soul Reaver.

Immortal combat

It's a game about vampires so you know there's gonna be buckets 'o blood. But rather than drink the stuff, it's your job to spill it. Y'see, Raz is a soul-sucker so he doesn't chow down on chewy veins. Instead he hacks with razor-sharp claws, battering 'em within an inch of their lives. He's then got to finish the gits off with one of the many weapons at hand, or by whipping 'em above his head and chucking the twitching body at a wall. But watch out, if you don't eat their soul fast enough they come back to life.



1



2



3



4

➡ Scary half-dressed women



1 Twat the bloke with your spear, then stick it in his guts 2 Raz can even use torches and flame-grill the bastid enemies 3 Only got your bare fists to fight with? Well you can always pick 'em up and throw 'em 4 Kicking ass underwater ain't easy

The Brotherhood

Raz is just one of six vamps fathered by big cheese Kain, and his five bros are out to whup ass at various bits during the game. They all differ from Raz and have different abilities. They're also dead tough, so Raz has gotta use every means available, including his surroundings, to cane the bad guys' butts.



1



2



3

1 He's a big sucka, but this minotaur geeza ain't so tough 2 You can't kill this bloke with ordinary weapons... 3 Instead you gotta get him in there and squeeze the guts outta him

'There's gonna be buckets 'o blood'

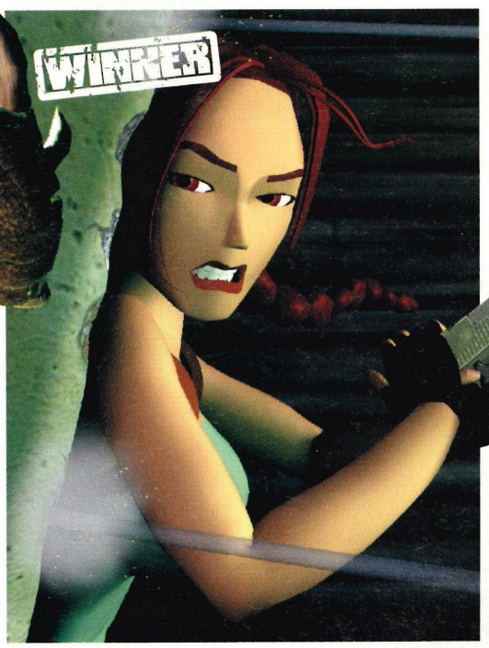
Tomb Raider III comparison

OK, you been creaming over this baby for a couple of pages. But here's the big question; it looks like Tomb Raider III, but is it as good? If you've played Crofty's third then you'll probably love it, and although it'd be unfair to compare them right now 'cos Soul Reaver isn't in the shops for a another few weeks, here's what we reckon so far...

CHARACTER

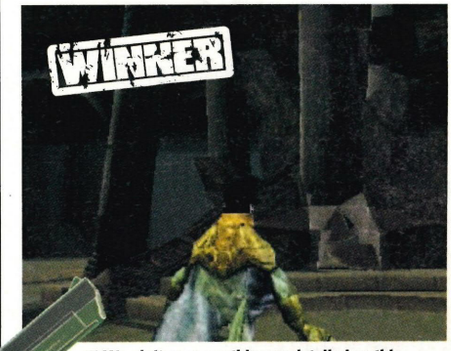


■ With those demon looks, Raziel looks pretty nasty...

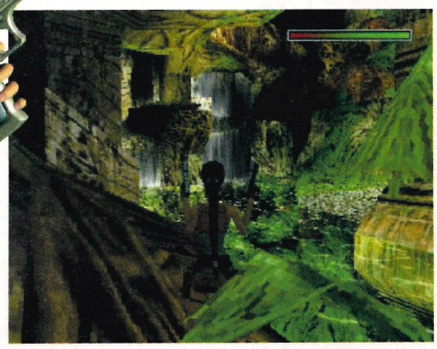


■ But let's face it, who's gonna top our Lara

GRAPHICS

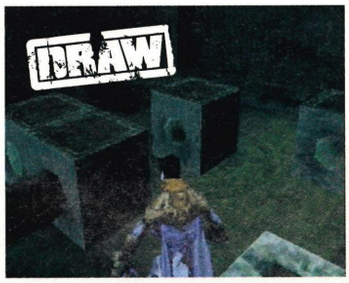


■ We ain't seen anything as detailed as this...

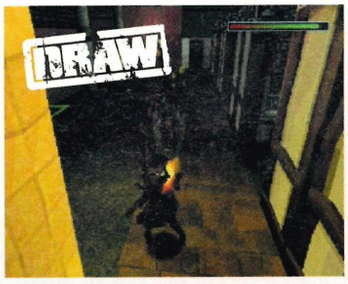


■ No matter how hard Crofty tries, she can't keep up

GAMEPLAY



■ There's still some tweaking to do, but Reaver plays like a doozy

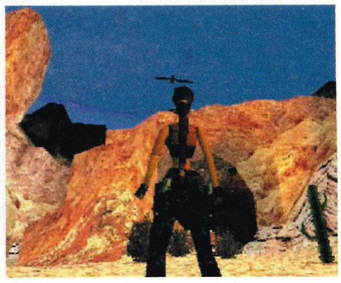


■ No quite so frantic but you've played it, you know how good it is

SIZE



■ It's a giant of a game, and you never have to wait for the next level to load. Sweet

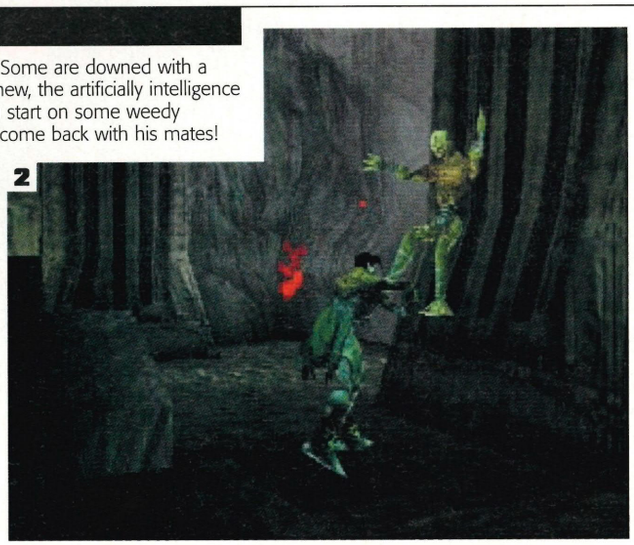


■ Yeah, it's got loads of levels but the kayak's crap, right?

Bad-ass blood suckers

There are some 30 different types of bad guy in Soul Reaver. Some are downed with a couple of slaps, others are tougher. And while this is nothing new, the artificially intelligence is pretty cool. Most of the enemies are pack hunters, so if you start on some weedy zomboid who's standing on his own, he'll run and away then come back with his mates!









1 This big licker thang attacks from a distance, lashing out with its tongue **2** Skinners can bury underneath the ground and pop up to ambush Raz **3** Human saps are dead weedy and hit the deck after a single hit **4** For the tougher guys you're best off using weapons

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KICKBOXING GLOVES



Unbelievable value! Eight ounces of tough hardwearing leather with an adjustable velcro strap.
Ideal for ... er ... kickboxing.

ONLY ¥1400.00



NEW 短刀斧 **AXE-TYPE THING**

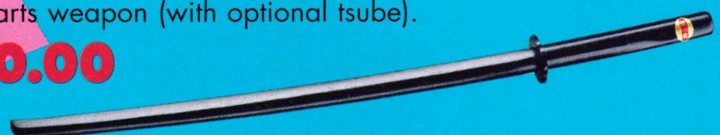
Sure to be this season's must-have weapon.
These axe-type things are made from Japanese hickory for strength and lightness. Nobody's going to put you in detention while you're carrying one of these!

ONLY ¥3300.00

竹刀 BOKKEN

Knock 'em dead with this 40" handcrafted training sword.
Made from high quality Japanese Red Oak this is a true martial arts weapon (with optional tsube).

¥2000.00



Lesson one: kick the living daylights out of the other guy before he kicks it out of you. ボクシング・グローブ

ヌンチャク This is where you come to learn martial arts. 竹刀 手裏剣 Pass, and you'll live. サイ

SCHOOL: BARGAINS

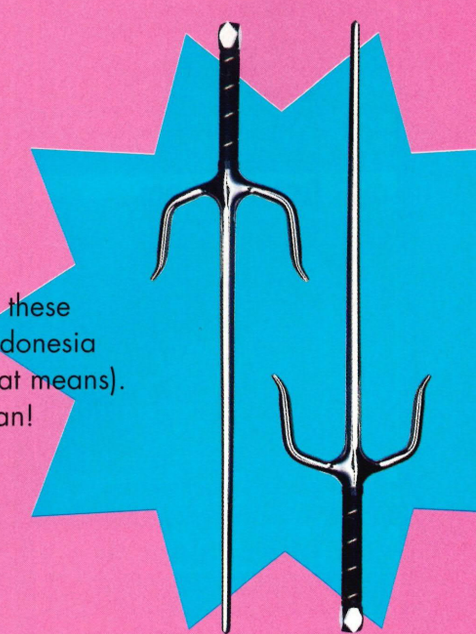




ヌンチャク
NUNCHUCKA

This timeless classic is finished in attractive sky blue and comes with eight inch rubberised grips, high tensile street bearings and Bruce Lee chain. Yowzer!

ONLY ¥4900.00



サイ SAI

Made from cast and polished steel, these are the mutts nuts! Imported from Indonesia and lipped butt ended (whatever that means). Don't take no crap from nobody-san!

¥1200.00



NEW

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SHURIKEN THROWING STARS

Ever popular, these light, palm sized stars are available in several attractive designs. Each is made to the highest quality and make an ideal back-to-school treat.

¥1015.00

Lesson two: there is no lesson two. ヌンチャク This isn't the local grammar.

竹刀 Fail, and you might be off games for a while. 短刀斧 ヌンチャク

RIVAL SCHOOLS UNITED BY FATE

Instant Expert

TIPS, CHEATS AND ADVICE FOR OVER 30 PLAYSTATION GAMES

If your New Year's resolution is to finish that bloody game, you'll be needing a hand in 1999. Consult the friendliest boys in town...

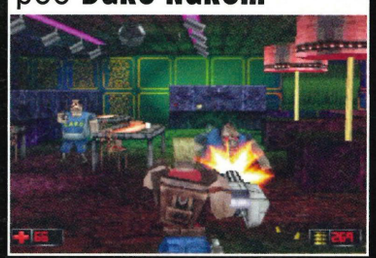
Torn apart this month...

p54 **TOCA 2**



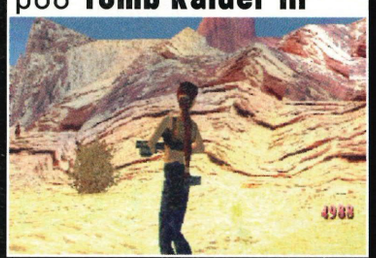
■ The final part of our comprehensive guide to the best sequel since The Godfather II

p66 **Duke Nukem**



■ A load of tips and cheats to help the Duke kill the baddies and get more of the girls

p68 **Tomb Raider III**



■ The game's not been out five minutes but there's still a bagful of cheats for you and Lara

plus

p65 **Small Soldiers**
p65 **Assault**
p66 **Sim City 2000**
p67 **WipEout 2097**
p69 **Tenchu**

TOCA TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP 2 PART 2



It's part two of our Toca 2 guide. This month we look at the remainder of the standard tracks, and check out the special tracks exclusive to TOCA 2. Time to burn rubber...

DETAILS

GAME:	TOCA 2 Touring Car Championship
PRICE:	£39.99
COMPANY:	Codemasters
REVIEWED:	December 1998
SCORE:	93%
VERDICT:	A 'must have' sequel

BACK TO BASICS

So you've listened to what we've said, but you're still a load of rubbish. What's gone wrong? Who knows? But our guess is you'll be needing this masterclass. Sharpen your pencils and start paying attention...

IS THAT A TWITCH?

Lesson one is don't be constantly correcting your car's line. You'll only make the car's arse wag like a demented dog. Keep your line smooth, and don't swerve violently unless you really, really have to. Beginners may find the out of car view easiest to master at first.



■ Don't go twitching the steering too much...



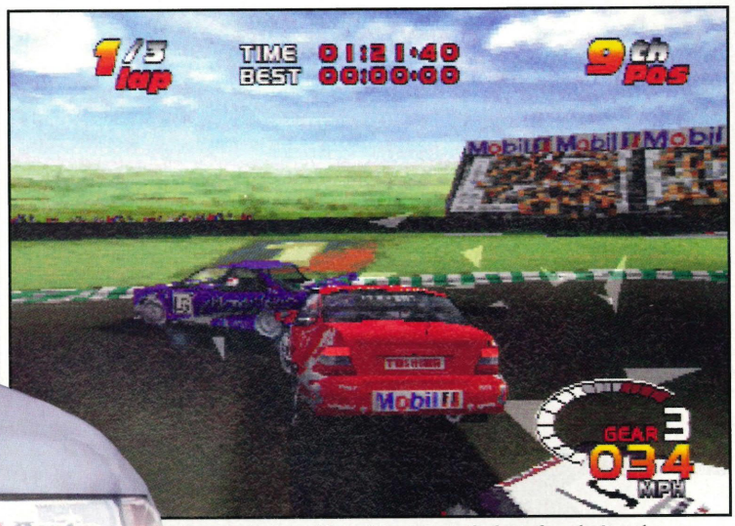
■ Or you'll be zig-zagging all over the track...



■ Heading for the barriers on a fast track to nowhere

KEEP YOUR COOL

Sometimes you just get it wrong and miss-time a corner, and before you know it you're heading for the grass like a smokeless rasta. At times like this you should take the gas off and steer gently back onto the track. Don't power on hoping for a miracle as you'll end up getting very intimate with a wall or another car. Concentration is what you need, along with nerves of steel.



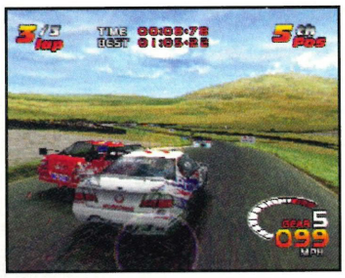
■ So you've loused it up. It happens to the best of us, don't panic...



■ Ease off the gas, wipe your brow and gently steer back towards the track. And don't do it again

HELLO NASTY

Sunday drivers won't get anywhere with this game: look after number one. If you're coming up to a tight corner, use a car to shoulder you round, you'll get there safely, the other car will be one less to beat. Road rage will never feel so good, and so safe. Just don't do it for real.



■ It's a tricky corner, but 'ol red's there to help you, he just doesn't know it yet



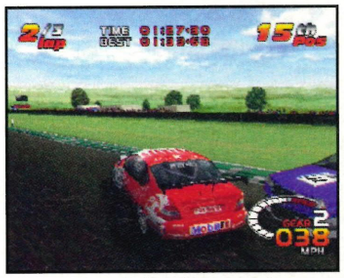
■ Open road, moving up the field, ain't life just grand

STAB OR DAB

Your driving along, minding your own business when some crash-type shit goes down ahead of you. What do you do? Anchor on the brakes? No, no, no. Dab dem brakes. Keep your head and steer smoothly round the action area. If you don't you'll be all over the place, up to your ears in trouble.



■ Someones lost the plot up ahead, tap the brakes, adjust your line, and hey presto...



■ You're through the rubble, up a place or two, planning your victory celebrations

WARNING SIGNS

When you approach some of the more tricky corners you'll see signs with numbers on them, this is the distance to the corner or bend. Use this to get on the right side of the track and alter your speed. Resist the temptation to catch up with the cars in front of you. You'll only regret it.



■ See the sign, take your foot off the throttle, get your line right, and you'll be sorted



■ Don't be afraid of the brakes, they're there to help you

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY

Pay attention to the tracks, try to remember where and when the nasty corners occur. The best way to do this is to use the single race mode many, many, times. This will not only burn the tracks into your memory, it'll stand you in good stead for the championship mode, which can't be bad.



■ Everyone's cack on the first lap, so don't sweat it, time will make you better, believe us



■ Fastest lap. If you're human it'll puff up your chest and make you weep

»

OULTON PARK

Like a curvy diamond, lots of high speed bends peppered with a couple of humdinging corners.

Recommended car

■ **RENAULT LAGUNA**



■ Try the French car for starters...

DRIVE	FWD
VALVES	16
POWER	296 BHP at 8250 RPM
ENGINE	4 cylinder, in-line, traverse

THE FACTS

Location	Cheshire
Track Length	1.66 miles
Lap Record	0:59:61

2: FOSTERS

2 Fosters needs plenty of early braking, but once you're past the apex give the engine full whack and steam through. Don't worry too much as there's tons of track to exit into, but mind the other cars that tend to bunch up around this corner. If in doubt ram them out of the way.



■ Give the crowd something to remember you by

3: KNICKERBROOK

3 Watch for the bumpy track on the left-hand side before the max power right-hander at Knickerbrook. Aim for rumble strips on the inside of the corner and power out.



■ Keep your cool and you'll be set up for the fast straight and some overtaking

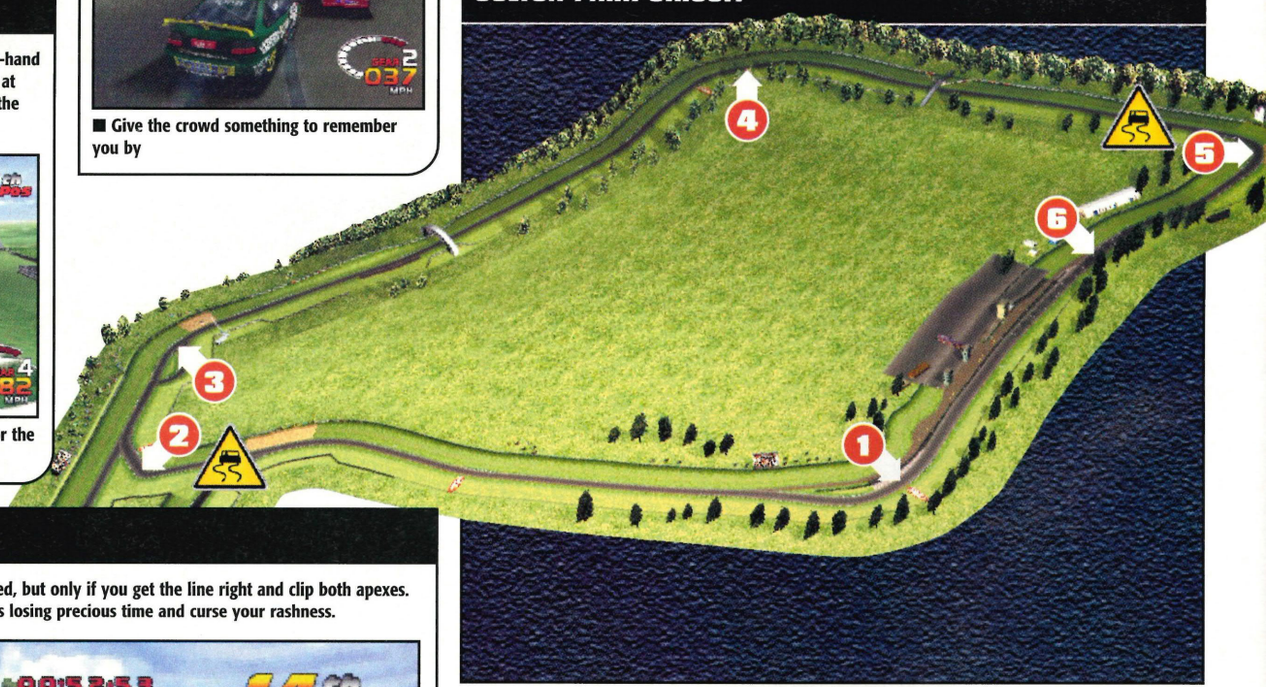
1: OLD HALL

1 From the start line it's full steam towards the first right-hander, Old Hall. This can be taken at full whack if you clip the inside of the curve. From here to the next bend it's fuel burning time.



■ Clip the rumble strip, and head towards the other side of the track, but don't oversteer

OULTON PARK CIRCUIT



4: DRUIDS CURVE

4 Druid's Curve can be taken at full speed, but only if you get the line right and clip both apexes. If you get it wrong, you'll be on the grass losing precious time and curse your rashness.



■ Hitting a ton: lovely scenery, the pack in your sights, things are shaping up nicely

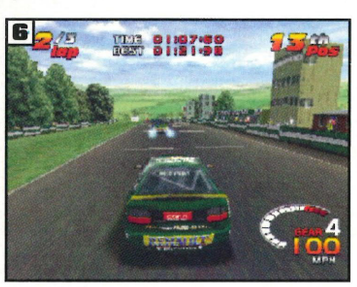
5: LODGE CORNER

5 Brake hard and early for this tight right-hander, Lodge corner, otherwise you'll hit the gravel and lose precious time. From here to the next bend it's foot to the floor time.



■ Resist the temptation to give it loads

6 Full belt to the start line, and don't spare the horses. Just remember all the corners you've been around and you'll be well sorted for speed and whizz.



■ One lap to go, and plenty of work to do

CROFT

One of the most difficult. It's got tight corners, deadly hairpins and narrow chicanes. Handle with care.

Recommended car

■ **FORD MONDEO**



■ Favoured by reps and rally drivers

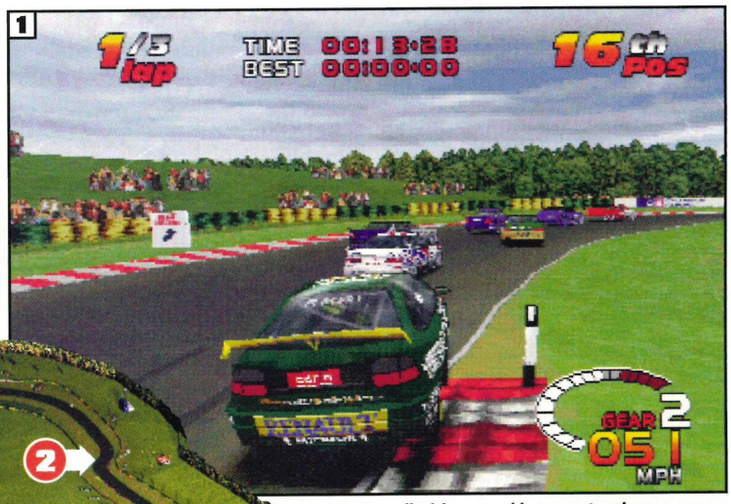
DRIVE	FWD
VALVES	24
POWER	295 BHP at 8500 RPM
ENGINE	V6, traverse

THE FACTS

Location	Darlington
Track Length	2.13 miles
Lap Record	1:22:04

1: HAWTHORN

1 From the start stay on the left of the track. Apply the brakes a little for the first bend, Hawthorn, accelerate out and clip the left apex ready for the next left/right kink.



■ It's well tricky around here, so stay sharp

2: THE CHICANE

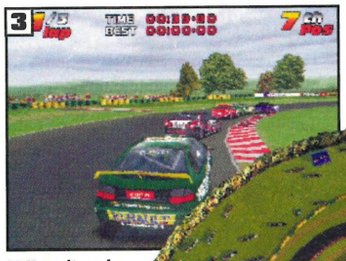
2 The chicane can be taken at full speed, but be careful of the barrier on the left 'cos if you catch it hard you'll be spinning into next week wondering which way's up with a queasy feeling in your stomach.



■ Don't try anything stupid here, concentrate on keeping it steady

3: TOWERS BEND

3 It's pedal to the metal time, but remember to get on the right of the track for the Towers bend. This should be approached at around 75 mph, keep a smooth line and power out towards the Esses.



■ Keep it cool, real cool

4&5: SUNNY BEND

4 Next the Sunny double apex right-hander. Ease off the accelerator a tad, and keep a steady line all the way through. Be ready to boot it once you see the straight.



■ Make sure no one clips you here

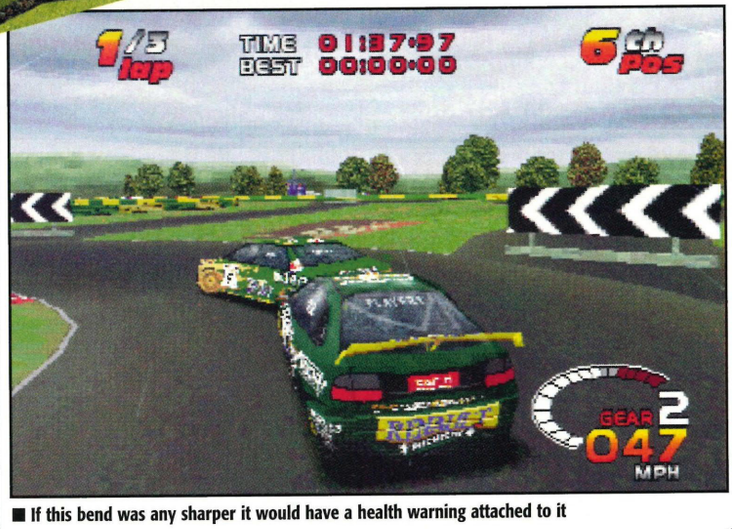
5 It's a fast straight right up to the hairpin, which should be taken from the left of the track. Power out towards the left of the track ready for the next corner.



■ Don't do what the car in front did, eh?

6: FINAL HAIRPIN

6 This right-hander is sharp. Brake hard and turn early, power out for the hairpin at 50 mph. Give it some past the apex.



■ If this bend was any sharper it would have a health warning attached to it

KNOCKHILL

Knockhill is a speed fest, it's got two sections to storm along, plus nasty corners to lose sleep over.

Recommended car

■ **AUDI A4**



■ Audi hell did he do that?

DRIVE	FWD
VALVES	v16
POWER	296 BHP at 8250 RPM
ENGINE	4 cylinder, in-line, longitudinal

THE FACTS

Location	Fife
Track Length	1.30 miles
Lap Record	0:53:44

1: DUFFS DIP

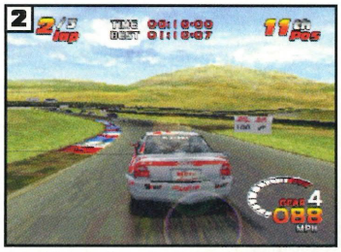
1 Keep to the left of the track and get ready for the crucial right-hander, Duff's Dip. Try to avoid the rumble strip as it can throw you over to the left.



■ Ah, you can almost smell the speed and exitement. 11th place, all to play for

2: FIRST LEFT-HANDER

2 The gentle left-hander needs a steady line, as it leads to the tricky right-hander McIntyre. But this doesn't means dawdling along, oh no, just don't push it too hard.



■ Hold it steady and you'll be just fine, trust us, we're professionals. Sort of

3: MCINTYRE

3 McIntyre should be taken reasonably fast, so brake late and turn early, exiting to the left of the track. Mind out for the gravel on the left as it'll slow you right down if you hit it.



■ Take it easy through McIntyre.

KNOCKHILL CIRCUIT

6: TAYLORS BEND

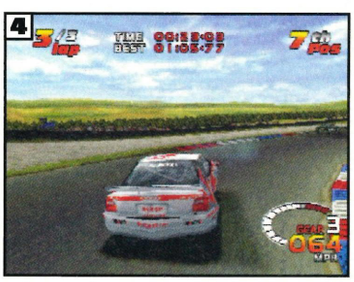
6 It's hard and fast up till the final bend: Taylor's. Remember to brake hard at the 100M mark, turn really late and welly it out, from there it's full-on to the start line.



■ Someone's gonna have to stump up for the scratched paintwork, or there'll be hell to pay...

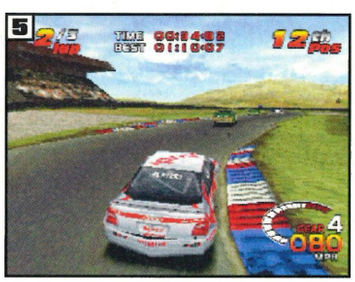
4&5: BUTCHERS & CLARK

4 Gun it through Butchers, keep left of the chicane, clip the left of the rumble strip before turning right, throttling out to the straight.



■ You should be booting it around here

5 Clark can be taken at the max, but remember to cut inside and use the whole of the track to exit into.



■ Can you hear the crowd? Thought not

SNETTERTON

Loads of long straights to get your teeth into and a bunch of corners to test your nerve and shocks.

Recommended car

■ **RENAULT LAGUNA**



■ Renault where you live...

DRIVE	*FWD*
VALVES	*16*
POWER	*296 BHP at 8250 RPM*
ENGINE	*4 cylinder, in-line, traverse*

THE FACTS

Location	*Norfolk*
Track Length	*1.96 miles*
Lap Record	*1:00:87*

3: THE ESSES

3 Brake hard and early for the left hand kink of the Esses, keeping a steady line for the right-hand section, once past slam down on the accelerator.



■ It's looking a little hairy around here

4: BOMB HOLE

4 The next corner, Bomb Hole isn't very tight so it can be taken flat out. Be careful if you try and overtake here, any sudden moves and you'll be all over the grass.



■ If we were any closer we'd be able to count the hairs on the driver's neck

1&2: SEARS CORNER

1 There's a fair amount of straight before the first right-hander which can be taken almost full out. Just remember to only hit the second apex on the way through.

2 Brake hard for the Sears corner, as it creeps up on you. Turn early and clip the apex, but don't run wide and hit the left-hand barrier. From here it's full-on until the Esses.



■ It's all about your racing line. No line and you're truly fooked. It's as simple as that



■ Once you're past this bend you can really pump the throttle hard

SNETTERTON CIRCUIT

4&5: CROMAM & RUSSEL BEND

5 Coram's the same kinda gig as Bomb Hill, so floor it right the way through, picking off any straglers along the way before slowing down for the next corner.

6 Brake hard for the final chicane, Russel Bend, which goes right then left. Don't take it any faster than 50 mph. Once through it's hard and fast towards the start line.

■ Your ass is ours, so-called racing driver

■ Hold your ground and keep it real cool

LOCH RANOCH RACING LINE

Split personality. Go with the pack along the racing roads, or down narrow country roads and dirt tracks.

Recommended car

■ **FORD MONDEO**



■ Ford-wheel drive. Cool

DRIVE	FWD
VALVES	24
POWER	295 BHP 8500 RPM
ENGINE	V6, traverse

THE FACTS

Location	Creif
Track Length	2.49 miles
Lap Record	1:54:04

1: BRUCE BEND

1 It's full-on from the start line, take the left at the fork, taking care over Bruce Bend, which can be taken flat out if you're not too near the road's edge.



■ We'll take the high road, with its nice smooth roads and lovely Scottish scenery

2: FOREST PASS

2 Steam down Forest Pass, remembering to anchor on those brakes for the hard right-hander at Croft Crossing.



■ Get your speed right down for this corner

3: CROOK

3 Pile on the revs before slowing down a little for the bridge at the Crook which, if taken too fast, will see you off the track looking at yer map and scratching your head.



■ Funny tummy time.

LOCH RANOCH CIRCUIT (RACING LINE)

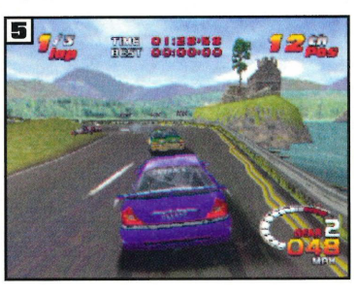
4: WOO CORNER

4 Cane it through Woo corner watching the bumpy track which poses a few problems, and don't forget to take the right fork or you'll be well and truly sunk.



■ Best have decent suspension for this bit

5 The ruined castle looms up quickly, and can catch the best drivers unawares so be prepared to get right down and very slow for this quick left/right kink.



■ Eyes peeled for this bastid of a bend

6: DAM CORNER

6 Dam Corner's best taken if you slow up a little and use the lay-by on the left to give you a better entry angle. From here it's flat out towards the start line.



■ We reckon the other drivers should've paid a bit more attention to the map

LOCH RANOCH DIRT TRACK

1: PEREGRINE

1 For this course take the right turning at the fork, ease off your speed for the steep descent through Peregrine as it's got more bumps than Anna Nicole Smith. If you take it too fast you'll be spinning all over place denting your lovely bodywork and losing precious time. Once past Peregrine you can steam it hard until Croft Crossing.



■ At least your guaranteed no bothersome traffic if you take this route

2: CROFT CROSSING

2 It's max speed all the way though to Croft Crossing, but brake slightly on the brow of the hill before you go over. Watch for the traffic coming across your path.



■ Ah shit, this could be tricky....

3: PORTERHOUSE BEND

3 The Porterhouse bend may look tame, but believe us it can't be taken at full whack. Control is always preferable to speed for this little number.



■ Looks can be deceptive, so take it easy

LOCH RANOCH CIRCUIT (DIRT TRACK)



4: CROOK BRIDGE

4 Ease off for the bridge at the Crook as otherwise it'll have you off the road. After this take the left fork on to the High Road.



■ And you take the low road...

5: DAM CORNER

5 You should lose a lot of speed before Dam Corner, as you want to get into the left hand lay-by in order to get the right turning angle.



■ Give way? Don't be stupid, damn fool

6: FINAL STRAIGHT

6 It's full on through Porters until the start line – ideal for a spot of overtaking the Sunday drivers caught checking out the bootiful scenery. But, hey, with looks like these you can't blame them.



■ Your ass is ours, believe it to be true. This race is ours...

ALPINE CLIMB

This'll sort the men from the boys, it goes uphill and downhill sections, with a load of hairpins and zigzags.

Recommended car

■ **NISSAN PRIMERA**



■ Well it sounds better than a Sunny, eh?

DRIVE	FWD
VALVES	16
POWER	297 BHP at 8300 RPM
ENGINE	4 cylinder, in-line, traverse

THE FACTS

Location	French Alps
Track Length	1.58 miles
Lap Record	1:29:04

3: HEADLINE BEND

3 Keep to the right of the track for the 90 degree bend, Headline, but don't boot it out: control is the key.



■ Stay with the pack

1&2: PARSONS NOSE & PEAK ESSES

1 The start line is the lowest point of the track, from here it's uphill. First up is the Parsons Nose, use this to build up a bit of speed.

2 Avoid braking for the next three bends, the Peak Esses. Use the rumble strips to slow down, and gently accelerate out of the corners.



■ You've got to fight your way through this bit



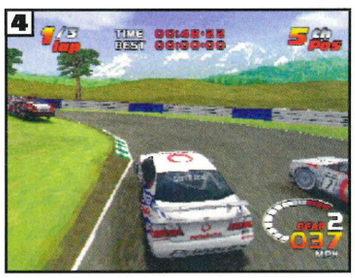
■ Use the rumble strips to slow you down

ALPINE CLIMB CIRCUIT

4&5 HELTER SKELTER & HILL HOOK

4 Helter Skelter can be a battle ground if you're amongst other drivers. The track is tight. Get into a rhythm, turning and accelerating using the rumble strips to get a better line.

5 Once out of Helter Skelter cane it through the gentle bend of Quarry Straight, brake hard for the 180 degree bend, Hill Hook, then back on the gas for the left at Chateau Tawnstein.



■ No need to boot it too fast, no one else is



■ With a bit of practice you can handbrake it

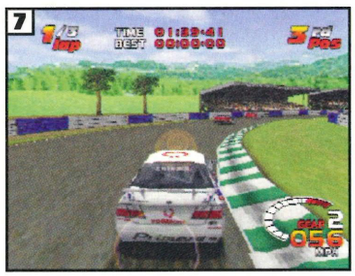
6&7: CHASE CORNER & WHITE ROCK

6 Chase Corner needs care and attention, so tap the brakes, and clip both of the rumble strips as they'll slow you down without you having to use the brakes.

7 For the last bend, White Rock, dab the brakes a little and take it real tight, using the rumble strip on the right, from here it's full-on right up to the start line.



■ Looks like a spot of car wrestling



■ Victory is almost ours, just two to take out

DOWNTOWN USA

In the US they're into their grid road system, so this course has more 90 degree bends than a Rubik's Cube.

Recommended car

■ **VAUXHALL VECTRA**



■ Not the same car as your brother drives

DRIVE	FWD
VALVES	16
POWER	295 BHP at 8400 RPM
ENGINE	4 cylinder, in-line, traverse

THE FACTS

Location	USA
Track Length	2.15 miles
Lap Record	1:55:01

3: PLAZA CORNER

3 Braking hard for Plaza Corner, another right-hander, which takes you onto 18th St.



■ Another 90 degree corner, how interesting

1&2: THE MALL

1 It's the first of many 90 turns from the start line, so stay on the right of the track and cut right across at the last moment. From here it's through the mall.

2 The mall surface is very slippery, so ease off the gas once you're in there, as otherwise the hard right straight after the mall will catch you out.



■ Do they understand the concept of a curved road in the US? We think not



■ It can get bunched up around here so expect a few scratches

DOWNTOWN USA CIRCUIT

4&5: CITY CURVE

4 The next three corners can be taken the same way, pumping the throttle, taking them wide and cutting in at the last minute. Stick to the formula and you'll be alright.

5 The fourth corner can be taken quicker as there's loads of road to exit into, allowing you to boot it through City Curve, which is – shock! horror! – a curved bend. What next, a chicane?



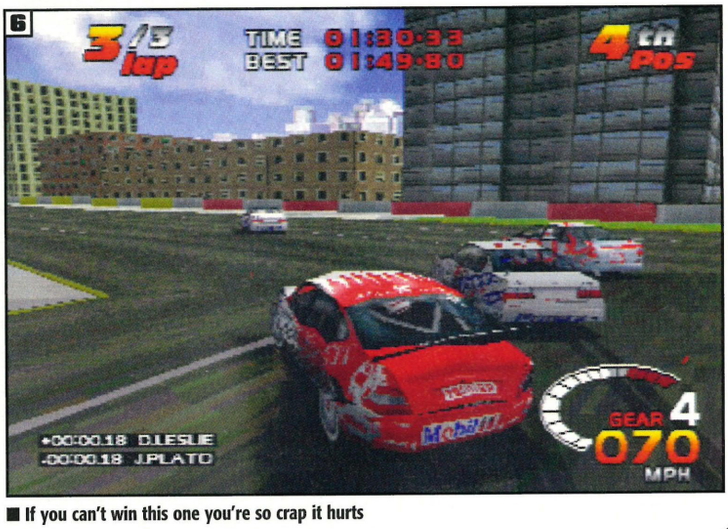
■ Tyre's aburning, Starsky and Hutch style



■ Good god, a curved bend

6: 14TH STREET

6 It's a fast straight, with a tricky chicane, before you hit the 14th Street 90 degree left-hander, which should be taken no fast than 85 mph. After this it's three 90 turns before the start line.



■ If you can't win this one you're so crap it hurts

GERMANY

This is one fast and tactical drive, with, amongst a load of other things, a roundabout. Magic...

Recommended car

■ **VOLVO S40**



■ Sexy, not boxy. Or something

DRIVE	FWD
VALVES	20
POWER	290 BHP at 8500 RPM
ENGINE	5 cylinder, in-line, traverse

THE FACTS

Location	Bavaria
Track Length	2.15 miles
Lap Record	1.13.05

3: VILLAGE

3 At Village, tap the brakes a little and take the left-hander at about 75 mph steering sharp left and straightening up on the apex and throttling out.



■ Be patient and don't boot it through this section, your time will come

4: RAVEN JUNCTION

4 Accelerate hard through the short straight drifting onto the right of the road. Brake late and hard for Raven Junction cutting from the right to the left of the track at about 60 mph.



■ This corner is much the same as Village

1&2: MONUMENT ROUNDABOUT

1 From the start it's a really smooth, fast straight, which is perfect for moving up a few places. But try to keep on the left of the track for the roundabout at the end, otherwise you're gonna regret it.



■ Expect some typically efficient German driving here

2 The Monument roundabout looks worse than it is, it can be taken at about 75-80 mph, as long as you drift around clipping the rumble strip. As you exit throttle up and cross the bend from left to right.



■ Who said the Brits were the only ones in love with roundabouts?

GERMANY CIRCUIT

5&6: BERGENSTEIN CURVE & THE PINES

5 After the junction comes the Bergenstein Curve. Stay on the left of the track, ease off the power and then gently drift around the bend.

■ Just ease yourself round this bend, not too fast and not too slow

6 At the Pines, slow down a little and take a right to left approach, exiting on to the left of the track. Watch out for the rocks either side of the track. It's a gentle curve followed by a straight and you're back to the start.

■ Watch out for the rocks on the left, they can be hell if you catch them

Q&A

Being the boys in the know we've got a sack load of cheats, tips and hints. So if you've got a gaming problem fill in the coupon on page 69. Post is free.

New year, new games, new cheats

Shlock horror – cheats prosper

It's a new year, full of boundless optimism and the thrill of the unknown. Here in the land of PlayStation we're making a New Year's resolution to make your cheating that bit better, and on that note here come some prime cheat code....

COOL BOARDERS 3

At the start, at the tournament screen enter your name as any one of these:

WONITALL	ALL TRACKS
OPEN_EM	ALL RIDERS
BIGHEADS	BIG HEADS

APOCALYPSE

To enable the cheat mode pause the game and hold down L1. Whilst doing this enter any of these:

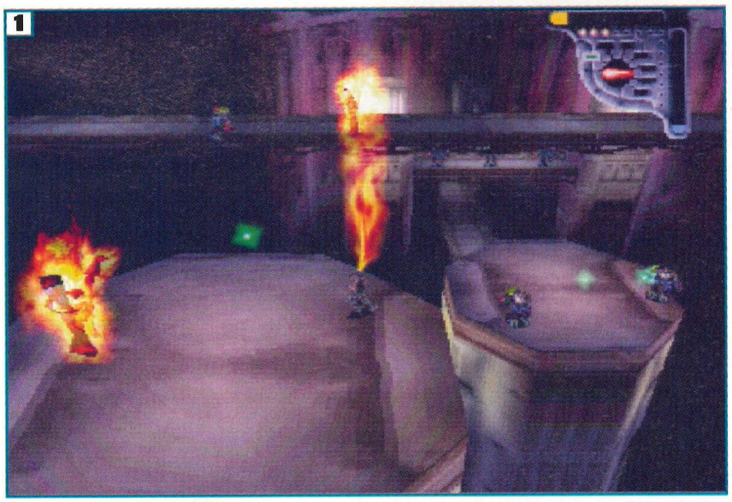
OPEN LEVELS & RESTART POINTS:	△ ↑ ✕ ↓
INVINCIBILITY:	↓ ← ← △ ↑ → ↓
ALL WEAPONS:	○ ○ ↑ ↓ ✕ □

SMALL SOLDIERS

There's a medal of honour Easter Egg (imagine a game's version of hidden treasure) of goodies tucked inside this game. All you have to do to activate it is enter △△✕○○○□✕.

LEVEL PASSWORDS

▼ GORGON	✕ ✕ △ □ □ ✕ ○ ✕
▼ DIMENSIONAL TEMPLE	□ ✕ △ □ □ □ ○ ✕
▼ FLOATING FORTRESS	○ ✕ △ □ □ ○ ○ ✕
▼ SPIRIT BOG	△ ✕ △ □ □ △ ○ ✕
▼ CANYON VILLAGE	✕ □ △ □ □ ✕ △ ✕
▼ CREEPY CAVERNS	□ □ △ □ □ □ △ ✕
▼ SPACE SHIP	○ □ △ □ □ ○ △ ✕
▼ HALL OF PATRIOTS	△ □ △ □ □ △ △ ✕
▼ GRAVEYARD OF WAR MACHINES	✕ ○ △ □ □ ✕ ✕ □
▼ NUCLEAR MINE	□ ○ △ □ □ □ ✕ □
▼ LAUNCH CENTRE	○ ○ △ □ □ ○ ✕ □
▼ ULHADEN FIER	△ □ △ □ □ △ ✕ □
▼ GARRISON	✕ △ △ □ □ ✕ □ □
▼ INNER SANCTUM	□ △ △ □ □ □ □ □









1 He is the firestarter 2 The Willis BBQ: it's great 3 Big is beautiful 4 Small soldiers, big killing

ALUNDRA

In Alundra how do you solve the puzzle regarding the respects of the ghosts in the shitty room eg blue ghost?
Lee Harper

Although you've been as unprecise as is humanly possible, we think we know what your on about. Just. What you've got to do is number the five ghosts from 1-5, starting from the left. Then speak to them in this order: 3, 2, 4, 1, 5.



■ 'So I was talking to these ghosts...'

CRASH BANDICOOT

Have you got any cheats for Crash Bandicoot?
Ahmed Kashir

A fan of our fav marsupial, eh? Well our top cheat is totally massive and gets access to all levels, all gems, all keys and 100% score. Enter this:
△△△△✕□△△△△□✕
△○△△△○□△✕✕✕✕



■ Jumpin' back Crash, he's a gas, gas, gas...

NOVASTORM

Gimmie some cheats for Novastorm or see a grown man cry.
Mr Bishop

It was a close call but we've grown tired of ritual humiliation, so we're just going to do as you ask and give you the cheat in the faint hope that you'll just bugger off and disappear. Enter TWIRLY plus a space as your name at the high score screen. This will give you access to the level select screen. And stop blubbing.

Gear Guru

Mystic Smeg

We've polished up our crystal balls and looked into the future to bring you info on far away games, and generally do a spot of sage-type, prophet-like work...

● Please tell me when Final Fantasy VIII is coming out. Will it be on PSX 1 or PSX 2?
Mark Chentite

The planets suggest it will come out on the present PlayStation, around the month of December 1999.

● Why don't you make the Playstation for four people like the N64 instead of two people?
Alice Koroma

Ah yes, well most people play games that require one or two people, but if have a multiplayer game and you need to play with more than one other person try the Sony Multitap, which sells for £32.99.

● Is the Dual Shock pad available with Metal Gear Solid, like when you shoot it rumbles. Which should I get, Tomorrow Never Dies or Metal Gear Solid?
Blaine McIntyre

The runes suggest it does take the Dual Shock, and the goddess of games taste, High Priestess N. Joy thinks your boat will float to the game that goes by the name of Metal Gear Solid.

● Do you know when Metal Gear Solid is coming out in the US. Can you tell me what the difference is between the MGS standard and MGS deluxe?
D. Cairns

The tea leaves tell us that it is available now, the difference between the standard and deluxe MGS is that the deluxe comes with a dog tag, a book and a T-shirt.

● Are there any plans for a Broken Sword 3, if so when is it due for release?
Steve

The crystal ball suggests there will be another, but it won't tell us when.

● Which of these games is the best: ISS Pro 98, World League Soccer 98 and Actua Soccer?
Joe Gratten

High Priestess N. Joy thinks that ISS Pro 98 is the coveted one, seek that and you shall walk the path of righteousness.



»

Instant Expert: Your problems solved

Assault

Assault and vinegar crisps

Got any cheats for Assault?
Bob Marks

We do, but there dead tricky as you only have three seconds to tap them in. So if you've got arthritis, don't bother. You'll know if you've done it because the screen will flash white, and you'll hear a whoosh sound and the cheat name will be displayed at the top of the screen. Fingers at the ready. At the 'ASSAULT-PRESS START' screen enter the following combinations...

GOODIES
△ □ ○ ← □ △ □ ○ ← □
There'll be an extra entry in the options menu allowing you to skip levels and get infinite stuff.

3D CHARACTER FLATTEN
↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ← → ← → ✕ ○
This makes all but the Boss characters 2D.

BIG HEAD PLAYERS
□ ○ ○ □ ↑ □ ○ ○ □ △
This makes all the characters' heads bigger.

BIG HEAD ALIENS
□ ○ ○ □ ↑ □ ○ ○ □ ✕
This makes the size of the aliens heads bigger, with the exception of the Boss.

SPEED RUN
✕ □ △ ○ ✕ □ △ ○ L2 R2
This makes the player's character run faster. The ○ button activates this.







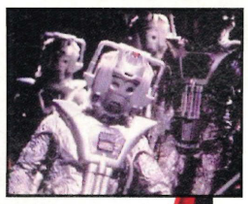
1 One hell of a sneeze We'd say 2 Complete confusion reigns 3 Looks like a massive 12 bore

Cyber-helpery

Geek Speak

If you've got access to the internet, and you don't mind appearing geeky, try these sites:

http://www.game-revolution.com/content.htm
http://www.ugo.net/OAS/ugo/try-it.cgi
http://www.segasages.com
http://www.widearea.co.uk/playstation.coolsites.html
http://www.geocities.com/silliconvalley/vista/1289/tips.html
http://www.a-p-i.net/absolute-playstation/tips/acheats.htm



Crash Bandicoot 2

Mr Bandicoot to you

Could you please give me any cheats available for Crash Bandicoot 2 please.
Peter Guy

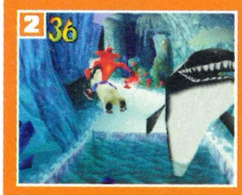
Sure as hell can, let's get it on...

EXTRA SHIELD
When Mr Bandicoot buys the farm press ↑ + ○

EXTRA LIVES
This works on levels 6-10, jump on the baby polar bear's head in the second warp room.

FIGHT THE BOSSES AGAIN
If you're feeling a bit tasty, a little bit stupid and fancy a return bout with the evil bosses stand on the relevant pad and press all the shoulder pads and ↑ then tap ↑. Madman.







1 Crash's cider making was taking the pips 2 Having a whale of a time 3 Fun on spin cycle

DUKE NUKEM: TIME TO KILL

Duke Nukem: Time to Kill is brilliant, but I need cheats to send me over the edge. Help me.
Nick Boban

Sorry Nick, time for you to take the plunge. Consider yourself in free fall, how is it... nice, eh? If you fancy putting some spice into your Duke's life then try this little lot to help you wipe out a load more pork bellies and get a gaggle more girls. To get these cheats, pause the game and enter...

INVISIBLE
L1 R1 L1 R1 L1 R1 L1 R1 L1 R1

DOUBLE DAMAGE
L2 R2 L2 R2 L2 R2 L2 R2 L2 R2

TEMPORARY INVUNERABLE
R1 L2 L1 L2 R1 L1 R1 L2 L1 L2

INFINITE AMMO
← → ← → SEL ← → ← → SEL

ALL WEAPONS
L1 L2 ↑ L1 L2 ↓ R1 → R2 ←

INVUNERABLE
L2 R1 L1 R2 ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ SEL SEL

ALL ITEMS
R1 x5 L2 x5

LEVEL SELECT
↓ x9 ↑

ALL KEYS
↑ → ↑ ← ↓ ↑ → ← → ↓



■ **But don't whatever you do kill the pole dancers. They really, really don't like it...**

Sim City 2000

What a nice boy

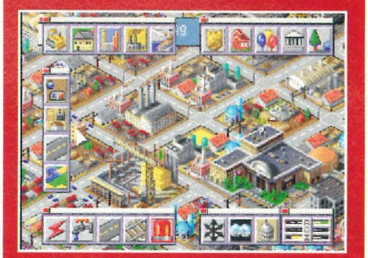
Hello, have you got any cheats for Sim City, if you have could you print them please? Bye.
Paul Glassass

You truly can tell the difference between your average beat 'em up gamer who's brimming with angry testosterone-fuelled attitude, and a Sim City player.How? Because they're full of 'hellos' and 'pleases'. We bet your mum's dead proud of you – you nancy boy's blouse – and who could blame her. However, to business...

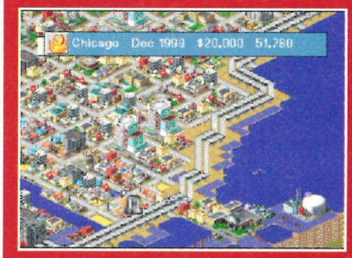
ONE MILLION SMAKERUNIES
First up, load a game or start a city, once going, access City Info/Budget. At the budget screen do the following...

1. HOLD R1 + ✕ ○ △ □ THEN RELEASE R1
2. HOLD L1 + ✕ ○ △ □ THEN RELEASE L1
3. HOLD R2 + ✕ ○ □ △ THEN RELEASE R2
4. HOLD R2 + ✕ ○ □ △ ○ THEN RELEASE R2

You'll hear a cheer which means you've got one million fat ones.



■ **This was all fields this morning...**



■ **It's not like the old days. You're sooo right**

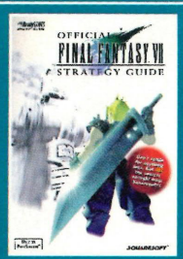
Books

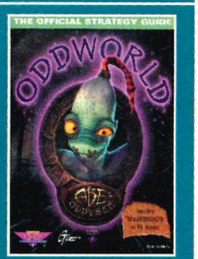
What are they?

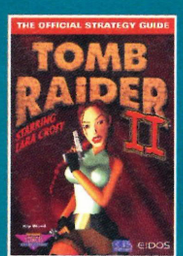
Books. The word sounds familiar, but we can't think what it means. Sounds a little old fashioned. Wait a minute, didn't we have them at school before computers came along? Bingo. So there we were opening this parcel in the office and out popped these slabs of paper. We used them as door stops.

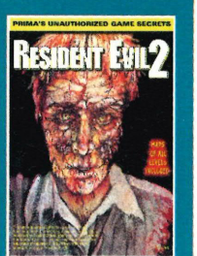
What they are in fact are strategy guides for some of the most fiendish PlayStation games around. They're jammed full of screen shots, and easy to follow instructions, blowing the games wide open. Handy ain't the word. In fact there so on the ball they've already got guides for Tomb Raider III, Metal Gear Solid and Tenchu. Here's a selection...

Available from Computer manuals on 0121 706 6000. Phone for a free booklist, or visit their online bookstore at http://www.computer-manuals.co.uk









➡ **Gaming can improve your literacy. Mum.**

Platinum tipped

Value for money

Everyone likes saving money, even the Queen. Just look at her wardrobe. That headscarf she wears is actually woven from Prince Phillip's pubic hair. We also reckon she'd be right royally made up with our selection of platinum game cheats. They're finger lickin' good...

WIPEOUT 2097

TRACK CHEAT
ON THE MAIN MENU SCREEN HOLD DOWN R1 + L1 + SEL WHILE PRESSING:
■ ● △ ● ■
(ALL THE TRACKS IN VECTOR MODE)

MACHINE GUN
WHILE RACING PRESS PAUSE AND HOLD DOWN R1 + L1 WHILE PRESSING:
■ ● ✕ ■ ● ✕ △

INFINITE WEAPONS
WHILE RACING PRESS PAUSE AND HOLD DOWN R1 + L1 WHILE PRESSING:
✕ ✕ ■ ■ ● ● △

INFINITE TIME
WHILE RACING PRESS PAUSE AND HOLD DOWN R1 + L1 WHILE PRESSING:
△ ■ ● ✕ △ ■ ● ✕

INFINITE ENERGY
WHILE RACING PRESS PAUSE AND HOLD DOWN R1 + L1 + SEL WHILE PRESSING:
△ ✕ ■ ● △ ✕ ■ ●

PHANTOM MODE
ON THE MAIN MENU SCREEN HOLD DOWN R1 + L1 + SEL WHILE PRESSING:
△ △ △ ● ● ●
(PHANTOM CLASS AVALABLE AT TRACK SELECT)



■ Fears that by the year 2097 the M25 would be complete gridlock have been, er, wiped out...

MICRO MACHINES V3

DOUBLE SPEED
WHILE RACING PRESS:
■ ➡ ➡ ⬇ ⬆ ⬇ ⬅ ⬇ ⬇
IF YOU HEAR A BEEP THEN YOU'VE DONE IT RIGHT. (TO CANCEL JUST RE-ENTER THE SAME CODE AGAIN).

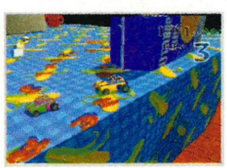
DEBUG MODE
WHILE RACING PRESS:
■ ⬆ ⬇ ⬇ ■ ● ● △ ✕
A BEEP WILL SOUND IF YOU'VE DONE IT RIGHT. NOW DO THE FOLLOWING:
WIN ANY RACE:
SEL + ✕ TO QUIT RACE AND WIN.
CHANGE CAMERA ANGLE:
SEL + ⬆ ⬇ ⬅ ➡
CONTROL CAMERA ZOOM:
L2 / R2
TURN PLAYER'S CAR INTO CONSOLE'S:
SEL + ■
BLOW UP ALL CARS:
✕ + △ + ● + ■

THREE LIVES IN MULTIPLAYER MODE
ENTER YOUR NAME AS 3LIVES

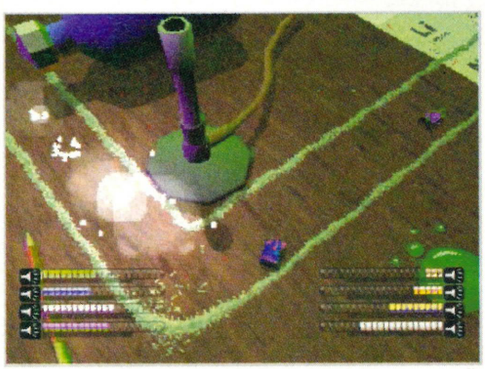
HALF-SPEED OPPONENTS
WHILE RACING PRESS:
● ✕ ● △ ■ ✕ ● △ ■ ✕



■ Pocket racers



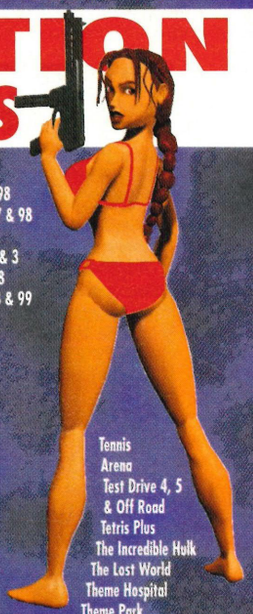
■ Tablecloth by Tim Leary



■ Down at the science labs strange things were stirring...

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Bloody Roar
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Cardinal Syn
Carnage Heart
Cheesy
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Crusader: No Remorse
Dark Forces
Darklight Conflict
Dead Ball Zone
Dead or Alive
Death Trap Dungeon
Descent
Descent Maximum
Destruction Derby 1 & 2
Diablo
Die Hard 1, 2, & 3
Disruptor
Doom
Duke Nukem: Time to Kill
Duke Nukem: Total Meltdown
Dynasty Wars
Excalibur
Fade to Black
Felony 11-79
FIFA 96, 97, 98
Fighting Force
Final Doom
Final Fantasy VII
Firo and Klawd
Formula 1 & 97
Formula Karts
Forsaken
Frogger
Gex
Gex 3D
Ghost in the Shell
G-Police
Gran Turismo
Grand Theft Auto
Gunship 2000
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Impact Racing
In the Hunt
Independence Day
Indy 500
International Track & Field
J. Mcgrath Super Cross
Jersey Devil
Jet Rider
Jonah Lomu Rugby
Jumping Flash 1
Jumping Flash 2
King of Fighters 95, 96 & 97
Klonoa
Krazy Ivan
Kula World
Lemmings 3D
Loaded
Lone Soldier
Lucky Luke
Machine Hunter
Madden 97, 98, & 99
Magic Carpet
Magic The Gathering Battle Mage
Marvel Super Heroes
Mass Destruction
MDK
Mech Warrior 2
Metal Gear Solid
Micro Machines v3
Monopoly
Monster Trucks
Mortal Kombat 1, 3, 4 & Trilogy
Moto Racer 1 & 2
Motor Head
Motor Toon Grand Prix 1 & 2
N20
Nagano Winter Olympics 98
Nanotek Warrior
Nascar Racing 98 & 99
NBA Hangtime
NBA Jam Extreme
NBA Live 96, 97, & 98
NBA Shootout 96, 97 & 98
NBA Zone 1, 2 & 98
Need for Speed 1, 2 & 3
NFL Face Off 97 & 98
NFL Gameday 97, 98 & 99
NHL 97 & 98
NHL Breakaway 98
Nightmare Creatures
Nuclear Strike
One
Pandemonium 1 & 2
Panzer Bandits
Parappa the Rapper
Pitfall
Pitfall 3D
Porsche Challenge
Poy Poy
Premier Manager 98
Pro Pinball
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Rage Racer
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Rapid Racer
Rascal
Ray Racers
Ray Storm
Rayman
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Ridge Racer Revolution
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Riven: The Sequel to Myst
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Swagman
Tekken 1, 2 & 3
Tempest X3
Tenchu
Tennis Arena
Test Drive 4, 5 & Off Road
Tetris Plus
The Incredible Hulk
The Lost World
Theme Hospital
Theme Park
Three Lions
Tiger Shark
Time Commando
Time Crisis
Tobal No. 1 or 2
TOCA
Tokyo Highway Battle
Tomb Raider 1, 2 & 3
Tommi Makinen Rally
Toshinden 1, 2 & 3
Total Drivin
Total Eclipse Turbo
Total NBA 97
Treasures of the Deep
Triple Play 97, 98 & 99
Tunnel B1
Twisted Metal 1, 2 & 3
Victory Boxing
Vigilante 8
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Vs
V Tennis
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War Gods
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War Hammer: Dark Omen
Warhawk
WCW Nitro
WCW Vs the World
Wing Over
Wipeout
Wipeout 2097
World Cup 98
World League Soccer 98
Worms
WWF in the House
WWF War Zone
WWF Wrestlemania
X-Com: Terror From Deep
Xevious 3D G+
X-Men: Children of Atom
Zero Divide 1 & 2

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Tekken 3 competition

Help's at hand

Sometimes, no matter how hard you try some games just manage to out-fox you. Blood, sweat 'n' tears are spent getting it right, but to no avail – life sucks, and it's sucking you dry. So you go and get some cheats. But no, the game doesn't have any. What do you do? Give up? Nah, what you do is enter our little competition to win a Tekken 3 Cheat Master. This baby's loaded with cheats and extra characters for all three Tekken games, plus Dead or Alive and Soul Blade. It comes in memory card form and all you have to do to win one of five is answer this easy-peasy little teaser:



Which of these characters is best suited to Tekken 3 ball mode
a) Kuma
b) Karma
c) Korma
Answers to the usual address, marked at the top with 'Q&A CHEATS COMPETITION'.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

ANSWER IS:

TELEPHONE:

D.O.B:

SIGNATURE

WE'LL TELL YOU THE ANSWER NEXT MONTH, SO DON'T CALL US, PLEASE.
IF YOU WOULD PREFER NOT TO RECEIVE FURTHER OFFERS/INFORMATION FROM EMAP ACTIVE PLEASE TICK BOX. ☐

TOCA

Enter the following as your player name for a host of effects:

LAVA LAND TRACK
CMDISCO
BOUNCY CARS
CMLOGRAV
CARTOON BACKGROUND
CMTOON
CAR WILL FIRE GRENADES
TANK
CART
CMCHUN
CHANGE CAMERA ANGLE
CMFOLLOW
RAIN WILL FALL UP
CMRAINUP
IMPROVED GRIP
FLEXMOBILE
ALL TRACKS
JHAMMO
MANIAC DRIVERS
CMMAYHEM

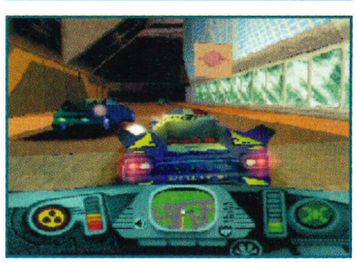
Crime Killer

O.G. action

Q&A, please help me, I need some help on Crime Killer. Any cheats. I'm going around in circles. HELP ME! Thanks.
Clement

You're in a right two and eight aren't you? And aren't those tear drop stains on your letter? You poor sensitive creature. Let us lift the dark cloud hanging over you.

LEVEL 2	LEVEL 9
LEVEL 3	LEVEL 10
LEVEL 4	LEVEL 11
LEVEL 5	LEVEL 12
LEVEL 6	LEVEL 13
LEVEL 7	LEVEL 14
LEVEL 8	LEVEL 15



■ So there I was on me way to Tesco's, quite happily driving down the High Street...



■ When this mad bastard facking cuts me up and then starts shooting at me. Git

Tomb Raider 3

Nude Lara - NO

Have you any cheats for Tomb Raider 3.
Kevin Finlay

plus Oh boy, it has started, first it was a trickle, now it's a deluge. So you all want to know the low down on Lara's latest adventure do you? Stand by...

LEVEL SKIP

Can't be arsed? You'll need the level skip then. While playing press:
L2 R2 L2 x2 R2 L2 R2 L2 R2 L2 x4 R2 L2 R2 x4 L2

ALL WEAPONS, MEDIKITS, FLARES AND CRYSTALS

While playing press: L2 R2 x2 L2 x4 R2 L2 R2 x2 L2 R2 x2 L2 x2 R2 L2 x2 R2



■ Look, the harpoon...



■ The grenade launcher...



■ The rocket launcher



■ MP5. Useful in the desert



■ Uzis: kill them birds, dogs and dinos



■ Desert eagle. Awesome



■ Shotgun. Double barrels



■ Pistols. Original and best

SECRET ROOM INSIDE LARA'S MANSION

Go to the pool inside the mansion. Behind the diving board there's a switch. Press it to open a door in the main room, behind this is another switch. Pull it, turn around and sprint across the hall towards the opposite room. In there is a room of artifacts from previous adventures.







1 First off find the switch behind the diving board. Pull it and then run... 2 Across the hall to pull another level which... 3 Will open another door to Lara's treasure room. Thanks

ALL SECRETS AND KEYS

While playing press:
L2 x5 R2 L2 x3 R2 L2 R2 L2 x2 R2 L2 x2 R2 L2 x2





1 Find the gate 2 Use the key and get on

RACETRACK KEY

To get to the racetrack key press:
R2 L2 x3 R2 L2 x6 R2 L2 R2 L2 x2 **when in mansion.**





1 Find the gate 2 On your bike, love

Tenchu

Controlled violence

Alright boys, got any cheats for Tenchu?
Alan the Ninja

Alan doesn't sound like a ninja-type name to us. No wonder you need help. The master will be very disappointed in you. It's your funeral though, so take a look at these:

INFINITE INVENTORY CAPACITY

If you fancy taking more than your fair share of gear with you hold R2 and press ■ ■ ▲ ▲ ➡ ➡ ⬆ ⬇ at the weapons select screen

HEALING

If you need to patch up your assassin, pause the game and press ■ ■ ▲ ▲ ➡ ➡ ⬆ ⬅ (If you've done it right you'll hear your ninja shout)

EXTRA WEAPONS

At the select weapons screen hold R1 and press ■ ■ ▲ ▲ ➡ ➡ ⬆ ⬅

LEVEL SELECT

At the stage select screen hold R1 and press ■ ■ ▲ ▲ ➡ ➡ ⬆ ➡



■ Breath of fire. Like your history teacher's



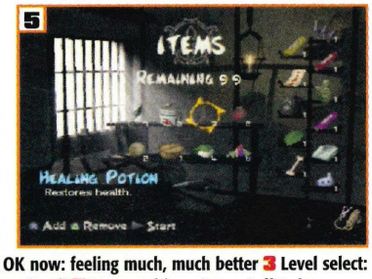
■ Multiple shurakins. Only ladies can do it











1 Almost dead: never a good situation to be in 2 OK now: feeling much, much better 3 Level select: does exactly what it says it does 4 Infiltrate the manji cult 5 Increased inventory: stuff to buy

Warcraft 2

War, huh, what is it good for?

Are there any cheats for Warcraft 2? Like god mode and all buildings etc.
Ryan Whitlie

Man we got it going on 24-7-365, check it out now, my soul funk brother. To get these working pause the game and go to the 'enter password' screen and tap in the following:



■ This'll be the menu when you pause then



■ And look! Tiny lickle screen shots

FULL UPGRADES ..... DCKMT	LEVEL SKIP ..... NTTHCLNS
10K GOLD 5000 LUMBER AND OIL ..... GLTTRNG	NO VICTORY SEQUENCE ..... NVRWNNR
FASTER WOOD CHOPPING ..... HTCHT	WIN ENTIRE GAME ..... THRCNBNLYN
FAST BUILDING AND UPGRADES ..... MKTS	INVINCIBLE UNITS ..... TSGDDYTD
DISABLE MAGICAL TRAPS ..... NGLS	5000 OIL ..... VLDZ
SHOW ENTIRE MAP ..... NSCRN	ALL SPELLS AND RENEW ..... VRYLTTL
LASER SHOW ..... NTPRF	LOSE GAME ..... YPTFLWRM

Tomb Raider

We all want to play with Lara, but cheat on her? Bad man

LEVEL SKIP

ENTER THIS CODE AT THE INVENTORY SCREEN:
L2 R2 ▲ L1 L1 ● R2 L2

(THIS WORKS WHEN USING THE DEFAULT CONTROL SYSTEM, IF YOU'RE USING THE TYPE 2 OR TYPE 3 SYSTEM ENTER THE FOLLOWING INSTEAD):

TYPE 2:
L2 R2 ● ▲ ▲ L1 R2 L2

TYPE 3:
L2 R2 R1 ▲ ▲ L1 R2 L2

MAXIMUM WEAPONS

At the inventory screen press:
L1 ▲ L2 R2 R2 L2 ● L1



■ Lara Croft's mad adventures were sometimes – quite literally – cliff-hangers...

NBA JAM: TOURNAMENT EDITION

Please give me some cheats for my fav NBA JAM:TOURNAMENT EDITION. Ta!
Don Edgar

As good as done. Enter these combinations on the 'Tonight's Match Up' screen:

BIG HEAD
▲ ■ ✕ ● ▲ ■ ✕ ●
BABY MODE
● ■ ● ■ ● ■
FULL COURT JAMS
⬅ ➡ ✕ ● ● ✕
FULL COURT PUSH
⬇ ⬇ ✕ ● ✕ ➡ ➡
HIGH SHOTS
⬆ ⬇ ⬆ ⬇ ➡ ⬆ ● ● ● ● ⬇
MAMMOTH HEADS
● ✕ ■ ▲ (REPEAT FOUR TIMES)
MAXIMUM POWER
➡ ➡ ⬅ ➡ ✕ ✕ ➡
POWER-UP THREE POINTS
⬆ ⬇ ⬅ ➡ ⬅ ⬇ ⬆
POWER-UP FIRE
⬇ ➡ ➡ ● ▲ ⬅
POWER-UP GOAL TENDING
➡ ⬆ ⬇ ➡ ⬇ ⬆
POWER-UP OFFENCE
■ ● ⬆ ■ ● ⬆ ⬇
POWER-UP TURBO
● ● ● ■ ⬇ ⬆ ⬆
QUICK HANDS
⬅ ⬅ ⬅ ⬅ ● ➡
SPEED
⬆ ⬆ ⬆ ⬆ ⬆ ⬅ ⬅ ⬅ ⬅ ✕ ▲
TELE-PASS-U
➡ ➡ ⬅ ● ⬇ ⬅ ⬅ ● ■

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MY DETAILS ARE...

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Address: .....

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Date: / /

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◄ PLEASE STICK DOWN ALONG THIS SIDE ►

PlayStation plus

▼ SECOND FOLD ▼

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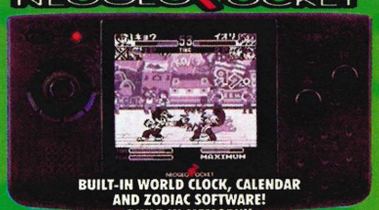






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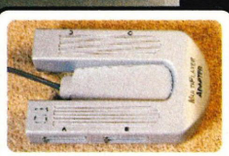
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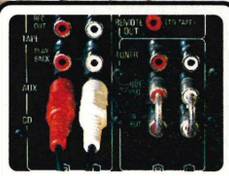
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THE MIX: Stuff you need to know



MULTITAP

A multitap lets you plug in up to four extra joypads for games which can take more than two players. Definitely worth the outlay for top multiplayer games like Micro Machines V3 and International Track & Field.



CONNECT TO HI-FI

Got an old PlayStation with AV outputs at the back? Then you can get the sound through a hi-fi by connecting them up with a stereo phono cable. New PlayStations don't have the AV outputs, but you can get an AV adaptor for under twenty quid that'll do the job nicely.



MEMORY CARD

The memory card is a must-have piece of kit for saving games. Some give you up to 200-ish saves, but don't work with all PlayStation games. Our advice: stick with the official Sony memory card.



STEERING WHEEL

Steering wheels give you an added feeling of realism for driving games. There are loads kicking around, but we suggest you get the Logic 3, Mad Catz or Gamester II Wheel and Pedals.



LIGHTGUN

The lightgun is an essential piece of kit for shoot 'em ups like Time Crisis and Point Blank. We'd recommend getting the G-Con 45 lightgun packaged with Time Crisis, or a Hyperblaster lightgun for about 30 quid.

Beginner's guide

Bought a PlayStation and got it working, sure. But are you stumped on other stuff? Do steering wheels work with beat 'em ups? What's a lightgun? Help's at hand, in our beginner's guide to 'Station gaming.



JOYPAD

The standard PlayStation pad works fine with just about every game. There are tons of different ones available, but the original Sony joypad is still the best for your wad.



DUAL SHOCK

The Dual Shock controller is like a normal pad, but with sticks (called analogue sticks) making driving games easier. If the game's compatible, the Dual Shock also rumbles when you collide with stuff.

Jargon Buster

Nerdy PlayStation techno-babble skillfully unravelled.

Talk to a real gamehead and you'll realise they have their own nerdy language – 'the most superlative innovation is the trilinear interpolation of the bifocal mip-mapping.' Yeah right. So here's our first-timer's guide to PlayStation lingo.

PAL	**British games format. You can play them over here.**
NTSC	**American and Japanese games format. You need your console chipped (see next page) and a modern telly to play 'em here.**
Scart	**The 21-pin plug which connects your 'Station to your telly.**
Cutscene	**A movie sequence which interrupts the playing bits of the game.**
G-Con45	**The smart lightgun which comes packaged with Time Crisis.**
RF Unit	**The aeriel cable which connects your 'Station to your telly.**
RPG	**Role playing game, such as Final Fantasy VII.**

»

THE MIX: Stuff you need to know

WIDESCREEN TV

Size does matter. The bigger your telly, the better the PlayStation experience. Problem is that widescreen televisions stretch the picture, which means that lightguns don't work with them. Odd that.





LINK-UP CABLE

The link-up cable connects two PlayStations together, allowing you to have smart two-player matches. Definitely worth considering for games like WipEout 2097 and Command & Conquer: Red Alert and Doom.

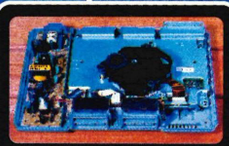
OVERHEATING PLAYSTATION

Excessive use of your PlayStation usually leads to the machine overheating and the disc skipping. What you need to do is stand the PlayStation on its end so that it has proper ventilation. That'll sort it.



IMPORT GAMES

Metal Gear Solid. Ridge Racer 4. If you've got a chipped machine, you could be playing them right now. They cost a fair bit more than UK games and there's usually some Japanese text, but it's worth it to play the games months before they're out over here.

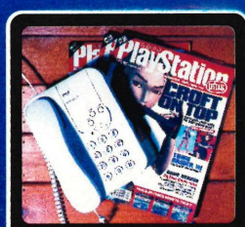


CHIPPED PLAYSTATION

Get your PlayStation 'chipped' and you can play games from Japan and America months before they're released over here. Most import shops will perform the operation for around £50, but it'll mess up your warranty.

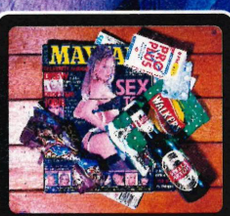
Expert's guide

Your social life is non-existent. Your bodily hygiene is sorely lacking. You've been wearing the same semen-stained pyjamas for weeks. You're hooked. You're a PlayStation junkie. Now it's time to take it to the next level...



TIPS LINE

Stuck on the Great Glacier bit of Final Fantasy VII? Or on the rock Nevada Desert level of Tomb Raider III? Then check out the Instant Expert section of PlayStation, or try calling Sony's Powerline on 0881 505 5055.



SURVIVAL KIT

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Stuff you need to know

Everything you wanted to know about your 'Station but were too afraid to ask.

You wouldn't believe the amount of reader phone calls we get. It must run into millions. At least. And all of them asking the same stuff. So here's a rundown of the most frequently asked questions.

Q Does it play DVD films?
A No. But you can get an adaptor to play MPEG movies. The quality's crap though, so we wouldn't bother.

Q Do imports work on my machine (what are imports)?
A Games imported from another country won't work on your machine unless you've had it chipped.

Q Does it play music CDs?
A Yep. But not usually when you're playing a game.

Q Does it work with widescreen?
A Yep. All it will do is stretch the picture. Lightguns don't work with widescreen televisions though.

Q Can I take it on holiday?
A Only in the UK. Foreign power supplies and TVs aren't compatible with UK PlayStations.

Q If I buy a game and don't like it can I get my money back?
A Depends on retailers. Always check.

Q Can I scratch my games?
A Deep scratches cause loading probs and disc skipping. Dust and dirt can be removed by wiping from the centre to the outside with a lint-free cloth.

Photography: Mike Harding

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Monkey Hero was a big chest man himself, but then so was jealous Mr Caveman. Tricky...

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Football for the 'Station? Hmm, novel

p87 NBA Live 99
Suffer more American sports sims

p88 Monkey Hero
A barrel of laughs? We think not

p89 Atlantis
A rather dull RPG. That is dull...

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Putt yourself in our club

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More beat 'em up going-ons

p92 Devil Dice
Satan tumbles snake eyes

PLUS The Knowledge

Get sussed! Our honest scores on every PlayStation game ever released... PLUS! Totty you forgot, our guide to the millennium bug, DIY hypnotism, Batman's women... Starts p101



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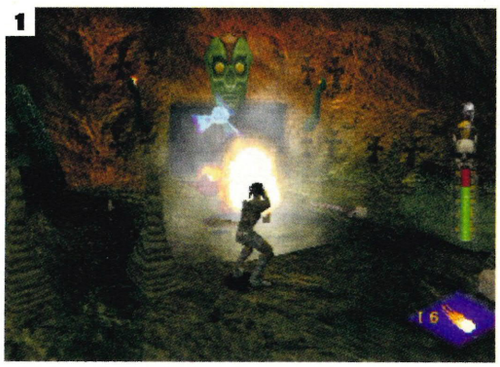
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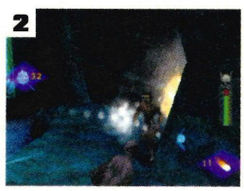
'I am the heartless warrior, the voodoo avenger. I am... AKUJI!' 'Gesundheit.'

Hearts getting ripped out at dead of night. Weird syncopated drum rhythms. Skulls on sticks. Pots brimming with goats' blood and chicken feathers. That's black magic for you. And that's why we've always stuck with Milk Tray.

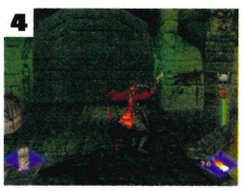
The powers of darkness

It's your wedding day. Your brother turns up. You're maybe expecting a nice toaster, or a Magimix. Instead, he rips your heart out and uses it to summon demons from the dark realms of voodoo. So, as any sensible chap would do in your place, you come back from the dead, rip off the tux, replace it with a funny grass skirt, and start the killing...











1 Your brother isn't a nice man at all... 2 You should've sussed him when he brought mates like this to the reception 3 Time to stick it up him hard 4 Starting with all his odd mates 5 And that includes you, Big Bird

Brain food. In small portions

Puzzles are in evidence. Not big hard puzzles. Small puzzles that mostly go like this: look up. Now look down. Now look sideways. Ow! Whaddya know? There's the switch. Puzzle solved. Move on a couple of rooms, and there'll be another of those ever-so-tricky hidden switches. Look up. Look down. Zang! Even people in shellsuits should be able to get through without too much head-scratching.







1 Flick one switch to flip the board 2 Walk on the board. Flip other switch, walk back 3 Flick the first switch again. There. Was that so hard?

My platform Hell

This game's a kidder. It's a little scamp. Y'see, it's trying to kid you it's a full-on Tomb Raider-esque explorathon with a smidgeon of Sinister Sauce. But most of the time, it's more like Crash Bandicoot with a bone through its nose. 100% pure platform action. With bonuses in. We seen through you, so-called Akuji. We're wise to your trickery. Observe...



■ Hmmm. Mucho jumping needed



■ And there's even little tokens to collect



■ Like, thousands of the bastards

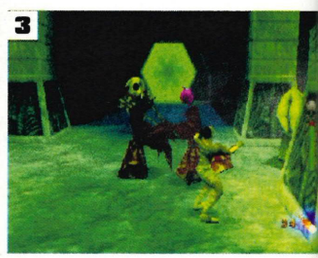


■ And bits like this'd get platform-heads moist

Put 'em up! C'mon!

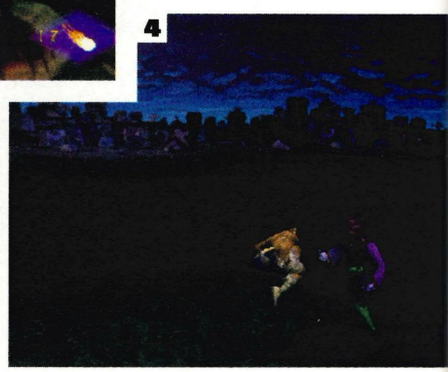
You've got two enormous razor-sharp blades stapled to your arms. This makes meals and foreplay tricky, but it's damn fine up against the evil lackeys of your voodoo bro. The problem is, once you've done your left-slash/right-slash combo, you've kind of gone through your repertoire. No sly kicks. No dodges. No nuffink. You don't need us to tell you this can get a tad drab...





■ And another slash! Oooh!

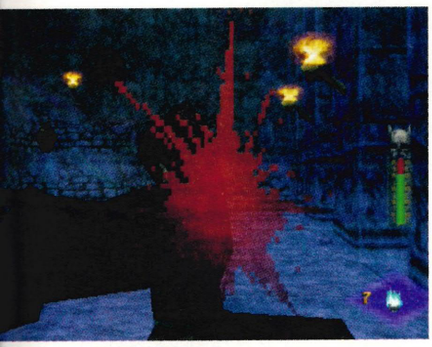




1 Slash! Oooh! 2 And from a slightly different angle, here's that slash again! 4 But you ain't going to see anything more. Go on. Return to your homes

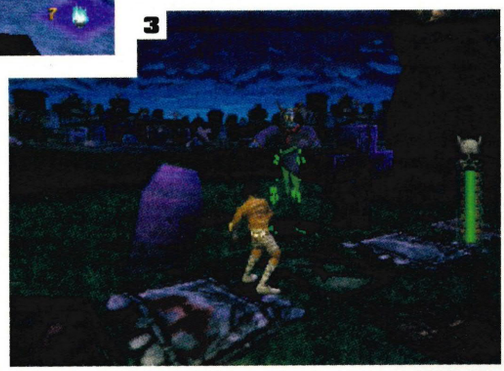
Amazonia gothique

S is for sinister. D is for doom-laden. Every effort has been made to break out the schlock buckets bigstyle. There's stuff in here so camp-fantasy that it'd make Conan the Barbarian blush. But hell, we like it like that. Take us back to that level called 'The Temple of Tears'.





■ Didn't know that the voodoo lads went in for pentacles

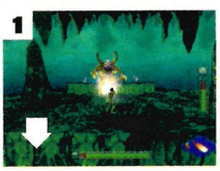


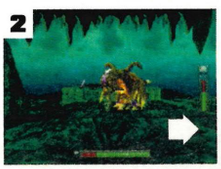


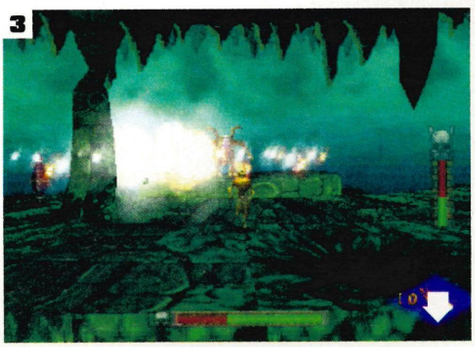
1 And those red robes. It's Hammer Horror gone Caribbean 2 Of course there're snakes coming up out of the ground. It just makes sense 3 And this lad models the classic 'Voodoo Top Hat'. Tres swish

Big dinosaurs

It's the law of being evil. The more evil you are, the larger you become. Once you've been guilty of a few major atrocities, you gain the ability to shoot fireballs. Soon you become a 'boss'. And Akuji's not short of 'em. Every three or so levels you get through you'll meet some big bastard. Here's one we rudely killed earlier...





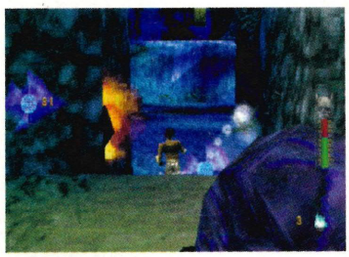




1 My, what a large fellow you are 2 And what a tasty little range of attacks you have up your sleeve 3 But, as he finds out, Akuji's no slouch either 4 Take that! And that for good measure! 5 Death comes to the big fella. Not a moment too soon...

Heads up!

Since our exposure of Akuji's platform tendencies, things haven't been going well in his life. Long-term girlfriend and – so we thought – fellow 3D adventurer Lara Croft has left him in disgust. He's been seen out drinking with Mario and Gex. He's on the skids. And here's another of his closely-guarded secrets. Just watch:



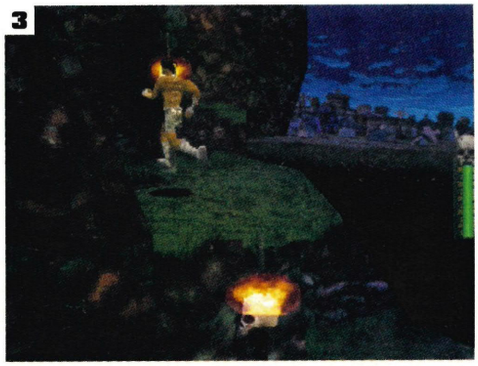
■ He thinks no-one's looking, so he scurries around like a ponce picking up tokens



■ He needs 'em to cast his spells. And what's worse is this...







1 See those things? He needs to collect 'em to get on to later levels 2 Token-collecting like a girl. You big platform-based sissy! 3 With your so-called ancestor heads and voodoo dolls...

Switches is my bitches

It's easy. Perhaps too easy. In fact, our own PlayStation Games Drongo, the man who can make Lara Croft trip on her boot laces and the Bandicoot spontaneously combust, ripped through the first few levels, commenting scornfully on the weediness of the puzzles and the general girlhood of the bad boys...



■ Zang! Puzzle solved!



■ Ka-chow! Baddie iced





1 Skreee! Look! Many tokens have been collected! 2 Back here again! Who's the daddy now? Who's the daddy, eh?

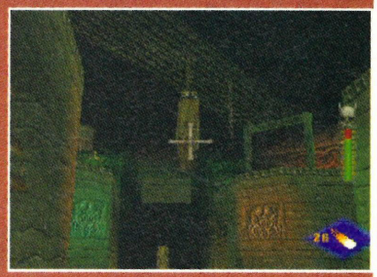
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Ready, aim...

Aim buttons. Every game worth its ludicrously inflated price tag has to have one. And Akuji's got a natty little number where he stands and aims with a crosshair made of bones. Sadly, it has no purpose whatsoever in the game. Except to shoot switches with. Shooting switches isn't going to make you sit up and bark. Trust us.



■ Nifty crosshair made of bones. It's what they used on the telescopic sights on blowpipes



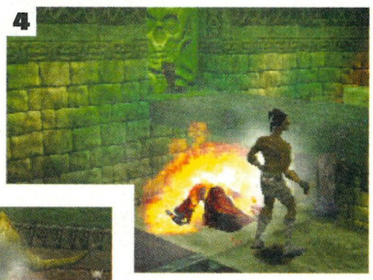
■ But most of the time, you can't really use it to pick off the baddies, 'cos they'll be hidden



■ So you'll end up shooting switches with it. This Is No Fun

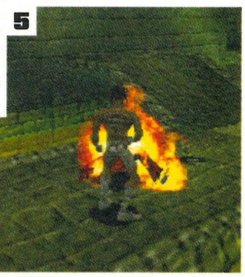
Spells

We're suckers for pyrotechnics. And we're mature enough to admit that. And that's one of the things about Akuji that's had Plus brains releasing sweet, sweet happy-juice in bumper quantities. Bangs. Lots of 'em. In a variety of colours. Again and again. Choice.











1 Bang! 2 Zzzzzzap! 3 Frizzle! Aaaaiiieeeee! Now that's really quite impressive, Mr Kuji-whatsit 4 Another servant of darkness fries in Akuji's righteous magical fire 5 And there goes another. We sho' does love death...

It's not going to make your skin flute play haunting music, but it'll raise a laugh. Dumb, but hey, some of us like it that way. Taste and try before you buy, we reckon. **Rob**

PlayStation plus

RATED 82%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** BLACKFRIAR ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, LINK CABLE

DODGEM ARENA

Well lookee here. It's sci-fi dodgem action for people who don't like dodgems...

We've played this long. We've played it hard. And we still haven't found a single solitary dodgem. Not even a small one. It appears the dodgems have left the arena. Don't worry. We've got on to the Trades Descriptions boys already...

Puck me harder

So here's the deal. You climb into your spaceship. Someone then carelessly drops it into a slippery marble basin thing with tracks going round the sides. You've got to pick up pucks from your handy puck dispenser, then you gotta blast them into the puck-eating goal that orbits the side bits. Repeat this procedure. Simple as that.









1 The spaceships are in the basin. It's go, go, go 2 And then it's time for puck-grabbing mayhem 3 Then puck-shooting excitement 4 And mucho slipping around on that ever-so-slidey marble

Slippery devils

Dodgems, huh? So we're guessing they're going to be trundling and slow-ass, and every two minutes they'll chug to a halt unless you hand over a couple of quid to some evil-smelling vagrant. No, no, no. These're dodgems, Jim, but not as we know 'em. Odd little spaceships doing jumps in oversized washbasins? Go figure.









1 The dodgems handling's pretty damn cool. Much slippage... 2 'Specially in the faster numbers. But then the handling kinda has to be good 3 'Cos just ferrying pucks back and forth isn't really going to melt yer butter 4 But hey. At these speeds, it's still kind of fun. Kind of...

You missed a doozy

Be ready for the large 'but'. See, there're nice ideas here. There're even some nice visuals. And the so-called dodgems' handling is pretty cool. But it doesn't quite work. Fun factor ten never quite engages. Full credit to the lads for making a sci-fi sports game that isn't just football in a funny costume, better luck next time, eh?



■ There you go, slipping all over the shop



■ Grab pucks and run with 'em



1 And try and pull off slick shooting antics 2 But really, is this enough to keep you happy through the long winter? 3 It's maybe just that touch too basic to really cut it. Be warned

Hardware

Pick up puck. Shoot puck. Pick up puck again. Simple. Almost too simple. Which is why they've given all the contestants the exciting opportunity to pick up weaponry and magnets and shit to blitz each other with. The action round the goalmouth starts to resemble the Somme on a bad day. Except with more pucks.



■ The gameplay's simple, sho' nuff





1 However, with just a small amount of added 'maim', it all gets much, much more spicy 2 And then all them goalmouth battles could get to be a right laff in multiplayer mode. You just mark our words, eh?

Rent it The dodgems won't be causing al fresco manseed fountains up and down Britain. Not total shit, but well short of the 'scorchio' mark. **Rob**

PlayStation plus RATED 70%

■ **OUT** FEBRUARY ■ **BY** SUNSOFT ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

SHANGHAI TRUE VALOR

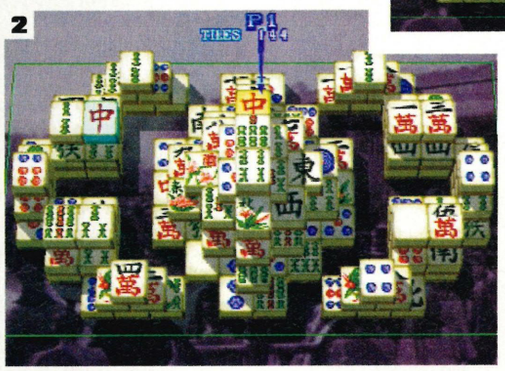
Sounds like a beat 'em up. Is in fact a crap puzzle game. Bugger.

Tea. Opium. Rice. Herbal remedies. Crispy Peking duck. John Woo. All of 'em fantastic Chinese exports. But they're taking the piss with Mahjong, probably the world's dullest board game. And here's a PlayStation version.

Gameplay

The idea is simple. You're presented with a shitload of Mahjong tiles, each displaying a weird-ass Chinese symbol. When pairs of these tiles are matched, they are cleared from the board. Clearing the board moves you onto the next level of tiles. Repeat. Then repeat again. And so on. Until you turn the game off. Which will be very, very quickly.









1 They all look the bleeding same, don't they? 2 Ah, but those two are identical. Better match 'em up then 3 Wahoo! They've disappeared. Great 4 Note our sarcastic tone

What we don't like

3D-o-vision

A pat on the back to the developer lads. They've tried to expand on the standard tile-matching formula by sticking a 3D arcade mode in there. This time around you've gotta match up the tiles displayed on the side of a rotating cube. But the 3D shenanigans fail to mask what inane, boring, monotonous, tedious Chinese toss this really is.



1 The 3D game may be a tad more interesting to look at 2 And it's going to be a great deal tougher too 3 But at the end of the season it's just as mind-numbingly tedious to play...

A piss-poor puzzle game which should be avoided like a very bad dose of the clap. Don't buy it. Don't rent it. Don't even look at it. Just please, please don't. **Lee.**

PlayStation plus RATED 18%

■**OUT** JANUARY ■**BY** SUNSOFT ■**COSTS** £39.99 ■**PLAYERS** 1-2 ■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

POOL HUSTLER

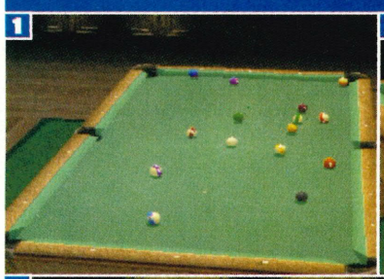
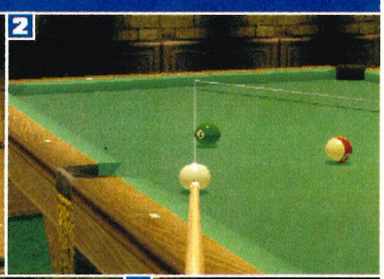
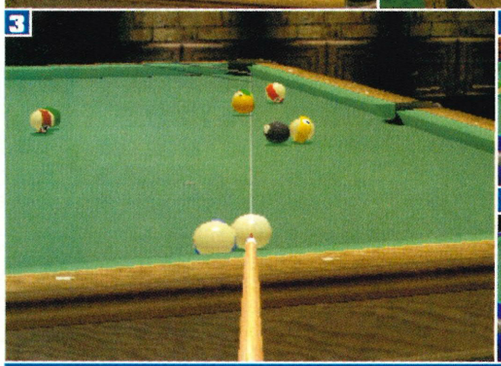
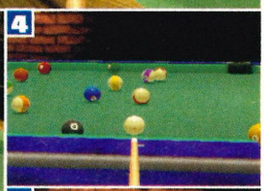
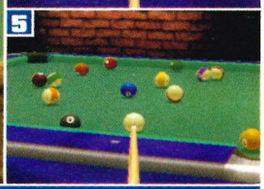
The balls aren't red and yellow. We feel uneasy...

You'd like to get a burger to eat, but shifting your ass chafes your bedsores. You'd like a shag, but any position that involves moving is frankly unacceptable. If this describes you, you may be lazy enough to play 'Station pool. Maybe.

What we don't like

Hagate Yankee! Banzai! Banzai!

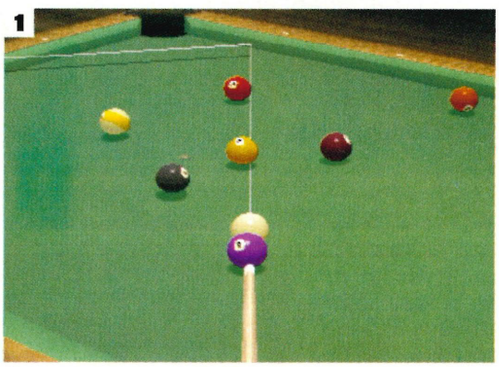
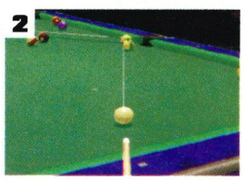
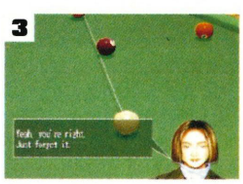
Some day, all us British Bulldogs are going to snap. We'll leap into our trusty Spitfires and hit Uncle Sam with a massacre that'll make Pearl Harbour look like the teddy bears' picnic. And why? Well, one of the reasons has to be the way the burger-scoffing rednecks play their pool. Check out these weird American versions of 'proper' pool rules. It makes us really mad...

1 For starters, you have to pick a pocket to pot the black into. Yank shit 2 And that's when you're playing Eight Ball. So-called UK rules. Damn them 3 Poxy bit number two. You have to bounce a ball off a cushion every time you shoot 4 And as every sensible youngster knows, only you-know-whos do that... 5 And you can move the ball around if your opponent fouls. No good

Playing silly buggers

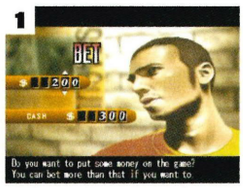
Plop. Plop. Plop. That'll be the painful sound of you being hustled, as the boys you're up against pull off humdingers without breaking sweat. Then suddenly, the hustler becomes crap. Master to mong in four seconds. Consistency's not this game's strength. Stick to two-player's our advice...

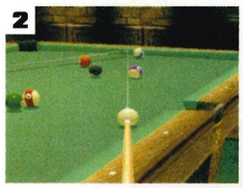
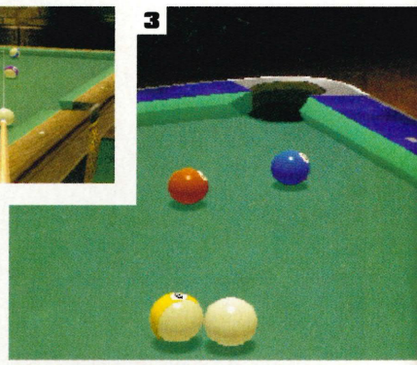
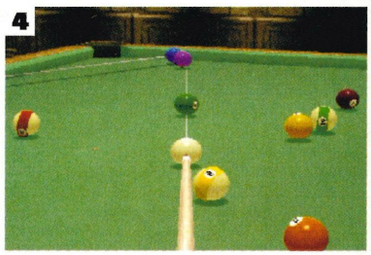




1 Hmmm. You need advanced trigonometry knowledge to pull off shots like that 2 Then suddenly, they'll miss a shot like this fella... 3 But be warned. The one-player is not hard. You'll romp through

God of gamblers

Low-down gamblin' dogs who shark for money in pool halls. An endless string of 'em, challenging you to play for slices of wedge is where the one-player's at. They'll challenge you to put money down on individual shots. Go on. It isn't real money. Who gives a toss?



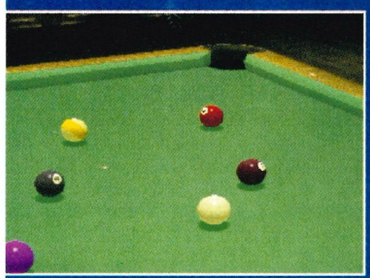




1 Meet Joe, your opponent. Bet him what you like 2 Beat him for the cash 3 But if you're wily, you can put on side bets... 4 And if you deliberately play shit, they'll put up loads of money. Hustle...

What we like

Simple Simon

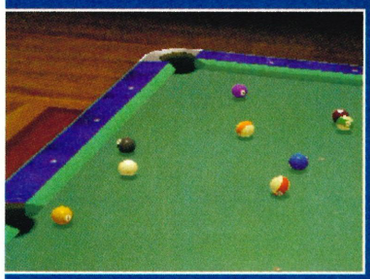
Getting started with the ball-potting is as easy as a particularly uncomplicated pie. Just line up your shot, using the little line to help you see where it's going, pull back, and let rip. Well playable. And 'fun'. On the downside, though, putting spin on your balls ain't the easiest thing in the world. Be warned.



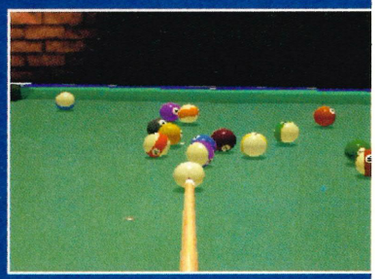
■ **If you can grit your teeth and ignore the Yank bits, the two-player's well cool**



■ **At first it seems a bit wet to use a line to target your shots, but hey...**



■ **After a while, you'll be racking up five or six in a row, making everyone your bitch**



■ **But... getting spinning action going is pretty damn tricky. Not so hot anymore, are you?**

Rent it Nice looks, nice to play, but the stench of Yankee is strong. We'd say it was for diehard pool fiends, but they'll all be down the pub playing pool. **Rob**

PlayStation plus RATED 79%

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■ **OUT** FEBRUARY ■ **BY** VIRGIN ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

VIVA FOOTBALL

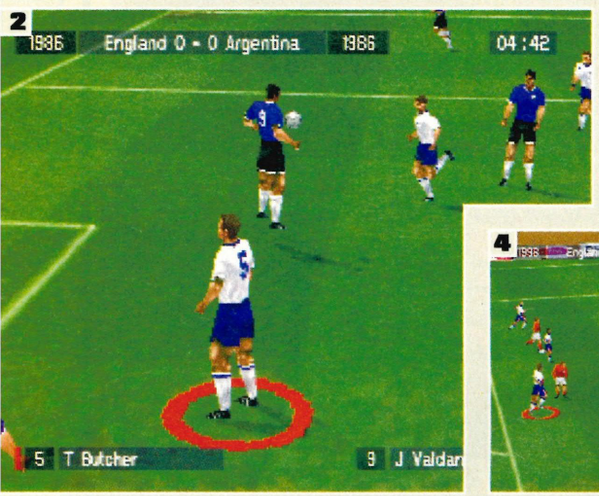
A new 'Station footy game that's been thirty years in the making. Really.

If the lad Beckham had exercised a more restraint, or if Shearer had kept his elbow down, who knows? We could have walked off with the World Cup. Viva Football lets you right the wrongs of yesterday and send the Argies packing. Lovely.

Viva forever

The problem with other footy games is that there's little to tell them apart. One might have the FIFA licence. Another might have the UEFA licence. But it all amounts to the same old guff. Viva Football approaches the game from a different angle, allowing you to recreate any international match from the last thirty years. Replay last year's World Cup. Or find out which is the better side: 1966 or 1998 England. Top stuff.





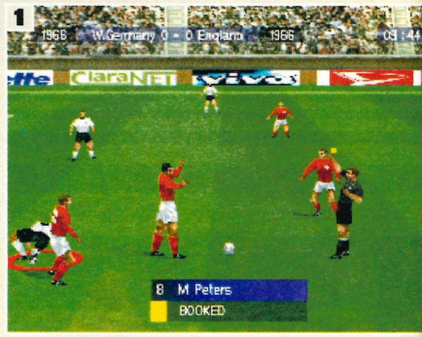


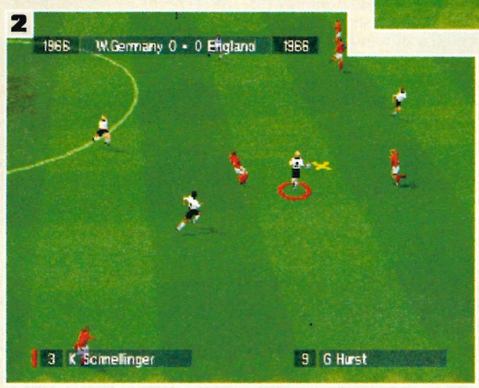


1 Replay the classic England vs West Germany 1966 World Cup Final 2 Or stuff the cheating Argies in '86... 3 And again in '98 4 Geoff Hurst tries to stick one past Seaman...

Changing rules

Last year's World Cup refereeing was a farce. If you went within five yards of another player you were running the risk of a booking. 'Course things were better in the good old days. Keepers could handle the ball from a pass back, tackles from behind were fair game and you only got two points for a win. All of this has been recreated in Viva Football, with the rules changing according to which era you're playing in. Kool and the Gang.







1 Refs were more lenient thirty years ago 2 You only got two points for a win 3 But it's a different story these days...

plus

We'd like to say...

It may look and play pretty much the same as any other footy game, but the inclusion of every international team over the last 30 years puts a novel twist on the usual format. It's let down though by some dodgy player selection, and a lack of championship and league options. But it's still a lot better than most efforts.

What we don't like

Player selection

You'll find the controls work very well. Passes, shots and crosses are kept fairly simple, and if you're prepared to put in a bit more effort you'll be able to pull off the more impressive shimmies, one-twos and trick shots. The only problem is that the player selection is sometimes a bit wank, with players occasionally ignoring the ball when it's only yards in from of 'em. Morons.



1 The player selection is a tricky thing to get right 2 The makers of Viva have completely ballsed it up 3 Shame really, 'cos there's little else to moan about

Commentary? What commentary?

So who've they got in to do the commentary? John Motson? Brian Moore? Peter Brackley? Jonathan Pearce? Er... no. Strangely, there isn't any commentary. Instead what you've got are players shouting instructions to their team mates. It sounds a bit knobby, but it keeps you in touch with what's happening elsewhere on the pitch, highlighting when a player is making a run down the wing, or is left unmarked in the goal area.







1 Players call for the ball 2 And give you a bollocking if you mess it up 3 But if the 'player chat' gets on your nerves, you can turn it off

What we like

Celebrating

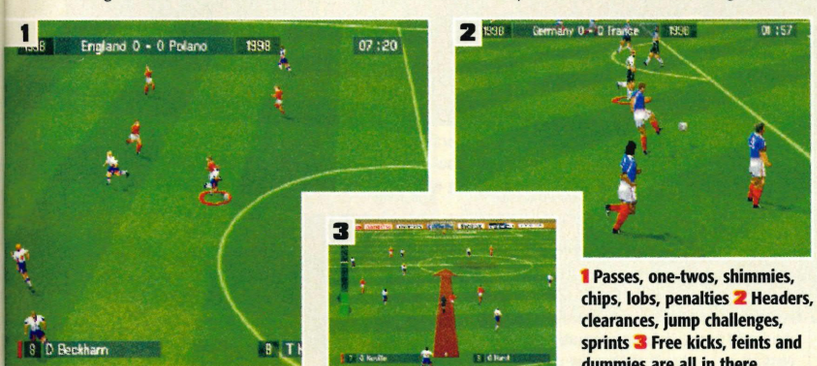
A smart feature worth mentioning are the goal celebrations. Knock in a peach of a goal and you're left in complete control of the geezer who just scored. A load of new moves then become available, allowing you to run around the pitch pretending to be an aeroplane, you can go diving, punching the air, or start doing a cockney knees-up conga affair. Which makes us laugh. A lot.



1 Roberto Carlos steps up to take a corner 2 And it's headed in by Rivaldo 3 Who then legs it around the pitch pretending to be a plane... 4 And punching the air

Like the real thing

The scope of play in Viva is far more open than in other footy games, making for a more realistic kickabout. Passing can be to a player's feet, or the ball can be knocked into space if a player is spotted making a run. Free kicks can be taken quickly to catch the opposition off guard, or bent around a defensive wall Beckham-style. Just like the beautiful game itself.



1 Passes, one-twos, shimmies, chips, lobs, penalties 2 Headers, clearances, jump challenges, sprints 3 Free kicks, feints and dummies are all in there

Viva Football's a top footy game that'll make your tool drool. It's not quite up there with the likes of WLS 99 or ISS Pro 98, but it's definitely worth a look. Lee

PlayStation plus
RATED 84%

■ **OUT** JANUARY ■ **BY** ELECTRONIC ARTS ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

NBA LIVE 99

A sadly flawed sports effort. It's not football, see?

Seriously, a lot of effort goes into updating basketball games. Repainting that '98' on the box to say '99' takes a lot of elbow grease. And re-programming the game to have all the new players? Sheesh. Ballsache city. It's a hard life.

Another £39.99 for 99

God we hate money. Just can't get rid of it fast enough. The sooner we get back to breaking down in tears while begging for cash down the Social Security, the better. And here's a damn fine way to erase some of that easy-come-easy-go moolah. A game update that's a carbon copy of last year's! That'll be 40 nicker, guv!



■ Separated at birth? Live 98...



■ Live 99. Bloody identical

Wossitlike?

Thing is, the game isn't half bad. Speed-wise, it's a few notches off mental, but it looks hot to trot, and the replays are blinding. The various modes and shit are also diamond, with enough in there to keep basketball nuttas of all shapes and sizes happy. Even the moves are slick. They're just not new. And that's not good.



1 A new thing! Watch in amazement as the players' expressions change 2 Did you miss that? Yup, easy done. It makes precisely zilch difference 3 But the moves and shit seem to work fine 4 And the replays do look rather appetising 5 And with plenty o' moves. It's alright. But it's NOT NEW!

Slick enough, but there's nothing new here. Most 'Station basketball efforts are pretty damn similar, and this isn't breaking the mould. Don't waste your cash. Rob.

PlayStation plus
RATED 79%

■ **OUT** FEBRUARY ■ **BY** BMG ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

MONKEY HERO

Jeez. We though this kind of crap only came out in Japan.

Ever fancied walking around cutesy cartoon platforms, ploughing through vast reams of text, solving tedious puzzles and laying out forty quid for the privilege? What's that? You'd rather gnaw your own nuts off?



■ It's Monkey Hero hammer time...

The plot thickens

Bad news folks. The Nightmare King has begun his assault on the world. If he is successful, he will invade the realm of the Dream King and all will be lost. As the Monkey Hero of the title, you must make sure that the Dream King does not get hold of the Magic Storybook. The fate of the world is in your hands. No pressure.



■ Let's not bullshit each other here. The plot is absolute shite



■ Would you entrust the fate of the world to someone called Monkey? Nah, us neither



■ Nightmare King? What the facking hell is all that about?

Gameplay

It's like Tomb Raider for retards. Explore levels. Find keys to unlock chests. Take out contents. Move to next puzzle. Talk to ghost librarian. Whack mutant slugs with a bamboo stick and all the rest of it. It's kids' stuff really, with little to challenge those with a mental capacity greater than that of an amoeba.



■ You've got to be careful where you walk



■ You do get to twat the mutant slugs with your bamboo stick, though



■ And to add insult there's loads of cheesy text to wade through

Graphics

The graphics in Monkey Hero stink worse than your knob cheese. It's got cute 'n' colourful cartoony characters by the bucketload, but still looks like something you might have been playing ten years ago. We wouldn't care if the gameplay was up to scratch. But it ain't, sadly.



1 There are plenty of different locations to explore **2** And there are loads of cutesy characters in there **3** But it all looks a bit shite really **4** And half the time it's too dark to see what the hell's going on

plus We'd like to say...

So your great aunt Hilda really couldn't be arsed to go out and get you a present for your birthday and instead bunged you a massive wad of crisp notes. What are you gonna do with the old dear's dough? Certainly not spend it on Monkey Hero for a start. It's well boring to play, a real, real eyesore to look at and a complete and utter waste of them forty notes.

Spank the monkey

We've played Monkey Hero long and hard. So long in fact, that we fear our sanity is beginning to suffer. But still, we couldn't find one single monkey in there. Not bloody one. So if you're reading this hoping to find out about a PlayStation primate puzzler, you'll be severely disappointed. This could be a case for Trading Standards perhaps.

■ There isn't a hairy primate in sight. A bit of a con really, isn't it?



What we don't like

Same old shit

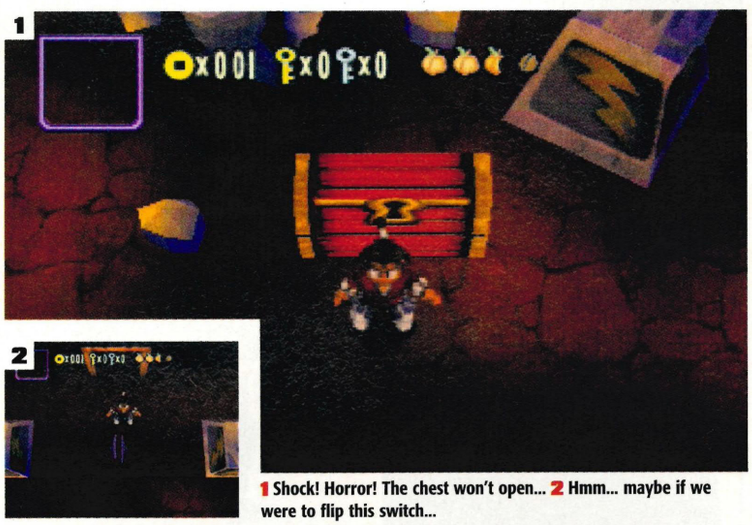
The problem with Monkey Hero is that there's little or no variety in the gameplay. Whether you're trying to find a golden key, protecting the library from the evil Nightmare King or attempting to locate a map, it all basically boils down to the same tired old shit. Shame really.



1 Kill the slugs 2 Talk to wise old men 3 Collect objects with strange mystical powers 4 Then repeat. And again. Until you get bored

Puzzles

The logic puzzles are a piece of piss. You've got to follow the instructions given to you by the characters you bump into. And if that's TOO complicated for YOU, KEY words are in CAPITAL LETTERS to ensure that you NEVER go wrong. PATRONISING or what?



1 Shock! Horror! The chest won't open... 2 Hmm... maybe if we were to flip this switch...



■ Oh rapture! A golden key has revealed itself...



■ Well, what do you know? It opens the chest you bump into next. Well bloody done Holmes

No, no, no. This is just about as appealing as having your balls butchered with a rusty blade. Do yourself a massive favour and keep well away. Save your cash. **Lee**

PlayStation plus RATED 35%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** CRYO ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, MOUSE

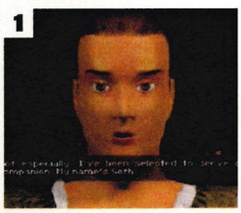
ATLANTIS

This isn't entertainment. This is torture.

OK, we tried to like Atlantis. We tried to see beyond the crap graphics, laughable speech and dull gameplay. We really did. But the more we played it, the more we began to hate it. And we played it a lot. Y'see what we're getting at?

Storyline? What storyline?

Any adventure game worth its salt has a gripping storyline to keep you fixated for the duration. This ain't so with Atlantis. The plot focuses on the Queen of Atlantis, who's been kidnapped by a group of rebels. You've basically gotta find her and secure the throne. Problem is there's no hook – nothing to grab you by the balls and make you want to play the game. It's just plain dull.







1 Yep. This is just about as exciting as Atlantis is going to get 2 The graphics don't look half bad in some places 3 But a shame the gameplay is such utter mind-numbing stuff

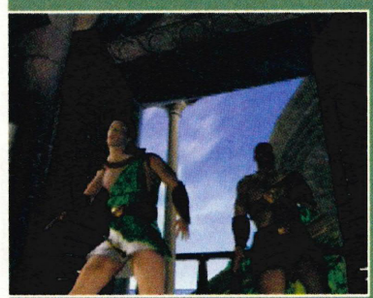
plus We'd like to say...

Even if adventure games are what gets your trouser snake bulging, you're really gonna hate Atlantis. Fair enough, there are three discs worth of puzzles to get your head around. But with Tomb Raider III already out there and Silent Hill on its way soon, you really do not wanna roll out the readies on this one. Trust us.

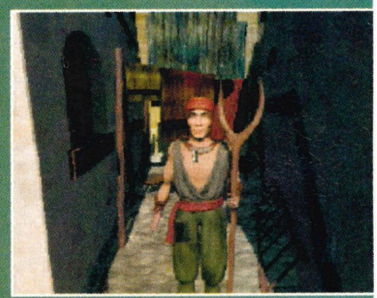
What we don't like

Being bored

We're not sure what sort of people are really going to like this type of game. Sad, lonely, stupid people, we can only presume. But even they would be hard pressed to like this crap. Roam aimlessly from one dull environment to another, solving the odd simple logic puzzle that comes your way, whilst trying to figure out what the bloody hell is going on. Complete and utter toss.



■ Look everybody! A rare bit of action...



■ And now we're back to the boring bits

Oh dear. This really is the most boring and tedious adventure game we've ever had the misfortune to play. It's going to put you in a coma for weeks. **Lee**

PlayStation plus RATED 29%

■**OUT** NOW ■**BY** ELECTRONIC ARTS ■**COSTS** £39.99 ■**PLAYERS** 1-4 ■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

TIGER WOODS 99

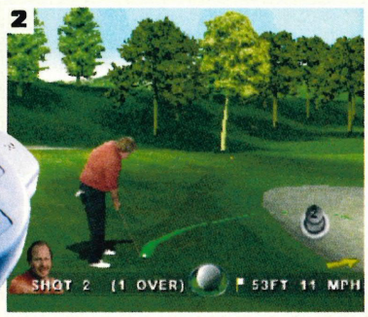
'Oh cool! Another celeb on a game box! Gee, I can't resist. Hey, guys! Look, it really is Tiger Woods! He is Tiger Woods! Look! And he's in a game!' Settle down.

Oooh! A new golf game! God, that sends shudders through the old pacemaker. It's enough to make you drop your Thermos and scatter your sandwiches. Maybe. Anyway, it's more white-knuckle golfing thrills. Brace yourselves.

Gimme some stick!

Oh, the slick, slick analogue stick. How it fills our little hearts with joy. And now you can use an analogue stick with golf games too? It's really exciting to live in progress-filled times like these. Except, of course, when the stick bit's an ill-thought-out shoddy add-on like this one. Pull back, flick. Marvel at the sheer randomness. Give up in disgust.

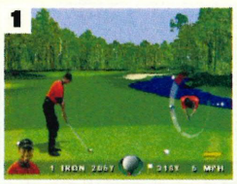


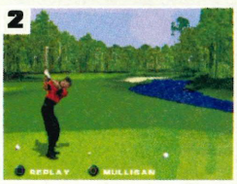


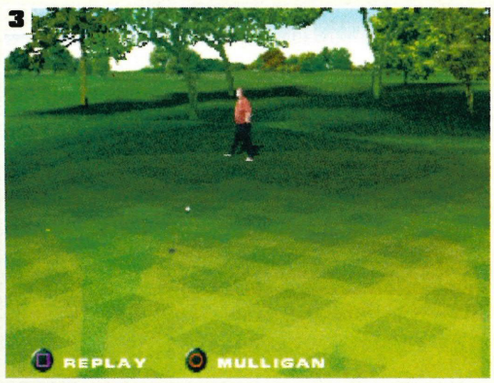
1 Pull the analogue stick back, flick forward, and... 2 Bingo. But the amount of control you've got here is zero. We warn you...

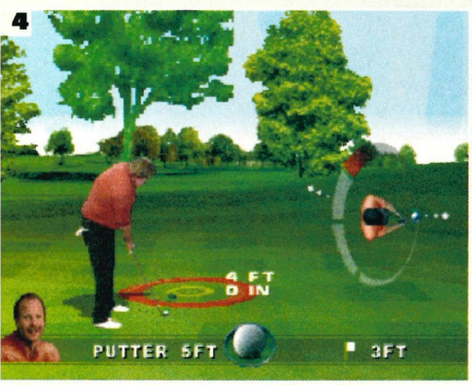
We don't know how we does it

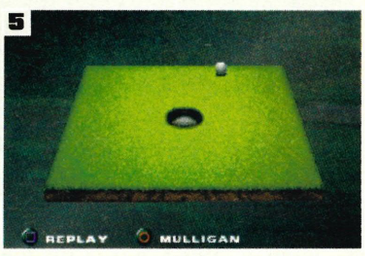
The swing bit's a carbon copy of every golf game since cavemen first decided that you had to time your swing on a powerbar, then hit it again as it swings back round. Yawn. Works fine, mind, but still. The putting? Well, we'd rather not talk about that. Oh? We're reviewing it? Better say something then. It's gash. See below for details.







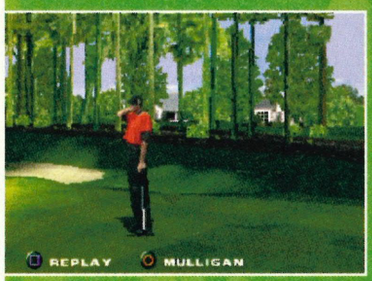




1 Swing back, hit the right power-bit... 2 Then catch the right moment as the club comes back round... 3 And bingo. Sweetly hit. Nice one... 4 To compensate for the kinks in an odd green line. We like it not 5 But the putting. Oh, dear. Position a little target somewhere near the hole

Hey good lookin'

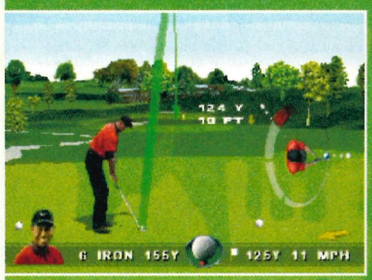
Hey! It's Tiger Woods, numero uno golfing supremo! You'll pardon us if we fail to wet ourselves in excitement. But the world's favourite greater-carnivore-named golfer's looking mighty fine here. As are the courses. We admire this. But get up close, and it all starts to go pear-shaped. Observe.



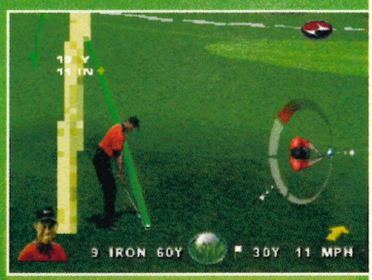
■ **Tiger does his little 'I'm a tad vexed' movement. Nice one, Ti...**



■ **But after a while, you'll come to know all those animated bits a little bit... too well**



■ **And sure, the graphics are pretty damn swish to look at. Check the cheesy grin...**

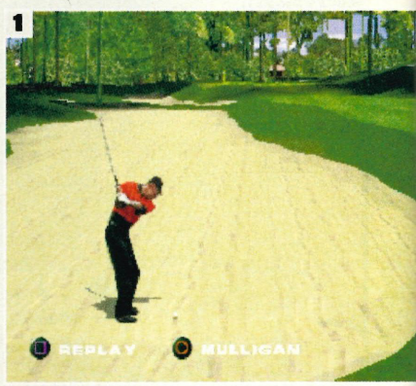


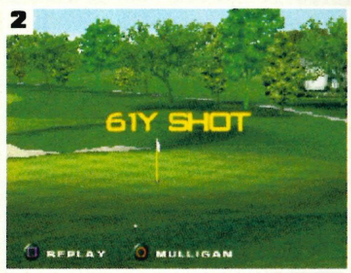
■ **But step up close to one of those trees, and it ain't so fine. Ah well, can't have it all...**

Fasta blasta!

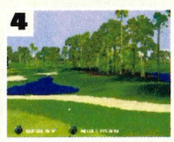
Strange things are afoot in Tigerworld. For starters, no matter how bright and cloudless the sky is, the wind's gusting like a bastard. It can really foul up a nice swing, too. Realism? Nul points.

And the realism really goes out the window for Tiger's super swings. Fire and lightning come out of Tiger's svelte frame as he twats the ball. Odd. Most odd.









1 Blowin' in the wind. Michael Fish has forecast strange whirly bits 2 So be ready for your ball to fly off into the sunset on a stray gust 3 ...Unless, that is you manage to pull off a Tiger-powered soopah-shot 4 Which'll send the ball flying into the middle of next week

Not going to club the top golf boys off their pedestal. Looks fine, but it ain't got the style of some of the other golf efforts out there. And the putting system stinks. **Rob**

PlayStation plus
RATED 78%

■ **OUT** FEBRUARY ■ **BY** KONAMI ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

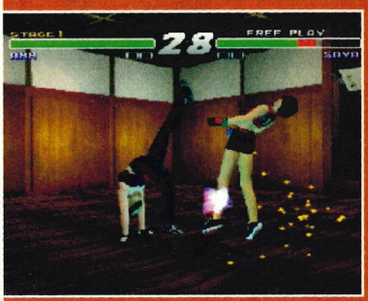
KENSEI: SACRED FIST

Care to brush up on the international language of fighting...

If you laid all the fighting games in the world end-to-end the line would stretch all the way from your pocket to the programmers' money mountain. And looky here, Kensei's all geared up to join the queue. Get to the back, you...

The violence factor

There you are with your mates, killing time before the next big world war, what's Kensei: Sacred Fist got to offer? Well, moves for a start, lots of highly technical bone-breaking, nose-remodelling and coma-inducing moves. The kind of attacks that'll have your fingers pleading 'mercy, sire!' And looking under the bonnet, this beast looks like it's got combos to satisfy...



■ Legs up to her armpits or what



■ Is there life after 'Under Siege' Mr Seagal?



■ He feels like dancing



■ Known as tough love

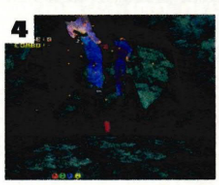
Option smoption

There's nothing much different here options-wise: a time match, training mode, survival mode, vs mode and a normal fighting mode. And for those who really don't want to get sweaty palms there's a watch mode where you can sit back, roll a phat one and soak up the violence. It all spells Bog Standard in huge neon lights.









1 Ah, just sit back and watch **2** Nothing like a countdown to focus the mind **3** Back to the classroom **4** Pay attention now

Meat and two veg

When it comes to unarmed combat, martial arts win hands down on the looks front. It's four-star brawling served on a silver platter by a massively arsey French waiter in very exclusive surroundings. So any beat 'em up has to be as far away from cheapo Little Chef looks as is possible. Using this scientific method we'd say it was like somewhere you'd take your bank manager if you wanted to borrow, say, ten grand.





1 Fighting in ballrooms – what next **2** Ah, pain you can almost touch **3** Kapow **4** Come on cowboy **5** You disrespect me for the last time







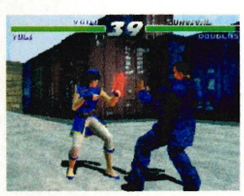
plus

We'd like to say...

There's no way we could call this cackola, if you'd never seen a beat 'em up before you'd no doubt shoot your bolt and praise the souls who created it. The fact is that most of what's in here has been seen before, and to a generally higher standard, so it's a case of the ante being so high that it'll take something very special to be the beat 'em up favourite.

The clone moan

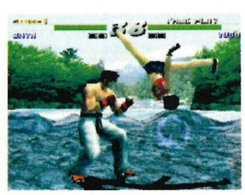
Most of the fighters look a little too familiar, as do their fighting moves. Imagine characters from previous games somehow transported into new games. Spooky eh? It's either that or a case of the mystery tracing paper thief taking more than a healthy dose of inspiration from one or two exalted forerunners.



■ Looks familiar



■ How about him?



■ Deja vu

Trying hard to set the world alight, but lacks the godly touch to make it truly original. Oops. Looks like we're left with the Shane Ritchie of beat 'em ups here. Shame... **Rich**

PlayStation plus

RATED 75%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** SONY ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

DEVIL DICE

Argh! Spots before my eyes, all I can see is spots. Satan! Rid me of your demon dice.

The beauty of puzzle games is their ability to get you to smack your forehead hard, like hurtingly hard when you get it wrong. This one'll have you in migraines for months.

What we like

Simpleton

The very best bit of all? You take it out the box stick it in the machine and you're away. No complicated rules, controls or shit, you just get to play the game. Nice.



■ Even six year-olds could do this



■ Simple but effective



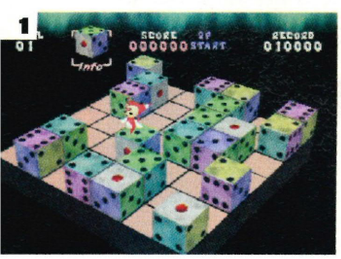
■ They'll probably be good at it too

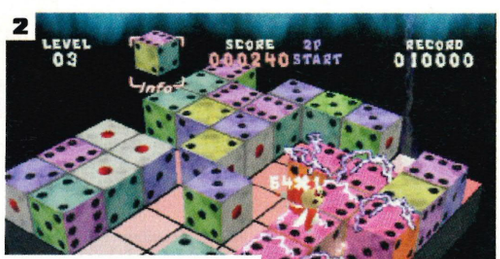


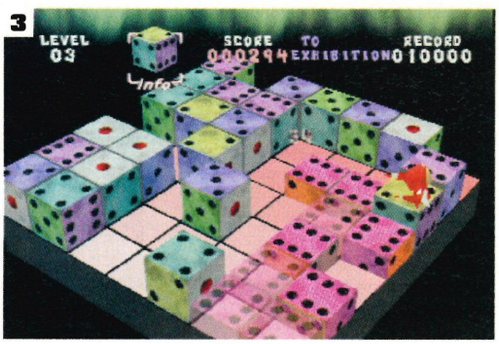
■ Better than you, old-timer

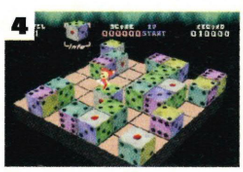
What's the deal?

You're the fiendish little imp on top of a load of dice on a chess board. your mission is to get your vertically-challenged friend to turn over said dice until a set of sides, three threes, six sixes, five fives (you get the idea) touch each other. Then they disappear. Then – hey! – More dice turn up and you've got to get them to go too. Then it gets faster and harder. Don't need no degree for this one.





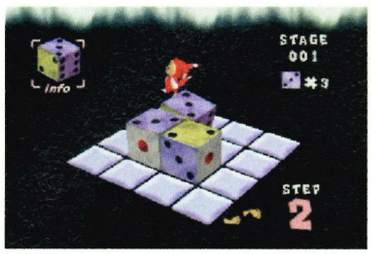




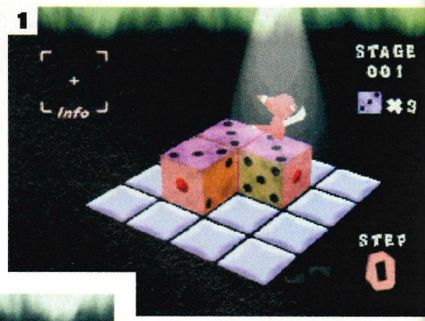
1 The die is cast 2 So start tumblin'... 3 Six of the best? Get those dice a-rollin' 4 Then down you go

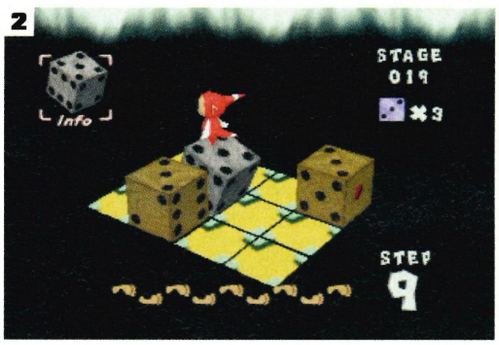
I'm outta here

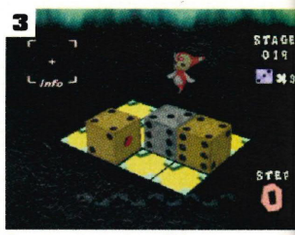
And since you're going to fork out not a small amount of dosh for this one they've loaded it with 'features'. You get a puzzle mode (our personal favourite) a manual to tell you what to do a battle zone, a trial and a war. Get smacking that forehead...



■ Step one in the puzzle zone is yer basic stuff







1 And ain't too taxing 2 And then... 3 It all starts going a bit pear-shaped

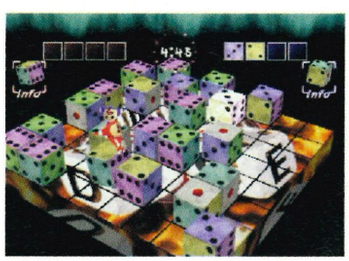
plus

We'd like to say...

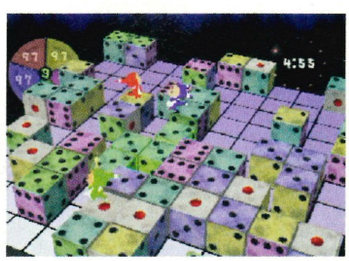
The litmus test of any puzzle is whether or not you can be arsed to go back to it. Are you repulsed or addicted? Devil's Dice is severely habit-forming and like the best of them it's simple, seductive and keeps you coming back for more.

Give me head to head

You don't just get to play with yourself on this one. Nope, you can get a mate to join in on the two-player mode thing. Same rules apply Robbo, but this time you have to tumble them dice quicker than your so-called opponent. You get more dice to go down, you're the winner. It's as simple as that...



■ Get tumblin' in one player...



■ Or take on four mates in the war zone

A double six if ever there was one. Devil Dice takes you a minute to learn and a lifetime to master as board game boxes always (used to) say. We can handle it... **David**

PlayStation plus

RATED 85%

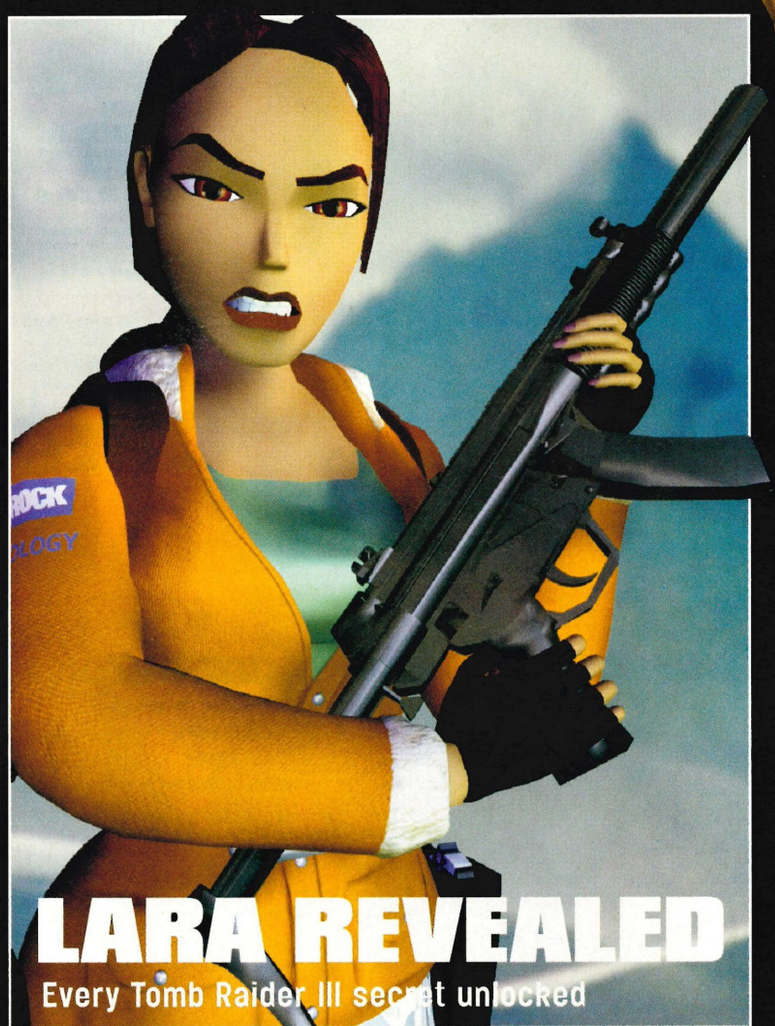
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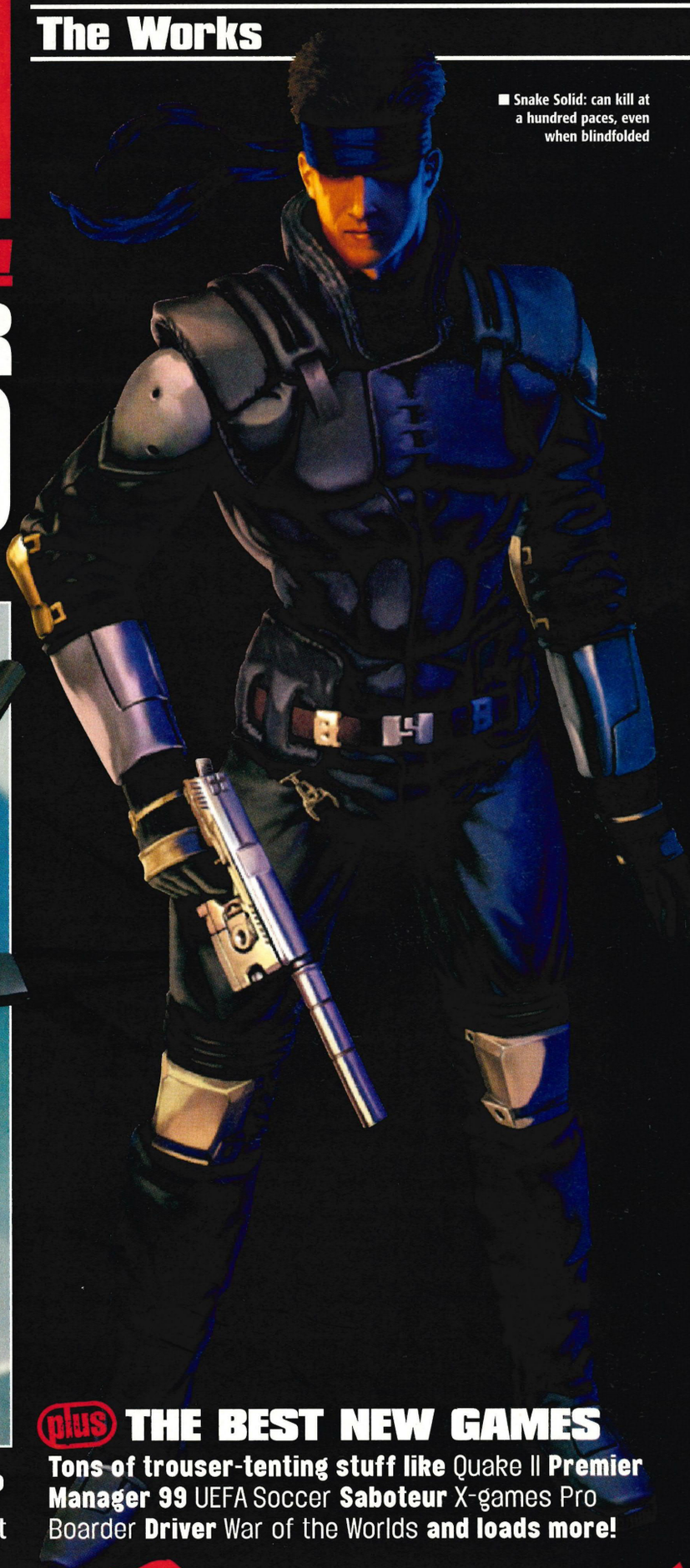
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OCTOBER 98

First look at Tomb Raider III
● Guide to living dangerously
● Abe's Exoddus previewed



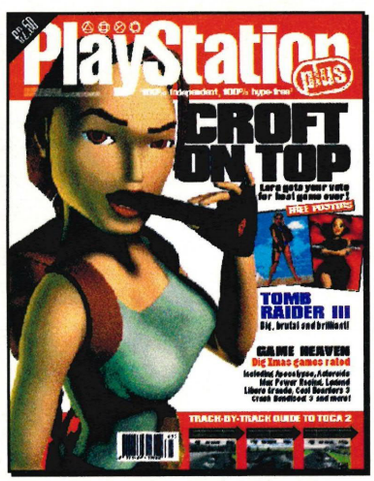
NOVEMBER 98

● Sneak preview of Silent Hill ● TOCA 2 gets the full works ● We run the rule over Abe's Exoddus
● Can you get game logic to work in real life...



DECEMBER 98

● Burn rubber with Max Power Racing ● Michael Owen's World League Soccer gets reviewed
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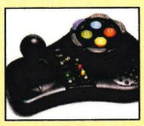
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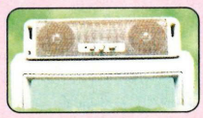
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The Playstation produces incredible Hi-Fi quality sound but this is only output in dull mono through your TV. To unlock its full potential you need to hook up a pair of stero speakers. This is easily done - please ring for advice on any cables you may need.



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To assist in choosing the right game for you, we have included review scores from both Play and Playstation Plus, two of the country's leading PSX magazines. PY=Play, PP=Playstation Plus.

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ADVENTURE / ROLE PLAYING




WILD ARMS

Sony add to the increasingly popular RPG genre with Wild Arms, a bizarre Wild West flavoured, Manga-style adventure. Featuring 3 characters, each with different abilities, the gameplay is very similar to old school RPGs such as Zelda. With magic, monsters and mystical quests, RPG fans will love it. **RRP £34.99 Our price £29.99**

Alundra	91% PY, 91% PP	£24.99
Azure Dreams	70% PY, 67% PP	£28.99
Breath of Fire 3	80% PY, 84% PP	£32.99
Broken Sword 2	90% PY, 91% PP	£29.99
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Final Fantasy 7	93% PY, 97% PP	£36.99
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Legacy of Kain Soul Reaver	Due 26th March	£35.99
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Riven	84% PP	£39.99
Sentient	84% PY, 71% PP	£26.99
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BREATH OF FIRE 3 *Following on from the success of Final Fantasy 7 and Alundra, Breath of Fire 3 is the quest of a young boy named Ryu. Featuring beautiful Manga-style graphics, turn-based and real-time combat and a massive world to explore.*

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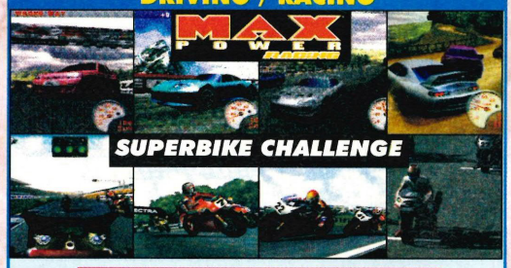




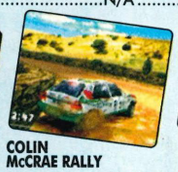
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Cardinal Syn	85% PY, 82% PP	£29.99
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Mortal Kombat 4	87% PY,	£30.99
Mortal Kombat Trilogy	92% PY, 91% PP	£18.99
Pitball	N/A	£9.99
Pocket Fighter	N/A	£33.99
Psychic Force	73% PY, 76% PP	£14.99
Rise of the Robots 2:The Resurrection	88% PY, 78% PP	£16.99
Rival Schools	96% PY	£32.99
Soul Blade	96% PY, 94% PP	£18.99
Star Wars: Masters of Teras Kasi	74% PY	£26.99
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Tekken	95% PY, 90% PP	£18.99
Tekken 2	95% PY, 95% PP	£18.99
Tekken 3	94% PY, 96% PP	£35.99
Tobal No.1	94% PY, 91% PP	£14.99
Toshinden 2	74% PY	£16.99
Toshinden 3	78% PY, 76% PP	£29.99
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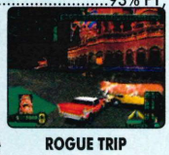


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Ayrton Senna Kart Duel 2	N/A	£24.99
Bugriders	N/A	£14.99
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Colin McRae Rally	93% PY	£33.99
Destruction Derby	86% PY, 72% PP	£18.99
Destruction Derby 2	82% PY, 89% PP	£18.99
Dodgem Arena	N/A	£29.99
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Formula 1	84% PY, 88% PP	£18.99
Formula 1 '98	68% PY	£35.99
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Megaman Battle & Chase	N/A	£28.99
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NASCAR Racing '99	82% PY, 64% PP	£32.99
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TOCA Touring Cars 2	92% PY	£35.99
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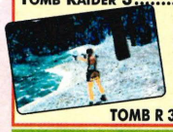
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Tomb Raider 2	95% PY, 95% PP	£24.99
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TOMB R 3 METAL GEAR SOLID APOCALYPSE

ARCADE SHOOTERS

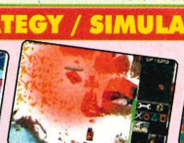




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NFL Madden '99	N/A	£32.99
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Blasto	N/A	£29.99
Bomberman World	85% PY, 83% PP	£29.99
Bug's Life (Disney)	Due 19th February	£CALL

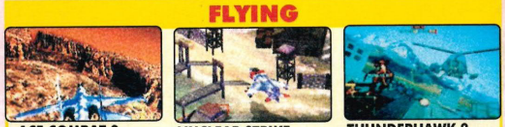


CRASH 3 ABE'S EXODUS SPYRO

Castlevania	92% PY	£24.99
Crash Bandicoot	84% PY, 86% PP	£18.99
Crash Bandicoot 2	86% PY, 87% PP	£29.99
Crash Bandicoot 3	**Out Now**	**£33.99**
Croc	78% PY, 84% PP	£18.99
Earthworm Jim 3D	Due January	£34.99
Heart of Darkness	**88% PP**	**£27.99**
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Oddworld Abe's Exodus	**Out Now**	**£31.99**
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Pitfall 3D	70% PY	£19.99
Psybadek	N/A	£34.99
Rayman	87% PY	£18.99
Rascal	77% PY	£34.99
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T'ai Fu	Due February '99	£30.99
Tombi	79% PP	£29.99
Trash It	55% PY, 57% PP	£29.99
Wild 9	72% PY, 90% PP	£31.99



FLYING



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Air Combat	81% PY, 65% PP	£18.99
Air Race	N/A	£24.99
Nuclear Strike	**88% PY, 91% PP**	**£19.99**
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Bust-A-Groove	89% PY, 88% PP	£29.99
Centipede	Due January	£28.99
Atari Greatest Hits 2	**Out now**	**£27.99**
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Hugo the Troll	N/A	£29.99
Midway Greatest Hits 2	N/A	**£24.99**
Music	90% PY	£29.99
Namco Museum Volume 4	79% PY, 67% PP	£24.99
Namco Museum Vol 5	75% PP	£25.99
Parappa the Rapper	82% PY, 89% PP	£18.99
R-Types	Out now	£28.99
Spice World (Spice Girls)	**N/A**	**£18.99**

HINT BOOKS

A-Z of PSX Secrets & Solutions Vols 1-5	each	£10.99
Alundra Unauthorised Game Secrets		£12.99
Big Playstation Book		£11.99
Bomberman World Strategy Guide		£10.99
Breath of Fire 3 Official Guide		£12.99
Crash Bandicoot 2 Strategy Guide		£11.99
Crash Bandicoot 3 Strategy Guide		**£10.99**
Deathtrap Dungeon Official Guide		£10.99
Final Fantasy 7 Official Guide		**£14.99**
Formula 1 '98 Secrets & Solutions		£10.99
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Resident Evil 2 Unauthorised Guide		£11.99
Rival Schools Official Strategy Guide		£11.99
Tekken 3 Official Strategy Guide		£10.99
Tomb Raider Secrets		£9.99
Tomb Raider 2 Official Guide Book		**£10.99**
Tomb Raider 3 Official Guide Book		**£10.99**
Warcraft 2 Console Strategy Guide		£10.99

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1. Your game must be in nearly new condition. We cannot accept anything with torn or stained manuals or damaged boxes and you must clean the CD before sending it to us. Remember that all games are tested when we receive them. If your game doesn't work, we will not buy it and you will have to pay a £4.00 charge to get it back.
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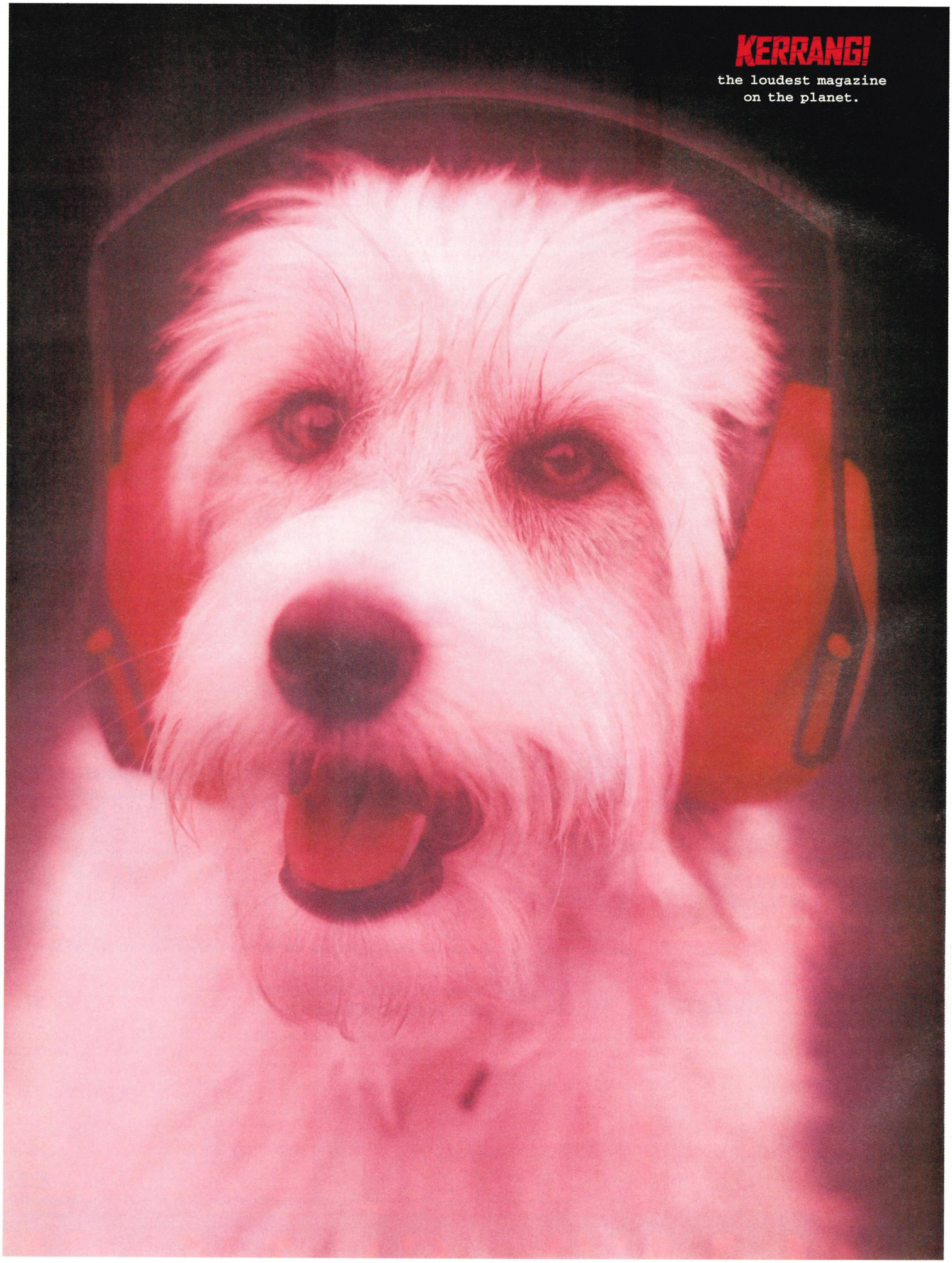
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The Knowledge

UPDATED EVERY MONTH

Your essential massive guide to every PlayStation game and all the gear...

We promise that every game and every product here has been tested by us. We're 100% independent: we don't take bribes, we don't worry about what our advertisers think, we don't hype games and we never bullshit you. We always tell you what we really think about a game, so you can trust us when you rent or buy...

HOW WE RATE STUFF

0-50%.....Total toss
51-60%.....Just toss
61-70%.....Only OK
71-80%.....Good, not great
81-90%.....Almost classic
91-100%.....Essential play

best buy Top PlayStation gear to boost your gameplay.

winner A great game (91% plus) you've just got to play.

Rent it Only worth renting. Don't buy it!

Platinum Games available for under twenty quid!

p101 Rental charts
p102 DIY hypnotism
p102 Software house contacts
p103 Rant — Brian Twat gets angry
p104 Bad moments in life: part four
p105 Totty you forgot
p106 Gear: Stuff for your 'Station
p107 Our guide to the millennium bug
p111 Batman's guide to women
p113 HMV sales charts

Rental Chart

BLOCKBUSTER™

Wanna try before you buy? The hottest rentals this month

Key: (NE) New Entry
(RE) Re-Entry
(4) Position Last Month
(-) Same Position

1. (8) FIFA 99 (EA) Footy floats your boat, apparently
2. (NE) Crash Bandicoot 3 (Sony) Brilliant platformer goes top ten
3. (NE) Brian Lara Cricket (Codemasters) Lose the Ashes in your front room
4. (RE) Grand Theft Auto (Platinum) It's a steal. Ha, ha, ha
5. (NE) Tomb Raider III (Eidos) Threes-up for Lara, eh lads?
6. (NE) TOCA 2 (Codemasters) A rally, rally good game, yah?
7. (NE) Abe's Exoddus (GT Interactive) Abe's second coming. Nice
8. (NE) Knockout Kings (EA) Everybody box in the ring, eh?
9. (NE) Asteroids (Activision) This is how we used to play, son
10. (4) Tenchu (Activision) Everyone is dying for a slash

2Xtreme £44.99

Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Really poor sequel to Extreme Games. Very few improvements. **55%**

3D Lemmings £44.99

Company Psygnosis **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Smart 3D graphics, but uninteresting and awkward gameplay. **81%**

4-4-2 £34.99

Company Virgin **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
An absolute disgrace of a football game. The worst on the PlayStation. **14%**

Abe's Exoddus £39.99

Company GT Interactive **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
winner
Awesome sequel with even more to do than the first one. **91%**




Abe's Oddysee £44.99

Company GT Interactive **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
winner
Great-looking and great-playing weirdo adventure. **91%**




Actua Golf £44.99

Company Gremlin **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Cyber-golf at its most realistic. The best golf game on the PlayStation. **88%**

Jargonbuster!

How our listings work

Company: Who sells it? **Players:** How many can play? **Memory Card:** Can you use one to save games? **Link-up:** Can two players play on two machines? **Mouse:** Do you need one? **Multitap:** Allows lots of players to play **Special:** Guns or special controllers?

Actua Golf 2 £44.95

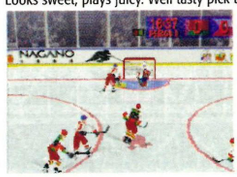
Company Gremlin **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Rent it
Cosmetic improvements only, power-bar controls are a bit too familiar... **83%**

Actua Golf 3 £39.99

Company Gremlin **Players** 1-4 **Special** dual shock
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Much-improved golf sim that looks goyjush and plays smooth, too. **90%**

Actua Ice Hockey £39.99

Company Gremlin **Players** 1-4
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
winner
Looks sweet, plays juicy. Well tasty pick up n' play ice hockey effort **91%**




Actua Soccer £19.99

Company Gremlin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Platinum
3D graphics eclipsed by flawed gameplay. Nice, but a little dated. **68%**

Actua Soccer 2 £39.99

Company Psygnosis **Players** 1-4 **Special** Analogue pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
winner
Tasty footy sim that looks brilliant but plays even better. **93%**




Actua Soccer 3 £39.99

Company Gremlin **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Footie game that loses its grip in the wake of the far superior ISS pro 98. **79%**

Actua Soccer: Club Edition £44.99

Company Gremlin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Same as Actua Soccer, but has Premier teams. Too little too late... **60%**

Actua Tennis £39.99

Company Gremlin **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Easy to pick up and play if tennis is your bag. Go on, admit it. It is, isn't it? **74%**

Adidas Power Soccer £19.99

Company Psygnosis **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Platinum
Football game which favours cool graphics over yer actual gameplay. **60%**

»

The Knowledge: updated every month

Adidas Power Soccer 98 £34.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Crappy old footy game doesn't cut the mustard. **55%**

Adidas Soccer International 97 £44.95
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
A follow-up to Adidas Power Soccer, also pretty shite. **70%**

Agent Armstrong £39.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Mindless blasting, easy puzzles and daft graphics... OK, but that's all. **75%**

Agile Warrior £39.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Fairly challenging arcade-style aircraft shoot 'em up. Neat, but no cigar... **85%**

Air Combat £19.99
Company Namco **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ Platinum
A miss from Namco? Yeah: tedious, lacks depth and variety. **65%**

Ace Combat 2 £34.99
Company Namco **Players** 1 **Special** Analogue pad, NegCon
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Fighter pilot extravaganza. Buy planes, and shoot everything! **85%**

Air Race £44.99
Company THQ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗ Rent it
Racing takes to the skies. Easy to pick up and fun to play. **76%**

AIV Evolution Global £44.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
An A+ for averageness in this overwhelming resource management sim. **86%**

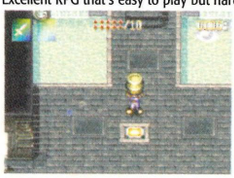
Alien Trilogy £19.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓ Platinum
Excellent Doom-clone which captures all the scares of the films. **85%**

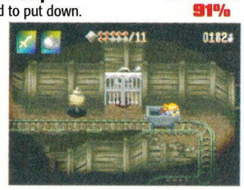
All Star Soccer £44.95
Company Eidos **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Tries to mix footie and humour. Doesn't make much of a job of either... **34%**

All Star Tennis £39.99
Company Ubisoft **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ Rent it
Slightly shit-stained looks don't spoil quite good racket-a-thon. **71%**

Alone In The Dark £39.95
Company Ocean **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Interesting puzzles fail to make up for the game's dated presentation. **82%**

Alundra £39.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ winner
Excellent RPG that's easy to play but hard to put down. **91%**



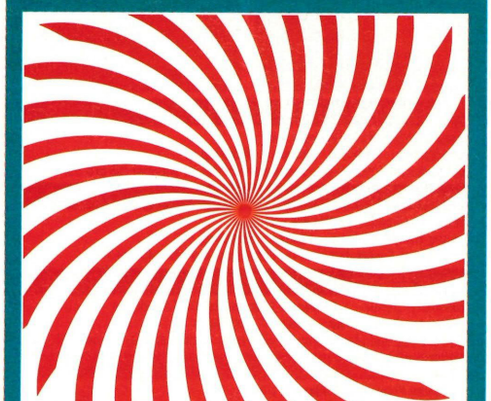


Look into my eyes

Hypnotism really works!

How it's done:

Stare into the centre of this picture while repeating the words, 'Denise Van Outen is a pig'. Now turn to page 110 and look at the picture of Denise Van Outen...



Contacts

UK PlayStation software houses

Acclaim: 0171 344 5000
Activision: 01895 456700
Take 2 (BMG): 0171 384 7800
Codemasters: 01926 814132
Electronic Arts: 01753 549442
Eidos: 0181 636 3000
Gremlin: 01142 639900
GT Interactive: 0171 565 7300
Interplay: 01628 423666
JVC: 0171 240 3121
Konami: 01895 853000
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Mindscape: 01444 246333
Namco: 0171 734 7737
Ocean/Infogrames: 0161 832 6633
Psygnosis: 0151 282 3000
Sony: 0171 447 1600
Telstar: 01932 222232
THQ: 01372 745222
UBI Soft: 0181 941 4004
Virgin: 0171 368 2255

Andretti Racing £44.99
Company EA **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A lightweight alternative to the fantastic Formula 1. **85%**

Apocalypse £39.99
Company Activision **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Bruce Willis pumps it up in balls-out sci-fi blaster **90%**

Aquanaut's Holiday £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Environmentally friendly undersea adventure. Very dull. **53%**

Area 51 £44.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2 **Special** Light Gun
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
A bland shoot 'em up based on an arcade game. **52%**

Ark of Time £39.99
Company ICE **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Dull puzzler game: too boring and too hard. **65%**

Armoured Core £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Robotic shoot'em up. Worth a look. **86%**

Assault £39.99
Company Telstar **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Non-stop killing in fast and frantic shoot 'em up. **88%**

Assault Rigs £44.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A nice idea, but just too simple and too easy for its own good. **81%**

Asteroids £29.95
Company Activision **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Not much actual 'update' in this update of an 80s classic. **70%**

Atari Collection £44.95
Company GT **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Golden-oldie retro compilation. Ideal for old farts everywhere... **75%**

Atari Collection 2 £34.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Only Gauntlet and Millipede shine in rubbish retro collection. **55%**

Auto Destruct £44.99
Company EA **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ Rent it
Cop show-style driving and shooting with lots of fizz. **77%**

Ayrton Senna Kart Duel £44.99
Company Philips **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Very grim and substandard racing game. Avoid at all costs. **32%**

Ayrton Senna Kart Duel 2 £39.99
Company Infograme **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A karting game with all the fun of a lobotomy. Yeuch. **35%**

Azure Dreams £39.99
Company Konami **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ Rent it
This RPG is packed with interesting ideas. Let down by shit save system. **67%**

Baby Universe £29.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Create weirdo patterns and shapes to music. Not good for migraines. **75%**

Ballblazer Champions £44.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Very fast, very furious and fun: play futuristic footy with spaceships. **87%**

Battle Arena Toshinden 2 £49.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Great visuals, but doesn't make it with the gameplay. **71%**

Battle Stations £44.95
Company EA **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
OK, so this is a pretty concept, but the game itself is poorly done. **52%**

Batman Forever £44.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Total stinker. Beat 'em up boredom, even if you're a bonzo Batfan. **28%**

Batman and Robin £39.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Ambitious, but sadly flawed take on the on the Batman theme. **73%**

Beast Wars: Transformers £39.99
Company Hasbro **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Awful, Beryl. Really awful. And you know what I said? I said... **45%**

Bedlam £44.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Tactical blaster, and you do need that mouse to get the most out of it. **87%**

Big Hurt Baseball £44.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Baseball games. Great, eh? A good adaptation of a dull sport. **81%**

Biofreaks £39.99
Company GT Interactive **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Gory, good fun and for icing on the cake your fighters can fly. **85%**

Black Dawn £44.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
This sequel to the explosive Agile Warrior is just as good. **86%**

Blast Chamber £44.99
Company Activision **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Anyone for a futuristic game of tag? No? **54%**

Blasto £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
The kind of game that visits singles bars, goes home alone and cries. **56%**

Blast Radius £44.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓ Rent it
Good-looking space blaster only let down by lack of variety. **83%**

Blam! Machinehead £44.99
Company Core Design **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Hard to work out. But once you get into it, it's a gripping 3D blaster. **89%**

Blaze and Blade £39.99
Company Funsoft **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Imagine the toilets at an annual tramps convention. This smells worse. **40%**

Blazing Dragons £44.99
Company BMG **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Graphic adventure. Good humoured, but too much like hard work. **87%**

Bloody Roar £39.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ winner
Fast punchy beat 'em up where the players turn into giant angry beasts. **92%**





B-Movie £39.99
Company GT **Players** 1 **Special** Dual shock
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ Rent it
Tongue-in-cheek sci-fi shoot 'em up that really fluffs our pillow. **79%**

Bomberman World £34.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Explosive cutesy murder 'em up that's a multiplayer must. **83%**

Break Point £44.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Inoffensive tennis game, but the moves take some getting used to. **73%**

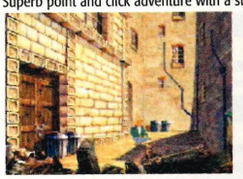
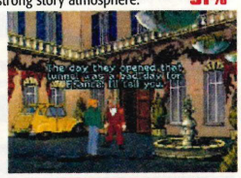
Brahma Force £44.95
Company JVC **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Techie-as-they-come robot-blasting shoot 'em up. **73%**

Breath of Fire III £39.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Cutesy role-playing epic involving dragons and things. **84%**

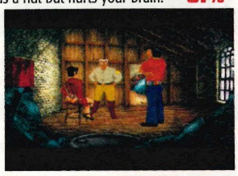
Brian Lara Cricket £44.95
Company Codemasters **Players** 1-4 **Special** Dual shock
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Excellent cricket sim. Bit of a complicated control system, though. **89%**

Broken Helix £39.99
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Good ideas, but very dated shoot 'em up. 70%

Broken Sword £44.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✓ Multitap ✗
Superb point and click adventure with a strong story atmosphere. winner 91%

Broken Sword 2 £34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✓ Multitap ✗
Puzzled up adventure game that's sweet as a nut but hurts your brain. winner 91%

Burning Road £44.99
■ Company Funsoft ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Average racer with good gameplay and naff graphics. 88%

Bubble Bobble Pack £44.95
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Dust down those tank tops, this is one of the best retro collections. 84%

Bubsy 3D £34.99
■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✗ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Ugh! Ultra-crap platform game that looks and plays toss. 30%

Buggy £39.99
■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Worth-a-look-racer that won't change your life. Rent it 78%

Bug Riders £39.99
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Ugly, unplayable insect-riding racer. A load of cock. 34%

Bushido Blade £39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✓ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Samurai swordfighting game that's too unrealistic to pump up your pulse. Rent it 83%

Bust-a-Groove £39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Cool Simon Says-style game where you move dancers in time to music. 88%

Bust-a-Move 2 £19.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗ Platinum
One of the cutest, most incredibly addictive puzzle games of all time. 89%

Bust-a-Move 3 £34.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Bubble-bustin' puzzler that's too damn similar to the last Bust-a-Move. 85%

Bust-a-Move 4 £39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Not wildly different from other Busts. Still good, though. 80%

Cardinal Syn £34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Surprisingly good beat 'em up with swords. 82%

Carnage Heart £34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Build some robots, then turn them loose to fight in this strategy game. 74%

Casper £44.95
■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Graphics are fine and dandy, but the gameplay's totally average. 62%

Castlevania £44.99
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Old school 2D action and gameplay galore in this Dracula spectacular. 89%

Cheesy the Mouse £44.95
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
The awful main character hides some good platform action. 82%

Chessmaster 3D £44.95
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✗ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Rough, tough butt-kicking (only joking) chess sim. 87%

Chill £39.99
■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shcok pad
Memory card ✗ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Loads to do and cool two-player in another snowboarding clone. 82%

Circuit Breakers £39.99
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-4
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✓
Mini-racing effort that's a bit too much like Micro Machines. 80%

City of The Lost Children £44.95
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Excellent graphics in this adventure game, but incredibly annoying. 68%

Clock Tower £44.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Poor attempt to move into Resident Evil territory. Boring, dated, not scary. 43%

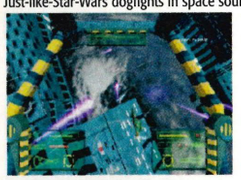
Colin McRae Rally £44.99
■ Company Codemasters ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock
Memory card ✗ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Superb rally game. Possibly better than sex. winner 95%




Colony Wars £44.99
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Space-based 3D blaster which is sharp as a tack. Loads to do, too. winner 93%




Colony Wars Vengeance £39.99
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 ■ Special Dual shock
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Just-like-Star-Wars dogfights in space sound good to you? Us too. winner 93%



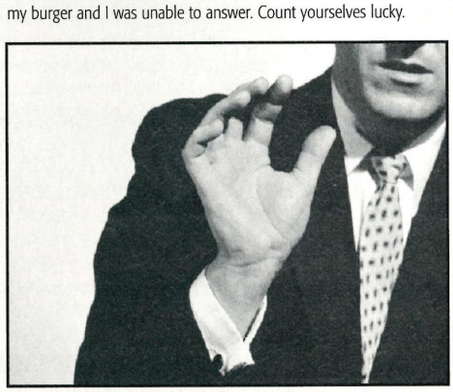

Rant!

Brian Twat gets angry

It's not easy being a ranter, y'know. And contrary to popular opinion, I don't have opinions on everything. Ask me my slant on the difference between Safeway frozen peas and those bought at Tesco's, for example, and my face will adopt a neutral, some might say 'blank', expression.

This is because all my opinion juices are channelled towards the videogames section of my brain. Tell me, for example, that the UK version of Tekken 3 runs at a slower frame rate than its American and Japanese counterparts and my face will screw up into its ranter's pose and I may go, 'BAAARRGGHH!' Or something like that.

The other day I was asked whether I would prefer chips or salad with my burger and I was unable to answer. Count yourselves lucky.



■ Brian's puppet was on strike after the 'fingernail' incident

Command and Conquer £19.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✓ Multitap ✗ Platinum
It's war, and you're the daddy of destruction. A point and click bloodbath. 90%

Command and Conquer: Red Alert £39.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✗ Link-up ✓ Mouse ✓ Multitap ✗
Strategic slaughter 'em up that's even better than the first C&C. winner 93%




Command and Conquer: Retaliation £39.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✗ Link-up ✓ Mouse ✓ Multitap ✗
Well worthy next stage in an excellent series. winner 92%




Constructor £39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✓ Multitap ✗
Play at being a landlord. Sounds crap? You're wrong, it's ace. 88%

Contra: Legacy of War £44.95
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special 3D Glasses
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
3D Version of the classic shoot 'em up. Solid blasting action. 83%

Cool Boarders £39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
One player only, but this is still brilliant snowboarding fun. winner 91%




Cool Boarders 2 £39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✓ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Shit-hot snowboard sequel that adds a two-player mode to the original. winner 92%




Cool Boarders 3 £34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Not exactly a huge difference to number two. Still good though. 82%

Courier Crisis £34.99
■ Company BMG ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Good fun for a while, but limited bike 'em up. Rent it 79%

Crash Bandicoot £19.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗ Platinum
A bit frustrating, but this is one of the best platformers around. 86%

Crash Bandicoot 2 £39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Tasty platformer that's more varied than the first Crash. 87%

Crash Bandicoot 3 £39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Great laffs platformer with a furry, minge-like animal in it. 89%

Crime Killer £39.99
■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Fast mix of driving and shooting lacks variety. 81%

Critical Depth £34.99
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Good two-player submarine blast 'em up. Not so cool in single player. 65%

Criticom £44.99
■ Company Vic Tokai ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up ✗ Mouse ✗ Multitap ✗
Great graphics, but this 3D beat 'em up still loses out to Tekken. Rent it 82%

»

The Knowledge: updated every month

Croc £34.99
Company EA **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Cutesy graphics don't spoil this challenging platformer. **84%**

Crow 2: City of Angels £44.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
If you hated the movie, you'll hate this even more. Crap fighting game. **33%**

Crusader £44.95
Company EA **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Excellent shooting and exploring action in this lone commando game. **85%**

Crypt Killer £44.99
Company Konami **Players** 1-2 **Special** Light Gun
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
The worst lightgun game ever. Stay away! **27%**

Cyber Sled £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Dull arcade shooting game. Nothing to write home about. **69%**

Cyber Speed £39.99
Company Mindscape **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
You race about on wires. Not a WipEout-beater. **68%**

Cyberia £39.99
Company Interplay **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Underwhelming shooting and puzzle games. **60%**

D £44.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Looks great, but way too short: it'll take you an hour to complete. Rent it **83%**

Dark Forces £44.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Old-style graphics, but still an engrossing Star Wars/Doom clone. **84%**

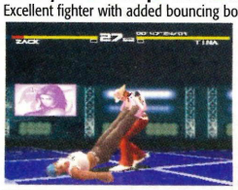
Darklight Conflict £44.99
Company EA **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
3D space game delivers stunning gameplay and is difficult to master. **87%**

Darkstalkers £44.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Street Fighter meets horror meets fairly average gameplay. **78%**

Davis Cup Tennis £44.95
Company Telstar **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
We reckon this stinker is one of the worst PlayStation tennis titles to date. **50%**

Dead Ball Zone £34.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Hyper-violent sci-fi sport game. With chainsaws. **88%**

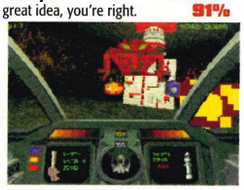
Dead or Alive £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Excellent fighter with added bouncing boobs. Top job. winner **94%**




Deathtrap Dungeon £44.99
Company Eidos **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Tomb Raider-style adventure. But with swords. **90%**

Defcon 5 £49.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
3D adventure with more wandering about than actual exciting action. **72%**

Descent £44.99
Company Interplay **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Doom in spaceships. If you think that's a great idea, you're right. winner **91%**

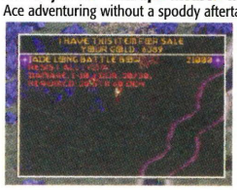
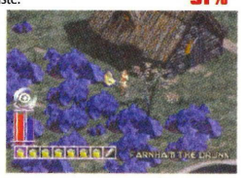
Descent 2 £44.99
Company Interplay **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Not enough improvements on the original, but still a good shoot 'em up. **82%**

Destruction Derby £19.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1 **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Play a while and you realise it's a shallow game: Great with two players. Platinum **72%**

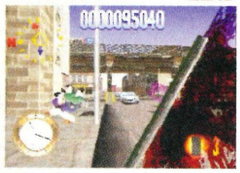
Destruction Derby 2 £19.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1 **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Better than the original, with faster cars and wider tracks. Platinum **89%**

Devil's Deception £39.99
Company Sunsoft **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Nice idea: you play Satan's helper. But not well executed. **60%**

Diablo £39.99
Company EA **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Ace adventuring without a spoddy aftertaste. winner **91%**

Die Hard Trilogy £19.99
Company Fox Interactive **Players** 1 **Special** Gun/Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Three top games for the price of one. winner **92%**

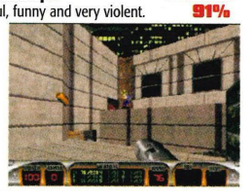



DiscWorld £39.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Fantasy 'comedy' adventure with annoying puzzles. **71%**

Disruptor £39.99
Company Interplay **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Slick, ultimately yawnsome first-person shooter. Nice weapons though. **82%**

Doom £19.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Bloody, dark shoot 'em up that's one of the all-time greats. Platinum **90%**

Duke Nukem £39.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Stonking corridor shoot 'em up. Colourful, funny and very violent. winner **91%**

Duke Nukem: Time to Kill £39.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Duke gets a Tomb Raider-style adventure. Result? Very good, thanks. **89%**

Dynasty Warriors £44.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Beat 'em up with swords that doesn't really cut it next to Soul Blade. **67%**

Earthworm Jim 2 £44.95
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Update of old platformer that fails to deliever. **79%**

Epidemic £34.95
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Sequel to Kileak the Blood fails to improve on a pretty poor game **64%**

ESPN Extreme Games £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Oddball sports racing game with a smidgin of violence for good measure. winner **91%**




Everybody's Golf £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A golf game that's - wait for it - fun! And great to play too. **85%**

Excalibur 2555AD £19.99
Company Telstar **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Merlin's niece goes sci-fi in this Tomb Raider wannabe. A near miss. Platinum **77%**

Exhumed £44.95
Company BMG **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Still one of the best and most challenging Doom-style games around. winner **91%**




Explosive Racing £34.95
Company TOKA **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Lack of control and cheesy whiff let down fun racer. **51%**

Extreme Pinball £44.95
Company EA **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Sad, lonely, orphan of a pinball title with unrealistic ball movements. **44%**

Extreme Snow Break £39.99
Company Microids **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Shite snowboarding rubbish. **50%**

Fade to Black £19.99
Company EA **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Absorbing, interesting 3D game. There's plenty to see, do and shoot. Platinum **87%**

Bad moments in life: number four

The bloke who picks Brazil in ISS Pro 98

The bloke who picks Brazil is a bastard. He knows in Ronaldo he has the fastest and most skilled player in the game. And the rest of the team won't exactly be playing in the Nationwide League come next season.

How it goes:
If he's an ISS Pro spazboy, then there's a certain case for allowing him to be Brazil. After all, it won't worry a real pro like you. No, the trouble begins when you're at roughly the same skill level. He'll claim that having Ronaldo is no advantage. He's a lying turdbag.

What to do:
Face it, you'll look like the worst kind of whining prat if you go on and on about his choice of team. Here you've gotta swallow your disgust and get on with the game of football, safe in the knowledge that if he wins he only did it because he picked Brazil. You can, of course, pick England, tweak the formation and rely on Owen upfront or alternatively bring the keeper out everytime Ronaldo gets the ball. Or else just scream at the top of your voice everytime he makes a forward run and slap your forehead really hard.



■ Good at football they may be. Haircuts are another matter...

Fantastic Four £34.99
■ **Company** Acclaim ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Dull and repetitive beat 'em up featuring the Marvel Comics heroes. **59%**

Felony 11-79 £39.99
■ **Company** ASCII ■ **Players** 1 ■ **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Pacey joyriding game which offers lots of bangs for your buck. **81%**

FIFA 96 £19.99
■ **Company** EA ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Platinum
Footy game with little control over players and bad camera views. **58%**

FIFA 97 £44.99
■ **Company** EA ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Not much improvement over '96, since it plays so very slowly... **64%**

FIFA 98: Road to World Cup £39.99
■ **Company** EA ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Fairly average footy game. Only for true fans. **65%**

FIFA 99 £39.99
■ **Company** EA ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Fancy playing a sub-standard footie game? Then try this one for size. **75%**

The Fifth Element £44.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Likeable adventure, but lacks that, oh, 'pzazz': that extra little something. **79%**

Fighting Force £44.95
■ **Company** Eidos ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Beat 'em up adventure that's dull as dishwater. **66%**

Final Doom £44.99
■ **Company** GT ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
30 new levels, but still, at the end of the day, much the same game. **89%**

Final Fantasy VII £44.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
winner
An epic adventure on three CDs that blows away the competition. **97%**




Firestorm: Thunderhawk 2 £19.99
■ **Company** Eidos ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Platinum
3D graphics aren't exactly perfect but this is still a great helicopter game. **82%**

Firo and Klawd £44.95
■ **Company** BMG ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Interesting buddy cop game, but it loses points for no 'save game' option. **82%**

Floating Runner £44.99
■ **Company** THQ ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Enjoyable, playable 3D platformer with strange viewpoint, weird controls. **81%**

Fluid £34.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Create your own sounds and music, mix 'em all up. **84%**

Formula 1 £19.99
■ **Company** Psygnosis ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Platinum
Mega sales worldwide confirm it as the ultimate simulation driving game. **88%**

Formula 1 98 £44.99
■ **Company** Psygnosis ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Dual shock
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
As a racer, not bad. But as an addition to the F1 series? Shite. **70%**

F1 97 £44.95
■ **Company** Psygnosis ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Improvements all round for this updated racer. **89%**

Formula Karts £44.99
■ **Company** Telstar ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Slick, nice-looking mini racing: fast and furious, but the tracks are short. **81%**

Forsaken £39.99
■ **Company** Acclaim ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A damn fine corridor-style shooter. On bikes. Cool. **90%**

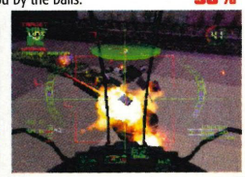
Frenzy £34.99
■ **Company** SCI ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Wannabe wacky shoot 'em up ends up being irritating and shite. **16%**

Frogger 3D £39.99
■ **Company** Hasbro ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Retro classic given a nineties 3D respray. Buckets of gameplay. **88%**

Future Cop: LAPD £44.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Hover, stomp and blast your way through the future. Cool. **89%**

G-Darius £39.99
■ **Company** THQ ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Stonking shoot 'em up pits you against a world of murderous fish. **89%**

G-Police £44.99
■ **Company** Psygnosis ■ **Players** 1 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
winner
Sci-fi helicopter cop thriller that grabs you by the balls. **93%**

Galaxian 3D £44.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✓
Graphically impressive shoot 'em up, but lacking in gameplay. **36%**

Gex £44.99
■ **Company** BMG ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Goes to show that if you really try, you can produce a dull platformer. **68%**

Gex 3D £44.99
■ **Company** BMG ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
winner
Very cool platform game. Loads of exploration and adrenalin. **91%**




Totty you forgot

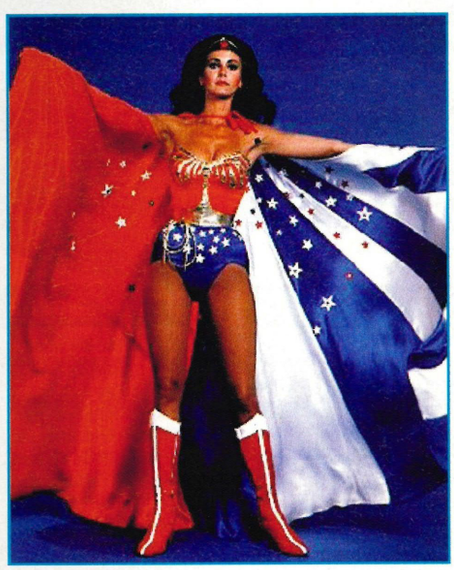
She was a star...

Dateline: The 70s and 80s.

The totty
Lynda Carter (also known as Wonder Woman)

Who?
Lynda was fairly top totty anyway. Put it this way: you would. But as Wonder Woman in the TV programme of the same name, Lynda did a little twirl to become crimefighter extraordinaire: Wonder Woman. And naturally, in Wonder Woman Land, it was de rigueur to wear a REALLY short, cleavage-revealing outfit. The crime-rate rose.

And what's she up to now?
The whole world (well, the male half) completely fell in love with Lynda during the Wonder Woman years, so after she left people still wanted more. They got it. She released an album and went on to perform in several popular TV specials.



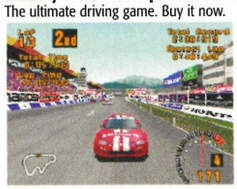
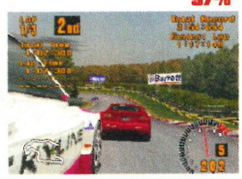
■ **WW's theme was Ned's Atomic Dustbin's intro music. Fact**

Ghost in the Shell £34.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Manga-based robot shoot 'em up that's a bundle of laffs. **90%**

Goal Storm £39.99
■ **Company** Konami ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Clumsy players lumber by on Zimmers and stairlifts in this football game. **66%**

Grand Theft Auto £19.99
■ **Company** BMG ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Platinum
Ultra-violent, immoral car game. Not a looker, but amazing gameplay. **85%**

Gran Turismo £39.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
winner
The ultimate driving game. Buy it now. **97%**

Grid Run £44.95
■ **Company** Virgin ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
'Tag' game which only really gets 'fun' in multiplayer mode. **64%**

Gunship £44.99
■ **Company** Microprose ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Complex, fairly playable helicopter sim, but just not that realistic... **83%**

Hard Boiled £44.99
■ **Company** EA ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Try woodturning. Knock up a pipe rack. Just don't play this. **40%**

Hardcore 4x4 £44.99
■ **Company** Gremlin ■ **Players** 1 ■ **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Dull all-terrain racing game with a lack of tracks. **83%**

Heart of Darkness £39.99
■ **Company** Ocean ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Platformer looks brilliant and plays like a peach. **88%**

Hebereke Popoitto £39.99
■ **Company** Sunsoft ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Two player puzzle game. Fun, but Bust-a-Move 2 is better. **42%**

Help £39.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Road Rash, Myst and Broken Sword on one disc! **85%**

Herc's Adventures £44.99
■ **Company** Virgin ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Solid gameplay and tons of challenge in fun-to-play cartoon frolics. **85%**

Hercules £34.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-2
Rent it
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Cool presentation and gameplay in Disney-inspired platformer. **81%**

Hexen £44.95
■ **Company** GT ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Graphics are a wee bit slow and blocky, but this Doom clone has depth. **84%**

Hi-Octane £44.99
■ **Company** Bullfrog ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Really boring racing game that doesn't have enough substance. **76%**

Hybrid £39.99
■ **Company** Elite ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Could this be the worst PlayStation game ever? Almost... **14%**

Independence Day £44.99
■ **Company** Fox Interactive ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Dated shoot 'em up based loosely on the hit film. **69%**

Indy 500 £39.99
■ **Company** JVC ■ **Players** 1 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad, Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Offensively average Indy car racing sim that's dull, dull, dull. **50%**

Impact Racing £44.95
■ **Company** JVC ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Offbeat racing game mixing Destruction Derby with Mad Max. **82%**

In the Hunt £39.99
■ **Company** THQ ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
2D submarine shoot 'em up with plenty of things to fire at. Which is nice. **79%**

International Track & Field £19.99
■ **Company** Konami ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Platinum
Addictive sports sim that 's even better in its multiplayer mode. **90%**

»

GEAR

Other stuff you need for your 'Station

SPANKING NEW!!



Barracuda 2 £19.99 ⬆

The first Barracuda joypad weighed about four stone and was the size of a coffee table. It's still around the office somewhere. With cobwebs on it. And numero dos? It's less of a big bulky bastard, for sure. A points loss on size there, but can it match Barracuda uno's awe-inspiring bollocksness? Well, from the first taste, you can tell this has been drizzled with Essence de Crap before cooking. It's a contender, that's for sure...

Get it out for: Before and after pictures

Rated: Well, the shitforce is strong in this one. The sticks and buttons have been designed with no respect for human convenience or dignity. Feels mondo bizarro in the hands as well. And the sticks...? Don't even go there. Jeezus. **55%**



Tekken 3 Cheat Master £11.99 ⬇

Can't get the secret characters on Tekken? You poor lamb. You should immediately go down to your local games outlet, and ask the nice man behind the counter for a Tekken 3 Cheat Master.

Get it out for: Guess. Go on just guess

Rated: But what is it? What does it do? Well, to be frank it's just an ordinary, everyday run-of-the-mill mem card but with extra special saves on it for not only Tekken 3 but also Dead or Alive, Soul Blade and the other Tekkens. Saves with all the stuff and secret shit you could want on 'em. And then once you used them, it's still another ordinary memory card for you. Cool. **90%**



Cyber Shock £19.99 ⬆

And it's another contender for the Sony Dual Shock's crown! The silver wide-o's strutting into the ring like he owns the bloody place! It's looking grim for Sony's champion. No... hang on a tick... no, it isn't looking grim at all. The new pad's gone down spitting blood and teeth! The Sony pad's stamping on its groin! Again and again! Oh God... it's sickening! It's just... unspeakable! It's...

Get it out for: Quiet evenings in with the telly. And without the PlayStation

Rated: The sticks make us happy with their twiddly antics. They're really quite good. That's the positive bit. Oh, and it rumbles acceptably well, too. The buttons? Christ, the buttons. Eeeeuugghhh. Just look at 'em. Then weep for mankind. **60%**

Sphere 360 £49.99 ⬇

We live in an odd world, friends. Somewhere, maniacs are making joypads with huge balls on 'em. Even looking at one causes near-fatal weird overload. And playing one? Read on...

Get it out for: Er, balls-out gaming

Rated: The ball thing's good for corridor blitz 'em ups like Duke Nukem. You can tilt your view, move, sidestep with it. Takes getting used to, but works fine. But bollocks for any other kind of game... **70%**



■ Not such a balls up

Money, money, money

Spoilt children, overpaid twats and loathsome posh bastards! This is your month! Yup. It's steering wheels: expensive, breakable and as acceptable to have in your flat as copies of 'Pregnant Bizarre 3'!

Logic 3 Top Gear Pro £69.99



More gizmos than Q has up his sleeve in the worst of the Bond films. You can even set up how hard the brakes are an' stuff. And the steering? Lordy, it sho' does steer sweet. And all in a highly desirable leatherette finish with plastic trim. For the price of 70 cans of cool, crisp Continental lager. Yup. You read that right. Think carefully before lashing out on one of these monstrosities. Seventy cans! Sure, the wheel's good, but just think of being pissed for four solid days. Yup. There's sadly no comparison. You been warned. **95%**

Gamester Dual Force £69.99



And screaming into second place comes this little fella. It's slick, it's smooth, it rumbles in a sorta quiet, suburban way, and you can even use it with the steering-wheel allergic Gran Turismo courtesy of a cunning gizmo that plugs in the back. V clever. If vibrating things float your boat, get out your platinum Amex and prepare to spend, spend, spend. If you're that way inclined, that is... **93%**

Mad Gatz Wheel £59.99

The Official Sony Wheel. Wow. Like, awesome. If big Uncle Sony and his army of corporate stooges approve, how can you go wrong? Well, you can't actually. This is mighty fine. It's smooth. It steers in a highly acceptable, even 'good' way. There's a right proper analogue feel to the turns and pedals are nice and beefy. But if you're going to spend all this dosh getting a steering wheel, why not just chuck in a couple of extra tenners and get a whole car as well? It's your choice. **92%**



Official Jordan Wheel £49.99

It looks just like the wheel inside an F1 car! Except it's sitting on your coffee table. It's causing your mates to laugh and point at you. Bad shit. Anyway, this 'official' effort's not half bad, actually. And we like its little gearstick. And if you're looking for a wheel at a price closer to what normal humans consider 'reasonable', go on... **88%**



ISS Deluxe £44.95

Company Konami **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Average footballer that's been bettered since. **66%**

Iron and Blood £44.95

Company Acclaim **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Average 3D beat 'em up, fantasy style. Not enough to tickle your fancy... **67%**

Iron Man £44.99

Company Acclaim **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comic's licence. **22%**

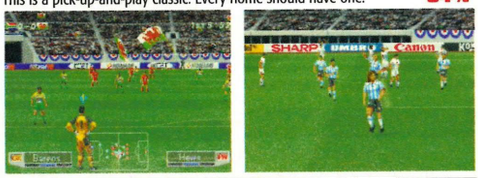
ISS Pro £19.99

Platinum
Company Konami **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Soccer old-timer that's still slotting 'em in with the best of them. **91%**



ISS Pro 98 £44.99

Company Konami **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
This is a pick-up-and-play classic. Every home should have one. **94%**



Iznogoud £39.99

Company Microids **Players** 1
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Iz really no good. Iz shit, actually. **9%**

Jeremy McGrath Supercross 98 £39.99

Company Acclaim **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Supercross? Crapcross, more like. **52%**

Jersey Devil £44.99

Company Ocean **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Good looking cartoon platform game that's hard as nails to play. **90%**

Jet Rider £34.99

Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Innovative racer is let down by poor graphics and weak gameplay. **63%**

Jet Rider II £34.99

Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Lame sci-fi racing sequel that manages to be shitter than the original. **30%**

Johnny Bazookatone £39.99

Company US Gold **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A rock 'n' roll platformer with poor gameplay. **60%**

Jonah Lomu Rugby £44.99

Company Codemasters **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Brilliant rugby simulation, but bloody fiddly controls drive you mad. **84%**

Judge Dredd £34.99

Company Gremlin **Players** 1-2 **Special** Lightgun
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Fast and good looking sci-fi lightgun shooter that doesn't stand out. **73%**

Jumping Flash £39.99

Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Super 3D platformer which has just too few levels to make it a winner. **89%**

Jumping Flash 2 £44.99

Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Perfect sequel to Jumping Flash, but not enough levels. A fiver more... **88%**

K1 £44.99

Company THQ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Substandard beat 'em up. It's saving grace is the reasonable graphics. **55%**

Kick Off 97 £44.99

Company Maxis **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
It shoots! It misses by an absolute mile. **60%**

Kick Off World £34.99

Company Funsoft **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
OK-to-play footy effort that looks like it's from a bygone age. **60%**

King of Fighters 95 Rental

Company Sony **Players** 1-2 **Special** Rental Only
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Not original, but this 2D effort still socks it to you as a rental game. **70%**

Klonoa £34.99

Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Stomach-churning cuteness doesn't spoil excellent platformer. **86%**

Knockout Kings £44.99

Company EA **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Good, but you can't help yearning for combos and stuff. **67%**

Krazy Ivan £39.99

Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Graphics win over playability in this robot game. **73%**

Kula World £34.99

Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Very classy head-stretching puzzle game. **89%**

Kurushi £34.99

Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Block-based puzzle game that isn't going to be the next Tetris. **68%**

The Last Report £39.99

Company Microids **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Adventure/puzzle game. Like Resident Evil except piss poor. **35%**

Legacy of Kain £44.99

Company BMG **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Vampire action/adventure game with a hugely enjoyable challenge. **92%**



Legend £39.99

Company Funsoft **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Imagine a good game. Now imagine its bloated corpse. That'll be Legend. **45%**

Lemmings £19.99

Company Psygnosis **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Ancient puzzley game that will still have you hooked. **80%**

Lethal Enforcers £34.99

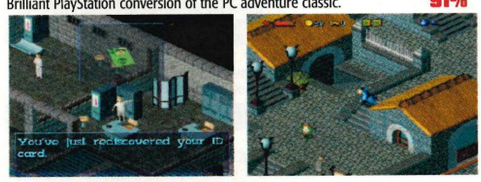
Company Konami **Players** 1-2 **Special** Lightgun
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Awful conversion of already-bad arcade lightgun game. **30%**

Libero Grande £34.99

Company Sony **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
The strongest footy control method going. And it smells. **60%**

Little Big Adventure £44.99

Company EA **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Brilliant PlayStation conversion of the PC adventure classic. **91%**



Live Wire! £39.99

Company SCI **Players** 1-4 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Puzzle games, eh? They're never as good as Tetris, are they? **65%**

Loaded £39.99

Company Gremlin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
An action-packed traditional sort of blaster, lacking in variety. **75%**

Lomax in Lemmingland £44.95

Company Psygnosis **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
It's a Lemmings-inspired platformer. Our verdict? It just leaves us cold. **70%**

Lone Soldier £39.99

Company Telstar **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Second rate shoot 'em up. With soldiers. Way too slow. **72%**

Lost Vikings 2 £44.99

Company Interplay **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Average arcade game which fails to deliver much originality. **63%**

The Lost World £44.99

Company EA **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Platformer from Spielberg dinofest. Never really gets its teeth into you... **81%**

Lucky Luke £39.99

Company Infogrames **Players** 1
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A good laugh action game spoilt by shite platform bits. **79%**

Machine Hunter £44.95

Company Eidos **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A top-down shoot 'em which takes on Loaded fair and square. **88%**

Madden 98 £44.99

Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Finely tuned gameplay make this current king of the grid-iron games. **89%**

Madden 99 £44.99

Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-4 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Not exactly the best Yank football game ever. **73%**

Madden NFL 97 £44.99

Company EA **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A good, solid American Football simulation that'll keep you coming back for more. **86%**

Magic Carpet £44.99

Company Bullfrog **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Fast 3D sorcery shoot 'em up with many levels to explore. **90%**

Masters of Teras Kasi £39.99

Company Virgin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Star Wars characters in a beat 'em up? We'd rather inject horse snot. **30%**

Marvel Super Heroes £44.99

Company Virgin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Comic book characters beating the stuffing out of each other. Superb. **90%**

Maximum Force £39.99

Company GT **Players** 1-2 **Special** Lightgun
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Conversion of a crap arcade shoot 'em up. Why did they bother? **50%**

Max Power Racing £39.99

Company Infogrames **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Top racing game. Lacks the detail of some but makes up for it in laffs. **90%**

Stop the millennium buggering you up

Beat the effects of the bug with PlayStation Plus



Spotting the bug

The bug looks like this. Its natural habitat is in the skirting board of listed buildings, though it can be tempted out using a hanky dipped in vinegar and a half eaten pork scratching...

The effects

Plane radars will jam and planes will begin falling from the skies. Powerless pilots will scribble last love notes to their wives. Plucky air hostesses keep calm.

Videos are more difficult to set and important programmes get missed. Families are forced to use Ceefax to catch up on Eastenders' plot.

Chickens will become more erratic as they run away from a hunting fox. The irritable farmer calls to his wife in the dead of night.

Fish develop the ability to walk, thus starting the next stage in the planet's evolution. Soon they become the dominant species.

What to do

Install a PlayStation Plus plane-o-guard. Easy to erect and simple to use, the plane-o-guard will keep you and your family safe from falling planes and other space debris.

The PlayStation Plus Set-a-Vid will banish all video problems. Even old people have no probs catching fav shows in the year 2000.

Chickens legs can bound with the PlayStation Plus Straight-a-Hen. Or, use a lolly stick to keep chickens running in a straight line.

Learn fish language using PlayStation's How to Speak to Fish guide. Suck up to them and get a top job when they rule the earth.

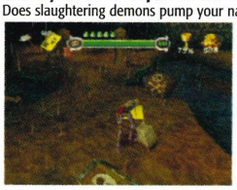
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The Knowledge: updated every month

MDK £49.99
Company Interplay **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Interesting shoot 'em up let down badly by patchy graphics **80%**

Mechwarrior 2 £44.99
Company Activision **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Giant robots in quality 3D shoot 'em up. Plenty of blasting action. **83%**

MediEvil £44.99
Company Sony **Players** 1 winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Does slaughtering demons pump your nads? It sure pumps ours. **92%**




MegaMan Battle and Chase £44.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Cheapo racing game fails to deliver laughs or thrills. **36%**

MegaMan Legends £39.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
If MegaMan was real, he'd probably have a tiny tadger. **40%**

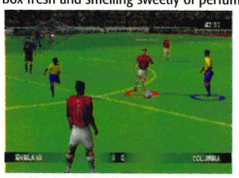
MegaMan X3 £44.95
Company Ocean **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Platformer rates playability over looks. Nine levels will keep you busy. **81%**

MegaMan X4 £44.95
Company Virgin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Old, tired, boring, dull, lifeless, sad. And that's just the programmers. **40%**

MegaMan 8 £39.95
Company Ocean **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Cutesy platform shooter with nothing new or interesting to offer. **53%**

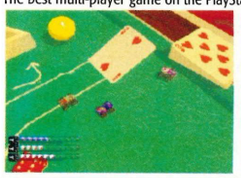
Men in Black £39.99
Company Gremlin **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Hugely disappointing film conversion. Nice looking, but no game. **69%**

Michael Owen's WLS 99 £39.99
Company Eidos **Players** 1-4 **Special** Dual Shock pad winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Box-fresh and smelling sweetly of perfume, this is a top kickabout. **92%**




Mickey's Wild Adventure £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Don't let 'wild' and 'adventure' sucker you: Another average platformer. **66%**

Micro Machines V3 £19.99
Company Codemasters **Players** 1-8 winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
The best multi-player game on the PlayStation. A real racing classic. **91%**



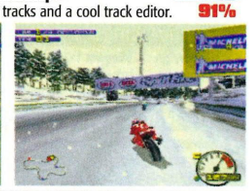

Midnight Run £39.99
Company Konami **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Superfast racing game that's a total turd to play. Ughhhh. **65%**

Motorhead £39.99
Company Gremlin **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Super-fast racer that pulls our chain. **92%**




Motor Mash £44.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Derivative comic racing game: nice graphics, but it's slow and dull. **68%**

Moto Racer 2 £39.99
Company EA **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad/Wheel winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A scorcher of a motorbike racer. Lots of tracks and a cool track editor. **91%**

Monopoly £39.99
Company Hasbro **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Smooth PlayStation version of the classic board game. **78%**

Monster Trucks £44.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
This off-road racer never really gets going... **82%**

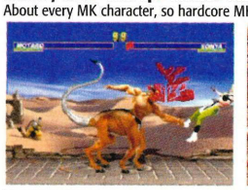
Mortal Kombat 3 £44.95
Company Sony **Players** 1-2 winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
MK fans will go mental, but for us, Streetfighter still rules the 2D scene **91%**




Mortal Kombat 4 £34.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad Rent it!
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
At the end of the day, it's just another Mortal Kombat game. Yawn. **74%**

Mortal Kombat Mythologies £44.99
Company GT **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Boring, unplayable one-player quest version of the old beat 'em up. **50%**

Mortal Kombat Trilogy £44.95
Company GT **Players** 1-2 winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
About every MK character, so hardcore MKers will be happy... **91%**




Moto Racer £44.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Very speedy arcade racer with lots to recommend it. **85%**

Motor Toon Grand Prix 2 £44.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Comic racing game manages to trounce the original. **85%**

Mr Domino £34.99
Company JVC **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Puzzle game spoilt by poor control. **70%**

Music £39.99
Company Codemasters **Players** 1 winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
You get to make your own banging tunes in a very tasty package. **92%**




Myst £44.95
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Point/click adventure with static screens. It won't set your world on fire. **76%**

N2O £39.99
Company Gremlin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Fast, arcadey shoot 'em up with an ace techno soundtrack. We like. **89%**

Nagano Winter Olympics £39.99
Company Konami **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
The people who brought us Track and Field slip up with this bollocks. **35%**

Namco Museum Vol.1 £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Hits from the gaming crypt. And yes, it does include Pacman. **84%**

Namco Museum Vol.2 £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Nowhere near as strong a collection, unless you're a big Xevious fan. **63%**

Namco Museum Vol.3 £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
There is just too much dross on this disc... **71%**

Namco Museum Vol.4 £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Only PacLand stands out from the crowd here. **67%**

Namco Museum Vol.5 £44.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Retro compilation that makes it courtesy of a couple of gems. **75%**

Nanotek Warrior £39.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Enjoyable shooting action, but a lack of levels to keep you interested. **77%**

NASCAR 98 £39.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Ugly, dull racing game with a hideous soundtrack. **64%**

NASCAR 99 £39.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Insanely cack racer with unbelievably bad commentary. It's dire. **50%**

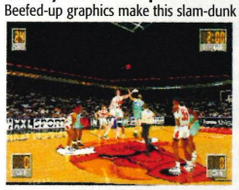
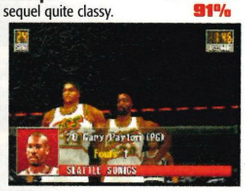
NASCAR Racing £44.95
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Crap Days of Thunder-style racing game, bad in every single way... **35%**

NBA Fastbreak £39.99
Company Midway **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Very realistic but frustrating to play. **65%**

NBA Hangtime £39.99
Company GT **Players** 1-4 Rent it!
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
It's a basketball game. It's a bit of a laugh. Nuff said. **72%**

NBA in the Zone £44.95
Company Konami **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Players are pretty agile, and it has more pace than Total NBA... **85%**

NBA in the Zone 2 £44.95
Company Konami **Players** 1-2 winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Beefed-up graphics make this slam-dunk sequel quite classy. **91%**

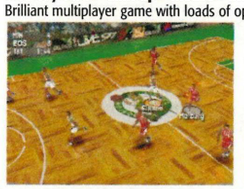
NBA Jam Extreme £44.95
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Yet another basketball game: a couple of outrageous comic features. **80%**

NBA Jam Tournament £39.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Conversion of the coin-op with 2D characters going two-on-two. **86%**

NBA Live 96 £44.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
UAverage basketball sim that ain't going to blow your mind... **81%**

NBA Live 98 £39.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-8 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Good-looking basketball effort that offers a bouncing bundle of gameplay. **87%**

NBA Live 97 £44.99
Company EA **Players** 1-8 winner
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Brilliant multiplayer game with loads of options. **91%**




NBA Pro 98 £39.99
Company Konami **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
We don't need anymore basketball games, thanks. **30%**

Need for Speed £19.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-2 Platinum
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A second rate bash at Ridge Racer. It definitely needs more speed... **70%**

Need for Speed 2 £44.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Looks crap, and plays even worse than its prequel. **49%**

Need for Speed III £39.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Very fast, good-looking racer Miles better than one and two. **89%**

Newman Haas Racing £44.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
A bit of a poor F1copy. Only for die-hards. **75%**

NFL Blitz £39.99
■ **Company** GT ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
A good American football game? What new witchcraft is this? **86%**

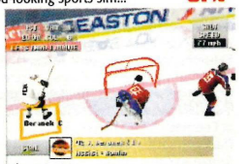
NFL Gameplay £44.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Pretty average in every department. **82%**

NFL Extreme £39.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
We'd rather play a game of chicken in heavy traffic. Not bad though **71%**

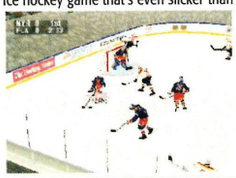
NFL Quarterback Club £39.99
■ **Company** Acclaim ■ **Players** 1-8
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Competent sports sim let down by blocky graphics... **75%**

NHL 97 £44.99
■ **Company** EA ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Top-notch graphics make this a really good-looking sports sim... **91%**





NHL 98 £44.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1-8
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
Ice hockey game that's even slicker than last year's version. **91%**




NHL 99 £39.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1-4 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
It's ice hockey. But, hey, this one doesn't taste at all bad. **86%**

NHL Breakaway 98 £44.99
■ **Company** Acclaim ■ **Players** 1-8
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
If ice hockey's your bag, this ain't bad for a spin. **89%**

NHL Face Off £34.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-8
Memory card✘ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
Nice looking but dull ice hockey effort. Nothing new here. **65%**

NHL Face Off 97 £34.95
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-8
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
Just another average sequel, in spite of extra features... **65%**

NHL Open Ice £34.95
■ **Company** GT ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
Arcade-style ice hockey game. No great shake. Rent it **70%**

NHL Powerplay 98 £39.99
■ **Company** Virgin ■ **Players** 1-8 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
If you've gotta get a hockey game, you could do a lot worse... **89%**

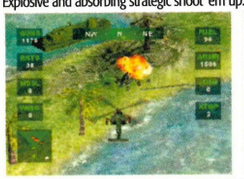
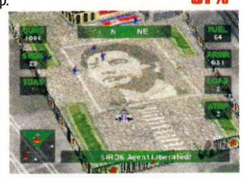
Nightmare Creatures £39.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Buckets o' blood in this Victorian hack and slash zombie epic. Way cool. **89%**

Ninja: Shadow of Darkness £44.99
■ **Company** GT ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Good-looking killing game, let down by lack of variety. Rent it **82%**

The Note £39.99
■ **Company** Sunsoft ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Basic adventure. Boring and dull **45%**

Nova Storm £39.99
■ **Company** Psygnosis ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Start game. Fire continuously. Finish game eventually. That's it... **55%**

Nuclear Strike £44.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Explosive and absorbing strategic shoot 'em up. Winner **91%**

ODT £39.99
■ **Company** Psygnosis ■ **Players** 1 ■ **Special** Dual shock
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Run around and shoot loads of stuff. Funnily enough, we like. **89%**

Off World Interceptor £39.99
■ **Company** BMG ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
4x4s bounce about on the moon in this dull race game. **68%**

Olympic Games £44.95
■ **Company** US Gold ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
International Track and Field is the game to beat. This doesn't come close. **70%**

Olympic Soccer £44.95
■ **Company** US Gold ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
One of the most playable footie games on the PlayStation. Winner **93%**

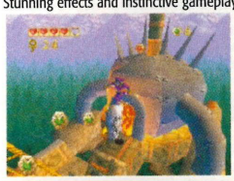



One £39.99
■ **Company** ASC ■ **Players** 1 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Fast, good looking ultra-violent platform shooter let down by dull combat. **83%**

OnSide £44.99
■ **Company** Telstar ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
This is the most incredibly bland footie game. **65%**

Overblood £44.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Quite annoying Resident Evil clone with little action. **76%**

Pandemonium £19.99
■ **Company** BMG ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Stunning effects and instinctive gameplay put other platformers to shame. Winner **91%**




Pandemonium 2 £44.99
■ **Company** BMG ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Big platformer, trippy visuals. Worth a look. Rent it **83%**

Panzer General £44.99
■ **Company** Mindscape ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✔ **Multitap**✘
Full-blown strategy game is hard work thanks to historical accuracy. **59%**

Parappa the Rapper £29.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Original, fun rapping version of Simon Says. Offbeat and amusing. **89%**

Pax Corpus £39.99
■ **Company** Cryo ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
For a joke, persuade a mate to buy this piece of shit... **30%**

Peak Performance £39.99
■ **Company** JVC ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Substandard racing game. Lots of options, not much else. **65%**

Perfect Weapon £44.95
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Beat 'em up-style adventure which is crap in both departments. **51%**

Pet in TV £39.99
■ **Company** Grolier ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Do you really need a Tamagotchi on your PlayStation? We think not. **60%**

PGA Tour 96 £19.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1-8
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
A dodgy putting system lets this golf sim down badly. Platinum **59%**

PGA Tour 97 £44.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Probably the best-looking golf sim, but gameplay is becoming too similar. **65%**

PGA Tour 98 £39.99
■ **Company** Electronic Arts ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Golf game that fails to offer anything new. **68%**

Phat Air Snowboarding £34.99
■ **Company** Funsoft ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Snowboarding bandwagon-jumper that doesn't quite cut the mustard. **75%**

Pitball £44.95
■ **Company** Warner ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
Speedball-type thing, but with pretty bog-standard looks and playability. **73%**

Pitfall 3D £39.99
■ **Company** Activision ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Very playable platformer thankfully without cuteness. **84%**

Player Manager £44.95
■ **Company** Anco ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Predictable results spoil this footie management sim. **68%**

Pocket Fighter £39.99
■ **Company** Virgin ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Street Fighter characters get small. Cool, but only for fanatics really. **79%**

Po 'Ed £44.99
■ **Company** Warner ■ **Players** 1
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Interesting weapons, surprise monsters raise a laugh in this Doom-clone. **76%**

Point Blank £34.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** G-Con 45
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✔ **Multitap**✘
Amazingly cool shooting gallery-style compilation game. Winner **92%**





Pool £39.99
■ **Company** Gremlin ■ **Players** 1-16
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Let's put lots of options in, they said. This smells of poo, we replied. **70%**

Porsche Challenge £19.99
■ **Company** Sony ■ **Players** 1-2 ■ **Special** Wheel
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Driving game let down by lack of variety, and lack of tracks. Platinum **80%**

Powerplay Hockey 96 £44.95
■ **Company** Virgin ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
Good range of aggressive matches. Fast-paced, end-to-end stuff **85%**

Power Soccer 2 £34.99
■ **Company** Psygnosis ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
Amazingly average footie game that won't hold your interest. **70%**

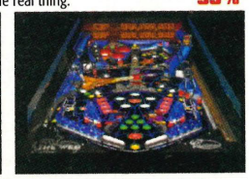
Poy Poy £34.95
■ **Company** Konami ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✔
Cool multiplayer game. Not so good by yourself. **83%**

Premier Manager 98 £44.99
■ **Company** Gremlin ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✔ **Multitap**✘
Superb football management sim. Winner **92%**




Pro Pinball: The Web £44.95
■ **Company** Empire ■ **Players** 1-4
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
Ball movement so fluid it handles like the real thing. Winner **93%**





Pro Pinball Timeshock £24.99
■ **Company** Empire ■ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✔ **Link-up**✘ **Mouse**✘ **Multitap**✘
One big, beautiful mother of a pinball table: all yours to have and hold... **89%**

»

The Knowledge: updated every month

Project Overkill £44.95
Company Konami **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Flashy but piss-dull arcade shooter... **79%**

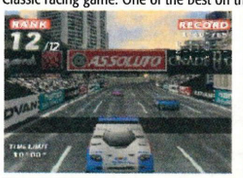
Psybadek £39.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Hoverboarding game with tons of knobs on. Fairly toss, though. **67%**

Psychic Detective £44.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Loadsa endings, views and three CDs make this a large portion. Yes. **84%**

Psychic Force £44.95
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
An enjoyable enough 3D beat 'em up, but it lacks depth. **76%**

R-types £39.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Two games one old, one new. Both top-of-the-range shoot 'em ups. **81%**

Rage Racer £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1 **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Classic racing game. One of the best on the PlayStation. Buy it! Winner **93%**




Raging Skies £44.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Flight sim looks dated and gets repetitive after a while. Pretty average. **73%**

Raiden Project £39.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Enjoyable, but limited. Animation and graphics are only mediocre... **72%**

Rally Cross £34.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-4 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Rolling cars aplenty in fun racer, plus four-player mode... **88%**

Rampage World Tour £34.99
Company GT **Players** 1-3
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Pick a monster and smash up towns. As much fun as it sounds. **69%**

Rapid Racer £34.95
Company Sony **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
White water racer: let down by slow two-player mode. **82%**

Rapid Reload £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Entertaining, but limited platform shoot 'em up. Rent it **80%**

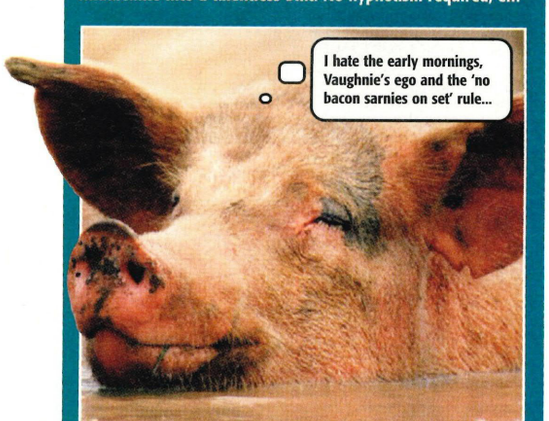
Rascal £44.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Disappointing platformer made worse by cackola camera angles. **53%**

Denise Van Outen

Did the hypnotism work?

The power of suggestion:

See, your Big Breakfast beauty has turned from being that chirpy Essex funster to a big fat hog. Next month we turn Jayne Middlemiss into a talentless bint. No hypnotism required, eh?



Rayman £19.99
Company UBI Soft **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Repetitive platformer with a lack of flexibility. Platinum **43%**

Ray Storm £34.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Vertical blasting shoot 'em up that's tough, demanding and fast. **83%**

Ray Tracers £34.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Car chase game has some good action, but it's over far too quickly. Rent it **73%**

Real Bout: Fatal Fury RENTAL
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Very stale and slow beat 'em up. Avoid. **30%**

Rebel Assault 2 £44.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A Star Wars romp, but there's not enough variety and trickery. **46%**

Reboot £39.99
Company EA **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Hoverboard game feels great to play, but limited. Rent it **83%**

Red Asphalt: Rock & Roll Racing 2 £44.99
Company Interplay **Players** 1-2 **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Speedsters with awesome firepower fail to mix into a gameplay Molotov. **68%**

Reloaded £44.95
Company Gremlin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Smidgin better than the original. But that wasn't much fun either. **73%**

Resident Evil £19.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
This horror adventure is one of the PlayStation's finest games. Winner **94%**



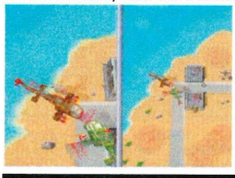

Resident Evil 2 £49.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Awesome update of the original spread over two shit-kickin' discs. Winner **95%**




Resident Evil Director's Cut £34.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Cash-in version of the original that's got lots of nice touches. Winner **91%**




Return Fire £44.95
Company Warner **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
You take out enemy bases with a selection of army vehicles. Good fun. Winner **91%**




Revolution X £39.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Aerosmith feature throughout... but this is one sad game really. **48%**

Ridge Racer £19.99
Company Sony **Players** 1 **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Excellent racing game, but lacking in tracks. Platinum **76%**

Ridge Racer Revolution £19.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2 **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Better than the original, with more cars and better controls. Rent it **84%**

Rise 2: Resurrection £44.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Despite plenty of fighters, this is still only a mediocre beat 'em up... **78%**

Riot £44.95
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1-16
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Despite mega multiplayer possibility, this game offers little for your cash. **67%**

Risk £39.99
Company Hasbro **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
A new spin on the classic board game that's well worth a look. **81%**

Rival Schools £39.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1-4 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
A helluva lot to like in this schoolies-go-psycho beat 'em up. Winner **92%**




Riven £49.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Clever and great looking puzzle game. But not for everyone. **84%**

Road Rash £19.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Straightforward, frustrating racing game. Platinum **64%**

Road Rash 3D £39.99
Company EA **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Laughs aplenty in bikes 'n' violence racer. **80%**

Robotron X £44.95
Company GT **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Simple, mindless run and shoot shenanigans. Overpriced, underspecced. **66%**

Rogue Trip £39.99
Company GT **Players** 1-4 **Special** Dual shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A weird old thing, this. Kill tourists and get points. Good fun overall. **76%**

Rosco McQueen £34.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Firefighting fun. A good laugh but more suited to youngsters. **78%**

Rushdown £39.99
Company Infogrames **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Three sports on one disc! Shame it's not that good, really. **78%**

Sampras Extreme Tennis £44.95
Company Codemasters **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Real ease of play and lots of views raise it above unseeded rivals... **89%**

Samurai Showdown Rental
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Abysmal rental-only beat 'em up. Rent it **19%**

San Francisco Rush £34.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Why buy a good racing game when you could play this lump of turd? **48%**

SCARS £39.99
Company Ubi Soft **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Laughs replace realism in cool racer. Be warned though: it's tough. **83%**

Sentient £44.95
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Set on a spaceship, this game is pretty ambitious, but too complicated. **71%**

Sentient Returns £34.99
Company THQ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Even having your eyes skewered with fish hooks is better than this. **30%**

Shadow Gunner £39.99
Company Ubisoft **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Robots fighting? You're better off shoving paperclips into your eyes. **40%**

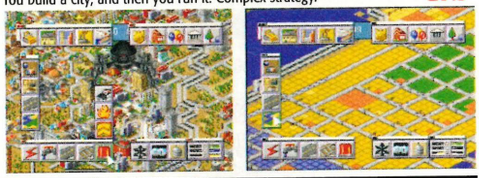
Shadow Master £39.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
You in a tank and loads of mindless blasting. Very good. **88%**

Shellshock £44.99
Company Core Design **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Pretty second rate: levels are dull and grey, and action is very limited. **75%**

Shockwave £39.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background. **56%**

Sim City 2000 £44.99

■ Company Maxis ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✓ Multitap✗
You build a city, and then you run it. Complex strategy. winner 91%



Skeleton Warriors £44.95

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Looks, smells and feels like an antique game... and it plays like one too. 69%

Skull Monkeys £44.95

■ Company Electronic Arts ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Plasticinetastic action with a clay hero bouncing on monkeys' heads. 79%

Slam 'n' Jam '96 £44.95

■ Company BMG ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Poor camera views and easy gameplay make this a dog. 64%

Small Soldiers £39.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
No variety, dull graphics and absolutely no link to the film. Nuff said. 58%

Smash Court Tennis £44.95

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✓
Slow, unresponsive game. You buy kit, but the actual matches are grim. 57%

Snow Racer £34.99

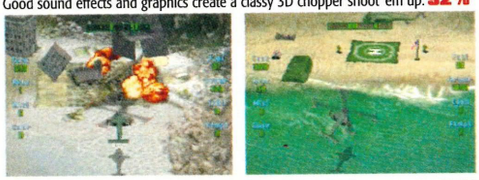
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✗ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Lotsa fun racing game on boards and skis. 85%

Soul Blade £19.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Platinum
Vicious scrapping with huge swords. Not a Tekken-beater, but hey... 90%

Soviet Strike £19.99

■ Company Electronic Arts ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ winner
Good sound effects and graphics create a classy 3D chopper shoot 'em up. 92%



Space Hulk £19.99

■ Company Electronic Arts ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Platinum
Drag mercenaries around. Slow but good strategy/action game. 84%

Space Jam £44.95

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Dull movie-based cash-in basketball game. Why put yourself through it? 65%

Spawn: The Eternal £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Useless blend of beat 'em up and adventure. Avoid. 32%

Speed King

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Slow, boring and about as exciting as watching an egg boil. Maybe less so.. 45%

Speedster £44.95

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Top-down view racing game that's lacking in speed and playability. 64%

Spice World £19.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
A shabby excuse of a game. Short, boring and unimaginative. 21%

Spider £39.99

■ Company BMG ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
An innovative idea for a platform game, but fails to rise above average. 70%

Spot goes to Hollywood £34.95

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Too little, too late for this platformer. Er, it's got good music though... 77%

Spyro the Dragon £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
So cute you'll throw, but still a well playable 3D platformer. 88%

Star Gladiator £44.95

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ winner
Capcom's first 3D beat 'em up. They don't make a bad job of it either. 91%



Starfighter 3000 £44.95

■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Nice enough to have a gawp at, but there's not enough going on. 80%

Star Wars: Masters of Teras Kasi £34.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
A shite bubble of a Star Wars beat 'em up. Absolute crap. 30%

Starwinder £44.95

■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Simplistic racing game where every level plays the same. 59%

Streak £39.99

■ Company GT Interactive ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual shock
Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Hoverboarding game that's slick as slick can be. And that's slick. 79%

Steel Harbinger £44.95

■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Rent it
Dull graphics, but 11 levels and variety of weapons can make this fun. 79%

Steel Reign £34.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Rent it
Cool tank game that can be a bit repetitive. Worth a look, though. 75%

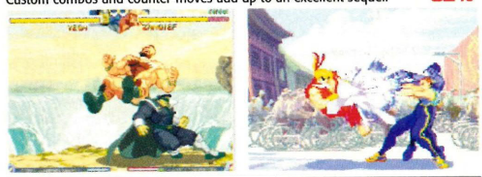
Street Fighter Alpha £44.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ winner
Update of Street Fighter series with new moves and new characters. 91%



Street Fighter Alpha 2 £44.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ winner
Custom combos and counter-moves add up to an excellent sequel. 92%

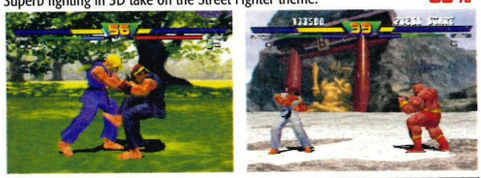


Street Fighter Collection £39.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✗ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Joypad✓
Three Street Fighter games, one CD. That's science for you. 87%

Street Fighter Ex Plus Alpha £44.95

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ winner
Superb fighting in 3D take on the Street Fighter theme. 93%



Street Fighter The Movie £39.99

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Insult to the Street Fighter name. Based on the movie. 67%

Street Racer £44.95

■ Company UBI Soft ■ Players 1-8
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✓
Fair to middling racing game with plenty to do, except get excited... 79%

Strikepoint: the Hex Missions £44.95

■ Company THQ ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Poor helicopter game. Why not have a bash at Soviet Strike instead? 60%

Striker 96 £39.99

■ Company Warner ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Simplistic footie game. 'Station footy at its worst. 69%

Suikoden £44.99

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Rent it
Solid role-playing game that isn't going to change your life... 81%

Super Match Soccer £39.99

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-8 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✓
Yawnsome footy game. For God's sake don't buy it. 33%

Super Football Champ £39.99

■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Oh dear. Drab, boring, unplayable. Truly hideous football game. 46%

Super Pang Collection £39.99

■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
An arcade-perfect version of the retro bubble-bursting games. 53%

Super Puzzle Fighter 2 £39.95

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ winner
Horribly addictive puzzle game featuring Ryu, Ken and friends. 92%



Supersonic Racers £44.95

■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Micro Machines-style racer doesn't pull out enough stops to keep you hooked. 74%

Swagman £44.99

■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
There's plenty of arcade-style fun on offer in this great-looking 2D game. 85%

Syndicate Wars £44.95

■ Company Electronic Arts ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✓ Multitap✓ winner
This is an ultra-cool and violent strategy shoot 'em up with amazing 3D graphics. 92%



Batman's guide to women

Words of wisdom from TV's caped crusader

***ROBIN:* The crook was a lady!**
***BATMAN:* Hardly a lady, Robin, but female, yes.**

ROBIN, ABOUT BATGIRL: Do you think she's trying to double-cross us?
BATMAN: No, but she's a woman, Robin, with a woman's inborn desire to outsmart men.

BATMAN TO CATWOMAN:
A wife, no matter how beauteous or affectionate, would severely impair my crime-fighting.

OLGA: You find me attractive?
BATMAN: I'd find you much more attractive if you were on the right side of the law, Olga.

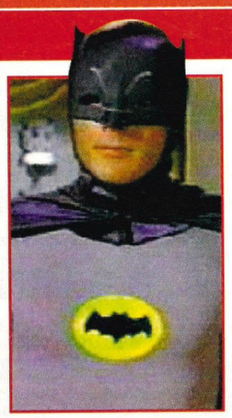
***BATMAN:* I'll do everything I can to rehabilitate you.**
***CATWOMAN:* Marry me.**
***BATMAN:* Everything except that.**

CATWOMAN: I could give you more happiness than anyone in the world.
BATMAN: How do you propose to do that?

CATWOMAN: By being your partner in life, I mean it's me and you against the world.
BATMAN: What about Robin?

***BATMAN (ABOUT MISS PATRICK):* She seems eager to please. A virtue in anyone.**

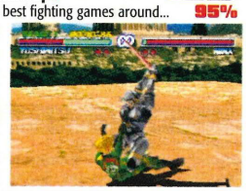




The Knowledge: updated every month

Tekken — £19.99
Platinum
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Namco's first beat 'em up. Interesting backgrounds, realistic characters. **90%**

Tekken 2 — £19.99
winner
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Improves on a great original. One of the best fighting games around... **95%**

Tekken 3 — £44.99
winner
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
The big daddy of all beat 'em ups. So good it hurts **96%**




Tempest X3 — £34.99
Rent it
Company Interplay **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
A PlayStation update of a justifiably great retro shooter. **80%**

Tenchu — £39.99
winner
Company Activision **Players** 1 **Special** Dual shock pad
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Is there such a thing as a definitive ninja game? There is now... **92%**




Tenka — £44.95
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Not even decent graphics can save this poor Doom clone from oblivion. **82%**

Tennis Arena — £39.99
Company UBISoft **Players** 1-4
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✓
Slick tennis game. But do we want slick tennis games? **76%**

Ten Pin Alley — £44.95
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-6
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Could have been good fun... but sadly it isn't. No more than a novelty. **54%**

Test Drive: Off Road — £39.99
Company Eidos **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Devoid of excitement and playability. Looks dreadful too. **46%**

Test Drive 4 — £39.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✓ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
It's got lots of tracks, but it's slow and it don't look too nice. **70%**

Test Drive 4x4 — £39.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Let's go off-road! Or then again, let's not bother... **76%**

Test Drive 5 — £39.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Racer that just manages to pull itself out of the average pit. **80%**

Tetris Plus — £44.99
Company JVC **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Classic puzzle game gets a revamp. Still dead addictive. **82%**

Theme Hospital — £44.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✓ **Multitap** ✗
Lots of fun with people with strange illnesses in this cartoon hospital sim. **84%**

Theme Park — £44.99
Company Bullfrog **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Explore your park in 3D in this gentle sim. Quietly enjoyable. **85%**

Three Lions — £39.99
Company BMG **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Ugly, slow, boring and bollocks footy game that'll sap your will to live. **50%**

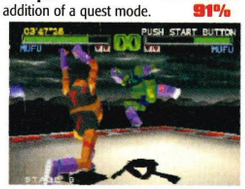
Tiger Shark — £44.99
Company GT **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Impossibly high difficulty level ruins this otherwise excellent shoot 'em up. **72%**

Time Commando — £44.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Unusual, but fun. Slightly unwieldy controls. **81%**

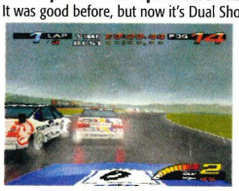
Time Crisis — £59.99
winner
Company Sony **Players** 1 **Special** G-Con 45
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
So playable even your girlfriend'll enjoy it. The definitive gun game. **93%**




Tobal No.1 — £44.99
winner
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
A beat 'em up improved greatly with the addition of a quest mode. **91%**

TOCA Touring Car Championship — £19.99
winner
Company Codemasters **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
It was good before, but now it's Dual Shock compatible. Top stuff. **91%**




Tomb Raider — £19.99
winner
Company Eidos **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Top totty in Indiana Jones-style antics. One of the best games ever... **92%**




Tomb Raider 2 — £44.99
winner
Company Eidos **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Bigger and bolder than the classic original. Lara's back! **95%**




Tomb Raider 3 — £39.99
winner
Company Eidos **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Lara's back for threes-up and still on top bustin' form. **93%**




Tombi — £39.99
Rent it
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Typically Jap-style cuteness fails to ruin an excellent platformer. **79%**

Tommi Makinen Rally — £39.99
Company Europress **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Rally effort ain't much cop. In fact, it's pants. **50%**

Top Gun: Fire at Will — £44.95
Company Microprose **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Gung-ho movie spin-off not worth your effort tracking down. **66%**

Total Drivin' — £44.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✓ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
A selection of arcade racing thrills that's well worth a look. **86%**

Total NBA 96 — £44.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-8
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✓
Pretty damn fine basketball game with some excellent attention to detail. **83%**

Total NBA 97 — £34.95
Company Sony **Players** 1-8
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✓
Enough improved graphics and gameplay to make it a better game. **85%**

Total NBA 98 — £34.99
Rent it
Company Sony **Players** 1-8 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Good, but ONLY if you're a basketball fiend. **79%**

Tokyo Highway Battle — £39.99
Company THQ **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Kind of a sub-Rage Racer game with average graphics. **77%**

Toshinden 3 — £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Derivative fighting game that's been done a lot better by others... **76%**

Transport Tycoon — £44.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1-4
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✓ **Multitap** ✗
Build roads, railways, docks and airports in this great God sim. **86%**

Trash It — £44.95
Company GT **Players** 1-4
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✓
Platformer that has good ideas, but just not enough immediate action. **57%**

Treasures of the Deep — £44.99
Company Sony **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Sluggish submarine adventure-type game. **78%**

True Pinball — £19.99
Platinum
Company Ocean **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
It may have four tables, it may be a good game, but The Web is better. **50%**

Tunnel B1 — £44.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
WipEout breeds with Doom in this high speed shoot 'em up. **89%**

Twisted Metal — £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Destroy the suburbs in this Mad Max-style car battle. **82%**

Twisted Metal World Tour — £34.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Good sequel even grander in thrills and spills than the original. **88%**

The Unholy War — £39.99
Company Eidos **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Move warriors around like chess peices then let 'em scrap. **89%**

Vandal Hearts — £44.95
Company Konami **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Average graphics don't spoil playable and engrossing role-playing game. **86%**

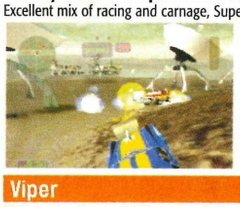
V-Ball Beach Volley Heroes — £34.99
Rent it
Company Funsoft **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Kung-fu-esque volleyball effort that's plenty fun in two-player. **75%**

Versailles — £39.99
Company Cryo **Players** 1
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✓ **Multitap** ✗
Even other point 'n' click adventures aren't as boring as this. **10%**

Victory Boxing — £44.95
Company JVC **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Deeper than a lot of fighting games and takes some getting into. **74%**

Victory Boxing 2 — £39.99
Company JVC **Players** 1-2
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Good boxing game as they go, but still a bit limited moves-wise. **76%**

Vigilante 8 — £39.99
Company Activision **Players** 1-2
Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
winner
Excellent mix of racing and carnage, Superb. **91%**




Viper — £39.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Rent it
Cacky controls spoil otherwise stonking 'copter shoot 'em up. **70%**

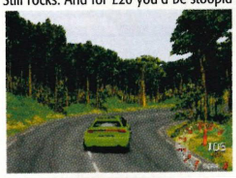
Virtual Golf — £44.95
Company Core Design **Players** 1-4
Memory card ✓ **Link-up** ✗ **Mouse** ✗ **Multitap** ✗
Nowhere near as good as the excellent Actua Golf. **57%**

Virtual Pool £44.99
Company Interplay **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
This is a great pool game which is a pretty realistic simulation. **85%**

Virus 2000 £39.99
Company Grolier **Players** 1 **Special** Dual shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
As space shoot 'em ups go, this one's rather average. **70%**

VMX Racing £34.99
Company Funsoft **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Dirt bike racing game that looks like it's about a thousand years old. **50%**

V-Rally £19.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Still rocks. And for £20 you'd be stoopid not to get it bought. winner **92%**




VR Baseball £44.99
Company Interplay **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A fine conversion of the sport, but unlikely to attract too many Brits. **72%**

VR Powerboat Racing £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1-2 **Special** Wheel, Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Speedboat racing sim that is waaaay bollocks. **40%**

Vs £39.99
Company THQ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
LA gang war beat 'em up that's fun but looks a little bit ugh. **83%**

V Tennis £44.95
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Mediocre tennis sim that's hard to be bothered about at all. **75%**

Warcraft 2 £44.95
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Excellent strategy game. No mouse/two-player link detract from gameplay. **88%**

WarGames: Defcon 1 £39.99
Company EA **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Full-on strategy/war-type thing. Excellent, actually. **90%**

Wargods £44.95
Company GT **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
3D fighting game with mushy graphics and lousy gameplay. **59%**

Warhammer £44.99
Company Mindscape **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Not much too look at, but depth of gameplay means it has more to offer. **86%**

Warhammer II: Dark Omen £44.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card✗ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Loadsa depth in this goblin-infested fantasy war epic. Charge! **83%**

Warhawk £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Instantly playable, though controls are tricky at first. **82%**

Wayne Gretzky's 3D Hockey 98 £39.99
Company GT **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓ Rent it
Fast and furious, but won't last long. **74%**

WCW Nitro £39.99
Company THQ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Not bad as wrestling efforts go. But still... **63%**

WCW vs The World £44.99
Company THQ **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Brilliant wrestling game with 60 characters. No handbags or milk stouts... **88%**

Wild 9 £44.99
Company Interplay **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Cool graphics and action in spades see to it this is adrenalin city. **90%**

Wild Arms £34.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A must for all hardcore RPG fans. Yes, really. **88%**

Williams Arcade Classics £44.99
Company GT **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Retro compilation with five good games out of six, including Defender... **89%**

Wing Commander III £44.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Superb movie sequences mix it with poor gameplay in this space opera. **80%**

Wing Commander IV £44.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Better video sequences... but worse gameplay. **50%**

Wingover £44.99
Company JVC **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Boring flying game overshadowed by Air Combat 2. **40%**

WipEout £19.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ Platinum
Ultra-fast, ultra-stylish racer. A must for speed freaks... **78%**

WipEout 2097 £19.99
Company Psygnosis **Players** 1-2 **Special** Wheel
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✓ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ winner
Bigger and better in every way than its great predecessor. **94%**

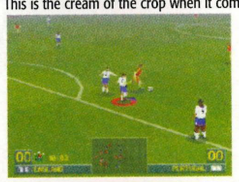



World Cup 98 £39.99
Company Electronic Arts **Players** 1-8
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Fast, tasty-lookin' footy sim that's cooking on gas. **90%**

World Cup Golf £39.99
Company US Gold **Players** 1-8
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Great graphics, but some of the courses can be imprecise. **80%**

World League Basketball £39.99
Company Mindscape **Players** 1-8
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
World League Basketball? We'd rather down a pint of dog jism, thanks. **30%**

World League Soccer £39.99
Company Eidos **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ winner
This is the cream of the crop when it comes to footy games. Buy it. **93%**




Worms £19.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ Platinum
Multiplayer joy will be yours to savour in this fabulous battle game... **82%**

Wreckin' Crew £44.99
Company Telstar **Players** 1-2 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ Rent it
Small car racing's a lot of laughs, if flawed. **80%**

WWF in your House £44.95
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Well below average wrestling game. **48%**

WWF Warzone £39.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Build your own fighter in this cool wrestler. **73%**

WWF Wrestlemania £39.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-4
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✓
Entertaining fighting game with some pretty deadly special moves. **83%**

X2 £44.95
Company Ocean **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A tedious shoot 'em up which is just way too difficult to master... **58%**

X-Com: Enemy Unknown £44.99
Company Microprose **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Enjoy strategy gaming at its very best as you take on alien invaders **88%**

X-Com: Terror from the Deep £44.99
Company Microprose **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Pretty much X-Com: Enemy Unknown played underwater... **82%**

Xenocracy £39.99
Company Grolier **Players** 1 **Special** Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A dogshit of a game. **20%**

X-Men: Children of the Atom £44.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Superhero beat 'em up that's too slow to punch with the big boys. **75%**

X-Men Vs Street Fighter £44.99
Company Virgin **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗ Rent it
One for nostalgia buffs only, really, but it's still a good beat 'em up. **74%**

Z £39.99
Company Sony **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Robots slug it out in this tricky strategy effort. **80%**

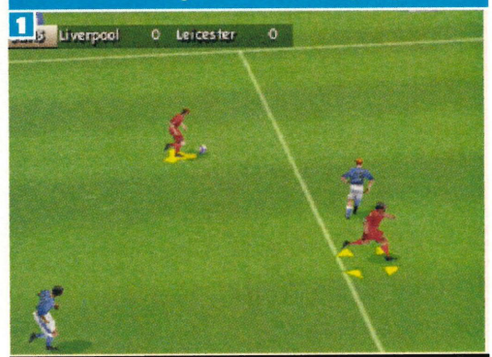
Zeitgeist [Jupiter Strike] £39.99
Company Acclaim **Players** 1
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✓ **Multitap**✗
Slow, clumsy 3D shooting game which seriously lacks appeal. **43%**

Zero Divide £44.99
Company Ocean **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
A sound enough fighting game, but nothing special. **72%**

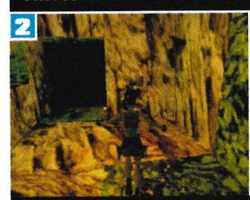
Zero Divide 2 £XX.XX
Company Sony **Players** 1-2
Memory card✓ **Link-up**✗ **Mouse**✗ **Multitap**✗
Find the people who made this beat 'em up and gob on their food. **53%**

HMV Chart

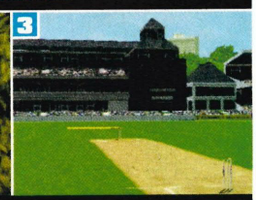
What's everyone else buying?



FIFA 99: It's damn-near addictive stuff



Tomb Raider III: Heroine



Lara Cricket 99: Pot shots

Key: **(NE)** New Entry
(RE) Re-Entry
(4) Position Last Month
(-) Same Position

1. **(2) FIFA 99 (EA)**
Third time outing for FIFA footy this year

2. **(1) Tomb Raider III (Eidos)**
Lara's got her knockers but she's still top ten

3. **(NE) Brian Lara Cricket 99 (Codemasters)**
Big hitting Bri hits the number three spot

4. **(NE) Crash Bandicoot 3 (Sony)**
More apple-mad marsupial japes

5. **(NE) TOCA 2 (Codemasters)**
Top rallying driver, as good as the first

6. **(5) Music (Codemasters)**
The bedroom beatbox becomes reality

7. **(-) Abe's Exoddus (GT)**
Brilliant second part of the Oddworld series

8. **(10) Spyro the Dragon (Sony)**
Cute platformer's TV ads did the trick then

9. **(RE) Colin McRae Rally (Codemasters)**
Best rally game around makes a welcome return

10. **(4) Tenchu (Activision)**
Throat-slitting ninja-fest still selling well

SPOILER

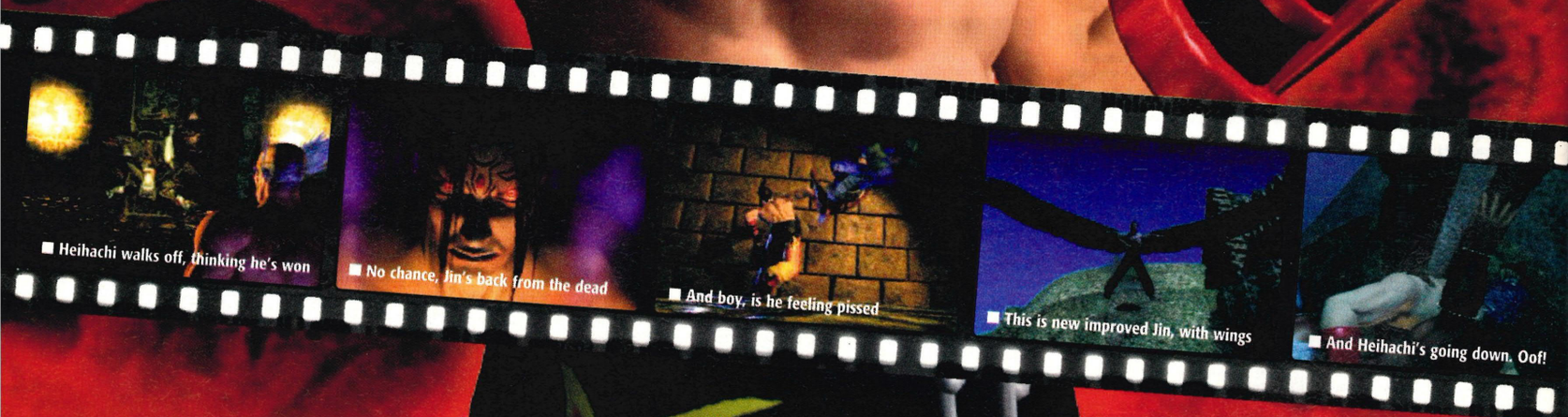


By: Sony
Costs: £44.99
Players: 1-2
First Out: September 98

#1 Tekken 3

Jin Kazama's resurrection

You've fumbled your way past ten fighters by hammering the buttons as fast as possible, now you're whupping True Ogre's ass with some blindin' combos. Why? 'Cos Jin's end sequence is a stunna. And if you complete the game with all the characters, you can watch it as many times as you want. But just as Jin celebrates his victory, Heihachi butts in and pops a cap in his bonce...



■ Heihachi walks off, thinking he's won

■ No chance, Jin's back from the dead

■ And boy, is he feeling pissed

■ This is new improved Jin, with wings

■ And Heihachi's going down. Oof!

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