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Driver: 'Outta my way, punk!'

SO GOOD IT'S CRIMINAL

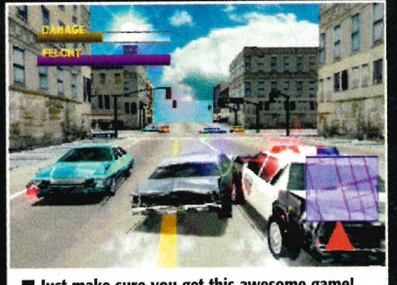
Driver is the coolest thing on four wheels. We'll tell you why in the first full UK review.



■ We promise you'll want to work for the Mob



■ Now you can. Trash your car, trash the cops...



■ Just make sure you get this awesome game!

GO ON! TURN TO PAGE 6 NOW!

PlayStation plus Loading

PLUS!



Must-know dates

Forget the Filofax, every date you need to know is right here p50

See the future now!





plus PlayStation 2 p43

We've got new 'Station 2 pics you've got to see

£5 OFF ANY GAME AT HMV

Don't miss out, turn to page 33 now!

Brilliant Buys Guide

Get The Knowledge, including the best adventures, beat 'em ups and multiplayer games. p103

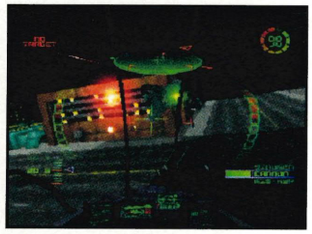


We'll make you good at...

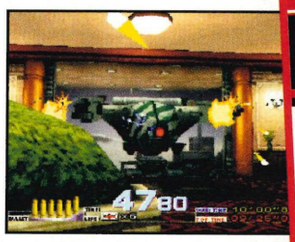
Rollcage p54
Essential driving tips



G-Police p58
First 15 missions sorted



Time Crisis p64
Adventure mode caned



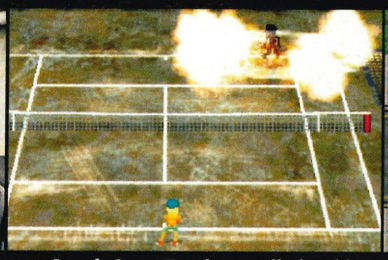
Blab p16

Gotta see! Hot games you must check out

Mission Impossible **GTA London** No Fear Downhill Racing **Shadowman** UEFA Striker **Saboteur** Silent Hill **Revolt** Ape Escape **Urban Chaos** and more!



p16 **Mission Impossible: Hot spy thriller**



p18 **Smash Court Tennis 2: well playable**



p19 **GTA London: Burning up the Smoke**



p22 **Shadowman: Serial killer adventure**



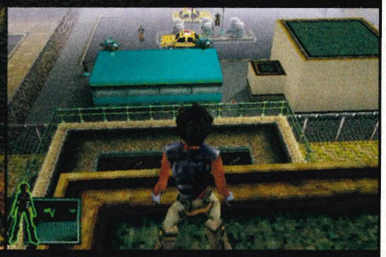
p24 **UEFA Striker: Going for goal**



p26 **Saboteur: One man and his dog**



p28 **Silent Hill: Axe-murdering scarefest**



p34 **Urban Chaos: Looks awesome**

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The Works



■ Super-slick graphics are yours



■ Just turn to page 44 and feast your eyes

Rated ON TEST

Every new release this month!

p80 Marvel vs Street Fighter
Comic book heroes battle it out

p82 Hard Edge
Resident Evil-style action adventure

p83 Running Wild
A racing game where you literally run... er, wild

p84 Warzone 2100
Intense strategy epic with tanks 'n' stuff

p86 Street Fighter Collection II
Three old games in one pathetic package

p87 Sports Car GT
Very average road racer

p88 Need for Speed Road Challenge
Fast but ultimate dull driving game

p89 Asterix
Cartoon gubbins that's way boring

p90 Big Air
Tasty snowboarding sim

p91 Swing
Yawnsome puzzle game

p92 YoYo's Puzzle Park
Yet another yawnsome puzzle game

p92 Tank Racer
The name says it all, really

p93 Guardian Crusade
Role-playing has never been so bland

p94 Actua Ice Hockey 2
Ice hockey sequel. Yawn

p95 Heart of Darkness
Sweet platformer goes Platinum

p96 Motorhead
Super-fast racing for 20 nicker

p96 G-Police
Complex space shooter gets price cut

p97 Hercules
Great value Disney platform romp

Diesel Blag p76

Win one of three ultra-exclusive, super cool Diesel G-Police outfits

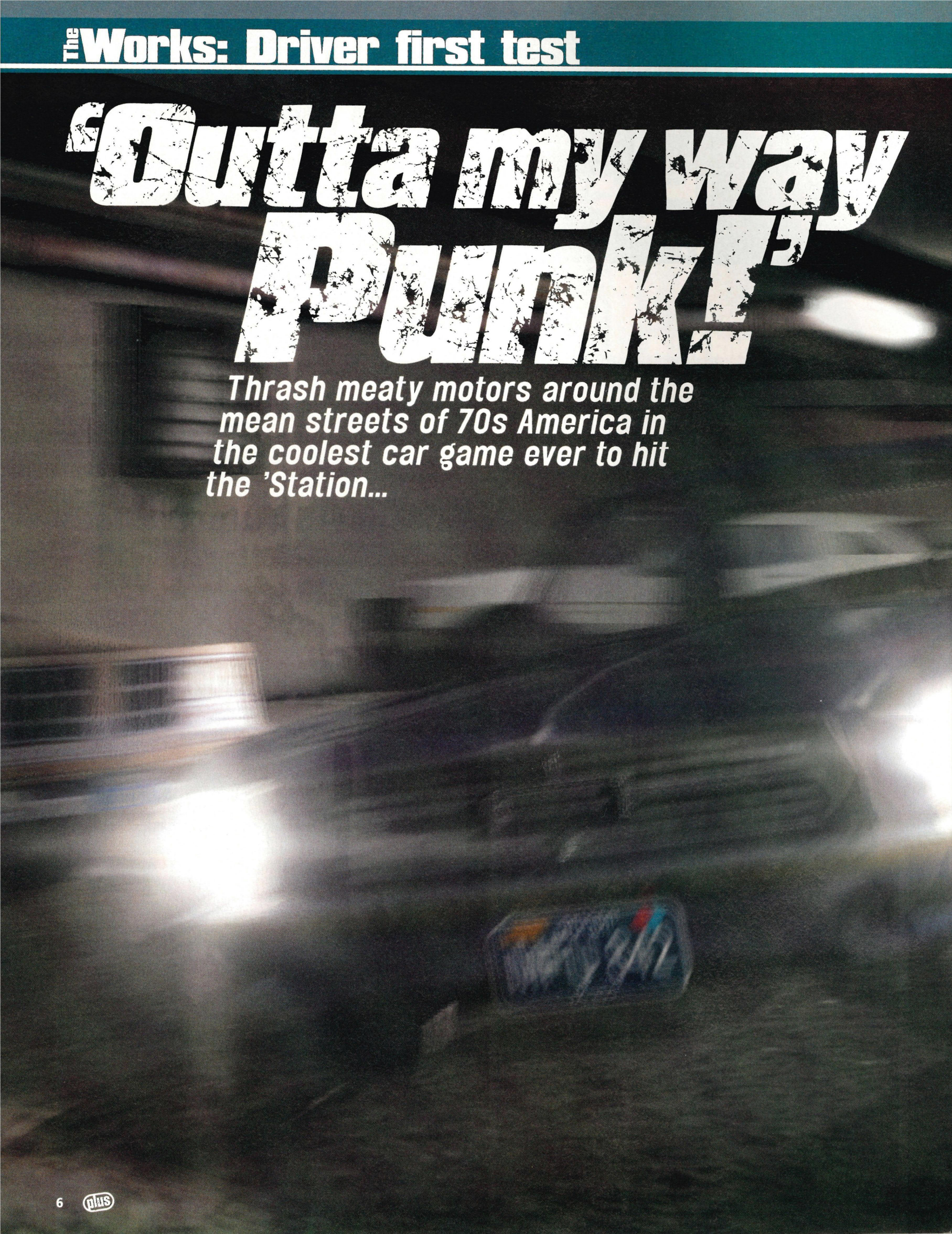


LE MANS

p44 Great-looking endurance racer which'll keep your going for 24 hours. Have you got the stamina to last?

'Outta my way Punk!

Thrash meaty motors around the mean streets of 70s America in the coolest car game ever to hit the 'Station...

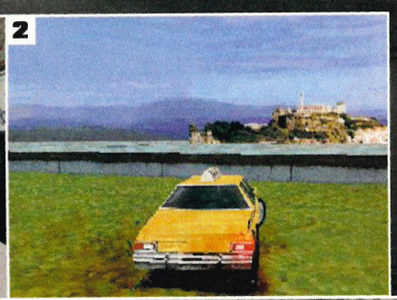


■ **OUT** MAY ■ **BY** GT ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATABILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, STEERING WHEEL
■ **WE LOOK AT** HOW IT WORKS, GRAPHICS, CARS, HANDLING, MISSIONS, DESTRUCTION, REPLAYS

Take the best bits from your fave car chase movies, add a bit of Martin Scorsese, some powerful American motors, massive cities filled to the brim with angry cops and you've got the PlayStation's most exciting driving game yet...



■ Smash, bang. It's all in here...





1 Burn down seedy back alleys to lose the cozzers on your tail 2 Scare your passengers shitless in the back of your cab 3 The fender-bending car smashes look totally realistic. Check it out...

»

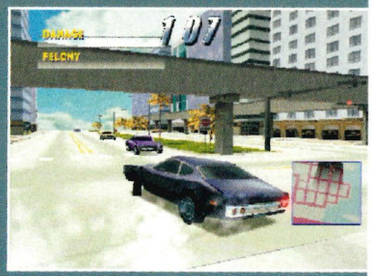
The Works: Driver first test

How it works

So it's a driving game. We can figure that much. Ah, but this one's different. You play an undercover cop, Tanner, hired by the mob for your driving skills. You've gotta pull off a series of daring missions – from ram-raiding restaurants to transporting explosives across town – to boost your reputation in the seedy criminal underworld and bring down the Mafia from within.



■ Job offers are left on your answering machine



■ Take the job and it's straight into the mission



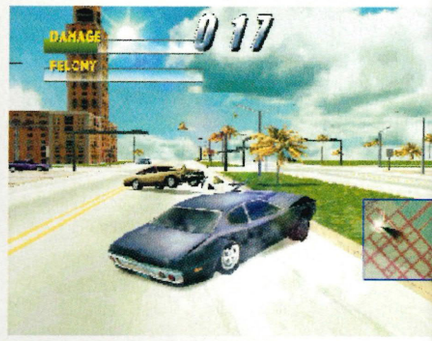
■ Pull off the heist and tons more job offers pour in. Then it's up to you which ones you accept

Man on a mission

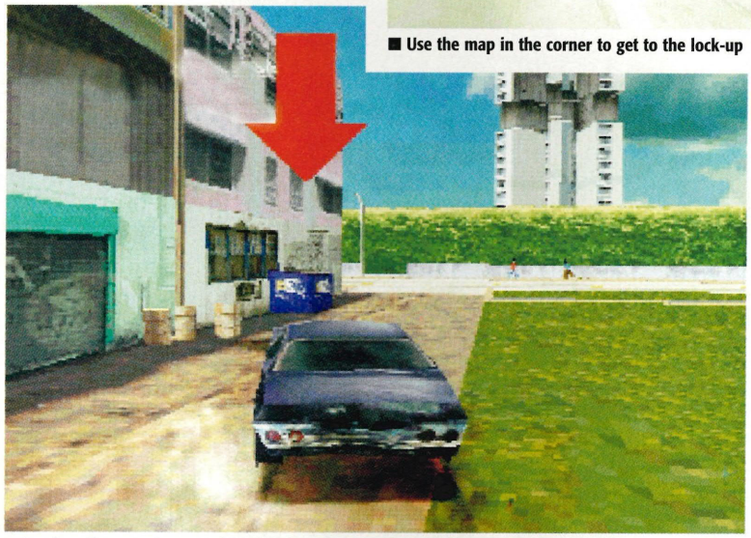
Jeez. We reckon you're gonna be playing Driver for ages. To kick off, there are a whopping 44 different missions in here. And once you plough through that lot there's heaps of bonus stuff to get your teeth into, too. Yup, Driver's a whole lotta game for your wonga and there's no shortage of variety, either...



■ Pick up the robbers from the bank job



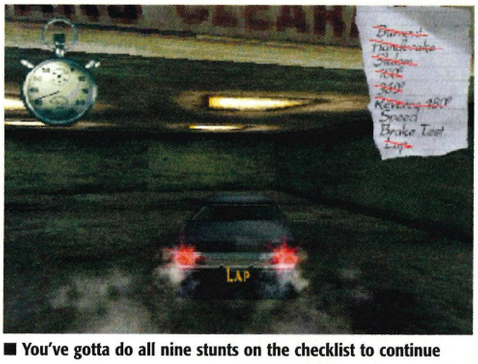
■ Use the map in the corner to get to the lock-up



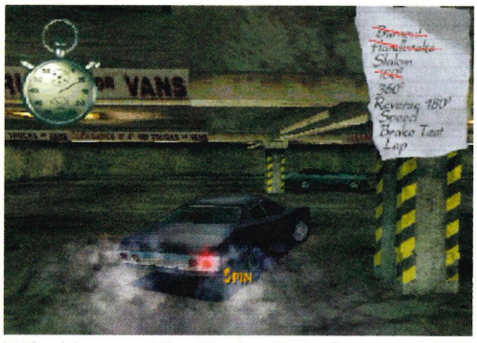
■ Evade police patrol cars and lay low in your garage hideout for a while

Driving test

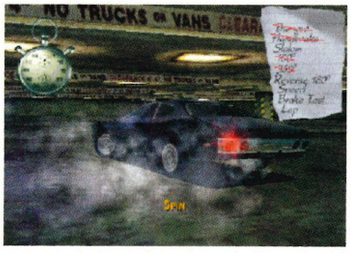
Before you go out on your first job, you've gotta prove to the Mafia bosses that you've got the skills behind the wheel to accomplish the mission. You're given 60 seconds to carry out a list of tyre-squealing tricks – from a simple reverse 180 to a more tricky slalom manoeuvre. Succeed and you're in the firm.



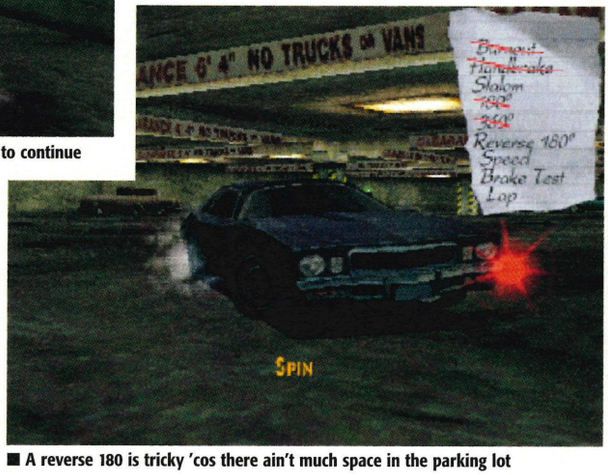
■ You've gotta do all nine stunts on the checklist to continue



■ The slalom around the pillars is pretty tough



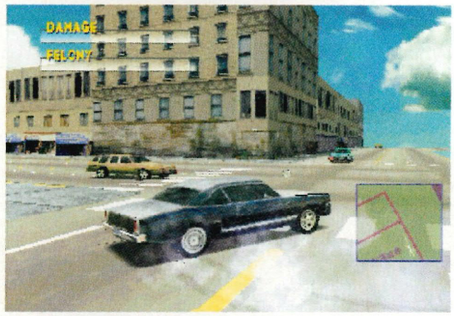
■ Punch the burnout button and hold a direction to pull off a tyre-squealing 360



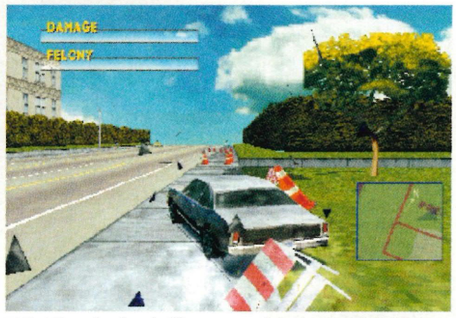
■ A reverse 180 is tricky 'cos there ain't much space in the parking lot

Mean manoeuvres

The classic 70s cars handle like a dream. The controls are so simple to get to grips with you'll be pulling off doughnuts, handbrake turns, wheel spins and powerslides within minutes of first picking up the PlayStation pad. Essential moves for escaping from the rozzers.



■ Use the burnout button for foot-to-the-floor acceleration...



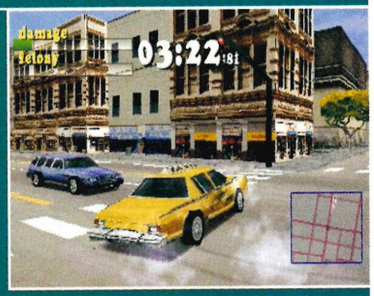
■ But the wheels spin like crazy and the back end slides out

'Drive like a crack-crazed lunatic!'

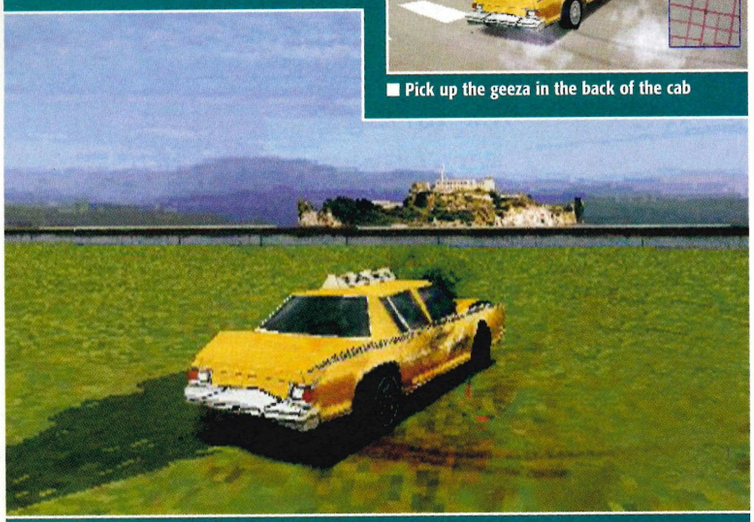
What we like

Road rage

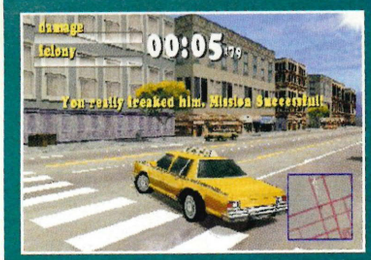
One of the coolest bits of Driver is the taxi mission. You've gotta pick up a rival Mafia boss in the back of a stolen cab and pull off as many outrageous stunts as possible to make him fill his pants. A 'freakometer' appears at the top of the screen to show you just how terrified he really is. Take a look...



■ Pick up the geeza in the back of the cab



■ Then you've gotta drive like a crack-crazed lunatic to make him cack his pants



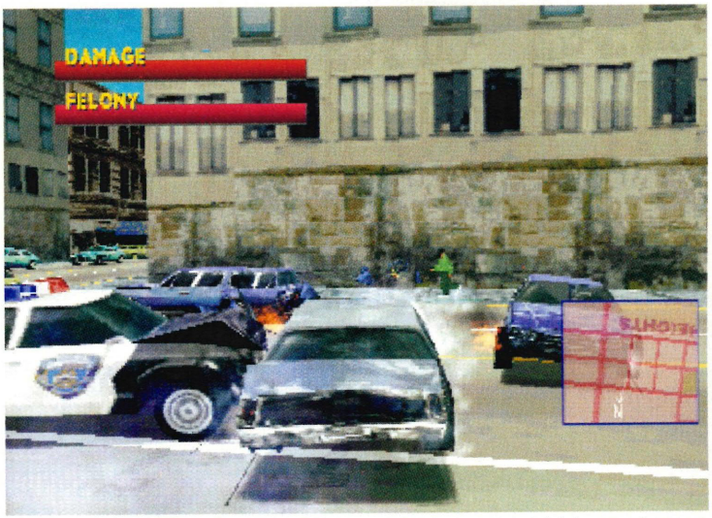
■ A few handbrake turns should do the trick



■ Or an impromptu 360 degree turn

Graphics

Driver looks just as good as it plays. The four 30-mile square cities (San Francisco, LA, New York and Miami) are incredibly detailed, the cars rock about realistically on super-spongy suspension, the spectacular crashes are enough to bring tears to your eyes and the special effects are something else entirely. Put simply, Driver rocks.



■ The crashes look totally spectacular, with flames under the bonnet and debris everywhere



■ Lighting effects to make your jaw drop. Bet you can't wait to get your hands on it, right?

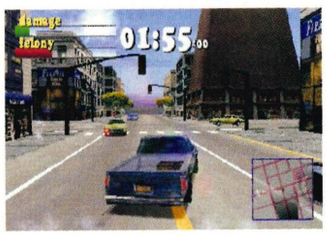
Deals on wheels

Any driving game worth its salt has a decent array of cars to choose from. Driver is no exception. Some are specific to certain missions, like the pick-up truck which is only used for transporting gelignite, the rest you can choose from the car lot. Take a look...

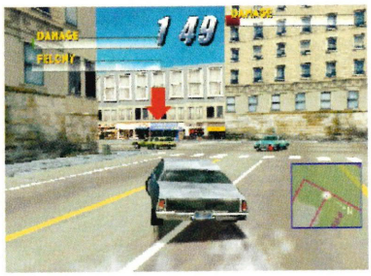




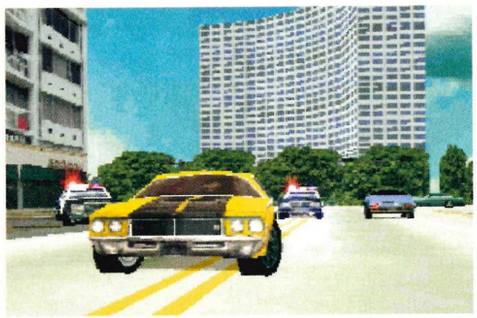
■ The Mustang looky-likey car handles well and is lightning quick



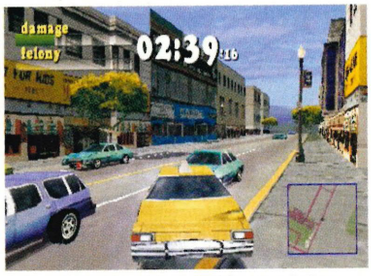
■ The pick-up truck is fun to drive



■ The normal saloon ain't much cop



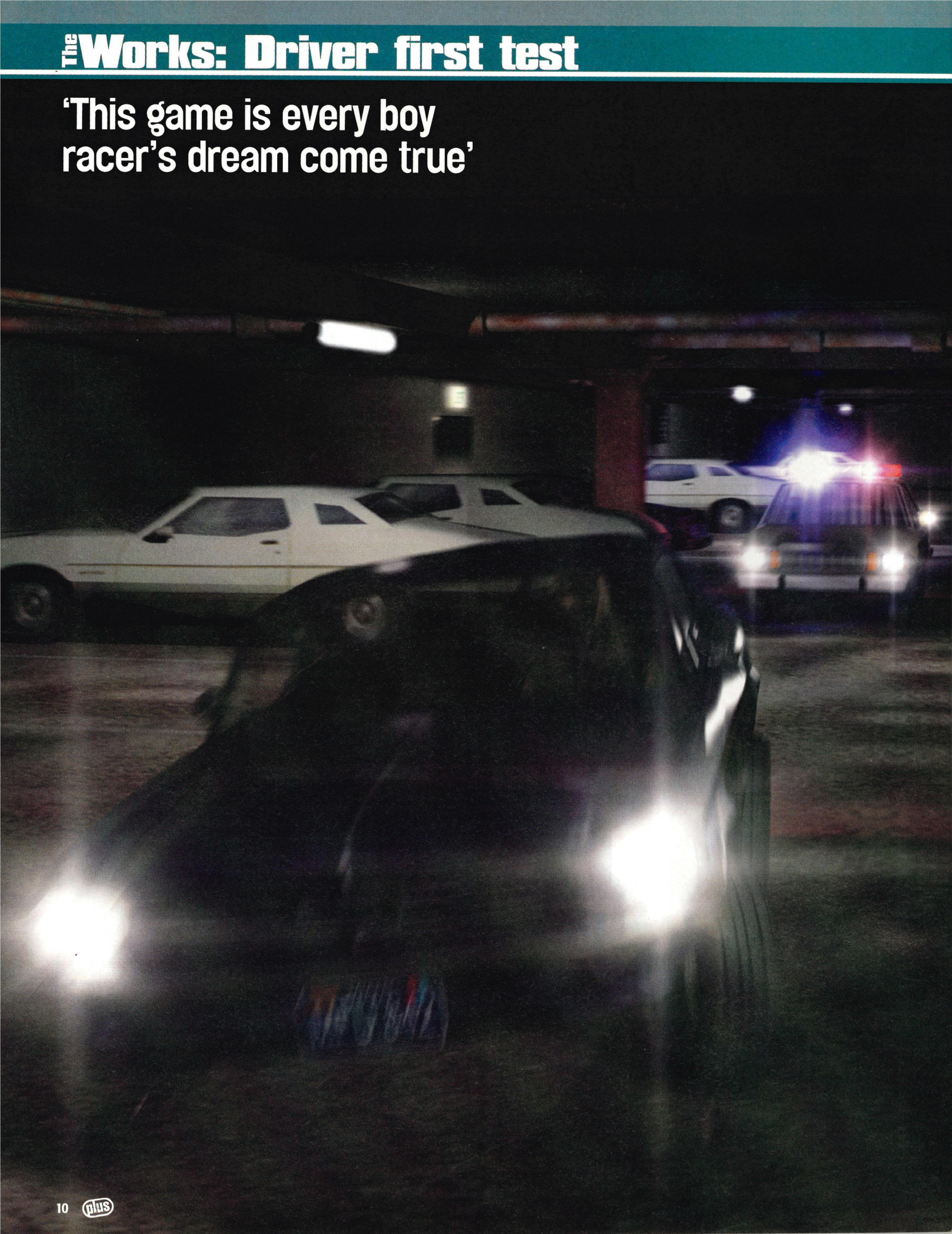
■ There's a cool Starsky and Hutch-style car in there



■ You even get to drive a taxi in one mission

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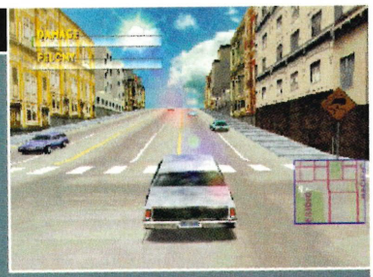
'This game is every boy racer's dream come true'



'Get the cops off your ass!'

The rozzers

If the police see you commit a crime when you're on a job - riding a curb or jumping a red light - there'll be thousands of 'em swarming all over your ass in seconds. And these aren't the sort of fellas who ask you to pull over at your earliest convenience. No sir. Their idea of law enforcement is to ram you repeatedly until your car's a smouldering heap of junk. Don't say we didn't warn you.



■ Cruise at 30 mph and the cops ignore you



■ But jump a red light or fail to give way and they'll hunt you down like a dog

Destruction derby

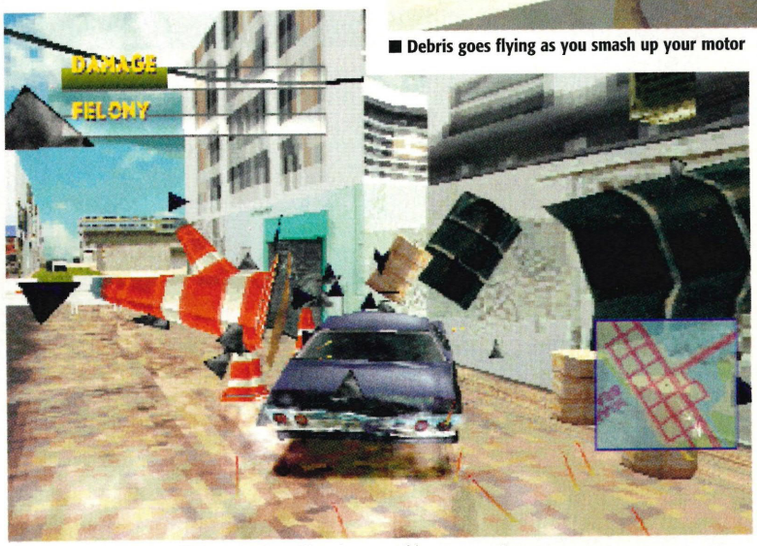
Half the fun in Driver comes from ploughing into other cars, mowing down garden fences, sideswiping street cafés, smashing through roadworks, knocking down parking meters and scattering trashcans with your wild driving. But be careful not to overdo it – collide with too much stuff and your car is only gonna be fit for the scrapyard.



■ Demolishing the scenery is a top laff



■ Debris goes flying as you smash up your motor



■ Too many head-on collisions, and you'll end up wrecking your motor

plus

We'd like to say...

Driver is every boy racer's dream come true. Smashing up meaty American motors, being chased by the cops across entire cities and generally wreaking havoc is what it's all about. And you won't be able to get enough of it. The only downer is there's no two-player game. But hey, when a game's this good, why would you wanna share it?

Night fever

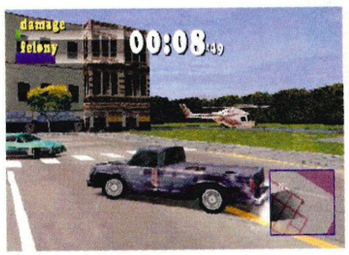
By day Los Angeles is full of rich Yanks with skin like crispy fried bacon. By night it's full of drug-pushers, pimps and er... you. See, you've gotta do the LA missions under the cover of darkness, which gives Driver the chance to show off its goyjush lighting effects.



■ Check out the way the headlights reflect off the wet road surface. Looks cool, yes?

Take a drive

If you don't fancy diving straight into the missions, you can always take your motor for a spin around each of the cities. Use this time to figure out the best escape routes, familiarise yourself with the controls or just take in some of the fantastic scenery.



■ Take a drive and fine-tune your driving skills



■ Learn the layout of the different cities



■ Or figure out the best routes for the mission you're about to take on

»

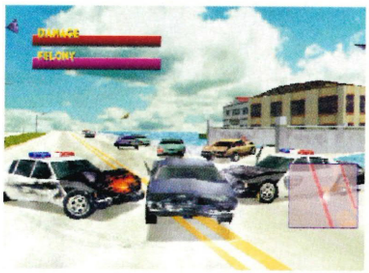
The Works: Driver first test

Live, thrive and survive

The excellent survival mini-game is one of our favourite bits of Driver. The idea is simple: every cop in the city is gunning for you. They wanna smash your car into millions of unidentifiable little pieces. All you've got to do is keep going for as long as possible. Think you're hard enough to take on the law? Well, do ya punk?



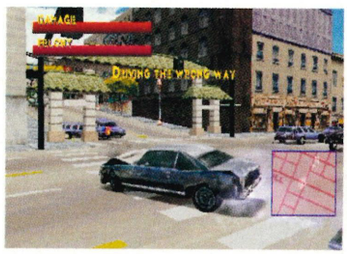
■ Once the cops catch sight of you...



■ They're gonna try their best to total your car

See the sights

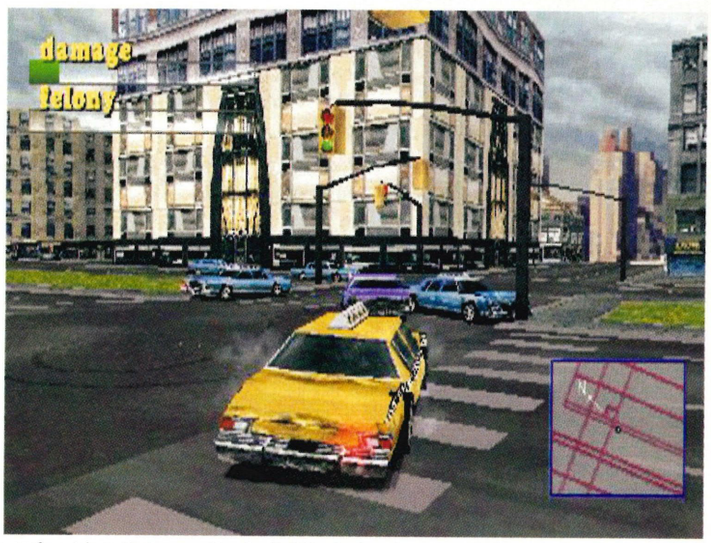
Each of the four cities in Driver – Miami, San Francisco, New York and Los Angeles – are modelled on the real-life American cities. They're not street-for-street perfect, but they're pretty close to the real places. You'll even be able to spot some familiar landmarks...



■ San Francisco's famous Dragons Gate



■ Check out the Golden Gate Bridge



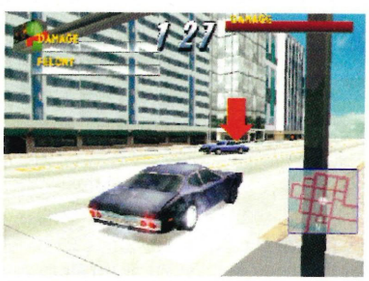
■ Take a trip to the famous Chrysler Building in downtown New York

Extra bits

If you get bored of all the mission stuff, you can always turn your attention to the five mini-games in there. Survival mode we've already shown you, but there's also a game of cat and mouse with a cop car, an arcade-style checkpoint race, a one-on-one battle with a rival car and a weird-ass triangle collecting game. Challenge your mates to beat your top scores.



■ Lose the tail in the 'getaway' game



■ Race against the clock in the 'crosstown' game

Tips for the top

The computer-controlled cop cars are more intelligent than Carol Vorderman. So you've got your work cut out getting them off your ass. Weaving in and out of oncoming traffic, driving down the wrong side of the street and handbraking it around back alleys ought to do the trick, though.



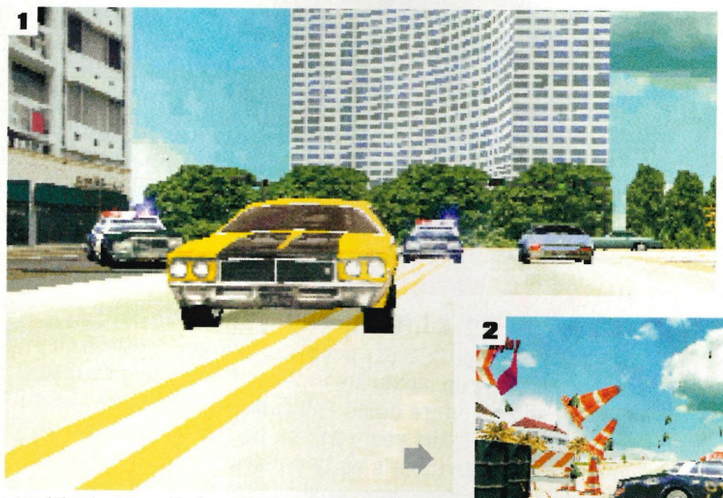
■ You can't drop off the crooks at the secret hideout until you've lost the rozzers



■ Weaving in and out of trees down a stretch of Miami Beach should get 'em off your back

Make your own car chase flick

At the end of a mission you can go back over the recorded footage and edit it to make your own mini car-chase flick. Position the cameras anywhere you want – in the car, chasing the car or from a fixed position – then piece the footage together and save it to your memory card. Check out one we made...



■ And the chase is on. You've got two cops on your tail...

■ One of 'em spins out into a stack of barrels and bollards...



■ Jeez. They don't give up

■ But the other cop still gives chase. Better step on it...

winner Better than we dared expect. It's blinding to look at, plays like a dream and it's totally different from every other PlayStation driving game. **Lee**

PlayStation plus RATED 94%

OXY and OXYCUTE 'EM are trademarks.



Whatever else puts you on the spot it needn't be spots.



Uh-oh! Bit of an embarrassing spot? Still, look on the bright side. OXY products help kill spot causing bacteria on contact, helping to prevent spots before they start. Which means, at least it won't be that sort of embarrassing spot that puts a cringe making blemish on your day. **SPOTS? OXYCUTE 'EM.**

VERBAL

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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 74, we'll pay the postage and print an answer in PlayStation plus.)

The love physician

I am appalled by Rob Lightwater's letter. **A few issues ago. He tried to diss us in print** Next time you want to insult the ace people at PlayStation Plus, don't, 'cos no one agrees with you. **Yay!** They aren't sad, you daft git, and if they were lonely, I'm sure they could go round to a mate's (or come round to my house for that matter. They all sound FIT). You couldn't do that, Rob, as you don't have any mates.

Becki

Yes, you read that right. This young lady has given us, a bunch of scruffy, overweight, boozing no-hopers, a clear invitation to walk into her home any time we please, only on the strength of our writing and design skills. Jeez. You couldn't make it up, could you?

I'm writing to make a point about Sarah Dutfield's letter. **A few months back. She got all shirty with us. So we had to put her down like a dog** I say you were a wee bit silly to tell her to shut her cakehole. You could be out with her right now instead of sorting out letters.

John Craig

Sarah! Come back! All is forgiven! You can open your cakehole again!



■ Jo Guest: she can be our love physician any time she likes. Did you hear that, Jo?

PLAYSTATION 2

I was wondering if PlayStation 2 will be able to play old PlayStation games? I have a lot of games for the PlayStation, but my 'Station's broken. Is it worth waiting for PlayStation 2?

A Reader

It will play your old games. But as to waiting? That depends on whether you're patient, or REALLY patient, 'cos PlayStation 2won't hit these shores for another year and a half.

CHEAP AND STINKY

Hi, I'd like to complain about your mag. For one, the 'Cheap and Stinky' article in the February issue said that Rayman is crap, it's actually brilliant. Maybe if you tried actually playing the games, you might realise Rayman is good.

F. Schnabel

PS. Do you have any cheats for Rayman? I can't get past the first level.

So... let's get this straight. You want to insult us for not playing the game, but then you freely admit you can't get off the first level? Please don't write to us again. This kind of thing gives us headaches.

FACE-SAVING PLUS

Hello, you don't know me. **More's the pity** To start with I want to state the blinding obvious...



■ Oi, Kelly! No!

Yup, blinding obvious. So blinding obvious, in fact, that we cut it out so other readers wouldn't think, 'what a complete knobhead that Neil Taylor is'. We done you a big favour, mate.

Neil Taylor

PROJECT BOG OFF

I'm doing a college project in Business studies and... **No, let us guess. You're doing a project about games or something? Yes? And you want us to send you 'information'? Like we have 'information' just hanging around the office. Like we have the time to send this 'information' to stewdents like you who want us to do all their work for them.** It would be helpful if you could send me some information on... **See? Jeez, some people...** Oh, and could you print a picture of Kelly Brook in her Deathtrap Dungeon gear?

Happy to. And good luck with the project.

A Nother Annoying stewdent

Oi! Uncle Sam! No!

Resurrect CACA! I've just seen an advert asking the public to phone in to see if they prefer the name Coco Pops or 'Choco Krispies' (the crap American name). Soon the public will be heard and Coco Pops will win 100%! CACA succeeds!

Michael Jackson

Now you may not remember this, but a while back we ran a campaign against crap American names for products we know and love. 'Snickers'? Ugh! 'Starburst'? Opal Fruits, shurely.

We named the campaign CACA: the Campaign Against Crap American sweet names. And one of the major targets of our wrath was Mr Kellogg, for his foolish decision to rename our beloved Coco Pops. And now, after your letters of complaint. it looks like Kellogg's is listening. Man the phones, lads. It looks like the tide has begun to turn at last...



■ Choco Krispies: not if we have our way

class WE LIKE THIS MAN, OH YES

Why the hell is everybody calling the PlayStation the PSX? What does the X stand for? X marks the spot, or something?
W Leeuwis
PS. Have you seen the enclosed (fake) PlayStation 2 ad?

PSX is one of the names the 'Station had while it was in development. Now, years later, some geeks still like to use the name because they think it makes them sound clever. Fools.

The New PlayStation

Later this year, Sony will unveil its PlayStation 2, the much-anticipated follow-up to its popular home videogame system. What are some of the new system's features?



- Can read lips and detect if you are planning to deactivate it; then secretly plots your murder
- Plug-in attachment raises complex ethical questions after killing of opponents in *Tekken IV*
- Actual human blood oozes from gamepad
- Helps kids develop conflict-resolution skills with such games as *Spiked Fists Of Hatred III: The Vengeance*
- Assimilates all lifeforms it encounters, adding user's biological and technological distinctiveness to its own
- Hyper-advanced 512-bit processor allows for 60 million images per second, blinding user instantly

■ **Don't get hot under the collar, this is a FAKE advert. But it tickled our funny bones, so here y'go**

Secret pleasures

Metal Gear Solid – I've found an alternative movie sequence! After defeating the ninja, you have to find Meryl, so you wait outside the ladies' loo until a guard goes in. If you're slow getting there, she has already changed her clothes, but if you go straight in after her, she hasn't had time to put her trousers on and is walking around in her knickers and vest top until Snake tells her she's got a nice arse. Then she puts her clothes on again.
Mark Peters

Where would the world be without strange little men sitting around finding ways to look at pixelated ladies' bottoms? Ladies and gents, a big hand for Mr Mark... Peters!



■ **'You staring at my arse boy!'**

MY NINTENDO HELL

If the PlayStation is more popular than the Nintendo 64, then how come the games for the Nintendo 64 are more expensive than PlayStation games? I have Tekken 3, Resident Evil 2, Gran Turismo, Metal Gear Solid etc, and even these games don't cost as much as N64 games. Why?
Jack Darby

N64 games come on cartridges, right? Now, making a cartridge will set you back rather a lot of dollars. CDs, on t'other hand, cost 50 pence a go. See? Now we're guessing that you're next question will probably be '50 pence! Where does me 40 quid go, then?' Well, there's a lot of folks involved in bringing you these games. They all have to eat, y'know...

THE INCREDIBLE HULK!

Our mate Hardik Shah was round Ben's house with Mike. **Who they?** We were playing the following games on the PlayStation: Tomb 2, Gran Turismo, Tekken 3, WWF Warzone, Final Fantasy VII and Grand Theft Auto. On each and every one of these games, Hardik said 'What a load of boring crap'. He said he preferred playing Tobal No.1, Diablo, The Incredible Hulk, True Pinball, and Independence Day. And these are all incredibly crap. **You're not wrong** He also said he wants to dye his hair ginger so people will take the piss out of his hair instead of his weight. **You lie, surely...**
Mike Scrimshaw

Sadly, people like Hardik who like crap games will always be with us. So will people who support teams like Manchester United or Arsenal instead of good teams like Leicester City.

INSANE IN THE BRAIN

My Dad reckons that I'm damaging my brain when I play on games. He took my PlayStation off me because he thought I was playing on it too much. The maximum I'd played on it was two hours. He curses the day games ever came out. But on the train home from London the other day, he was playing Space Invaders on my Game Boy, and whenever he got killed he started swearing at the machine! **Perfectly rational behaviour...** My question is: can 5 minutes of playing a game damage your brain?
Stephen Craine

So you haven't noticed how the staff of the mag have to be changed over every month? How the old Plus hands are dragged gibbering off to a Swiss asylum where they're straitjacketed, sedated and then subjected to humiliating probes by bearded psychiatrists? Games. They're pure poison.

GOTTLE A GEAR?

I can say without doubt that Metal Gear solid is the best game ever. But I didn't feel satisfied when I finished it. I felt there was more gaming to be done, but to my dismay that was it. Another thing that bugs me is that you never really find out what happens to Revolver Ocelot, except for the little conversation that happens right at the end of the end sequence.
Gary

Yup. It is a touch short, innit? Bet you haven't done it on 'Extreme' mode, though. Revolver Ocelot? Yup, it's true. You never do find out what happens to him. He's kind of on your side, but because of the whole 'evil president' bit, he's kind of not...

Odds and ends

- Is it just me, or is Posh Spice really ugly?
Pedro
- I hired Final Fantasy VII out. It took two hours of play before it rose from being absolute crap. But it was still a rat's ass.
PC
- Please fill in the gaps in my life.
Brian Gill

No

- I will come to the office and cut the balls off every one of you with a butcher's knife.
Chris Smedley

Ooh, we're scared

- I feel sorry for Computer and Videogames magazine because they have to share the same building as you.
Rob Hall
- I feel really sorry for PlayStation Plus, because they have to listen to my awful Pink Floyd compilations.
Ed Lomas, Computer and Videogames

We make PlayStation plus

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FAIR COMMENT
Everything's based on our opinions. The info we use comes from companies, or is correct to our knowledge. News/previews are based on info true when going to press.

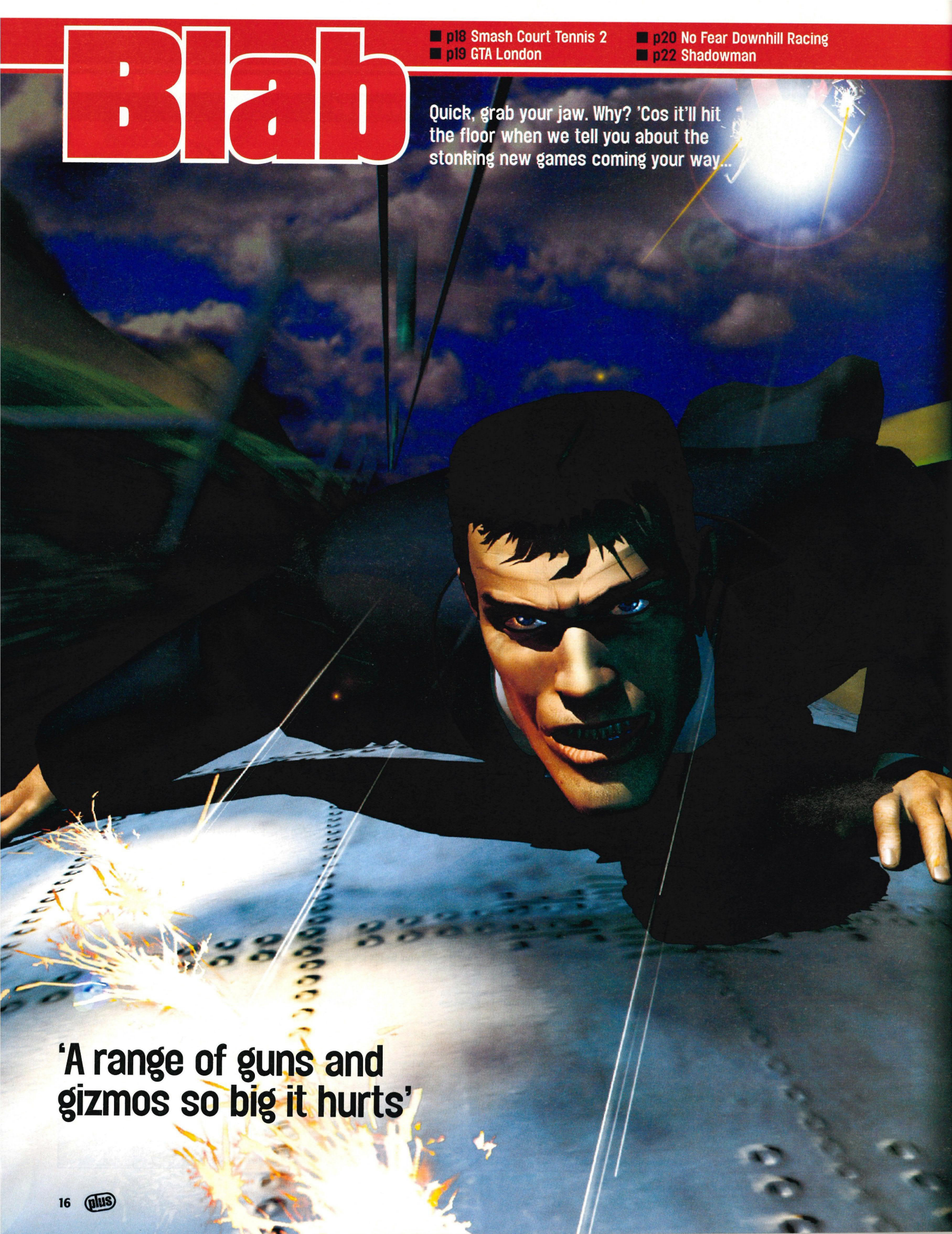
SORRY 'BOUT THAT
We would herewith like to apologise to anybody we've ever insulted when drunk. Soz.

emap active

Blab

- p18 Smash Court Tennis 2
- p19 GTA London
- p20 No Fear Downhill Racing
- p22 Shadowman

Quick, grab your jaw. Why? 'Cos it'll hit the floor when we tell you about the stonking new games coming your way...



'A range of guns and gizmos so big it hurts'

■ p24 UEFA Striker
■ p25 Bomberman Racing
■ p26 Saboteur
■ p28 Silent Hill
■ p29 Wing Over 2
■ p30 Revolt
■ p32 Kidz
■ p34 World Cup Cricket

■ **OUT** JULY ■ **BY** INFOGRAMES ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** MEMORY CARD, JOYPAD, DUAL SHOCK

Mission: Impossible

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is...

This 3D adventure based on the film Mission: Impossible popped up on Nintendo's N64 console last year. People kind of split into two camps. The 'Jesus H., this is pants' camp, and the 'Awww, c'mon, it ain't so bad' camp. Thing was, it was stuffed with all different kinds of spy-related gameplay like sniping and infiltration, and there was plenty to do: it was just a bit clunky and ugly. We think things will have changed in the past few months...

He's a right Ethan Hunt

The good news is they've tinkered with the graphics to make them a little less crap. And the game itself is promised to be a bit more 'interactive'. Whatever that means. But with gameplay ranging from attending suave dinner parties to killing entire military installations, and with a range of guns and gizmos so big it hurts, this has got to be worth a look...

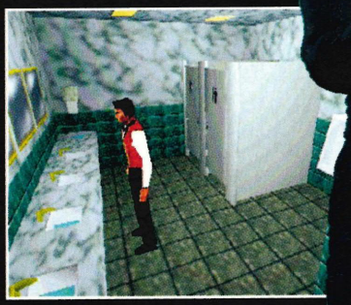
plus We're not exactly sitting quivering about this effort, but it might be worth a punt. Maybe



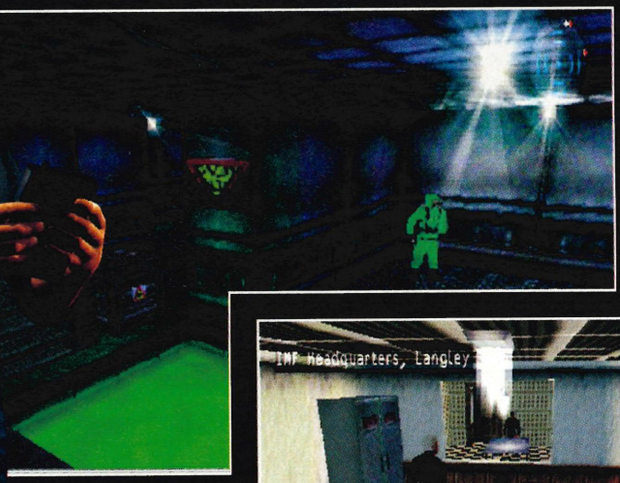
■ Put down terrorist scum. No mercy



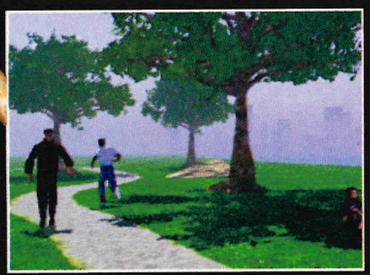
■ New rendered bits for the 'Station. Nice



■ The cocktail party at the start. V. classy



■ Beware of pools of sinister green stuff



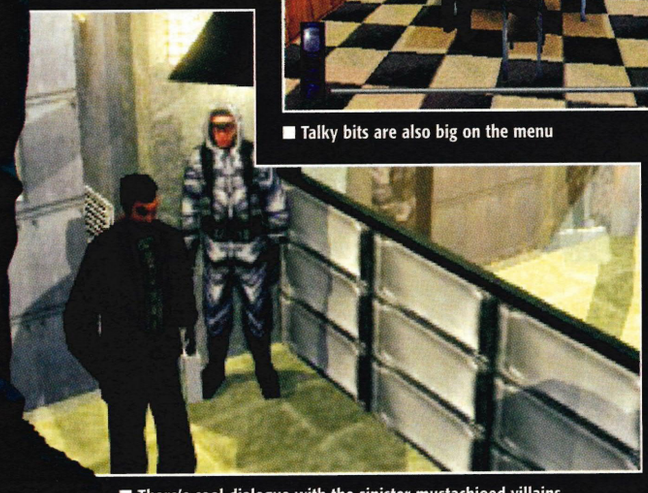
■ Frolic through the park. Kill many men



■ Talky bits are also big on the menu



■ With that uniform, he must be a communist. No question. So that means... Yup. Death



■ There's cool dialogue with the sinister mustachioed villains...

»

■ **OUT** JULY ■ **BY** SONY ■ **PLAYERS** 1-4 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Anna Kournikova's Smash Court Tennis

She of the legs is back in town. And armed with a game. Intriguing...

Back in the dawn of PlayStation, Smash Court Tennis arrived. It was a tad slow and unresponsive, and we weren't exactly whooping with joy. But the Smash Court boys've been busy. Cue the arrival of 'Son of Smash Court', endorsed by leggy lovely Anna Kournikova. And it's looking a whole lot sweeter than the first effort.

So what's new, Madame K?

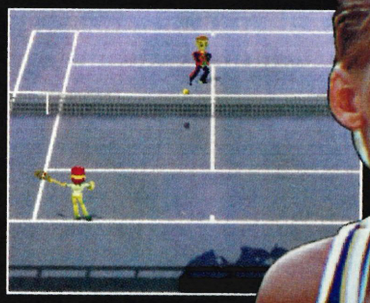
For starters, it's been all slicked up for '99. It's faster. And for your gaming pleasure, there's now 24 real-life tennis aces in there, all with vastly different playing styles. Plus there's a training mode for you to sharpen up your shots.

But what's really making us drool is the four-player mode, where you slug it out on one screen using a multitap. If tennis is your thing, this could be a top buy...

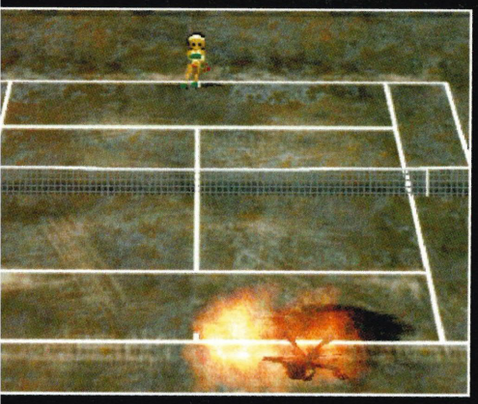
plus Could be a winner, we reckon...



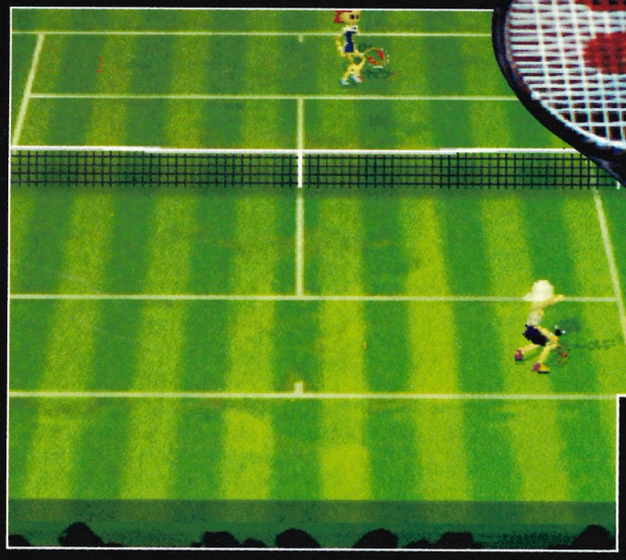
■ The speed's still not blinding, but it moves at a fair lick



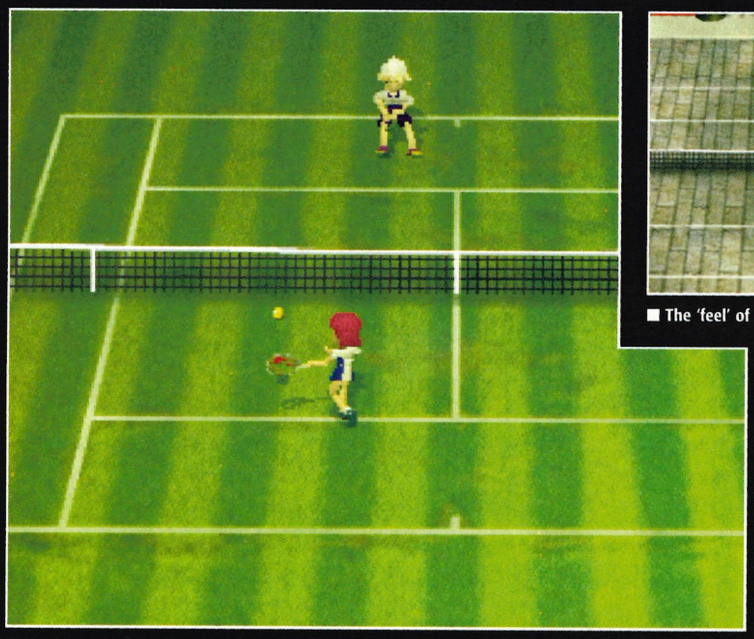
■ It's all pretty simple, but it's very hard to stop playing...



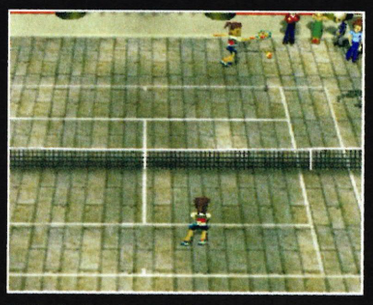
■ Bomb Tennis mode. Avoid being blasted



■ As you can see, the look here is very cutesy and Japanese. Kind of suits, though...



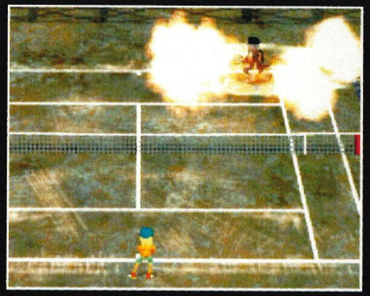
■ Play's pretty easy to get to grips with. All the moves boil down to one button push. Yay!



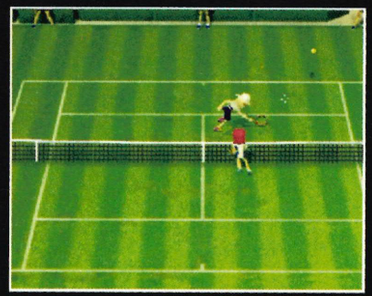
■ The 'feel' of the game is spot on. We like



■ Getting your shots right is just a matter of timing. Ooops



■ There goes one of your ten 'lives'. Dang!



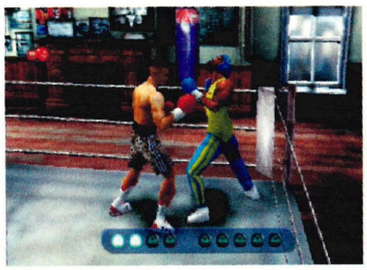
■ Ha! Your powers are weak, young woman

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

Prince Naseem Boxing

Prince Nas touches down 'Stationside. A big hand for the world's favourite fighting dwarf!

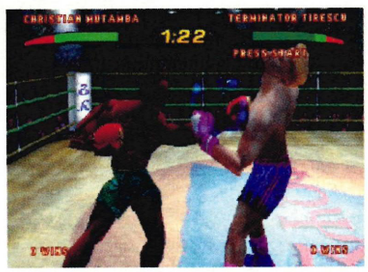
Prince Naseem has lent his name to a game. And it looks like it's going to be more worthy of his endorsement than Deep Pan Sicilian Specials. For starters, the animation's smooth as silk, and the actual fighting is lightyears away from the slug-slug-slug boredom you expect in boxing games. And it's got a real flavour of Sheffield's favourite export as well: mucho dancing and dodging is on the menu. We like.



■ Polish up your combos in the practice mode

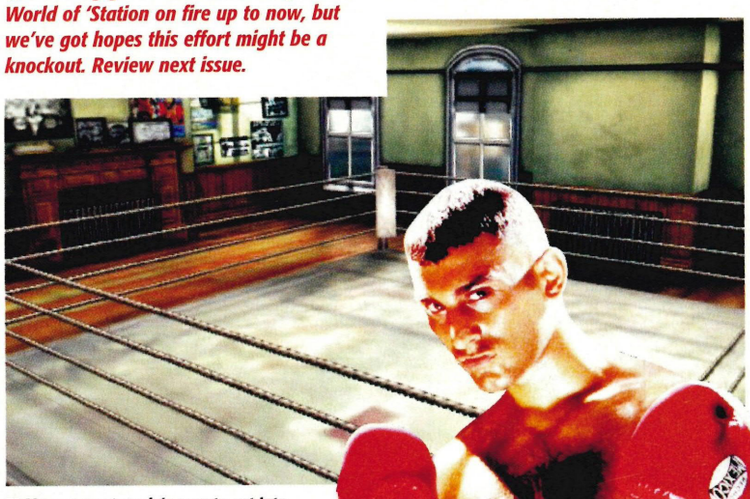
Fight! Fight! Jackets off!

In the boxing ring, things happen at lightning speed, and you'll have to keep your wits about you to master the massive range of jabs, hooks, uppercuts and blocks available here. Not to mention the trademark Nas ducking and weaving. Plus, the boxers actually sweat during the fights, and recovery times are spot on. And there's even a boxing management mode. What more could a red-blooded guy want?

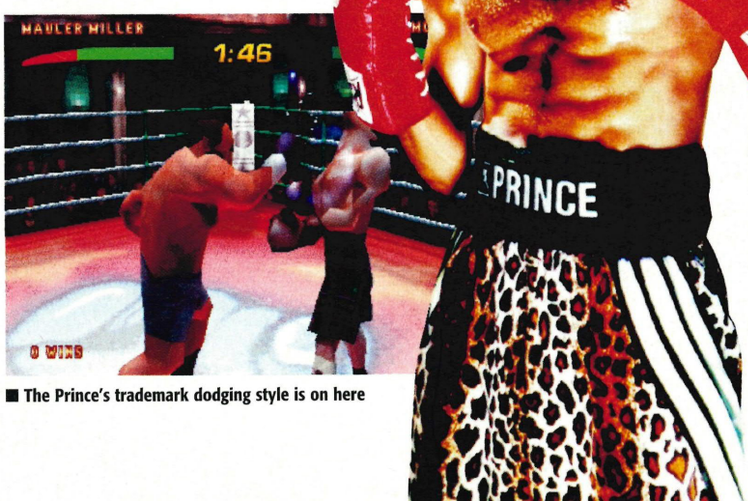


■ Knock 'em dead in Championship mode

***plus** Boxing games haven't exactly set the World of 'Station on fire up to now, but we've got hopes this effort might be a knockout. Review next issue.*



■ Management mode's easy to get into



■ The Prince's trademark dodging style is on here

■**OUT** MAY ■**BY** TAKE2 ■**PLAYERS** 1
■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

GTA London

GTA's gone and spawned a UK add-on pack. And it's looking bleedin' diamond...

GTA London's only gone and got a bit Elephant and Castle, know what I mean? It's all got a bit garden marrow, guvnor. Yup. Beware. Last year's 2D car-stealing smash, Grand Theft Auto, has caught a bad dose of the 'owwight geezas'. Rhyming-nonsense-talking London gangsters in suits are the stars. It's '69, and things're about to go car-crash-crazy in the 'Smoke...



■ Drive open-topped tourist buses

The Long Good Friday

The 'steal a car, plug rozzers, do missions for dubious underworld geezers' gameplay remains the same, but it's all set on a map of London. Cool. And it's not just Britis villains: there are proper Brit cars to And high-speed Mini chases. And tra Euro-cocktail-lounge music. And ska. And 52 new missions. And black cabs. And Sweeney-esque rozzers. You even get to nick the Crown Jewels. It's proper, me old China...

YOU'RE BROWN BREAD!



■ Now where is that in Soho, precisely?

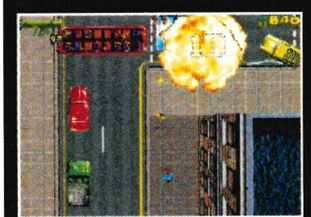
***plus** If you liked the first GTA, this'll be a must-have. But London lads should be wary: the maps ain't looking too much like the London WE know and love..*



■ Hang on... isn't that a Yank police car? Tsk, tsk...



■ Many minis are on the menu



■ Kill Frenzy! Anarchy in the UK!



■ Look out for flash motors like the Aston Martin...

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

No Fear Downhill Mountain Biking

Downhill fast wearing lycra shorts. And they call it a sport? We call it suicide...

If wearing rubber pants, putting on a mask and getting real dirty is what yanks your chain, you're either pretty strange or a keen mountain biker. If it's the latter, then No Fear Downhill Mountain Biking might be the game for you. Read on...

Geared up

Here's the deal: you've gotta pedal like a demon down the side of bloody great hill against some other lycra-clad spod. Pull off various tricks 'n' stunts along the way to rack up mucho cool points and earn yourself a new-fangled upgrade for your pushbike. Be the first to cross the line and it's onto the next mountain.

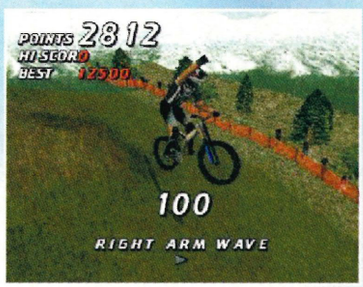
But wait... there's a whole lot more. We've been promised there'll be all kindsa cool stuff in the finished game, including over 24 courses, championship and time attack modes, a split-screen two-player game and more tricks than wrinkly old Paul Daniels.

Wheely good

Graphics are looking a bit ropy at the mo and the controls are well tricky. But the speed's definitely there. We're talking blink-and-you're-toast kinda fast.

And you know the best bit? Even if you're an ugly wheezing mess after ten minutes on a real pushbike, you'll be faster than a greased cougar on the screen without ever having to give up the cancer sticks. Can't say fairer than that.

plus *We're not sure how this one's gonna turn out. It's a novel idea, but it's not looking that special. They've got a lot of work ahead of 'em...*



■ Call that a stunt? When I was a kid I could do wheelies on my Grifter. Proper ones 'n' all



■ The handlebar view is fast. Too fast



■ Wou[illegible]nd taking her for a ride



■ Check out the terrain before you race



■ You can feel every bump and every smash when you use the dual shock pad

■ Jeez. You could almost be there...



■ All the bone-crunching crashes of the real life 'sport' are in here. Cool huh?

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VIDEO GAMES CHEATS & TIPS

● Are you stuck and frustrated? ● Need 99 lives or Ultimate fire power?
● Require Level select to move on? ● Would Turbo Mode help?



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Actua Soccer 1, 2 & 3
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Auto Destruct
Ball Blazer Champions
Bio Freaks
Blam! Machinehead
Blast Chamber
Blasto
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Blood Omen
Bloody Roar
Bomberman World
Brahma Force
Brian Lara Cricket
Bubble & Bobble
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Bushido Blade 1 & 2
Bust a Move 1, 2 & 3
Cardinal Syn
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Carnage Heart
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Crime Killer
Critical Depth
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Dead or Alive
Death Trap Dungeons
Defcon 5
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Destruction Derby 1 & 2
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Die Hard 1, 2 & 3
Disruptor
Doom
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Duke Nukem: Total Meltdown
Dynasty Wars
ESPN Extreme Games
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Fade to Black
Felony 11-79
Fifa 96, 97, 98 & 99
Fighter's Impact
Fighting Force
Final Doom
Final Fantasy VII
Firo and Klawd
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Formula 1, 97 & 98
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G-Police
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Hardcore 4x4
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Hyper Formation Soccer
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Independence Day
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Iron Man/X-O Manowar
Japan Pro Wrestling
J. Mcgarth Supper Cross
Jersey devil
Jet Moto & Jet Moto 2
Jet Rider
J-League Winning Eleven
Jonah Lomu Rugby
Jumping Flash 1 & 2
King of Fighters 95, 96 & 97
Klonoa
Knockout Kings
Krazy Ivan
Kula World
Kurin-Pa
Lemmings 3D
Lifeforce Tenka
Loaded
Lone Soldier
Lost Vikings 2
Lucky Luke
Machine Hunter
Madden 97, 98 & 99
Magic Carpet
Magic Gathering Battle Mage
Makeruna Makendo 2
Marvel Super Heroes
Mass Destruction
Max Power Racing
MDK
Mech Warrior 2
MediEvil
Metal Gear Solid
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Mobile Suit Gundam
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Mortal Kombat 1, 3, 4 & Trilogy
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Motor Head
Motor Toon Gran Prix 1 & 2
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Nagano Winter Olympics 98
Namco Museum Vol 1 & 2
Nanotek Warrior
Nascar Racing 1, 98 & 99
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NBA Shootout 96, 97 & 98
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NHL 97, 98 & 99
NHL Breakaway 98
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Off World Interceptor Extreme
One
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Parappa the Rapper
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Peak Performance
Pitfall &: Pitfall 3D
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Porsche Challenge
Power Instinct 2
Power Move Pro Wrestling
Poy Poy
Premier Manager 98 & 99
Pro Pinball
Project Overkill
Psychic Force
R4: Ridge Racer Type 4
Rage Racer
Raging Skies
Rally Cross
Rapid Racer
Rapid Reload
Rascal
Rayman
Ray Racers
Ray Storm
Ray Tracers
Rebel Assault 1 & 2
Reboot
Re-Loaded
Resident Evil 1, 2 or Director Cut
Return Fire
Ridge Racer & Revolution
Rise of the Robots 2 : Resurrection
Riven : The Sequel to Myst
Road Rash & Road Rash 3D
Rockman X3
Rogue Trip
Rollcage
Rosco McQueen
Rugrats
Runabout
Samuria Showdown 3
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Shadowmaster
Shellshock
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SimCity 2000
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Spot goes to Hollywood
Spyro the Dragon
Star Fighter
Star Gladiators
Star Wars
Steel Harbinger
Steel Reign
Street Fighter Alpha 1, 2 , 3, Ex Alpha & Collection 2
Street Racer
Suikoden
Super Buster Brothers Collection
Super Puzzle Fighter 2 Turbo
Swagman
T'ai Fu
Tekken 1, 2 & 3
Tempest X3
Tenchu
Tennis Arena
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Test Drive 4, 5 & Off Road
Tetris Plus
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The Lost World
Theme Hospital
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The Raiden Project
Three Lions
Tiger Shark
Tiger Woods
Time Comando
Time Crisis
Tobal No. 1 or 2
TOCA 1 or 2
Tokyo Highway Battle
Tomb Raider 1,2 & 3
Tommi Makinen Rally
Top Gun
Toshinden 1, 2 & 3
Total Drivin
Total Eclipse Turbo
Total NBA 97
Treasures of the Deep
Triple Play 97, 98 & 99
Tunnel B1
Twin Bee
Twisted Metal 1, 2 & 3
Victory Boxing
Viewpoint
Vigilante 8
VR Baseball 97
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V Rally
Vs
V Tennis
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War Gods
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War Hammer: Dark Omen
Warhawk
WCW Nitro
WCW vs NWO Thunder
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 the Deep
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■ **OUT** MAY ■ **BY** ACCLAIM ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Shadowman

Insane slaughter, and the End of the World. All in a day's work for the ShadowMan...

Shadowman's a cosy tale of voodoo, serial murder and apocalypse based on the comic books of the same name. It's a non-stop onslaught of high-calibre 3D action stretching across two worlds: the real world and the sinister Deadside. Nasty? Oh yes. And then some...

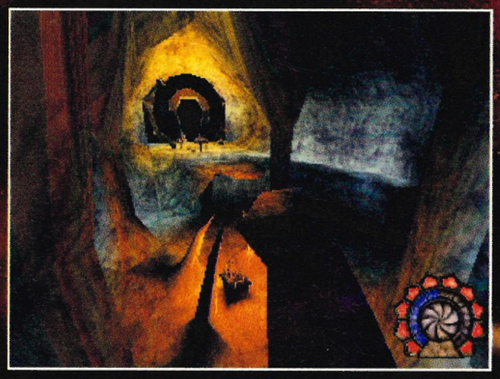
Dawn of the Dead

See, Deadside is where the dead people (ahem) live. And it's nasty. You play Mike Leroi, an assassin from New Orleans, who has the power to travel to Deadside, where he becomes a voodoo warrior called Shadowman. And as the Shadowman, he's on a desperate mission to prevent a coming apocalypse where the inhabitants of Deadside take over the normal world...

Where the Wild Things Are

Playing as both the Shadowman and Leroi, you'll slaughter voodoo spirits with weapons ranging from the classic Desert Eagle to enormous death-dealing voodoo spells. And from what we've seen, it's looking pretty special. Especially the bits in The Asylum, Deadside's mile-high citadel of the dead...

plus Looking like a slice of pure class. Atmos in spades and hardcore violence aplenty. We like...



■ The game's absolutely massive. Mucho exploring to be done



■ Vaulted ceilings. An absolute must for YOUR nouveau goth interior...



■ The dead want to install serial killers like Jeffrey Dahmer as rulers of the living world. Very nice



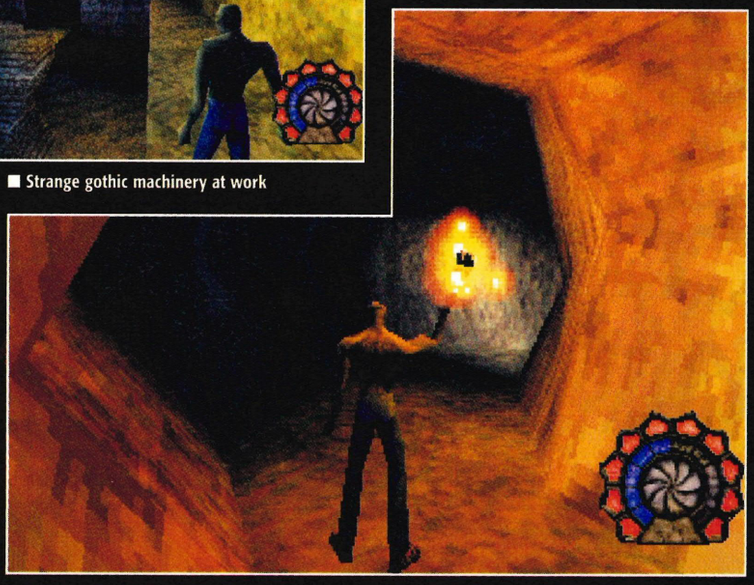
■ Deathslide in Deadside...



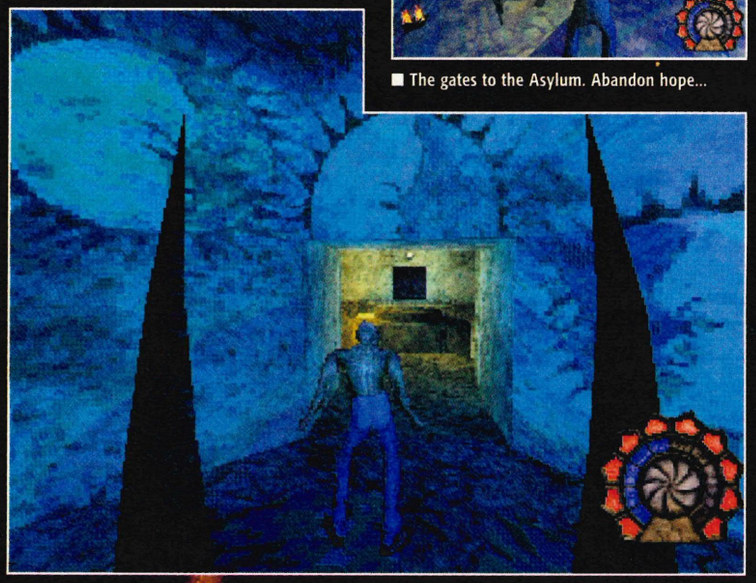
■ Strange gothic machinery at work



■ The gates to the Asylum. Abandon hope...



■ Lighting effects? Check. Small, guttering torch providing not-quite-enough light? Check...



■ The scenery's spot on, with all the gothic swirls and weird symbols you'd expect...



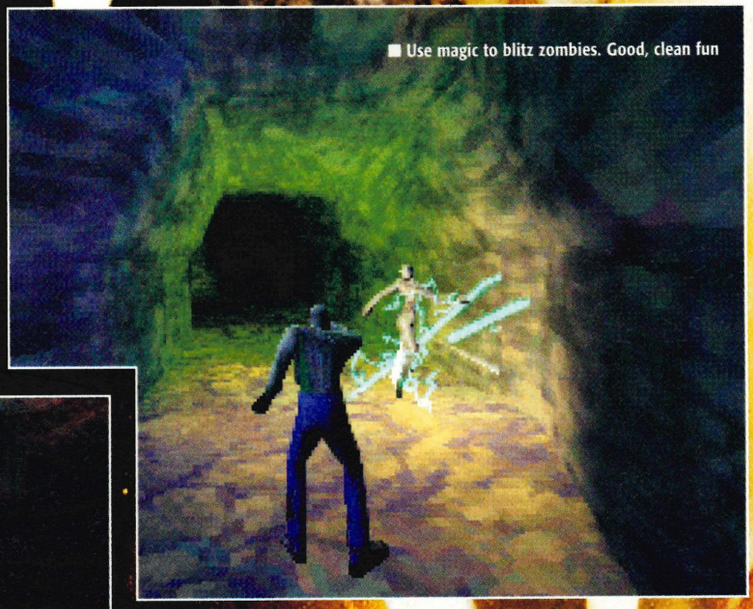
■ A bat swoops low over a belfry...



■ ShadowMan demonstrates kung fu technique



■ The Asylum. A very nasty place



■ Use magic to blitz zombies. Good, clean fun



■ Oooh. Ominous buildings, or what?



■ Fight hand-to-hand against the Satanic legions of Deadside

'Non-stop gothic 3D action. Nasty? Yes!'

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

UEFA Striker

Another footy game sir? Men in shorts, sir? Balls? Ooh, suits you, Sir...

You might think you want another footy game like you want a hole in the head. You might even be right. But those devious software companies just keep coming at us with footy games that look kind of new. Kind of nice. A graphical nip and tuck there, a gameplay tweak here. 'Oh alright then' we groan, 'Here's another £40...'

We are the champions

But footy overload aside, this is looking like it might slot them in with the best of them. Boasting a full complement of this year's Champion's League sides, a pin-sharp graphical style and loads of moves, this is looking like a scorcher. We'll give you our connoisseur's opinion very soon...

***plus** Looking mighty promising. It's still early days, though...*



■ Even the sky looks nice. Watch and weep



■ Play the ball. Play the man. Your choice



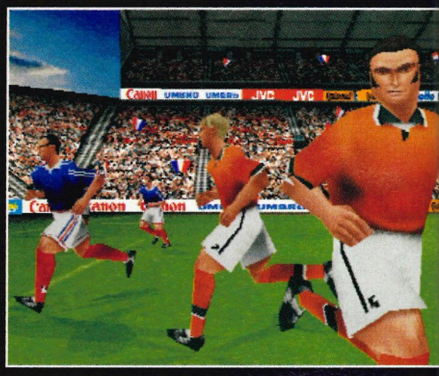
■ Goalmouth action. The crowd goes wild



■ Tackle? Sure mate, it's all in here...



■ There's a full range of moves available. Chesting the ball... very swish



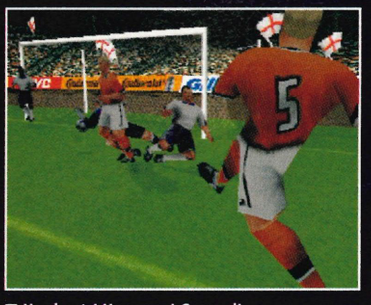
■ Real-life players' faces. Very ugly



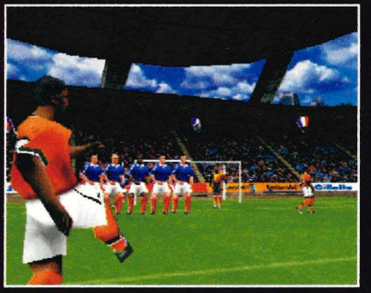
■ The goalie remains strangely calm as the ball floats towards him...



■ Oi mate! Turn round! You're running the wrong way!



■ He shoots! He scores! Goaaaal!



■ He lofts the free kick over the wall...

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

Bomberman Fantasy Race

Another cutesy racing effort! Pardon us while we go out back and eat a bullet...

Old game heroes never die. They just crop up in odd spin-offs. Here's old-time favourite Bomberman... in a racing game. Oldsters among you'll probably know Bomberman as a little geezer who wanders around in mazes blowing up people. Here, him and his chums tank it round weirdo courses chucking bombs at each other off the backs of strange animals...

Colours! Bombs! But...

We never let ourselves get optimistic about weird cutesy Jap games like this. We've been hurt too many times before. It's colourful, sure. And there's plenty to do, with you able to use your bombs to do loads of different kinds of attacks. There's plenty o' tracks. And it's even good-looking... in a weird Japanese way. But we ain't holding our breath...

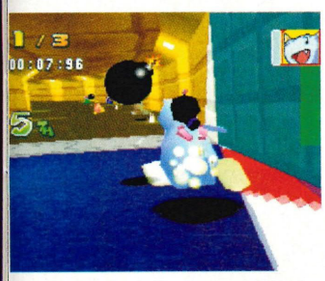
plus We think this looks toss...



■ Use bombs to cause terror and confusion



■ The starting block. The huge pastel octagons get on their marks



■ Explosive death comin' atcha



■ Huge fluffy animals at rest



■ Chuck bombs miles down the track to take down frontrunners

■ **OUT** MAY ■ **BY** JVC ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, FLIGHT STICK

WingOver 2

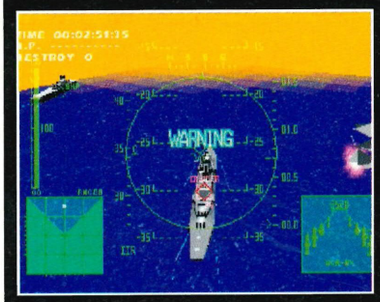
It's flight school. And there's always space for a Maverick. Or an Iceman...

It's flying school for your 'Station. You plug your way through lesson after lesson of flight tuition until you're well boned up on ground attacks, air-to-air combat, dives and loops, and other clever flight stuff. Then you face the final exams. It's even called the Academy: maximum Top Gun action...

Maverick v Iceman

Handy voiceovers will guide you through five levels of lessons until you take your flying exams. Pass 'em, and you've earned your wings. Which means you can take to the friendly skies for loadsa dogfights involving you and up to 16 mates strafing and heatseeking the hell out of 50 – count 'em, 50 – enemies. Fine by us...

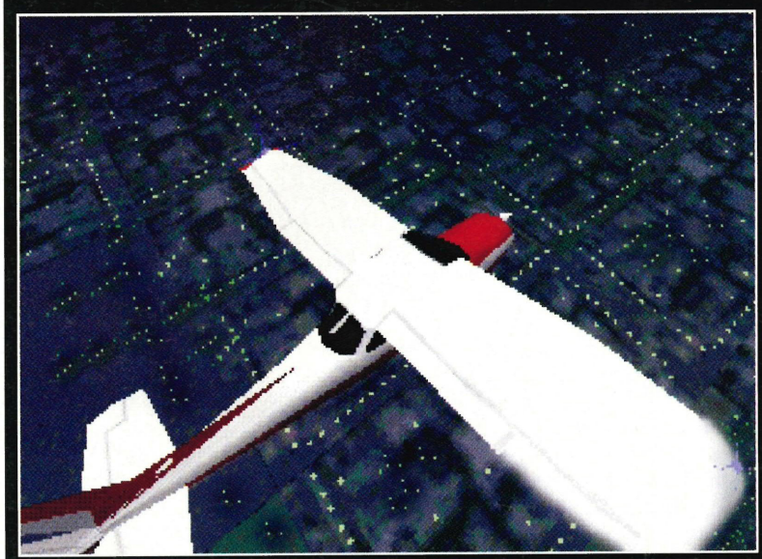
plus The first WingOver wasn't much cop. But you never know, they might've pulled something semi-decent out of the hat for this one. Might've...



■ Pass your exams and take on massive ships



■ A huge big jet aircraft. Yesterday



■ Standard-issue crap little plane with no guns. Boooo! Get it off my PlayStation!



■ The real deal. Aircraft with guns...



■ Just light blue touch paper and stand well back

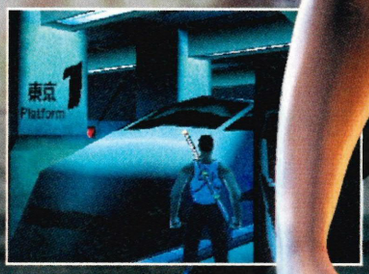
■ **OUT** OCTOBER ■ **BY** EIDOS ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Saboteur

A ninja sets off to seek vengeance with his curvy sword in hand. And the family dog by his side...



■ This is how the scenery will look



■ The people have yet to be added. Soon, soon



■ Shiro. Attack dog and navigation system in one



■ The graphics are pin-sharp. And it moves pretty fast, too



■ Shin models the Katana. Classic ninja kit... very nice

■ A ninja's best friend. His dog?

It's got a ninja in it. And ninjas can mean only one thing. Violence. And Saboteur doesn't disappoint. It's non-stop 3D combat with all the grappling, blocking and assaulting you'd expect from Japan's finest. Using clubs, swords, knives and guns. In five-on-one battles. And it's even got a plot...

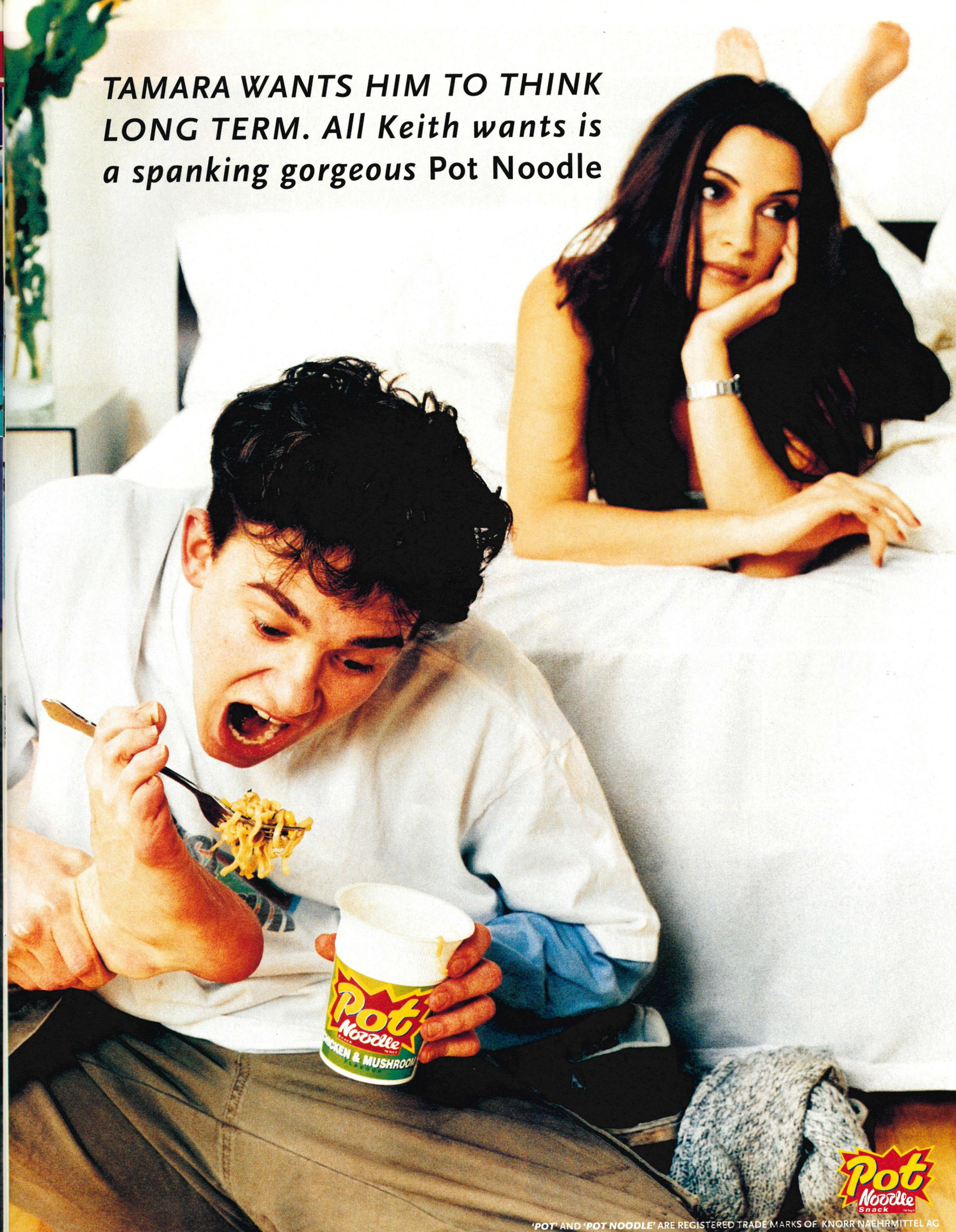
Plot? What?

You, the man in the black pyjamas, set out on your motorcycle to inflict extreme violence against the folks who nicked your sister. You explore sci-fi-esque locations. You find objects. You find info. And meanwhile, you meet lots of people. And kill them...

Dogfight

One of the unusual, not to say mind-bogglingly surreal, touches about Saboteur is that you've brought your dog, Shiro. Shiro bounds around the shop biting folks for you, and he'll even help you find your way around the place. Good dog.

plus Looks well promising. More details soon...


TAMARA WANTS HIM TO THINK LONG TERM. All Keith wants is a spanking gorgeous Pot Noodle
Pot Noodle
Pot Noodle Snack
'POT' AND 'POT NOODLE' ARE REGISTERED TRADE MARKS OF KNORR NAEHRMITTEL AG

■ **OUT** SEPTEMBER ■ **BY** KONAMI ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Silent Hill

update

Horror adventure takes on Resident Evil. And it's looking hopeful for the challenger.

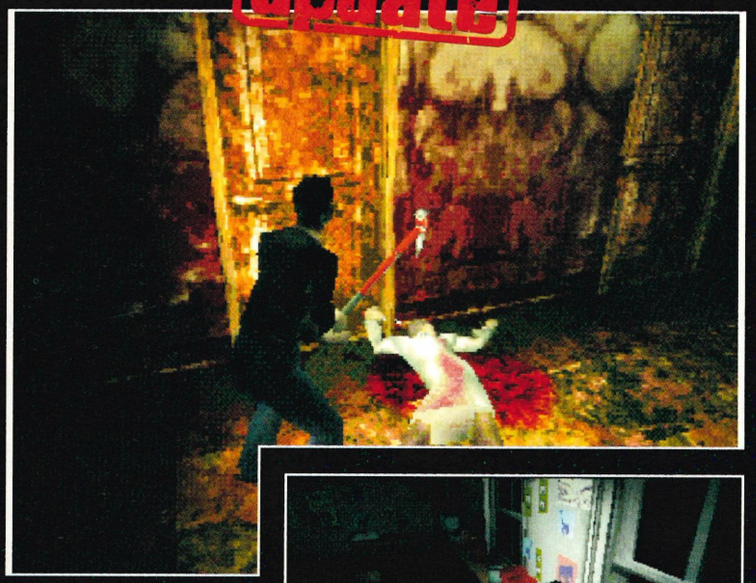
This primo 3D shriek 'em up is set in an abandoned town, filled with Evil Babies, and Evil Dogs. Nasty. Later, you meet Evil Nurses and Evil Horses. Even nastier. Shotguns, pistols, knives, woodman's axes are all up for grabs in here, and plenty of hot claret and steaming flesh nuggets will be spattering walls, floors and ceilings before the sun comes up...

Bloody Hell

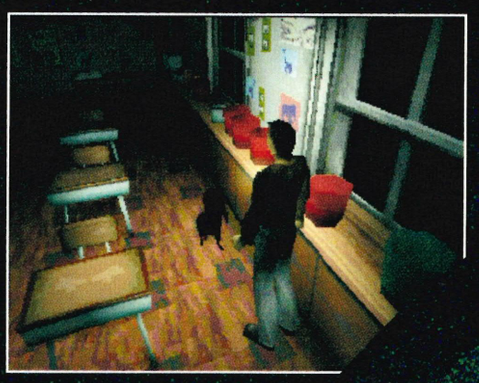
But it isn't all mindless slaying. For starters, there's loads of characters who you'll have to natter with to get ahead. And you'll have to whip your grey matter into shape to deal with a sequence of increasingly fiendish object puzzles.

From what we hear, it's the brain-hurting puzzle with the piano keys that's mashing import-playing gamer's heads the worst. But we ain't spilling the beans on how to do it. Yet.

plus Looking hot to trot. Brutal, needless violence by the truckload. And thinky bits too! Hot damn!



■ Woodman's axe -1. Nurse - 0



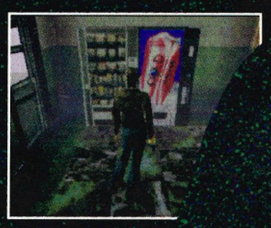
■ Back to school. To kill zombie children



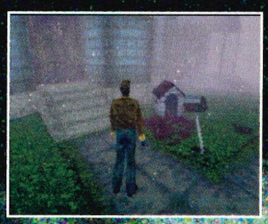
■ Lordy. It sho' is dark in Silent Hill...



■ Demon doctor gets a faceful of buckshot. Tasteful

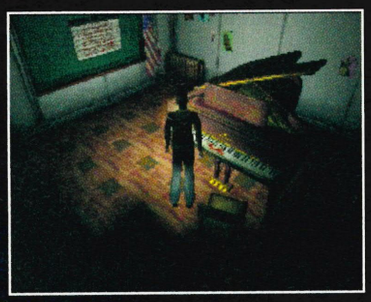


■ Satanic Coke machine. Beware



■ The outdoors is full of evil dogs

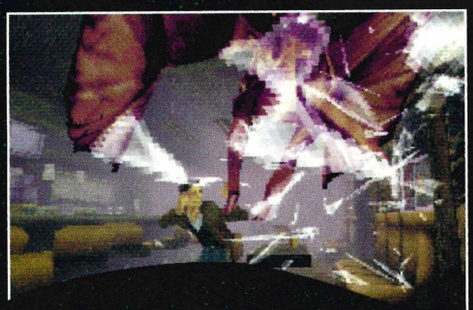
■ School. Filled with demon babies



■ The piano. An insanely abstract puzzle awaits...



■ Lighting effects looking good, here





■ Knife. Ideal for close encounters



■ Terror! A huge bat busts into the cafe...

'Brutal, needless violence by the truckload'

■ **OUT** JULY ■ **BY** VIRGIN ■ **PLAYERS** 1-5
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Bomberman

Back from the dead. It's another classic...

It's Bomberman. Classic Bomberman, no less. For the uninitiated, that means a little geezer with funny eyes running around a maze, dropping bombs and generally exploding everything he sees. Bomberman's been around for donkey's years, and this is nothing new. But that said, the multiplayer mode, with up to five bombers on one screen, is still pure mental. We like.

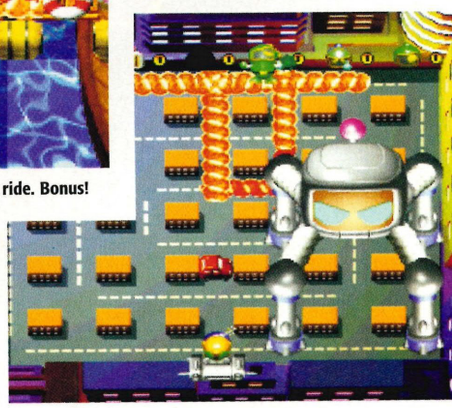
***plus* Basic. And the single player mode's pretty damn dull. But multiplayer Bomberman games have always tickled us pink. More of the same? Yes please...**



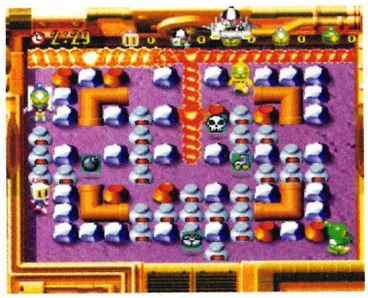
■ New old Bomberman. Still looking pretty old



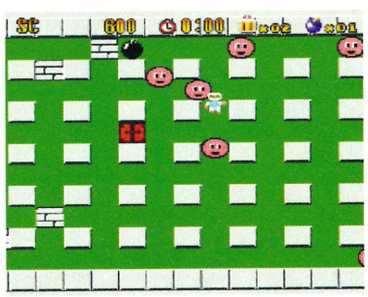
■ Multiplayer madness. Now with added animals to ride. Bonus!



■ Some of the arenas come with built-in dangers



■ Up to five people can bomb each other silly



■ Old Bomberman. Very, very ugly...



■ Odd powerups aplenty. Classy stuff

■ **OUT** JULY ■ **BY** CODEMASTERS ■ **PLAYERS** 1-4 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Revolt

Diddy racing game with big ideas comes to the 'Station...

One of the problems with being a kid is that whenever you get a new toy, some fat uncle always comes along and ends up breaking it after insisting on having a go. Countless radio-controlled cars have gone this way. Luckily the ones in Revolt are safe from the unwelcome attention of overweight relatives...

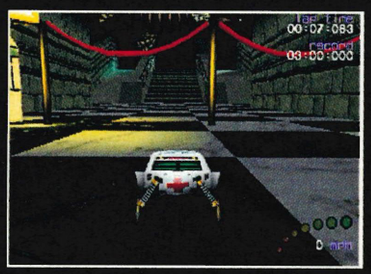
Looking good

You guessed it, it's another racing game. But this one's with 'ickle radio-controlled cars. You get to race 'em around massive Micro Machines-style levels, picking up various weapon power-ups to blast your opponents off the track. Cross the line before the rest of the field and you can earn yourself extra cars – a whopping 28 in total – loadsa secret tracks and tons of other cool hidden stuff.

Race yer mates

You're gonna have to get some mates around 'cos Revolt looks like it's gonna be a smart multiplayer game. Up to four players can go head-to-head in the blisteringly-fast racing game, or slog it out in of four battle arenas. Best of all is the track editor feature, which allows you to create and race on your own tracks and save them off to a memory card. Sounds like it's gonna be a top laff.

***plus** We like the idea of racing radio controlled cars and the multiplayer game sounds like good fun. Let's hope it lives up to its early promise.*



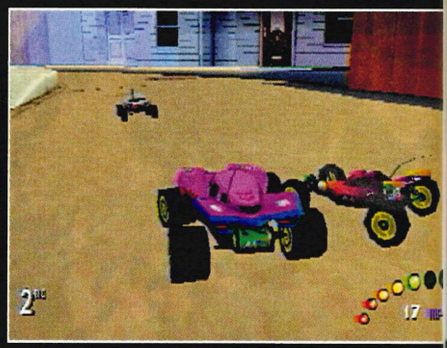
■ Race around a giant museum in your diddy car



■ Little icons appear to show you where to go



■ Levels are so huge it's easy to get lost



■ Use a weapon to get this geeza off your ass

Dare you cheat on me?



Buy 5 PlayStation games before November get 1 FREE!

If you want to arm yourself with something really worthwhile, raid the racks at Virgin Megastores. Just collect the stickers that prove you've bought five full price PlayStation games between now and 31st October 1999 – and you'll get a sixth for free! To take up the challenge, get down to your local store and fight for a Cheat card today.

DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF PLAYSTATION AT Virgin MEGASTORES

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Offer available until 31/10/99 on games priced £39.99 or over. See leaflet for full terms and conditions. Tomb Raider III & Lara Croft © & TM Core Design Limited 1998. © & Published by Eidos Interactive Limited 1998. All Rights Reserved.

Blab

Colourful cartoon fun: don'cha just love it?

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

Ape Escape



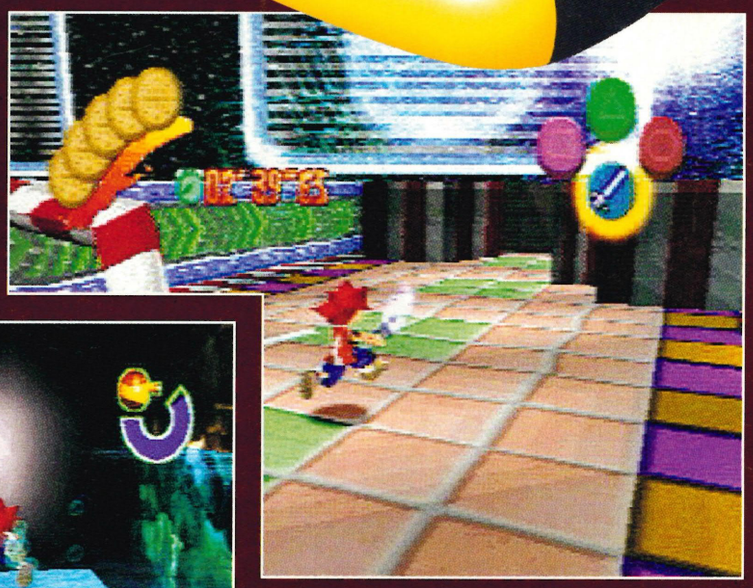
Softly, softly catchee monkey, as me old Dad used to say...

The first ever game you can't play with a normal control pad. You HAVE to have a Dual Shock to get a look in on Ape Escape's bright-coloured cartoon capers. Now there's a cunning ploy to swindle you out of more of your hard-earned if ever we saw one. But that said, the game's actually looking not 'arf bad...

Planet of the gorillas

The idea is that you're trying to capture lots of monkeys scattered throughout history. Don't ask us why. Just don't. You're a kid, so your mate the Professor has made you a variety of cunning monkey-catching gizmos ranging from nets to weirdo sci-fi ape entrapment devices. You control your gizmos with your right Dual Shock stick, your movement with your left. Looking cool...

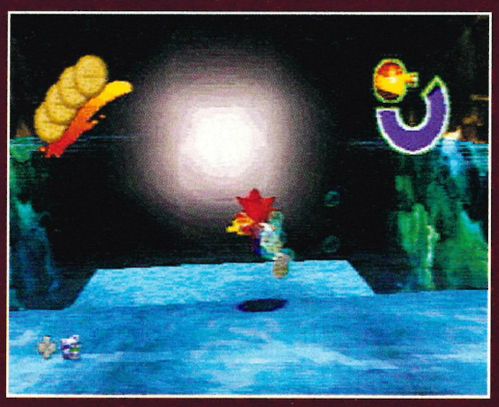
***plus* For the youngsters, mainly, we reckon. But could be a top turn...**



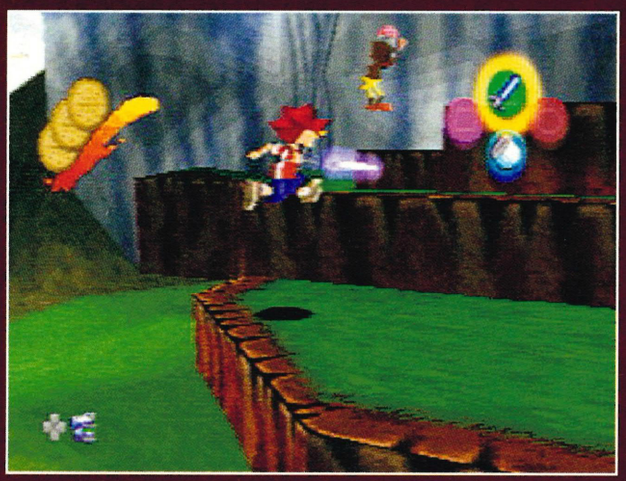
■ Use one analogue stick to move, the other to move and twiddle your gizmos. Very dinky...



■ Your common or garden monkey-catching net in action



■ Put on your scuba for the underwater levels...



■ Ape escape? Not with you with your glowing monkey-catcher to hand...



■ Go trawling for ape with a baseball glove



■ No monkeys will escape. Fearsome Net of Death in action



■ All sorts of power-ups are up for grabs



■ Dive into the depths to get at those devious aquatic monkeys...



■ Surreal monkey radar. Always a hit with the laydeez

■ **OUT** JUNE ■ **BY** GT ■ **PLAYERS** 1-3
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

Rampage Universal Tour

B-list monster game gets tarted up for 99...

Rampage World Tour was a none-too-clever 2D arcade-type game where huge B-Movie monsters ate cities. This is Son of Rampage World Tour. The idea is this. You are A Big Monster. Several varieties, with more and less bodily hair and different weird attacks, are available. First, choose your monster. Then do a Godzilla on the city of your choice...



■ Jump on top of towers to collapse 'em quick

Funny har har

How it works is this: you smack, jump on, bite, kick and explode buildings to raze them to the ground. You fight off pesky little army men in tiny tanks. You bat at swarms of fighter aircraft. You eat screaming blondes. The full B-Movie schtick. Funny? For a while, yeah. For a while...

***plus** There's laughs to be had here. But how many? Review next issue...*



■ Total devastation. It's all in a day's work



■ Grab bonuses out of the buildings....



■ Use little buildings as trampolines to climb higher...

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RETRO FORCE



LET'S GET SPACED

PSYGNOSIS

PlayStation

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

Urban Chaos

Violence. Exploration. Plot. And enough brooding goth atmos to keep Marilyn Manson unhappy for weeks...

The City is crumbling. It's dirty. It's dark. It's menacing. The crime rate is heinous. But what's more to the point is: the whole of 'the City' is in this game. In lush 3D-o-rama. You'll be able to go anywhere in the City, from rooftop to sewer. And you're able to do anything. Go on, plug a granny. It's a pretty gothic place – odds on she was a witch...

It's a jungle out there...

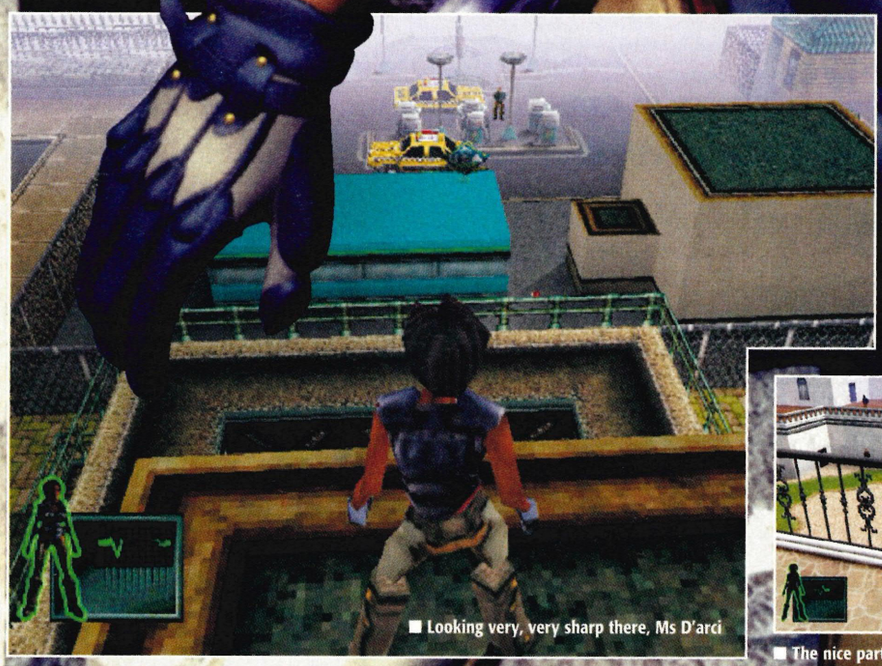
There'll be platforming elements, beat 'em up elements, and shoot 'em up elements. You play D'arci, a rugged copper investigating a series of messy killings. You're free to travel anywhere in town, talking to people, picking up clues and gradually being sucked into a dark central mystery involving black magic, apocalypse and all sorts.

Helping you on your way'll be your spiritualist chum Roper. We're promised setpiece battles with deranged cultists up and down fire escapes, across balconies and through derelict buildings. And we're promised atmosphere that'll lift this far and away above your average dumb, lucky shoot 'em up...

***plus** Early days yet, but this is looking like it might even give Tomb Raider a run for its money...*

■ D'arci harasses the pump attendant





■ Looking very, very sharp there, Ms D'arci



■ Crumbling, decaying buildings. Corrugated iron shacks. Goth central...



■ The nice part of town. Fir gardens and stuff



■ D'arci looking just a touch 'Lara'. Very nice

Are you the UK's Driving Game Champion?

Pedal to the metal at the PlayStation Plus-Max Power Live Driving Game Championships

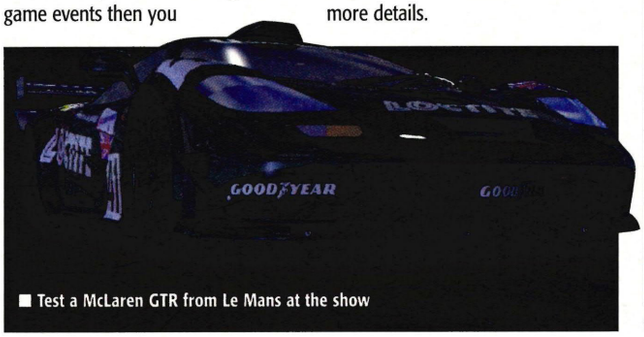
The UK's first PlayStation Driving Game Championship will be held at the fastest, loudest car show ever, Max Power Live on 2-4 July.

Reckon you can thrash all comers at games like Gran Turismo, Max Power Racing and Colin McRae Rally? Then prove it here.

For three days, we'll be hosting the Championship with finalists earning stacks of freebie games and the winner walking away with a pile of prizes. And if you're a face in the crowd at any of the main stage game events then you too could pick up a new PlayStation or the top 10 best-selling games if we publish your picture. We'll be running head-to-head challenges at the main stage throughout the event. And we're giving away 10 pairs of £15 tickets free to you and a mate. Just send in a postcard to:

'MAX POWER LIVE FREE TICKETS'
PlayStation Plus,
37-39 Millharbour,
Isle of Dogs,
London E14 9TZ.

Check out the next issues of PlayStation Plus and Max Power for more details.



■ Test a McLaren GTR from Le Mans at the show



■ Jolly nice ladies will be on hand – so to speak

Know this

WHEN? 2-4 July from 9am to 6pm
WHERE? Birmingham's NEC
WHAT? Max Power Live features 120+ tuning, modifying and in-car entertainment stands, an outdoor daily sprint challenge, DJ Chill Out Zone, a brace of top bikini babes including this month's poster girl Jordan, engine performance shootouts, and ICE testing.
TICKETS? Ticket hotline 0121 767 4101. £15 which includes trackside seat at the Cruise Strip. Or £3 extra on the door.

Test drives with PLUS

The PlayStation Plus stand at Max Power Live will boast a clutch of new and unseen games for you to get your hands on first. You'll be able to choose from stuff like **Star Wars: The Phantom Menace, V-Rally 2, Ridge Racer Type 4, WipEout 3, Speed Freaks** and **Le Mans 24 Hours.** And you can get a tenner just for talking to us about what you're into.

GRAND THEFT AUTO



Mission Pack #1: London 1969



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STREET FIGHTER ALPHA 3

STREET FIGHTER ALPHA 3

From the Alpha branch of the Street Fighter tree, 'Street Fighter Alpha 3' has several completely new features as well as tweaked existing ones. Customise your favourite characters in World Tour mode, possibly the best new touch of the game. Here you can travel the world dishing out excessive physicality in any country that can offer an opponent. Includes all the characters from the Street Fighter series plus new, hidden characters to battle it out against some of the most detailed backdrops to grace the fighting scene.



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Infinite lives, unlimited ammo, extra weapons and much more... This is the most advanced version of the No.1 best seller. Pre-loaded with over 1,500 cheats for the latest and greatest games on the PlayStation. Includes X-Assist™ Link, the revolutionary code creator which enables you to find your *own* cheat codes.

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Blab

News so hot the editor combusted...

Omega Boost

■ **Out:** Autumn ■ **By:** Sony

Omega Boost is looking like it could be the shoot 'em up we've been waiting for. It's a non-stop sci-fi blitzkrieg as you pilot a flying battle suit into swarms of laser-toting alien vermin. And the visuals are stunning. Early days yet, but this is dripping with promise...

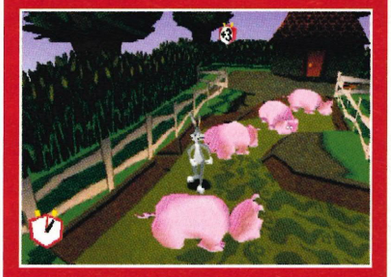


■ Battle suits: the perfect birthday present

Bugs Bunny

■ **Out:** July ■ **By:** Infogrames

'It's Bugs Bunny in full 3D interactivity!' screams the info sheet. Uhhh, settle down, lads. This is, indeed, Bugs in full 3D glory, platforming it up across 22 levels in a struggle against old-time Bugs baddies like Yosemite Sam. And it's interactive. Oh yes.



■ Bugs Bunny. 3d. Interactive

■ **OUT** TBC ■ **BY** SONY

Gran Turismo 2

Last year's racing smash is back. And it looks even nicer. It's got an all-new rally mode. It's got cars from tons of European car manufacturers. It's got 60 driving licences to get through. And Sony's boffins calculate that whereas GT 1 only killed your social life for four months solid, GT 2 will have the long-term gameplay to keep you indoors for AN ENTIRE YEAR. C'mon. You know you want it...



■ Are we looking forward to this? Is Kelly Brook a fox?

Rayman 2

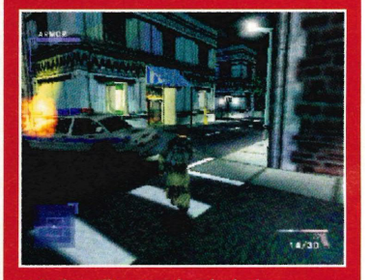
■ **Out:** Sept ■ **By:** UbiSoft

Rayman, the cutesy platform hero who's guaranteed to bring the bile bubbling up in every right-thinking person's throat, is back. Kids 'll probably be pleased with this: it's Rayman doing his usual jumping schtick, but with an all-new 3D look. We have to admit it looks kinda swish. But how's it play? Verdict soon...

Syphon Filter

■ **Out:** August ■ **By:** Sony

The poor man's Metal Gear Solid, or a rather cool spying-and-killing game in its own right? You decide. Syphon Filter's got all the high-powered assault weapons, vehicles, killing methods and plot twists that MGS boasts as standard. It's got class. But has it got Metal Gear levels of class? Review soon...



■ Syphon Filter sure does look nice



■ But as good as Metal Gear? Hmm...

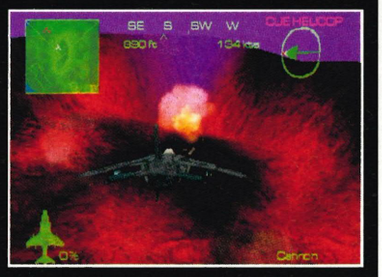
Eagle One Harrier Attack

■ **Out:** Autumn ■ **By:** Infogrames

Balls-out arcade fighter-plane action with you bringing death to a sequence of islands chock-full of terrorists. Ahh, now there's a jib we like the cut of. We're promised mind-bogglingly huge explosions, secret 'black project' stealth aircraft and vast quantities of high-powered weaponry. And you can even jump into your jumpjet for a bit of two-player mano a mano dogfighting. Nice.



■ Huge explosions like this can be yours!



■ And check out the weaponry on that

360

■ **Out:** August ■ **By:** Cryo

Supercharged jet-bikes duel to the death in maze-like arenas using high-explosive weapons! Early days for this effort: all we've seen is scenery and stuff, but there's potential...



■ Yep, that's scenery, 360-style

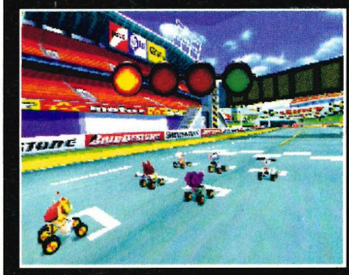


■ Jet-bike action too!

Speed Freaks

■ **Out:** Summer ■ **By:** Sony

Cutesy, powerups-a-popping racing with a range of cheeky big-headed Japowotsits duking it out for pole position. Looking pretty classy already, and it's still miles off...



■ Already looking tasty, this one



■ You want cute? You got it

Release dates

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

RELEASED	REVIEWED
1 APRIL	
Gex: Deep Cover Gecko	80% April 99
Darkstalkers 3	71% April 99
Moto Racer: Platinum	79% May 99
Need for Speed: Road Challenge	74% May 99
2 APRIL	
Bust-a-Move 4	80% March 99
Big Air	81% May 99
Triple Play 2000	
7 APRIL	
GTA London	
9 APRIL	
Civilisation 2	88% April 99
Bloodlines	40% April 99
Puma Street Soccer	
FA Soccer Manager	
16 APRIL	
Ridge Racer Type 4	93% April 99
Racing Simulation: Monaco GP	82% April 99
Street Sk8er	72% April 99
3 APRIL	
Monkey Hero	35% April 99
30 APRIL	
Marvel Super Heroes vs Street Fighter	83% May 99
Bloody Roar 2	91% April 99
Street Fighter Alpha 3	85% April 99
7 MAY	
WWF Attitude	
PaRappa the Rapper 2	



■ Ridge Racer 4: now if someone told you we'd been caning this one they'd be an honest Joe



■ Bloody Roar 2: if the idea of transforming fighters into wild animals floats your boat...

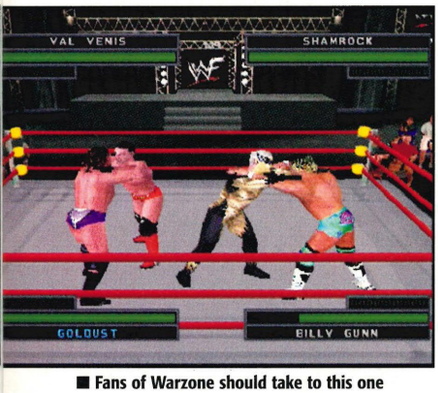
ALL DATA SUPPLIED BY NO.1 FOR MAIL ORDER! Game Department

■ **OUT** JULY ■ **BY** ACCLAIM

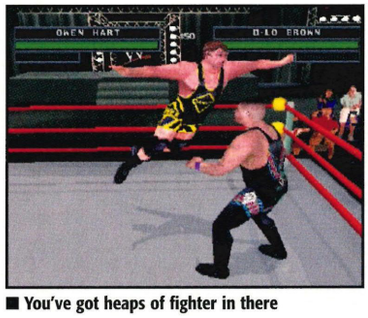
WWF Attitude

Attitude's the sequel to last year's WWF wrestling smash, Warzone. They've added new fighters. They've tarted up the looks. But what's really cool is they've added all the special fights that the WWF boys lay on to spice up your average sweatfest: First Blood, Iron Man, Tornado, I Quit and big WWF speciality matches like LumberJack and King of the Ring. Add to that an impressive list of (male AND female) wrestlers, 400 moves, and an even better version of Warzone's create-a-wrestler mode and you've got yourself a pretty fine game. If you happen to like wrestling, that is...





■ Fans of Warzone should take to this one



■ You've got heaps of fighter in there

HMV
thechallenge continues...



GTA London Mission Pack

The most dangerous game of the nineties is back. Set in 1969, with a new breed of sharp dressing, gun-wielding gentlemen set to make their mark on the city. Recreating the original sounds with the funkiest music ever, 32 vicious missions, 20 classic cars, four dangerously insane villains and of course, the boys from Scotland Yard. 'Grand Theft Auto London' is 1969!



Need For Speed Road Challenge

Choose a Ferrari 550 Marinelli, front-mounted V12, rear-drive coupe that can effortlessly accelerate two people and a piece of soft luggage to 199 mph. Choose real roads, with the fastest straights and the sexiest curves. Choose a bright sunny day, with a warming summer breeze. Choose sheer speed. Choose excitement. Choose avoiding car wrecks and Sunday drivers. Choose exhilaration and high speed thrills. Choose Need For Speed.

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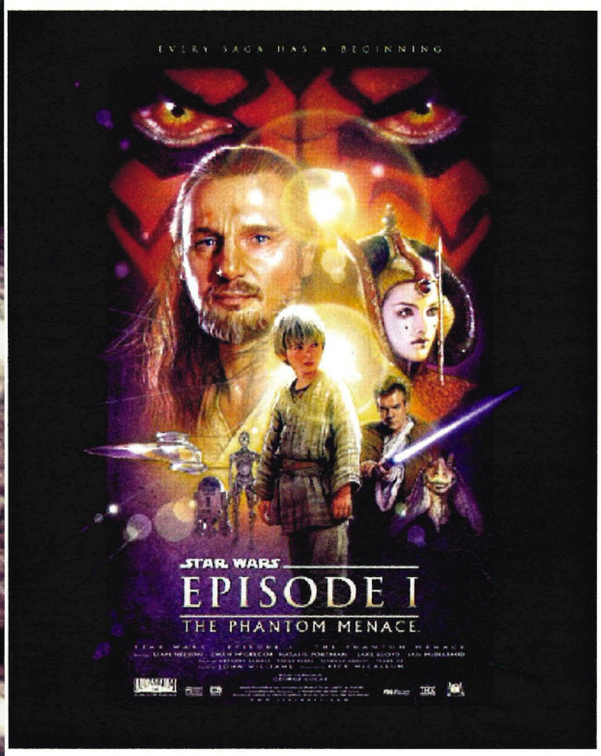


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New Star Wars trilogy

Feel the force: three hot new games coming to the PlayStation



The cinema release of Star Wars Episode 1: The Phantom Menace is almost upon us. It's the movie event of the millennium and hot on the heels of the film are a number of PlayStation tie-in games. We can hardly wait...

The first of these new games is a Tomb Raider-style action adventure. You initially play Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor in the new film), searching through 12 levels for a young Anakin Skywalker. You switch characters at key points in the game, playing Jedi Master Qui-Gon Jinn, Queen Amidala and eventually Captain Panaka.

Expect the usual mix of puzzle solving and alien-slaying lightsaber action to form the meat 'n' bones of the game, but you'll also have to chat to other characters from the film to get clues. It's the first Episode 1 game on the 'Station and is released at the end of May.

Feel the force

The second game based around the forthcoming Star Wars flick is a high-speed racer. It's based on a scene in the movie in which Anakin Skywalker climbs inside a hoverpod and races across the deserts of Tatooine.

LucasArts, the company behind the Star Wars games, has stated the Episode 1 Racer will feature up to 20 turbine-driven 'chariots, bombing it around 8 spectacular worlds at speeds of over 600mph.

It's a do-or-die fight to the finish line, carefully negotiating obstacles like flaming methane lakes and Tusken Raider assaults to become the ultimate Jedi Knight rider.

Expect both Star Wars games to hit the shops this summer. But don't splash the cash until you've read the full review in PlayStation Plus.

Star Wars RPG

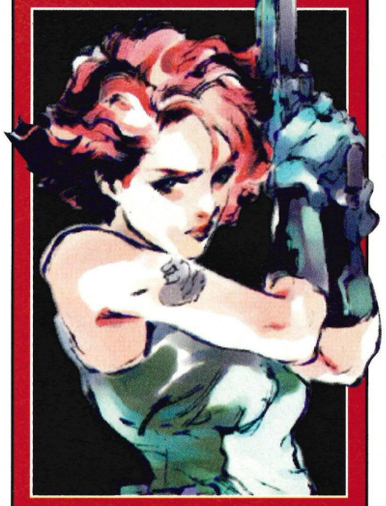
An inside source at Squaresoft, makers of the Final Fantasy series, has told PlayStation Plus that it has begun work on a Star Wars role-playing game for the PlayStation 2.

No details are available just yet, but we'll bring you more news when it happens.

METAL GEAR 1.5

■ **An enhanced version** of Metal Gear Solid is about to be released in Japan – but the UK won't get a sniff.

Metal Gear Solid Integral allows you to play through with Japanese or English subtitles and features new costumes, a cool first-person perspective view in many levels and a PocketStation sub-game. Konami's UK office said there are no plans to release the version over here. Damn.

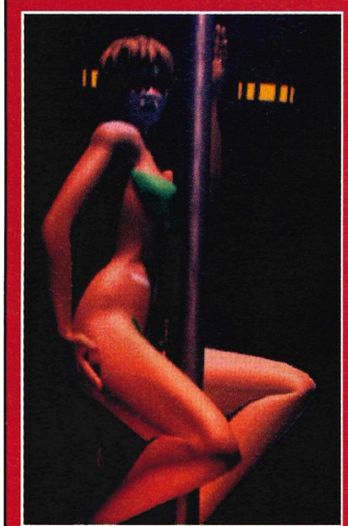


■ Sadly no UK release for MGS Integral

PURE FILTH

■ **Up till now,** one Mr 'Duke' Nukem's had a bit of a monopoly on dirty young ladies 'Stationside. But that's all about to change with new futuristic role-playing effort, Omikron: the Nomad Soul.

Now we know that role-playing games tend to be renowned for stuff like their high elf count, rather than their pixel-perfect renditions of lapdancing joints and titty bars, but look! Naked laydeez! Pink flesh! Yay!

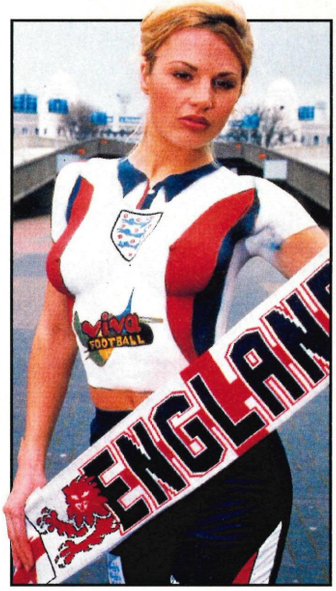


■ Pole-dancing babes in Omikron

Viva Football!

Get yer Charlies out

■ **Cleverly sussing the** ideal way to get onto our news pages, the Viva Football lads sent us this picture of Page 3 über-fox Charlie O'Neale covered in body paint. Charlie got emulsioned up for the launch of Viva Football at the England-Poland match a while back. It's a beautiful game, alright...



■ Charlie O'Neale: plenty of brush strokes

Sweet harmony

■ **Millions of 'Lifesaver'** sweeties in three different mouth-watering flavours are being printed up with the Croc logo to hit American teeth and gums just as Croc 2 hits the shelves.

In exchange for that, the game'll feature 'Gummi saver' bits, where you have to suffer blatant sweetie advertising to get through the levels.

Whispers from inside the Croc machine hint that the programmers are being given a touch of the lash so's the game's launch will strike exactly the same time as the candy onslaught hits home. Jeez. Is this the shape of things to come? We sure hope not. It's still unconfirmed whether the British release will feature levels set in the Happy World of Haribo...



■ Yank kids get to eat sweets to help promote Croc. Or something

WipEout 3 looking good

The latest news on this year's BIG game...



More details have been confirmed about the highly-anticipated WipEout 3. The game features a whole host of new features, including eight new circuits set in futuristic cities, three new racing teams in addition to the five in WipEout 2097, and seven spectacular new weapon power-ups.

Graphics should be some of the best ever seen on the 'Station, with tons of special effects, all-new craft designs and a cool split-screen two-player game.

We're also told to expect dual shock compatibility and a load of new gameplay modes, including tournament, challenge and death match games.

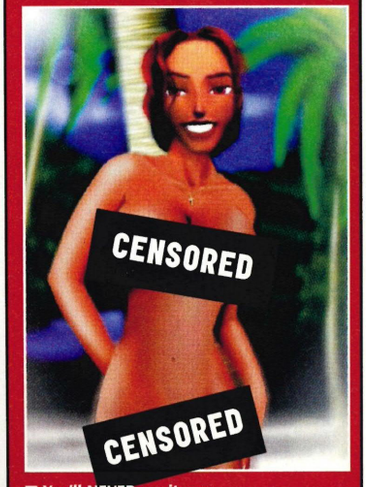
The WipEout series is famous for featuring music by top bands of the time, with bands like Leftfield, Orbital and The Prodigy having previously contributed tracks. The good news is the third game in the series will continue this trend, with top house DJ Sasha producing exclusive music tracks for the game, as well as working with several international guest artists for the project. Could be the game of the year, we reckon.

NUDE RAIDER

■ **Core Design, the** folks who brought you the Tomb Raider series, have started getting medieval on the asses of anybody who dares to show pics of Lara Croft in her birthday suit. Teams of stern Core lawyers jumped on and killed the www.nuderaider.com site last month and they're now turning their attentions to any other sites with nudey pics of Crofty on 'em.

Susie Hamilton from Core said: 'Pictures of Lara are still being offered on quite a lot of sites. In fact there's still a web-ring of Nude Raider sites. But we're working on it'.

You heard the lady, boys n' gals. Hurry now, while stocks last...



■ You'll NEVER see it now

Other stuff

Stuff we couldn't keep to ourselves

■ *Tricky Sliders, a new 'Station snowboarding game, is pencilled in for release later this year. With a nifty track edit feature, two-player mode and super-slick graphics, it looks set to give Cool Boarders a decent run for its money.*

■ **The team behind** Rollcage has just begun work on a sequel to the spectacular sci-fi racer. More tracks, more cars and bigger explosions are likely. We'll keep you informed.

■ *The makers of 'Station racer, Motorhead, have a new driving game in the works. Rally Masters features over 22 different cars, over 50 tracks and razor sharp graphics. Sounds good to us.*

■ **Colin McRae Rally 2** is gonna rock your box later this year. Building on the massive success of the first game, this one promises better graphics, loadsa different cars and tons more tracks. We're looking forward to this one.

Evil Zone

■ **Top summer** beat 'em up Evil Zone boasts ten characters, five different modes of play, top special effects and a control system which uses just two buttons. More on this one next month.



■ Evil zone: better than Boyzone

Castrol-Honda Superbike

■ **Castrol-Honda Superbike** Racing is a smart new bike racing game coming atcha this summer. With tons of mega-powerful superbikes, over 14 different circuits, split-screen two-player mode and dual shock support, it's definitely one to watch out for.



■ Graphics for this one look nice already



■ And the circuits are shaping well

HMV

thechallenge **continues...**



SYPHON FILTER

Best described as a hybrid mixture of 'Metal Gear Solid' and 'Goldeneye', this gaming interpretation of the espionage genre is more than a worthy contender. With the help of Government forces you must overcome a gang of terrorists who have gained possession of a deadly virus. 'Syphon Filter' is packed with exhilarating gameplay and technically engrossing puzzles which will keep any gamer fully engrossed and transfixed throughout.



COLOUR DUAL SHOCK CONTROLLER

The connoisseur's controller of choice, the best pad in the business is back and this time in a variety of exciting colours. With new Island Blue, Crystal, Diamond Black and Emerald Green to choose from, your gaming experience will enter colourful new heights.

topdog**for**games

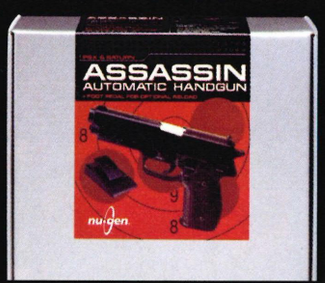


www.hmv.co.uk

*All titles and offers are subject to availability at participating stores while stocks last.

PSX & SATURN

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" ICE COOL...ABSOLUTELY SPOT ON. YOU COULD SHOOT OFF INDIVIDUAL EYELASHES WITH THIS BEAST...THIS GUN COMPLETELY ROCKS."

90% PLAYSTATION PLUS MAGAZINE, NOVEMBER 1998

"MORE OF AN EXPERIENCE."

94% PLAYSTATION POWER STUNNA FEBRUARY 1999

" IT PLACES ALL THE IMPORTANT CONTROLS WITHIN EASY REACH...THE GUN'S SIZE MAKES IT FEEL LIKE A REAL SIDE ARM. IT'S KICKBACK FEATURE COMES INTO ITS OWN WHEN RELOADING, WHICH CAN BE DONE AUTOMATICALLY."

88% GAMES MASTER MAGAZINE, NOVEMBER 1998

" THE BEST LIGHT GUN WE'VE SEEN ON ANY MACHINE."

★★★★★ POWERSTATION MAGAZINE, NOVEMBER 1998

" IF YOU WANT A REALISTIC LOOKING LIGHT GUN, YOU COULDN'T DO MUCH BETTER THAN THIS. IT FEELS GOOD AND SOLID IN THE HAND, AND THE TRIGGER HAS A DEFINITE 'SQUEEZE' TO IT."

TOTAL CONTROL MAGAZINE, JANUARY 1999



- FULL KICKBACK ACTION FROM ONE PIECE SLIDING TOP
- AUTO-RELOAD ALLOWS INFINITE ROUND CAPACITY
- FOOT PEDAL FOR OPTIONAL RELOAD FACILITY
- AUTO-FIRE OPTION FOR QUICKFIRE ACTION
- DOVETAILED FRONT AND REAR SIGHT
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nu-gen®

AVAILABLE FROM HMV, BEATTIES, GAMESTATION AND GAME CENTRAL AT FORBUOYS.



■ This is a hint at what Resident Evil 3 will look like on PlayStation 2. Awesome!

SEE THE FUTURE NOW

YOU KNOW PLAYSTATION 2 IS COMING. YOU KNOW IT'S GONNA BE HOTTER THAN SATAN'S ARSE CRACK. BUT YOUR PLAYSTATION AND ITS GAMES ARE SAFE FOR A GOOD THREE YEARS. WE LIKE IT!

PLAYSTATION 2

Before you even begin to tackle the future, you need to be tooled up with info. That's where we come in. Who cares if it'll shift a zillion polygons per second. What's more important is this...

■ It will play all your existing PlayStation games

Don't worry about your current PlayStation games becoming out of date because PlayStation 2 will run all of them. It will even use all your existing pads and memory cards.

■ It is released in September 2000

It's coming out in Japan in December but is still a year and a half away for us in the UK. Loads of time to start saving then...

■ It'll cost £300

Sounds like a lot of money compared to the £100 PlayStation but it's about the same price as a decent video recorder. And as well as games, it'll play high-quality DVD movies. Sorted, eh?

■ It's going to have the best-looking games

PlayStation 2 games will look much better than anything else you've seen, even the pin-sharp stuff running on a £2000 PC. They'll look better than arcade games too.

■ It will have the biggest games, guaranteed

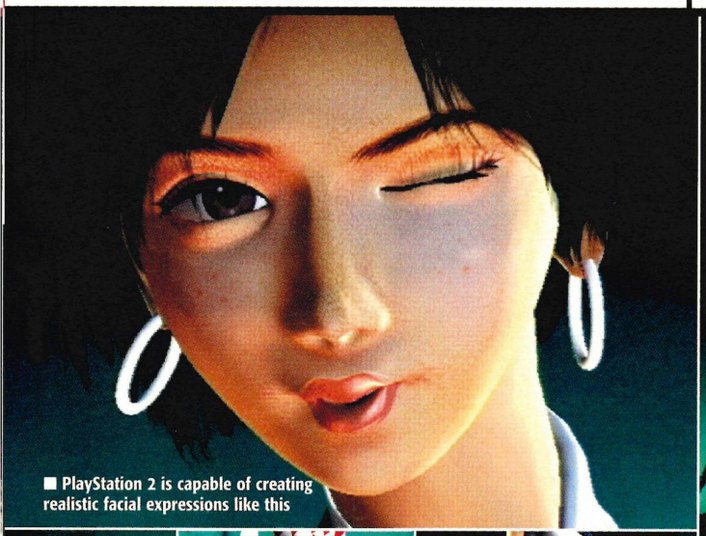
Big-name developers like Namco and Square have already backed 'Station 2. This means we'll get new versions of Tekken, Ridge Racer, Final Fantasy, Gran Turismo, Resident Evil and... Metal Gear Solid!



■ She's happy. You will be too, thanks to PlayStation 2

BUT ENOUGH OF THE TALK. IF YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT PLAYSTATION 2 CAN REALLY DO, TURN THE PAGE NOW!

THE MIX: Stuff you need to know



■ PlayStation 2 is capable of creating realistic facial expressions like this





■ This is no game intro – you actually control this babe

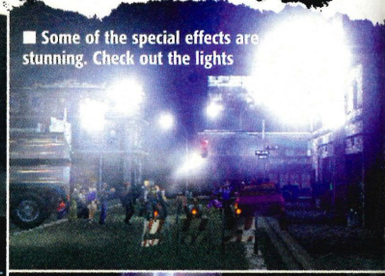
■ You get to play around with totty in knee-high boots. God bless PlayStation 2!

PLAY GAMES THIS

SIT BACK, PUT YOUR FEET UP AND INDULGE YOURSELF ON THESE LUSH-L



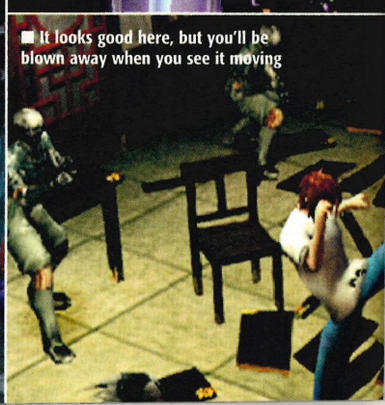
■ All the characters in the background move as well as the main fighters



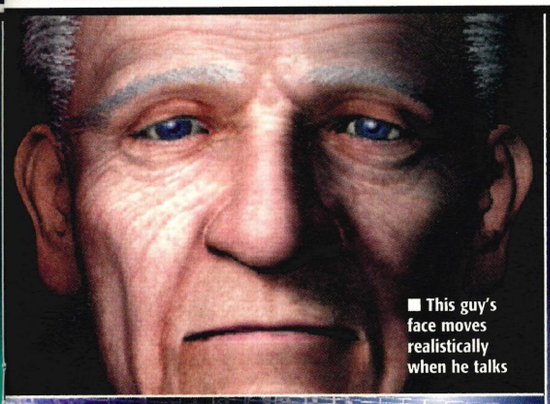
■ Some of the special effects are stunning. Check out the lights



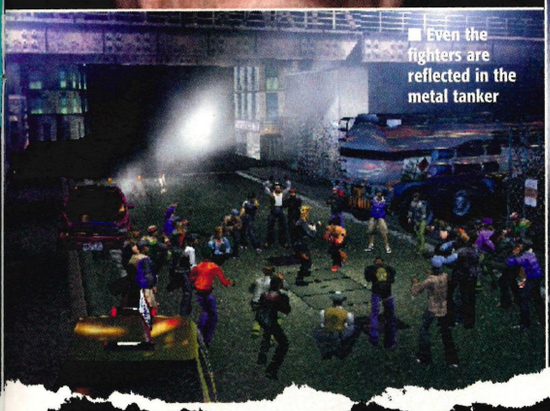
■ Light reflects of the metal plates. Very nice



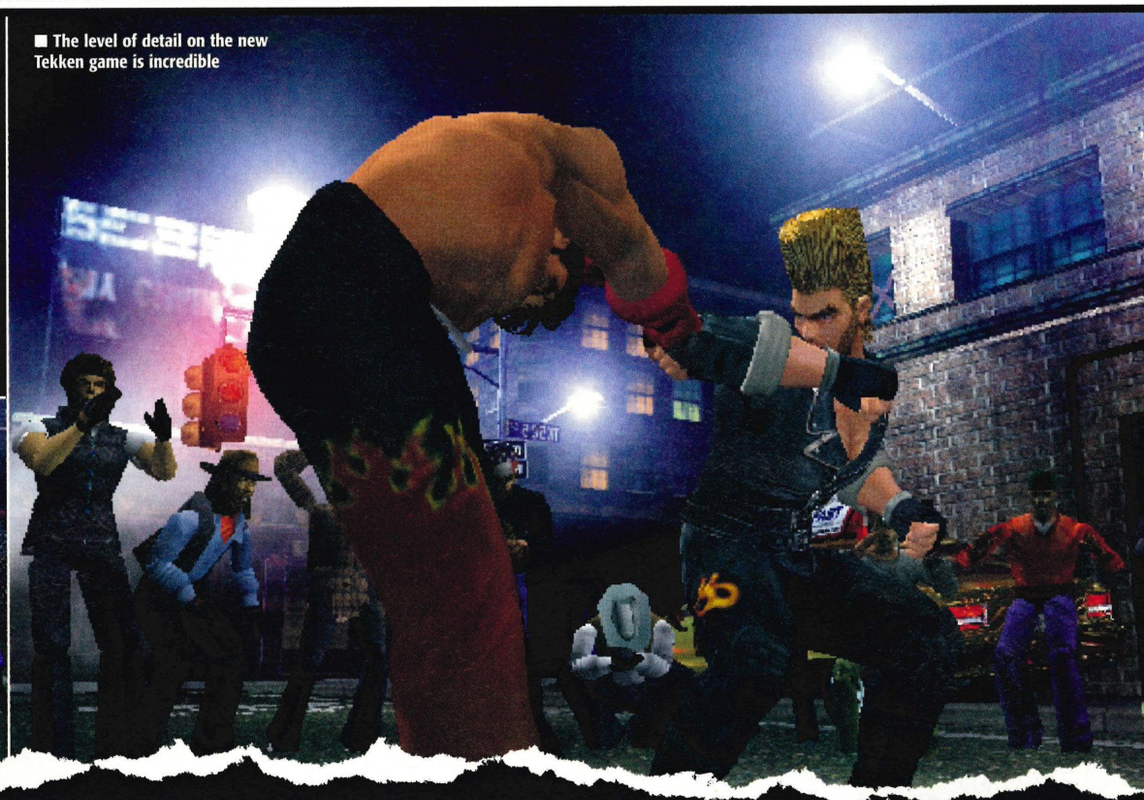
■ It looks good here, but you'll be blown away when you see it moving



■ This guy's face moves realistically when he talks



■ Even the fighters are reflected in the metal tanker



■ The level of detail on the new Tekken game is incredible

GOOD ON YOUR TV!

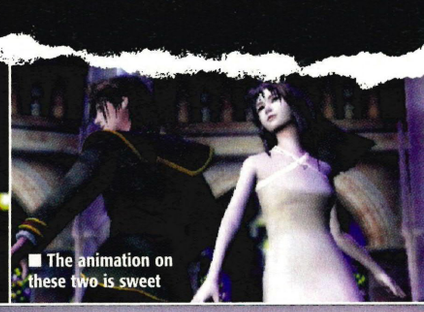
LOOKING SCREENSHOTS. AND YES, PLAYSTATION 2 WILL LOOK THIS GOOD



■ Looking top-down at Tekken demonstrates the awesome detail

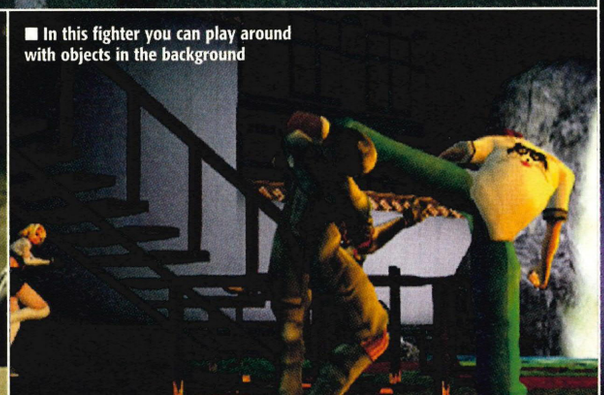


■ She's beautiful and for £300, she's yours. Cool

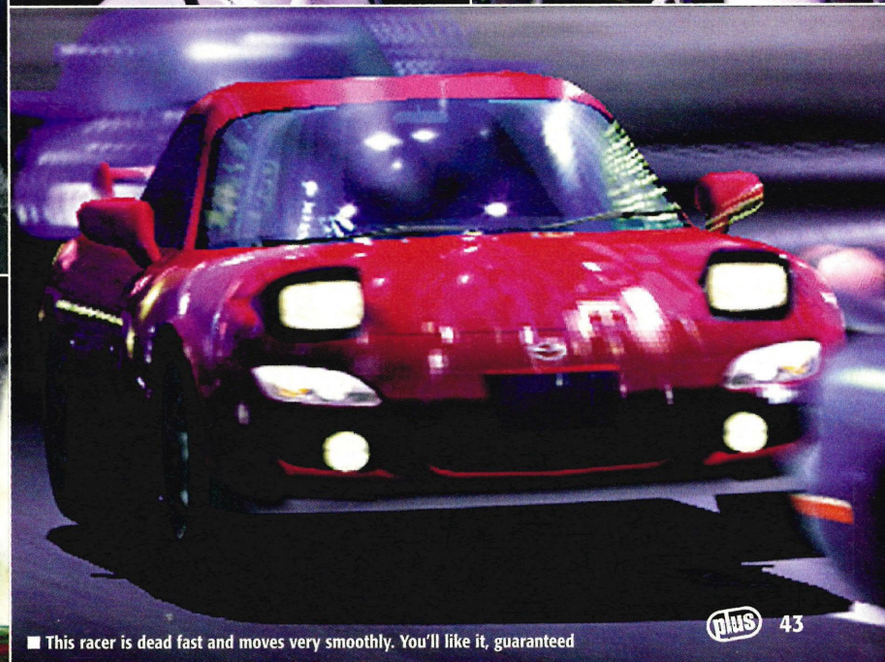


■ The animation on these two is sweet





■ In this fighter you can play around with objects in the background



■ This racer is dead fast and moves very smoothly. You'll like it, guaranteed

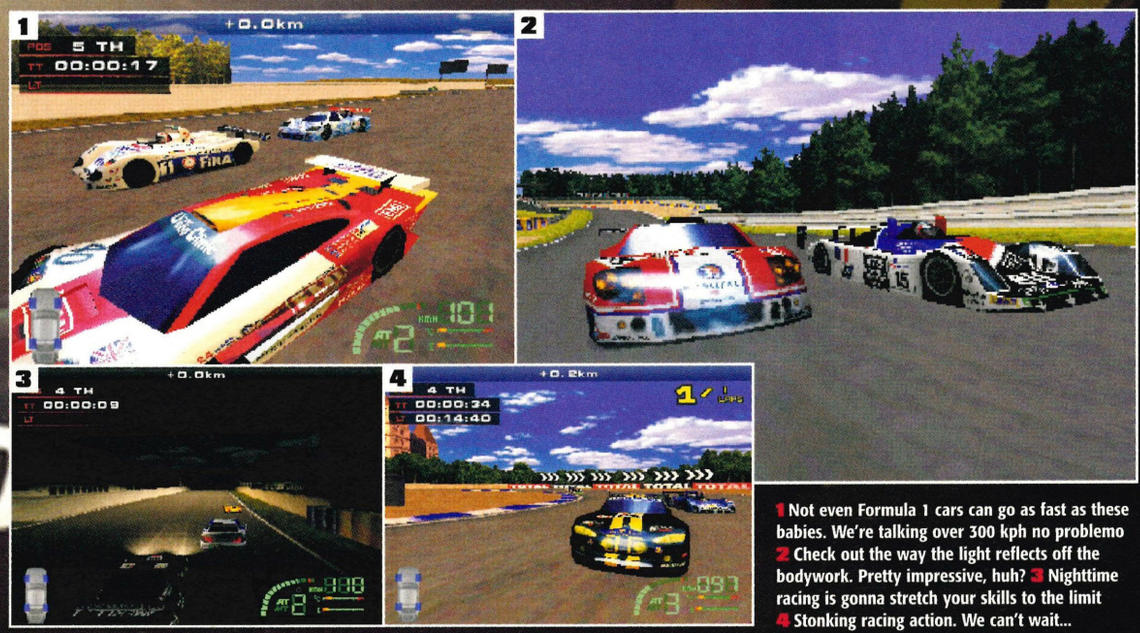
Night Rider

It's tons faster than Formula 1. It's even longer than War and Peace. It's Le Mans 24 Hours...



■**OUT** JUNE ■**BY** INFOGRAMES ■**COSTS** £39.95 ■**PLAYERS** 1-2 ■**COMPATABILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD
■**WE LOOK AT** ARCADE MODE, GRAPHICS, MULTIPLAYER, REALISM, TRACKS, REPLAYS

How d'ya fancy thrashing billion-dollar motas around enormous French circuits? Sound good, yes? Then Le Mans 24 Hours is the game for you. Ball-busting speeds, razor-sharp graphics, a mountain of cars and massive tracks. Yep. It's gonna be good...



1 Not even Formula 1 cars can go as fast as these babies. We're talking over 300 kph no problemo **2** Check out the way the light reflects off the bodywork. Pretty impressive, huh? **3** Nighttime racing is gonna stretch your skills to the limit **4** Stonking racing action. We can't wait...

The Works: Le Mans 24 Hours first play

Le Mans – the race

Dunno anything about Le Mans? This is all you need to know: it's a 24-hour endurance race held every year in Northern France. Teams from all over the world bring their mega-expensive cars to compete in the event, where the idea is simply to complete more laps than the other 47 cars. And like moths to a lightbulb, it manages to attract tons of scantily-clad women. Go figure.



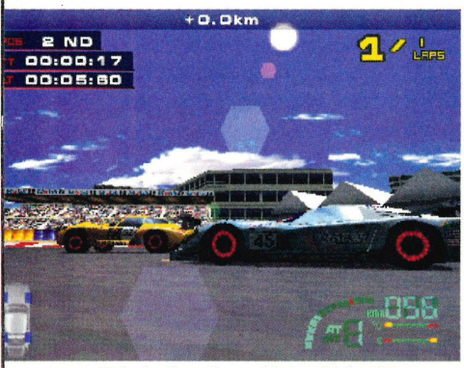
■ See that car there? That's in the game, along with all the other cars from the real-life race

Like the real thing

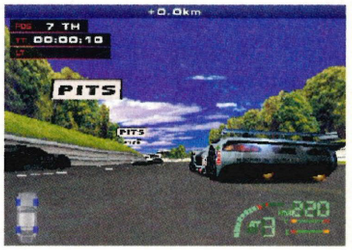
So this being the proper Le Mans racing game, it's bound to be super-realistic, right? Yep. Choose the championship game and you can fiddle about with the downforce, gear ratios, tyres, fuel intake, steering sensitivity, pit stop strategy and tons of other stuff. Strictly for anoraks, though.



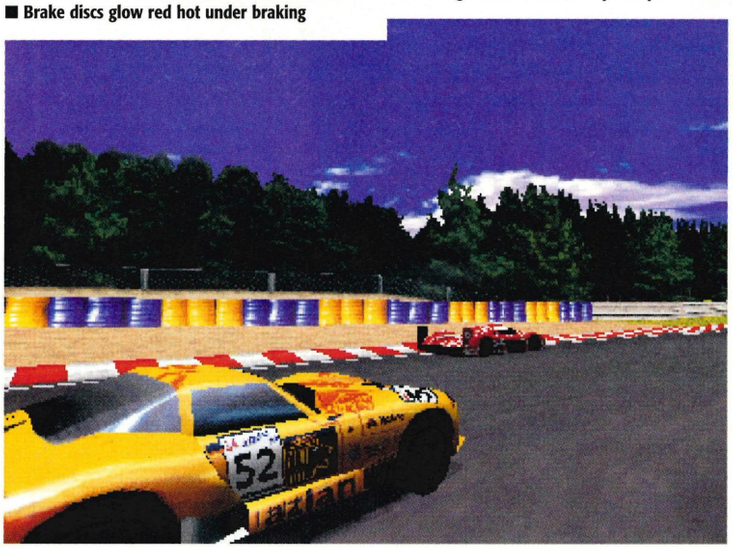
■ Realistic weather effects? You betcha



■ Brake discs glow red hot under braking



■ You're gonna make tons of pit stops



■ You've gotta tune up your billion-dollar motor to make it the fastest on the track

Arcade

The cool arcade mode lets you blast around any of the circuits without any of the complicated bollocks that goes with the full-on simulation game. The handling is really simple to get to grips with, it's faster than Linford and you don't have to worry about qualifying, fuel consumption, tyre wear and all the rest of it.



■ There's no qualifying in arcade mode



■ There are no fiddly bits to tinker with first



■ It's just straight into the race, where you can thrash the motors as much as you like

Nerd alert!

We thought they were kidding. You can actually play an entire race in real time. That's a full 24 hours. Not that anyone of sound mind would want to. Unless of course you're a real anal Le Mans fanatic, in which case you really should consider getting out more.



■ You're best off playing a shortened race



■ Half an hour sounds all right to us



■ Fancy racing for a full 24 hours? Nah, us neither. But it's nice to know you can

'This one looks eye-popping!'

Graphics

It's early days yet, but already Le Mans 24 Hours is shaping up to be a real looker. The mass of courses and car models look well smart, but it's the attention to detail which really makes our pants moist. Eye-popping lighting, changeable weather effects, lens flare, exhaust flash and impact sparks... you get the idea. Yep, it's gonna be good.



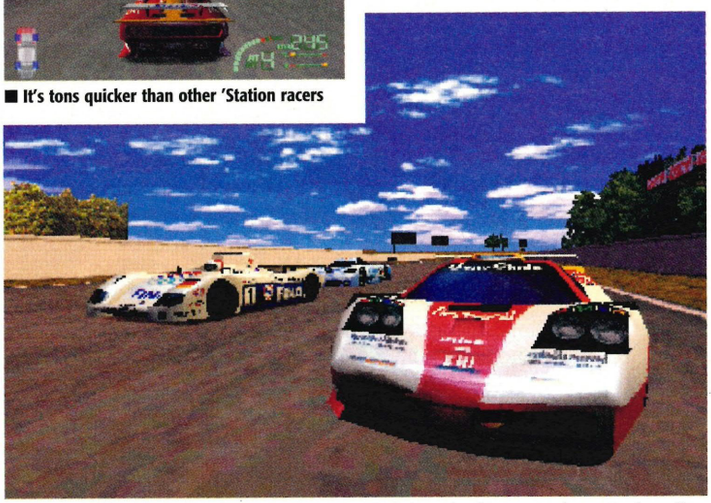
■ All the proper trackside scenery is in there



■ It's not even finished yet and already our trousers are getting damp



■ It's tons quicker than other 'Station racers



■ Finish the race then watch it all again from the TV-style replay feature. Looks pretty damn fine



■ Headlight effects look smart



■ Not easy to see though, is it?

Doesn't time fly?

One of the coolest bits of Le Mans 24 Hours is the 'time lapse' feature. The idea behind it is that you experience a full 24-hour race in the time you play. Set the race length to, say, 24 minutes, and each minute will equal an hour of race time. So the sun will set after eight minutes, then rise again after 16 minutes. Cool, eh?



■ The race starts in the afternoon when it's all nice and sunny...



■ And continues into the night when it's, er, dark

Look after your mota

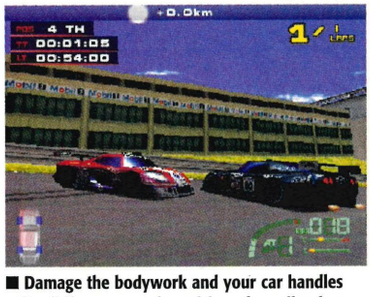
Race in the full-on simulation game and you're gonna have to look after your mota. Damaging the bodywork will screw up the handling, a bit of off-road rallying over the chicanes will dirty your tyres and over-revving might blow your engine.



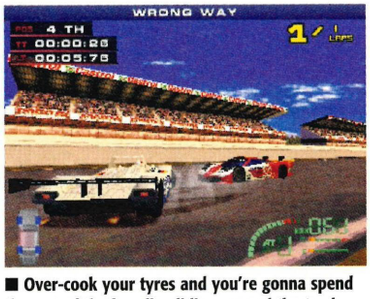
■ Collide with another car and you'll crumple your wing, dent the front end or smash the lights



■ Getting in a ruck with the other drivers ain't gonna help your chances of finishing the race



■ Damage the bodywork and your car handles with all the grace and precision of an oiltanker



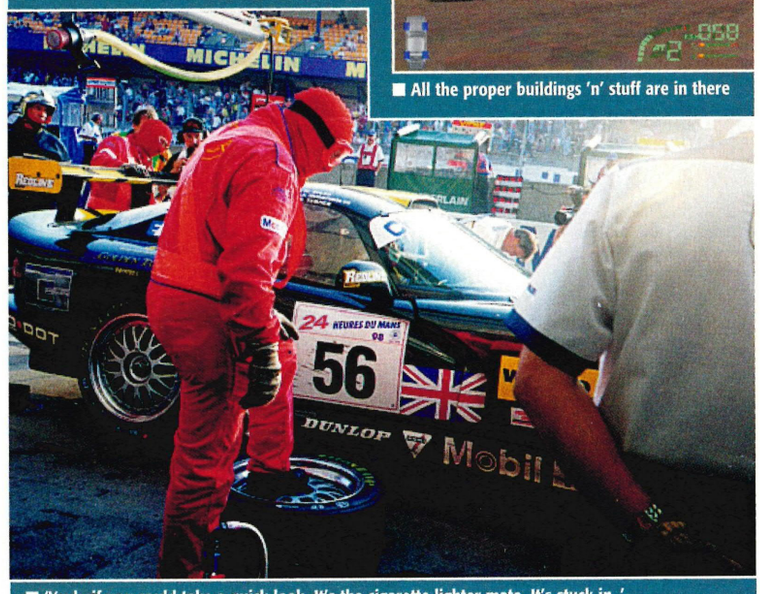
■ Over-cook your tyres and you're gonna spend the rest of the lap slip-sliding around the track

Zillion-dollar motas

Being the official game of the Le Mans 24 Hours race, this has all of the proper cars which compete in the real event. Nissans, Toyotas, BMWs, Porches and tons of others souped-up sport cars are in here, all modelled from the exact specifications of the real life cars. Take a look...



■ All the proper buildings 'n' stuff are in there



■ 'Yeah, if you could take a quick look. It's the cigarette lighter mate. It's stuck in..'.

»

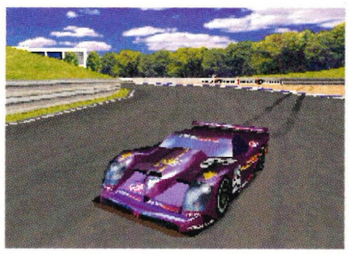
The Works: Le Mans 24 Hours first play

Let's see that again

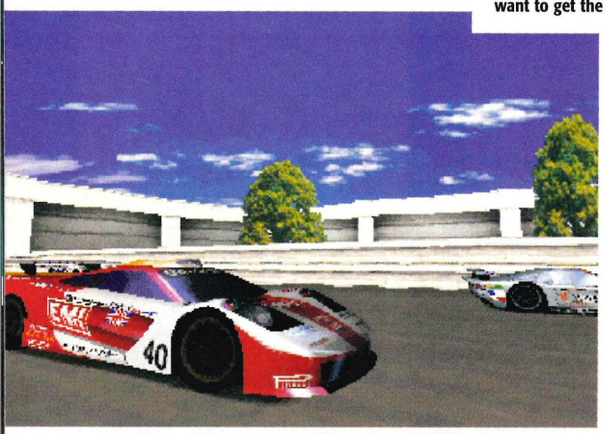
Normally we couldn't give a toss about game replays. But the ones in Le Mans 24 Hours actually managed to hold our attention for quite some time. They're viewed from the TV-style camera positions, and give you an excellent opportunity to have a gawp at the goyjush car models. Take a look...



■ The cars are stunningly detailed



■ You can move the cameras anywhere you want to get the best view of the action



■ Jeez. You can even watch a replay of a full 24-hour race



■ Squint a bit and you could be watching the real thing



■ You like the look of Le Mans? 'Course you do

Handles like a dream

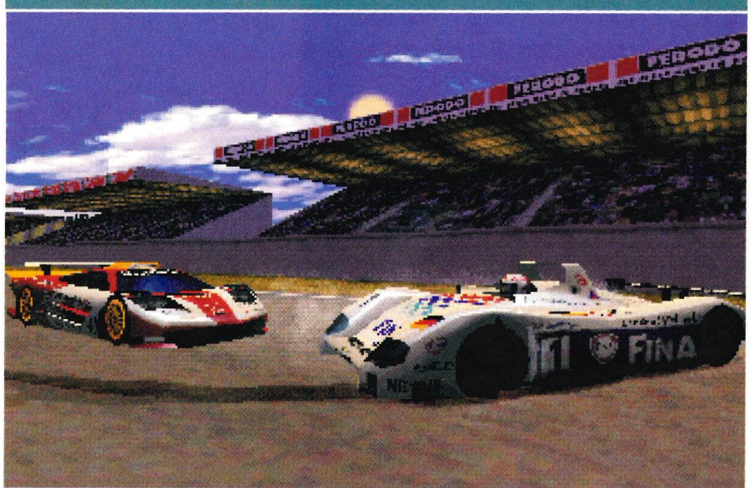
What makes or breaks a racing game these days is the handling. Gran Turismo went for ultra-realistic. Ridge Racer Type 4 went for a more arcadey feel. Le Mans is somewhere in between the two – it feels like you're driving a souped-up sports car but it's dead forgiving when you mess up.



■ With just a little bit of practice...



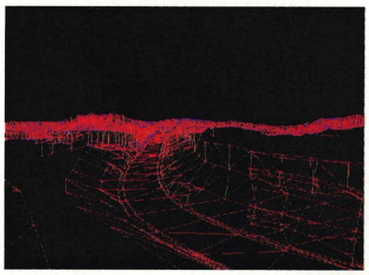
■ You'll be cornering like a demon



■ Speed freaks are gonna love Le Mans. It's faster than a greased cougar and it looks the business

Tracks

You get the proper Le Mans course modelled on the real-life circuit, plus another five brand new circuits. That's not many compared to, say, TOCA 2. But when you consider they're all around ten kilometres long, there's one helluva game here for you to get your dentures into. And then some.



■ The tracks start off looking something like this



■ Then after months of work look a bit like this



■ Then you've got the finished article. Cool, yes?



■ New tracks are shaping up nicely

plus

We'd like to say...

If you're anything like us, some of the full-on simulation bits will be enough to put you in a coma for weeks. But – and it's a big but – there's an über-cool arcade game in there just begging you to play it. Without any of the qualifying, fuel consumption and race set-up bits to worry about, it's one helluva racing experience.

Play yer mates

It's early days, but the two-player game is shaping up nicely. You can race against a mate with tons of other computer-controlled cars in there as well. It's got all of the speed of the main game and most of the trackside detail. You can even play a full 24-hour two-player game. Only for the mentally ill, though.



■ This has got post-boozer multiplayer action aplenty. You can go one-on-one with a mate, or chuck in loadsa computer-controlled cars to give the game a bit of added realism. We like...

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THE MIX: Stuff you need to know



Gran Turismo 2

Out September

The biggest-selling 'Station game ever's gonna get even bigger when this super-sequel's unleashed. Expect off-roading, loads of cars and the most rubber-burnin' fun you've ever had.

Quake 2

Out June 18th

You can't beat Quake 2 for full-on gore spattering and multiplayer laughs. If action's your thing, you'd better write off the summer...

PlayStation 2

Out September 2000

It'll blow you away, but not for some time yet. But if you're hungry for more info, turn to page 41. You'll find all the stuff you need in PlayStation Plus.

The Phantom Menace

Out July 16th

The game comes out at the end of May but the movie's two months later. What do you do? Spoil the plot and buy the game or wait? It's up to you...

Driver

Out May 14th



Out May 14th
You know it's red-hot because you've read the review in this issue. Now sign up for the Mafia yourself and get that motor running!

Final Fantasy VIII

Out November
The last Final Fantasy came on three discs and took at least 40 hours to complete. This comes on four CDs so you'd better book most of next year off.

WipEout 3

Out November 9th
It's gonna look cool and will be so fast you'll be needing a new pair of eyes by the time you've won the championship. For the time being though, check out the Platinum originals.

Soul Reaver

Out June 11th
Better than Tomb Raider. There, we've said it. Find out for yourself when this blood-sucker's released real soon.

Photography: Mike Harding

MUST-KNOW DATES

If you can't get your life in order, don't bother. Let us do it for you. Simply use this page as a reference and you'll immediately have all the dates and special occasions you need to know. Sorted.

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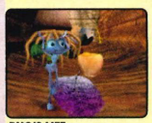
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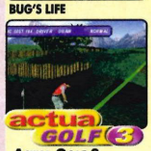
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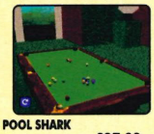


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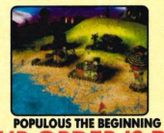


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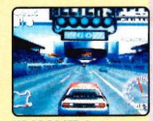
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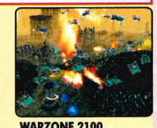


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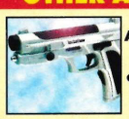


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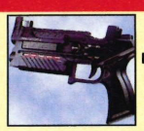
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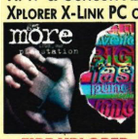
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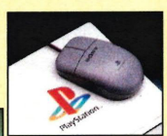




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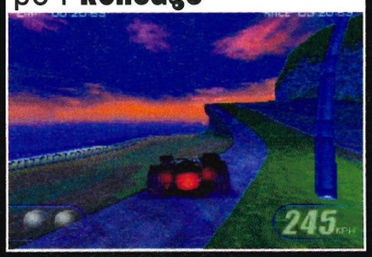
Instant Expert

TIPS, CHEATS AND ADVICE FOR STACKS OF PLAYSTATION GAMES

Rollcage, G-Police, Time Crisis and heaps of other games all sorted in one tasty and easy-to-digest middle section. Ain't you lucky...

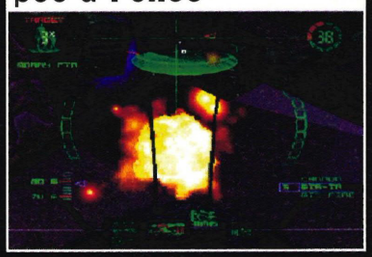
Torn apart this month...

p54 **Rollcage**



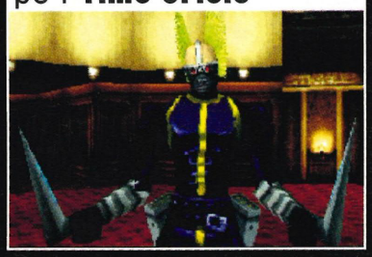
■ Driving on the ceiling won't help if you're stuck. Lucky we're on hand with this guide

p58 **G-Police**



■ Part one of our handsome G-Police guide. Missions 1-15 blown apart for your pleasure

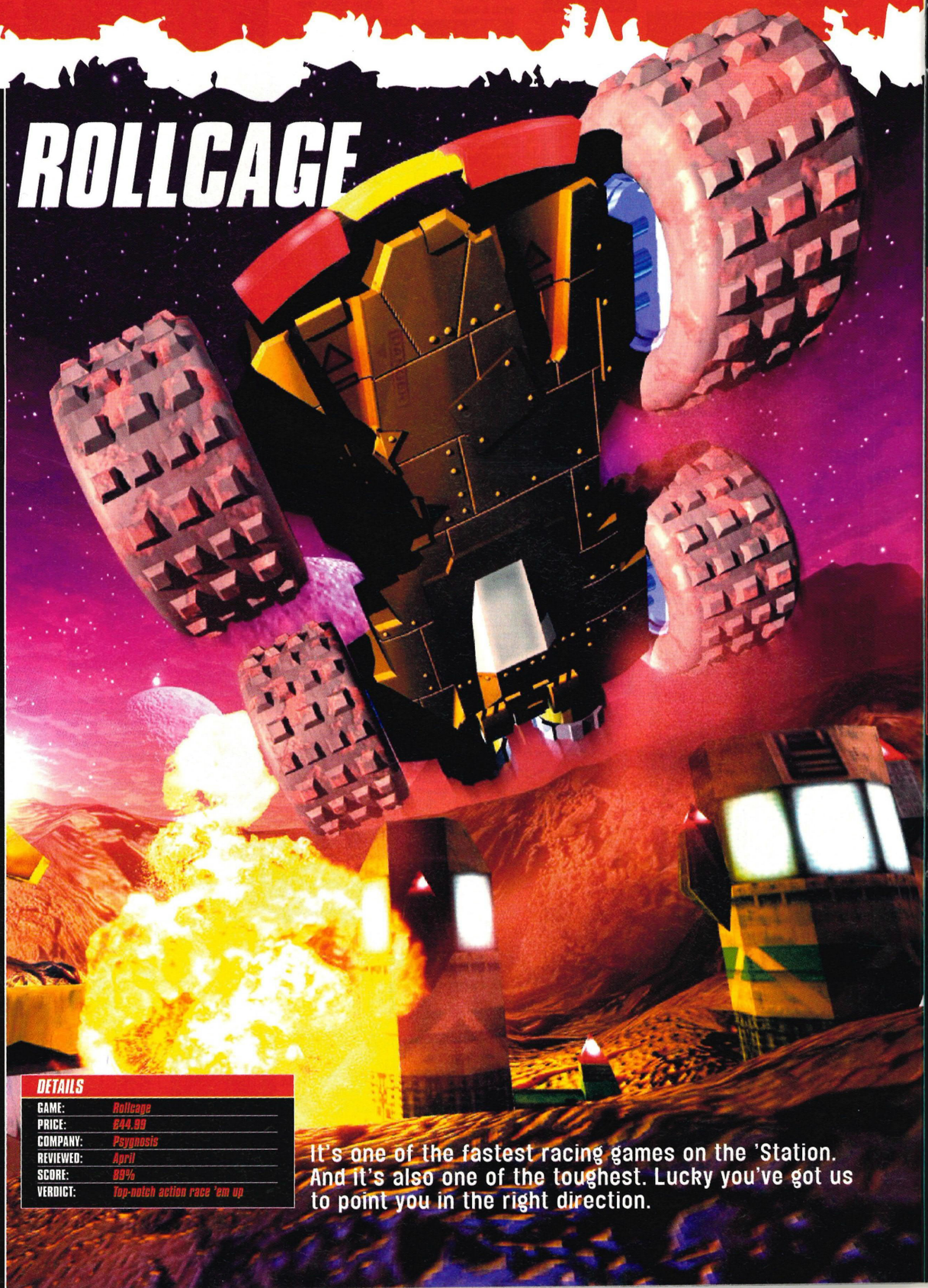
p64 **Time Crisis**



■ Missed last month's part one of our Time Crisis guide did you? You won't wanna miss this, then

plus

p69 **Your Q&A queries**
p70 **Knockout Kings**
p71 **Datel codes**
p72 **Tomb Raider 2**
p73 **Motorhead**



DETAILS

GAME:	Rollcage
PRICE:	£44.99
COMPANY:	Psygnosis
REVIEWED:	April
SCORE:	89%
VERDICT:	Top-notch action race 'em up

It's one of the fastest racing games on the 'Station. And it's also one of the toughest. Lucky you've got us to point you in the right direction.

SAPHIRE

Wanna cane your mates at Rollcage? Then you're gonna need to know the secret routes. Here they are...

AREA 52

Sitting on the start grid, there's a tunnel straight in front of you. Look a little to the right and you'll notice another tunnel with a load of crates at the entrance. Smash through 'em or use a missile to blast them out of the way and – bingo! – you've got the secret route.



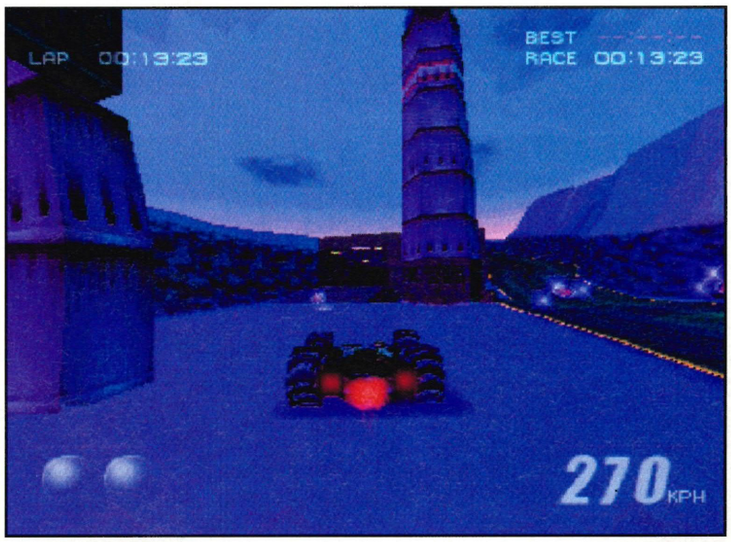
■ See the tunnel just behind the crates?



■ It'll knock seconds off your lap times

G-FORCE

Blast into the first tunnel and collect the power-ups from the ceiling. Make sure you come down in time for the end of the tunnel. When you emerge on the other side, dart over to the left and into the secret tunnel. That ought to shave a couple of seconds off your lap times.



■ Take a detour off the main track and you'll find the secret tunnel. Careful on the exit, though

TOP TIP 1: TURBO START

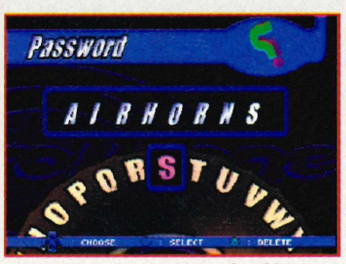
Getting away from the line in position numero uno is vital. It gives you the pick of the weapon power-ups and, more importantly, deprives the other drivers of 'em. So here's what you do: wait for the countdown 'three, two, one, go!' Hit the accelerator when it gets to 'one'. You'll rocket off the start line and into first place.



■ Get ahead of the pack with the turbo start

TOP TIP 2: AIR HORNS

Remember the cool Dukes of Hazzard-style airhorns that were all the rage in the 80s? Well the Rollcage lads have stuck a load of 'em in the game. All you've got to do is enter the password AIRHORNS, then hit the select button when playing. Each car has its own unique horn, so check 'em all out.



■ Enter this and you get tons of cool horns



■ Stranded on Rollcage? No probs

NEOTO

The Neoto tracks are well tricky to get to grips with. So if you wanna get ahead, take these shortcuts...

PARK LIFE

Rocket through the first tunnel and aim for the speed-up wall as you come out of the other side. Come down off the wall before you reach the end and watch out for the flashing crash barriers. Behind them is the secret route, taking you through the park before rejoining the main track.



■ Follow this path to the right and you take a massive shortcut across the park

CROSS OVER

Head around the first corner and dart over to the right-hand side of the track. The entrance to the secret route should be straight in front of you. Get through it in one piece (it's tighter than a gnat's chuff) and you should find yourself in first place.



■ This one's dead easy to find, but really tough to get through without crashing



■ Hit one of the crates and you'll be toast. Don't say we didn't warn you

»

Instant Expert: Rollcage

FLOOD ZONE

No secret routes on this one, but it's well difficult to follow. After the first tunnel, turn immediately left when you get to the power-ups. Drop down into the storm drain and drive right down to the bottom. Turn around at the tower and head back the way you came, nipping through the hole in the wall at the end. This unlocks the rest of the course and lets you complete the lap. Tricky huh?



■ Blast down the storm drain to this tower at the end and then do a quick U-turn



■ Head through the gap in the wall near the bright orange sign and then you're away

HARPOON

More secret routes to make sure you get yourself in position numero uno and beat your mates...

PARADISE

This one's well hidden but worth finding. Look out for a building on the right-hand side of the track with the word 'Coast' written on it. Behind the building is a bush which hides the secret tunnel. Cool, yes?



■ See that building? The tunnel's just there

SMUGGLERS

This course isn't too tricky. The only real problem is the ton of obstacles at the end of the lap. If you take the secret route down by the side of the ship you'll avoid all the crates, but it's a lot more risky.



■ Avoid the obstacles by going down here

ROADWORKS

There are no shortcuts on this course. But if you really wanna get ahead of your mates, a good tip is to stick to the left-hand side of the track. There's a nasty trench on the other side which will cost you valuable seconds if you fall in. So avoid it at all costs basically.



■ Attaboy. Stay over to the left of the track and you'll avoid falling into the trench

DAYTONA

This secret route isn't essential for good lap times – in fact it's a lot trickier than the main track to negotiate – but it's littered with weapon power-ups. Head through the first tunnel and into the valley section. As the road opens up, dive down onto the beach on the left. Collect the power-ups and get back onto the main course via the small ramp.



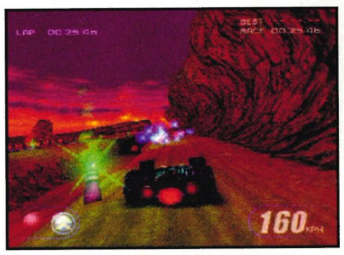
■ There are loadsa power-ups to collect on the beach, but the exit is pretty tricky

OUTWORLD

No secret routes on this set of tracks but there are tons of tricky bits to get your head around...

CONTACT

You're gonna need to figure out which route to take when the road divides up. The left is full of speed-ups but it'll send you out of control when you hit the jump. The middle has a spaceship taking off which'll nobble your chances. So the best way is to the right where all the power-ups are. Cool.



■ Watch out for the nasty jump at the end

FRONTIER

This course is fairly simple. The only thing to watch out for is the fork in the road. The left route is the quicker, with a ramp which launches you onto the next part of the track. But it often ends in disaster. Take the route on the right and it's slower going, but a great deal safer. It's your call.



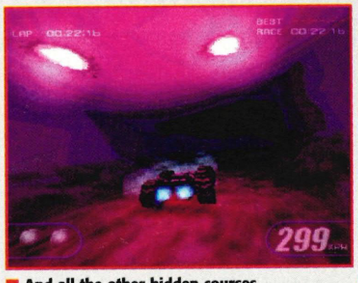
■ Left or right? It's up to you this time

TOP TIP 3: ACCESS ALL AREAS

Can't be bothered to play through the entire game properly? Then cheat. Just enter the password MAXCHEAT to unlock all the leagues, cool mirror mode, mega time trial and tons of other cool stuff.



■ Get the Super Bowl track with this cheat...



■ And all the other hidden courses

TOP TIP 4: VIEW HIGH SCORES

Wanna see how the game is played properly? Then take a look at how the spods who thought up Rollcage play it. All you've gotta do is enter the password BESTLAPS to view their best laps. Smart eh?



■ Enter this in the password screen...



■ And you can see the designers' best laps

ERUPTION

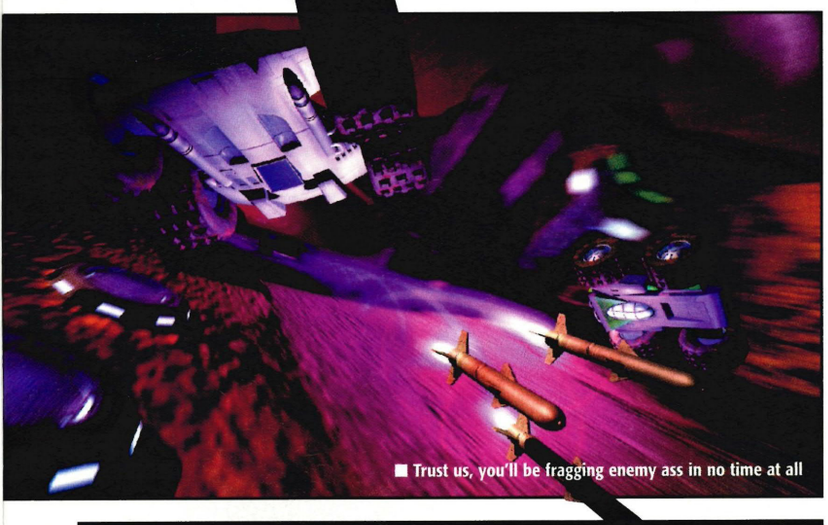
You've got two choices on the final stretch of road before the start/finish grid. The tunnel on the right is the faster of the two routes, but you're likely to collide head-on with the freight train. The road on the left is far safer and has plenty of power-ups too, so is probably the best route to take.



■ Going left is best



■ This route usually ends in disaster



■ Trust us, you'll be fragging enemy ass in no time at all

AFTER SHOCK

This one's super-fast and dead simple. The only tricky bit is the drop in the tunnel section. All you've gotta do is take your finger off the gas as soon as you see the red warning lights. Aim your car at the middle of the road and let it drop down. Then step on the accelerator and you're off.



■ Now would be a good time to lift off the gas



■ Hit the deck and blast off again

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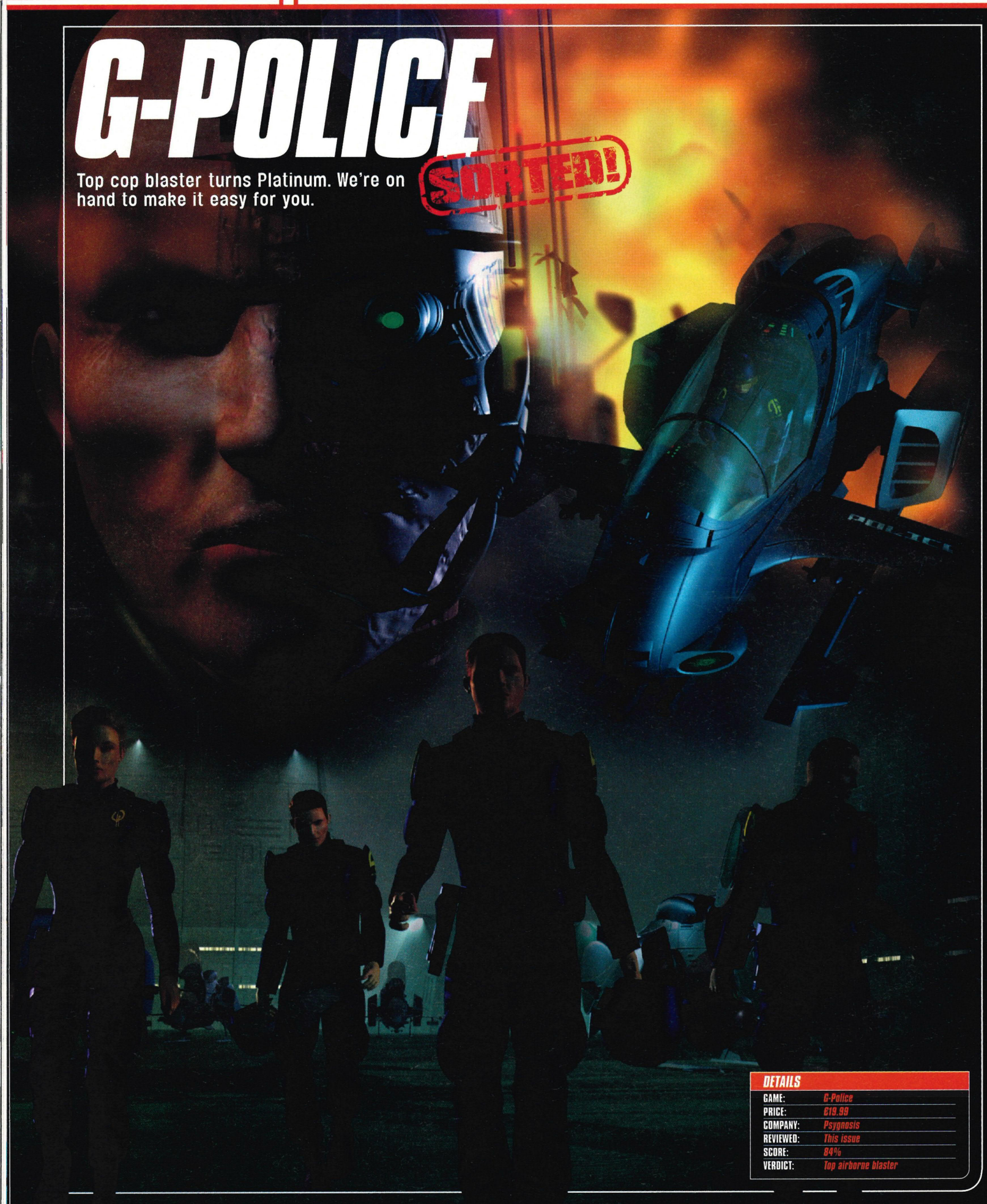
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G-POLICE

SORTED!

Top cop blaster turns Platinum. We're on hand to make it easy for you.



DETAILS	
GAME:	G-Police
PRICE:	£19.99
COMPANY:	Psygnosis
REVIEWED:	This issue
SCORE:	84%
VERDICT:	Top airborne blaster

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

I'M WALKING IN THE AIR

If a firefight starts getting a bit hairy, the wise G-Cop will hit the altitude increase button. Baddies find shooting at somebody who's just shot 300ft up into the air a tad confusing. Time to hit the brakes and swoop back down for a messy kill...



■ Just fly straight up. And start shooting straight down. It'll throw the baddies' aim

GUNS. A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

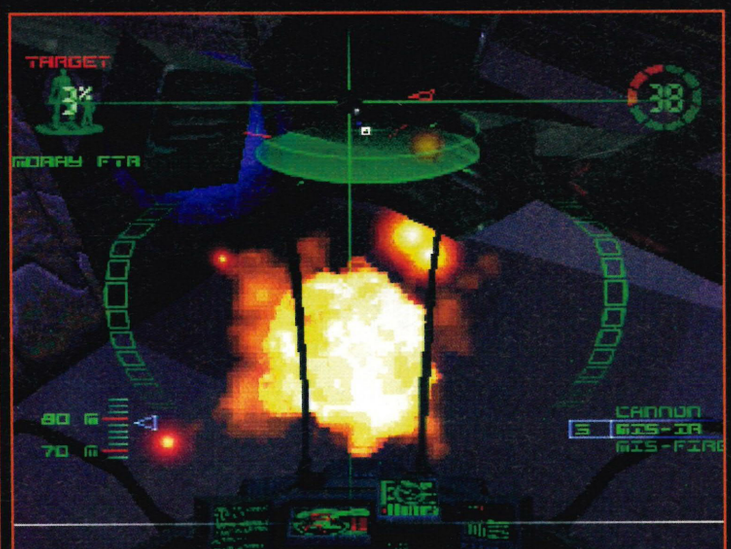
Don't EVER fire guided missiles at close range: the enemy ships tend to turn a touch too tightly for the missiles to hit home. At close range, stick to cannon, or use unguided missiles: it's best to fire them in groups of two or three to really paste the bad guys...



■ Guided missiles. No use close up. So don't try



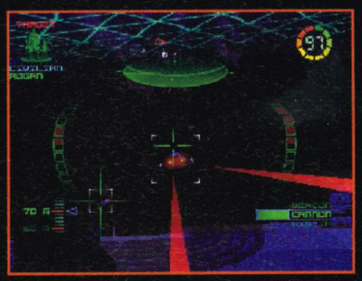
■ Cannon. Best used for finishing weak ships



■ Rockets. Release three at once to flame-grill baddies swiftly

TRICKSHOT

The way to cane enemies really quick is this: when you've got one coming at you head on, hit a reverse afterburn thrust and zoom backwards shooting hard. They'll keep coming. This does your shields no favours, but it kills any enemy double quick.



■ Zoom backwards shooting. This will hurt



■ But it'll kill baddies stone dead very quick

TRICKY BADDIES

GUNBOAT

Can be tricky, but not if you do this: fly past at speed and get a missile lock on it. Zoom off to somewhere well out of range of the gunboat's multiple boomsticks. Stop. Blast off a salvo of IR missiles: they'll still be locked on to the gunboat. Just sit and wait. Bingo.



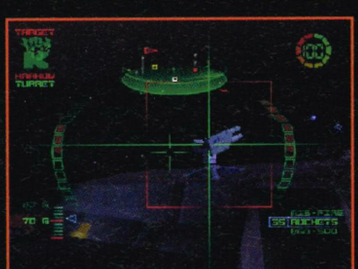
■ The coward's way of taking on gunboats



■ Just deal with them from a safe distance, otherwise they can be a swine to kill...

GUN TURRETS

Gun turrets in groups are multo deadly. But there's a (highly cowardly) trick to croaking them safely. If you keep the turret just outside visual range, you can get it, but it can't get you. Sneaky.



■ Fight guns in a boring but safe way



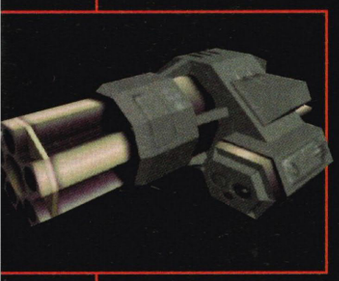
■ There's no honour in it. But you win

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Instant Expert: G-Police

THE HARDWARE

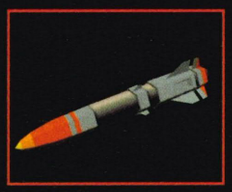
Here all the bits of kit you'll need during the missions. Refer to the side of the mission boxes to see which weapons you have to use for each task. Now get to it, rookie!



■ Henschel 25mm Cannons



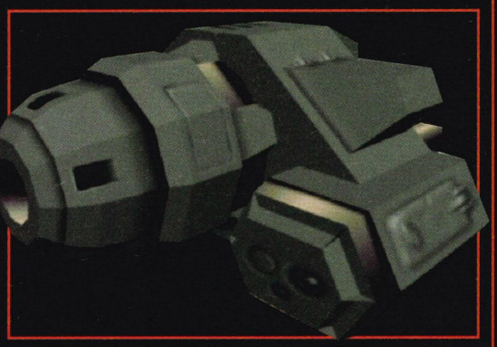
■ Air-to-air rockets



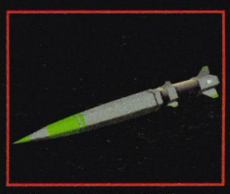
■ IR Missiles



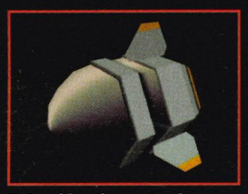
■ Firestreak Missiles



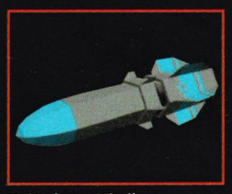
■ Rothbar Optics Electronic Pulse Paralyser: (EPP)



■ Hyper Velocity Missiles



■ Bomblet Cluster Bombs



■ Starburst Missiles

MISSIONS 1-15 BUSTED!

This month, we take on the first 15 missions. Next month, missions 16-35 bite the dust.

MISSION 1: ILLEGAL ARMS

- Kill the first fighter you meet with an IR missile. Easy
- Scan the crates. The last one you scan will be one you should destroy
- Head back. Scan the fourth lorry in Devorr Dome
- Ah, a gun lorry. Use rockets. Kill without mercy





■ You should be able to do this mission without breaking sweat. Nae bother to the professionals

MISSION 2: WAREHOUSE RAID

- Stay close to the ground team
- Kill any marauding fighters with IR missiles
- Blitz the turrets in Egdir Dome as fast as you can
- ... and immediately EPP the escaping criminal cars
- Kill the two fighters that swoop down on the cars



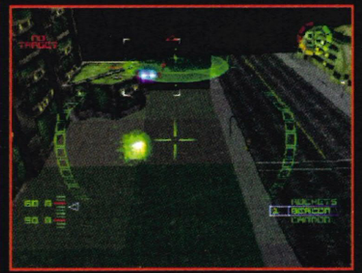
■ Escort mission with three ambushes. No trouble to a ruffneck cop like you...

MISSION 3: SURVEILLANCE WORK

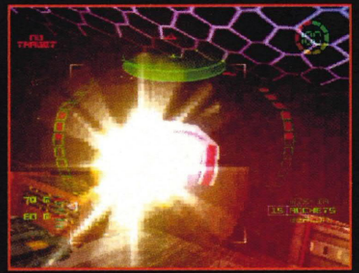
- Keep Rogan just within your field of vision. Any closer and he'll suss
- Just skirmish with the first two fighters. Keep after Rogan
- If you hear 'Maintain contact with suspect', speed up a touch
- When Rogan sets his fighter down, drop a beacon. Start fighting
- When Rogan takes off the third time, hit him with everything you've got



■ Follow a good-for-nothing crim called Rogan. Then REALLY ruin his day



■ Drop beacons to call in the ground team



■ Finally, you get to croak Rogan. Yay!

MISSION 4: CLEAR THE WAY

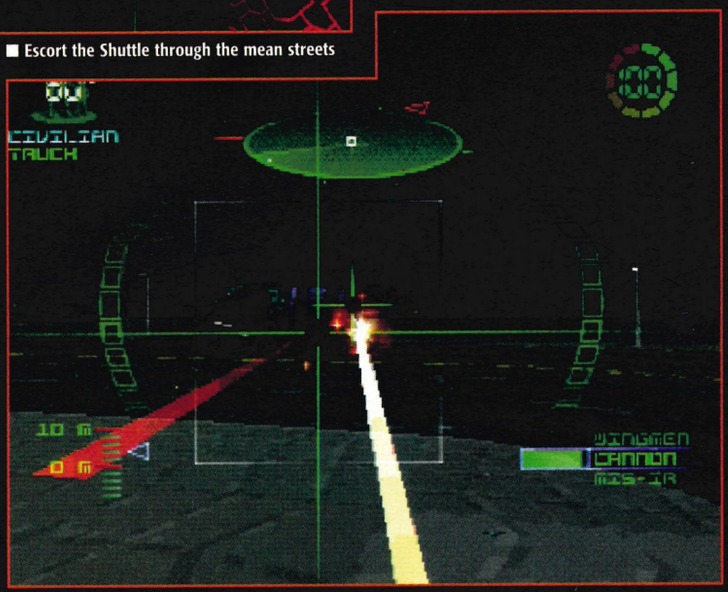
- When you meet up with the wingman, you'll be attacked instantly. Be wary
- With the fighters dead, look for four trucks. Wingman will sort out the fighters
- The easiest way to find the trucks is to follow the shuttle and watch for any shots
- The trucks are tough. Blitz them fast with rockets



■ Escort the Shuttle through the mean streets



■ Hook up with Tachikawa, your wingman



■ Save plenty o' rockets to cream the trucks at the end. They're tough little muthas

MISSION 5: ESCORT THE PRESIDENT





- Kill the first three fighters very quickly. Use Firestreaks
- Head to the first roadblock and start nuking it with IR missiles
- Kill the fighter that comes in to attack your wingman. Watch wingman die
- When the next two fighters attack the limo, fly up to their level and use Firestreaks
- Find the limo quick before it disappears into Hoenir Dome

■ Destroy roadblocks. And turn gang fighters into gentle showers of charcoal. Satisfying

MISSION 6: ROBOT RAMPAGE

- Robot-culling is much easier if you zoom up and down while shooting at them
- Or you can just try and pick them off at the furthest range your crosshair will work
- Stay between the third robot and the Nanosoft compound to protect it
- The fight with the three robots at G-Police HQ is rock-hard. Tool up first
- Go for the robots one at a time, and stay back to let other G-fuzz do some work



■ Some robots go crazy. It's your job to make them die. Not an easy job, mind...



■ The fight at the GPHQ is mental



■ ... so make sure you're tooled before you go

MISSION 7: DISABLE AND PROTECT KRAKOV SHUTTLE



- You can get away with letting two shuttles die. But only two
- Use the afterburners to catch the shuttles
- Try and disable all the support craft before hitting the fighters and bikes
- Two wings of three ships come at you. Things get ugly. Use the wingman, lots

■ Much use of your EPP weapon as you knock out shuttles. Careful not to kill 'em, though...

»

Instant Expert: G-Police

MISSION 8: PROTECT KRAKOV ASSEMBLY YARD

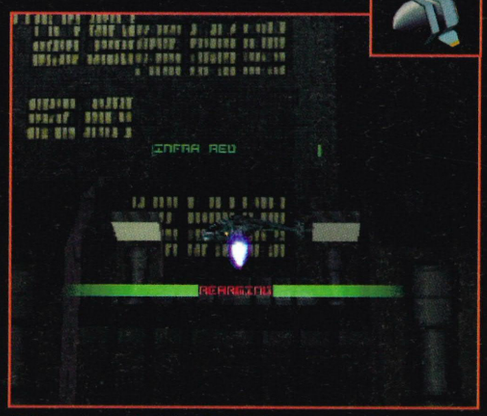
- The first two bikes are mighty nippy. Afterburners and Firestreaks are required
- Try and avoid scraping your underbelly on the ground. It slows you right up
- Next comes a big onslaught. Take out the ground units first, then the fighters
- Running short on ammo? Then head for HQ, where more supplies await
- Save a few bombs for the gang base. It's easy to find



■ Protect the Assembly Yard



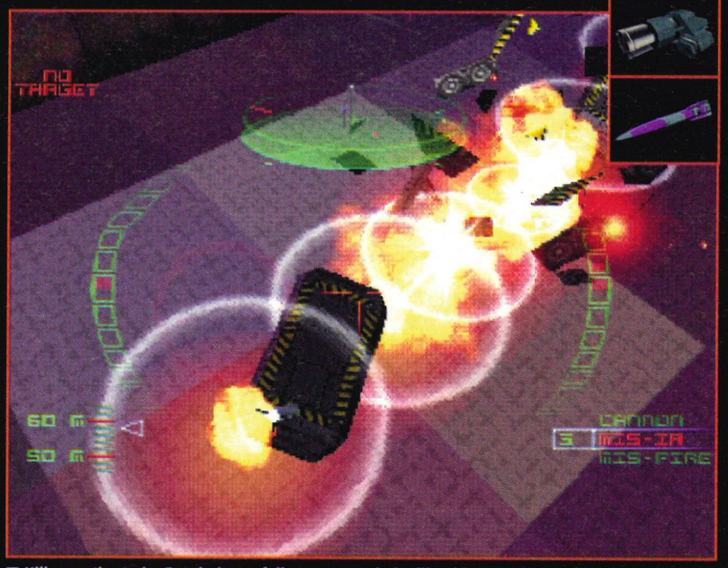
■ Kill many evil men



■ Remember to check in at GPHQ. More guns await

MISSION 9: LAND TRAIN CARRYING EXPLOSIVES

- Keep yourself between the fighters and the GP ground team
- Be careful shooting the train's guns. Hit the carriage and it's goodnight from you
- Once you've picked up the bombs, drop them off the cliff into the low area
- You can miss out one bomb, but only one, or it's Game Over



■ Kill an entire train. But do it carefully, or pyrotechnics like this kick off. Game Over...

MISSION 10: KRAKOV PRESIDENT UNDER ATTACK

- Kill all the gunboat patrol craft before going for the gunboat itself
- Assign the wingmen to the gunboat before going in for the kill
- Use Firestreak missiles while hiding behind buildings



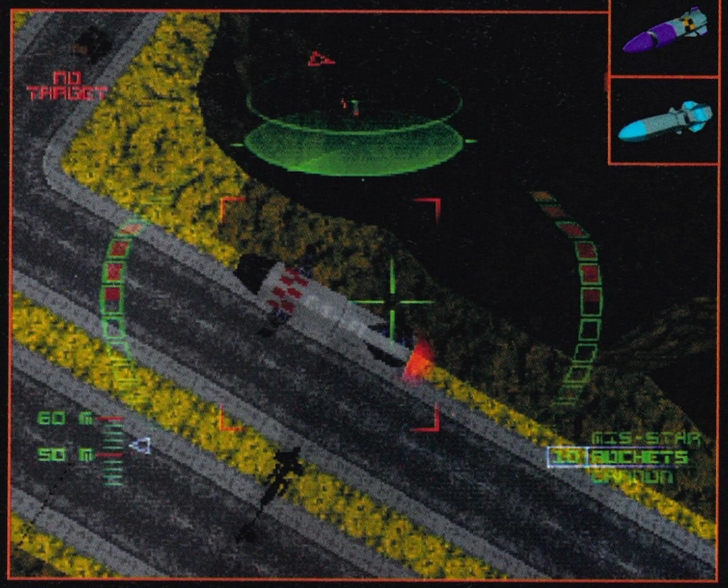
■ Stop the Prez being under attack, pronto



■ Use Firestreaks to take down the big mothers

MISSION 11: INTERCEPT THE CRUISE MISSILES

- Use hyper velocity rockets to take down the Cruise
- Protect the Bomber team using Firestreak missiles, and they'll help you later
- Big missile launchers show up. Crisp them with Starburst missiles
- If you saved the Bomber team, they'll help you out at the finish



■ Kill missiles. Kill attacking fighters. Drop huge bombs on people on the ground



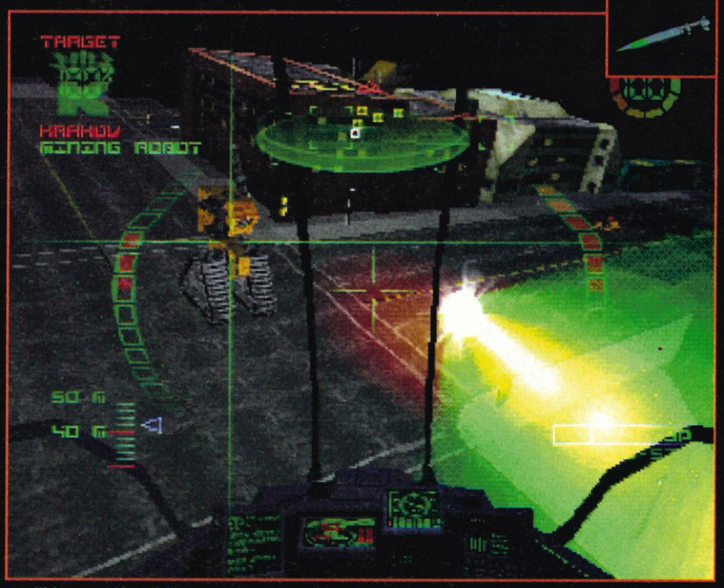
■ Many fighters show up first off...



■ Then a huge big missile launcher appears...

MISSION 12: KRAKOV ATTACK

- Stick to Firestreak to avoid demolishing nearby buildings
- Homing missiles will sort out the mining robots nicely
- It's best to keep circling the buildings to avoid hitting them by mistake
- Be patient and don't shoot the fighters when they're circling buildings



■ Kill lots and lots of fighters and a couple of robots. While you're at it, avoid killing buildings

MISSION 13: SIEGE GUN ATTACK

- You can't save the building that blows at the start. So don't try
- The siege guns look tough, but a few unguided missiles will shut them up
- A gunboat is up next. Fly past, lock, and fire a salvo of IR missiles
- When fighting the last two guns, you'll be bushwhacked by two sly Rocket APCs



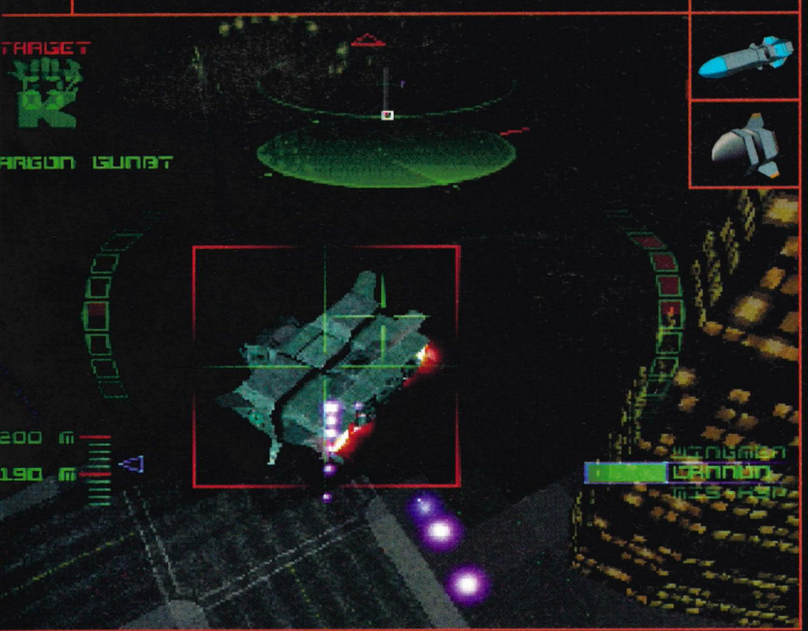
■ The siege guns may look tough but they're no match for the business end of your arsenal



■ Unguided missiles are best for the siege guns. Save your IRs for the gunboat

MISSION 14: AMMO DUMP ATTACK

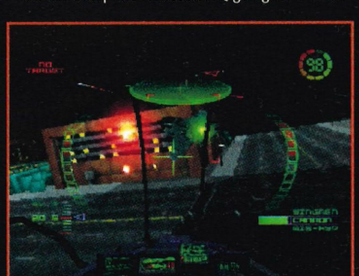
- Stay close to the ground team. Use Firestreak missiles on the fighters
- With the first gunboat, let rip with everything you've got
- Bombs are the key to the last bit. Avoid dropping them on the ground team, though



■ Many dogfights. All sorts of enemies crop up. In disturbingly large numbers. Even if you're a rock 'ard rozzer, this mission'll probably cause you trouble...

MISSION 15: KRAKOV HQ

- Stay right on top of the Ground Team. Firestreak any fighters quickly
- Keep your distance from the turrets and use Starbursts to take 'em down
- Next fight is a toughie. Turrets, two droids and fighters aplenty. Starburst time
- While downloading, keep scouting for baddies. EPP every evil mother you see
- You can't stop the Nanosoft HQ going for a Burton. Sit back and watch it blow



■ Just about every conceivable flavour of baddie will show up. Kill them. Kill them all...



■ No matter what you do, you can't save Nanosoft HQ. Them's the breaks...

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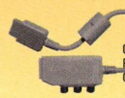
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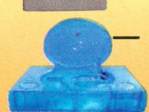
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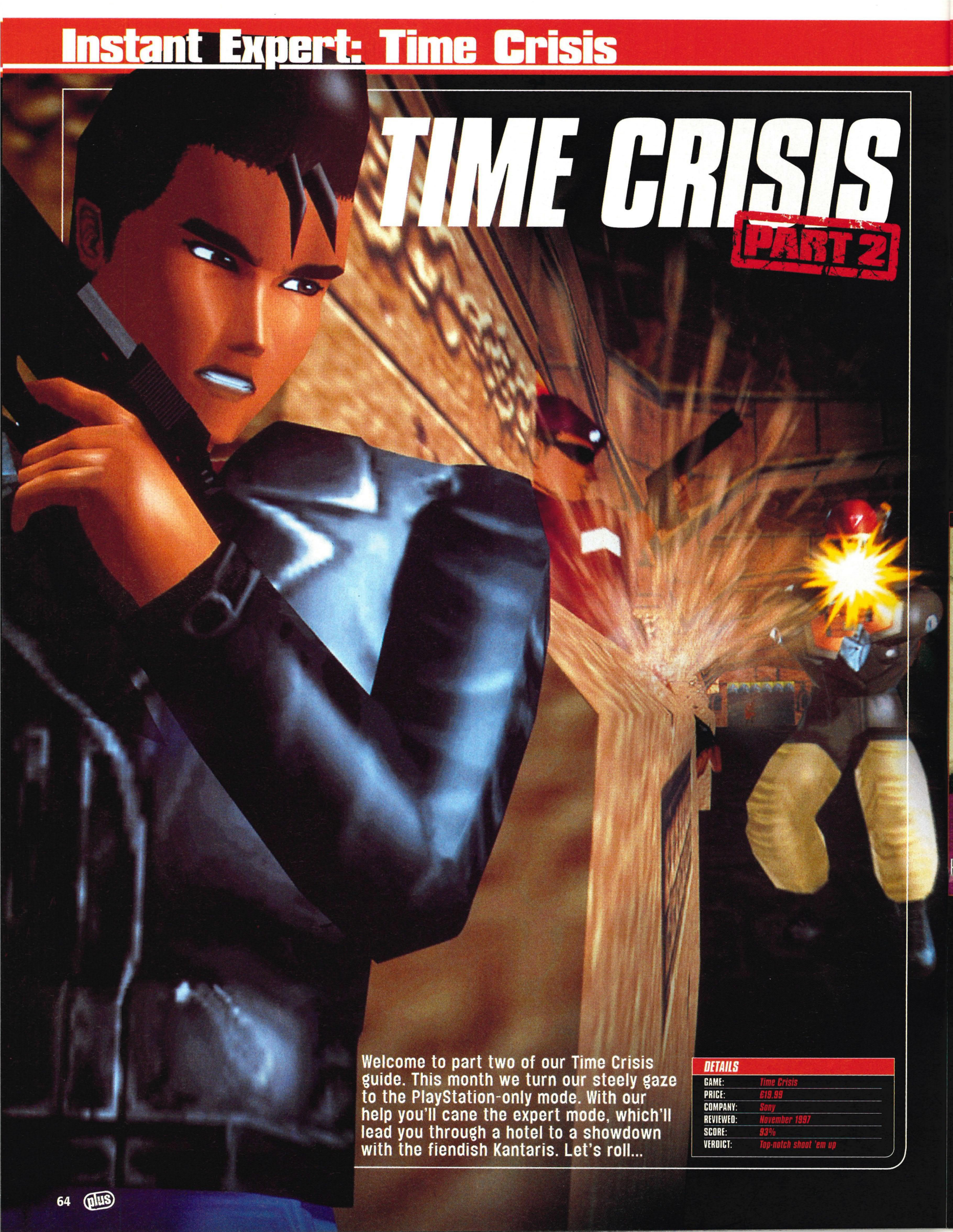
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TIME CRISIS

PART 2



Welcome to part two of our Time Crisis guide. This month we turn our steely gaze to the PlayStation-only mode. With our help you'll cane the expert mode, which'll lead you through a hotel to a showdown with the fiendish Kantaris. Let's roll...

DETAILS

GAME:	Time Crisis
PRICE:	£19.99
COMPANY:	Sony
REVIEWED:	November 1997
SCORE:	93%
VERDICT:	Top-notch shoot 'em up

EXPERT PATH

The expert path is tough. To finally finish off Kantaris you've got to negotiate the lobby, ballroom, swimming pool and finally the heliport. Trust us, this one's rock hard. You're gonna need this guide...

LOBBY

To get off to a flying start you've got to clear this area in under 30 seconds. If you do then you'll be on your way to the ballroom for a date with a big boomerang-throwing fella. Otherwise it's off to the shopping centre, and the back of the class...



1 Quickly cap the first five bad guys who appear, then with them dead, go on to deal with the foot soldier coming from the right door. No problemo...



2 Now get the foot soldiers and marksmen popping up around the plants. You've got to get them immediately or they'll go on to cause you untold trouble



3 A marksman'll pop up from nowhere and try to mug you up close, so make sure you deal with him first. He a dead man? Good. Now you can turn your attention to the foot soldier walking from right of centre. Kill him and move on...



4 You'll now get a manager accompanied by two machine-gunners appearing from the left elevator. After you've dealt with them another manager will come from the left elevator. They're everywhere, these managers...



5 Prepare for the two baddies just right of centre and a marksman left of centre. They'll start to taunt you – the gits. If you get them in under 30 seconds then you'll go down a different route to the ballroom

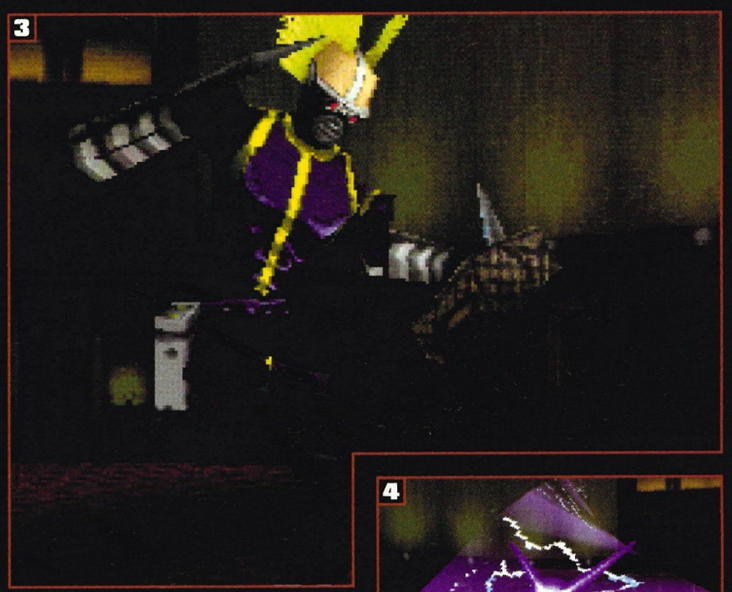
BALLROOM

The aim here is to finish off boomerang boy in under 50 seconds. This sounds like a long time but believe us, you'll be spending a lot of the time ducking down trying to protect your ass. Our advice here is to choose your times of attack very carefully then keep on squeezing the trigger like you were trying to keep pace with a nosebleed techno track. That's very fast indeed, by the way...



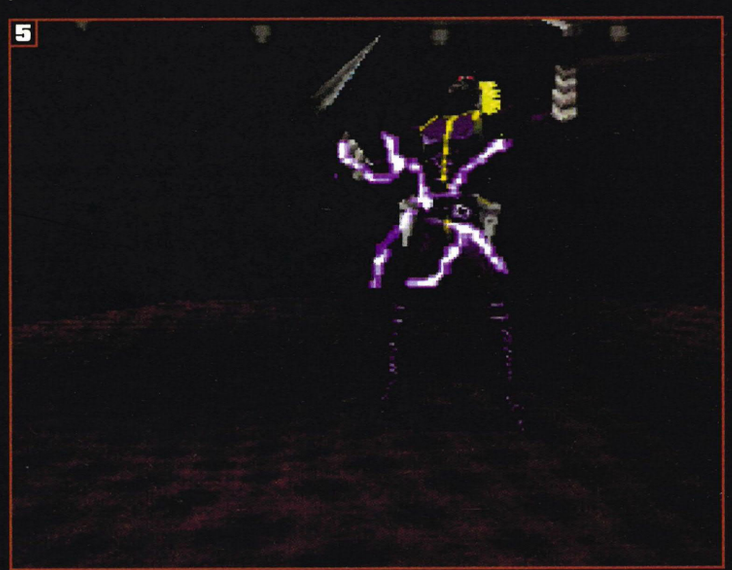
1 You'll see the evil Kantaris welcome you to her lair. To make this shortcut you've got to beat boomerang boy in under 50 seconds, which isn't easy as he takes at least 16 shots to dispatch. Worth it, though...





2 As soon as you see the boomerang man on the left you've got to get your shots in. Start shooting **3** Watch out for him coming in close and getting you with a karate kick **4** After shooting boomerang boy make sure you duck out of the way of his blows or you'll lose precious lives...





5 Patience pays off if you play by the duck and dive method

»

Instant Expert: Time Crisis

SWIMMING POOL

There's no boss as such here. The aim's to stop soldiers escaping down the corridor. This means fighting off machine gunners and bazooka guys, while keeping an eye on the entrance to the corridor.





1 The split happens on the 7th and final part of this tough area. First off, cap the soldier by the right-hand storage tank

2 A yellow guy will appear to the right of the top middle storage tank, get him before he hides behind it...



3 You've got to nail the bazooka guy before he starts causing merry hell with your lives



4 Watch out for a shielded foot soldier who tries to stop you picking off the soldiers trying to escape down the corridor. Kill him quick, bad boy...



5 Make sure you take out the last bazooka guy before he gets hold of you...



6 You've got to stop anyone escaping if you want to go via the expert route...

HELIPORT

Well this is it, the grand finale. Time to send Kantaris back to where she came from. To do this you've got to destroy her two escape aircraft. For the first one you should try and hit the wings and engines as this is its weak point. For the second you've got to land three clips anywhere on the craft.







1 Duck really quickly as the first salvo of rockets fired by the aircraft can catch you out if you're not careful. And they REALLY hurt 2 You've really got to shoot hard and fast here as opportunities to cause damage are like gold dust in this part of the game 3 Make damn sure you get the guys who come from the plane, ideally before they hit the ground 4 Our advice is aim for the engines and wings as this inflicts the most damage...





5 If you see this 'danger' sign then you know you're on the home straight. Keep on pumpin' 6 Keep your eyes peeled for missiles launched by the aircraft, as these can mean the difference between success and failure at this late stage. You don't want to dies now... 7 To finally nail Kantaris you've got to land three clips worth of ammo on her back-up plane...





MEDIUM AND EASY PATH

If you're reading this something's gone wrong. Still there's a job left to do, and it's no walk in the park. There's a crane to destroy, some super sharpshooting to perfect, plus a couple of mechanical killers to cap.

SHOPPING CENTRE

What you've got to do is go hell for leather at the control tower in the top left corner of the screen. On top of that there's the small matter of dealing with the soldiers popping up all over the place.





1 Keep shooting at the control centre, but watch out for the guys popping up while you're doing it and hopefully... 2 Eventually it'll blow up. Tip: for quick firing use your index finger...



3 Finish off the last of the shooters and go through the hole in the wall to the arms factory

ARMS FACTORY

This one's a real test for sharpshooters. If you hit any of tanks more than three times they'll all blow, sending you to the easy ending. Which is a real cop out, we reckon...



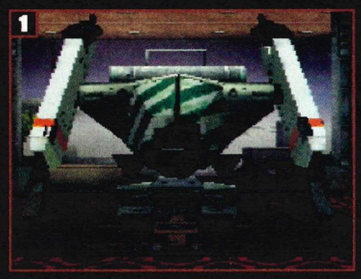




1 The basic idea here is to not hit the giant tanks as you pick of the baddies. If you blow them up you'll end up at the parking lot and the easy ending, and where's the honour in that? 2 This is what we mean 3 Be careful to pick off the guys with accuracy. Short burst are preferable here

LOUNGE

This lumbering giant's faster than you think, so you've got to time your attacks to perfection. Our advice is to wait until its guns are pointing away from you, then pop up and start firing pronto...



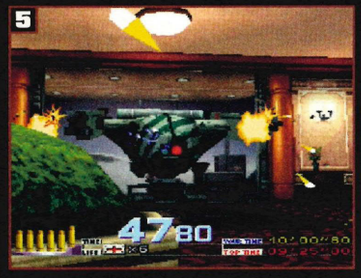




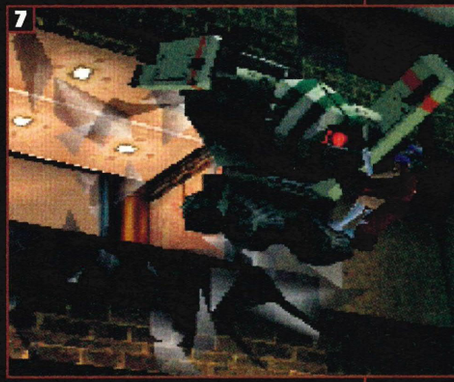
1 This is your first sight of the monster tank from hell. Nasty looking beast ain't it? Be afraid 2 The best method is to aim for the lights on the machine's front 3 It's deceptively fast so when it comes close duck down really quickly. When ducking down keep an eye out for the machines guns strafing the sky. Move when they stop



4 Our tip is to shoot when its guns are pointing towards the window. This way you won't get shot







5 As soon as the tank's guns swivel round duck. Why? Cos swivelling guns is a sure sign there's gonna be some nasty hot lead heading your way 6 Bingo brother, your ass is mine now. Seeing this means your fight is won and you're rewarded with... 7 A nice cutscene of the Kantaris' death. Bye Bye Kantaris. Next time you're gonna eat lead on the hard path

»

Instant Expert: Time Crisis

PARKING LOT

Welcome to the easy end of the game. You've got to go one-on-one with a huge robot here. Its attack patterns are very similar to the machine encountered in the lounge. This means ducking down as soon as it moves towards you. Take our advice and you should cane it no problem...





1 Look out, here comes the tank, get ready to nail it double-quick 2 The best way to deal with it is to aim for the cockpit and keep firing...



3 Duck down when it comes up close as its got a nasty punch on it.

EVEN MORE TIPS

THE FEET CHEAT

One thing's for sure, all the ducking you have to do can become a massive pain in the butt. It's bad enough having to co-ordinate one hand, without worrying about the other. What'cha do? Try this...



1 Get hold of either a joypad or the foot pedals of a PlayStation steering wheel set 2 Plug it into port two of your 'Station. Place on the floor 3 Now use your foot to either press any button on the joypad or either foot pedal when you want to duck down.

GUNS 'R' US

LOCK 'N' LOAD

Half the battle's choosing the right gun. Do you go for auto-fire and auto-reload, or do you opt for the real arcade deal? Before you make up your mind check out our round-up...

JOYTECH REAL ARCADE

➡ **£44.99.** Looks very very cool. Also has auto-reload and auto-fire. The only downside is its weight, which could become a pain after a heavy session. **90%**

NU GEN ASSASSIN

⬅ **£39.99.** This one's the luxury choice. No reload worries, no finger wear, just unbridled gun mayhem with added recoil. Can't say fairer than that. **95%**

G-CON 45

➡ **£39.99.** It hasn't got auto-fire or auto-reload but it's still the most accurate. Perfect for those hard to-reach areas. **97%**





■ 'We used to be such bad asses. Until the PlayStation Plus guide came out...'

Q&A

We've got stacks of hints, tips and cheats. If you've got a problem, we'll have the solution. For your queries answered, use the FREE envelope on p74...

Platinum A-Z continued

E is for: 'easy peasy' (and Excalibur 2555AD)

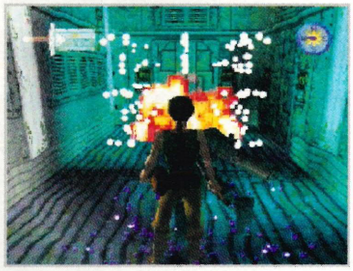
Welcome back to Platinum A-Z. For the lowdown on this month's Platinum re-releases check the Rated section. Meanwhile here are cheats aplenty for the Es and Fs...

EXCALIBUR 2555AD

FULL HEALTH
PAUSE THE GAME AND PRESS:
△ △ △ □ □ □ □ □

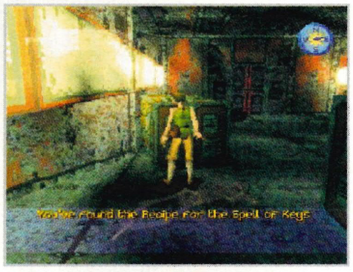
FULL SWORD POWER
PAUSE THE GAME AND PRESS:
△ △ □ □ ○ ○ □ □

LEVEL SKIP
PAUSE THE GAME AND PRESS:
□ ○ □ △ ○ △ △ △


■ Feel the force of a gurt big sword

LEVEL PASSWORDS

LEVEL 1	○ □ ✕ ○ ○ △
LEVEL 2	□ ✕ △ △ ✕ ○
LEVEL 3	○ ✕ ○ △ □ ✕
LEVEL 4	✕ ○ △ □ ○ ○
LEVEL 5	□ □ ○ ○ ✕ △
LEVEL 6	○ ✕ □ △ △ □
LEVEL 7	□ □ ○ ○ ✕ △
LEVEL 8	○ ✕ □ △ △ □
LEVEL 9	△ ✕ △ ○ □ △
LEVEL 10	△ ○ ○ □ △ ✕
LEVEL 11	✕ □ □ ✕ △ □
LEVEL 12	○ △ ✕ ○ □ ○
LEVEL 13	□ △ ○ ✕ ✕ ✕


■ You get to see it all with our level skips

Cardinal Syn

It's a synch

Sort us some cheats for Cardinal Syn will ya. Ta!
Alex Newcross

plus **Listen to you Mr Cocky, take your cheats and learn some respect...**

SELECT SUB-BOSSES CHEAT

Enter the following codes on the 'press start' screen – you'll hear a metal clank when each one has been entered correctly.

To view each character's FMV intro, select that fighter in Tournament Mode.

Kahn: ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ △
Stygian: ← → ← → △
Redemptor: ↑ ↓ ← → ○
Juni: ↑ ← ← ↑ □
Mongwan: ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ △
Vodu: ← ← ← ↑ ○
Bimorphia: → → → ↓ □
Moloch: ↑ → ↓ ← □ ↓ ↓



■ Fancy your chances against Juni?



■ Don't be put off by the bright colours

Ghost in the Shell

Gimme, gimme

I know it's kind of old but I need cheats to Ghost in the Shell. If you print some cheats for it I promise I'll subscribe.
Shariff Kuttal

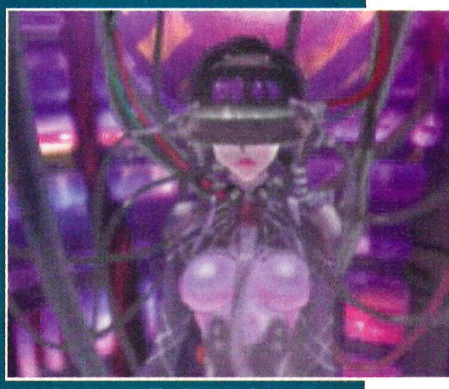
plus **Hey you don't have to justify yourself here. Sometimes the old un's are the best. Anyhow give these a whirl, if the rash doesn't clear up try buying a new game.**
Oh, and the subscription? Call 01858 438825 and someone'll take your order.

MISSION SELECT & ALL FMV

At the main menu, quickly press:
R2 R1 □ □ ↑ ↓ □ □ R2 R2
You'll hear a sound if you've done it right. You can now select any mission. To view all the FMV, select Options, then Movie Replay.



■ Jump quick-smart to any mission

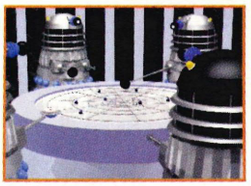

■ Movie sequences like these can be yours

Cyber-helpery

Geek speak

Posh geezers with computers can try nabbing cheats off the net at these sites. The rest of you sit this one out, OK?

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


■ Daleks don't surf!

Game guru

Those 'need-to-know' questions answered

Why hasn't South Park come out for the PlayStation?
Simon Watson

plus **We spoke to the software house and all they could say was it'll probably come out around September time.**

This is an important question. I read that Parasite Eve isn't coming out in the UK. Do you know anything about it?
Luke Rawlinson

plus **You heard right, seems we won't ever see Parasite in ol' Blighty. Shame eh?**

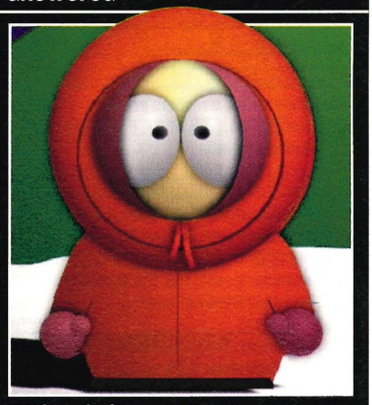
Where can I find Final Fantasy VII action figures?
Thomas Meer

plus **Forbidden Planet sell them and they also do mail order, so maybe you should contact them on 0171 836 4179. Another company to try is Gear for Games, their telephone number is 0161 668 3657.**

What is the release date of Driver?
Gavin Burns

plus **Get your wonga primed for mid May.**

Will the P.C. game Blade Runner be released on the PlayStation or is it already available?
Nathan Evans


■ What's the frequency, Kenny?

plus **No, and no. For those who don't know, Blade Runner is the game of the film, but sadly there are no plans to develop it for PlayStation. Or not so sadly, perhaps, since the game was wildly overrated on its release.**

Why do PlayStations play CDs, why not tapes?
Benjamin Archer

plus **Oh boy. We've got a live one here. Shut the magazine, walk outside, find a DIY shop. Now ask for a sky hook and a glass hammer. Notice their reaction. That is our reaction to your question. Mooncalf.**

»

Instant Expert: Your problems solved

New games, new cheats

Shady cheats

Oh man these here cheats are red hot. Listen, if anyone asks where you got them, just say you met a fat bloke down the boozer, orright?



GLOBAL DOMINATION

LEVEL SELECT

During any mission press L2 L1 L1 R1 R1 ⊗ L1. If you've done this right it'll bring up a level select box. Use the L2 and R2 buttons to scroll through the missions, then press △ to go to that level.

■ The world will be ours, wa, ha, ha, ha

GEX: DEEP COVER GECKO

LEVEL SELECT

For a level select press start to pause the game. Hold L2 then press ↑ ○ → ↑ ← → ↓. If you've done this right you'll hear a sound. Now un-pause the game. Press SEL to access the level select menu. From here select the level you want.



He is such a funny little reptile, no really →



AKUJI THE HEARTLESS

INVINCIBILITY

To gain invincibility pause the game and hold L2 or R2 and press → → ← △ ⊗ ↑ ○ ←.

UNLIMITED SPIRIT SPELLS

For unlimited spirit spells (once you've learned them) pause the game and hold L2 or R2 and press: ← △ ← ← ○ ← △ → ○ ↑ ↑ ↓.

DEBUG MODE

To enable the debug mode pause the game and hold L2 or R2 and press ← ↑ ↑ △ → □ ← △ ↑ ↓ → →.

■ Total invincibility. How handy

WCW VS NWO THUNDER

UNLOCK ALL WRESTLERS

To unlock all the wrestlers press R1 x4 L1 x4 R2 x4 L2 x4 SEL on any of the menu screens.

ADJUST CHARACTER STATS

To adjust the strength and power of your wrestlers body parts press L2 x4 R2 x4 L1 x4 R1 x4 SEL on any of the menu screens. Use the shoulder buttons to adjust the wrestlers' stats.

BIG HEADS

For big heads press R1 x7 R2 +SEL. For big bodies press R2 x7 R1 +SEL.

ACCESS ALL RINGS

To access all the rings press L1 L2 R1 R2 L1 L2 R1 R2 SEL. Go to the options screen to select loads of extra rings.



It's all real, they really hurt each other →

RALLY CROSS 2

To access these cheats enter the following names in the new season enter name screen:

ALL CARS

For all the cars start a new season and enter your name as MOOBMOOB.

ALL CARS AND TRACKS

For all the cars and tracks start a new season and enter your name as PREALL.

BONUS TRACKS

PASSWORD	TRACK
SISAO	OASIS
ELGNUJ	JUNGLE
FOSTER	LITTLE WOODS
NIVEK	FROZEN TRAIL
MIT	DUSTY ROAD
KCIN	ROCKY CREEK
CIRE	DRY HUMPS
BSIRHC	HILLSIDE

Time Commando

Break time

Please sort me out some cheats for Time Commando. A secret level would be cool.
Dave Trent

plus Hey Dave we're here to help, we live to spread the cheatin' gospel. As if by magic...

SECRET LEVEL

At the password screen enter: COMMANDO. This takes you to a boxing ring to fight.



■ Cool game, nice jumping – that's it

RESTORE HEALTH

While playing, press pause and highlight Sound FX. Enter: ⊗ △ △ ○ ⊗ △ △ ○ □ □ ⊗.
You should hear a noise and your life bar will be full. This little trick can be used any time during the game.



■ Don't feel down with our health restorer

Knockout Kings

Pulling punches

Are there any tips for beating opponents with ease on Knockout Kings 99.
Mark Cheshire

plus Yep, we've got a sneaky little loophole for you to exploit, and it goes a little something like this...

This method only works when you're fighting in the career mode. What you've got to do is knock your opponent down. The trick is to press start and throw the towel in at almost exactly the same time as you knock the other person out.

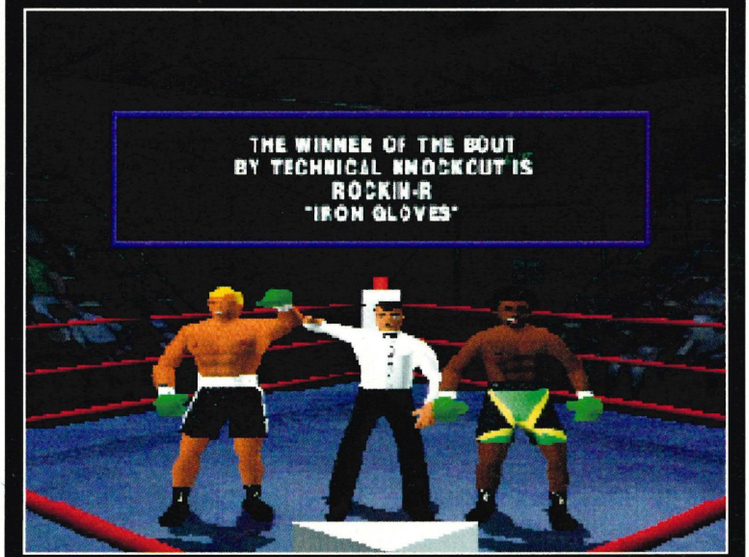
If you get your timing right the computer will think your opponent's thrown his towel in, instead of you. It'll continue the countdown, meaning you'll be awarded a technical knockout.



■ First thing, get your opponent down...



■ Now quick as you like throw the towel in...



■ The end result is a rather comfortable technical knockout. No pain, no fuss. Next.

Platinum A-Z continued

F is for 'fiddling' (and Fade to Black)

FADE TO BLACK

All these passwords require you to input the cheat activation code. So there.

CHEAT ACTIVATION CODE
■ △ ● ✕ ● △
NOW LEAVE THIS SCREEN AND RE-ENTER IT. ENTER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CODES:

PLAY ALL MOVIES
■ ✕ ● △ ● ✕

INFINITE SHIELD CODE
■ ● ● ■ △ ✕

INVINCIBILITY CODE
△ ✕ △ △ ■ ●

LEVEL SELECT
● ● △ ✕ ■ ■



■ Quick! Pucker up! You're in a magazine

FORMULA 1

To activate these top quality cheats enter any of the following codes on the race qualify screen:

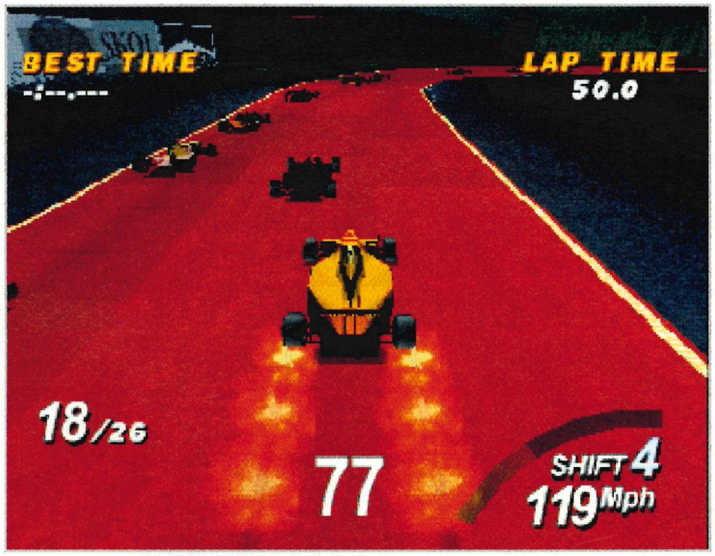
BUGGY MODE
Hold SEL and press
➡ ⬆ △ ⬅ ⬆ ■ △

BIKE MODE
Hold SEL and press
⬇ ⬆ ● △ ➡ ⬆ ■ △

LAVA MODE
Hold SEL and press
■ ● ⬆ ➡ ➡ ● ✕

GIBBERISH MODE
Hold SEL and press
⬅ ● ⬆ ⬇ ⬇ ➡ ● ■ ■

BONUS TRACK
Hold SEL and press
⬅ ● ● △ △ ● ⬆ ➡



■ This way you can't see the blood on the track, the only downside is your tyres melt. Bummer

FIFA 96

Pause the game, select options and enter one of the codes below. Exit the options screen, go to the original menu. Choose resume game. Press square. You'll now get a secret options menu.

CHEAT PASSWORDS

▼ INVISIBLE WALLS
✕ ✕ ✕ △ ■ ■ ■ △

▼ CURVE BALL
△ ■ ✕ △ ✕ ✕

▼ CRAZY BALL
✕ ■ △ ✕ ✕ △ ■ ✕

▼ SUPER POWER
△ ■ △ △ △ △ △ △ △ △

▼ SUPER GOALIE
■ ■ ■ ■ ■ △ △ △ △ △

▼ SUPER OFFENSE
■ ■ ■ ■ ■ △ ✕

▼ SUPER DEFENSE
△ △ △ △ △ ✕ △

▼ SHOOTOUT
■ △ ■ ✕ ■ △

▼ STUPID TEAM
■ △ ✕ ■ △ ✕

▼ DREAM TEAM
■ ■ △ △ ✕ ✕ ■ ■

Datel Action Replay

Metal Gear Solid — first-person perspective

This version of the code is for the Action Replay 1-2

***PART 1**

1ST PERSON	D0117198 1090
	8016D540 03AD
	D0117198 781F
	80177300 03AD
	D0117198 FE08
	8016A9E4 03AD
	D0117198 A8D4
	801574F8 03AD
	D0117198 31B0
	801689C4 03AD
	D0117198 17EC
	80159320 03AD
	D0117198 8AE4
	80175014 03AD
	800B8852 00012

***PART 2**

1ST PERSON	D0117198 11C8
	8015A230 03AD
	D0117198 75A0
	8015E4A8 03AD
	D0117198 0AEC
	8016DEAC 03AD
	D0117198 6BF0
	8015D750 03AD
	D0117198 0001
	8017AC1C 03AD
	D0117198 0740
	80162634 03AD
	800B8852 0001

*NOTE: THESE CODES ARE BEST USED WITH AN ANALOGUE PAD TO CONTROL SOLID SNAKE. TURN THE CODE OFF WHEN CHANGING AREAS IN THE GAME. USE TRIANGLE TO CONTROL HIS TURN.

This is for Action Replay 2 or higher, including Action Replay Professional.

***COMPLETE CODE**

1ST PERSON	D0117198 1090
	8016D540 03AD
	D0117198 781F
	80177300 03AD
	D0117198 FE08
	8016A9E4 03AD
	D0117198 A8D4
	801574F8 03AD
	D0117198 31B0
	801689C4 03AD
	D0117198 17EC
	80159320 03AD
	D0117198 8AE4
	80175014 03AD
	D0117198 11C8
	8015A230 03AD
	D0117198 75A0
	8015E4A8 03AD
	D0117198 0AEC
	8016DEAC 03AD
	D0117198 6BF0
	8015D750 03AD
	D0117198 0001
	8017AC1C 03AD
	D0117198 0740
	80162634 03AD
	800B8852 0001



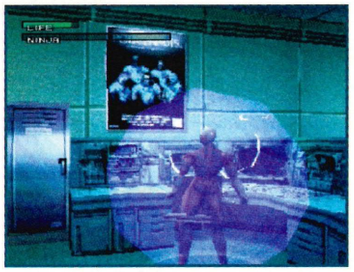
Get inside the mind of Solid Snake ➡

WEAPONS AND GENERAL CHEATS

▼ SOCOM PISTOL AND AMMO
800B5E12 00FF
▼ FAMAS RIFLE AND AMMO
800B5E14 00FF
▼ PSG1 SNIPER RIFLE AND AMMO
800B5E24 00FF
▼ NIKITA MISSILE LAUNCHER AND AMMO
800B5E18 00FF
▼ STINGER MISSILE LAUNCHER AND AMMO
800B5E1A 00FF
▼ UNLIMITED STUN GRENADES
800B5E20 00FF
▼ UNLIMITED CHAFF GRENADES
800B5E22 00FF
▼ UNLIMITED GRENADES
800B5E16 00FF
▼ UNLIMITED CLAYMORES
800B5E1C 00FF
▼ UNLIMITED C4 EXPLOSIVE
800B5E1E 00FF

INFINITE HEALTH 800B5E06 00FF
INFINITE OXYGEN 800ACA8C 0400
NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES 800B5E44 0001
THERMAL GOGGLES 800B5E46 0001
GASMASK 800B5E48 0001
BODY ARMOUR 800B5E4A 0001
STEALTH 800B5E4E 0001
BANDANNA 800B5E50 0001
UNLIMITED RATIONS 800B5E54 0002
UNLIMITED MEDICINE 800B5E56 0002
UNLIMITED DIAZEPAM 800B5E58 0001
PAL KEYS 800B5E5A 0001
MINE DETECTOR 800B5E60 0001
DISK 800B5E62 0001
ROPE 800B5E64 0001
NO EVASION TIMER 800E2F78 0000
NO DANGER TIMER 800ACA70 0000
LEVEL KEY CARD 800B5E5C 000*

INSERT NUMBER BETWEEN 1 AND 7 AT * FOR THAT LEVEL KEY CARD (E.G. 0007 FOR A LEVEL 7 KEY CARD)



■ Get a bit of muscle to ease you through



■ Your bullets cannot harm me, fool

»

Instant Expert: Your problems solved

Platinum forthcoming

Cheats for the new batch of £19.99 games

There's a fine selection of Platinum releases this month. The evergreen Ms Croft's second adventure is yours for £19.99, as is G-Police and Moto Racer. If you haven't already done so turn to our Rated section for reviews of G-Police and Moto Racer.

TOMB RAIDER 2

It helps to hold down R1 while stepping and to release it when jumping or spinning. Honestly.

LEVEL SKIP

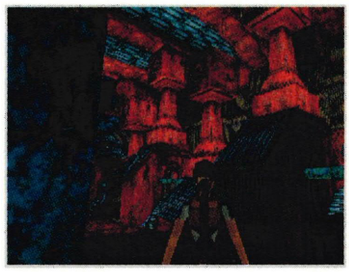
SIDESTEP LEFT, SIDESTEP RIGHT, SIDESTEP LEFT, ONE STEP BACK, ONE STEP FORWARD, STOP AND SPIN THREE TIMES, FORWARD STANDING JUMP TURN. IF YOU DID IT RIGHT YOU'LL BE TRANSPORTED TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

WEAPONS

SIDESTEP LEFT, SIDESTEP RIGHT, SIDESTEP LEFT, ONE STEP BACK, ONE STEP FORWARD, STOP AND SPIN THREE TIMES, BACKFLIP JUMP TURN. IF YOU DID IT RIGHT YOU'LL HAVE LOADS OF GUNS AND AMMO.

FLARES

IF YOU PRESS L2 WHEN LARA HAS HER GUN DRAWN SHE'LL PRODUCE A FLARE.



With our help you'll do plenty of travelling ➡

G-POLICE

CHEAT CODES

BENIHILL ..... FASTER BACK-UP CARS
WOOWOO ..... SIRENS
SUPACAM ..... CAMERA ANGLES
ALSECRET ..... ALL SECRETS

ALL WEAPONS AND AMMO

AT THE WEAPONS LOADOUT SCREEN HOLD L1 + L2 + R1 + R2 + ● + ▲ + ■ + ⬅. YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GO PAST THE MISSION IT'S USED ON.

INVINCIBILITY

AT THE MISSION BRIEFING SCREEN HOLD L1 + L2 + R1 + R2 + ● + ▲ + ■ + ⬅. THE ONLY DRAWBACK TO THIS CHEAT IS THAT THE GAME WILL NOT PROGRESS PAST THE CURRENT MISSION WHEN IT'S ACTIVE.

HIDDEN STAGES

ENTER YOUR NAME AS PANTALON IN THE PASSWORD SCREEN TO REVEAL THE SECRET STAGES.

LEVEL PASSWORDS

LEVEL 1	MADGAV
LEVEL 2	DOLMAN
LEVEL 3	SONAGAV
LEVEL 4	ACEDUF
LEVEL 5	JOJOGUN
LEVEL 6	WENSKI
LEVEL 7	SAEGGY
LEVEL 8	MAZMAN
LEVEL 9	DAZMAN
LEVEL 10	DELUCS
LEVEL 11	ANDOOOO
LEVEL 12	KIMBCHS
LEVEL 13	ANDYMAC
LEVEL 14	YERMAN
LEVEL 15	OLLIEB
LEVEL 16	THEYOLK
LEVEL 17	TONYMASH
LEVEL 18	ANDYCROW
LEVEL 19	BIONIC
LEVEL 20	TSLATER
LEVEL 21	IAINTHOD
LEVEL 22	IONRITZ
LEVEL 23	CLAIREC
LEVEL 24	STEVEBOT
LEVEL 25	ANGUSF
LEVEL 26	EUANLEC
LEVEL 27	EDFIRE
LEVEL 28	STUBOMB
LEVEL 29	THONBOY
LEVEL 30	JIMMAC
LEVEL 31	PUGGER
LEVEL 32	ROSSCO
LEVEL 33	CAKEBOY
LEVEL 34	NIKNAK
LEVEL 35	SAGLORD

MOTO RACER

All of the following cheats should be entered on the start/options title screen.

POCKET BIKE MODE
▲ ▼ R2 L2 ▼ ▲ L1 ✕

REVERSE MODE
⬅ ➡ ⬅ ➡ ● ● R1 L1 ▲ ✕

ENABLE ALL TEN TRACKS
▲ ▲ ⬅ ➡ ▼ ▼ ● R2 ▲ ✕

ENABLE ALL TRACKS (REVERSED)
▼ ▼ ➡ ⬅ ▲ ▲ ● L2 ▲ ✕

NIGHT RACES
▲ ● L1 ▼ ▲ L2 ● ⬅ R1 ✕

OPPONENTS RACE AT 50 KM/H
▼ ▼ ▼ ● L1 ● L2 ▼ ▼ ✕

VICTORY MOVIE
● ▲ ● ▲ ● ▲ L1 ▲ R2 ✕

CREDITS MOVIE
● ▲ ● ● ▲ ● ▲ ➡ ⬅ ✕



■ As ridden by men with a death wish

Help

We care a lot

Sometimes the only people who'll be able to help you are the unsung heroes behind the help desks. With that in mind we've drawn up a list of the technical support/helplines telephone numbers for you to call. Always ask the permission of whoever pays the bill.



ACCLAIM	09068 303330
ACTIVISION	01895 456700
TAKE 2/BMG	01429 855046
CODEMASTERS	01926 816044
ELECTRONIC ARTS	0906 753253
EIDOS	0121 3560831
GREMLIN	01142 799 020
GT INTERACTIVE	0891 669910
INTERPLAY	0839 662666
JVC	0171 240 3121
KONAMI	09014 747484
MICROPROSE	01454 893900
NAMCO	0881 505505
PSYGNOSIS	0151 282 3333
SONY	09064 765765
TELSTAR	01932 232299
THQ	07071 223388
UBI SOFT	0181 944 9000

■ Don't worry, help is but a call away

Grand Theft Auto

Original gangsta

Could you give me cheats for Grand Theft Auto please.
Edward Prille

This one goes out to Eddie and anyone else looking to hone their O.G. skills on Grand Theft Auto. Ah Bwoy.

CHEAT MODES

Enter the following player names to enable various cheat effects.

BSTARD

All weapons, unlimited ammo, level select, 99 lives, armour, get out of jail, co-ordinate display, maximum wanted level, 5x bonus.

THESHIT

All weapons, unlimited ammo, level select, 99 lives, armour, get out of jail, 5x bonus.

MADEMAN

All weapons, unlimited ammo, level select, armour, get out of jail.

GROOVY

All weapons, unlimited ammo, armour, get out of jail.

BLOW ME

Display co-ordinates.

CHUFF

No police.

TURF

All cities.

CAPRICE

All cities (1 & 2)

WEYHEY

Collect 9,999,990 points.

FECK

Liberty City level 1 & 2.

TVTAN

Liberty City (1 & 2) & San Andreas Levels.



■ We advise our readers not to go out and re-enact the storylines in Grand Theft Auto

Platinum A-Z continued

F is for 'finishing first' (and Firestorm)

FIRESTORM: THUNDERHAWK 2

To activate these level codes you should enter them at the password screen.

SOUTH AMERICA
LEVEL 1 ..... ONHV0V6VEBDU55Q
LEVEL 2 ..... 2NH70V9VEFDQ592
LEVEL 3 ..... 7RH30V7AEFD64BI
LEVEL 4 ..... 8NH30V8EEJD24PI

GULF 2: OIL DISPUTE
LEVEL 1 ..... VNHR0V0E6JDE53I
LEVEL 2 ..... 0RHV0UO66NDA53A
LEVEL 3 ..... IFHD0UOU6RDM5P2
LEVEL 4 ..... NJHP0UKE6VDI5BI

STEALTH
LEVEL 1 ..... O7HP0UOQAUDE45A
LEVEL 2 ..... U7HL0UNIAUDA5RA
LEVEL 3 ..... AFHP0UKUA2DM4HI

CENTRAL AMERICA
LEVEL 1 ..... FJHL0UGII2CE4KI
LEVEL 2 ..... G7HH0U72I2CA5R2
LEVEL 3 ..... 2BHP0URQI6CM58A

SOUTH CHINA SEA
LEVEL 1 ..... KRG50URQ26GE4J2
LEVEL 2 ..... 0RGL0UTI3AGA5UI
LEVEL 3 ..... FRG9S1CM3EGM52I

PANAMA
LEVEL 1 ..... 93G5SD9UNGGE4OA
LEVEL 2 ..... VVG5SHUENGGA4SQ
LEVEL 3 ..... JNGH4CPUNKGM5TI

EASTERN EUROPE
LEVEL 1 ..... L3GG4406VOEE5R1
LEVEL 2 ..... F7GK5S2QV0EA41A
LEVEL 3 ..... 27GK50UMV4EM58Q

GULF 1: CANYON
LEVEL 1..... 7FGK48T6R8ME4NI
LEVEL 2..... 8JGK48VUR8MA5JQ
END OF GAME T7GK28U2SCMM4OI



There's an oil dispute, so start your bombing ➡

Nuclear Strike

This is a warning

Hi there PlayStation, I'm just writing to tell you that you're my fave mag in the world.

I'm stuck on Nuclear Strike so could you please live up to your reputation and give us a hand. Thanks and keep up the good work.
Julie

plus Incoming...

START WITH FIVE CREDITS
Enter the password as WARRIOR.

NO ENEMY FIRE
Enter the password as PHOENIX to disable enemy fire.

EASY FIRST MISSION
Enter the password as EAGLEEYE to play an easy version of the first level. Or enter AVENGER to play it with no enemies.

FLY FURTHER
Enter the password as MPG to fly further without refuelling.

BACK TO PREVIOUS MISSION
Enter the password as ANDREAS to return to the previous mission.

LEVEL PASSWORDS
LEVEL 2 ..... CUTTHROATS
LEVEL 3 ..... COUNTDOWN
LEVEL 3B ..... PLUTONIUM
LEVEL 4 ..... PUSAN
LEVEL 5 ..... ARMAGEDDON
LEVEL 6 ..... RMAGEDDON
BONUS LEVEL ..... LIGHTNING

UNLIMITED LIVES
Enter LAZARUS as a password.

MOVE FASTER
Enter WARPDRIVE as a password.

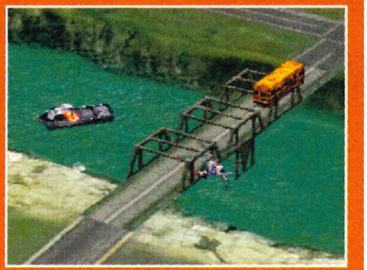
UNLIMITED AMMO
Enter GOPOSTAL as a password.

VIEW FUTURE STRIKE ADVERT
Enter COMMERCIAL as a password. Go to STRIKE Files and view any file (not Credits) to see advert for the next game in the series, Future Strike.

ALL AMMO, ARMOUR & FUEL
To get all ammo, armour and fuel enter PACKISBACK as a password. Happy now, y'cheatin' cur?



■ Fly with the confidence of unlimited lives



■ Wait until the school bus is over the bridge

Motorhead

Petrolheadz

I've recently bought Motorhead, which is cool. But can you sort me some cheats?
Lemmy

plus Ho ho ho Lemmy. Now do you expect us to believe you are the one and only Lemmy from Motorhead writing in for cheats to a PlayStation game of the same name. Well we'll play along this once... Here's some ace (of spades) cheats for your rockin' pleasure big fella.

LASTCODE ..... Unlocks cars and tracks
SUPERCAR ..... Camera above the car
TURBOMOS ..... Unlocks Nolby Hills
FRAGTIME .... Unlocks Div 1 cars and tracks
COWRULES ... Unlocks Div 2 cars and tracks



■ Wow, nice motor look at the tyres on that

PLAYSTATION PROBLEM?

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IT WON'T COST YOU ANYTHING to send us a question about games, tips, moves, cheats, release dates, gear, etc. All you need to do is just write your question on this form, rip out the page, and follow the instructions on the next page.

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PlayStation plus

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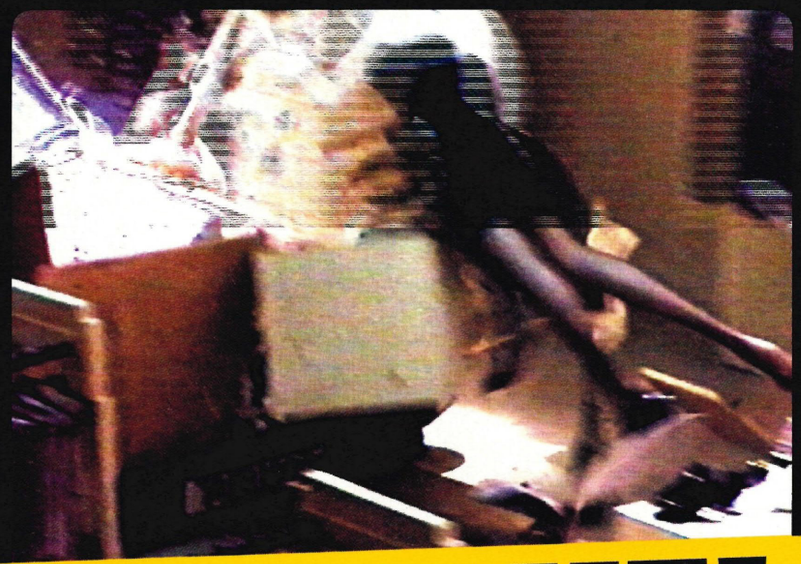
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COP THIS!

Fine, upstanding game producers Psygnosis have teamed up with the sickeningly-cool clothes label Diesel to give you the chance to win three sets of the trendy togs worn by the clued-up chalk outline in this pic.



Giubbino Bulletproof
£175.99
(Don't go getting too excited. It's not really bulletproof...)



Priest Trousers £89.99.
Real leather knee- and groin- pads! Oh yeah!

Giubbino Commander Jacket £199.99
With numerous buttons and pockets as standard. Bonus!

And that's not all. Ten copies of Psygnosis's primo sci-fi shoot 'em up G-Police 2 are also up for grabs. 'But what do we have to do to win these awesome consumer goods?' we hear you cry. Simple. Just pop your answer to this easy-peasy question into the form below, send it to us... and wait.

Q. Which of these isn't a nickname for the police?

A. The rozzers
B. The pigs
C. The jelly moulds

WIN LOTSA G-POLICE 2 STUFF

See the little picture of scissors down there on the right? Yep, that means you need to use a pair, normally found in a kitchen drawer, to cut out this coupon and send it to us at the address below. Not forgetting to fill it in first. D'oh!

A. THE ROZZERS ☐ B. THE PIGS ☐ C. THE JELLY MOULDS ☐

NAME:

TELEPHONE:

D.O.B:

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

Couldn't be simpler. So if you think you know the answer, fill in the form below and send it to the following address: PlayStation Plus, 37-39 Millharbour, Isle of Dogs, London, E14 9TZ. Don't forget to mark your envelope G-Police threads. The closing date is the 26th of May. Usual competition rules apply.

■ Photography: Mike Harding


KERRANG!
the loudest magazine
on the planet.

Rated

WE TEST AND SCORE EVERY NEW PLAYSTATION GAME THIS MONTH

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 okay
71-80%	Good, not great
81-90%	Almost classic
91-100%	Essential play

Rent it	winner	Platinum
Good game, but maybe a bit limited, not worth buying	A great game (91% plus) you've just got to play	A range of games all reduced to the budget price of £19.99

Hard Edge: played it till our thumbs were numb and our eyes were dry...

RATED THIS MONTH

p80 **Marvel vs Street Fighter** — Your fave characters go to war...
p82 **Hard Edge** — Shoot 'em up adventure in a Tomb Raider style
p83 **Running Wild** — Little animals running wild. Honest!
p84 **Warzone 2100** — War. Strategy. Tactics. Put your thinking head on
p86 **Street Fighter Collection 2** — More Street fighting. Yeah, we're bored too
p87 **Sports Car GT** — Racing again. Rubbish racing at that
p88 **Need For Speed: Road Challenge** — Not sick of driving yet? You're the only one, then
p89 **Asterix** — French cartoons? Not for us, thanks
p90 **Big Air** — It's big. It contains air. It's about snowboarding
p91 **Swing** — Puzzle game with balls. Sharp...
p92 **YoYo's Puzzle Park** — More puzzling in a yoyo style
p92 **Tank Racer** — The name says it all..
p93 **Guardian Crusade** — Role-playing gubbins...
p94 **Actua Ice Hockey 2** — Stick to soccer, lads
p95 **Heart of Darkness** — Platinum platformer rated
p96 **Moto Racer** — Cheapo two-wheeled racing
p96 **G-Police** — Shoot'em up goes for a song
p97 **Hercules** — Disney game goes down in price

plus The Knowledge

Get sussed! Our honest scores on every PlayStation game ever released... PLUS! Game gear, advice on memory cards, Dos and Don'ts of chipping and tons more...
Starts p103

Knowledge: updated every month

All Games Rated between 71% 100%

The best games



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

MARVEL SUPER HEROES VS STREET FIGHTER

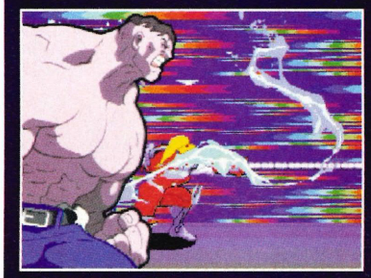
Super Heroes. Street Fighters. Fighting. You know the drill...

The folks who'll buy this have probably turned straight to this page. See, some people find Street Fighter just TOO addictive. One day they'll seek help but they're going to buy just... one... more... game before they give up for good...

What we don't like

Better? Not much...

The Street Fighter games get more polished year by year. The moves get more loopy, the guest fighters get more colourful and the old fave characters get tweaked. But even stuff like this is still not THAT much of a raise on Street Fighter 2. Which we were playing eight years ago. Get our drift?



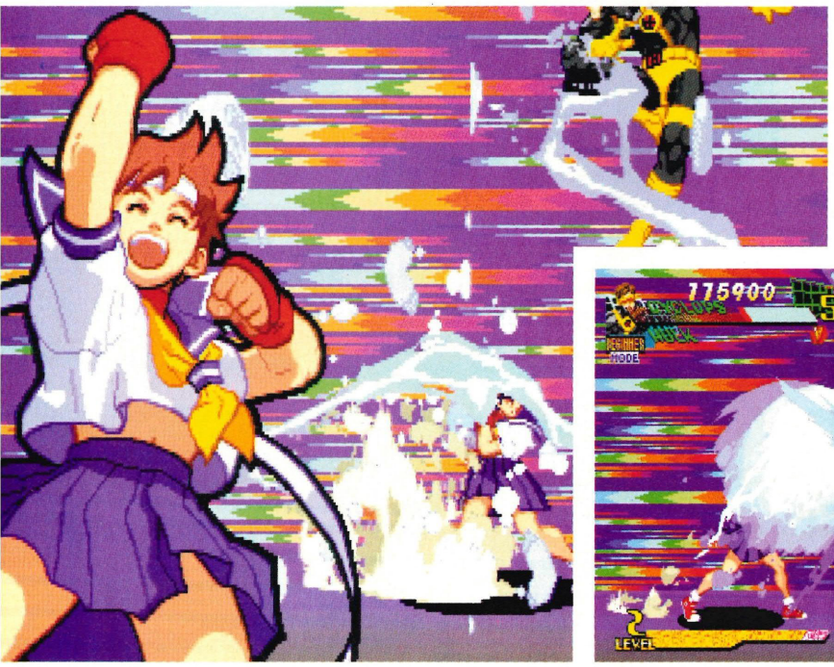
■ Tired of Street Fighter? Us?



■ Is eight years of this too much? Jury's out

Graphics

Looks. It's got 'em. It looks like a trashy Saturday morning cartoon gone 'Station. Cool. But it doesn't move cartoon-smooth. We've kind of grown to accept this in 2D beat 'em ups, and here, the sheer number of stupid specials and flashy bits kind of makes up for it. Kind of. But if you're looking to see your 'Station flex its graphics muscles, no dice.



■ Looks VERY cool in a still picture, dunnit?



■ But in motion, this is far from being poetry. Trust us on this one

What we like

You'll have a fine old time...

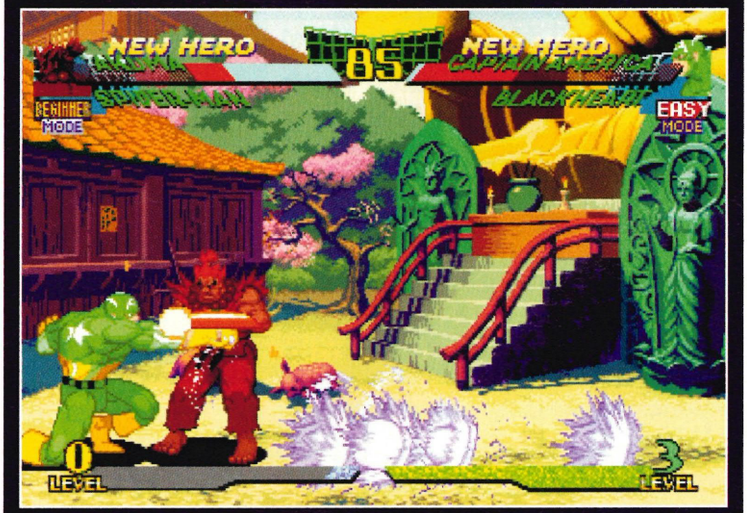
Yes, yes, yes. It is a bit schizo to have a 'What We Like' bit next to a 'What We Don't Like'. Deal with it. See, this game tickles your fun centres. It looks nice. It plays nice. It's got 'da moves'. It'll have old-time SF heads going nuts. Again. If you like Street Fighter – and many people do – this one's the new daddy.



■ Big moves come as standard



■ All the old favourite characters are here



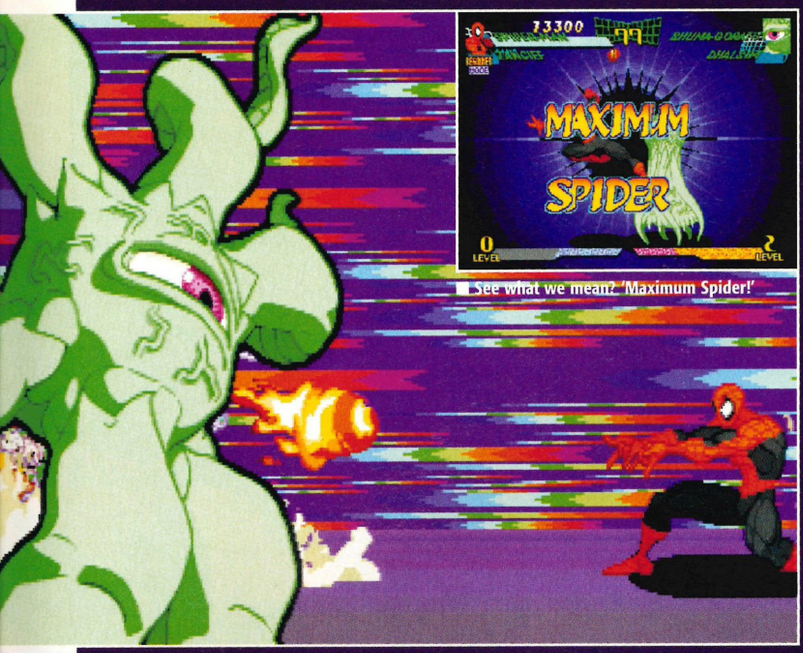
■ And if you don't mind the fact that the series has hardly developed, you'll have a ball



■ The sheer variety of moves to play with is cool, though

Super X Berserker Alpha Combo finish!

This isn't like Tekken where just knocking the bloke down and killing him is enough to gain respect. Much geek points can be gained by pulling off huge specials of improbable size and pain that light up the screen like a nuclear blast. Words appear to tell you what special you've done: 'Berserker Barrage X!' Indeed.



■ See what we meant. 'Maximum Spider!'

■ My. That's a very big move. You'll earn yourself a whole load of points for that one...



■ Pull off specials and the other bloke shows up

Under the sign of...

What's cool here is that you get to play as part of a team. You pick two blokes each out of an assortment of Street Fighter bods – Ryu, Chun Li, Zangieff – or huge Marvel super-types ranging from normal Marvelettes like Wolverine to huge hound dawg villains like Blackheart. And as a team, it goes a little something like this...



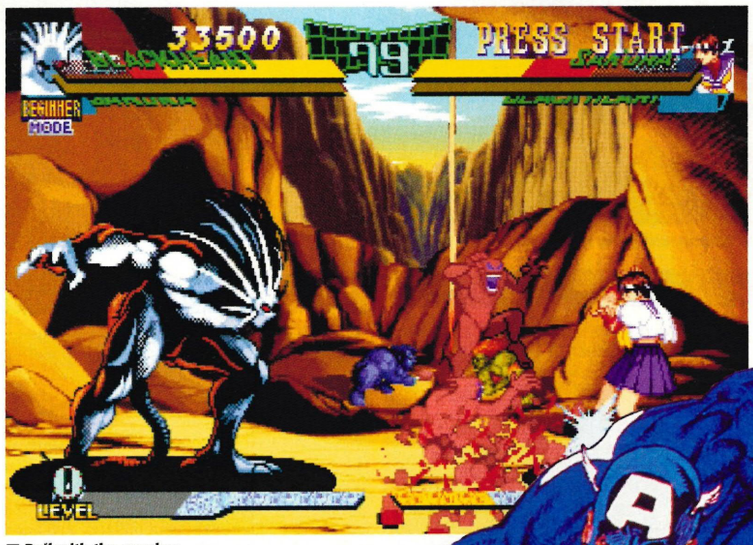
■ Everything kind of stops, and your mate moves in to kick butt

Big moves...

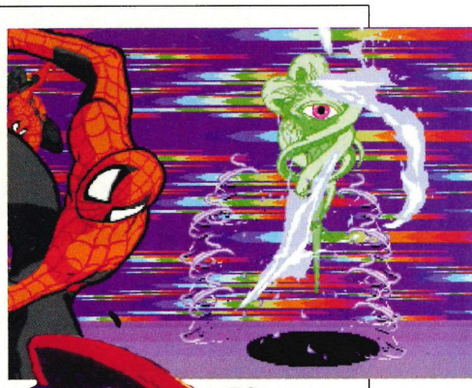
You max out your powerbar by hitting the other fella. You grin and unleash a special move. Cool. But it could've been cooler. See, in the arcades, you used the bar to swap over with the other fella for a 'tag team' effect. But the 'Station can't do that.



■ Powerbar full? Then unleash storms of pain



■ Roll with the punches...



■ Super moves.



■ Build up power by dishing out hurt. This'll fill up your powerbar ready to unleash a special move.



■ Cpt America: promoted from private

Make no mistake. This is for the hardcore. Nutcase 2D beat 'em up fans should feel free to buy three copies. The rest of you be very careful. **Rob**

PlayStation plus
RATED 83%

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

HARD EDGE

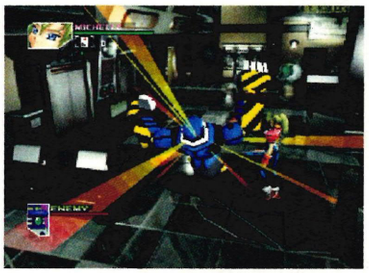
There's nothing like slaughtering 21st century terrorists to liven up an evening in front of the telly...

Infiltrate hi-tech military building. Rescue innocent civilians. Solve tricky puzzles. Make your way down corridors littered with fire-bombs. Find terrorists. Open can of whupass. Stand well back. Yep, it's all in a day's work for these guys...

The story so far...

Another day goes by, another group of deranged terrorists seize control of a key military installation. 'Course what they didn't count on was that the rock-hard guys and gals down at the local police SWAT team would be along promptly to kick some ass.

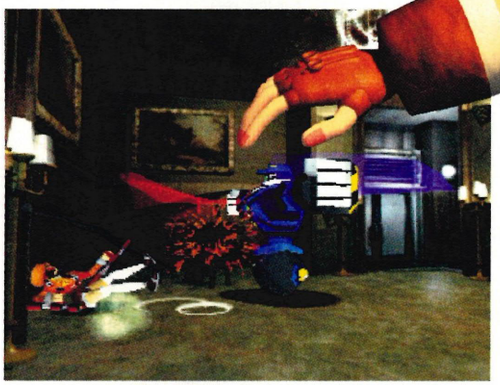
You play the part of the fella in charge of this team. Your mission is simple: take out the terrorists and rescue the hostages. Sheesh, what did you expect from a shoot 'em up, War & Peace?



■ Did we mention there are robots in this game?



■ Yep. Like fawsands of robots...



■ All programmed to rip your head off. You've been warned



■ Watch it, that gun says, 'I'm gorgeous, but don't try anything with me...'

Oh, what an atmosphere

The first thing that runs through your head when you pick up Hard Edge is... Resident Evil. The two games are very similar – no bad thing. But Hard Edge doesn't quite match up to the classic action/adventure game. Problem is the lack of atmosphere. There are no genuine frights, no eerie music, no sinister plot twists, nothing to really grab you by the balls and make you wanna keep on playing. Shame really.



■ A decent splattering of blood would've spiced this up a bit...

Kung fu fighting

Hard Edge is filled with evil geezas who want to beat the crapola out of your sorry ass. Do you introduce them to Mr 9mm or let your fists do the talking? It's up to you. See, each of the characters are not only handy with high-calibre firearms, but are no slouch in the vicious fisticuffs department too. Check it out...



■ A few rounds from the gun'll do the trick...



■ Plenty of kung fu with the female character



■ Or the odd head rolling across the floor...



■ It's still the business though, we reckon

My brain hurts

Balls-out bravado will only get you so far. There comes a point when you've gotta start using your noggin. Hard Edge is chocka with puzzles. Nope. They're more of the pull-lever-to-open-door variety. Nothing too tricky. Sounds good, yes?



■ Hmm... I wonder what this button does...



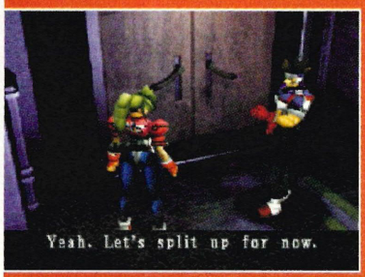
■ 15 seconds to find the key...



■ Bingo. Wasn't too tricky

Changing faces

There are four different characters in Hard Edge to get to grips with and you can switch between 'em at any point in the game. Say you get to a locked door and you don't have the key to open it, switch to another character and odds are they'll be able to help you out in some way. It's called teamwork.



■ Giving it the verbal won't get the job done



■ Score a double with the machete chick

Graphics

Nothing stirs our loins more than a top bit of eye candy. And Hard Edge ain't no slouch in the graphics department. We're talking top-quality movie cutscenes, goyjush backgrounds, smart futuristic-looking characters and all-round top presentation. We like. A lot.



■ Easy on the eye and cool to play. Not a bad combination, we reckon...

Cooler than a polar winter. It's challenging, it looks the business and it's great to play. Not quite a must-buy winner, but you could do a helluva lot worse. **Lee**

PlayStation plus RATED 84%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** SONY ■ **COSTS** £34.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-4
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

RUNNING WILD

Donkey pulls into first place. Time to get medieval on the ass...

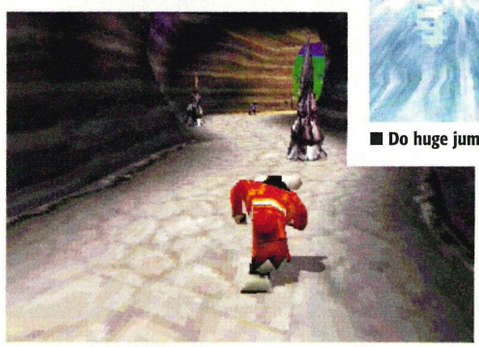
A bunch of comedy wild animals tanking it none-too-seriously round a set of hurdles-a-popping race courses. Running, quite literally, wild. Puns don't weigh in any sicklier. And the game? Well, hit and miss. Mostly miss, but...

What happens

Animals gallop round racetracks. They hurdle objects. They hoof it round secret bits. They hit each other. They gobble stuff to make themselves faster. Fun? Well, a bit. It could've done with looking nicer. It needs more guns. Nice idea, but a tad stinky.



■ Do huge jumps onto secret bits...



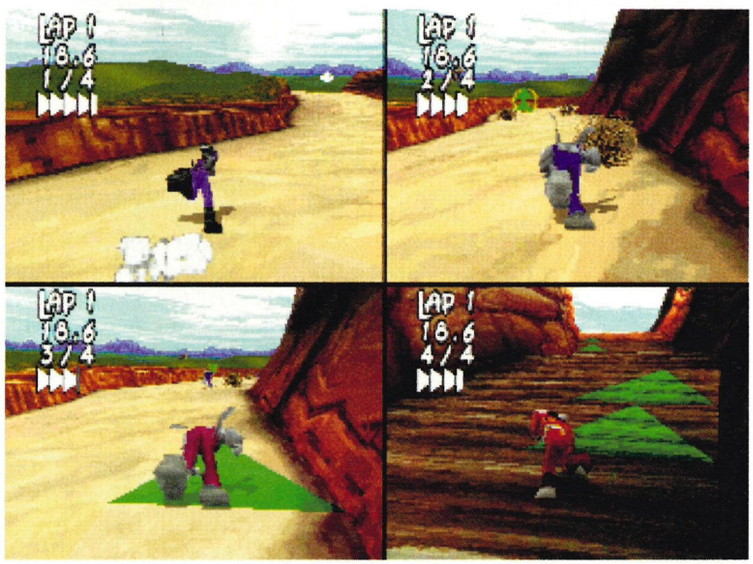
■ Get speed-ups and things that shrink the enemy



■ Race against demon bosses

So. You like eet, huh?

Now this isn't a game you'd want to have in pride of place in your collection. Not one you'd be showing off to your mates. No siree Bob. But that said, there is one mighty fine thing about it. You can do two and four-player races on split-screen. It's fast. It's furious. Things can get hectic. Fun can be had.



■ With folks going power-up mental, the four-player kicks ass. This bit of the game we like

Not a game you should seriously consider parting with 35 smackers for, but a larf in multiplayer. One to rent when your social diary is seriously empty. Maybe. **Rob**

PlayStation plus RATED 70%

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

WARZONE 2100

Warzone 2100's a war strategy game. There's war and there's strategy. So far so good. But wait, there's more. And it starts to get a bit confusing...

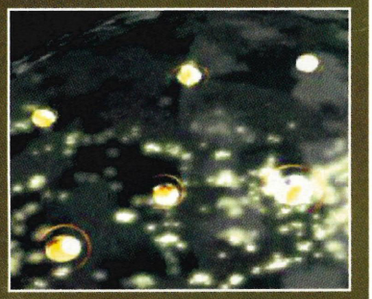
Yup, not content with laying war and strategy on yo ass the geezers behind this have decided to load it down with all sorts of other stuff. Like a plot. The kind of plot that'll leave even hardened war game fans brain boggled...

The plot

The game's set in America, a land savaged by the poisoned winds of a nuclear war. A group of survivors known as the 'Project' set about finding technologies lost in the atomic aftermath. The idea is that through research and the bravery of Uncle Sam this'll lead to the eventual destruction of Nexus, the nasty 'being' responsible for the nuclear winter...



■ Blame the nukes on the satellites



■ There goes the US



■ The survivors look for a way forward



■ They need technology

War chic

As strategy games go this looks the business. Unlike some other war games you can rotate your view and zoom in and out. This means up close tanks really do look like tanks. Gone are the days of vaguely military looking blobs of colour. It's like being fitted up for glasses then opening your eyes for the first time.



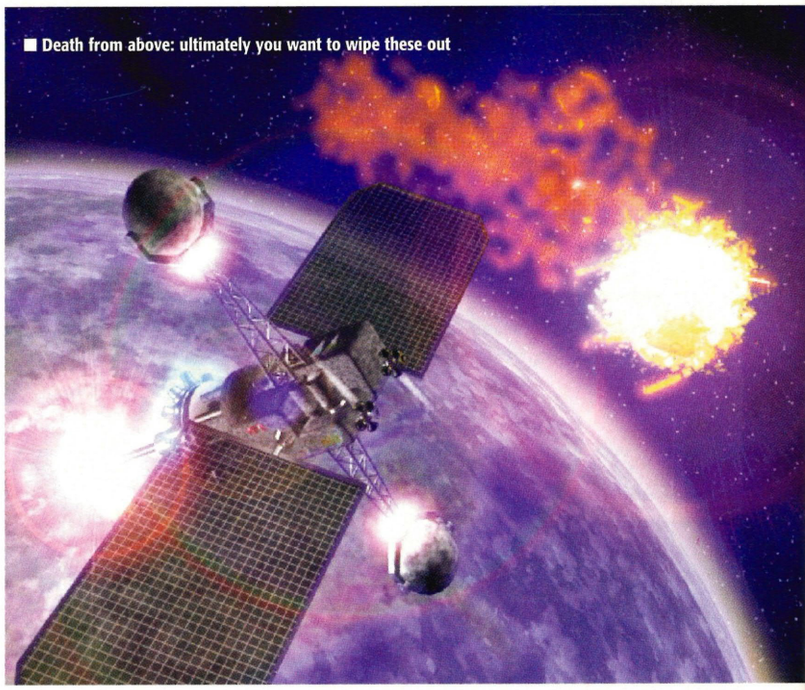
■ Up close the graphics still look pretty sweet



■ This looks great for a strategy game



■ Control entire squadrons or just single tanks



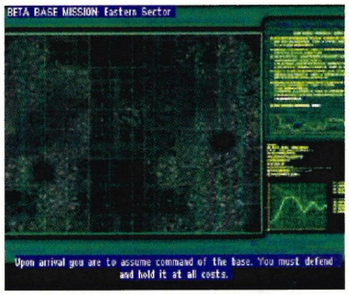
■ Death from above: ultimately you want to wipe these out

Moving

There are two ways of moving your vehicles around. You can either steer them via the direction pad or you can stick to the ol' tried and tested point and click method. The only downside to actually steering the motas is all the other vehicles in your posse follow blindly. This means they get in the way and generally grind your nads. Argh.



■ If you're not careful they'll get in the way



■ Listen to the briefing, it's important



■ That menu to the left is how you give orders



■ Fire when you see red



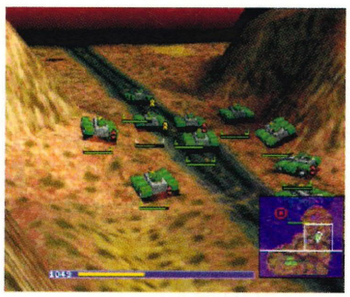
■ The flying things are bad

Artefacts

The most important part of Warzone is collecting artefacts. Sure, sounds a bit dull, but these ain't the kind of artefacts you'll find in a museum... Nope, the stuff you find lying around are leftovers from a once technologically-advanced time. This means you get anything from well-smart weapons to super-powerful vehicleslike aircraft and flame throwing tanks. But before you can use the gear, you've got to research the prototypes...



■ Raid the enemies for goodies...



■ Then trot off home...



■ Give it to the boffs...



■ Bung it in the factory... hey presto



■ Design a new vehicle...

What we kinda like

Rallying the forces

It's pretty tricky to get to grips with the control system to begin with, 'cos you've got a load of tanks which are all under your control. Thankfully you can group them together, assigning 'em to individual buttons for ease of use. It works too, but the process of setting up your squads does take a bit of getting used to. Just be patient, OK...



■ There are loads of vehicles - grouping them together does take some getting used to

Factory seconds

Some of the missions require you to go in mob-handed. This means getting your factories working overtime for the war effort. There are different types of factories, ranging from light manufacturing for bullets and the like, all the way up to supertank-producing heavy industry. Like all good manufacturing industries Warzone moves with the times. As soon as your research facilities develop new products your factories can get busy producing massive amounts of them...



■ They're building factories...



■ They're building HQs, they're building mad

What we really like

Deeper than deep

Unlike some strategy games there's a real sense of being in control with Warzone 2100. You can either sit back and play God, controlling your entire army from afar. Or you get stuck stuck in, taking over a single unit and leading them into battle. The only downside is your social life, which is gonna take a battering.



■ Controlling a single tank is great fun...



■ But guiding the whole army is more effective

plus

We'd like to say...

You'll either love or hate this game. To find out whether you'll dig this baby, simply answer the following question: do you get bored easily? If the answer's yes, trust us, you won't like Warzone. However, if you've got the patience of a saint, splash the cash and indulge in one of the most absorbing strategy epics the 'Station has seen.

Research

You find the artefacts. That's the easy bit. Then you get your research eggheads to develop the raw materials and come up with a design. After you've done that, send the design to the factory for mass production. You needs resources to do all this, and the only way to get the gear flooding in is to mine the precious ore from the planet's surface. God, there's so much to remember.



■ Develop new ammo to become super tough



■ Once you've made new and nasty weapons, test them out on some badasses

You want full-on blasting? Turn the page. Otherwise Warzone's a class act, with loads of missions to tuck into and tons of vehicles and stuff to play around with. Sweet. **Rich**

PlayStation plus

RATED 87%

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

STREET FIGHTER COLLECTION 2

Another Street Fighter Collection for your collection...

Street Fighter 2 was THE beat 'em up to be seen with back in the early 90s. And on this disc are three of the several thousand ever-so-slightly different versions of SF2 that floated around back in the day. Retro central. Oh deary dear...

What you've got

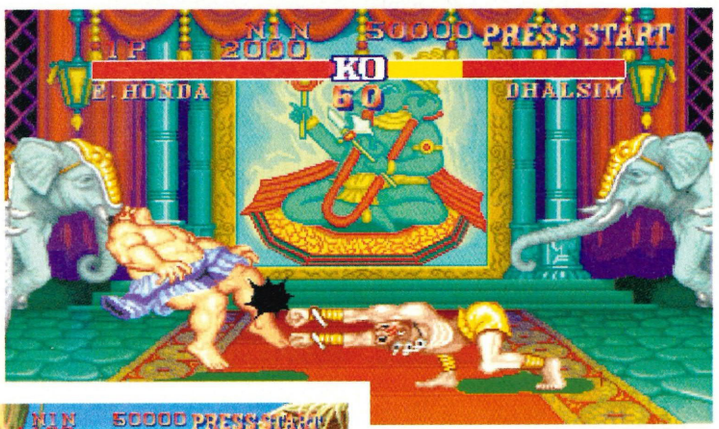
What we've got here is three 'classic' versions of Street Fighter – World Warriors, Hyper Fighter and Champion's Edition. Nuts look at them and lick their lips. The rest of us sit there feeling we're missing something. If you were an absolute SF nut back in the day, maybe these'll bring back happy memories. If not, you'll be left going 'Whaaat?'



■ World Warriors. Slow, old SF



■ Turbo. Old SF, but much faster



■ Champion's Edition. Slow, old SF... with the addition of four bosses. Whoopee...



■ The Hyper Fighters bit is the best of the lot



■ But it 's nowhere near the pace of SF Alpha

Champion's Edition

It's EXACTLY the same as World Warriors. Except you get to play as the bosses. No, that wasn't somebody at the back shouting 'Cash-in!' It was just a sneeze, honest...



■ Balrog. A SF boss, yesterday



■ Vega. Another of those bosses. Loverly

World Warriors

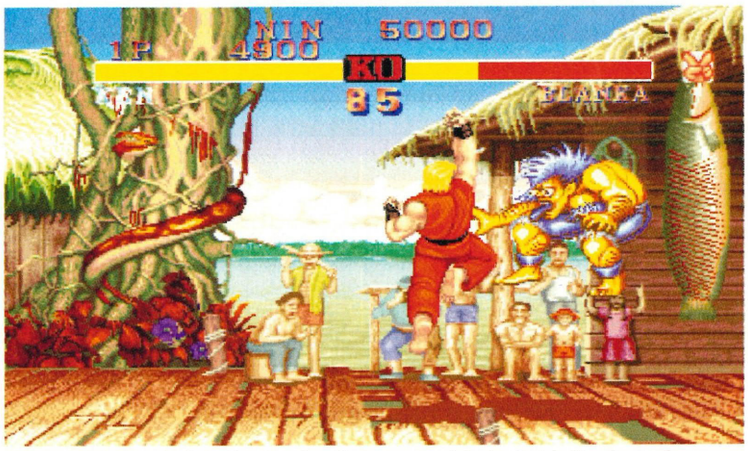
The original Street Fighter 2. But you'd have to be a bona fide nutbar to say it was the best. The graphics don't need any introduction. They're awful. The animation's jerky and there are only six characters. Urgh!



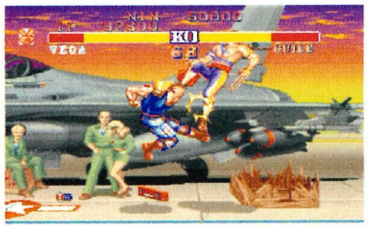
■ S-l-o-w. You won't believe this is the game you loved

Hyper Fighter

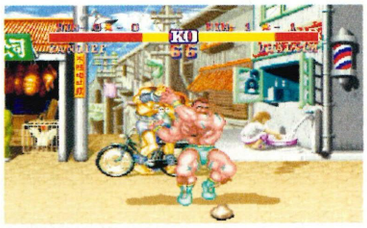
The most recent version on this disc. Because it's slightly newer, it's a touch faster, and the animation isn't as creaky. It looks semi-decent. But semi-decent is about as flattering as we're going to get. This is just old. We want new games. Hell, is that too much to ask?



■ The special moves do their thing. Ken does his Dragon Punch in classic style. Very impressive



■ Guile, Chun-Li, Blanka. The gang's all here



■ But on the whole, this hasn't aged well...

What you see is what you get, basically. If the idea of three ancient – sorry, 'classic' – Street Fighters fills you with joy, you'll like it. If not, give this the dodge. **Rob**

PlayStation plus
RATED 60%

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

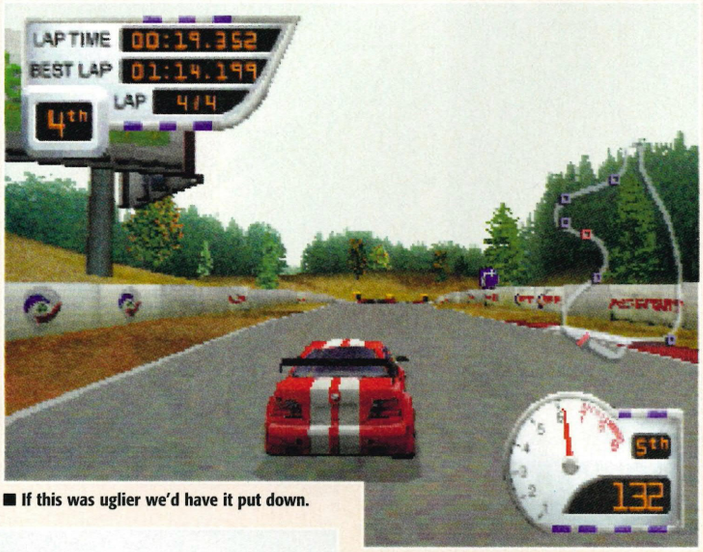
SPORTS CAR GT

In years to come this'll be seen as a funny joke. Now, however, it's an embarrassment

Not since the arrival of boy bands has there been such an example of shameless cash cowing as the daily churn of driving games on the PlayStation. Which brings us to the latest offering to the petrol god: Sports Car GT...

Looking the part

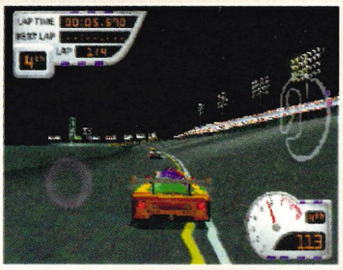
We reckon you should be able to tell whether a driving game's gash as soon as you get behind the wheel. First thing you'll notice is whether it's a pig or a princess in the looks department. And this game? We'd have to say it comes complete with a snout and four trotters. The main problem is the picture looks really grainy. At times you'll be at a complete loss as to which way the track is about to turn. And that's not good...



■ If this was uglier we'd have it put down.



■ Feel the quality. Umm...



■ Oh dear, she's even a dog in the dark

Courses

When you actually get around to picking your track it's a case of same old same old. There are eight tracks to choose from, including Donington and Hockenheim, which seem to be in every racing game these days.



■ Seen it all before



■ There's a real sense of deja vu here

Wibble wobble

GT means Gran Turismo. Big wobbly luxury cars originally designed for burning around Europe with a bit of Eurotrash totty as luggage. Well, that's the history lesson over. Back to the present. What do the GT cars of yesterday have in common with the steroid addled motas of this game? Handling like jelly, that's what. The kind that makes you sick.



■ It's a huge pile of poo



■ Handling... what's that?



■ You'll be seeing a lot of the gravel



■ Can we trash it? No we can't

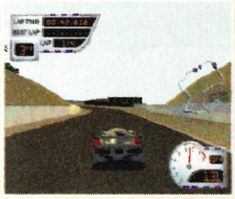
plus

We'd like to say...

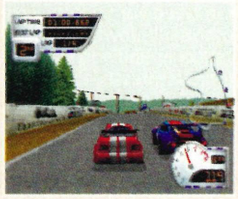
When there's so much better on offer why bother? This is seriously under par. It looks basic in comparison to the top dogs and it runs a hell of a lot slower, too. Save your money, save your time, save yourselves...

Sense of speed

Adrenalin, the lifeblood of racing, the very stuff that drives people to the limit. Judging by the speed thrill to be gained by playing Sports Car GT the only limit you'll be reaching is your patience. If you can't get a game to look fast on the 'Station, you're doing it wrong.



■ Believe us when we say this is slow. S-l-o-w. Slooooooow



■ It's head-to-head. We should be getting excited by now. But...



■ Two player mayhem. Except... Yup, it's not very good

It hurts us to think about this game. It rips off everything worthwhile in racing games and makes it look second rate. We deserve more, we really do. **Rich**

PlayStation plus

RATED 55%

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

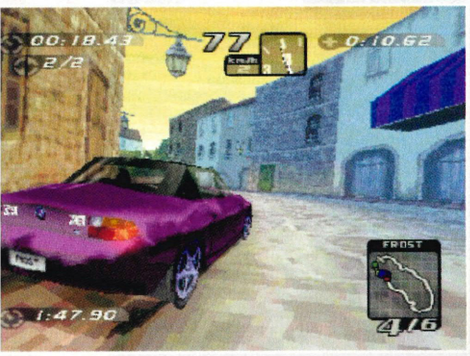
NEED FOR SPEED: ROAD CHALLENGE

Ancient racer back for a fourth bite of the PlayStation cherry...

Fancy thrashing mega-expensive European sports cars around high speed road circuits? Then the latest game in the Need For Speed series might just be the racer for you. Just don't go expecting another Gran Turismo, OK?

Speed freaks

The last Need For Speed game was faster than Linford. This one is tons slower. They should be prosecuted by Trading Standards for improper use of the word 'speed'. Sure it gets faster when you've got enough moolah to splash out on a Ferrari or McLaren, but we want instant thrills 'n' spills. An idea for Need For Speed 5 perhaps?



■ Snails with arthritis shift quicker than this...



■ Zzzzzz. Wake me up when we get to a corner...



■ This is more like it. Top-of-the-range motas are much better

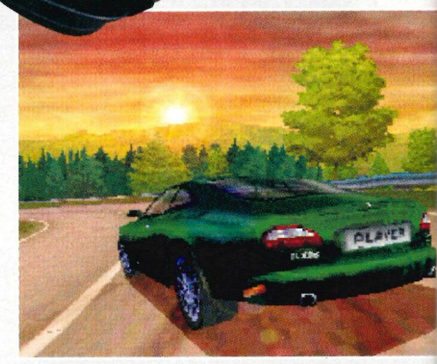


■ Speed? We're not so sure

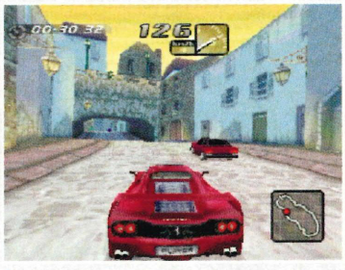
The car's the star

Gran Turismo has around a billion cars to get your hands on. But let's face it, there are only about five that you'd actually be seen dead in. Most of 'em are crap Jap cars like Nissans and Hondas – strictly for Sunday drivers only.

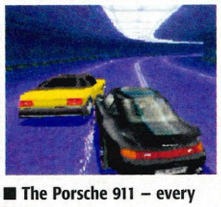
The good news is that the Need For Speed lads have gone one better and got exclusive licences for some of the sexiest sports cars in the world. We may not like the game as a whole, but we sho' do like this bit of it...



■ Annoy the coppers in your Jaguar XKR



■ Tear up the tarmac in your ferocious Ferrari F50



■ The Porsche 911 – every bloke's dream



■ And since this game boasts loads of licences, you can expect to burn rubber in the Lamborghini Diablo SV, too

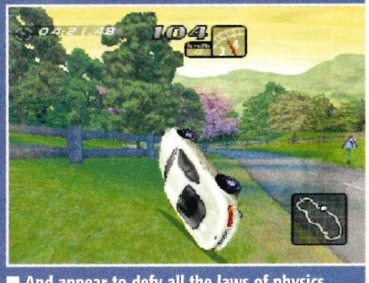
What we don't like

Smashing motas

There's nothing quite like writing off an insanely expensive mota. And there's plenty of opportunity for that in Need For Speed. Clip a bit of the scenery and your souped-up jalopy will somersault down the road in spectacular fashion. Problem is that the crashes look crap and you stand bugger all chance of catching up the rest of the pack. We're not impressed...



■ Crashes are well over-the-top...



■ And appear to defy all the laws of physics

Wait... there's more

What makes or breaks racing games these days are the extras – the bits you get in addition to your bog-standard racing action. Luckily, Need For Speed is chock-a-block with options including: single races, tournaments, time attack, two-player and, best of all, pursuit mode. The idea here is to complete the race without being nicked by the cops.



■ What are you gonna do? Smash right through the police roadblock?



■ That'll be three points on your licence and a hefty fine then

Graphics

Hit and miss really. The trackside scenery looks well smart, the backgrounds are lush and the moving trains and air balloons are the icing on the Need For Speed cake. Our only gripe is that the car models look a bit 'boxy' and move and react to the road surface in an unrealistic way. But playing from the tip-of-the-bonnet viewpoint will sort that one out.



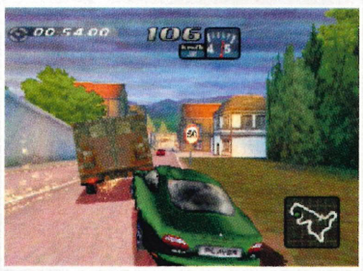
■ There are some nice touches, but it ain't gonna give Gran Turismo any sleepless nights

Pad problems

Play with a normal pad and your souped-up sports car turns with all the precision and grace of an oiltanker. But plug in a dual shock and it's a whole different ballgame. We're talking super-sensitive handling, lovely smooth turning curves and smart vibrating feedback. Not much good if you've only got a standard pad, though.



■ You're going to be tearing your hair out using the bog-standard pad



■ But it's a million times better with the dual shock. Trust us on this one...

Middle-of-the-road racer which lacks the speed and rampant playability of similar games. Splash the moolah and you're gonna be disappointed. Lee

PlayStation plus

RATED 64%

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

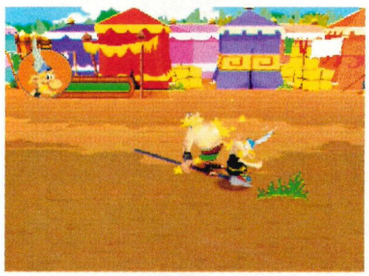
ASTERIX

The first game of Asterix's adventures. And hopefully the last...

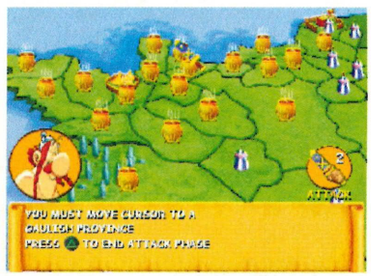
France's favourite cartoon character hits the 'Station. France's favourite anything is usually bad news, and this godawful mix of strategy and platform game is no exception. Even if you read the Asterix books, don't. Just don't.

Strategy

Asterix is a 'Gaul'. That's 'ancient French bloke' to you and me. The 'Gauls' are fighting the Romans. They do it by moving bits of magic potion (which makes the so-called 'Gauls' strong) around a map of France and fighting it out in a deadly boring mathematical struggle with numbers of Romans. It's disgustingly dull.



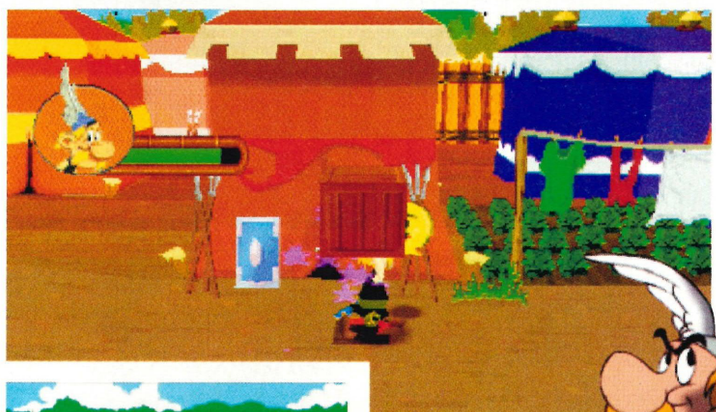
■ Asterix mercilessly batters Romans. In one of the bits they put in to make the game less dull...

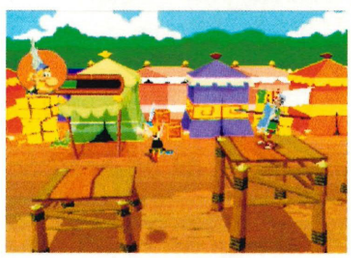


■ The dull bit. Numbered armies slug it out. It's like Maths lessons. Except you pay £40

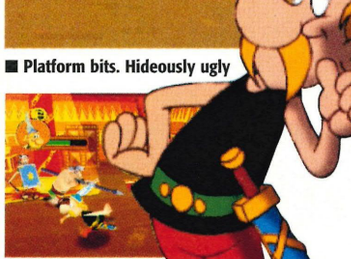
Action

Watching the edge-of-seat struggle between a pile of magic potion valued '12' and a pile of Romans valued '13' just wasn't enough for those adrenalin-crazy French developers. So, when you go to some bits of the map there're platform bits where you earn more potion. They too are godawful. Nul points for graphics, nul points for gameplay. Oops...





■ They're also revoltingly linear



■ Platform bits. Hideously ugly

■ Did we say boring?

Insanely bad. Ugly, boring, unplayable dross. French games are ALWAYS beyond dreadful (Fade to Black excepted). And this is up there with the best of 'em. Rob

PlayStation plus

RATED 30%

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

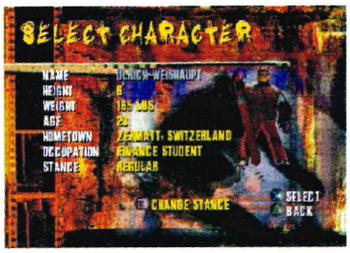
BIG AIR

We want it harder, faster and phatter cried the masses....

There's no doubt the people who thought up Big Air wanted to create the ultimate snowboarding game. And to do this they crammed the game full of as much snowboarding gubbins as they could lay their hands on. Does it work? Hmm...

Keeping it real

One thing's for sure, you'll be impressed with the attention to detail. The game fairly reeks of authenticity. Everything from the clothes labels and makes of board, to the music you'll hear is calculated to make you think this is the real deal.



■ Meet Mr Duderino



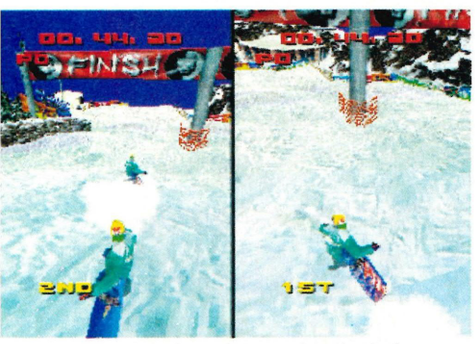
■ What's the difference between the boards?



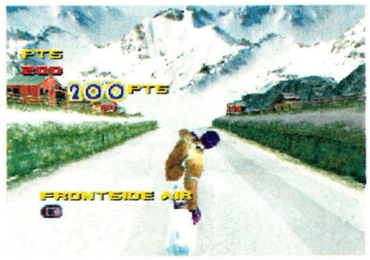
■ Pick your clothes, your board, your boarder, and in no time at all you'll be too cool for skool

Head-to-head

In racing games a decent two-player option is a must-have, so Big Air covers its bases by having split-screen AND link-up multiplayer modes. But while we'd happily lead a three cheers for including a link-up option, the end result for this and the split-screen mode is a tad sluggish. Oops.



■ Two players, but not quite twice the fun



■ Follow the instructions and you'll be sorted

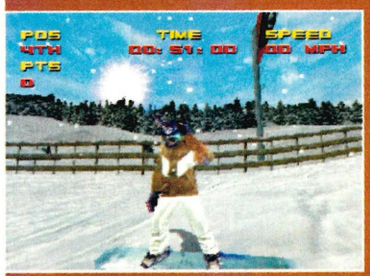


■ The world tour is no easy thing

What we like

Dressing up

Chances are, at the moment you're wearing fleecy tops and pants so baggy you could hide an elephant in them. You can thank snowboarding for that. Big Air, in its quest to be cutting edge and down with the buzz, has all the cool clobber you could imagine, so prepare to be the best-dressed polygons in town.



■ Now that's cool



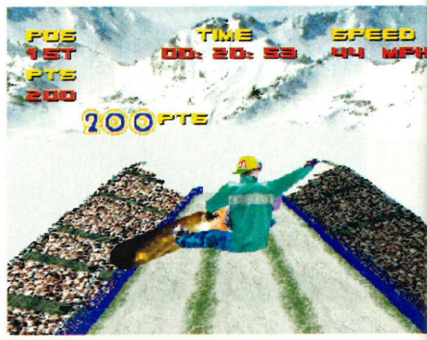
■ Nice trousers

Mr Sheen

At first sight you'd be hard pressed to think of a sharper-looking snowboarding game on the 'Station. From the snow thrown up by the boarders to the shadows they cast, this is one great-looking dame of a game. Add the cool soundtrack and things shape up well...



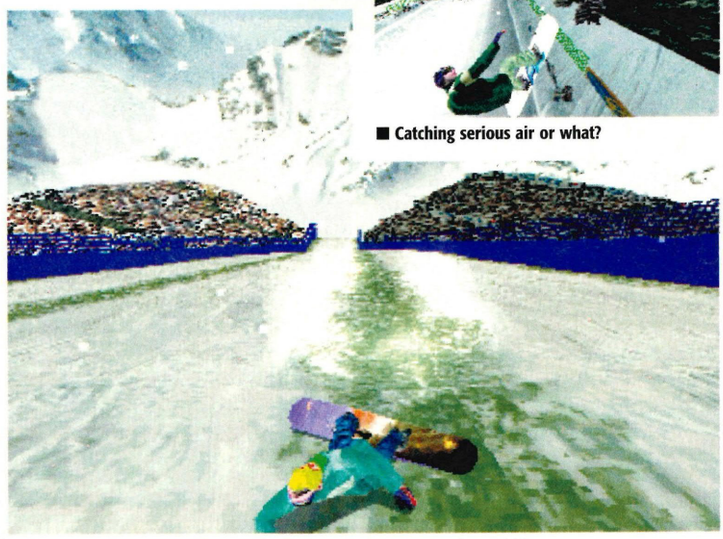
■ It may as well be real snow



■ You can almost touch the mountain



■ Catching serious air or what?



■ Face down in the snow. That, folks, is the sad price you pay for ambition

Courses for all

Choice. You're spoilt for it here. You've got a selection of rides, race courses, trick courses, halfpipes, huge jumps and boardercross (kind of cross country). Naturally, it's the tricks that rattle our cage and while they're a bit limited to start with, they do at least look realistic. Whichever way you look at it there's plenty to keep you busy.



■ Glide on railings



■ Not for the faint hearted



■ It's head to head action all the way to the line



■ It may look fast, but not all the time

plus **We'd like to say...**

We really tried to like this. It showed so much promise. But at the end of the day could we look you in the eye and say spend £40 on it? 'Fraid not. We would say rent it out first and perhaps be pleasantly surprised.

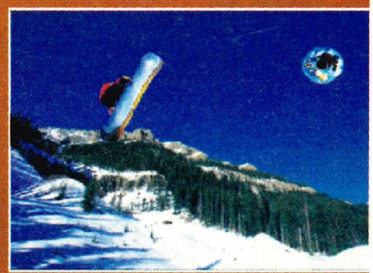
What we don't like

It's so slooooow

Hey, we're the first to sit down and be patient while a game's loading. But if you had to wait 20 seconds to complete a 20-second jump would you be getting board stoopid. Thought so. Another gripe is how at times breathtaking speed gives way to crippling slowdown, with bits of scenery popping up from nowhere.



■ Do your stuff...



■ Then wait... and wait

Rent it A close shave with greatness let down by a gash two-player mode and over-the-top loading times. On paper it has it all, but it doesn't gel. **Rich**

PlayStation plus **RATED 81%**

■ **OUT** MAY ■ **BY** PBH SYSTEMS ■ **COSTS** £34.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK

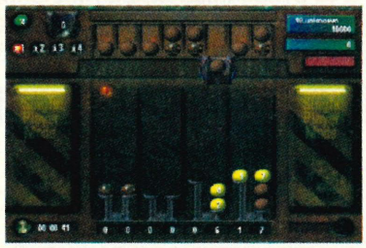
SWING

Puzzle games: simple but addictive. In theory. But Swing? Not simple. Oh no...

Check out our screenshots. Seems straightforward enough doesn't it? Swing looks like a cross between puzzlers like Tetris and Bust-A-Move. And that's more or less how it works, except you'll need a degree in physics to play it...

Gameplay

We're not clever enough to explain how Swing works. Matter of fact, we're not even clever enough to play it. There's just not enough grey matter hanging around the office. At first sight it seems like you match coloured balls. But then you have to take the weight of the balls into account, and then other weird stuff starts happening...



■ We guarantee you'll be confused, but soldier on to the missions mode



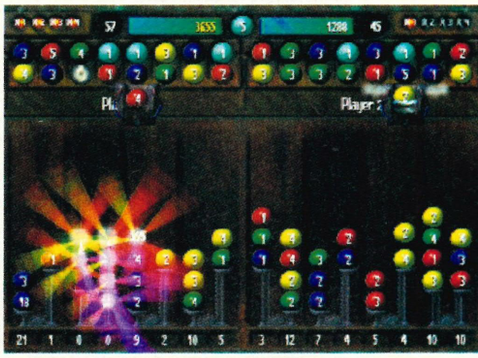
■ The different missions'll mess up your head so we suggest you go straight to Sudden Death Mode.

Multiplayer

Yay! Two people who don't really understand the game playing each other! Like the single-player mode, multiplayer's just too stuffed with head-bending stuff to be fun. Shame, but come on...



■ Here's you dying in single player mode? Time to grab a mate, perhaps?



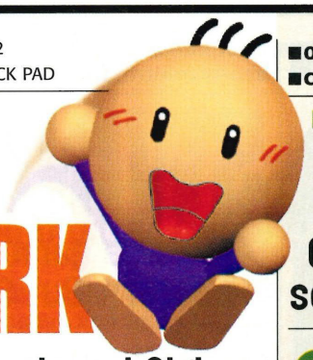
■ And maybe he can be just as confused by the funny coloured balls as you

This is some serious egghead stuff we're dealing with here, and if you fancy yourself an Einstein, go knock yourself out. The rest of us? Too taxing for our fragile minds. **Andrew**

PlayStation plus **RATED 64%**

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

YOYO'S PUZZLE PARK



Bombs! Power-ups! Lots of colours! Sigh...

Bad craziness. A little colourful chap with dinnerplate-sized eyes jumps on snoring sausage things and nukes them with huge bombs. Colours turned up to maximum, weirdness drive set for maximum odd. Ah. Good old Japan...

What you do...

...is this. Hit a variety of too-colourful little creatures along 2D platforms till they're lying stunned next to a bomb. Jump on the bomb. Bang. There's power-ups in here aplenty, and loads of – slightly – different enemies. Sounds dull? Surely is. It's semi-playable in two-player, with you and a mate doing the bombing. One-player is deeply ugh. Avoid.



■ Every level. Is. The. Goddamn. Same



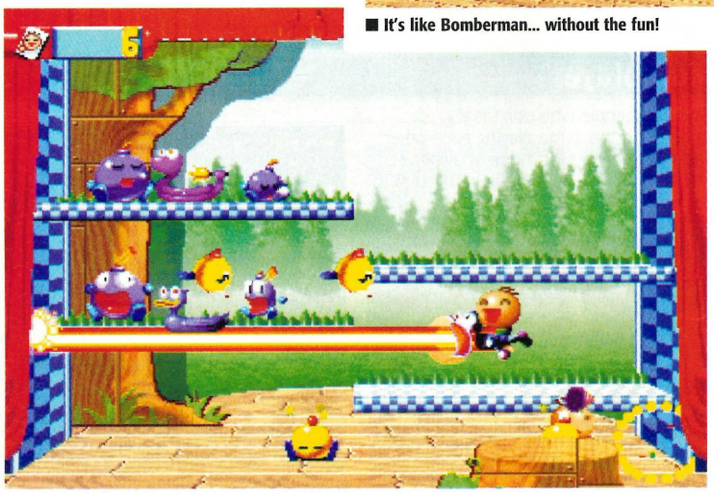
■ Two-player. Amusing for four minutes, approx

Lots of levels

It's got 130 levels. That's a lot of levels. But you'll wish it had none. This really is one of those games where every single level is pretty much the same. And that wouldn't have been too bad if the formula was a good one. But it isn't. This is stale, uninspired and far, far too much like other vastly better games...



■ It's like Bomberman... without the fun!



■ The rest of the ideas are nicked from Bubble Bobble

Not quite the most drab, boring and stupid game we've ever seen, but certainly a contender. Offensively ugly and basic, and sadly lacking in any kind of gameplay. Rob

PlayStation plus
RATED 45%

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

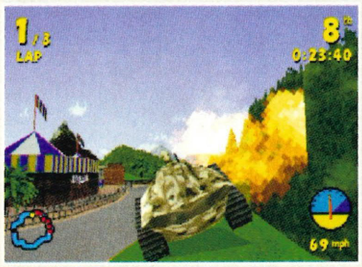
TANK RACER

Guess what happens. M-hm. There're some tanks. They race.

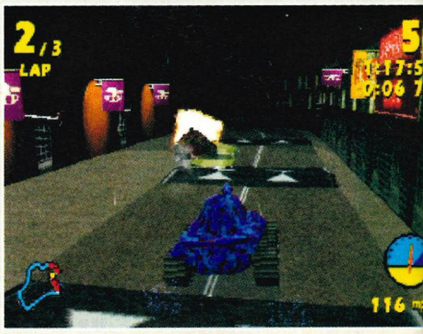
Comedy tanks pushing Warp Factor 1 jostle and blast each other over pothole-infested landscapes. Amusing power-ups aplenty litter the landscape. Alien abductions occur. Fun? Errr... No. All cylinders are not firing...

Tank Racer y'say? What's that?

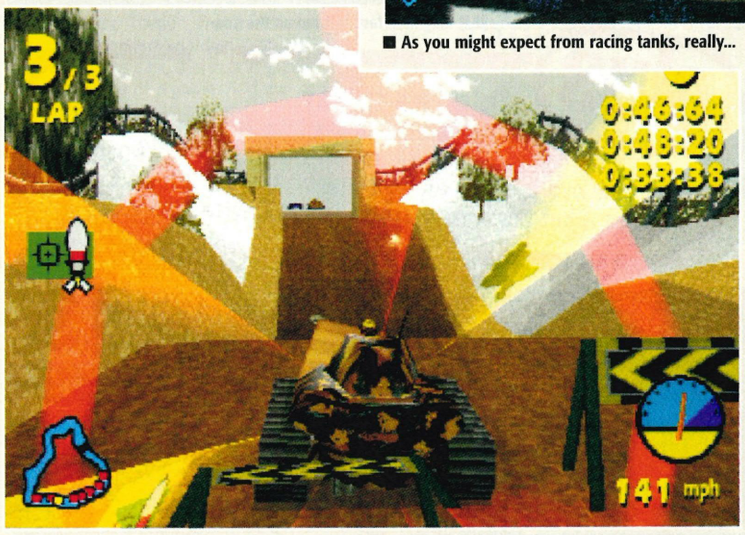
Tanks. Racing. Eight kinds of tank, no less. On loads of courses. But your fun glands are in no danger of meltdown. Thing is, you'll have a larf racing and shooting in one-player, and the two-player deathmatches'll keep you off the streets for a while, but it's lie down and purr fun, rather than sit up and bark fun. One to rent, we reckon.



■ See, the gun thing on your tank swivels



■ As you might expect from racing tanks, really...



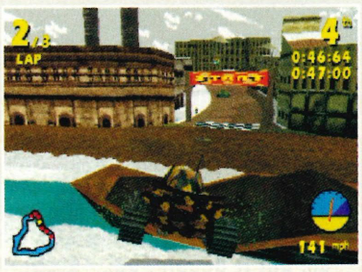
■ And you've got to keep shooting t'other tanks to slow them down

Race riot

Realism? T'chah! No concern whatsoever has been shown here for the so-called Real World and its boring inhabitants. This is Officially Cool. Tanks arcade it up smoothly and quickly into, over and straight through hundreds of comedy obstacles, shattering everything in their paths, and bouncing all over the shop. We like this.



■ Kill fences! They break and splinter before you!



■ Kill boats! Teach their floating asses manners!

Kill all enemy!

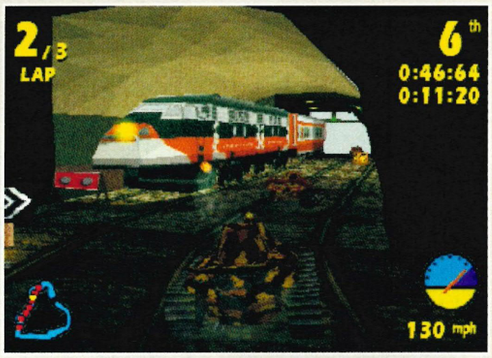
As you'd expect, the tanks of Tank Racer are ready for action before they roll onto the starting blocks. High explosives are the meat-and-potatoes shells you'll be slinging into the breech of that swing-every-which-way gun turret of yours, but much bigger, and odder ammo is yours for the taking...



■ Knock your rivals off their stride with high explosive salvos



■ Use this gizmo to kidnap 'em



■ Heatseeking missile! Laaaarvely!



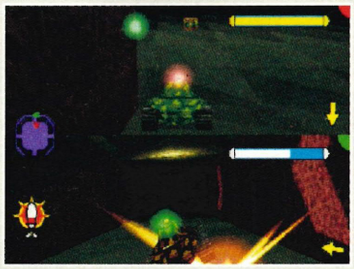
■ Mines. Annoying if you've got your face in 'em



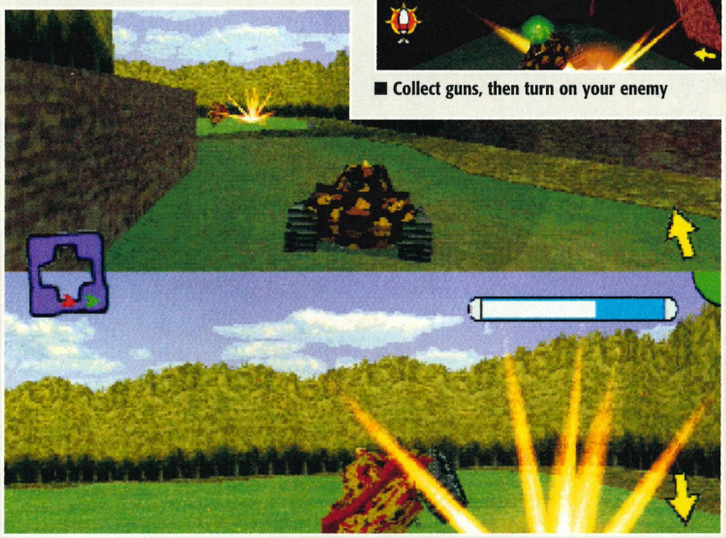
■ Big bomb. A fine addition to any armoury

Multiplayer

There is one bit of Tank Racer that's really tickled our fancies. No mean feat, considering how calloused and numb our fancies have become lately. It's the two player deathmatch tank fights. Two tanks fight to the death in an arena filled with power-ups. Total class, especially on the levels with mines...



■ Collect guns, then turn on your enemy



■ Kill! Kill! Collect more guns, then kill again!

Rent it Not going to rock your world. The two-player game will make you happy for a while, but we reckon it's a rental-sized while, really... **Rob**

PlayStation plus RATED 71%

■ **OUT** APRIL ■ **BY** ACTIVISION ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

GUARDIAN'S CRUSADE

Top role-playing adventure game this ain't...

The massive appeal of games like Final Fantasy VII lies in two basic ingredients: flash graphics and a cool storyline. Guardian's Crusade takes these two elements and adds a new feature of its own: tedium. We don't like...

How it works

Typical role-playing gubbins. Most of the time it goes a little something like this: roam around town, find item hidden in trunk, talk to ordinary town folk, use object to get past tricky bit, explore buildings... and so on. It's too nerdy for our liking. Strictly for anoraks only.



■ There's tons of text to wade through



■ And there's no way to skip through it either...

Fighting talk

All the boring guff is broken up by the occasional bout of fisticuffs. It's the usual turn-based antics we've come to expect, with the idea being to beat the other fella and gain experience points. Mucho points = better brawling skills. 'Fun?' you ask We don't think so. If it's fighting you want, plump for Tekken 3,. we say.



■ You've gotta sit tight and wait for the other geeza to take a pop at you...

■ Before you can have a go yourself. Grrr...

Guardian's Crusade is about as appealing as a session with Vanessa Feltz. If role-playing's your kinda thang, our advice is to go for Final Fantasy VII instead. **Lee**

PlayStation plus RATED 35%

■ **OUT** MAY ■ **BY** GREMLIN ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK

ACTUA ICE HOCKEY 2

Ice hockey game that goes downhill from the moment you open the box...

You want to spend more hard-earned cash on ice hockey games like you want a hole in the head. Every single one is exactly the same. No, hang on. Some of them are the same... except worse. Enter Actua Ice Hockey 2, stage left...

More of the same

We'd be lying to you if we said this game didn't do its job. It does. It's a semi-reasonable game, even. It's just that there's nothing to lift it out of the grey mass of ice hockey games already out there in 'Stationland. The arcade mode's fine, sure. But that's about it. This is just slow, samey and suspect. Don't waste your cash.



■ Sadly, it's not actua any different from other ice hockey games



■ The players are big. Cool. But not really that amazing



■ Animation: OK. But not going to blow your socks off



■ And everything else is just exactly the same as usual. Phew

Shots and whatnots

The control system's kind of like Actua Soccer. On Ice. Which means you have to manually flick between players, tap buttons to speed up and stuff, and hold down shoot to get powershots. Now, the control system in Actua Soccer didn't rock our doobies anyway. So using it on ice is... Yup. Maximum uninspiring levels.



■ You're always tap-tap-tapping at the pad to do real simple stuff. Ugh

Arcade mode

This is the best thing on offer here by a long chalk – far better than the normal mode. It's a four-on-four match with less rules to contend with. The action tends to be a lot more end-to-end, and even the most stupid player will be able to slot in a couple of dazzlers per quarter. Plus, the ref never brings up needlessly obscure rules like 'icing' or 'frozen puck'...





■ Less people. More fun



■ Many less rules makes for happiness

■ It's all a bit more knockabout-y. Yay!

Need for speed

There is a SEVERE need for an accelerator pedal in this game. Everything floats around gently, when it should be crashing end to end in a Mach 1 mass of muscle, skate and stick. And the fact that you have to tap the triangle button to move at even half Torvill and Dean speed is No Damn Good. And that's official.



■ Slower than is really necessary



■ Even the puck doesn't move fast enough

A pointless addition to the crowd of near-identical ice hockey games on the 'Station. Even nutso hockey fans will have to think hard to find an excuse to buy this. **Rob**

PlayStation plus

RATED 65%

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

HEART OF DARKNESS

It's a head-scratching, thumb-twitching platformer. And it looks ace, too...

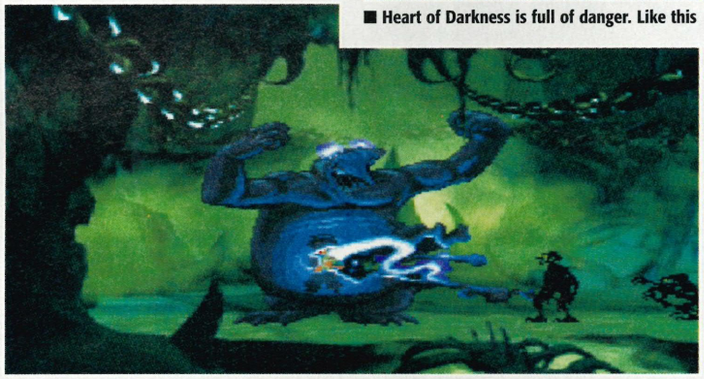
Games where you get to control little boys searching for dogs are never going to top our 'most wanted' lists. But Heart of Darkness won us over by being stunning to look at and addictive to play. And now it's cheap, too...

Gameplay

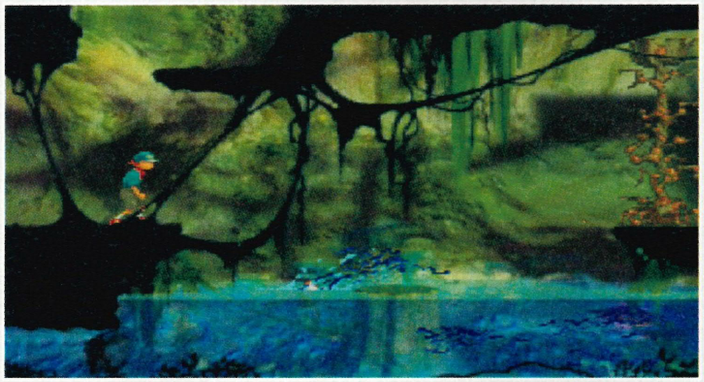
Seeing as Heart of Darkness is a platform game, you can expect plenty of running around, jumping and using your bonce to solve puzzles. In this case, you also need to shoot monsters, so the whole shebang comes together well – fast-moving, thoughtful and fun in one tasty package.



■ Heart of Darkness is full of danger. Like this



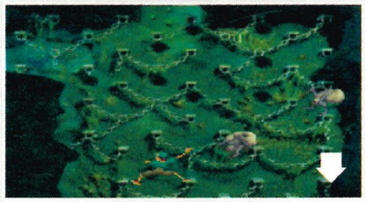
■ There are eight levels of very dangerous stuff to wade through



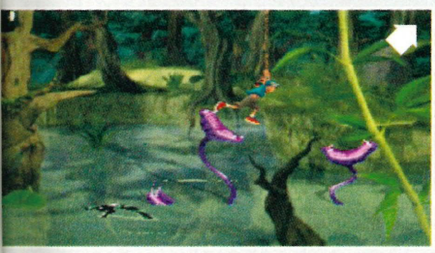
■ As well as problems like: avoid these deadly fish

Things to do

The game's hero, Andy, is hunting for his lost dog. Yeah, we know it's a stoopid storyline, but it does give him a chance to show off a whole load of special dog-hunting skills needed to make his way through the Heart of Darkness world...



■ Climbing, and even...



■ Our Andy's a dab hand at stuff like swinging...



■ Shooting. That dog won't stay lost for long

What we like

Graphics

Heart of Darkness has its drawbacks. It's too hard, for one. But where it scores high is in the looks stakes. This game has to be one of the best-looking on the PlayStation. The cinema sequences are gorgeous, and the in-game graphics are just as gobsmacking. If you judged a game just on looks, this'd be way up there.



■ Movie bits are pure sex, sure

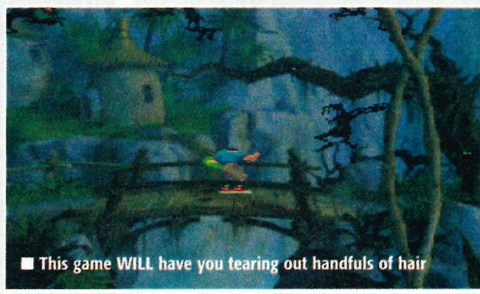


■ But check the in-game stuff, too

Frustration

You're going out with Cindy Crawford. Great-looking gal. But all she does is bust your balls. Man, does she go on. What do you do?

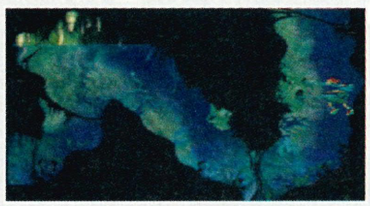
The fact is, you're never gonna face that dilemma, but playing Heart of Darkness is the nearest you'll come. See, the game is hard. VERY hard. And that translates into frustration. You'll know what we mean when you find yourself stuck on the same screen for hours on end.



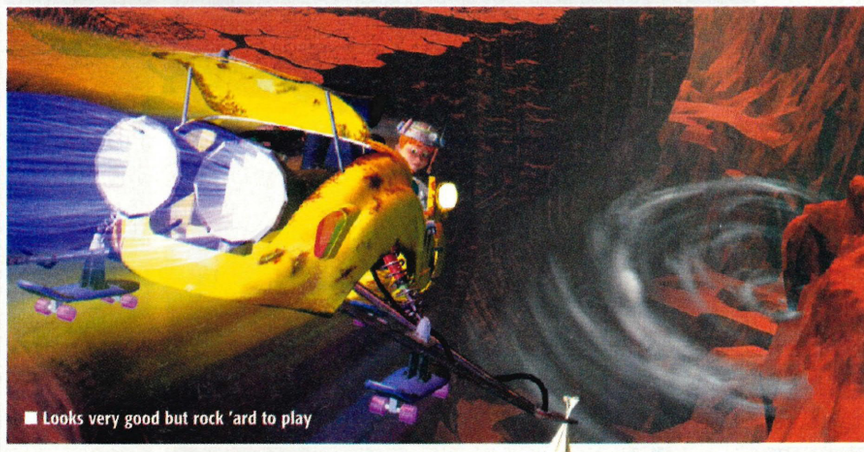
■ This game WILL have you tearing out handfuls of hair



■ There are head-melting problems to solve



■ Dying. Get used to it sharpish



■ Looks very good but rock 'ard to play

Platinum Too hard and a little on the short side, too. But Heart of Darkness heaves with ideas and it's goyjush to look at. At £20 we say go for it. **Andrew**

PlayStation plus RATED 86%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** ELECTRONIC ARTS ■ **COSTS** £19.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

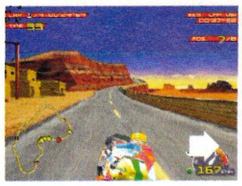
MOTO RACER

Moto Racer: a no frills, open-throttled, seat-of-the-pants, two-wheeled thrash...

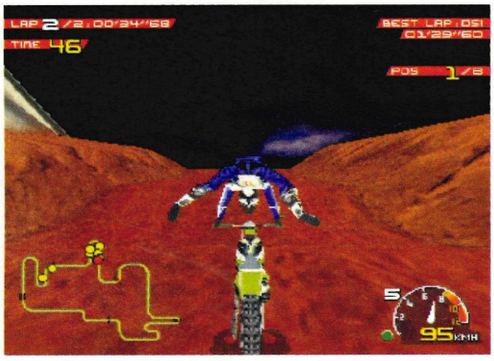
These days the old arcade-style racing efforts ain't much in demand. The likes of Gran Turismo have raised the game to include stuff like tuning and earning cash to buy more cars. But our hearts still yearn for straight-up speed...



■ First off, choose a bike, then get on that beast and...



■ Thrash it around a road track



■ Or a dirt road. Simple, but very, very cool

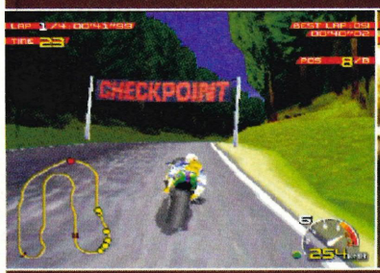
Gameplay

Moto Racer's just bike racing. It really is that simple. Choose either road or moto cross options, pick a suitable bike, open the throttle and Bob's your uncle. Basically, all you need to worry about is making it around corners and staying ahead of the pack. Yup, this is pure, unrefined game action. And it ain't half bad...

What we like

Speed

A game this basic would be no kind of fun if it didn't shift. And Moto Racer's right on the money in that department. OK, so the graphics are hardly award-winning stuff, but boy, do they whizz past at a rate of knots. And as if that's not enough, for extra g-force, try pulling a wheelie...



■ Not exactly the best graphics, but...



■ It shifts some, especially in the inside view

Hints & tips

Fancy REALLY caning it? Then for an ultra-boosted bike go to the title screen and tap out:
▲ ▲ ▲ △ R1 △ R2 ▲ ▲ ✕

Platinum There just wasn't enough game here for a full-price offering. But high-speed arcade thrills for under £20? We'll have a bit of that... **Andrew**

PlayStation Plus RATED 79%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** PSYGNOSIS ■ **COSTS** £19.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

G-POLICE

G-Police for £20? Yeah, and pigs might fly...

G-Police rocks our world: cops in copters chasing flying felons, weapons obviously invented by the criminally insane and vein-popping adrenalin. We don't ask for much...



■ Dogfights aplenty going on in here...



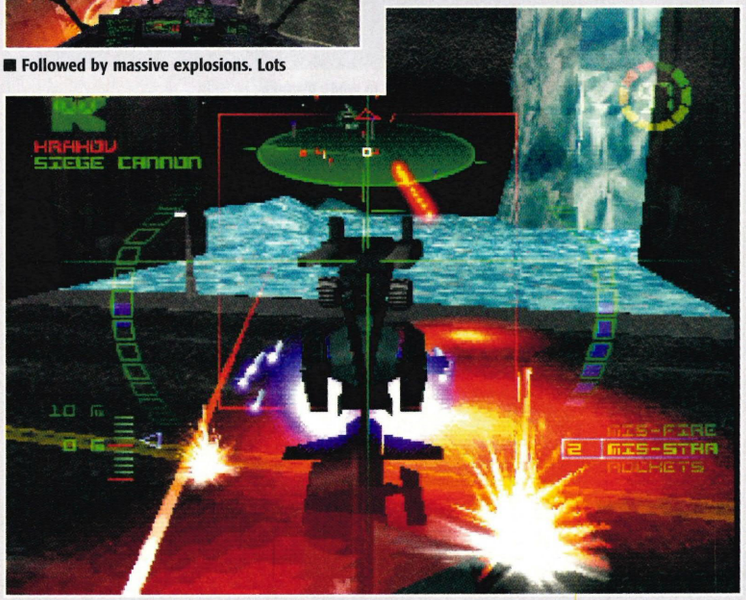
■ Followed by massive explosions. Lots

Gameplay

As a fully tooled-up G-police person it's your job to strap into a hover copter affair and go hunting bad guys. Couldn't be easier? Well it could be, since the copter's well difficult to control and your first few goes'll be spent getting the hang of it. After that? Time to bag the baddies...



■ Make sure you've got the handling sussed...



■ What's this? MORE massive explosions! Surely not. Oh, go on then...

Weapons

We'd run out of rain forest before we could list all the weapons available in here, so let's just say lots. And with names like hyper-velocity missile and plasma launcher you know you're spoilt for choice when it comes to selecting the right widowmaker for the job.

CLUSTER BOMB



■ It'll give you more than a nasty rash. Guaranteed

EPP



■ The EPP's job is to paralyse your enemies. Ouch

30MM CANNON



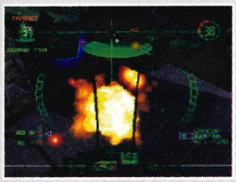
■ This little chap will make life difficult for your foes

Missions

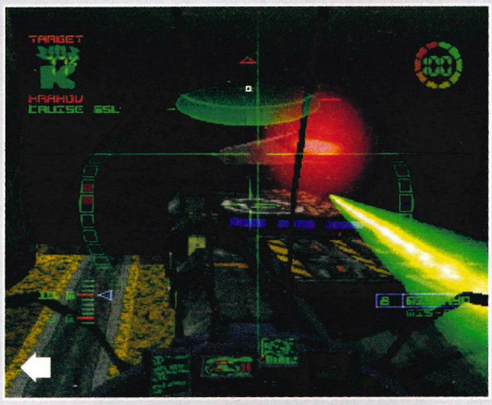
G-Police has a life-eating 35 missions to wade through. The first few are just to get you used to handling the copter, natch. But after that they fire into head-stretching mode: testing your copter-handling/baddie bashing skills to the max.



■ Mission: save the cop cars



■ Or just shoot things



■ Stop the missile exploding. Another one completed, ace

What we like

Graphics

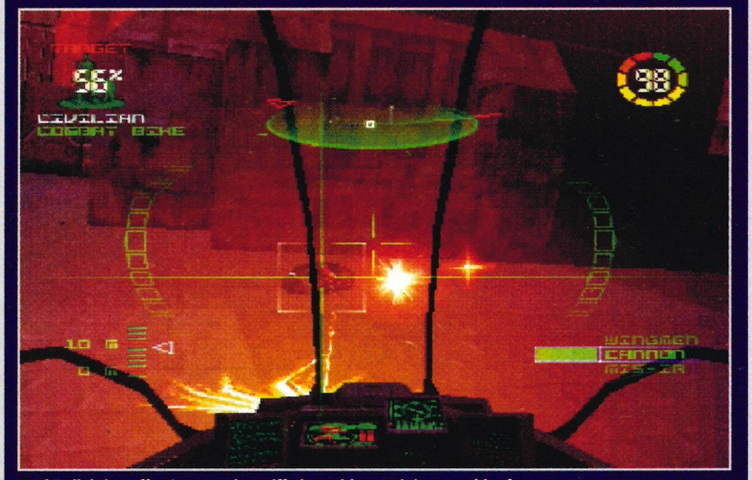
G-Police has smart looks to go. Sure, we all expect retina haemorrhage when it comes to video sequences, but the fact is the in-game stuff looks just dandy too. The game has a really atmospheric feel, and vehicles are dead detailed too.



■ Movie sequences are easy on the eye



■ And cityscapes look sweet, too



■ That lighting effect's not to be sniffed at, either. Rejoice, graphics fans...

Hard?

G-Police ain't no picnic, so to make life easier try this cheat we pulled out of the archives: For all weapons and unlimited ammunition at the weapons loadout screen hold L1 L2 R1 ● ▲ ■ and press ←

Platinum Difficult to master, but once you've tamed the copter you'll find a whole lotta fun in here. One to scratch that itchy trigger finger. **Andrew**

PlayStation plus

RATED 84%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** SONY ■ **COSTS** £19.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

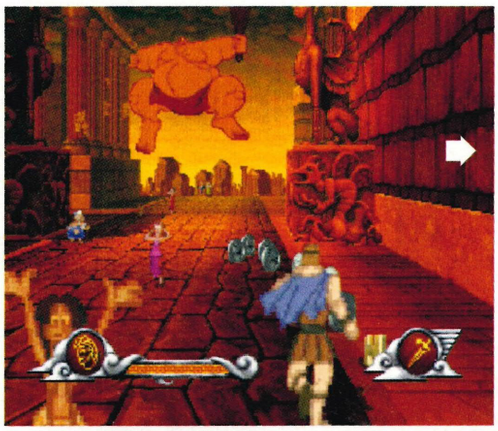
HERCULES

Bugged out by Bug's Life and mad at Mickey? Then have a go at Hercules...

Ready, get set... vomit. Yup, Hercules is yet another Disney game, which means it's time for mild-mannered adventure in a cute and colourful cartoon world. Plenty of running, lots of jumping, and more than a touch of off-the-wall humour...

Gameplay

Hercules is a platform game. That means you get to move Herc through a whole load of levels, guiding him over and around obstacles and knocking off enemies. No awards for originality around here then, but on the plus side, Hercules is rammed with good ideas and looks pretty peachy too...



■ All the usual platform gubbins is here. Running, for example...



■ Plus loads of enemies to kill using your super-human skills



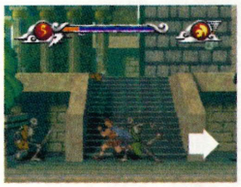
■ And obstacles to avoid

Stuff to do

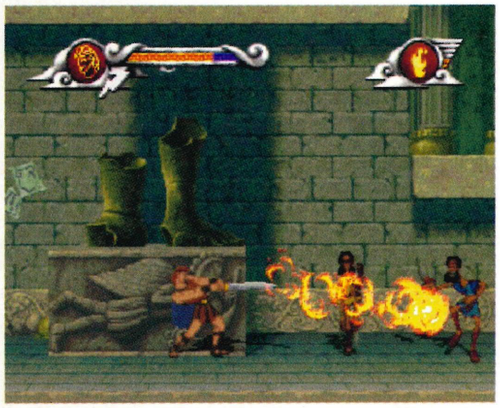
It's a kiddie game, so there's stacks of stuff to keep the little mites amused. Apart from running and jumping, our hero Hercules can swing, grab and punch. He'll also pick up things along the way: a sword, helmet, fireballs – whatever the average muscled hero needs, really. And take it from us, he WILL need it along the way.



■ Herc's sonic sword. Handy



■ Not as handy as invincibility



■ And the fireball's not to be sniffed at either

Herc's hint

Having trouble with the Centaur boss? Then ride him five times until he gets dizzy then mega-punch him in the face.

Platinum Not bad as they go. Filled with stuff to do, nice-looking and funny, but sometimes a tad on the frustrating side. **Andrew**

PlayStation plus

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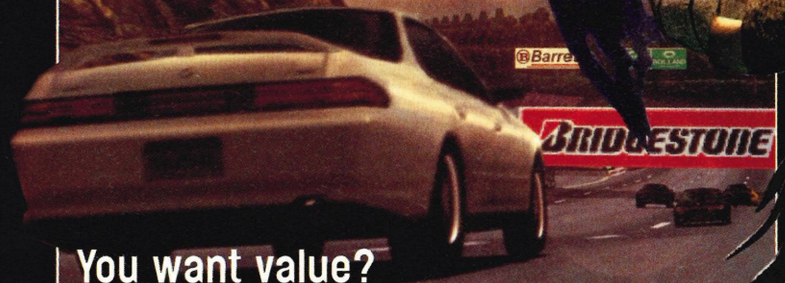
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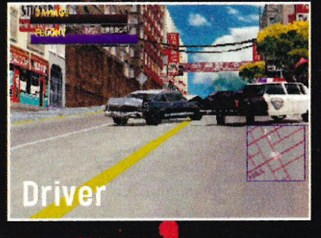
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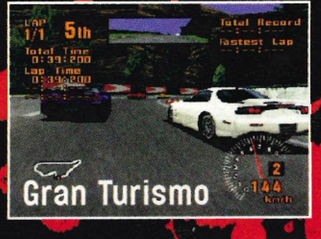


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heat

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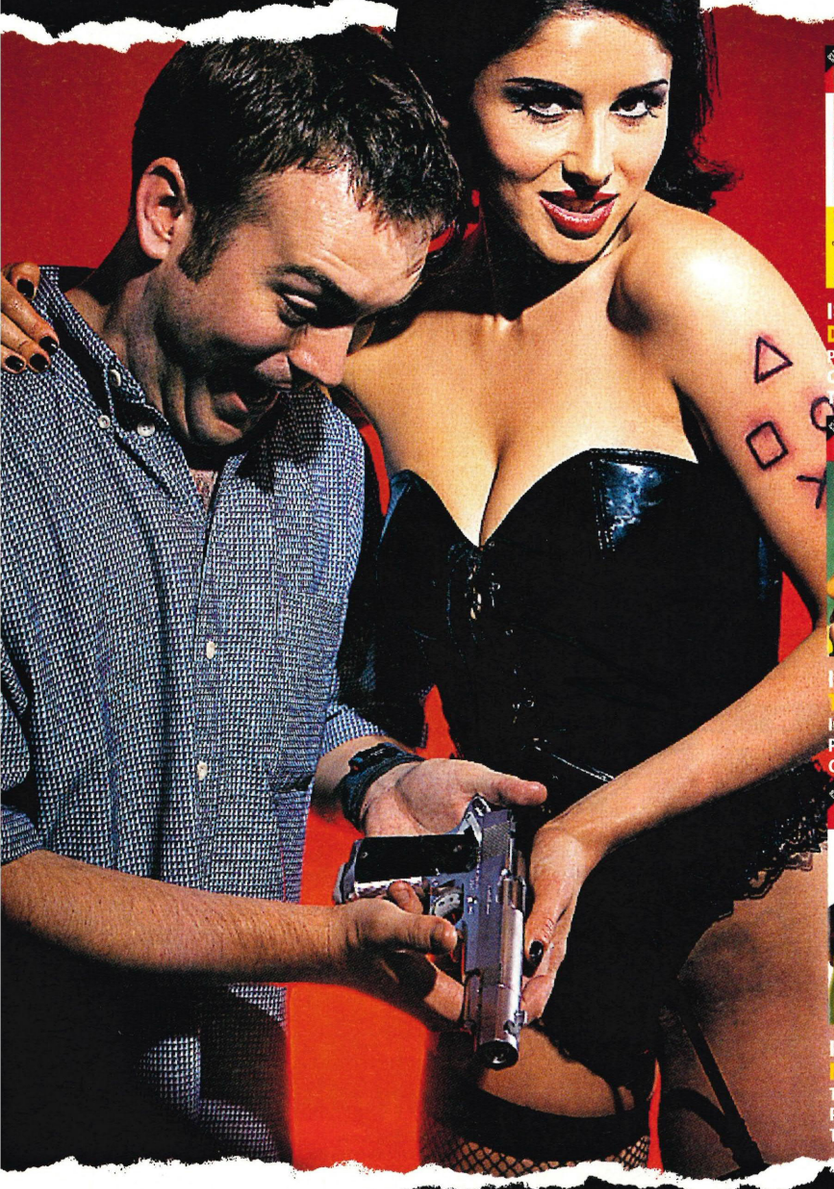
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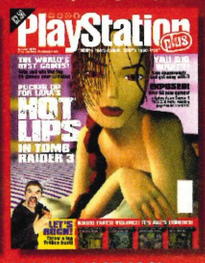
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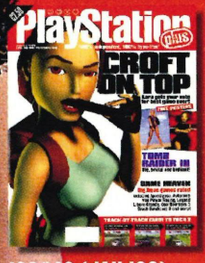
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UPDATED EVERY MONTH Knowledge

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

We Promise that every game and every product has been tested by us here at PlayStation.plus. You can trust us to tell what's hot and what's not. Here's why:

- ✔ WE'RE 100% INDEPENDENT
- ✔ WE NEVER LIE TO YOU
- ✔ WE SAY WHAT WE THINK
- ✔ WE'RE ON YOUR SIDE

HOW WE RATE STUFF

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

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

best buy — Top PlayStation gear to boost your gameplay.

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

ARSE — This game is crap. Avoid like the plague

EASY TO USE GUIDE

The only easy-to-use guide to every PlayStation game out there. Here's how it works...



What it's called
The games are listed alphabetically

How we scored it
See ratings key above

How many players
Is it a one-player or great with mates?

How much it costs
The recommended retail price, although you could find it cheaper

Extra Information
We'll tell you exactly what we think of each game, plus we'll point out any gadgets it uses such as the link-up or multitap. Virtually all the games work with the Dual Shock and memory card, but we'll let you know if it uses 'em well.



p104 The age test
Which games stand the test of time?

p105 Top lightgun games...
The best blasters your 'Station can offer

p108 Party up...
The top games to cane with your mates...

p109 Platinum
Every bargain release rated

p110 Gear
The latest pads 'n' stuff on test

p112 Memory cards
Don't mess with memory

p113 Chipping...
The DOs and DON'Ts of chipping your PlayStation

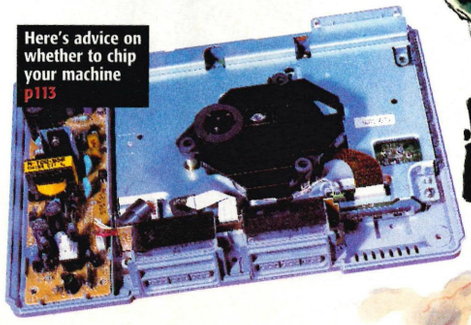
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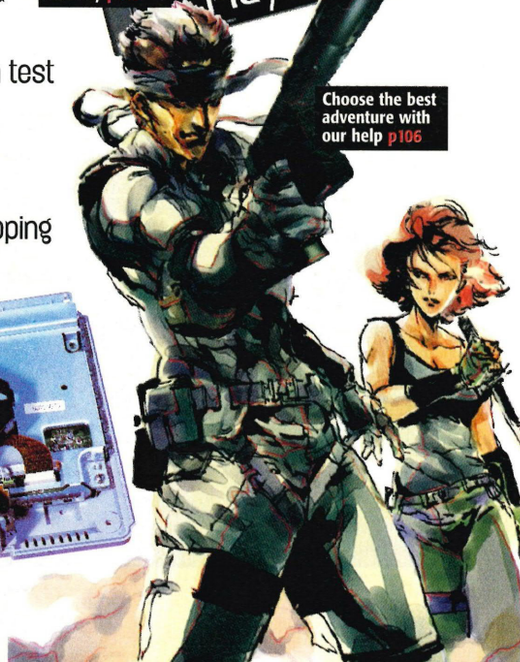
Need help? Contact us p107

The best gun games money can buy p105

Choose the best adventure with our help p106



Here's advice on whether to chip your machine p113



Knowledge: updated every month

All Games Rated between 71%-100%

The best games

A

Abe's Exoddus — 91%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dead playable sequel to the now-cheapo Abe's Oddysee. More of the same platform action.
winner

A Bug's Life — 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Looks nice enough, plays OK. But this explore 'em up based on the Disney film is hardly a showstopper.



Actua Golf — 71%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
This oldster still plays OK but looks tossy compared to newer clubbers. For more options try...

Actua Golf 2 — 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
It's got some new courses and a fresh lick of paint, but it still plays the same. Not bad, just not great.

Actua Golf 3 — 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
The best golf game around, we reckon, mainly because it's well realistic when you play with the Dual Shock pad.

Actua Ice Hockey — 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Nifty pick-up-'n'-play hockey sim which boats all the usual teams and moves. Uses multitap.

Actua Soccer 2 — 73%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Better looking than the Platinum original but still not easy to play. Uses multitap and analogue pad.
Rent it

Actua Soccer 3 — 79%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Better, but still not as flowing or fun as ISS Pro 98. Compatible with multitap.

Actua Tennis — 74%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Average to look at but not bad to knock around. Better with the Dual Shock but still no ace.

Agile Warrior — 83%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Aircraft shooty game that's easy to play but gets boring too soon. Still, not that bad.

Air Combat 2 — 85%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Good-looking flight sim with loadsa missions and a stack of planes to choose from. Use Dual Shock for best results.

Akuji the Heartless — 82%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Run around Tomb Raider-stylee, bagging things with Black Magic. Not enough gore to be great. Uses Dual Shock.

AVI Evolution Global — 73%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Looks like a yawnsome strategy thang but get into this baby and you'll have fun building empires. Mouse compatible.

All Star Tennis — 73%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Slightly soiled looks don't spoil this quite tasty racket-a-thon. Use Dual Shock pad.
Rent it

Alone in the Dark — 71%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Resident Evil-style horror adventure with trashy graphics and naff all gore. Gameplay's all right, though.

Alundra — 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Long-winded adventure which looks rubbish but is pretty satisfying if you stick it out. Good for beginners.

Apocalypse — 88%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Bruce Willis pumps it up in this balls-out sci-fi blaster. It's a bit samey but still brilliant. Dual Shock.

Armoured Core — 74%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Robot blasting game which is a bit short in one-player but a good laugh against a mate.

Assault — 84%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Full-on shoot 'em up where the killing just doesn't stop. Big weapons and even bigger bad guys, we like this.

B

Baby Universe — 75%
Price £29.99 **Players** 1
This psychedelic lightshow more a mind-bending experience than a game. Great for late night chill seshes.

Ballblazer Champions — 75%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Future sport sim where two hover cars must shoot the plasma ball at the opponent's holo-goal. Weird.

Batman & Robin — 73%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
A bit like Tomb Raider in Gotham City, this is an ambitious but sadly flawed take on the Batman theme.

Bedlam — 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Tactical robot blaster where you've really gotta use the mouse to get the most out of it.

Biofreaks — 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
So it's no Tekken 3, but this thumper's got some wicked moves and some of the coolest effects we've seen, including flying fighters!

Black Dawn — 81%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
This sequel to Agile Warrior offers more of the same aircraft shooty stuff. Boasts nicer graphics though.

Blast Radius — 83%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Space-based shoot 'em up that's best with Dual Shock. Ultimately lacks variety.

Blam! Machinehead — 84%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Hard to get into but work out this tough 3D blaster and you'll be zapping bad guys for hours.

Blazing Dragons — 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Graphic adventure with mucho laughs and comedy voiceovers. Too much like hard work though, we reckon.

Bloody Roar — 90%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Looks lush, plays fast and kicks like a mule. Not the best fighter but not far off. Go on, tuck in...

Bloody Roar 2 — 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
We still love the idea of animals scrapping. And this sequel is even better than the first. Bonus!
winner



B-Movie — 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Tongue-in-cheek blast 'em up where UFOs invade Earth to go cow rustling. Way, way out there...
Rent it

Bomberman World — 83%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Stick in a multitap and this is bombastic blasting for four players. Not so hot as a one-player though.

Breath of Fire III — 84%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Cutesy role-playing epic which'll keep you hooked for ages. Bit slow for some, though.

Brian Lara Cricket — 88%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Despite its fiddly control system, this cricket sim'll knock you for six. Great with Dual Shock pad.

Broken Sword — 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Superb puzzle-solving adventure. (N.B It also comes bundled with two other games on the Help! pack).
winner

Broken Sword 2 — 91%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
More of the same, but still smart. Guaranteed to frustrate the hell out of you.
winner

Bubble Bobble Pack — 84%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Looks pretty naff but this is well-endowed with gameplay. Serious platform fun for one or two players.

Buggy — 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Race radio-controlled cars in this fun-for-a-while racer. Handles slightly better with the Dual Shock.

Bushido Blade — 83%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Samurai swordfighting game that's too realistic for its own good. Worth a try though.
Rent it

Bust-a-Groove — 88%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Dance battle game where the winner's the guy who can pull off the smartest breakdance moves. Weird but well good.

Bust-a-Move 3 — 85%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Bubble-bursting puzzle game that's dead easy to play but difficult to put down.

Bust-a-Move 4 — 80%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Way too similar to the others to make it worth splashing the cash for. Try its Platinum predecessor instead.

C

Cardinal Syn — 71%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Average beat 'em up with swords, slick moves and some monster characters. Works with Dual Shock pad.

Castlevania — 89%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Visually it's no supermodel, but it's a well-stacked platform adventure with a classy musical score.

Circuit Breakers — 80%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Race anything from tiny cars to minute submarines around a load of different courses. Good with multitap and four players.

Civilisation 2 — 88%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Get to play God in a historical setting. A bit like Sim City if you know what we mean. Strange, but really good.

Colin McRae Rally — 95%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Way cool off-road rally sim which looks blinding and plays like a babe. Get it, that's an order...
winner

Colony Wars — 90%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Space-based shooter with sweet graphics and pulse-pumping gameplay. A bit samey for some.

Colony Wars Vengeance — 93%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Better sequel with planet-based battles as well as space dogfights. Use Dual Shock for best results.
winner

Command & Conquer: Red Alert — 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Control your tiny army and conquer worlds in this neat strategy thang. Uses mouse and link-up.
winner

Command & Conquer: Retaliation — 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Exactly the same to play, but with new missions, vehicles and cranked-up difficulty levels. Two-player.
winner

Constructor — 82%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Play God in this building site sim that's a lot more fun than it sounds. Easier to play with mouse.

Contra: Legacy of War — 83%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Solid blasting action for one or two kitted-out soldiers ready to save the world. 3D mode is great with glasses supplied.

Cool Boarders — 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
The original snowboarding thrash is still fun to play, but lack of other racers makes it a bit dull.

Cool Boarders 2 — 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Sheet hot snowboarding game made a whole lot better than the first thanks to the two-player game.
winner



Cool Boarders 3 — 82%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
OK follow-up which doesn't improve on the one before, so what's the point? Uses Dual Shock.

The age test

Games that stand the test of time

Music

We loved Music when it first came out. You get to create your own dance tunes straight out of the box using a load of pre-programmed samples. And it's so simple you'll have knocked up a decent track in no time. Thing is, do you get bored of it quick? Well, no, because even though you might get tired of the samples, you do have the option to create your own. This means that if you've got the time you can basically create any song you want. Good, eh?





The Chemical Brothers: work it out

Crash Bandicoot 2 87%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Tasty platform action with more variety, better graphics and a load of new bad guys to stomp. Good for the young 'uns.

Crash Bandicoot 3 89%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
A great laff for all, with loads of different gameplay styles and some luverly graphics. Much too short though. Dual Shock compatible.

Crime Killer 79%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Futuristic cops 'n' robbers mix of racing and shooting. Good fun for a bit, but then gets boring. Works with Dual Shock.

Crusader: No Remorse 78%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Shoot loads, explore like crazy and bag a load of bad guys. OKish lone soldier 'em up.

D

Dark Forces 80%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Star Wars first-person blast which looks old skool but plays OK. The best bit? Zapping stormtroopers. winner

Darklight Conflict 87%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
3D space game delivers stunning gameplay and slick visuals. Difficult to master so watch out.

Darkstalkers 3 71%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
The kind of Japanese beat 'em up only a mother could really love. And with so many other doozies available, are you gonna bother?

Dead Ball Zone 78%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Hyper-violent future sports game with loadsa blood-spilling and chainsaws. Fast and frantic.

Dead or Alive 91%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Excellent fist-throwing monster boasts super-crisp graphics and well-stacked female fighters. Result! winner

Deathtrap Dungeon 85%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Tomb Raider-style adventure with scantily clad heroine, loads of big monsters and muchos sword swinging.

Descent 83%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Doom in spaceships. Fly around underground tunnels, shooting stuff. Not bad, but better in link-up two-player mode.

Descent II 78%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Few improvements so why bother? If anything this is slower than the first one. D'oh!

Devil Dice 85%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Simple but addictive puzzler that'll keep you coming back for more. And more...

Diablo 77%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Pretty good adventuring epic that's not too spoddy. You've gotta stick it out to get the best from this one.

Disruptor 76%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Slick-looking but ultimately yawnsome first-person fire fest. Brimming with tasty weapons though.

Diver's Dream 75%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Go on a search for buried treasure beneath the sea. Fun but flawed. Approach with care, we say...

Duke Nukem 91%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Stonking corridor shoot 'em up. Colourful, funny and very violent. Two-player link game is great laffs. winner

Duke Nukem: Time to Kill 88%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Da Dook gets a Tomb Raider-style makeover. The result? A dead good fragfest. Two-player's not much cop.

E

Earthworm Jim 2 73%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Old Skool platformer doesn't take itself too seriously. Great to play, if only for a couple of hours.

ESPN Extreme Games 74%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Oddball sports racing game with a handful of events and a twist of violence for good measure.

Everybody's Golf 83%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4
A golf game that's - wait for it - fun! Big-headed clubbers take to the fairway and for once it's no snooze-a-thon.

Best gun game

Time Crisis

Pointing a plastic gun at your TV screen has never been so much fun. The idea here is to waste lots of baddies in double-quick time. It'd be easier if the nasty geezers weren't shooting back, but then it wouldn't be quite the adrenalin rush it is. The closest you'll get to gun battles without joining the army...



Like that? Then check these out



Die Hard Trilogy
■ Price: £19.99 ■ Players: 1
Airport ass-capping here as one part of a three-game package.



Judge Dredd
■ Price: £34.99 ■ Players: 1
Not nearly as good as it should have been, but still a fine blast.



Point Blank
■ Price: £39.99 ■ Players: 1-2
Accuracy tests replace bloodshed here. Superb two-player game.

■ The clock's counting down...

■ So start capping some bad guy ass

Exhumed 86%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
One of the most challenging Doom-style blasters around. Doesn't look great but hey, gameplay's a treat.

F

Felony 11-79 81%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Choose your motor and burn up three well cool tracks. Trash things to get extra cars. Refreshing tyre-shredding stuff.

FIFA 99 75%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8
Fairly standard footy game crammed with league teams and all the players. Look OK, doesn't play too hot.

The Fifth Element 79%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Likeable adventure based on the sci-fi smash. Lacks the pizazz to make it a true classic.

Final Doom 85%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Ultra-hard follow-up with 30 new levels but the same old weapons. Still, a good link-up laugh.

Final Fantasy VII 95%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
The biggest 'Station game ever, bursting over three CDs. It's an awesome game, but very, *very* slow. winner



Fluid 80%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1
Swim through underwater worlds to build up library of samples, then mix dance tunes. Odd.

Formula 1 97 89%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Great racing sim endowed all the proper drivers 'n' teams, plus nifty hi-res graphics. The two-player game is whiffy.

Formula Karts 75%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Kart racer that's fast, fun 'n' furious. The tracks are bit short, but otherwise an engine-revving laff.

Forsaken 87%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Zip through tight corridors, straddled on a jet bike. The everything in sight. Cool. Uses Dual Shock pad. winner

Frogger 3D 78%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4
Retro classic given a 3D facelift. Gameplay's simple but still fun, while the graphics look nice enough. Four players with multitap.

Future Cop: LAPD 89%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Hover, stomp and blast your way through futuristic cities, all in the pursuit of justice. Not 'arf bad.

G

G-Darius 86%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Stomping shoot 'em up pits you against against a world of murderous fish. Well frantic.

G-Police 91%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Sci-fi helicopter thriller that grabs you by the balls. It's a bitch to control but the Dual Shock helps. winner

Gex: Enter the Gecko 80%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Yep, you control a bouncing lizard. Fine addition to an already fun-filled platform series.



Gex 3D 89%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Very cool 3D platformer pumped full of exploration and adrenalin. Sometimes tricky to control, but you'll get used to it pronto.

Ghost in the Shell 88%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Japanese-y robot shooter with great graphics, cool tunes and a whole lotta gameplay. You'll like.

Global Domination 73%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Very boring to look at - it's just this coloured globe - but strategy nuts'll get excited over it. The rest of you, be wary.

Gran Turismo 97%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Three words: buy it now. This is the best racer EVER, with awesome graphics and gameplay. Very tasty. winner

H, I, J

Heart of Darkness 85%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Good looking platformer plays like a peach. Puzzle-y bits to chew on too. Presented in widescreen though, which is odd.

Help! 85%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Broken Sword's great, but Road Rash and Myst ain't so hot. Still, pretty good value.

Herc's Adventures 85%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Solid gameplay and tons of challenge in fun-to-play cartoon frolics. Arcade adventure, Greek Gods stylee.

Hercules 80%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Based on the Disney flick, this coolio looking platform game is fun for a bit. Could've been longer, though.

Impact Racing 72%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Offbeat racing game mixing Destruction Derby with Mad Max. Not quite as good as it sounds, unfortunately...

ISS Pro 98 94%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
The best footy game bar none. It's easy to play but will grab you by the balls and not let go. Lush. winner

Jersey Devil 78%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Looks fantastic but the gameplay's not quite up to scratch. Dodgy camera angles make it hard to play.

Jonah Lomu Rugby 84%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4
Brilliant rugby sim, but the fiddly controls will drive you mad. Worth sticking with...

»

Knowledge: updated every month

Jumping Flash 76%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1
Well old 3D platformer where you've gotta leap sky-high to win. Nice idea but looking a bit dated.

Jumping Flash 2 77%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1
Same thing as before, but not enough levels to keep your appetite satisfied. No fair.

K.L

Kensei: Sacred Fist 75%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Tries hard to be a great beat 'em up but doesn't quite succeed. We reckon you're better off with Tekken 3.

KKnD: Krossfire 77%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
It stands for Kill Krush and Destroy. Which sounds cool. But this is not as good as you'd think. Rent it!

Klonoa 80%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1
Sickly sweet platform romp which stars a puppy as the main geeza. Nice looking and fun enough to play, but a bit easy.

Kula World 89%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1
Bounce a beach ball through weirdo levels to solve puzzles. Odd concept but strangely addictive.

Lemmings 80%
■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1
It's cheap, addictive as hell but looks bloody awful. Still, we reckon you'll play for ages. Uses Dual Shock.

Little Big Adventure 81%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Action adventure packed with puzzles and shooty bits. Another case of gameplay over graphics.

Lucky Luke 72%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
The mix of gameplay styles makes this an interesting if not exciting platformer. Looks a bit kiddyish.

M

Machine Hunter 80%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Top-down blast where the action never stops. Good fun for both one and two players.

Madden 97 80%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
If American football floats your boat you could to a lot worse than tackle this baby.

Madden 98 83%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Better than the first but not by much. More gridiron action than you can shake a stick at.

Madden 99 73%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4
For chrissakes, three games later and naff all has changed. Yeah it's still OK, but we demand more! Uses multitap.

Magic Carpet 79%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Fly around on your mystic rug, zapping weird creatures with magic. An oldie but still pretty darn good.

Marvel Super Heroes 78%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Flattish beat'em up with some H-U-G-E fighters. Animation's not so hot but it plays nice enough.

Max Power Racing 90%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
No Gran Turismo beater but still a pedal-to-the-metal road racer. Loadsa cars and tracks to choose from.

MDK 75%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Interesting shoot 'em up let down badly by patchy graphics. Filled with action though. Rent it!

Mechwarrior 2 83%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Climb inside a giant-sized robot and trudge into battle. Mixes strategy and shooting to great effect.

MediEvil 92%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Does slaughtering demons pump your pulse? Then tuck into this hack 'n' slash adventure. We like it. winner



Metal Gear Solid 93%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Atmospheric, pacy, good-looking and innovative. If only it were a bit longer... winner

Michael Owen's WLS 99 92%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
England soccer star endorses top footy game. Looks are sweet and gameplay is finger lickin' good. winner

Monster Trucks 76%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Big motors with oversized tyres trash the countryside in this frantic racer. Good dirt churnin' fun for a little while.

Mortal Kombat 3 71%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
MK fans will love it but the rest of us'll think it's pretty naff. Extra marks for gory finishing moves.

Moto Racer 80%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Pretty speedy motorbike racer with both tarmac and off-road tracks. A nice change from car games.

Moto Racer 2 91%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
This is one helluva scorcher. Stacks of tracks and bikes, plus an easy-to-use track editor. winner

Motorhead 89%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
So fast it'll make your eyes bleed. Graphics are basic compared to Gran Turismo, but this one still pops our cork.

Motor Toon Grand Prix 2 80%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Light-hearted racer that's more a laugh than a sim. Great in one player but check out the two-player link-up - it's smart.

Music 92%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1
Be the next Fatboy Slim with this dance music creator. Loads of samples and dead easy to use. winner

Myst 76%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
One third of the Help! charity pack. Dull-looking adventure that's quite absorbing. Patience is a must for this 'un though.

N

N20 86%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
No-brainer gameplay means you can pick up this blast and notch up high scores within minutes. Rent it!

Nanotek Warrior 75%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Enjoyable shooting action which starts with a kick, but lacks enough levels to keep blowing your mind.

NBA Hangtime 72%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4
Arcade basketball game doesn't take itself too seriously. A laugh in four-player with multitap and that's about it.

NBA in the Zone 75%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Pacey basketball sim with stacks of stats. Looks old compared to newer b-ball slam dunkers.

NBA in the Zone 2 85%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Much better than the first, but let's face it, it's still basketball. More variety next time, please.

NBA Jam Tournament 80%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4
Mutitap-compatible conversion of the age-old arcade game. Two-on-two action with big heads. Odd.

NBA Live 97 83%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8
Two multitaps, eight players. Fork out top dollar for this sweet b-ball game and all the gear and you won't be disappointed.

NBA Live 98 88%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8
Same as the last, but with updated teams and players, plus a few enhancements. Sweet.

NBA Live 99 79%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8
Look, enough of the basketball games, all right? Especially when they offer bugger all over the others.

Need for Speed III 87%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Very fast and tasty-looking high-speed driving game which is miles better than the previous two. Uses Dual Shock.

Newman Haas Racing 71%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Substandard Indy Car racer from the blokes who gave us Formula 1. Looks old, man.

NFL Blitz 86%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
The only American footy game which doesn't get bogged down by over-complicated rules. Not 'alf bad.

NFL Gameday 72%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
More realistic than Blitz but nowhere near as much fun. Very average in every respect.

NHL 97 85%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Top-notch graphics make this a great-looking sports sim. Gameplay's pretty hot, too.

NHL 98 91%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-8
Slicker than the previous effort, plus better graphics and all-new teams. And an eight-player mode. winner



NHL 99 86%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8
Instalment number three and it's still the same old thang. Not bad, but we expect more. So should you.

NHL Breakaway 98 87%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-8
If ice hockey's your bag, this ain't bad for a spin, even though it looks and plays like most of the others.

NHL Powerplay 98 87%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8
A lot of ice, tons of players and a tiny puck. It sounds like every other hockey game and y'know what, it is.

Nightmare Creatures 89%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Gothic horror game with two heroes hack 'n' slashing it against Satan's spawn. Gory and great.

Ninja: Shadow of Darkness 80%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Chuck throwing stars and hack with your sword in this OKish one-player action 'em up.

Nuclear Strike 91%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Explosive chopper shooter mixing top-notch blasting with serious strategy. It's a toughie, but you'll dig it. winner

O

ODT 86%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Run around and shoot loads of stuff. Oh, and solve some darn easy puzzles. We don't mind this at all.

Olympic Soccer 75%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
An old skool soccer game which looks appalling but doesn't play too bad. Not in the same league as ISS Pro though.

One 79%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Good looking ultra-violent platform shooter which would've been awesome if it wasn't for the yawnsome combat.

Overblood 71%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Resident Evil-style adventure which lacks excitement or tension. More action needed, and fast!

P

Parappa the Rapper 89%
■ Price £29.99 ■ Players 1
Bizarro rapping game when you win by tapping in time with the music, Simon Says style. Offbeat and amusing.

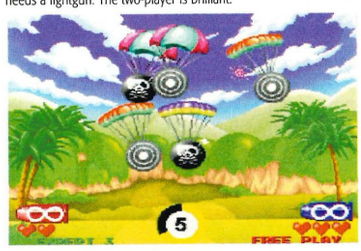
Phat Air Snowboarding 75%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Snowboarding bandwagon-jumper which just doesn't cut the mustard against t'other steep slope sliders.

Pitfall 3D 84%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Very playable platformer which nicks a load of ideas from Indiana Jones. Challenging yet fun.

Pocket Fighter 79%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Pint-sized fighters square up against each other in this strangely interesting punch 'em up. One for fanatics only.

Po'Ed 72%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Doom-style blaster with weird monsters and bizarro weapons. Ever whacked anything with a frying pan? You can now...

Point Blank 92%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Fantastic shooting gallery gun game which really needs a lightgun. The two-player is brilliant. winner



Pool Hustler 79%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Plenty 'o' ball fun to be had, but strange Yankee rules spoil our fun somewhat.

Populous: The Beginning 85%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Another God game where you build up your little guys and lead 'em into battle. Yeah, a nice little number.

Best adventure game

Metal Gear Solid

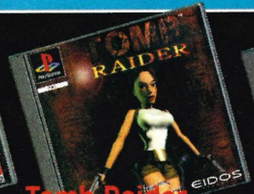
Not just the best adventure game, but possibly the best game full stop. See, this isn't your average shoot 'em up. You need to use your noggin to combine stealth with violence. One to exercise your grey matter and your trigger finger.



Like that? Then check these out



Resident Evil
■ **Price:** £19.99
■ **Players:** 1
The original Resident Evil still boots other adventure games into touch.



Tomb Raider
■ **Price:** £19.99
■ **Players:** 1
Pick a Tomb Raider game. Any game. They all rock.



MediEvil
■ **Price:** £39.99
■ **Players:** 1
Fast-moving fantasy style roamabout that'll have you hooked.

Poy Poy — 83%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Using the multitap, up to four players can whup each other's ass by chucking stuff around. The one player game is naff though.

Poy Poy 2 — 73%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Hang on a sec. This is exactly the same as the first. We demand to know what's going on!

Premier Manager 98 — 86%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Was the king of the sheepskin coat, but a few major flaws mean it's not quite a classic. Not so for the sequel though...

Premier Manager 99 — 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Similar to the first, but with most of the bugs ironed out. The result's a well-tasty footy management sim. Winner



Pro Pinball: Big Race USA — 89%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
Bargain-priced pinball sim with only one table, but boy is it a corker. Stacks of secrets and bonuses to play with.

Pro Pinball: The Web — 89%
Price £24.99 **Players** 1-4
The first in the Pro Pinball series. A class table with tons of sub-games ensures this is a definite must-have.

Pro Pinball: Timeshock! — 89%
Price £24.99 **Players** 1-4
Like the others in the series, this offers fantastic ball physics and a brilliant table to play on.

Project Overkill — 72%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Flashy but dull-as-ditch-water shoot 'em up. Not even the handful of puzzles spice it up...

Psychic Detective — 74%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Spanning three CDs, it's not that it's a giant-sized game, it's just got a load of video footage. Not bad but by no means great.

Psychic Force — 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Standard fare beat 'em up. All the usual moves and fighters but poor executed. Oh well.

R

R-Types — 81%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Two really old shoot 'em ups for the price of one. Both look pretty poor but both pack some serious gameplay.

Racing Simulation-Monaco Grand Prix — 82%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
At last! A Formula One game that doesn't suck. Yeah, you could've knocked us over with a feather, too...

Rage Racer — 93%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Goyjush-looking, super-fast racing game that's lush to play. Get it, worship it, thank us for recommending it. Winner

Raging Skies — 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dated flight sim which gets repetitive all too quickly. It's average, even if you're into this sort of thang.

Raiden Project — 72%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy to look at 'cos it's so old. The gameplay's simple but doesn't rescue it from mediocrity.

Rally Cross — 80%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Tasty little off-road racing game made even better by its multitap-tastic four-player mode.

Rally Cross 2 — 79%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
None too serious sequel with fun gameplay and ridiculous crashes. The track editor is a nice touch.

Rapid Racer — 82%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Speedboat racing with kick-ass soundtrack and some coolio water effects. Slow in two-player mode.

Rapid Reload — 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Entertaining but ultimately limited platform shoot 'em up. There's much better stuff available...

Ray Storm — 83%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Vertical blasting shoot 'em up that's tough, demanding and fast. Also packs some great weapons.

Ray Tracers — 73%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Fantastic while it lasts, but this zippy car chase game is over within the first couple of hours. Darn! Rent it!

Reboot — 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Hoverboard game that's more a frantic blast than futuristic racer. Plays well, but a bit limited.

Reloaded — 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Top-down blast with big weapons and a surprising number of levels. Very samey after a while.

Resident Evil 2 — 95%
Price £49.99 **Players** 1
Two discs full of pant-filling surprises. Super-tense and gloriously gory, we guarantee you'll love it. Winner

Resident Evil Director's Cut — 91%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Virtually identical to the first one, but with a couple of extra scenes. Get the original for £20 instead. Winner

Retro Force — 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Robotic space cats run riot in this old-style shoot 'em up. Don't bother buying, rent it instead. Rent it!

Return Fire — 88%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Comical army game where you choose your vehicle and drive it into battle. Fast, furious and fun.

Ridge Racer Type 4 — 93%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Excellent racing game. Right up there with Gran Turismo. Buy it. Now. Winner

Risk — 73%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Expensive alternative to the classic boardgame of world domination. Your dad'll probably like it.

Rival Schools — 89%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Schoolkids go psycho in the playground in this sweet 3D fighter. You can even train up your geezas.

Riven — 80%
Price £49.99 **Players** 1
You'll pay big bucks for this 'cos it's on five discs. Very clever and good looking, but very, very slow.

Road Rash 3D — 80%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Bike racing with two ways to win: drive like a demon or use chains and other weapons to cane the other riders. Different.

Rogue Trip — 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Cars wars set in different arenas. Grab victory by rescuing tourists and filling the enemy with bullets.

Rollcage — 89%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Like WipEout on the roads. Which means lots of speed and driving on the ceiling. So, yeah: it rocks.

Rosco McQueen — 78%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Firefighting thang in which you've gotta save buildings before they're burnt to the ground. More suited to youngsters.

Rushdown — 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Mountain biking, snowboarding and kayaking all on the one disc. Shame it's not that great.

R-Type Delta — 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Old-style space shoot 'em up sees you flying across the screen offing baddies. Still takes no prisoners.

S

Sampras Extreme Tennis — 89%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Real ease of play and lots of views raise it above unseeded rivals. A lots of players to choose from, too.

SCARS — 83%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Super Computer Animal Racing Simulation, otherwise known as good-for-a-laff tyre burner for up to four players using a multitap.

Shadow Master — 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Buggy-based first-person shooter set in the future. Loadsa blasting but gets a bit boring after a while.

Sim City 2000 — 87%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
First you build a city, then you've got to run it. Pretty heavy going but rewarding if you stick at it. Easier to control with the mouse.

Skull Monkeys — 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Plasticine characters and far-out levels makes this platformer a unique, if not entirely brilliant action game.

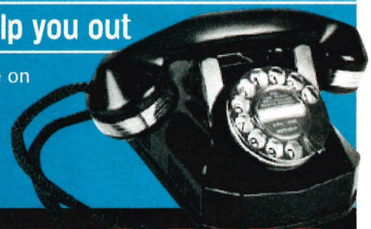
Snow Racer — 79%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Ski or snowboard down some dangerously steep slopes. Great freestyle mode but not much else. Rent it!

Spot goes to Hollywood — 71%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
You're a little red spot, right, and you've gotta jump on bad guys and collect things. In other words, a dodgy platformer.

Want to know more about a game?

Then give us a call. We'll help you out

There's one helluva lot of games available on the PlayStation. So it's not easy choosing. That's why we're here, to help you out. If you want advice on what to go for give us a call on the number below and we'll do our best to sort you out.



PHONE 0171 972 6700

And ask to speak to PlayStation Plus. We're here to help.

Spyro the Dragon — 88%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Hyper-cute 3D platform epic that's lovely looking but pretty simple to play. Come 'n' get it, kids...

Star Gladiator — 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
This 3D fighter's super-smart to look at, and although gameplay's basic it's still good for a quick bash.

Streak — 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Hoverboarding race game with some cleverly-designed courses and an all-right two-player game.

Steel Harbinger — 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Viewed-from-above run-around, shooty game, with you cast as a scantily-clad female cyborg. Odd plot, ordinary gameplay.

Steel Reign — 75%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Not-so-bad tank game that's a bit repetitive but worth a look all the same. Best to rent, though. Rent it!

Street Fighter Alpha — 87%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
It's an old series but as a 2D fighter it's still super-slick. Great graphics and solid gameplay.

Street Fighter Alpha 2 — 91%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Similar to before but with new characters, great custom combos and counters. Great stuff. Winner

Street Fighter Alpha 3 — 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Smart enough beat 'em up all right , but the good news is: it uses the PocketStation.

Street Fighter Collection — 73%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Not-that-great compilation of three Street Fighter games, two of which are dead old and extremely similar. Shame.

Street Fighter Ex Plus Alpha — 93%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
It's Street Fighter in 3D and y'know what, it rocks. Fast and full of great moves, you should have this in Winner



Street Racer — 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Average racing game which is only memorable for the multiplayer game. Which isn't that great, either. Oops.

Suikoden — 75%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Boring as hell to look at, but role-playing freaks'll get moist over this. It's a bit dull for the rest of us, though.

Super Puzzle Fighter 2 Turbo — 92%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
The most addictive game we've played, EVER. And it's only a dead simple puzzle game. Winner

Supersonic Racers — 74%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Playable but flawed racer with tiny cars and interesting tracks. Not as good as Micro Machines.

Swagman — 77%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Arcade fun set in a weird dreamscape. Looks flat and pretty dull, a bit like the gameplay.

Syndicate Wars — 90%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Ultra-cool and very violent shoot'em up with neat four-player multi-tap game. Pretty good with a mouse.

T

Tekken 3 — 96%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
The daddy of all beat 'em ups, this is so good it hurts. Superb graphics, moves and fighters. Winner

Tempest X3 — 80%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Retro shooter. Gameplay's sweet and the graphics are OK, but it doesn't last long enough. Rent it!

Tenchu: Stealth Assasin — 92%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Be rough like a ninja and sting like a bee in this awesome game of blood-spilling and stealth. Winner

Tenka — 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Slow-moving first-person blast with run-of-the-mill graphics and gameplay. Needs an action injection.

Tennis Arena — 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Slick tennis game that's not the best we've seen, but it's not all bad. Has a four-player multitap option.

Test Drive 4x4 — 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
There are stacks of off-roaders available and this isn't up there with the best of 'em. Oh well.

Test Drive 5 — 77%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Tarmac racer which just manages to drag itself from the pit of mediocrity. But only just...

Tetris Plus — 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Well, it's Tetris innit? A pretty good version of the classic puzzler, but the price tag's a bit steep. Rent it!

Theme Hospital — 84%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Build your own hospital, making sure the patients are cared for and the doctors aren't overworked. Not bad. Easier with mouse.

Theme Park — 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Same as above, but this time you've got a theme park complete with rollercoasters and rides to play around with.

Tiger Shark — 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Impossibly high difficulty level makes this otherwise tasty shooter a bit hard to enjoy. C'mon guys, go easy on us...

Tiger Woods 99 — 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
A pretty good golf sim which only falls short because of it's cruddy putting system.

Time Commando — 76%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Unusual sci-fi mix of adventure and shooting. Odd control system takes some getting used to.

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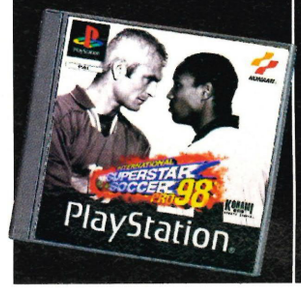
Party up!

Games to cane with mates



1 International Track and Field

This Platinum honey is way old but trust us on this, it's still a top game. Most of the events rely on hitting joypad buttons as fast as you can and that's a lot more fun than it sounds...



2 Micro Machines V3

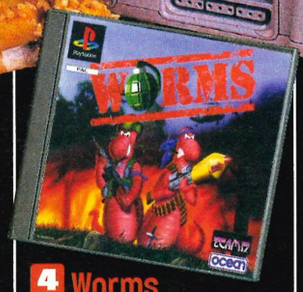
Got a multitap? Then get this game double-smart. You can get a whopping eight geezers huddled around the TV while you race mini cars around a variety of courses. Many laffs to be had here.



3 ISS Pro 98

It's a footy game so OK, you can only get two players on at the same time. No matter, just do as we do and set up your own league for the night.



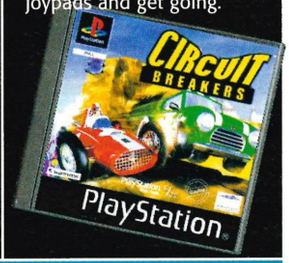


4 Worms

Worms: don't do it. This game is far too addictive for its own good, and when you and your crew get to grips with wiping out each other's worm armies, you might forget what daylight looks like.

5 Circuit Breakers

More little cars go speeding around little courses. Again, this babe uses the multitap, so get yourself a load of joypads and get going.



Multitap? What's that?

A multitap plugs into your standard PlayStation joypad plug and means you can hook up more than two pads at one. Get two multitaps and you've got room for EIGHT pads!

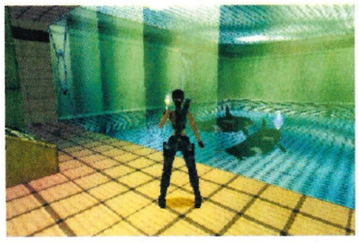


Tobal No.1 91%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A beat'em up with a difference - it's got the one-on-one ruck, but also a cool exploration mode. winner

TOCA Touring Car 2 93%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
The graphics are juicy, the handling is sweet and gameplay is spot on. Two-player ain't so bad, either. winner

Tomb Raider II 94%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Lara's second adventure is good but boy, is it a git to beat. Soon to be going Platinum so hang on. winner

Tomb Raider III 93%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Three games later and she's still kicking ass. Bigger than the other two and just as exciting. winner



Tombi 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Typically Jap-style cartoon platformer with a pink-haired caveman who chucks pigs around. Just don't ask, OK?

Total NBA 96 74%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-8
Just when you thought it was safe to enter the game shop... Another b-ball game appears. Noo!

Total NBA 97 76%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
Slightly better than the last but still not great. Only check out if you *really* like basketball games.

Total NBA 98 79%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
The best of the series, but again it's only recommended to true fans of this slam-dunkin' sim.

Tokyo Highway Battle 74%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Substandard Rage Racer clone set on the streets of, um, Tokyo. The only good bit is the powersliding.

Toshiden 3 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
A beat 'em up best left for beginners, 'cos you can pull off some cool-looking moves just by hammering the buttons. Yawn.

Transport Tycoon 84%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Your city's in dire need of a decent transport system and you're the guy to sort it. Pretty good if you've got patience.

Treasure of the Deep 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Make money by stealing booty from shipwrecks. Slow-paced underwater exploration blaster.

Tunnel B1 77%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
It's looks the business but gameplay's not so sweet. Ultra-repetitive first-person shoot 'em up.

Twisted Metal 79%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Mad Max-style car shooting. A taste of things to come in the superb sequel, but this isn't quite so slick.

Twisted Metal World Tour 87%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy graphics aside, this is a great car-based blast which really rocks in two-player. Great battle arenas, too.

The Unholy War 89%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Part of it's like a chess game with good graphics, the other bit's a frantic blast between two fighters. Racy.

U.V

UEFA Champions League Season 98/99 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Footy game great looks and gameplay to match. We have a winnah! winner

Vandal Hearts 81%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Another gammy-looking role-player with half-decent gameplay. Geeks'll love it, but the rest of us will find it hard work.

V-Ball Beach Volley Heroes 75%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Kung-fu-style volleyball that's pretty easy to play and fairly enjoyable. At its best in two-player.

Victory Boxing 74%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
More tactical than yer standard beat 'em up, this is slow and not much fun.

Victory Boxing 2 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
More of the same but with slightly better graphics. We prefer our fighters to be a bit faster.

Vigilante 8 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Cool-looking destruction derby with wicked cars kitted out with serious weaponry. Ace in two-player. winner

Virtual Pool 79%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Not a bad pool game but let's face it, you can't beat chalking the cue down your local.

Viva Football 84%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Class footy game with all the best international teams from the last 30-odd years. Unique control system works well.

VR Baseball 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
The only baseball game you're ever likely to want to play, and even then it's only average.

Vs 80%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
LA gang war beat 'em up that's fun but the graphics ain't all that. Still, gameplay packs a punch.

V Tennis 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Average tennis game which really doesn't stand up against competition like Sampras Extreme.

W

Warcraft 2 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Pretty cool Command & Conquer-style strategy game. No mouse support and lack of two-player mode a mistake.

WarGames: Defcon 1 88%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Full-on action-strategy game with loads of firefights and action to sink your teeth into.

Warhammer: SOTHR 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Shadow of the Horned Rat's a slow strategy beast based on the tabletop game. A bit limited for most. Rent it

Warhammer II: Dark Omen 84%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Better than the first but not by much. Pretty deep and therefore difficult to get into goblin-infested fantasy war epic.

Warhawk 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Instantly playable even though the controls are perhaps a bit tricky to begin with. Action shooter which could've been much better.

Wayne Gretsky's 3D Hockey 98 74%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Fast 'n' furious, but it won't last you that long. Stick to renting it only.

WCW Vs The World 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Surprisingly good wrestling game with a whopping 60 characters. Even if you hate the sport you'll have a laugh with this.

Wild 9 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Slickly presented and well-thought out platformer that's just too goddamn slow. Rent it

Wild Arms 83%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Hardcore role-player for the kinda guy who wears thick-rimmed specs and a second-hand anorak. You have been warned.

Williams Arcade Classics 75%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A retro compilation with five good games out of six games, one of which is Defender. Result!

Wing Commander III 76%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Features fantastic video sequences and the bloke who played Luke Skywalker, but the gameplay ain't so good.

World Cup 98 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
The official game of the 98 tournament so it features all the proper teams and players. Not perfect but pretty good. Uses two multitaps.

World Cup Golf 77%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
The graphics are spot on but some of the courses are unforgiving, especially when you're penalised for mistakes you didn't make.

World League Soccer 90%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
A great game, the sequel of which is endorsed by Michael Owen. Still good. Works with multitap.

Wreckin' Crew 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
This small car racer is bright and colourful and provides a lorra laughs. It's still pretty flawed though.

WWF Warzone 78%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Wrestling game which is playable enough, but it's still nothing special. The create wrestler option is cool.

WWF Wrestlemania 71%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
More of the same, but much dodgier graphics. The moves aren't particularly exciting and neither's the game.

X.Y.Z

X-Com: Enemy Unknown 82%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
A turn-based strategy game that's easy to play yet fulfilling if you've got the time. The idea? To cane the alien invaders.

X-Com: Terror from the Deep 82%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
The same as above but set underwater, which means you get added air bubbles and all-new monsters. Oooh.

X-Men: Children of the Atom 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Too slow, plus the animation's rubbish. Just two criticisms of this particularly average thumpfest.

X-Men Vs Street Fighter 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Suffers from the same problems as X-Men: COTA. Just not up there with the Tekkens of this world.

Z 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Even though this robot battle game's flavoured with strategy, it's still overflowing with action.

Zero Divide 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
It tries to be Tekken with robots, but cocks up the graphics and the gameplay's just done a runner. Oh dear.



Platinum games

Every £19.99 bargain PlayStation game rated

Abe's Oddysee 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Stuffed with gameplay goodness and laffs a-plenty. The puzzles are rock solid but you'll dig it anyway. winner

Actua Soccer 68%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
All right graphics are eclipsed by awkward gameplay. OK but nowhere near as good as ISS Pro.

Adidas Power Soccer 60%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
Doesn't look that hot, doesn't play too good either. In fact, it's got naff all going for it, really...

Air Combat 65%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Tedious dogfighting game which tries to be a flight sim but fails. Miserably. Not enough action, not enough realism.

Alien Trilogy 85%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
First-person blast based on the smash movies. Crammed with nasty aliens to bag and coolio weapons to collect.



Bust-a-Move 2 89%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Overly cute puzzle game which plays like a dream. Pop coloured balls to win. Simple but enjoyable.

Command & Conquer 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Guide your troops through enemy-riddled battlefields, building stuff as you go. Slow but still good.

Crash Bandicoot 86%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Playable but frustrating platformer which looks the biz. Not as much variation as the sequels, but great value for money.

Croc 79%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Super-cute 3D platform romp where cuddly Croc's gotta rescue his furball buddies. Looks nice, but it's a bit too kiddy for us.

Destruction Derby 72%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Looks basic and gameplay's as shallow as a paddling pool. Two-player link-up is quite a laugh.

Destruction Derby 2 89%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Graphics are tons better and so's the game. Pull off spectacular crashes or race like a demon, it's up to you.

Die Hard Trilogy 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Three games in one, and they're all peachy. You'll need a lightgun for the second one. winner

Doom 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
The original blood-spattered corridor shooter. Action-packed, great fun and a great two-player link-up game. Smart.

Excalibur 2555AD 77%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Tries to be Tomb Raider but misses by a mile. Still, the fantasy story line is interesting enough...

Fade to Black 87%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Sci-fi mix of puzzle-solving and shooting. It's dead hard but stick it out and you won't be disappointed.

FIFA 96 58%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
This is an old git compared to the newer, better-looking games like ISS Pro 98. Not even worth £20, really.

Firestorm: Thunderhawk 2 82%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Helicopter shoot 'em up that's a sweet mix of strategy and action. Just released on charity pack with three other games

Formula 1 88%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
More than competent racing sim based on the 95 F1 season. Graphics are a bit blocky but hey, we still like. Uses link-up cable.

Grand Theft Auto 85%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Crappy-looking but great fun to play. Steal cars, work for the mob, run riot. Hallelujah!

International Track & Field 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
An excellent party game for four players. Hammer the buttons to rack up the fastest times in this Olympic-standard sports game.

ISS Pro 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Still up there with the best footy games. A bit slow, but plays sweet. You won't find a better bargain. winner



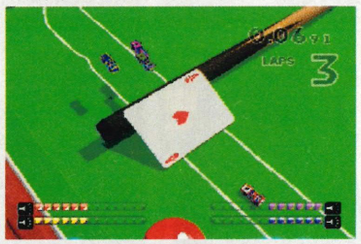
Legacy of Kain: Blood Omen 88%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Enormous vampire adventure overflowing with virgins and blood-sucking. Doesn't look great but it's cool to play.

Loaded 75%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Ultra-violent shooter with bags of style but not much variation. Won't last you too long, then.

The Lost World: Jurassic Park 41%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Dodgy dino blast where you play as either hunters or toothed-up reptiles hungry for blood. Twenty quid badly spent, we reckon.

Mickey's Wild Adventure 45%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Well dated 2D platformer with the cartoon rodent. Extremely cute and very, very boring. Avoid.

Micro Machines V3 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
Pint-sized cars steam round giant-sized tracks. Good for one player, absolutely creamy in four-player. winner



Mortal Kombat Trilogy 76%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
All the best Mortal Kombat bits in one package. Great if you like 'em gory, but we think it's just OK.

Need for Speed 70%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Second-rate racer which can't decide whether to be an action game or simulation. C'mon, make up your mind...

Pandemonium! 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Bright, bold and bolshi 3D platformer with slick graphics and polished gameplay. winner

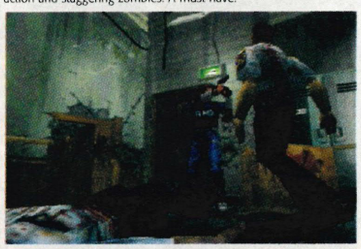
Pandemonium 2 79%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
This sequel's more colourful and has got a choice of character, but lacks the pizazz of the original.

PGA Tour 96 59%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-8
Looks ropey and the control system ain't so hot, especially when you're putting. Flawed, that's f'sure.

Porsche Challenge 80%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
This nice-looking racer makes us warm in one-player, even if the controls are a bit dodge. Two-player's not so good.

Rayman 43%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
This game's older than your gran and, y'know, it looks it. 2D platformer which fails to excite.

Resident Evil 94%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Excellent scarefest with tons of head-popping gun action and staggering zombies. A must-have. winner



Ridge Racer 76%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Was great in it's time and is still OK, but has been succeeded by so many other racers. Why not check out...

Ridge Racer Revolution 84%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Plays much the same as Ridge Racer, but has got some better tracks and a two-player link-up mode. Awful music though.

Road Rash 64%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Motorbiking/fighting mix where the winner's the first one to cross the line in one piece. .

Soul Blade 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Lush sword-fighting beat 'em up with some mind-blowing special effects. Gameplay's simple but hey, it's still good.

Soviet Strike 92%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Rock solid chopper strategy shoot 'em up. Tough missions, top graphics and tricky gameplay. winner

Space Hulk 84%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Lead a team of dead 'ard space soldiers into battle against some nasty aliens. Slow strategy game.

Tekken 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Dead good to play but looks a bit crusty compared to the new 'uns. Good, but let's face it, you're gonna go for the one below...

Tekken 2 95%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
For £20 this is the bargain of the year. No, make that the Millennium. Everything's great about this. winner

Time Crisis 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
The ultimate gun game which, for this price, will blow you away. You WILL need a lightgun though. winner

TOCA Touring Car Championship 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Wicked crashes a speciality here, as crowds of tuned-up cars burn it round a handful of tracks. winner



Tomb Raider 92%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Lara's first adventure is pretty much the perfect mix of action and puzzling. You really should have this. winner

Tomb Raider II 89%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Probably the worst of all Tomb Raiders. But still awesome. And for £19.99 you can't go wrong. winner

Total Drivin' 72%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
Straightforward arcade racing for up to four players, using a link cable and split-screen option. Nowt special.

True Pinball 50%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
It's got four tables but all of 'em are trash. Bite the bullet and fork out the extra cash for one of the Pro Pinball games instead.

V-Rally 92%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Dead enjoyable off-road effort with sweet gameplay and a tasty two-player game winner

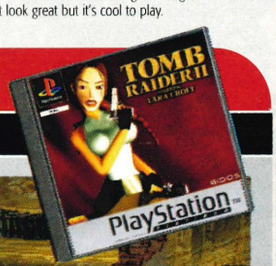
WipEout 78%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Fast futuristic racer with high-speed thrills and collect weapons. Looks very old compared to the sequel.

WipEout 2097 94%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
A blindin' super-slick racing monster that's so fast your eyes'll pop. Good link-up game and music by Prodigy and Chemical Brothers.

Worms 82%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
It's a real stinker for one player, but plug in a multitap, get yer mates around and let battle commence. Cool.

NEW Tomb Raider II

Price £19.99 **Players** 1



Lara Croft. The Girl gives good price...

What's this then?
YOU KNOW. Lara Croft? Adventure? Automatic weapons?

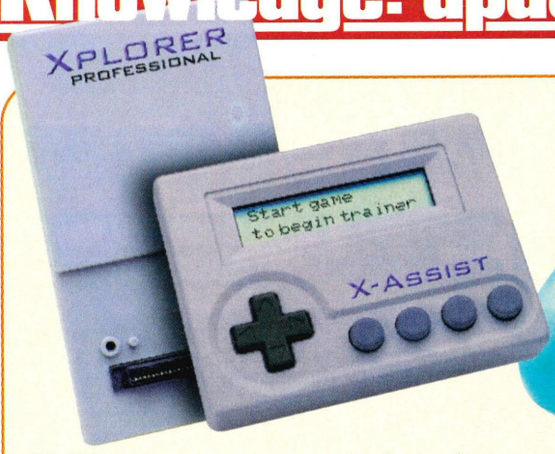
What's it like?
This is probably the worst of the three games. But then, that's like saying Return of the Jedi's the worst Star Wars film (i.e: it's still pretty damn awesome).

RATED 89%



Tomb Raider 3: sub-standard raiding, but still ace

»



X-Plorer Professional

■ £49.99

Cheat cartridge that lets you, using a cunning plug-in thing, programme your own infinite lives/infinite health/character cheats into ANY new PlayStation game. Plus it comes pre-loaded with 1000s of cheats. Plus it can play movie bits. Plus it works as a memory card. Plus it can lift the tunes out of any game. That's a lot of pluses.

■ **Get it out for:** Everything

■ **Rated:** Top of the bunch when it comes to sci-fi cheat gizmos. And with easy-to-understand instructions too. Nice. It can meddle with your games in almost every way imaginable. And it does it well. **95%**

GEAR

Other stuff you need for your 'Station

Whether it's a new joypad or a cartridge that makes you a gaming god, you'll find the lot reviewed here...



ASCII Controller Plus

■ £12.99

It's a control pad. But wait. Stand it in a line-up, ask an old lady to look at each one carefully and you'll find it's no ordinary control pad. It's got autofires. The autofires can go Very Fast Indeed.

■ **Get it out for:** Shoot 'em ups

■ **Rated:** It's a solid enough pad, and the autofires do their fast-firing thing just like they should. If you're after a pad for, say, Assault, this could be your boy. **75%**

best buy



Sony Coloured Dual Shock

■ £19.99

New clothes for the old favourite. It's a Dual Shock pad, but get this: it's in full colour. Ah, the unstoppable march of technology...

Get it out for: Girls

■ **Rated:** It's the same as the old Dual Shock. Exactly the same. Except it comes in a range of bright, sparkly colours. And we're always suckers for a finely-turned gimmick... **95%**



ASCII Sphere 360

■ £19.99

You're looking at the huge ball thing on the top of this joypad. You're thinking: 'What does it do?' It's made for first-person shooters. The ball operates like a kind of 'head': by tilting it, you look up and down and side-to-side. and by jerking it, you move.

■ **Get it out for:** Duke Nukem

■ **Rated:** It's bugger-all use for any kind of game bar first-person shooters, but this is still a high-class bit of kit. It's kind of difficult to get used to, but pretty damn smooth once you do. Give it a try... **80%**

and the rest...

Games Rated 70% and under

2Xtreme 55%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Really poor sequel to Extreme Games.

3D Lemmings 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
OKish 3D graphics. Uninteresting and awkward gameplay.

4-4-2 14%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
An absolute disgrace of a football game.
ARSE

A

Actua Soccer Club Edition 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Same as the first Actua Soccer, but with club teams. Duh.

Adidas Power Soccer 98 55%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Crappy old footy game which doesn't cut the mustard.

Adidas Soccer International 97 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
A follow-up to the first 'un, and likewise just as slack.

Agent Armstrong 67%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Mindless blasting, easy puzzles and daft graphics.

Air Race 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Racing takes to the skies. Easy to pick up but not much fun.

All Star Soccer 34%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Tries to mix footy with comedy commentary. Fails.

Andretti Racing 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Link-up four-player's OK, but the rest is nothing special.

Aquanaut's Holiday 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Environmentally friendly undersea adventure. Wet, but not wild.

Area 51 52%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy lightgun game which is, like, Dullsville.

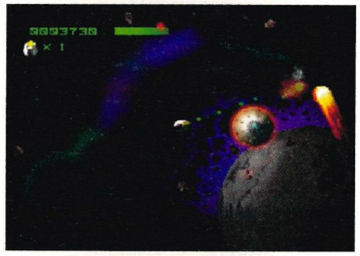
Ark of Time 46%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Bland puzzler: too boring and too hard. Get outta here!

Assault Rigs 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A nice idea, but just too easy and too simple for its own good.

Atari Collection 54%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Retro compilation: oldie, but no goldie.

Atari Collection 2 55%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
More retro 'classics'. Yeah, right...

Asteroids 70%
Price £29.99 **Players** 1-2
Same old gameplay, but flashier graphics. It's OK.
Rent it



Atlantis 29%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Tremendously dull adventure-type malarky.
ARSE

Auto Destruct 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Cop show-style driving and shooting game with fizz.

Ayrton Senna Kart Duel 32%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Very grim, substandard racer. Avoid, and that's an order.

Ayrton Senna Kart Duel 2 35%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
A karting game with all the fun of a lobotomy. Nasty.

Azure Dreams 67%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
This RPG is packed with good ideas, but is ultimately tedious.

B

Battle Arena Toshinden 2 61%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Great visuals but the gameplay doesn't cut it.

Battle Stations 52%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Nice battleships concept, but it's just so basic.

Batman Forever 28%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A real stinker. A beat 'em up in the loosest sense.
ARSE

Beast Wars: Transformers 45%
Price £394.99 **Players** 1
Godawful shoot 'em up with robot animals.

Blast Chamber 54%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
It's a futuristic game of tag. No, really, it is...

Blasto 56%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Appalling 3D platformer. We really don't like this.

Blaze and Blade 40%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Supremely grating role-playing which is no fun.

Bloodlines 40%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Kind of like a game of sci-fi tig, if you see what we mean.

Break Point 62%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
A fairly playable arcade tennis game. Nothing special.

Brahma Force 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Robot shooter much like Doom, just not as good.

Broken Helix 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Futuristic shooty puzzler. Looking very dated indeed.

Brunswick Pro Bowling 45%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
A very dodgy-looking bowling game with trashy gameplay.

Bubsy 3D 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Ugh! Ultra-crap platform game that looks and plays cruddy.

Bug Riders 34%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Ugly, unplayable insect-riding racer. Diabolical.

C

Carnage Heart 64%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Build a robot then take it into battle. More strategy than action.

Casper 62%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Graphics are fine but it's a bit of a stinker to play.

Cheesy the Mouse 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Awful main character hides some average gameplay.

Chessmaster 3D 57%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Look, Grandad, we don't want your sort round here...

Chill 52%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
This snowboarding game is the pits. Much better stuff available.

City of the Lost Children 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Excellent graphics but wait, the gameplay's very slow.

Clock Tower 43%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Horror adventure that lacks tension and excitement.

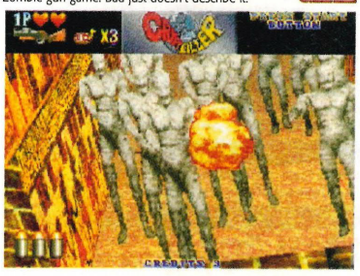
Courier Crisis 69%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Collect parcels, deliver them. No thanks.

Critical Depth 65%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Submarine shooter. OK in two-player, not so good for loners.

Criticom 61%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Nice enough graphics but this fighter looses out to Tekken.

Crow 2: City of Angels 33%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
You hated the movie, but you'll hate this fightin' adventure more.

Crypt Killer 27%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Zombie gun game. Bad just doesn't describe it.
ARSE



Cyber Sled 59%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Lots 'o' shooting, bugger all action. Aww.

Cyber Speed 60%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
You race around wires. Like, why?

Cyberia 60%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Underwhelming shooter with very little gameplay.

D

D 62%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Looks all right but way too short. You'll finish it an hour.

Darkstalkers 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Street Fighter meets horror, with missing gameplay. Oops.

Davis Cup Tennis 50%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Stinky tennis game. Don't bother with this, please.

Defcon 5 59%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
3D adventure that's no fun. Zzzz...

Devil's Deception 60%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
You play Satan's helper in this dungeon manager game. Odd.

DiscWorld 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Fantasy comedy adventure which just isn't funny.



Dodgem Arena 68%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Arena-based spaceship ball game. Not great.

Dynasty Warriors 67%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Swordy fighter which doesn't, um, cut it against Soul Blade.

E

Eliminator 32%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Scoot around arenas, shooting stuff from your spaceship.

Epidemic 64%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Corridor-based shooter which leads straight to Snoresville.

Explosive Racing 51%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
It's a cruddy racing game. That's all you need to know.

Extreme Pinball 44%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Unrealistic ball movement so what's the point?

Extreme Snow Break 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Rubbish snowbarding effort. Well stinky.

F

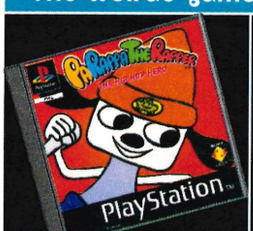
FIFA 97 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Very little improvement over 96, which wasn't much cop.

FIFA 98: Road to World Cup 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Fairly average goal 'em up.

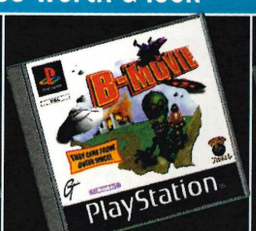
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Give 'em a try

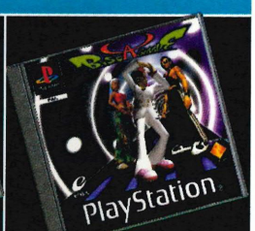
The weirdo games worth a look



PaRappa the Rapper
Our favourite rapping dog's not to all tastes, but give this a go and we think you'll love it. Unless you're crap at it...



B-Movie
Yeah, yeah we know. Aliens invade earth so they can steal our cows. Really, tt don't get much odder than that, does it? Not a bad game, either.



Bust-a-Move
Along the same lines as PaRappa, only this time you have to make your characters dance in time to the music. Heaps better than it sounds.

Knowledge: updated every month

Fighting Force 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Beat 'em up adventure. Way dull.

Firo and Klawd 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Interesting buddy cop game which has no save game option. D'oh!

Floating Runner 59%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
3D adventure platform thing. No good.

Formula 1 98 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Worse than the other two. Like, how did that happen?

Frenzy 16%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
A biplane shooter. We really do hate this. ARSE



G

Galaxian 3D 36%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Space shooter, but where's the gameplay gone?

Gex 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
The original and worst lizard-based platformer.

Goal Storm 66%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Clumsy players lumber around like geriatrics.

Granstream Saga 55%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Role-playing tedium which smells bad.

Grid Run 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Game of tag only half-decent in multiplayer.

Gunship 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Complex but fairly playable helicopter game.

H

Hard Boiled 40%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Sci-fi shooter? Waste of space more like.

Hardcore 4x4 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Dull all-terrain racing game with lack of tracks.

Hebereke Popoitto 42%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Not-much-fun two-player puzzle game.

Hexen 50%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Very slow, very chunky first-person blast. Link-up.

Hi-Octane 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Race speeders and blast away with weapons. Or buy WipEout 2097.

Hybrid 14%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Doom-style action 'em up. A right balls-up. ARSE

I

Independence Day 69%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Shoot 'em up based on the film. Bog-standard stuff.

Indy 500 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Offensively average Indy car game that's dull, dull, DULL.

In the Hunt 67%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
2D submarine shoot 'em up that's, er, substandard. Huh.

ISS Deluxe 56%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy footballer that's seen better days.

Iron and Blood 67%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Average 3D beat 'em up with swords 'n' stuff.

Iron Man 22%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Sad 'n' shoddy. A fighter of appalling standards. ARSE

Iznogoud 9%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
The title says it all, really. ARSE

J

Jeremy McGrath Supercross 98 52%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Ropey-as-hell motocross atrocity.

Jet rider 53%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Great idea, but this hov-bike racer's let down by... well, everything.

Jet Rider II 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
A sequel which is worse. Go figure...

Johnny Bazookatone 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Rock 'n' roll platformer without little rock, bugger all roll.

Judge Dredd 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Comic book gun game which lacks imagination. Well average.

K

K1 Arena Fighters 55%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Kick-boxing sim which just isn't slick or quick enough.

Kick Off 97 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
OK-to-play footy game which looks ancient.

Kick Off World 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Same ol' thing, but with international teams. Ooh.

King of Fighters 95 40%
Price Rental only **Players** 1-2
Only costs three quid to rent this beat 'em up. Rent it



Knockout Kings 67%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Plenty of famous boxers to choose from, but it's just so slow.

Krazy Ivan 61%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Robots with big guns fight, and nothing else happens. Oh, link-up.

Kurushi 68%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Block-based puzzler. Very mediocre.

L

The Last Report 35%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Tries to be Resident Evil but this adventure just ain't got it.

Legend 45%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Two-player hack 'n' slash fighter with sod all variety.

Lethal Enforcers 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Repulsive two-player lightgun game. It made us physically sick.

Libero Grande 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Far-out footy game which is just too weird for its own good.

Live Wire! 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Make boxes in this tiring puzzle game. And that's it.

Lomax in Lemmingland 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Lemmings in platform shocker! Actually it's not that bad...

Lone Soldier 62%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Second-rate soldier shoot 'em up which is way slow.

Lost Vikings 2 63%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Arcade puzzler which is frustrating to play and rubbish to look at.

M

Maximum Force 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
More lightgun mediocrity you really shouldn't bother with.

MegaMan Battle and Chase 36%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Cartoon multiplayer racing. Just get lost, please...

MegaMan Legends 40%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
3D adventure. Looks like it's fifty years old, and that's being kind...

MegaMan X3 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Age-old platformer which is way too difficult.

MegaMan X4 40%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Oh c'mon, don't palm us off with the same old platform rubbish.

MegaMan 8 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Another name, yet strangely similar to the rest. Rubbish.

Men in Black 69%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Hugely disappointing adventure based on the movie.

Midnight Run 56%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Semi-fast racer that's a total turd to play. Yuk.

Monkey Hero 35%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Cartoon-style platform 'high jinx'. Er, hardly...

Monopoly 68%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Same as the board game but on your telly.

Mortal Kombat 4 70%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Another MK fighter which offers very little new stuff. Rent it

Mortal Kombat Mythologies 50%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Boring, unplayable quest-version of age-old beat 'em up.

Motor Mash 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Derivative comic racing game: nice graphics but it's slow and dull.

Mr Domino 70%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Puzzler let down by poor control.

N

Nagano Winter Olympics 35%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Snow-based Track & Field game. Arse, quite frankly.

Namco Museum Vol.1 69%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
It's got Pacman, but everything else is yawny.

Namco Museum Vol.2 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
This time Xevious is the highlight. Oh, you've never heard of it...

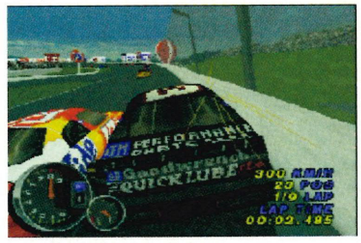
Namco Museum Vol.3 63%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
C'mon, this is getting ridiculous...

Namco Museum Vol.4 57%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
PacLand and some other rubbish retro hell.

Namco Museum Vol.5 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Enough already. Blimey, don't they ever give in...

NASCAR 98 64%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Ugly, dull racer with a hideous soundtrack.

NASCAR 99 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Insanely cack racer with unbelievably bad commentary. It's dire.



NBA Fastbreak 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Very realistic to play but y'know what, it's frustrating to the extreme.

Memory cards

Don't mess up when it comes to memory cards. Take our advice:



- A memory card has 15 blocks of memory. Some games use one block, some even use all 15. Check before you start playing.
- Some memory cards promise up to 250 blocks of memory. BE CAREFUL if you use one of these. They can easily crash and not all games will be compatible with them.
- Don't insert or pull out a memory card while the machine's doing stuff with it. Chances are you'll erase what's on it. Nasty.
- For important saves make a back-up. Sounds like a waste but it could come in handy. Do this by going to the memory card management screen and transferring data onto a card in the second slot.

NBA Jam Extreme 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Basketball starring players with big heads. Very funny.

NBA Live 96 61%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Average b-baller which just won't blow your mind.

NBA Pro 98 30%
Price £38.99 **Players** 1-4
Just quit with the basketball games, OK?

Need for Speed 2 49%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Looks crap and plays like a brick.

NFL Extreme 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Standard American football-type affair. Average.

NFL Quarterback Club 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Competent sports sim let down by blocky graphics. Rent it

NHL Face Off 64%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
Nothing new to be found in this ice hockey effort.

NHL Face Off 97 65%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
Still average, despite the inclusion of extra features...

NHL Face Off 99 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
And still more of the same hockey toss.

NHL Open Ice 70%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Arcade-style hockey game. No great shakes, here.

NHL Powerplay 96 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
End-to-end stuff. OK, but there's so much better stuff on offer.

The Note 45%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Very basic adventure. Boring and dull.

Nova Storm 55%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Start game. Fire continuously. Finish game eventually. That's it.

O

Off World Interceptor 58%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
A buggy racer set on the Moon. Weird, but not much cop.

Olympic Games 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
More events than Track & Field, but not much fun to play.

OnSide Soccer 45%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Bland footy game not worth bothering with.

P

Pax Corpus 30%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Dire Tomb Raider wannabe. This is real slack.

Peak Performance 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Lots of options in this racer but not much else.

Perfect Weapon 51%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Beat 'em up cum adventure. Rubbish in both departments.

Pet in TV 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Tamagotchi-style pet for your PlayStation? No thanks...

PGA Tour 97 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Good-looking but gameplay's the same as all the rest.

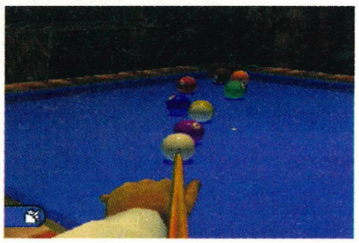
PGA Tour 98 68%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Same as the last one, apart from a couple of slight improvements.

Pitball 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Futuristic sports game. Looks average, plays average.

Player Manager 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Predictable results spoil this footy management game.

Player Manager Seasons 98/99 62%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Football management effort that's not a patch on Premier Manager.

Pool 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-16
Average pool game with too many American rules. Rent it



Power Soccer 2 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
This average soccer game won't hold your interest for long.

Psybadek 67%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Hoverboarding game that's more adventure than racing. Poor.

R

Rampage World Tour 59%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-3
Choose your monster then smash some cities. Extremely basic.

Rascal 53%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Awful camera angles make this 3D platformer almost unplayable.

Real Bout: Fatal Fury 30%
Price Rental only **Players** 1-2
Very stale and slow beat 'em up. Not even worth renting.

Rebel Assault 2 46%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Not even the Star Wars connection saves this shooter.

Red Asphalt: Rock & Roll Racing 2 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Speedsters with awesome firepower fail to mix.

Revolution X 48%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
A gungame starring... Aerosmith? Oh pur-lease...

Rise 2: Resurrection 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Robot fighting game which fails to impress.

Riot 67%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-16
Despite its multiplayer option, this future sport's not much fun.

Robotron X 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Simple, mindless and run-of-the-mill shooter. Rent it

Rug Rats 21%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Unbelievably crud cartoon games even the kids'll hate. ARSE

S

Samurai Showdown 19%
Price Rental only **Players** 1-2
Sword-fighting which hits new depths... ARSE

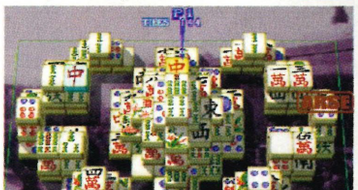
San Francisco Rush 48%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Tedious drive through the streets of SF. No fun.

Sensible Soccer 2000 25%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Crusty old footballer lacks talent. Real nasty. ARSE

Sentient 61%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Ambitious adventure is just too complicated for its own good.

Sentinel Returns 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
How can a game which looks so bad get released? Ridiculous.

Shanghai True Valor 18%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Oriental puzzler which you will not like. ARSE



Shellshock 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Second-rate tank game with shooty bits. Not brilliant, no siree.

Shockwave 56%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Trashy shoot 'em up which fails to get the blood pumping.

Skeleton Warriors 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Scrolling fighter which smells of old men's trousers.

Slam 'n' Jam 96 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy camera views and rough gameplay.

Small Soldiers 58%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
No variety, dull graphics and absolutely no link to the film.

Smash Court Tennis 57%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Slow and unresponsive tennis game.

Space Jam 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dull movie-based cash-in basketball game with Bugs Bunny and co.

Spawn: The Eternal 32%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Useless blend of action and adventure. Avoid.

Speed King 45%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Slow, boring and about as exciting as watching an egg boil.

Speedster 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Top-down racer which lacks speed and playability.

Spice World 21%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
A shabby excuse for a game. Short and boring. ARSE



Spider 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Innovative platformer, but no better than average.

Starfighter 3000 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Doesn't look so hot, doesn't play well either. Dodgy shooter.

Star Wars: Masters of Teras Kasi 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Star Wars characters fighting. Could've been great but no.

Starwinder 58%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Simplistic racer where every level plays the same.

Street Fighter: The Movie 29%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Just as bad as the movie. In other words, CRAP. ARSE

Street Sk8er 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
We wanted a skateboarding game. Thing is, we wanted a good one.

Strikepoint: The Hex Missions 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Poor helicopter game. Try Soviet Strike instead.

Striker 96 59%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Just another rubbishy football game.

Super Match Soccer 33%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Yawnsome footy game. For God's sake don't buy it.

Super Football Champ 46%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Dull, drab, bland... Get the idea about this footy turd?

Super Pang Collection 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Retro bubble-bursting arcade game. Too simple, really.

T

Tai Fu 45%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
A kung fu tiger. That's a bad idea, and this is a bad game.

Ten Pin Alley 54%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-6
Novelty bowling game which looks and plays like a dog.

Test Drive: Off Road 46%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Devoid of excitement and playability. Looks dreadful too.

Test Drive 4 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Lots of tracks but ultimately this 'un's too slow and ugly.

Three Lions 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Awful to look at and rubbish to play. A real footy stinker.

Tommi Makinen Rally 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Rally effort ain't much cop. In fact it's pants.

Top Gun: Fire at Will 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Gung-ho movie spin-off not worth tracking down.

Trash It 57%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Platformer with big hammers. Shame it's just not interesting.

V

Versailles 10%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
A point 'n' click adventure. Redefines the word... ARSE

Viper 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Cacky controls spoil this great-looking chopper shoot 'em up.

Virtual Golf 57%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Nowhere near as good as Actua Golf 3. Not even close...

Virus 2000 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Rather average as space shoot 'em ups go.

VMX Racing 50%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Dirt bike racer which looks a thousand years old. Well, almost.

VR Powerboat Racing 40%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Speedboat racing which is waaaay nasty.

W

Wargods 59%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
3D fighting game with mushy graphics and lousy gameplay.

WCW Nitro 63%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
No great shakes from the OKish wrestler.

WCW Vs NWO Thunder 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Some all right bits, but overall this really isn't much to shout about.

Wing Commander IV 50%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Great video sequences and shaky gameplay.

Wingover 40%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Boring aerial shoot 'em up with lotsa planes. Zzzz.

World League Basketball 30%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
The worst b-ball game we've seen. Phew...

WWF in your House 48%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Well below average wrestling game.

X,Y,Z

X2 58%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A tedious shoot 'em up that's way too difficult.

Xenocracy 20%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
A real dog turd of a game. ARSE

Zeitgeist (Jupiter Strike) 43%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Slow, clumsy 3D shooting game which seriously lacks appeal.

Zero Divide 2 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Very suspect 3D fighter. Best left alone.



Chips

The pros and cons of getting your PlayStation chipped

Having a special chip put in your PlayStation allows you to play import games. But there are drawbacks...

Pros

✔ Games come out in Japan and the US before they do in the UK. So you'll play them first
✔ Import games are faster (17% faster).
✔ Import games use the full screen of the TV, while most UK games have borders
✔ They won't be cut like Resident Evil was for its UK release.

Cons

✗ You'll pay more for import games
✗ Chances are they'll be in a language you don't understand
✗ Having your machine chipped invalidates its warranty
✗ The chipping process is risky and can ruin your machine
✗ It'll cost you a wad just top get it chipped



■ Chip or not? The decision is yours

SPOILER



By: Eidos
Costs: €19.99
Players: 1
First Out: November 97

#4 Tomb Raider II

Dragon-trouncing, Lara style

Lara sure is devoted to her work. To get to the end geeza she's raced through 17 rock-hard levels just to reach the goddamn Dagger of Scion, only to find some oversized lizard's got it stuck in its gut. No worries though, 'cos Lara's gonna extract the blade – using a grenade launcher. One bloody fight later, the dragon's breathed its last and Crofty's nabbed the dagger. But that's only the beginning...





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Blue ... ...14.99 Red 14.99

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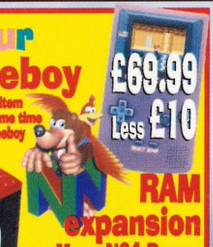
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