

Serious Sam Review Author: Greg Harmon

Introduction

When Croteam began to work on Serious Sam I\'m sure they didn\'t set out to make a ground breaking game in terms of gameplay features. game cheats However I suspect they did set out to make a very entertaining, if for a short while, shoot\'em up game. game cheats If this is what they indeed set out to do then they accomplished their goal. game cheats The graphics, sound and fun factor are right up there with the best of them. game cheats Innovative? Certainly not. game cheats Serious Sam is a good game which offers a week or two of fun gameplay, which is probably more than a game which was released at a price of \$15 US. game cheats Read on for the details. game cheats

Story Line

Story of Serious Sam? Bah! This game pretty much has no real plot at all. game cheats It\'s a straight shoot\'em up game. game cheats Basically aliens invaded earth and us humans are fighting them off and blah blah blah. game cheats Nothing to get excited about. game cheats Visit the Croteam web site if you really want to read the whole story line, although I\'m sure you could care less. game cheats I mean, Doom actually had some story line to it but I bet only 3 people actually read it. game cheats I will tell you that the game takes place in ancient Egypt environments and showcases the ancient Egyptian architecture. game cheats

Graphics

The graphics in Serious Sam are right up there with today\'s standards for First Person Shooters. game cheats The 3D engine itself is well done, running smoothly and sporting most if not all of the standard eye candy features that show up in games like Quake III and Unreal Tournament. game cheats There are a variety of indoor and outdoor scenes. game cheats The common theme is ancient Egyptian architecture and environments. game cheats The sky is just as gorgeous as well, you\'ll especially enjoy the great lens flare effect. game cheats If I had to pick one area that I loved the Serious Sam graphics it\'s the sole fact that it\'s environments aren\'t dark and dreary. game cheats Some inside places are dreary but almost all outside environments are bright and beautiful. game cheats Serious Sam is also great for bench marking your system since it has better than standard tools for doing so. game cheats You can test dual textured and single textured fill rate and more which is very handy. game cheats This game also has more graphics options than pretty much any other game I\'ve seen, at least via an actual interface anyway. game cheats You can customize pretty much anything you wish. game cheats Everything considered I love the graphics in Serious Sam. game cheats

Sound Effects and Music

The sound in Serious Sam is good. game cheats Nothing ground breaking or spectacular but it does the job well. game cheats However the various monster groans, screams and so on can be very frightening! More than once you\'ll have a headless zombie running at you rapidly while making a horrendous yelling noise. game cheats Quite a few times I\'ve been in situations where the screaming noise would get louder and louder however I couldn\'t find the enemy which made it downright frightening! Serious Sam makes good use of EAX as you\'ll be able to hear if something spawns behind you and so forth. game cheats If something spawns behind you and you can\'t see it, you can take a good guess that it\'s a beast wanting to rip you from limb to limb. game cheats The music is better than most with a rock / techno sound to it. game cheats Overall the sound in Serious Sam is scary, immersive and sharp. game cheats I liked it. game cheats

Gameplay

The gameplay of Serious Sam is not even close to revolutionary or an original idea. game cheats It\'s the same type of gameplay you\'ve seen since Doom. game cheats However it is refreshing and quite fun I must say to kill hordes of monsters when in a bad mood. game cheats There\'s nothing quite like ripping through 50 headless zombie things with a big gun. game cheats You have quite a few "big guns" to choose from in Serious Sam also. game cheats More on that in the next paragraph though. game cheats Serious Sam\'s gameplay is very linear, meaning that there is a set path for you to go through such as

killing all monsters in an area so the next door opens up and lets you through. game cheats Sometimes you'll have to find a switch but that's about it. game cheats This game is a straight out shoot'em up, nothing like Half-Life or No One Lives Forever. game cheats I believe this game will be mostly appealing to people who were too young to play Doom when it was released but the older generation of gamers are mostly a bit tired of this type of gameplay. game cheats At least Serious Sam does it very well though. game cheats

Monsters and Weapons

The weapons in Serious Sam are fairly creative but nothing very new. game cheats You have all the standard guns such as the pistol, shot gun, rocket launcher and a few newly made up guns but nothing spectacular. game cheats The weapon models are good but way too big for the player models which makes it look kind of goofy but that's not necessarily a bad thing since it kind of fits the Serious Sam theme. game cheats I wont go through a list of all the weapons since that would spoil the gameplay by a bit. game cheats However let me just say that in a later level of gameplay, Sam picks up a very large weapon and says "Owned" which was kind of funny. game cheats The creatures are very creative and better than most in my opinion. game cheats There are huge monsters, tiny monsters and medium sized monsters. game cheats The models themselves don't put out a huge polygon count but they look good. game cheats They aren't quite as detailed as Quake III or Unreal Tournament models but more creative and there are more monsters in Serious Sam than Quake and Unreal combined! Serious Sam puts more monsters on the screen than any other game of it's genre. game cheats The amount of monsters that come at you are amazing! I really liked the weapons and monsters available in Serious Sam. game cheats I'm very surprised a game of this price had that many different models created for it. game cheats

Multiplayer

The multiplayer is the worst aspect of Serious Sam. game cheats The lag is horrible. game cheats Serious Sam does offer up a Co-op mode however which is rare in today's games due to the single player experience in most games today taking so much time and effort. game cheats A lot of developers say it's too hard to develop co-op in their games due to cut scenes and the game in general being designed only for single player. game cheats I highly recommend Counter Strike and other multiplayer games over Serious Sam if multiplayer is your cup of tea. game cheats

Value

This game cost \$15 US dollars most places so you can't really go wrong. game cheats For \$15 dollars this game is a great buy, whether you be a first person shooter fan or not. game cheats This game acts as a great stress reliever! However the game is a little on the short side if you go through it in easy mode, however harder modes aren't so short. game cheats I hope Croteam makes a nice profit from this game since I'd love to see their future games. game cheats They apparently have great talent there!

Conclusion

Serious Sam is truly a great game for anyone who misses the old Doom type style of gameplay. game cheats It takes what Doom had and brings it to a whole different level. game cheats I strongly recommend this game for anyone who enjoys fast shoot'em up games. game cheats Serious Sam wont please you for a year but it'll certainly give you some great enjoyment for a few weeks or maybe even longer if you actually enjoy the multiplayer experience. game cheats I liked Serious Sam and I think you would also. game cheats