

Race Driver: GRID: EVALUATION SUMMARY



About Race Driver: GRID

Developed and published by Codemasters, Race Driver: GRID is a racing-simulation game and forms a part of the TOCA Touring Car Series. Many critics praised GRID for its realism, particularly on car damages. This version of DIRT was bundled within a Racing Megapack distributed by Codemasters.

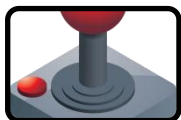
Medium: Disc Version

Versions Tested: 1.00 and 1.30



About SecuROM

SecuROM is developed by Sony DADC and remains one of the oldest DRM series in the Video Gaming market. This version implemented by Codemasters is a hardware-based DRM with blacklisting capabilities.



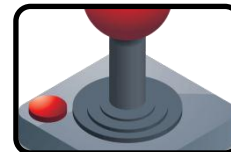
About Codemasters

Codemasters Software Company Limited is a UK-based video games developer and publisher overseeing about 800 employees and handling a number of notable franchises, some of which include the Overlord series, Operation Flashpoint and, more recently, the F1 series. Currently they are partly-owned and operated by Reliance Big Entertainment, an Indian-based entertainment company, which also has a 50% stake in DreamWorks Pictures.

INDIVIDUAL SCORES



44%



52%



N/A

RYG's RATING*

48%

UNACCEPTABLE

* RYG's Rating is an aggregate of the Individual Scores

AREAS OF CONCERN

- Pre-Purchase & DRM Notification

DRM: SecuROM documentation absent from Publisher's websites, Gaming Package, Manual, Readme and EULA.

Publisher: As above.

- EULA

DRM: EULA absent from Sony DADC.

Publisher: As above; Written based on UK laws; Incomprehensible and inconsistent; No warranties/refunds provisions for consumers outside UK; Ownership bias; Internal Disputes Resolution non-existent.

- Personal Backup

BOTH: Not permissible as per EULA and DRM implemented.

- Installation

DRM: SecuROM files not contained to Gaming Directory; SecuROM files found within OS folders; Installation logs not provided.

Publisher: As above; Installation logs not provided.

- Activation

DRM: Hardware activation; Disc required to play GRID; Resale prohibited.

Publisher: As above.

- Manual Game Patches & Updates

DRM: No notification of DRM upgrade.

Publisher: As above; No EULA provided; Cannot roll back to previous version if errors arise.

- Uninstallation

DRM: DRM Removal tool not provided in game; Many files and registry keys remain.

- Customer / Technical Support

DRM: None provided on Codemasters Technical Support page (Based on no notification as evaluated)

Publisher: As above; Common technical issues not tagged or updated on the Support page; Issues regarding SecuROM and hardware conflicts after the 1.2 patch at the time were incorrectly diagnosed.