

The Sims Medieval: EVALUATION SUMMARY



About The Sims Medieval

Developed by The Sims Studios, The Sims Medieval (TSM) is a medieval-based, simulation game. TSM's focal point lies with a quest-driven gameplay, rather than the creation and management of 'sims'. Unlike its Digital Version which is protected with SecuROM, this version is protected with a "disc-verification" DRM.

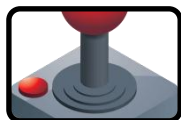
Medium: Disc Version

Versions Tested: 1.0.286 and 1.3.13



About "EA's Disc Checks"

Like Sims 3 and its expansion packs, The Sims: Medieval would use EA's internal disc-verification system, along with a serial key for activating The Sims Medieval offline.



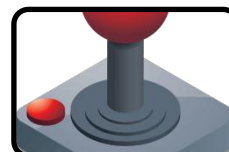
About Electronic Arts

With over 8,000 employees and \$3 Billion USD in revenue, Electronic Arts Inc, (EA) is one of the world's largest developer and publisher of Video Games. Aside from once owning a 15% interest in Ubisoft Entertainment, EA's list of Developers' includes Westwood Studios, DICE, Maxis, as well as Bioware. John Riccitiello is their current CEO.

INDIVIDUAL SCORES



46%



47%



N/A

RYG's RATING*

47%

UNACCEPTABLE

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

AREAS OF CONCERN

- Pre-Purchase & DRM Notification

DRM: Documentation inconsistent between Publisher's websites, Gaming Package, Manual, Readme and EULA.
Publisher: Incomplete PC Release with respect to DLCs; No demo.

- EULA

DRM: Documentation inconsistent as above; Game non-transferrable with respect to DLCs.
Publisher: As above; Not written for AUS Consumers; Incomprehensible, inconsistent and overwritten; Limited warranties/refunds provisions for consumers outside US; Ownership bias.

- Personal Backup

BOTH: Not permissible as per the EULA.

- Installation

BOTH: Installation logs partially provided

- Gameplay

Publisher: Some issues with the savegame feature with respect to the tutorial portion of TSM.

- Manual Patches & Updates

BOTH: Location(s) of manual patches and changelogs not on official webpages; Rollback option not provided; Sunset option not provided; Installation logs not provided.

- Uninstallation:

Publisher: Some files and registry keys remain.

- Customer / Technical Support

BOTH: Official EA technical support Inconsistent, absent at times and unhelpful; Difficult to navigate.

- Internal Disputes Resolution

BOTH: Non-existent.