Leviathan: Warships

Platform: PC (Windows 7 only)　　　　**Developer:** Pieces Interactive
DRM: Steamworks (Steam)　　　　**Publisher:** Paradox Interactive
Digital Distributor: Steam

RYG's VERDICT

60% BARGAIN BIN MATERIAL
64% and Below

1a. Product Info

Note: Leviathan: Warships is mostly a co-op multiplayer game with a very limited single player offline mode.

Looking at how much information is provided on Leviathan: Warships on its website prior and on release.

- ✓ Leviathan: Warships released globally on 30.04.2013
- ✓ Minimum and recommended specs provided
- ✓ Advised Steamworks (Steam) DRM was to be used for Leviathan: Warships
- ✓ Advised how Steam DRM would activate the game through the game
- ✓ Manual and Readme provided through steampowered.com
- ✓ EULA, Privacy Policy and TOS fully accessible on steampowered.com
- ✓ All game-related information can be found on steampowered.com

- ✗ Available only on Windows and MacOS
- ✗ Demo not provided

1b. Digital Dwnld

Note: Backing up Steam games "offline" can be found via. PC-GamingWiki.

Note: Refer to Section 3, *Billing, Payment & Other Subcriptions* in respect to pre-order refunds for users living in the EU

Note: Difference in prices for Leviathan: Warships can be found via. Steam Apps Database.

Looking at Steam as a digital distributing service for PC games.

- ✓ Available worldwide through steampowered.com
- ✓ Minimum and recommended specs provided
- ✓ Advised Steamworks (Steam) DRM was to be used for Leviathan: Warships
- ✓ Advised how Steam DRM would activate Leviathan: Warships
- ✓ Free and unlimited access and downloads after purchase
- ✓ Can backup purchased games "offline" (e.g. external or optical drives)
- ✓ Refunds offered for pre-orders (EU ONLY!)
- ✓ Can access personal data
- ✓ Can terminate account or request to terminate account

- ✗ Go Home Dinosaurs is priced inconsistently across global regions
- ✗ Download / Client Manager is required, including for gameplay
- ✗ User account creation is required
- ✗ No refunds or exchanges for purchased games
- ✗ Warranties waived (excluding physical merchantability warranties)
- ✗ Cover waived against any unforeseeable damages, disruptions of service

- ✗ Account termination voids past purchases and licenses to play them
- ✗ Consumers prevented from disputing Steam TOS breaches made against them
- ✗ Can't review and question changes made to Steam TOS
- ✗ Past purchases voided after refusing to accept Steam TOS

2. Privacy Policy

Note: 1,507 words found within Steam's Privacy Policy.

See Also: Relevant Sections: *Collection of Information, Personally Identifiable Information* and *Use of Personally Identifiable Information.*

Note: Privacy Policy was retrieved September 2013; Effective Date of Steam's Privacy Policy prior to this evaluation was August 2012.

*Looking at Steam's Privacy Policy through **Valve (Steam)***

- ✓ Privacy Policy found on steampowered.com
- ✓ Policy applies to Steam Client, Steamworks DRM and Leviathan: Warships
- ✓ Easy to read, understand and is worded with clear consistency
- ✓ Users visibly notified of any changes made to the Policy
- ✓ "Personally-identifiable" and "non-personally identifiable" info are defined
- ✓ Policy specifies what's are collected before and during gameplay
- ✓ Info is stored in the US
- ✓ Data centres are 100% safe and secure
- ✓ Info is used solely for improving Steam's services only!
- ✓ Visible opt-in / opt-out process
- ✓ Users can access and modify their user account
- ✓ Users can modify their user account
- ✓ Users can validate the info they've provided
- ✓ Can request to have their data removed
- ✓ Can review and query changes made to the Privacy Policy

- ✗ Third parties not identified
- ✗ Users have limited control over their Steam account
- ✗ Users must accept ALL changes to the Policy before playing the game.

3a. EULA (GAME)

Note: 4,210 words found in Leviathan: Warships's EULA.

Note: Steam's Subscriber's Agreement (EULA / TOS) is evaluated as a separate section 3b. EULA (STEAM)

Looking at Leviathan: Warships's EULA from Paradox Interactive

- ✓ EULA / TOS is found on steampowered.com
- ✓ EULA / TOS covers Leviathan: Warships and Steam DRM
- ✓ Terms and conditions for Steam DRM are clearly defined
- ✓ Can back-up copies of Leviathan: Warships
- ✓ Won't blacklist specific background services or software
- ✓ Users can initiate legal action if the arbitration process fails
- ✓ Users can criticise or provide criticism about the game without reprisals

- ✗ Difficult to read, understand and is inconsistently worded
- ✗ Drafted to only abide by the laws of Sweden
- ✗ Users not visibly notified of any changes made to the EULA / TOS
- ✗ Can't review and query changes made to the EULA / TOS
- ✗ License to play the game only provided
- ✗ No refunds or exchanges for purchased games
- ✗ Circumvention of Steam DRM prohibited
- ✗ Leviathan: Warship's source code isn't to be modified or reverse-engineered
- ✗ Not permitted to create "mods"
- ✗ Monitoring services / software are required to play Leviathan: Warship
- ✗ Warranties waivered (excluding physical merchantability warranties)

Note: Limited warranties, waivers of liability and indemnity are commonly found within many software EULAs and TOSs

✖ Cover waivered against any unforeseeable damages, disruptions of service
✖ Termination process dictated by Paradox Interactive
✖ Arbitration process isn't freely-provided and is overseen by Paradox Interactive

3b. EULA (STEAM)

Note: 6,286 Words found in Steam's EULA.

Looking at Steam Subscriber's Agreement through Steam.

✓ EULA / TOS is found on steampowered.com
✓ EULA / TOS covers Steam DRM
✓ Terms and conditions for Steam DRM are clearly defined
✓ Can back-up copies of Steam Client
✓ Permitted to create free "mods" of Valve's Source Code Engine
✓ Won't blacklist specific background services or software
✓ Termination process is clear and transparent

✖ Difficult to read and understand
✖ Drafted to only abide by the laws of US in the state of California
✖ Users not visibly notified of any changes made to the EULA / TOS
✖ Can't review and query changes made to the EULA / TOS
✖ Circumvention of Steam DRM prohibited
✖ Monitoring services / software are required to use Steam
✖ Cover waived against any unforeseeable damages, disruptions of service
✖ Arbitration process isn't freely-provided and requested by Valve
✖ Legal action is waived

See Also: Section 12, *Dispute Resolution / Binding Arbitration / Class Action Waiver*

4. Setup / Install

Note: Installing games through Steam to a different folder and drive can be done by altering the Steam shortcut to add "-dev" (via. RPS)

Looking at how Leviathan: Warships is installed on Windows PCs only.

✓ Custom installation options are provided
✓ All files are installed within folders designated by users
✓ Steam DRM files installed within folders designated by users
✓ Currently-executing background services won't interfere with installation
✓ Installation completed within 30 minutes
✓ Error-free installation

✖ No installation logs of files and registry keys

5. Updates / Patching

Looking at how Leviathan: Warships is patched prior and after gameplay.

✓ Can play the game unpatched.

✖ No plans to sunset Steam DRM

6. DRM & Activation

Note: Leviathan: Warships will only be connected to the following servers: Level 3 Communications, QWest Communications, Highwinds Networks, Valve, Amazon Web Services and Verisign.

Looking at Steamworks (Steam) DRM in relation to Leviathan: Warships and its effects on Windows PCs only.

- ✓ Won't interfere with currently-executing background services or software
- ✓ Firewall and AV settings aren't modified or required to be modified
- ✓ Users are aware and advised on how Leviathan: Warships will be activated
- ✓ Username, password and email are only required
- ✓ Unlimited online activations to any one PC
- ✓ Can play single-player game offline
- ✓ Only Steam DRM is implemented
- ✓ Unlimited hardware activations
- ✓ Unlimited installations
- ✓ Support and troubleshooting process provided
- ✓ Activation is simple and hassle-free

- ✗ No instructions provided on the activation process
- ✗ Can't verify the safety and reliability of the activation process
- ✗ A non-transferrable user account is required
- ✗ Game is locked to specific account after activation

7. Gameplay Experience

Note: Leviathan: Warships is mostly a co-op multiplayer game with a very limited single player offline mode.

Looking at the gameplay aspects of Leviathan: Warships and how it interacts with PC Windows.

- ✓ Can play on minimum specs
- ✓ Can play a backup copy of the game
- ✓ Disc not required for gameplay
- ✓ Can play in windowed mode
- ✓ Can play offline
- ✓ Won't "phone home"
- ✓ Can play without connectivity issues on an ADSL connection
- ✓ Can play error-free for more than 5hrs
- ✓ Won't interfere with services and background software
- ✓ Will resume at the last checkpoint

- ✗ Limited graphical settings provided
- ✗ Only playable on mouse and keyboard
- ✗ Can only play on one PC at a time per game / account
- ✗ Can't modify savegame and/or ini file
- ✗ DRM and monitoring services will operate during and after gameplay

8. PC Checkup

Looking at whether Leviathan: Warships will modify certain PC settings without users permission / consent.

- ✓ PC clean after scanning for viruses
- ✓ PC clean after scanning for malware and spyware
- ✓ PC clean after scanning for rootkits
- ✓ HOSTS wasn't modified
- ✓ Played Leviathan: Warships without major errors
- ✓ Start-up settings remain unaltered
- ✓ No DRM / monitoring services running in the background after shutting down

✓ System configuration files remain unaltered

9. Removal Uninstall

Looking at how clean, efficient and effective the removal process is for Leviathan: Warships (How much legacy material is there after the removal of Leviathan: Warships?)

✓ Knowledgebase provided at Steam to remove all Steam files and registry keys
✓ Knowledgebase in removing game + DRM files is easy to understand

✖ Will need to uninstall the game via. Control Panel
✖ Some registry keys related to Steam remain

10. Customer Support

Looking at the customer support side of Leviathan: Warships through Steam

✓ Customer service / support found in one place at steampowered.com
✓ steampowered.com is easy to use and navigate
✓ Searching on steampowered.com is direct and quick
✓ Info is easy to read and understand

RYG's VERDICT	**BARGAIN BIN MATERIAL**	**SHOWS PROMISE & POTENTIAL**	**WORTH SUPPORTING**
60%	**64% and below**	Between 65% and 84%	85% and above

Leviathan: Warships performed much like any other game released through Steam that we've evaluated. Expect the usual in the form of dual EULAs and tethered distribution / client service requiring a once-off online activation. In terms of the single gameplay Leviathan: Warships is a limited game as it was solely designed for multiplay across operating systems and/or smartphone / tablet devices.

Colophon

This analysis of Leviathan: Warships was compiled by Lisa and Martin Pham. Typeface used is ITC Stone Sans. RYG thanks Anna Henriksson, Josh Bush, Ethan Lee, Adam Ames and David Hatch for their insights and suggestions in the design of this analysis. Leviathan: Warships was bought with RYG funds through Steam.

Disclaimer

These analyses are only a guide and represent RYG's perspective into Leviathan: Warships as a product. We believe everyone should perform their own research and reach their own conclusions. This is one view of many. Again, we thank you for taking the time to read our analysis of Leviathan: Warships and hope you continue to support our work.