Papers, Please

Platform: PC (Windows only)
DRM: DRM Free
Digital Distributor: Direct / Humble Store

Developer: Lucas Pope
Publisher: Lucas Pope

RYG's VERDICT

80% SHOWS PROMISE & POTENTIAL
Between 65% and 84%

1a. Product Info

Looking at how much information is provided on Papers, Please on its website and through a distributor prior and on release.

- ✓ Papers, Please released globally for PC (Win) on 08.08.2013
- ✓ Minimum and recommended specs provided
- ✓ Demo provided on dukope.com
- ✓ Advised DRM Free on 08.08.2013
- ✓ Manual and Readme provided with the game
- ✓ All game-related information can be found on papersple.se

- ✗ Available only on Windows and MacOS
- ✗ EULA, Privacy Policy and TOS is only found within the game

1b. Digital Dwld

Looking at The Humble Store / Direct from the Developer as a digital distributing service for PC games.

Note: Papers, Please is priced in USD via. the Humble Store. Can use Paypal and will reconfirm final payment / purchase.

Note: Users will have the option to create a Humble Bundle / Store account and link their game to it (or download via. their email link).

See Also: Disclaimer of Warranties; Liability Limitations and Indemnity within Humble Bundle's Terms of Service (TOS)

- ✓ Papers, Please sold at one, global price
- ✓ Available worldwide through papersple.se
- ✓ Download / Client Manager is not required
- ✓ Released DRM Free on 08.08.2013
- ✓ User account creation is optional; minimal details required
- ✓ Free and unlimited access and downloads after purchase
- ✓ Can backup purchased games "offline" (e.g. external or optical drives)

- ✗ Minimum and recommended specs not provided
- ✗ Warranties waived (excluding physical merchantability warranties)
- ✗ Cover waived against any unforeseeable damages, disruptions of service

2. Privacy Policy

Looking at Paper, Please's Privacy Policy.

- ✓ Privacy Policy is not required for Papers, Please

3.

EULA
TOS

Note: 797 Words found within Papers, Please's EULA.

Looking at Papers, Please's End User License Agreement.

- ✓ EULA / TOS covers Paper's Please
- ✓ Easy to read, understand and is worded with clear consistency
- ✓ Can back-up copies of Paper's Please
- ✓ Can opt-out of any monitoring services / software
- ✓ 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

- ✗ EULA / TOS is only found within the game
- ✗ 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
- ✗ Papers, Please's source code isn't to be modified or reverse-engineered
- ✗ Not permitted to create "mods"
- ✗ Warranties waivered (excluding physical merchantability warranties)
- ✗ Cover waivered against any unforeseeable damages, disruptions of service
- ✗ Termination process dictated by Lucas Pope

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

4.

Setup /
Install

Looking at how Papers, Please is installed on Windows PCs only.

- ✓ Custom installation options are provided
- ✓ All files are installed within folders designated by users
- ✓ No DRM files or registry keys installed
- ✓ Currently-executing background services won't interfere with installation
- ✓ Error-free installation
- ✓ Installation completed within 5 minutes (Average time 1 minutes and less)

- ✗ No installation logs of registry keys provided after installation

5.

Updates /
Patching

Looking at how Papers, Please is patched prior and after gameplay.

- ✓ Can play the game without patch

6.

DRM &
Activation

Looking at the DRM-Free nature of Papers, Please and its effects on Windows PCs only.

- ✓ Firewall and AV settings aren't modified
- ✓ User account not required
- ✓ Can play single-player game offline (Internet connection not required)
- ✓ No hardware activations
- ✓ Unlimited installations
- ✓ Activation is simple and hassle-free

7. Gameplay Experience

Looking at the gameplay aspects of Papers, Please 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
✓ Suitable options to modify video settings
✓ Can customise controls
✓ 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
✓ Can play on more than one PC simultaneously
✓ Can modify savegame and/or ini file
✓ No DRM or monitoring services running in the background

✗ Only playable on mouse and keyboard

Note: Savegame + config files found within /AppData/Roaming/3909/PapersPlease/

8. PC Checkup

Looking at whether Papers, Please 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 Papers, Please 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 Papers, Please (How much legacy material is there after the removal of Papers, Please?)

✓ Backup savegames prompt provided / Savegames retained
✓ Clean uninstallation

✗ Will need to uninstall the game via. Control Panel

10. Customer Support

Looking at the customer support side of Papers, Please through papersplea.se

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

RYG's VERDICT

80%

WORTH SUPPORTING

85% and above

SHOWS PROMISE & POTENTIAL

Between 65% and 84%

BARGAIN BIN MATERIAL

64% and below

Players should encounter very few issues in purchasing, installing, playing and removing Papers, Please (purchased directly from the developer) from their system.

Colophon

This analysis of Papers, Please 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. Papers, Please was purchased directly using RYG funds.

Disclaimer

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