

# RYG Evaluates Primordia

by

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Primordia is a pretty short game, but one that will leave a lasting impression upon players invested (or not) in the point-and-click adventure stream of gaming. Here are our thoughts on the product side of things.

# RYG's Assessment

71%

Shows Promise & Potential

(Between 65% and 84%)

## ## About Primordia

**Primordia** is a short, point-and-click adventure game set in a post-apocalyptic world. Please refer to each section for our results we've evaluated and our summarised thoughts to gain a better understanding of how Primordia affects PCs and plays as a PC Game.

## ## RYG Disclaimer

This Windows version of Primordia (Build: 2.03) was obtained through GOG independently with RYG funds for the purposes of evaluation and product testing. Primordia was evaluated on the following system specs: Windows 7, Intel i5-4460, 16Gb RAM, AMD Radeon R9 290 as well as on a system bearing an Intel HD 4600 Integrated Graphics.

## ## Availability

**Developer's Website:** <http://www.wormwoodstudios.com/p/primordia.html>

**GOG:** <http://www.gog.com/game/primordia>

**Humble Store:** <https://www.humblebundle.com/store/p...rdia/Bkdkwodk1>

**Desura:** <http://www.desura.com/games/primordia>

**Steam:** <http://store.steampowered.com/app/227000/>

## ## Recommended System Specs

**OS:** Windows XP SP3 or above (*Windows 7 Version Tested*)

**CPU:** 1.8Ghz processor or above

**GPU:** Any card capable of running DirectX 9.0

**RAM:** 1 Gb

**HDD:** 1 Gb (~1.4 was used in this evaluation)

**Source:** [GOG](#)

## ## Section 1 - Content Strategy and Product Marketing

- + Was released globally on 05.12.2013
- + Is available through the Humble Store, GOG, Desura and Steam
- + DRM Free versions sold through Humble Store and GOG
- + All DLCs sold as a singular and/or unified package through GOG
- + Free to play demo found on [publisher's website](#)
- + EULA, Privacy Policy and Terms of Service accessible through GOG
- + All game-related info is conveniently found on [wormwoodstudios.com](#)
  
- Is only available for Windows and MacOS
- Complete download size not provided through [wormwoodstudios.com](#)
- In-game documentation and/or tutorials not provided
- Complete download size not provided through [wormwoodstudios.com](#)

**Our Thoughts:** While most of the information can be found through GOG (a plus) we would've liked to have seen more information on the developer's website both in terms of availability of purchase, system specs and the like.

## ## Section 2 - Digital Distribution

- + Is sold at one, global price through GOG
- + Is available worldwide through GOG
- + Download / Client Manager is optional for download of Primordia
- + Minimum / Recommended specs provided through GOG
- + Released DRM Free through GOG
- + Only Username, Email and Password are required to create a GOG account
- + Alternative payment options provided by Visa, Mastercard and AMEX
- + Currency Notification provided prior, during and after purchase
- + Confirmation of purchase and receipt provided
- + Free and unlimited access and downloads after purchase
- + Can play Primordia without Download / Client Manager
- + Can backup purchased games 'offline' (e.g. external or optical drives)
- + Refunds and/or exchanges offered for purchased games under specific provisions
- + Can access personal data

+ Can terminate account with relative ease

- Complete download size not provided
- All players warranties waived whenever they use GOG
- Cover waived against any unforeseeable damage and/or service disruptions within GOG
- Account termination voids past purchases and licenses to play Primordia
- Players prevented from disputing / validating Terms of Service breaches made against them
- Can't review and question changes made in Terms of Service
- Past purchases voided after refusing to accept Terms of Service

**Our Thoughts:** Notwithstanding its DRM Free proposition, GOG has a number of features that distinguishes itself from other competitors, such as a genuine USD to AUD dollar-for-dollar conversion rate, a less-intrusive account creation and payment system, money back guarantees for hard-to-troubleshoot games only and informative gamecards to better inform potential customers. However, its Terms of Service in relation to its disclaimer of warranties and liability waivers are an industry-wide standard.

## ## Section 3 - Privacy Policy

+ Privacy Policy not required as Primordia will not connect to any servers during gameplay!

+ Privacy Policy found on **GOG**

+ Policy applies to GOG's website and digital distribution platform

+ Policy's formatted for easy reading on the web

+ Policy's written for easy comprehension

+ "Personally-identifiable" & "non-personally identifiable" info are clearly defined

+ Policy specifies what information are collected at specific areas of the platform

+ Data centres are 100% safe and secure

+ Info is used solely for payments, opt-in email campaigns & acct management

+ Visible opt-in / opt-out process in respect to email campaigns and marketing

+ Players can access their GOG account

+ Players can modify their GOG account

+ Players have full control over their GOG account

+ Players can validate the info they've provided

+ Can review and query changes made to the Privacy Policy

- Players not visibly notified of any changes made to the Policy

- Players not consulted on future revisions to the Privacy Policy

- Not advised where the info is specifically stored

- Third parties not identified

- Players cannot export their information tied to their GOG account

- Player data is retained by GOG / CD Projekt for an extended period of time

- No specific information on how info will be used in the event of a sale/merger

- Players must accept ALL changes made to the Policy before using GOG

**Our Thoughts:** GOG's Privacy Policy is fairly easy to read, comprehend and players are guided to an actionable outcome in respect to any account-related queries. This is well-supported by GOG's easy-to-use and minimalistic distribution platform, which then leads to a trustworthy and honestly-worded privacy policy. Most of the pertinent issues found in GOG's Privacy Policy are written within "Information Collected By GOG, Points (1) and (2). Players, however, will not be advised on specific events, such as general changes to the Policy Wording (even though the last change was made in 2008) or if information is handed over as a requirement to the proper authorities.

## ## Section 4 - EULA and GOG's TOS

- + EULA / **TOS** covers Primordia and GOG's Distribution Platform (There are 907 words in GOG's standard EULA barring third party EULAs)
- + Drafted to coincide with relevant copyright and consumer laws at the point of purchase
- + Refunds and/or exchanges offered for purchased games
- + DRM-Free terms and conditions are defined in their "About Us" page
- + Can back-up copies of Primordia
- + Permitted to create free "mods" of Primordia
- + 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 itself
- GOG EULA and TOS was not formatted for easy reading
- GOG EULA and TOS was not written for easy reading
- Users not visibly notified of any changes made to the EULA / TOS
- Players not consulted on future revisions to GOG EULA and TOS
- Can't review and query changes made to the EULA / TOS
- License to play the game only provided
- Primordia's source code isn't to be modified or reverse-engineered
- Warranties waived (excluding physical merchantability warranties)
- Cover waived against any unforeseeable damages, disruptions of service failures
- Termination process dictated by GOG

**Our Thoughts:** While GOG's EULA and TOS are short and straight to the point, we did find that these binding agreements keep players contained to specifically playing Primordia with little warranties and provisions outside of the cooling off period and/or restricted refunds / exchanges offer. Please bear in mind that most of the wordings found in the EULA and TOS are similarly-worded in comparison to other EULAs and TOSes found in other games and distribution platforms.

## ## Section 5 - Installation

- + Custom installation options provided through a compressed file
  - + No third party software required
  - + All game files installed in main installation directory
  - + Currently-executing background services won't interfere with installation
  - + Error-free installation
- No installation logs of registry keys

**Our Thoughts:** As expected, players shouldn't expect any issues installing and uninstalling Primordia from their system as it won't leave any remnant files and registry keys behind.

## ## Section 6 - Automatic and/or Manual Patching

- + Automatic updates are optional
  - + Can play Primordia unpatched and with minimal bugs
  - + Can download patches manually and/or through other portals
  - + **Detailed list of changes** provided prior to installation
  - + Alternate notifications provided for existence of new patches via. Steam
  - + Primordia is playable with latest patches
- Changes / Amendments to Privacy Policy, EULA and/or TOS not provided prior to installation of patches
- No installation logs of files and registry keys
- Rollback option not provided

**Our Thoughts:** Their latest patch (released November 2014) has kept Primordia playable right through to the end without any glitches or bugs.

## ## Section 7 - DRM and Activation

- + Firewall and AV settings aren't modified or required to be modified
- + Additional user account(s) not required in activating and playing Mind: Path To Thalamus
- + Can play single-player game offline
- + Unlimited hardware activations
- + Unlimited installations
- + Activation is simple and hassle-free

**Our Thoughts:** This version of Mind: Path To Thalamus won't need an activation, extra user account or won't connect to any third-party server to validate and verify the player's copy. As far as GOG-packaged games go this is a standard feature of DRM Free gaming.

## ## Section 8 - Gameplay

- + Can play on minimum specs (tested on Intel HD 4000)
- + Can play a backup copy of the game
- + Can play in borderless full screen mode
- + Can play in windowed mode
- + Can play in multiple resolutions from 640x480 to 1200x800
- + Separate volume controls provided for music and sound
- + Full subtitles and/or captions provided
- + Can play Primordia in offline mode
- + Can access DLCs offline
- + Won't 'phone home' during gameplay
- + No known connectivity issues during gameplay
- + Can play Primordia error-free
- + Primordia won't blacklist specific background services or software
- + Can play game at last save checkpoint
- + Can manually save gameplay
- + Can play on multiple machines simultaneously
- + Can modify savegame and/or configuration file
  
- Limited video settings are provided in-game
- No options in remapping keyboard and/or mouse controls
- No options in remapping console controls
- Only English Audio is supported
- No option for players to provide custom subtitles and/or localisation

**Our Thoughts:** Primordia is a point and click game designed with a particular visual design in mind. As such players shouldn't expect too much by way of improved visual features (or keyboard / mouse settings) apart from what's provided by the developers prior to the launch of the game. Onto the good stuff: Primordia is pretty clean, won't connect to any servers and is playable across a number of our PCs (from low to high end).

## ## Section 9 - General PC Maintenance

- + PC clean of viruses, malware, spyware and rootkits after installation and gameplay of Primordia
- + HOSTS was clean
- + Windows Startup was clean
- + GOG isn't running after gameplay of Primordia
- + No other PC settings were modified after gameplay of Primordia

**Our Thoughts:** Primordia is a clean game and won't impact on players PCs nor alter its settings outside of its gameplay.

## ## Section 10 - Uninstallation

+ Clean uninstallation

**Our Thoughts:** This is a pretty clean installation of the game and so it shouldn't impact player's PCs.

## ## Section 11 - Customer and Technical Support

+ From The Official Website: <http://www.wormwoodstudios.com/p/primordia.html>

+ From GOG: <https://www.gog.com/forum/primordia/>

If you would like to discuss this report, you can do so here on our [forum](#) (membership is required), or via our [Twitter](#) page.

## ## Changelog

28.11.2014 – Report published on RYG