

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

**Developer:** Ed Key and David Kanaga  
**Publisher:** Ed Key and David Kanaga

## RYG's VERDICT

**91%** **WORTH SUPPORTING**  
85% and above

### 1. Product Info

**Note:** Proteus was bought directly through Proteus's official website, which utilised the Humble Store payment / distribution system.

*Looking at how much information is provided on Proteus on its website and through a distributor prior and on release.*

- ✓ Proteus (PC Win) released globally on 30.01.2013
- ✓ Available on Windows, MacOS and Linux
- ✓ Minimum and recommended specs provided
- ✓ Released DRM Free
- ✓ EULA and Privacy Policy not required
- ✓ All game-related information can be found on [visitproteus.com](http://visitproteus.com)
- ✗ Demo not provided
- ✗ Manual and Readme not provided

### 2. Digital Download

**Note:** Proteus 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).

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

- ✓ Proteus sold at one, global price
- ✓ Available worldwide through [visitproteus.com](http://visitproteus.com)
- ✓ Download / Client Manager is not required
- ✓ Minimum and recommended specs provided
- ✓ Released DRM Free on 30.01.2013
- ✓ 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)
- ✗ Warranties waived (excluding physical merchantability warranties)
- ✗ Cover waived against any unforeseeable damages, disruptions of service

### 3. Privacy Policy & EULA

*Looking at Proteus's Privacy Policy and End User License Agreement.*

- ✓ EULA / TOS as well as The Privacy Policy is not required for Proteus

## 4. Setup / Install

**Note:** Downloading and Installing Proteus will take ~80Mb.

**Note:** Config and Savegame (Postcard) locations are found under the /Users/My Documents/Proteus folder.

*Looking at how Proteus is installed on Windows PCs only.*

- ✓ Custom installation options are provided
- ✓ All files are installed within folders designated by users
- ✓ All game files installed within folders designated by users
- ✓ Currently-executing background services won't interfere with installation
- ✓ Error-free installation
- ✓ Installation completed within 10 minutes
  
- ✗ No installation logs of files and registry keys

## 5. Updates / Patching

*Looking at how Proteus is patched prior and after gameplay.*

- ✓ Can play the game unpatched

## 6. DRM & Activation

**Note:** Proteus will not connect to any server(s) before and during gameplay.

*Looking at the DRM-Free nature of Proteus 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 Proteus and how it interacts with PC Windows.*

- ✓ Can play on minimum specs
- ✓ Can play a backup copy of the game
- ✓ Suitable options to modify video settings (resolution only)
- ✓ Can play with Xbox 360 console controller
- ✓ 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
  
- ✗ Can only play with fixed keyboard/mouse and/or console control settings

## 8. PC Checkup

*Looking at whether Proteus 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 Proteus 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

*Note:* Proteus won't install any registry keys and game files are contained in the game folder as specified by users.

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

- ✓ Direct uninstallation shortcut provided
- ✓ Savegames retained
- ✓ Clean uninstallation

## 10. Customer Support

*Looking at the customer support side of Proteus through [visitproteus.com](http://visitproteus.com)*

- ✓ Customer service / support found in one place at [visitproteus.com/forum](http://visitproteus.com/forum)
- ✓ The Proteus forum page is easy to use and navigate
- ✓ Searching on the Proteus forum page is direct and quick
- ✓ Info is easy to read and understand
- ✓ Customer services is quick to respond within 24 hours
- ✓ Customer service will resolve issues within 24 hours
- ✓ Tone and language used is warm, inviting and personable
- ✓ Focused on understanding problems and providing an effective solution
- ✓ Options provided for giving feedback on the service of customer support

## RYG's VERDICT

# 91%

## WORTH SUPPORTING

85% and above

## SHOWS PROMISE & POTENTIAL

Between 65% and 84%

## BARGAIN BIN MATERIAL

64% and below

*This is the second game in which we've looked at in which developers have opted to use the Humble Store as their choice in distributing games. From our experience it is quite an easy entry point for indie developers to make their mark. More to the point, Proteus was easy to download, install, play as well as remove from the system. Its DRM-Free approach is well supported and is untethered from the usual legal documentation that comes with packaged software(s). Proteus is a game worth supporting.*



### Colophon

This analysis of Proteus 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. Proteus was bought with RYG funds through [visitproteus.com](#).

### Disclaimer

These analyses are only a guide and represent RYG's perspective into Proteus 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 Proteus and hope you continue to support our work.

RYG is a user research and design studio for video game developers and publishers. Our focus is planning and designing games with a gamers'-first mentality through user and product research. RYG is led by a husband-and-wife team of Lisa and Martin Pham. RYG is operated in the heart of Sydney.

RYG Analysis: Proteus  
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