

Swords & Soldiers HD

An RYG Analysis

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

Developer: Ronimo Games
Publisher: Ronimo Games

RYG's VERDICT

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

1. Product Info

Note: Swords & Soldiers HD was bought directly through the [Swords & Soldiers HD's official website](#), which utilised the Humble Store payment / distribution system.

Looking at how much information is provided on Swords & Soldiers HD on its website and through a distributor prior and on release.

- ✓ Swords & Soldiers HD (Win) released globally via. Humble Store on 19.11.2012
- ✓ 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
- ✗ Demo not provided
- ✗ Manual and Readme not provided

2. Digital Download

Note: Swords & Soldiers HD 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.

- ✓ Swords & Soldiers HD sold at one, global price
- ✓ Available worldwide through [ronimo-games.com](#)
- ✓ Download / Client Manager is not required
- ✓ Minimum and recommended specs provided
- ✓ Released DRM Free on 19.11.2012
- ✓ 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 Swords & Soldiers HD's Privacy Policy and End User License Agreement.

- ✓ EULA / TOS and the Privacy Policy is not required for Swords & Soldiers HD

4. Setup / Install

Note: Downloading and Installing Swords & Soldiers HD will take ~270Mb.

Note: Config and Savegame locations are found under the / Swords and Soldiers/ installation folder.

Looking at how Swords & Soldiers HD is installed on Windows PCs only.

- ✓ Custom installation options are provided
- ✓ Installation logs of game files only 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

5. Updates / Patching

Looking at how Swords & Soldiers HD is patched prior and after gameplay.

- ✓ Can play the game unpatched

6. DRM & Activation

Note: Swords & Soldiers HD will not connect to any server(s) before and during gameplay.

Looking at the DRM-Free nature of Swords & Soldiers HD 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's not required

7. Gameplay Experience

Looking at the gameplay aspects of Swords & Soldiers HD 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 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 control settings

8. **PC Checkup**

Looking at whether Swords & Soldiers HD 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 Swords & Soldiers HD 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: Swords & Soldiers HD 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 Swords & Soldiers HD (How much legacy material is there after the removal of Swords & Soldiers HD?)

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

10. **Customer Support**

Looking at the customer support side of Swords & Soldiers HD through Ronimo Games

- ✗ Customer service / support could not be found
- ✗ No option provided for giving feedback on the service of customer support

RYG's VERDICT

85%

WORTH SUPPORTING

85% and above

SHOWS PROMISE & POTENTIAL

Between 65% and 84%

BARGAIN BIN MATERIAL

64% and below

In spite of the lack of (customer) support found via. Ronimo Games we found the purchase and the gameplay of Swords & Soldiers HD on PC Win via. the Humble Store to be largely error and hassle-free. Those interested in buying the game direct should know that it is DRM Free and won't (adversely) affect your system in any way.



Colophon

This analysis of Swords & Soldiers HD 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. Swords & Soldiers HD was bought with RYG funds through Ronimo Games.

Disclaimer

These analyses are only a guide and represent RYG's perspective into Swords & Soldiers HD 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 Swords & Soldiers HD 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.

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