

Tiny Bang Story

An RYG Analysis

Platform: PC (Windows only)
DRM: DRM Free
Digital Distributor: PHYSICAL COPY ONLY!!!

Developer: Colibri Games
Publisher: Lace Mamba

RYG's VERDICT

70% **SHOWS PROMISE & POTENTIAL**
Between 65% and 84%

1. Product Info

Note: Tiny Bang Story (Disc Version) was released DRM Free.

Looking at how much information is provided on Tiny Bang Story (Tiny Bang Story) on its website and through a distributor prior and on release.

- ✓ Minimum and recommended specs provided
- ✓ Demo provided through colibrigames.com
- ✓ Advised DRM Free
- ✓ All game-related information can be found on colibrigames.com
- ✗ Available only on Windows and MacOS
- ✗ No Manual and/or Readme
- ✗ EULA, Privacy Policy and TOS is only found within the game

2. Privacy Policy

Note: Tiny Bang Story will not connect to any servers if PCs are still connected via. the Internet.

Looking at Tiny Bang Story's Privacy Policy

- ✓ Privacy Policy not required

3. EULA TOS

Note: 970 Words found within Tiny Bang Story's EULA.

Looking at Tiny Bang Story's End User License Agreement via. Lace Mamba

- ✓ EULA / TOS covers Tiny Bang Story
- ✓ Easy to read, understand and is worded with clear consistency
- ✓ Refunds and/or exchanges offered for purchased games
- ✓ Can replace damaged copies with a free, replacement copy
- ✓ Terms and conditions for its DRM Free component are clearly defined
- ✓ Won't blacklist specific background services or software
- ✓ Users can criticise or provide criticism about the game without reprisals

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

- ✗ EULA / TOS is only found within the game
- ✗ Drafted to only abide by the laws of Europe
- ✗ 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
- ✗ Terms and conditions for its DRM Free status aren't clearly defined
- ✗ Back-ups aren't permitted
- ✗ Tiny Bang Story's source code isn't to be modified or reverse-engineered
- ✗ Not permitted to create "mods"
- ✗ Warranties waived (excluding physical merchantability warranties)
- ✗ Cover waived against any unforeseeable damages, disruptions of service
- ✗ Termination process dictated by Lace Mamba

4. Setup / Install

Looking at how Tiny Bang Story 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 files and registry keys provided after installation

5. Updates / Patching

Looking at how Tiny Bang Story is patched prior and after gameplay.

- ✓ Can play the game without patch

6. DRM & Activation

Looking at the DRM-Free nature of Tiny Bang Story 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 Tiny Bang Story and how it interacts with PC Windows.

- ✓ Can play on minimum specs
- ✓ Disc not required for gameplay

Note: Tiny Bang Story is not a graphically-intensive game

Note: In our tests we had difficulty finding & editing both savegame + config files.

8. PC Checkup

- ✓ 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
- ✓ No DRM or monitoring services running in the background

- ✗ Requires original copy to play the game
- ✗ Only playable on mouse and keyboard
- ✗ Minimal graphical settings provided (esp. in relation to widescreen options)
- ✗ Can't modify savegame and/or config files

Looking at whether Tiny Bang Story 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 Tiny Bang Story 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 Tiny Bang Story (How much legacy material is there after the removal of Tiny Bang Story?)

- ✓ Direct uninstallation shortcut provided
- ✓ Backup savegames prompt provided / Savegames retained
- ✓ Clean uninstallation

10. Customer Support

Note: We encountered no bugs nor issues with Tiny Bang Story. However, Colibri Games had **canceled their contractual agreements with Lace Mamba** in 2012.

Looking at the customer support side of Tiny Bang Story through Lace Mamba

- ✗ Customer support not found in relation to Tiny Bang Story.

RYG's VERDICT

70%



WORTH SUPPORTING

85% and above

SHOWS PROMISE & POTENTIAL

Between 65% and 84%

BARGAIN BIN MATERIAL

64% and below

While we had encountered no errors in installing and playing Tiny Bang Story, we had found that much of the "low" score was attributed to a poor notification policy on Lace Mamba to both identify which DRMs were used as well as the consumer rights associated with the game (EULA). In addition, we would advise gamers interested in playing Tiny Bang Story to play the demo and/or purchase the game digitally through colibrigames.com as Lace Mamba has discontinued making physical copies of the game.

Colophon

This analysis of Tiny Bang Story 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. Tiny Bang Story was bought with RYG funds through EB Games.

Disclaimer

These analyses are only a guide and represent RYG's perspective into Tiny Bang Story 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 Tiny Bang Story 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: Tiny Bang Story
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