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Game Guru: Strategy Games (Premier Press Game Development)



Synopsis

"Game Guru: Strategy Games" covers the origins of strategy games, both turn-based (Civilization, X-Com, etc.) and realtime (Ancient Art of War, Dune 2, and beyond). It also discusses the play intent of a strategy game - the balance between the core gameplay factors in this genre: empire-building, resource management, defense, and offense. Later chapters then go on to analyze these factors in more detail. With hundreds of examples and in-depth interviews with the experts, this book reveals the secrets of what makes great games compelling and successful. Professionals and players alike will benefit from the clear analysis of play balance, character and level design, learning curves, risk versus reward, puzzles, scale and scope, catch-up effects, symmetry, and many other aspects of game theory. This book gives readers the insight to enrich their gaming experience.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dave Morris is a prolific author of fantasy gaming books and the creator of the acclaimed realtime strategy PC game, Warrior Kings. He has worked in both the videogame and TV industry. He holds a M.A. in Physics from Oxford University and has worked as a best-selling author and game designer for 15 years. He is the co-author of both Game Guru: Role-Playing Games (1592002544) and Game Guru: Strategy Games (1592002536).

I'm still reading it but skimmed the whole thing. Lots of color, lots of screenshots of varying sizes, some diagrams. Wish there was more description of what's happening in the screenshots. The text is good but maybe a little short, and the screenshots don't actually get referred to in the text - they're just kinda there and are sometimes applicable but a lot of times you wonder why it's there. But overall it's a nice book and covers the strategy topic well, if not in excruciating detail. Worth the price, for me.

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