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REVIEWS

Monster Rancher Hop About (PS)

I can see it now. Some of you out there are undoubtedly looking at this score, scratching your melons, and wondering how in tarnation a game staring Suezo & Co. hopping about on pogo sticks could possibly rate so high. After all, the game is absurdly simple: It's basically a collection of 100 different timed levels in which you race to the end, using power-ups to your advantage and avoiding the many gaps and holes in the platform. And the control consists of nothing more than using the D-pad to steer your monster. But after just a few moments, doubt gives way to delight, as I found myself wanting to get through "just one more" level of this quirky action/puzzle hybrid. Still doubtful? Well, consider this: I haven't had sore thumbs from a game in a long time (that's a good thing). Nor have I seen, in quite a while, people twisting and gyrating so much, using the ol' body English, jockeying for advantage in the highly competitive two-player mode. It's far from revolutionary, but it's definitely a great game if you've got a few hours to kill.

Gary

Rating: 7.0

Monster Rancher Hop About

Publisher: Tecmo

Developer: Tecmo

Featured In: N/A

Players: 1-2

Supports: None

Best Feature: Simple, quirky fun

Worst Feature: Not much variety in gameplay

Web Site: www.tecmoinc.com

Visuals: 6

Sound: 7

Ingenuity: 6

Replay: 8

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