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**Design Document for:**

# Name of Game

**One Liner, i.e. The Ultimate Racing Game**

“Something funny here!”™

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# Game Overview

## Philosophy

### Philosophical point #1

This game is trying to do this and that. Fundamentally I am trying to achieve something that has never been achieved before. Or. This game will not try and change the world. We are ripping off the competition so exactly that I can’t believe it. The world will be shocked at how we are using an existing engine with new art.

### Philosophical point #2

Our game only runs on Compaq computers. The reason for this is such and such. We believe the world is coming to and end anyhow so what difference does it make?

### Philosophical point #3

When you create some of these overarching philosophical points about your design, say whatever you want. Also, feel free to change it to “My game design goals” or whatever you like to call it.

## Common Questions

### What is the game?

Describe the game is a paragraph. This is the answer to the most common question that you will be asked. What are you working on?

### Why create this game?

Why are you creating this game? Do you love 3D shooters? Do you think there is a hole in the market for Jell-O tossing midgets?

### Where does the game take place?

Describe the world that your game takes place in. Simple as that. Help frame it in the reader’s mind by spending a few sentences on it here. You can go into lengthy detail later in a section solely dedicated to describing the world. Remember that we want to keep this part of the design light and readable.

### What do I control?

Describe what the player will control. You will be in charge of a band of rabid mutant fiddle players. If you want you can switch on the AI and turn it into a fish bowl simulation.

### How many characters do I control?

If this applies talk a little more about the control choices. Remember to add answers to questions that you think the reader will ask. This is totally dependent on your design.

### What is the main focus?

Now that we know where the game takes place and what the player controls. What are they supposed to achieve in this world? Angry fiddle players take over the U.N. building. Be careful not to add a bunch of salesmanship here. Your design wants to stay light and informative.

### What’s different?

Tell them what is different from the games that are attempting this in the market right now. This question comes up a lot.

# Feature Set

## General Features

Huge world

Mutant fiddle players

3D graphics

32-bit color

## Gameplay

List stuff here that is key to the gameplay experience

List a lot of stuff here

Hey, if you got nothing here, is this game worth doing?

# The Game World

## Overview

Provide an overview to the game world.

## World Feature #1

This section is not supposed to be called world feature #1 but is supposed to be titled with some major thing about the world. This is where you break down what is so great about the game world into component pieces and describe each one.

## World Feature #2

Same thing here. Don’t sell too hard. These features should be awesome and be selling the game on its own.

## The Physical World

### Overview

Describe an overview of the physical world. Then start talking about the components of the physical world below in each paragraph.

The following describes the key components of the physical world.

### Key Locations

Describe the key locations in the world here.

### Travel

Describe how the player moves characters around in the world.

### Scale

Describe the scale that you will use to represent the world. Scale is important!

### Objects

Describe the different objects that can be found in the world.

See the “Objects Appendix” for a list of all the objects found in the world.

### Weather

Describe what sort of weather will be found in the world, if any. Otherwise omit this section. Add sections that apply to your game design.

### Day and Night

Does your game have a day and night mode? If so, describe it here.

### Time

Describe the way time will work in your game or whatever will be used.

## Camera

### Overview

Describe the way the camera will work and then go into details if the camera is very complicated in sub sections.

### Camera Detail #1

The camera will move around like this and that.

### Camera Detail #2

The camera will sometimes move like this in this special circumstance.

# The World Layout (Levels)

## Overview

Provide an overview here. Include the artistic aspects as well.

## World Layout Detail #1

## World Layout Detail #2

# Game Characters

## Overview

Over of what your characters are.

## Player

Describe the player

## Enemies and Monsters

Describe enemies or monsters in the world or whomever the player is trying to defeat. Naturally this depends heavily on your game idea but generally games are about trying to kill something.

# AI

## Overview

Provide some sort of an overview to any kind of AI you implemented. Include some details for each component below.

## AI Detail #1

## AI Detail #2

# User Interface

## Overview

Provide some sort of an overview to your interface and same as all the previous sections, break down the components of the UI below.

## User Interface Detail #1

## User Interface Detail #2

# Weapons

## Overview

Overview of weapons used in game.

## Weapons Details #1

## Weapons Details #2

# Musical Scores and Sound Effects

## Overview

This should probably be broken down into two sections but I think you get the point.

## Sound Design

Take a shot at what you are going to do for sound design at this early stage. Hey, good to let your reader know what you are thinking.

# Single-Player Game

## Overview

Describe the single-player game experience in a few sentences.

Here is a breakdown of the key components of the single player game.

## Single Player Game Detail #1

## Single Player Game Detail #2

## Story

Describe your story idea here and then refer them to an appendix or separate document which provides all the details on the story if it is really big.

## Hours of Gameplay

Talk about how long the single-player game experience is supposed to last or what your thoughts are at this point.

## Victory Conditions

How does the player win the single-player game?

# Extra Miscellaneous Stuff

## Overview

Drop anything you are working on and don’t have a good home for here.

## Junk I am working on…

Crazy idea #1

Crazy idea #2

# “XYZ Appendix”

Provide a brief description of what this appendix is for and then get down to business and provide data to the reader.

Here are a few examples of some of the appendices in my latest design…

# “Objects Appendix”

# “User Interface Appendix”

# “Character Rendering and Animation Appendix”

# “Story Appendix”

Okay, that’s it. I wanted to spend more time on this and really make it a great roadmap for putting a game design together. Unfortunately it would take a ton of time and that is something that we don’t have enough of in this business. I think you get the idea anyhow. Also, don’t get the impression that I think a design should provide the information in any particular order, this just happened to be the way it fell out of my head when I sat down. Change this template any way you want and if you feel you have improved on it, send it back to me and I can pass it out as an alternative to anyone that asks me in the future.

Good luck and all that!

Chris Taylor