HOT COCOA

Design Document - Jerry Guo

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| Game Description |

In *HOT COCOA*, you play as a lonely wanderer, traversing the barren, frozen remains of a post-apocalyptic landscape. The hills are treacherous, with unstable ground leading to a deadly plummet if you take a false step. How long can you overcome adversity and triumph over the legions of fluffy snowmen with only your wits and the power of hot chocolate?

The goal of the game is to reach as high a score as possible. You gain score by staying alive and braving the harsh environment, as well as when you defeat an evil snowman.

To avoid falling to your death, you can use your hot chocolate to propel yourself in the opposite direction from which you throw it. You can also use your hot chocolate to melt malicious snow creatures. You must learn to allocate your resources properly, as your weapon for self defense is also your main source of mobility.

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| Instructions |

Open the python file using IDLE and press f5 to run the program. You will be greeted with the title screen, with “HOT COCOA” emblazoned on it. Click to continue. This will start you in the tutorial, explaining the basic controls of the game.

Use A and D or arrow keys to move left and right. Use your mouse to aim and fire a deadly blast of chocolatey bliss. There are four rows of platforms, and you must hop between them to avoid falling to your doom. There is no traditional jump button in this platformer, so use the recoil from your hot chocolate to navigate the difficult terrain. Make sure to avoid the cute-but-vicious snowmen or score 100 points by melting them with your drink. Be careful, though, as your hot chocolate also melts the ground wherever it lands! Don’t leave yourself stranded by destroying your path forward! Budget your supply of slowly-regenerating cocoa well and reach a higher score than all of your friends!

You can see at the top of the screen your various resources:

* Your current amount of hot chocolate
  + You can fire if the bar is brown. You refill the bar faster on the ground.
* Your health
  + The game ends when you run out. You lose health by falling off the screen or running into a snowman.
* Your score
  + This is the objective of the game. Compare your score with your friends to see who is the best at HOT COCOA.

If the game is ever too much for you, simply press escape, P, or Q to pause the game. You can take a breather, restart the game, or exit it.

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| Concept Art |



I started planning for my game with the mechanics in mind first, and constructed the premise to fit the function.

Enjoy the game!

NOTE: For best results, play the game at the intended resolution of 1280 x 1024. Otherwise parts of the screen may be cut off.