

= Space Run =

Space Run is a tower defense video game developed by PassTech Games and published by Focus Home Interactive . It was released for Microsoft Windows on June 13 , 2014 , and later released for OS X and Linux . The player assumes the role of a cargo ship pilot , and must build modules and weapons to defend their cargo from attacking ships and other hazards . The game received mixed reviews from critics , and a sequel was announced in March 2016 .

= = Gameplay = =

The player acts as pilot for a cargo ship , performing space runs for various corporations . The ship is a flat platform made up of hexagonal tiles . The player places weapons and modules on the tiles in order to defend the ship from enemies and hazards . Different structures have varying placement requirements , or may require more than one tile to be placed . For example , most weapons must be placed facing outward into empty space , while some require power to be supplied by an adjacent power source .

Modules and weapons are built using a resource represented by a lug nut . This resource slowly accrues on its own , but destroyed targets drop varying amounts that can be collected by moving the cursor over them . Each corporation provides a different type of cargo , which must be placed or arranged according to its characteristics . One corporation provides simple cargo crates , as well as a mechanic module that can produce more cargo crates during the mission in order to increase the mission reward . Another corporation provides passenger modules , which must face outward , limiting space for weapons .

Each mission has a timed duration that the player must beat , with two tiers of time bonus . The player is rewarded with space credits dependent on the amount of cargo that survived the mission and how quickly they completed it . Reputation , displayed as stars , is rewarded based whether or not the player met cargo or time thresholds . Space credits are used between missions in order to purchase special abilities and bonuses for modules , while gaining reputation unlocks new modules .

= = Plot = =

The player plays the role of Buck Mann , a space runner down on his luck . A former military pilot and racer , Buck begins to accept jobs from large corporations when his money runs out . Accompanied by the android , Adaam @-@ 12 , he first accepts a job from the Big Cargo corporation carrying simple cargo containers . Shortly afterwards , the Nuclear Star corporation approaches him to carry nuclear waste . After several runs , Buck Mann attracts the attention of the pirates Brown Beard and Captain Black , who continuously harass him as his missions become more and more lucrative .

= = Development = =

Space Run is developed by one @-@ man studio PASSTECH Games , located in Lyon , France . Programmer Sylvain Passot founded the studio in October 2012 . Passot has said that Space Run was inspired by Galaxy Trucker , a boardgame by Vlaada Chvatil , as well as accessible games like Plants vs. Zombies .

A sequel named Space Run Galaxy was announced in March 2016 . Galaxy will include new boss battles and cargos , as well as new online features .

= = Reception = =

Space Run received mixed reviews upon release . It received an aggregate score of 73 from Metacritic , which assigns a weighted average score out of 100 to reviews from critics , while GameRankings assigned a score of 75 % .

GameSpot gave the game an 8 out of 10 , praising the game 's characters , art , voice acting and challenging gameplay . However , they noted that at times that spoken dialogue sometimes did not match the displayed text dialogue . A reviewer of PC Gamer scored the game 69 out of 100 , noting that Space Run attempts to reverse the typical tower defense concept , but ultimately relies on memorizing missions rather than clever design . The reviewer considered the best part of the game to be the time bonus , which is necessary to earn full reputation .