

Analysis of Mechanics

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Title: Ghostrunner

Released: 27.10.2020

Authors: One More Level, 3D Realms, Slipgate Ironworks™, All in! Games/ 505 Games

Primary Genre: Action(Hack and slash)

Secondary Genre: Platformer,Runner,Puzzle,Scope

Style: Fantasy realism(Cyberpunk)

Analysis

Instructions

Ghostrunner is an action-platformer co-developed by One More Level and Slipgate Ironworks, produced by 3D Realms, and co-published by 505 Games and All in! Games. Initially released in October 2020 for PlayStation 4, Windows, and Xbox One, it later expanded to other platforms, including a next-gen release in 2021. The game also received an expansion, Ghostrunner: Project Hel, on March 3, 2022.

Content

Ghostrunner is a dynamic action game with elements of platforming and puzzles, where parkour plays a supporting role. The primary genre of the game is action, as the core gameplay revolves around quickly eliminating enemies using melee combat and abilities. Parkour and platforming support this fast-paced gameplay by enabling players to traverse levels efficiently, dodge bullets, and attack enemies.

The main objective of each level is to eliminate all enemies using a katana and various abilities that the player unlocks throughout the game. Parkour allows the player to wall-run, jump across gaps, use a grappling hook, and slide under obstacles. A significant addition is the time-slowing mechanic, which lets the player strategically aim their dashes to dodge bullets or reach enemies quickly.

Both enemies and the player die in a single hit, turning each combat encounter into a puzzle. Players must quickly assess the situation, plan their tactics, and react instantly to survive. The game also tracks the player's time and deaths for each level, adding a competitive element and encouraging players to refine their skills.

Platforming levels without enemies break up the intense action by introducing puzzles that focus on parkour skills. For example, the upgrade system involves a mini-game where the player arranges upgrade blocks in limited space, similar to Tetris. This adds a layer of strategy, as players must choose the abilities best suited for the current level.

The game's cyberpunk style perfectly supports the gameplay. The fast-paced action, dynamic combat, and the feeling of controlling a high-tech ninja blend seamlessly with the dark, futuristic atmosphere. The style enhances every aspect of the game, making it more immersive and engaging.

In conclusion, Ghostrunner combines action with supporting elements of parkour and platforming to create a unique experience. The game's fast pace, requiring sharp reflexes and precision, makes it appealing to action enthusiasts and those who appreciate complex mechanics and stylish design.