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About This Game

AN ADAPTATION OF A CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED BOARD GAME

Background

Alliances are shattering, and hasty diplomatic treaties are made in secrecy. A confrontation of the superpowers seems inevitable – only the outcome of the galactic conflict remains to be seen. Which faction will emerge victorious and rule the galaxy?

Gameplay

Eclipse places you in control of a vast interstellar civilization, competing for success with its rivals. But instead of overcomplex set of rules and overall epicness, it offers more accessible choices, more elegant mechanics and much faster gameplay. And it does all of that without reducing the strategic depth of the game - just like every euro-style board game should.

Eclipse other civilizations and lead your people to victory!

Features

- **Official digital version of the ‘Eclipse: New Dawn for the Galaxy’ boardgame**
- **Deep and challenging 4X (eXplore, eXpand, eXploit, and eXterminate) gameplay**
- **7 species with different strengths and weaknesses**
- **Customizable star systems, technology tree and ship designs**
- **Up to 6 players (human or AI)**
- **Asynchronous, cross-platform multiplayer**
- **3 AI difficulty levels**
- **In-game tutorial & manual**

Title: Eclipse: New Dawn for the Galaxy
Genre: Indie, Strategy
Developer:
Big Daddy's Creations
Publisher:
Big Daddy's Creations
Release Date: 16 Sep, 2016

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English







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I have been eagerly anticipating the release of this game. When you have kids getting together to play boardgames can be...interesting. Now we can play Eclipse online and that is huge.

Now to the game. As others have stated the UI is obviously ported from touch. That said, they did a good job using some hotkeys to make it less "portish". I've only played against the Peaceful (Easy) AI so far, and it is really bad. I'm hoping that the harder ones don't consistently make really bad decisions (choosing VPs over 11 power source on the first turn of the game, ignoring my fleet taking over their planets to attack the other player, etc.).

I've only encountered one bug so far. As the Planta I was placing my second exploration and the tile disappeared. The game would not advance, and kept prompting me to choose whether to drop influence.

TL;DR:

Pros:

It's Eclipse

Everything works

It is still fun

I can play with friends in the comforts of our respective homes

Cons

Some bugs

Some possible AI tweaks needed

Doesn't have Rise of the Ancients yet

7/10, definitely worth the money. Pros:

Simple and Fun

Automatic material/science/money

satisfying battle system

best boardgame for pc

Cons:

Game can bug and you cant do nothing about it

Getting to game with your friends cant take some time

Game usually gets out synct

So meny bugs

I know it just got in to steam and its in development.

Its a great game but for now i think im going to play this in VASSAL until they fix the games getting out synct.

. I am positively surprised by this game. I used to play a lot of turn-based games, especially absorb and grow type of. Eclipse is the new for me, so I turned on tutorial right after launching the game. First of all there is a lot of information to come with, so I spend lot of time today in the tutorial phase. I really like extended possibilities for improve your research and upgrade your spaceships. For me even peaceful AI is challenging. The intelligence of computer players is very well-balanced but... definitely the game is dedicated for playing for long hours like board equivalent. Recommended!

For this moment I have only one remark. You guys should add possibility to skip AI battles.. *TL;DR - If you don't care about playing multiplayer, this is a decent adaption of a great strategy game and is recommended. If you're interested in multiplayer, there's a lot of issues with the implementation that makes this difficult to recommend...*

Eclipse is a great light 4X game you can play in an hour. I'm a big fan of the board game and of the iOS version that's been out for 3 years. Glad to see this ported for a wider audience. If you played the iOS version, little has improved and none of the awesome expansion content has been added (yet).

I've seen a few bugs, most are minor or mis-interpretations of the board game rules only veterans will notice. There is a bug in the current version that will result in the AI not completing its turn if you eliminate them from the game. This is not a common event in Eclipse but you'll run into every once and a while.

Everything looks great and this is one of the best board to video game translations out there. The UI is functional, but is very touch-centric (dragging and sliding things), which may get on your nerves. The game takes it's time with animations which lose their luster after the 100th viewing, but because of the lack of a game log (more on that in a bit) speeding things up may make the game too difficult to follow.

The AI is not too bad, but does some dumb things like falling into INF-Bankruptcy loops and failing to consider the Material you have in storage when attacking. It runs a same-ish strategy every time, loading Dreadnoughts up with Plasma Missiles, even when you have counters. The higher-level AI gets a stronger start, but isn't smarter. Once you are experienced with the game, you'll have no problem beating the AI.

So why a negative review for a game I like?

The issue is with the multiplayer implementation, which seems appropriate for a simple mobile game (like Hero Academy or Words with Friends) but doesn't work for a 6-player 4X game. I don't think much thought was put into the PC implementation nor what is best for a game like this.

Eclipse is a game where you execute small parts of a larger plan with each action, making adjustments in response to your opponents' actions. It's impossible to keep track of your strategy and what your opponents are doing when you have to wait hours or days between turns and the game offers no tools to help you out. Where's the game log so I don't have to remember what the Planta player did 3 days ago or who took that tech I had my eye on? This was a problem on iOS and is carried over to this version.

The biggest sin is a lack of turn notifications (on Steam). You simply cannot have an asynchronous multiplayer game without turn notifications. Are we expected to log in every hour and check if it's our turn?

Another big problem is the inability to set the turn timer to something less than one hour. This "feature" was added in the latest patch, but the developer decided one hour would be the lowest setting. The assumption is that everyone is playing on a mobile device (which is odd because this game doesn't support phones) and doesn't mind long waits between turns. Allowing a short turn time (5 minutes) would allow for people to indicate that they expect to play a game in one session. Right now, the game doesn't even bother to tell the players how long they may have to wait for their next turn.

There's lots of other missing basic "quality of life" multiplayer features...

- *Lack of a game log in case you missed something*
- *Why can't we skip though combats of other players (feature existed in old iOS version)*
- *You can't kick players out of your lobby that didn't ready up or are not online*
- *You can change the player count or add AIs once you start the lobby.*

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- Can't rename your lobbies
 - No chat in pre-game race selection screen
 - No message indicator or way to see main lobby or in-game chat without the window maximized
 - No way to send private in-game messages to individual players in a game
 - Cannot add AI players to a lobby
... considering the long gap between the last iOS update and this version, I'm not confident these feature gaps will be resolved.

They did add a feature to replace a player that doesn't take a turn for 3 days or quits with an AI, which is welcome. I'm not sure it's working as I had a 2 player game where the other player quit and the game ended, declaring the current score leader as the winner.

Will update this review as the game is updated.... Very cool adaptation of a great boardgame. There are two quick quality of life enhancements I would like to see though:

1. If someone owns a hex, outline it with their color, so I can better scan the board.
2. Let me zoom out a bit, so I can better scan the board. (edit: Just found you can 2x click to zoom. I was trying to middle scroll... makes sense since this game is also on tablets). Eclipse is my favorite board game, so getting the PC version was a no-brainer for me.

I'd recommend it to fans of the board game, but there are some issues.

First, the game plays WAAAAY too slowly. AI turns take too long, and they need to add an option so that you can toggle to auto pass your reaction turns. You should be able to skip combat between two AI opponents.

Bankruptcy and converting resources to avoid bankruptcy needs to be more apparent. It should tell you, dynamically "you need to create X more money or remove Y discs" as you change the various resources.

Maybe these get fixed, maybe not. I still enjoy the title.. Disclaimer: I only played this vs. bots. The mechanics of the game is the same as the tabletop version. If you're going to be playing it hotseat or online, I guess it's... alright. Overall I was entertained if frustrated for the lost potential.

As for the game against bots, I was sorely disappointed by the A.I. Perhaps it's a difficult game to make into a good computer-game, but the A.I. played after a strategy that was set in stone. This is absolutely unacceptable for a strategy game, as it essentially forced me to play in a certain way every game. All the races seemed to play the same way as well, which is actually quite hilarious.

The AI strategy, for every empire would, every game be:

1. get double hulls.
2. attack aliens first turn with the dreadnought they start with, and always win (I never saw them lose to neutrals, not even when they would...)
3. take the middle.
4. put missiles on every ship slot possible. Smart? Not so smart. My interceptors would often win against their dreadnoughts 1-on-1 for this.
5. build monoliths in undefended systems reachable by me.

It means that the replay value is zero for a game otherwise having a great replay value. If you can get rockets, winning is guaranteed. Oh, and did I mention the Hard A.I. is compensated for the lack of engineering hours by starting with a dreadnought? This further \u2665\u2665\u2665\u2665\u2665\u2665\u2665 the game, forcing you to play defensively until you've managed to scrape together enough research points for the one or two only

technologies that will then instantly win you the game?

"Small stuff"

It has a few minor bugs as well and a horrendously poorly made battle design that left me thinking those epic interstellar ships were cardboard boxes, leaving me laughing, and not in a good way. The fighting is slow as well, and there's absolutely no options available to speed it up unless you want it to auto-resolve fights...

I love this board game, and this program is a fairly faithful execution of it, from a mechanical standpoint. Unfortunately, the asynchronous multiplayer is really poor, missing basically all of the features one would expect from online board game play. It is missing all of the following basic functions that one would expect from a good online board game:

- Basic hosting features (like the ability to name your game, option for random race assignment, or the ability to kick players)
- A game journal
- Out of game method of notification when it is your turn (email or otherwise)
- Any player profile metrics (play speed, games completed, win/loss, etc.)
- No support for live games

Additionally, it seems to disconnect you from any/all of your games if you accidentally disconnect your profile on any of the devices onto which you've previously added it. All of this adds up to a very slow and low-functioning asynchronous play experience; it seems impossible to finish a turn (much less a game). Player profile metrics (with play speed and games completed, specifically) would go a long way towards resolving this, as players could set up games for other players that had a similar preferred schedule/pace.

For the devs, [thronemaster.net \(for the Game of Thrones Board Game\) is an excellent example of an implementation that allows for the creation of a solid online board gaming community.. Bought this as I enjoy the tabletop game, and played a single game against the PC to see how it runs...](#)

[Interface is clearly designed for tablets and ported to PC. Very simplistic and clunky, but it works.](#)

[Gameplay is pretty standard, it's based on a boardgame, and it follows the boardgame rules, so that's what it's meant to do.](#)

[Could do with a few graphical and UI updates, and I'm really missing the expansion races, but otherwise, not a bad adaption.. Don't get this. The interface sucks... hard. It makes it extremely difficult to see what's going on, and it is not intuitive in any way at all. I found myself taking actions I didn't want to take because when I clicked to dismiss some nag screen I'd actually taken an action.](#)

[Don't get this. Get Tabletop Simulator and look up the mods for Eclipse: that's as close to the board game as you'll get.. This game is so riddled with bugs that it's nigh-unplayable: I wasn't able to get through a single game because it kept freezing, crashing and generally misbehaving. Eclipse is an awesome board game, but this digital implementation simply isn't worth it.. So here's the basic summary. The single player version of this works great when you are playing against the AI. The problem starts when you begin online multi-player. The game constantly kicks you out and I have had games on several occasions where I will attempt to reload the game and it will no longer be on the list of games you are currently playing. This results in the game just freezing and eventually ending after several days for the other player.](#)

[Overall: This game is quite fun but has major multiplayer issues that need addressed.. Pros:](#)

[-Fairly faithful recreation of the game](#)

[-The board game is good](#)

[Cons:](#)

[-Pitifully few options](#)

[-Online is glitchy as all get out, frequently ending in unfinishable games](#)

[-No AI in online games](#)

[-Terrible interface practices](#)

[Overall:](#)

[Unless you really like eclipse, don't buy this. Even if you do really like eclipse, the board game is infinitely better, besides setup time. The only reliable way to play the game is to beat up AI, since online games are infrequently uncompletable due to very poor programming. The polish all around is extremely lacking, resulting in very bad AI designed for tablets and incredibly poor net play.](#)

[I'll be certain not to purchase from these developers again.. No option to save your game.](#)

Had to request a refund, this seems to be a straight lazy port from the buggy as heck tablet version. It even still has a highly annoying swipe interface to go to the next turn.

Without the option to save your game, there's no continuing later or anything, you have to play 3 to 5+ hours non-stop like this is a 90's NES game.

Absolute garbage for a pc game, and completely unacceptable.. I'd prefer a neutral review but im leaning to the liking it side. I'm a big fan of the board game and this review is for people who already play the board game. Its not the best port, its got some gimmicks and bugs but overall its not terrible. Not having the expansions sucks and changed the game alot, looking at you plasma missles, its still worth getting. The AI isnt the most challenging but they allow you to test strategys and help you improve your early game which is often the most vital factor in how you end up doing. 15\$ is honestly a rip off, the game is buggy and it has no additional features to the ios app which only costs 7\$, but I was willing to do it because I really enjoy the game.

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