THE UK'S BESTSELLING PLAYSTATION 2 MAGAZINE

PROMO EDITION

PlayStation 2

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE-UK

WELCOME TO THE FUTURE

Game on! Jak and Daxter lead the charge of awesome new titles for PlayStation 2.

INSIDE!

WWF SMACKDOWN! 'JUST BRING IT!'/DEVIL MAY CRY
SSX TRICKY/FIFA 2002/MORE
TURN THE PAGE FOR ALL THE BIGGEST AND BEST PS2 GAMES!

PLUS!

- PlayStation 2: The beginners guide
- Exclusive subscription offer
- 2001/2's best releases
- Essential peripherals
- Inside the machine

future publishing
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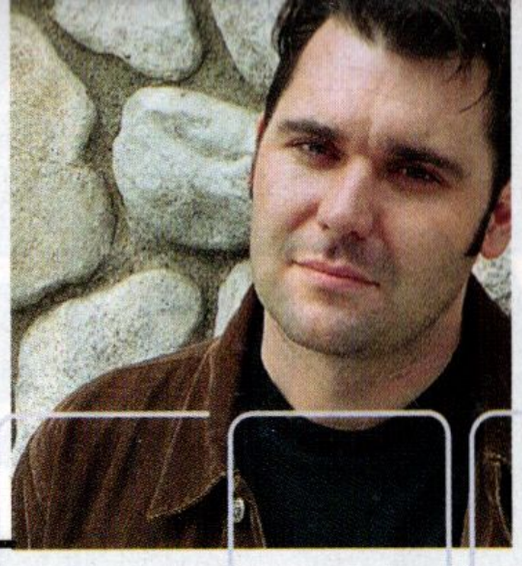

WELCOME

2001 has been an astonishing 12 months for PlayStation 2. A massive launch with sold-out consoles and midnight openings everywhere. A snowballing release schedule that has seen the likes of *SSX*, *WWF SmackDown! 'Just Bring It!'*, *Star Wars: Starfighter*, *Quake III* and *Silent Hill 2* form the basis of a back catalogue already totalling over 150 games. Oh, and then there's the small matter of the greatest racing game ever created – *Gran Turismo 3: A-spec*. Not a bad 12 months then.

But a year on, it's time to move the whole thing forward. The PlayStation 2 already allows you to play amazing games and watch the latest movies on super-crisp DVD, but the next year will see the PS2 truly blossom into the best games console ever. Killer releases such as *Tekken 4*, the long-awaited *Metal Gear Solid 2*, *Stuntman* and a completely made-over *Tomb Raider* will show just what the PS2 can really do.

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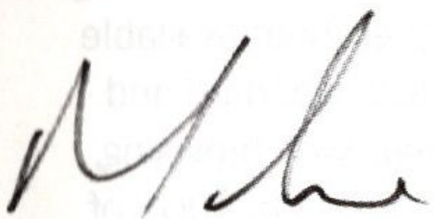
Sony's forthcoming Network Adapter and Hard Disc Drive (due for release some time in 2002) will allow you to experience the best of online gaming from the comfort of your own living room. Not only that, but those tiny ports at the front of your machine will allow you to plug in everything from light guns and steering wheels to keyboards and mice, further enhancing your PS2 games. Way back in March 2000, Sony announced PS2 with the slogan, 'A Glimpse of the Future'. This year, you are about to see Sony deliver on that promise and how.

And to get the very best out of your new console, you'll need a guide. Welcome to the *Official PlayStation 2 Magazine*. Every month, we'll bring you all the breaking PS2 news, the best game reviews and previews, plus tips, features and the latest DVD releases. Best of all – and unlike any other games mag – we'll bring you an exclusive PS2 demo DVD, where you can try for yourself playable levels of the latest games and see video footage of future releases. No other magazine can offer you this.

So, read our words, gawk at the pictures, take us up on our once-only subscription offer on page eight and treat this mini-magazine as a glimpse of our future as much as the PS2's. Enjoy the ride. We will.



Mike Goldsmith
Senior Editor

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DREAM MACHINE

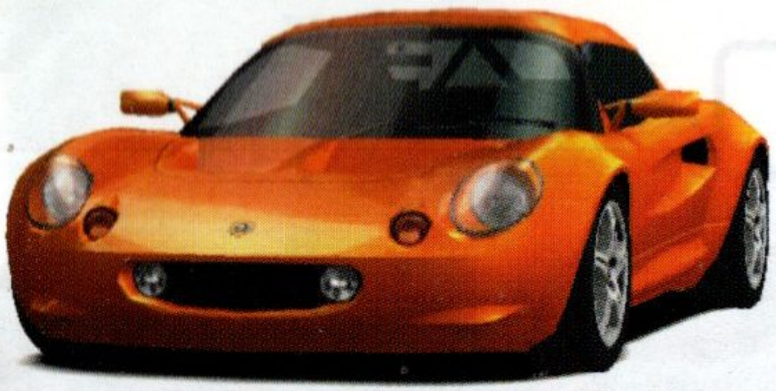
So you've got your PlayStation 2. Welcome to a whole new world of sublime digital pleasure.

Yuna, one of the female stars of forthcoming RPG epic *Final Fantasy X*.

You're now in possession of the most powerful computer entertainment system on the planet. Sony's revolutionary PlayStation 2 not only allows you to play state-of-the-art videogames, but also the entire back catalogue of existing PSone titles, DVD movies and music CDs. The sleek, hi-tech machine was designed by PlayStation hardware guru Teiyu Goto to be "a mirror of the universe" (the black box represents space, apparently, while the blue and purple base is a metaphor for the Earth).

FUTURE PROOF

Technically, PS2 is astounding, with an optical output for digital surround sound and options to display images on widescreen sets or high definition TVs. Future-proof expansion ports allow connection to the forthcoming Hard Disc Drive and Network Adapter (both available separately next year). These will allow standard and broadband Internet access for email, Web browsing, online gaming and the ability to store up to 40Gb of game information and downloads. Extra USB and Firewire ports can link up to all manner of peripherals, including



Drive a Lotus Elise in driving sim *GT3: A-spec*.

PS2 FAQ

Q. Can I use all my existing PSone peripherals on the PS2?
A. Everything is compatible apart from the MultiTap, which Sony has replaced with a brand-new PS2-lookalike version. PSone Memory Cards will work with PSone titles, but PS2 games require the new 8Mb Memory Card for larger saves. Original Dual Shock controllers are usable, but won't utilise the analogue sensitivity features in games designed for the Dual Shock 2.

Q. Will my old PSone games work on the PS2?
A. Yes. And it gets better – PS2 also has an option to 'enhance' the graphics of older titles, plus it can speed up loading times.

Q. Can I connect my PS2 to the Internet?
A. Yes. In the future, you will be able to buy a Network Adapter which will include a 56k modem and an ethernet connection for attachment to a broadband provider.

light guns, steering wheels, keyboards, mice, and future accessories to be announced. Underneath this strikingly ridged exterior is an extremely powerful set of graphics chips and processors that can output a staggering 75 million polygons per second on-screen. Then there's the subtle 'space black' Dual Shock 2 controller, which at first glance appears identical to earlier PSone Dual Shock joypads but is, in fact, completely analogue, with 256 levels of sensitivity on every direction and fire button.

GAME ON

However, it's the games themselves that will truly astound and captivate PS2 owners, with the good news being than an unprecedented number of software publishers are committed to producing PlayStation 2 titles. All the huge Japanese game developers, such as Namco (*Tekken*, *Time Crisis*), Capcom (*Devil May Cry*), Konami (*Metal Gear Solid*), Square (*Final Fantasy*) and Sony themselves (*Gran Turismo*, *WipEout*), are releasing next-gen games, along with other world-renowned coders like EA (*FIFA*), Eidos (*Tomb Raider*) and Codemasters (*Colin McRae*).

Rest assured, PS2 gamers will experience some of the most innovative, exciting and downright playable titles ever to grace a home entertainment console. Over the next few pages we'll take a closer look at the PS2 and show the biggest games making their way onto Sony's next-generation machine. The future is here.

Turn over to find out more › ›

DISSECTED

A delectable guide to the main features of Sony's new home entertainment console.

Memory Card Ports
You'll be plugging your brand-new 8Mb Memory Cards in here – essential for saving and loading from your PS2 games.

Dual Shock 2
Senses 256 levels of velocity data with each button press. This allows players to take better control during gaming.

USB Ports
Global PC/Mac standard port for connection to various peripherals, such as printers and keyboards.

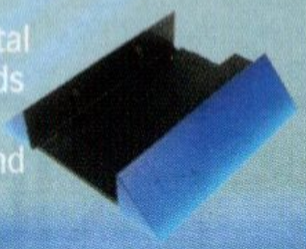
i-Link 'Firewire' Port
In the future, this will be used for connecting to digital cameras. In the mean time, use an i-Link lead to connect PlayStation 2s for multiplayer gaming. *Gran Turismo 3* uses this and so should you!

Joypad Ports
Two Dual Shock 2s can be plugged in, with optional MultiTaps available to allow up to eight people to play at once – great for footy games.

PlayStation Logo
As the PS2 can be mounted horizontally or vertically, the logo can be rotated so it always remains the right way up. Clever.

PERIPHERALS

Plastic Stands
Designer horizontal and vertical stands are available for added stability and to complete the PS2 aesthetic.

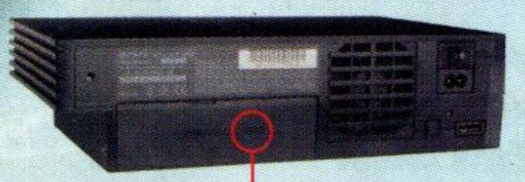


MultiTap
Black and ridged like the PS2, this add-on allows up to four players (or eight players with two MultiTaps) to join in the action.

8Mb Memory Card
Eight times the capacity of the old PSone cards. This is an essential purchase if you want to save your PS2 games.

DVD PLAYBACK

DVD playback with PlayStation 2 is excellent. The picture quality is easily comparable with DVD players in the £250-300 category and the soundtrack is presented in pristine surround sound quality Dolby Digital or DTS (Digital Theatre Sound). There are nine different DVD 'Regions', and it's only Region 0 (no specified country) and PAL or NTSC Region 2 discs (UK, Europe, Japan, South Africa and the Middle East) that are compatible with PlayStation 2. American (Region 1) or DVDs from anywhere else in the world will not work.



LEDs
The RESET button glows green or red depending on whether it's active and the OPEN button is a luminescent blue.

Expansion Port
For the Network Adapter/Hard Disc Drive add-ons to be released in 2002.

SUBSCRIPTIONS HOTLINE: 0870 444 8656

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THE GAMES

Just bought a PlayStation 2? Pat yourself on the back. Now cast your eyes over these games – just a few of the stunning titles that are available for your new console. Reasons to get excited we're sure you'll agree.

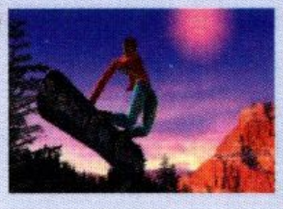
JAK AND DAXTER

Publisher: SCEE
Developer: Naughty Dog
Genre: Platform
Players: 1

Introducing PlayStation 2's first mascots, Jak and Daxter are the stars of this huge cartoon-styled platform adventure from the creators of the PSone's infamous *Crash Bandicoot*. Explore lush fantasy worlds, play numerous sub-games, and snigger at the tongue-in-cheek humour. But most of all indulge in 128 bit gaming at its finest.

SSX TRICKY (EA)

Following the trails left by its precursor, *SSX*, *SSX Tricky* is a stunt-fuelled, powder-blasting monster. New tracks, new characters and a revamped catalogue of bizarrely named tricks ensure this will be king of the 'boards once more.



FIFA 2002 (EA)

The *FIFA* series is legendary in more ways than one – amazing graphics, instant action and lots and lots of goals. *FIFA 2002* raises the stakes even higher, with more realistic matches and completely overhauled visuals.

SPLASHDOWN (INFOGRAMES)

Creating a huge wave of excitement due to its incredible re-creation of water and wake, this is one sports title you won't want to miss. Race and pull stunts on a super-powerful Sea-Doo and try to avoid looking at the pretty water *too* closely.

DEVIL MAY CRY

Publisher: Capcom Eurosoft
Developer: Capcom
Genre: Action
Players: 1

From the creator of the PSone's terrifying *Resident Evil* series comes this gorgeously Gothic masterpiece which has already been described as the most spectacular action game on PS2. You play as Dante, half-man, half-demon in a battle-filled journey through a haunted castle, armed with a hefty sword and a set of pistols. You'll be weeping tears of joy over this one.

WWF SMACKDOWN! 'JUST BRING IT!'

Publisher: THQ
Developer: Yuke's
Genre: Wrestling
Players: 1-4

Wrestling fans won't need reminding that this is a 'big' game. It's a hulk. For the rest of you, don't worry – even if you've never been into WWF this might be the turning point. All the wrestlers you could want, all the moves and more play modes than you could get through in a week. Combine that with photo-realistic graphics and Create-A-Wrestler mode and it's a smackdown.

AIRBLADE (SCEE)

The PS2's biggest airs? Most definitely. You are Ethan, hoverboard expert and freedom fighter against a corrupt police force. You need to dispense justice and pull some sick tricks in the process. It's what Tony Hawk will be doing in 2190.

GRAND THEFT AUTO 3 (ROCKSTAR)

Having already done a smash-and-grab job on PSone, *GTA3* has gone 3D for PS2. Your job is that of a criminal-at-large in Liberty City running jobs for the local gangs. Naughty? Very. Nice? That too.

TONY HAWK'S PRO SKATER 3 (ACTIVISION)

Already a bestseller on the PSone, the game that brought skateboarding to the masses is back and bigger and better on PS2. *Tony Hawk*'s has all the decks, trucks and rock 'n' roll you'll ever need.

HITS FOR THE FUTURE

the games of tomorrow, revealed today

METAL GEAR SOLID 2 (KONAMI)

After wooing PSone owners in *Metal Gear Solid*, the James Bond-cum-Action Man Solid Snake is back in this atmospheric stealth epic. Filmic visuals and do-anything go-anywhere gameplay will make this a must-have title.

Release: February 2002

TEKKEN 4 (SCEE)

One name that goes hand in hand with PlayStation and beat-'em-ups is *Tekken* – so if you own just one fighting game make it this one. New breakable 3D environments, thousands of moves and even more fighters. Fight on.

Release: Spring 2002

FINAL FANTASY X (SCEE)

Already out in Japan where it sold 2.5 million copies in just three months, *Final Fantasy X* is the pinnacle of role-playing games. Beautifully designed visuals, an expansive story line and a new battle system guarantee an instant hit.

Release: June 2002

ENDGAME (EMPIRE)

One of the first PS2 titles to make use of the newly designed G-Con 2 light gun, *Endgame* turns the genre on its head by incorporating a female heroine and an involving plot with a sci-fi twist. Just one thing to do then – ready, aim, FIRE!

Release: January 2002

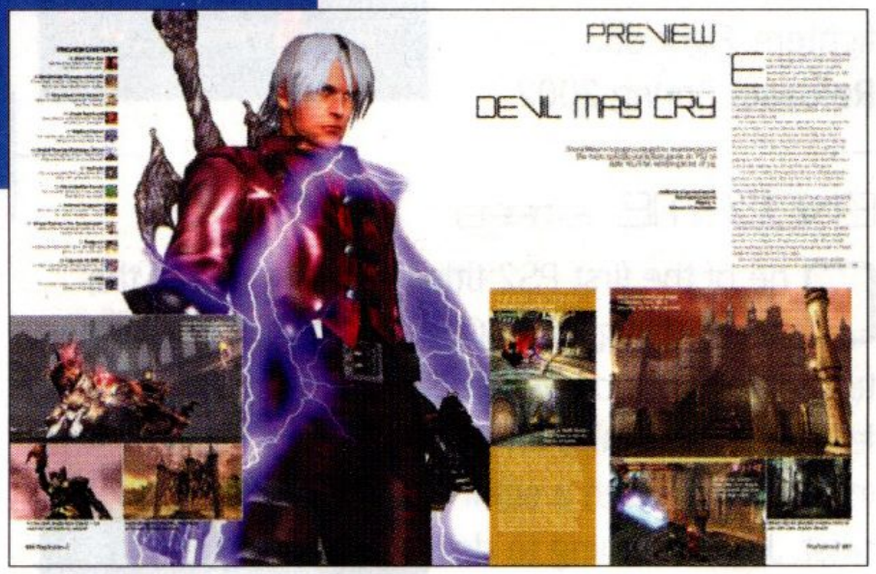
ALSO RECOMMENDED:

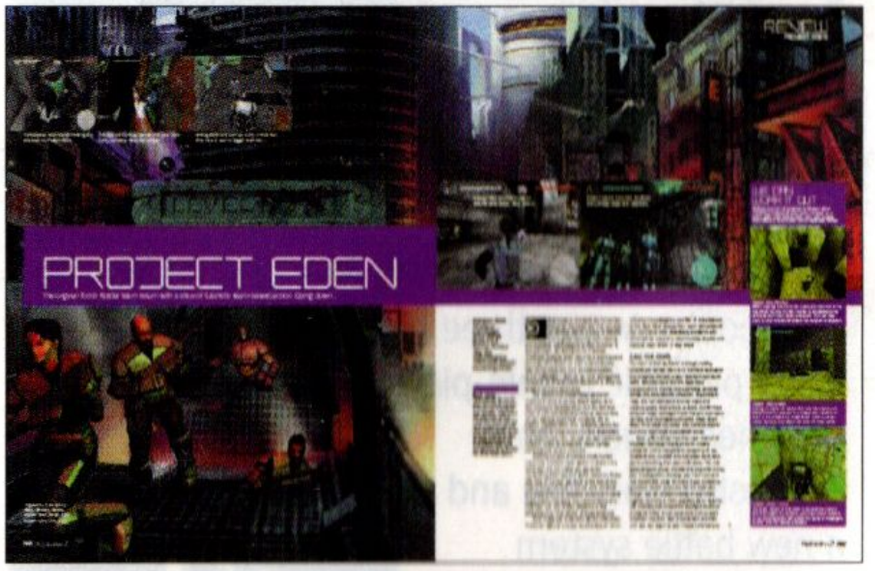
We've mentioned the following games a lot in *OPS2*. Why? Because they're some of the best games around.

Gran Turismo 3: A-spec	SCEE
Resident Evil Code: Veronica X	CAPCOM EUROSOFT
Star Wars: Starfighter	ACTIVISION
Silent Hill 2	KONAMI
Half-Life	VIVENDI UNIVERSAL
Red Faction	THQ
Pro Evolution Soccer	KONAMI
World Rally Championship 2001	SCEE
Quake III: Arena	EA
MTV Music Generator 2	CODEMASTERS
Soul Reaver 2	EIDOS
Crazy Taxi	ACCLAIM
Madden NFL 2002	EA
Burnout	ACCLAIM
Crash Bandicoot: The Wrath Of Cortex	VIVENDI UNIVERSAL

An insider's look at what to expect in *Official PlayStation 2 Magazine* – the full-size version.

THE REAL THING





PREVIEWS

Want to know what's coming to PlayStation 2 before anyone else? We'll bring you all the latest previews, packed with in-depth analysis, exclusive screenshots and lush illustrations. Our links with Sony and the industry mean we're guaranteed to have extensive coverage of all the hottest titles – first.

REVIEWS

Official PlayStation 2 Magazine reviews every UK PlayStation 2 release. We cover the big, the small, the blockbuster and the cult – add those together and you get the most respected PS2 reviews around!

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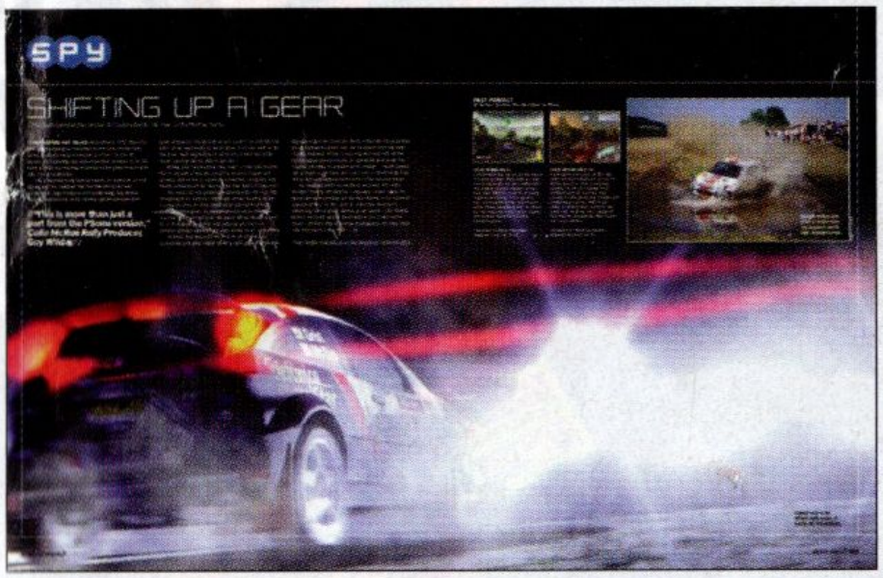
NEWS

Where's the first place all the best game developers come with news of their most exciting new projects? *Official PlayStation 2 Magazine* – the arena for exclusive news, in-depth interviews and scurrilous rumours...

AND MORE!

Official PlayStation 2 Magazine is packed to bursting with just about *everything*. On top of the best reviews and previews around, every issue is crammed with stylish features, behind-the-scenes reports, DVD reviews, exclusive interviews, plus a game-busting tips section!



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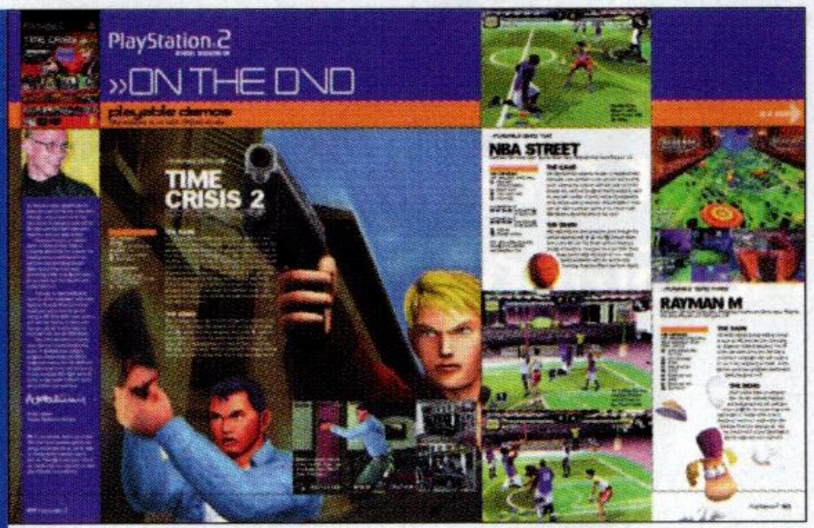

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Guess what? The best is yet to come.

Other magazines let you watch. PlayStation.2 lets you play.

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