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Star Trek Omnipedia: An Interactive Encyclopedia/Cd-Rom Windows Version

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From Simon Schuster : Star Trek Omnipedia: An Interactive Encyclopedia/Cd-Rom Windows Version before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Star Trek Omnipedia: An Interactive Encyclopedia/Cd-Rom Windows Version:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Amazing!By Frances FigueroaI love the fact that all this information is together in one place. As much as I like books, I have to admit that digital format is more convenient.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. To Boldly Go Where No Game Has Gone BeforeBy Orion E. HubbardWell, this isn't exactly a game. Nor is it an encyclopedia either. The Star Trek Omnipedia is an interesting combination of both. The problem is, it came out over ten years ago and the program is outdated: the speech-recognition that would have been so hot on Windows 95 is not going to work on Windows 2K or XP.But aside from the speech-recognition issue, the animation and database search engines are just awesome; every dedicated Trekkie should have this program.Ron3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. "Computer..."By Michael J. TrescaThe Star Trek Omnipedia is an

impressive compilation of information the most devout Star Trek fan (or Trekkie) could want to know about the venerable franchise. The material is organized in several sections, or modes, including Encyclopedia, Episode, Chronology, Resources, Topics and Search modes. The shining core of the reference title is the Encyclopedia mode where thousands of entries on Trek trivia can be found. The entries are cross-referenced and some have other types of multimedia accompanying them. None of it can be exported in any useful format, probably an intentional design to protect copyright concerns - an aspect that unfortunately diminishes the value of the product as a reference tool. The Episode and Chronology sections contain helpful databases of episodes, movies and notable events that cover about 15 billion years. In Chronology mode, you find information from "real" Earth as well as historical data presented in the Star Trek universe. The paths diverge in the late 20th century as there has been no eugenics war yet and World War III hasn't occurred. The information is presented by date only and doesn't lend itself to easy browsing. The Resources mode is the most entertaining section as it contains a great deal of trivia. Unfortunately, the trivia isn't always presented accurately and, in some cases, there's just not enough information. At first glance, one wonders if the five narratives in the Topics segment are really necessary and a unique section on each seems somewhat redundant. Nevertheless, the narration by Mark Lenard is superb, which makes them worthwhile after all. The problems and disappointments in Star Trek Omnipedia are mostly minor but can detract from the overall enjoyment of the title. For example, some of the diagrams displayed throughout the Omnipedia are cartoons when they should be screen shots. On the other hand, the screen shots that are available are grainy. There are a few interesting, but not spectacular, animations. Where graphics may be just above average, sound in the program excels. By far, one of the most appealing aspects, other than the information, is Majel Barret's voice. The actress, series creator Gene Roddenberry's wife, played the voice of the onboard computer of the Enterprise in early television episodes and narrates the Omnipedia in similar fashion. The special Library Computer Access and Retrieval System (LCARS) sound effects are good and the Omnipedia beeps and blips in an authentic fashion. Finally, the Star Trek Omnipedia search engine is very useful in scanning the somewhat starkly presented Chronology.

A comprehensive electronic database to the Star Trek universe, with photos, video, graphics, text and audio that mingle in thousands of indexed entries, cross-referenced from the first three Trek series and the first six Trek movies. Based on the print publications "The Star Trek Encyclopedia" and "Star Trek Chronology", this is a multimedia tour of all the episodes, characters, actors, history, technology, and more. It's voice-activated (if your computer's equipped for that), and narrated by Mark Lenard (Spock's father Sarek). And if that's not enough, it will be updated on a regular basis-- all registered users of the "Omnipedia" will receive the first update free, and thereafter will be notified of all new installments and supplementary material as it becomes available. That way, the "Omnipedia" need never be out-of-date. System Requirements: 486/33 MHz or better 8MB of RAM Color monitor with 256 colors and 640 x 480 resolution 2X speed CD-Rom drive 100% SoundBlaster compatible sound card Microsoft Windows 3.1 Mouse Voice-Activation in Windows requires: 486 or Pentium PC 100% SoundBlaster 16, Microsoft Sound System or other 100% SoundBlaster 16 compatible sound card Microphone (manufacturer's supplied microphone is recommended)

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