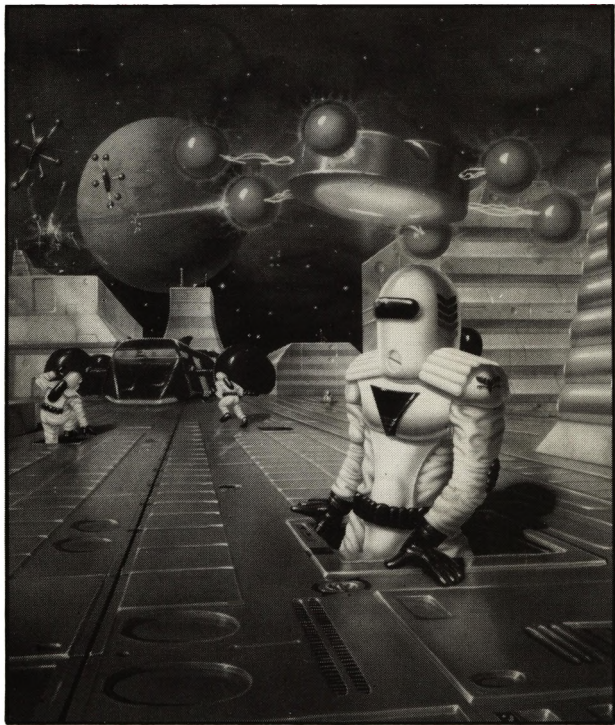


# ***INTENSITY***



**PLAYGUIDE FOR  
SPECTRUM AND SPECTRUM +3**



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## **PLAYGUIDE FOR SPECTRUM AND SPECTRUM +3**

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### **Credits**

Intensity developed by Graftgold Ltd  
Designed by Andrew Braybrook  
Programming, music and sound effects by Steve Turner  
Graphics by John Cumming

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## **INTENSITY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SPECTRUM**

### **LOADING THE GAME**

#### **Tape**

Insert the fully rewound tape into the tape machine.

#### **48/+**

Type Load "" and press <ENTER>. Now press **Play** on the tape machine. The game will now load.

#### **128/+2/+3**

Enter 48K mode and type Load "" and press <ENTER>. Now press **Play** on the tape machine.

#### **128 +3, Disc version**

Insert the disc into the drive and press <ENTER> while in the loader option.

### **THE SCENARIO**

The objective is to rescue colonists from the space station under siege by hordes of alien creatures that can mutate to several deadly forms. The colonists are to be transported to any one of five escape shuttles by picking them up with the remote control drone. This is guided by the surface skimmer which you control. Rescuing sufficient men from a particular screen or platform allows both craft to progress in one of three directions. This depends on how many men are rescued.

### **SEQUENCE OF PLAY**

Press fire to start and the game begins by showing your position on the station. The greek letter of the layer and the platform number are shown. You always start at gamma layer one, with three skimmers and three drones available. The number of vehicles ready for use is shown by the "ready" figure. Further vehicles ordered and paid for, but still being built are shown as "pending". These will become available in later time segments.

The game screen is then played until the screen is exited or any vehicle is destroyed. If the platform was successfully completed the updated progress map is displayed flashing the completed platforms.

Then the number of drones and skimmers ready and pending are shown and you can buy more vehicles with collected resource units. Exiting from this phase will take you to the game screen.

The game will be completed if the last platform is reached on any of the five layers, at which point the escape shuttle will launch. The game ends prematurely if there are no skimmers or drones ready and available to replace losses. In this case pending vehicles do not count as they are not built and cannot be used.

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## **PRE-GAME CONTROLS**

Pressing "1" selects the one player option while pressing "2" selects the two player option of Intensity.

## **GAME CONTROLS**

Move skimmer - joystick direction or keys as shown below, or the cursor keys.

- up - a, s, d, f, g
- down - z, x, c, v
- left - h, j, k
- right - l, enter
- fire - b, n, m, space
- Call drone - press fire whilst over a suitable landing site until the skimmer touches the ground.
- Pause game - press P
- Quit game - press Q while paused
- Restart game - press fire

## **TWO PLAYER MODES**

In the two player mode, players play alternately and independantly, swapping when a skimmer or drone is destroyed. They each have there own timers, queues of skimmers and drones, and may choose their own routes to escape shuttles.

## **HIGH SCORE ENTRIES**

- Joystick up - alter the flashing letter back through the alphabet.
- Joystick down - alter the flashing letter forward through the alphabet.
- Joystick left - select the previous letter.
- Joystick right - select the next letter.
- Fire - enter the current letter and select the next one.

Entering the third letter completes your high score entry.

## **THE SKIMMER**

The skimmer is a converted mining vehicle equipped with rotating cutters. These can be used to destroy aliens in some of their mutant forms by driving into them.

Three classes of skimmer are available:

	<b>Gamma</b>	<b>Beta</b>	<b>Alpha</b>
Maximum speed	115 m/s	125 m/s	135 m/s
Maximum skim height	6 m	10 m	15 m
Cost	8-12 RU	13-17 RU	18-22 RU
Time to build	1 segment	2 segments	3 segments
Identifying light bands	1	2	3

Skimmers can land on any flat area. Do not attempt to land too close to walls or other hazards or the craft may be destroyed.

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The skimmer will swing round to move in the desired direction. It will glide to a halt if the joystick is centred. It hovers a few metres above the surface normally but will climb automatically to try to clear obstacles. The cheapest skimmers are unable to climb over many obstacles however and must be steered around them.

A warning sound will be heard if the skimmer is flying below the recommended height to clear a particular obstacle.

The skimmer and drone are destroyed if they collide, so be careful to fly out of the drones way after it has been called.

## **THE DRONE**

The drone is a slave device carrying basic navigation and flight control equipment. It waits on the surface until called by the skimmer to a landing site. Then it will take off and attempt to fly directly to the landing site. Drones cannot fly over walls and must be guided around them.

Escaping colonists will head for the drone landing site, wait at a safe distance for it to land, then board it as quickly as possible.

The drone will run its engines periodically if left in one place to keep them warm. This lifts the drone into the air and will destroy the skimmer if it is over the drone at the time.

There are three drone types:

	<b>Gamma</b>	<b>Beta</b>	<b>Alpha</b>
Maximum speed	105 m/s	115 m/s	125 m/s
Maximum skim height	10 m	10 m	10 m
Cost	4-8 RU	7-11 RU	10-14 RU
Time to build	1 segment	2 segments	3 segments
Identifying light bands	1	2	3

## **HAZARDS**

There are various surface features to be avoided due to their height by gamma and beta skimmers and by all drones.

protective walls	- 11 metres
Hangars	- 8 metres
radar towers	- 8 metres
monorail	- 7 metres
escape shuttle	- 4 metres
short range explorer modules	- 3 metres
posts	- 2 metres

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## **COLONISTS**

Colonists emerge from the airlocks with a limited oxygen supply so they must be rescued as quickly as possible. They will use the bridges where available. They will try to go around obstacles in an attempt to reach the drone or its intended landing site if it is in flight. They will wait just clear of the landing site and board the drone as soon as it has settled.

The colonists are prey to the stalkers and are vulnerable to explosions. They will sacrifice themselves to destroy nuclons in order to save the drone.

## **COLLECTING RUS**

For every colonist that boards the drone, an 'R' symbol is released from the exit point. This may be collected by the skimmer, and increases your funds by one RU, or Resource Unit. These can be used later to purchase new skimmers and drones. You can carry up to ninety-nine RUs at any one time. Any further 'R' symbols collected will give you a 1,000 point bonus.

Uncollected 'R' symbols burn up in time, or will be destroyed by the aliens.

## **SPECIAL BONUS**

Occasionally, a key symbol will be released. These should be collected by the skimmer. These will instantly upgrade your skimmer and your drone. Eg, a gamma skimmer would become a beta skimmer. If you already have an alpha drone you receive a bonus of 5,000 points, an alpha skimmer would give you five bonus RUs.

## **BRIDGES**

Some platforms have bridges to allow colonists to get from one section to another. These bridges are retracted so they cannot be crossed until the drone is landed exactly on the bridge control arrow. This extends the bridge and the men will then be able to walk across. The bridge will stay open while a man is on it and automatically retracts after use. Some bridges only have one control arrow and must be operated from that end.

## **STATION LAYOUT**

The space station is divided into five rows of platforms, each sixteen platforms wide. The layers are labelled alpha, beta, gamma, delta and epsilon. The layers are ranked in order of difficulty, Alpha being the hardest.

Each platform has the greek letter of the layer shown at the centre of the exit ring. On the earlier screens this is the place the skimmer starts at. To leave the screen pick up enough men in the drone to start the exit flashing and call the drone to land on the exit letter. The letter will change depending on how many men are rescued and which exits are available. There are up to three choices of exit, activated in this order.

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- 1) the easier platform to the side.
- 2) the more difficult platform to the other side.
- 3) the next platform forwards towards the escape shuttles.

All exits are one way, so platforms cannot be visited twice in a game, and some platforms are so destroyed already that they can not be visited at all.

When five colonists are in the drone, if there is an exit to an easier platform then the exit ring will light up, and the greek letter indicating the layer to which the player can move will flash in the centre. You may then leave the current platform by landing the drone in the exact centre, or continue to rescue colonists.

As the first exit opens, the message 'Exit available' appears briefly at the bottom of the screen, with a sonic. The next two exits are triggered when ten and fifteen men have been rescued, if they are available from the screen.

The message "exit now" and a warning sound, signal when fifteen men have been rescued. Then is time to leave as no more will come out of the airlocks.

There are five different shuttles to reach, one at the end of each layer. Paths between layers get rarer as the game progresses to the higher layers. You must choose which layer you wish to play from the novice epsilon layer to the elite alpha layer. You may have to switch layers to complete your path to the shuttle.

## **SEGMENTS**

Game time is divided up into segments. The mutant attack began at segment zero and the game begins at segment two, with three Beta-class skimmers and drones available. One segment equates to about forty-five seconds of gameplay. After segment fifty, no more skimmers or drones can be built.

When a segment passes, a message is shown at the bottom of the screen to show the current segment. Any pending skimmers or drones due for delivery at the new segment are then delivered. Only one skimmer or drone can be delivered on any one segment.

## **THE ALIENS:**

The aliens undergo several mutations with very different properties.

## **SPORES**

The aliens approach as spores that circle in clouds until they can enter the station through any gap in the structure. They will hover over the surface for a while looking for a suitable landing site, taking less time to land as time goes on. They are most vulnerable in this form and may be destroyed by colliding with the skimmer or the drone or each other. They are very wary of the skimmer and will try to escape from it.

Initially spores fly close to the surface and cannot cross high parts of the platform. On later platforms they fly higher and can cross the highest protrusions.



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## **STALKERS**

A spore that lands on the surface becomes a stalker immediately. It will bounce around slowly causing damage to the surface until it spots a colonist leaves or mutates. Stalkers can leap small gaps and low obstacles with limited success but are vulnerable to attack from the skimmer or the drone.

Should a colonist be unlucky enough to be caught by a stalker, a nuclon will be produced.

Stalkers may also transform into a podule.

## **PODULES**

The podule is an intermediate stage between the stalker and a tracker. The transformation occurs within a shell. A fusewire is thrown out from the shell as it forms, which ignites and burns down. When it reaches the shell, the tracker bursts out. The podules are vulnerable to attack from the skimmer or drone.

## **TRACKERS**

Trackers are single-minded homing creatures which are the last resort of the aliens, attempting to destroy the skimmer or the drone so that the remaining aliens may survive. The skimmer is the prime target but the drone may also be selected. Collision with a vehicle will cause it to be downgraded or destroyed. The trackers skim the surface of the platform and have limited altitude control in the early stages. As time passes they learn to cross walls.

## **NUCLONS**

Nuclons are the resultant fireball produced when a stalker explodes after catching a colonist. They burn until they run out of oxygen. They move jerkily towards the drone. They have taken on the instinct of the absorbed colonist to reach the drone. Contact with the drone or skimmer will cause it to be downgraded or destroyed.

## **SCORE TABLE**

Spore	- 100 points.
Stalker	- 150 points.
Podule	- 250 points.
Tracker	- 500 points.
Nuclon	- 1,000 points.
Save Colonist	- 100 points on Epsilon layer, - 200 points on Delta layer, - 300 points on Gamma layer, - 400 points on Beta layer, - 500 points on Alpha Layer.
Excess RU trade-in	- 1,000 points.
Alpha drone special bonus	- 5,000 points.

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## **PROGRESS MAP**

At the end of each game, and after the completion of each platform, a progress map of the station is shown. This details the platforms covered. The start platform is on the middle left and the escape shuttles are at the right-hand end of each of the five routes, on the right. All platforms tackled are shown flashing and fanned out. The progress map or maps for the previous game are shown during the attract sequence. For a two player game the two maps are shown alternately.

## **BUYING PHASE**

Upon completion of a platform or the destruction of any of your vehicles, you are given the opportunity to order new equipment. Your current total funds are displayed at the top of the screen. You may order one or more new vehicles provided you have the funds available. Use the joystick to move the arrow to point at your required choice. The cost of each item is shown in RUs in the table. Press fire to select the item of your choice. A message at the bottom shows how long it will take to prepare the vehicle, in segments. Better equipment takes longer to build.

It should be noted that the prices of the various vehicles is dependent on which side of the station you are on. Buying equipment on the alpha side is more expensive than on the epsilon side. You may therefore wish to plan your purchases carefully to get the required craft for the best price.

Since only one drone can be delivered in any one segment then further drones of the same type ordered will be delayed until the next segment. The same applies to skimmers. Faster built vehicles ordered can be delivered earlier provided a spare delivery slot exists.

Move the joystick to 'DONE' when you have completed all your purchases and press fire to resume the game. The 'AUTO' function is also available to give you a recommendation of what to buy. This costs you one RU to use, and will move the arrow to its recommended action.

Possible error messages from this phase are:

- 1) Insufficient RU - You do not have enough RUs to purchase the selected item.
- 2) Stocks exhausted - There are no more vehicles of the requested type that can be built before the final segment.

## **GAME VARIANTS**

When loaded on a 128 a special version will automatically load featuring enhanced sound effects.

## **USER FRIENDLINESS**

All text screens and music may be skipped quickly by pressing and releasing the firebutton. Repeated presses will skip multiple screens. The progress map may be paused if required.

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