

Rimworld Beginners Guide



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RimWorld is a captivating colony simulation game that provides players with a rich storytelling experience while managing their own colony on a distant planet. The game combines elements of strategy, resource management, and survival, making it an engaging yet challenging experience for both new and veteran players. If you're just starting out in RimWorld, this guide will help you understand the basics and set you on the path to building a thriving colony.

Understanding the Basics

Before diving into the complex mechanics of RimWorld, it's important to grasp the foundational elements of the game. Here are a few key concepts:

What is RimWorld?

RimWorld is a sci-fi colony simulation game that puts players in control of a group of crash-landed space travelers on a remote planet. Your primary objectives include building a base, managing resources, and ensuring the survival of your colonists against various challenges, such as hostile factions, wild animals, and environmental hazards.

Game Mechanics Overview

- Colonists: Each colonist has unique traits, skills, and needs. Understanding these factors is crucial for effective management.
- Resources: Gathering and managing resources like food, wood, metal, and components is essential for survival.

- Construction: Building structures, furniture, and defenses will enhance the livability and safety of your colony.
- Research: Advancing your technology through research allows for better tools, buildings, and survival strategies.
- Events: Random events, such as raids, natural disasters, and resource drops, will challenge your colony and force you to adapt.

Getting Started

Starting in RimWorld can be overwhelming, but following a few steps can help ease the learning curve.

Creating Your Colony

1. Choose a Scenario: RimWorld offers several scenarios, from crash-landed refugees to rich explorers. Beginners may want to start with the "Crashlanded" scenario, which provides a balanced introduction.
2. Select Your Colonists: You start with three crash-landed colonists. Pay attention to their skills, traits, and backstories. A balanced team with diverse skills (construction, farming, combat) is beneficial.
3. Pick a Location: The map is filled with various biomes. Consider factors such as resources, temperature, and distance to threats when choosing a location. Beginners should avoid extreme environments, like deserts or tundras, to ease survival.

Building Your Base

Once you've chosen your scenario and location, it's time to start building your base.

Initial Construction

- Shelter: Start by constructing a basic shelter to protect your colonists from the elements. Wooden walls are a good early choice, as they are quick to build and provide adequate protection.
- Sleeping Quarters: Create individual sleeping spaces for colonists to regain energy. Beds improve rest quality compared to sleeping on the ground.
- Food Storage: Build a cooler or a simple storage area for food. Keep perishable items in a cooler to prevent spoilage.

Essential Facilities

As your colony grows, you will need to expand your facilities:

- Dining Area: Designate a space for a dining room where colonists can eat together. Place a table and chairs to improve their mood.
- Research Station: Set up a research bench to begin unlocking new technologies. Prioritize essential research like "Electricity" to gain access to better resources.
- Farming Area: Create a growing zone to cultivate crops. Depending on the biome, you can grow different plants. Potatoes and rice are good starter crops.

Managing Your Colonists

Your colonists' well-being is crucial for a successful colony. Here are some tips for effective management:

Understanding Needs

Each colonist has basic needs that must be met:

- Food: Ensure your colonists have enough food to eat. Hunting, farming, and foraging are essential.
- Joy: Colonists need joy to maintain their mental health. Provide recreational activities like horseshoes or a chess table.
- Rest: Be mindful of their sleep schedules. Tired colonists perform poorly and can become irritable.

Assigning Roles and Tasks

- Prioritize Tasks: Use the Work tab to assign tasks based on each colonist's skills and priorities. For example, a colonist with high cooking skills should be assigned to cooking and preparing meals.
- Manage Skills: Encourage colonists to train in various skills. This will ensure you have versatile workers, making it easier to adapt to challenges.

Defending Your Colony

As your colony grows, so will the threats against it. Here are some defensive strategies:

Building Defenses

- Walls and Doors: Construct walls to create barriers against raiders and wild animals. Use doors for quick access and escape routes.
- Turrets: Research and build automated turrets that provide fire support against hostile factions. Place them strategically around your base for maximum coverage.

Preparing for Raids

- Alerting Colonists: Use the alert system to prepare your colonists for incoming threats. Make sure everyone is armed and in a defensive position.
- Training Animals: Taming animals can provide additional defense. Trained animals can assist during raids or help with hauling resources.

Research and Advancement

Research is a crucial aspect of RimWorld that allows you to unlock new technologies and improve your colony's efficiency.

Prioritizing Research

- Focus on essential technologies first, such as:
- Electricity: Allows for power generation and advanced machinery.
- Hydroponics: Provides a consistent food supply regardless of the season.
- Medicine Production: Enables you to create better medical supplies for colonist health.

Building a Research Bench

- Construct a research bench as soon as possible. Assign a colonist with a high intellectual skill to begin research tasks. More advanced research benches will unlock more complex technologies.

Conclusion

RimWorld offers a unique blend of strategy, storytelling, and survival mechanics that can be both challenging and rewarding. By understanding the basics of colony management, prioritizing your colonists' needs, building essential structures, and preparing for threats, you can create a thriving colony on a distant planet. Remember, each playthrough is different, and adapting to the ever-changing environment will be key to your success. So, gather your resources, build your defenses, and enjoy the unpredictable tales that unfold in RimWorld!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is RimWorld and what type of game is it?

RimWorld is a sci-fi colony simulation game where players manage a group of crash-landed survivors on an alien planet, focusing on resource management, building, and survival.

How do I start building a base in RimWorld?

Begin by selecting a location with access to resources like wood and stone, then construct essential structures such as bedrooms, a kitchen, and a dining area, prioritizing defenses against threats.

What are the key resources I should focus on early in the game?

Early on, prioritize gathering wood, steel, and food. Wood is essential for building, steel is needed for advanced structures and equipment, and food is crucial for survival.

How important is research in RimWorld?

Research is vital as it unlocks new technologies and upgrades that improve your colony's efficiency, defenses, and overall survival chances. Focus on essential research topics early on.

What should I know about colonist moods?

Colonist moods significantly affect their performance. Ensure they have adequate food, recreation, and comfortable living conditions to maintain high morale and productivity.

How can I effectively manage food production?

Establish a growing zone to plant crops and hunt wildlife for meat. Consider building a freezer to preserve food and avoid shortages during harsh seasons.

What are the different difficulty settings in RimWorld?

RimWorld offers various difficulty settings that affect resource availability, raid frequency, and overall game challenges. Beginners are recommended to start on 'Casual' or 'Loyalist' modes.

How do I deal with raids and threats in RimWorld?

Set up defensive structures like walls and turrets, train colonists in combat skills, and prepare ambushes to effectively handle raids and other threats.

What is the importance of colonist traits?

Colonist traits influence their skills, behaviors, and interactions. Understanding these traits helps you assign roles effectively and maintain colony harmony.

How can I improve my knowledge and skills in RimWorld?

Watch tutorial videos, join RimWorld forums, and read guides to learn strategies and tips from experienced players. Practice and experimentation will also enhance your skills.

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