

Nox Demo

LATE BREAKING NEWS

February 1, 2000

For latest news and updates visit www.westwood.com

Contents:

1. Windows 95/98/NT

- 1.1. Microsoft DirectX
- 1.2. Microsoft Office Toolbar
- 1.3. Microsoft FindFast
- 1.4. Windows NT 4.0

2. Troubleshooting

- 2.1. Known Video Card Problems.
- 2.2. Known Sound Card Problems.
- 2.3. Known DirectX Problems
- 2.4. Virtual Memory Settings
- 2.5. Known System RAM problems
- 2.6. AutoPlay.
- 2.7. 16 bit CD-ROM drivers
- 2.8. CD-Changers and Multi-Drivers
- 2.9. Power Saving Modes
- 2.10. Periodic Slowdowns
- 2.11. Known Mouse Problems
- 2.12. Task Switching

3. Gameplay Issues

- 3.1. Weapons
 - 3.1.1. Blocking an attack
- 3.2. Spells
 - 3.2.1. Spells with Variable Mana Cost
 - 3.2.2. Spell tracking
- 3.3. Options
 - 3.3.1. Screen Resolution
 - 3.3.2. Improving Performance
 - 3.3.3. Nox Compatibility Mode
 - 3.3.4. Gamma Adjustment (Lighting)
- 3.4. Multiplayer
 - 3.4.1. Seeing LAN games while connected to the Internet.
 - 3.4.2. Banning a player from a game.
 - 3.4.3. UDP port
 - 3.4.4. Nox Version and Joining Games
 - 3.4.5. Japanese & Korean Input for In-game Chat
 - 3.4.6. Sysop Access

4. Contact Information

5. Copyright Information

1. Windows 95/98/NT

1.1. Microsoft DirectX

Nox is a Microsoft DirectX application. Due to the space limitations of this demo, Direct X 7.0 is not included. You will need to obtain DirectX before you can play this demo.

If you have difficulty running Windows 95/98 after these new Microsoft DirectX drivers have been installed, please contact your local Microsoft subsidiary, or write:

Microsoft Customer Sales and Service,
One Microsoft Way,
Redmond, WA 98052-6399, USA

USA telephone: 1-800-426-9400
International telephone: ++1-206-882-8080

1.2. Microsoft Office Toolbar

If you make use of this feature of Microsoft Office and it appears over the game screen when playing Nox, you will have to disable the Office Toolbar before playing.

1.3. Microsoft FindFast

There is a utility installed in most Windows systems (Findfast.exe) that will periodically run and catalog all of the Microsoft Office files on your hard drive. When it is doing this check, your computer's performance will be dramatically impaired. You may want to remove it or disable it when running Nox.

1.4. Windows NT 4.0

Nox requires Service Pack 3 (or later versions) to be installed in order to work with Windows NT 4.0. Please contact your computer manufacturer if you need to get Service Pack 3.

2. Troubleshooting

2.1. Known Video Card Problems.

Video monitor settings may need to be adjusted after installing the Microsoft DirectX video drivers. If your screen distorts, or is shifted horizontally or vertically, you can return it to normal by adjusting the controls on your monitor.

Most video display problems can be corrected by installing the latest drivers for your particular card. Please consult your video card documentation for details on how to get the latest drivers for your card.

Users with ALI chipset-based motherboards may experience video or system difficulties with certain video cards under Windows 95, specifically with the Diamond Viper 770 Ultra and the 3Dfx Voodoo 3 (2000, 3000, & 3500). We recommend that you upgrade your operating system to Windows 98 if you experience problems with this combination.

2.2. Known Sound Card Problems.

Most sound card problems can be corrected by installing the latest drivers for your particular card. Please consult your sound card documentation for details on how to get the latest drivers.

2.3. Known DirectX Problems

If another application is using the sound card while trying to install or run the game, a "DXSound Error" will appear. If this error occurs, please close all applications and run the install or game again.

2.4. Virtual Memory Settings

Nox may need to use more RAM than is present on your system. Windows 95/98 automatically takes care of this by using what is known as "Virtual Memory" - which uses space on your hard disk to simulate the memory it needs and swaps data back and forth from your hard disk as required. Windows 95/98 allows you to manually set the amount of hard drive space it uses for Virtual Memory: WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU DO NOT DO THIS! To let Windows 95/98 manage the Virtual Memory, go to the Windows 95/98 start menu, select 'settings\control panel', then double-click 'system', click 'performance\file system\virtual memory' and then select 'Let Windows manage my virtual memory settings (recommended).'

2.5. Known System RAM problems

Certain systems contain video cards that use system memory as video memory. With these systems, it is possible that Nox will not run properly if you have only 32MB of memory. Since the video card uses system memory, usually 4MB or 8MB, on 32MB machines there is not enough memory left to run the game. In order for Nox to run properly you will need to increase your system memory or use a video card with dedicated video RAM.

2.6. AutoPlay.

If your CD does not AutoPlay when inserted in the drive, you may have this feature disabled. To Enable AutoPlay, right click on 'My Computer' and select 'Properties' then 'Device Manager'. Select your CD-ROM drive and click 'Properties'. Select 'Settings' and check the 'Auto insert notification' box.

2.7. 16 bit CD-ROM drivers

Nox may fail to start if there is a 16 bit CD-ROM driver loaded from the AUTOEXEC.BAT or CONFIG.SYS. If you have references to MSCDEX or equivalent drivers, try removing them from your autoexec.bat and config.sys files. Windows 95/98 does not generally need these drivers to work and in most cases will actually perform better without them.

2.8. CD-Changers and Multi-Drivers

Nox does not support multiple CD-ROM drives or CD-changers and assumes that you only have one CD-ROM drive. If you have more than one CD-ROM drive, you should insert the Nox CD in the first CD drive letter. For example, if you have CD drives E:, F: and G:, your Nox CD should be inserted into the E: drive.

2.9. Power Saving Modes

It is possible that your computer loses connection to your ISP due to long periods of inactivity. Sometimes this is caused by the sleep mode in your "Power Saving" options. This can cause problems during game play or when connected to Westwood Online. To avoid any problems please disable your screen saver and power-saving modes when running the game.

2.10. Periodic Slowdowns

If periodic slowdowns occur while playing Nox and the CD is not being accessed, please insure that there are no other applications running during your game session. This also includes anti-virus software.

2.11. Known Mouse Problems

Nox supports the Microsoft IntelliMouse with 3-button mouse wheel. You can bind the middle mouse button to game actions using the Input Config screen under the Options menu. The default configuration maps JUMP to this button; you can also roll the wheel up and down to scroll spell sets and inventory.

Nox supports the Logitech Mouse Man Plus. Under Windows 95, some interface elements such as the Inventory screen will scroll back when the mouse is taken off the scroll bar. If you experience problems with the mouse wheel while using a Logitech Mouse Man Plus on Windows 98, try installing the latest Microsoft Mouse drivers. If you have Windows 95 then you'll have to press CTRL+ALT+DEL once, select 'Em_exec' and click 'End Task' to disable 'Em_exec'. This will eliminate pointer problems in menus, but you won't be to use the wheel on the mouse.

Nox does not support the Everton Winpoint mouse.

2.12. Task Switching

You can task switch from Nox to other Windows applications by pressing ALT+TAB. If you are running Windows 95 you may experience a problem with Windows 95 DynaRes. If this happens we recommend that you do not ALT+TAB to other applications from Nox or upgrade your operating system to Windows 98.

3. Gameplay Issues

3.1. Weapons

3.1.1. Blocking an Attack

Conjurers equipped with a staff can block a melee attack. Simply stand still and face your attacker. Your staff will take damage as it absorbs the blow intended for you. The staff will not block missiles or spells.

3.2. Spells

3.2.1. Spells with Variable Mana Cost

Certain spells, like the Greater Heal, have a variable mana cost. The mana cost in the spellbook is listed as '*' for these spells. They take all available mana until stopped or mana is empty. Note: Greater Heal is not allowed in Bombers.

3.2.2. Spell tracking

Certain spells will track nearby targets when you cast them on others. Once invoked, these spells will seek out a target close to you. If you have a target specified under your directional cursor then it will be chosen first, if appropriate. Hostile spells won't target friends, beneficial spells won't target enemies.

3.3. Options

3.3.1. Screen Resolution

You can change the screen resolution under the Options menu. This will only change the resolution during game play, it will not change the resolution of the menu screens or movies.

3.3.2. Improving Performance

You can improve the performance by adjusting the video options found in the Options Menu. Turning off options like "Soft Shadow Edge" will speed up the framerate for a slight sacrifice in visual appeal. You can also decrease the screen resolution or the game window size. If you've installed the 8-bit art assets you can also switch to 8-bit mode, although you'll miss some of the colored lighting effects. Players with newer and faster machines may want to increase the screen resolution. If you're not sure what to set you can select the AUTO CONFIG option. This will examine your PC configuration and make optimal settings for your machine. You should run this whenever you change your PC's configuration.

3.3.3. Nox Compatibility Mode

If you are unable to run Nox after modifying game options/settings, launch the program via 'Nox Compatibility Mode' from the Start Menu. This will reset your game options to their default and most compatible settings.

3.3.4. Gamma Adjustment (Lighting)

In-game gamma (lighting) adjustment is supported in 8-bit on all machines. It is also supported in 16-bit (Windows 95/98 only) provided that there is hardware support on the video card. Check with your video card manufacturer to determine if your card supports gamma adjustment.

3.4. Multiplayer

3.4.1. Seeing LAN games while connected to the Internet.

If your computer has both a dial-up connection and a LAN connection, you will be unable to see Nox multiplayer LAN games while dialed out to your ISP. To remedy this situation, disconnect from your ISP before searching for LAN games.

3.4.2. Banning a player from a game.

When you select a user to be banned from the Server Access menu it will ban them using their IP address and Nox serial number. If you manually type in their player name it will only ban that name from playing in your games.

3.4.3. UDP port

Nox demo servers use UDP port 17590. Official Nox demo servers use ports 17590 - 17599. For those of you behind proxies/firewalls or using NAT, Consult your network administrator or your documentation for details on configuring your system to connect to Nox.

3.4.4. Nox Version and Joining Games

When trying to choose a server to join, you may choose to filter out servers running a different version of Nox than yours. This filter is included in the "default filter" and may be manually enforced by selecting the checkbox next to "Your version number does not match the server's version number" in the "user-defined filter".

3.4.5. Japanese & Korean Input for In-game Chat

While building some characters you may have to press ENTER to confirm the last character and then ENTER again to send your chat message. If the last character is punctuation or a space then you won't encounter this problem.

3.4.6. Sysop Access

To allow remote sysop access to your Nox server, you must enter a sysop password in the Server->Access tab of the server options menu. Once you have chosen a password, a remote client may gain sysop access by typing "Sysop" from the game console (F1). The client is then prompted for the sysop password. If they enter the correct password, they are granted access to your Nox server and may execute console commands remotely as if they were entered on the server machine. Sysop console commands are in the form of : sysop <command>.

Example : To set the number of lessons to 15 on a server on which you have sysop access, you would input the following command into the console: sysop set lessons 15

4. Contact Information

United States / Canada

Westwood Technical Support: 650-628-4319
Westwood Customer Warranty: 650-628-1900
(M-F 8:30 - 11:45 AM and 1:00 - 4:30 PM PST)

Westwood Technical Support Email: webhelp@westwood.com
(Please check our FAQ sheets or use the Technical Support home page before writing.)

U.S. Hint Line: 900-288-4744
(95 cents per minute. You must be 18 years of age or have your parent's permission to call.)

Canada Hint Line: 900-451-4422
\$1.70 per minute (Canadian). (Callers under 18 must get a parent or guardian's permission to call.)

US and Canada Order Line 800-245-4525

Australia

EA Technical Support: 0061 (0) 29955 6868
Email: ozsupport@ea.com

Austria

EA Technical Support: 0190-572333

Denmark

EA Technical Support: 80 88 07 89
Email: svsupport@ea.com

Finland

EA Technical Support: 0800-508 225
Email: svsupport@ea.com

France

EA Technical Support: 04 72 53 25 00
Hint Line: 08-36-68-55-15
(2.23f ttc/minute)
Email: fr-support@ea.com

Germany

EA Technical Support (von 9.30 Uhr bis 17.30 Uhr): 0190-572333
Hint Line (new games): 0190-787906
Hint Line (old games): 0190-900030
(2,40 DM/min. Jugendliche unter 18 Jahre dürfen nur mit Erlaubnis ihrer Eltern anrufen)
Email: de-support@ea.com

Holland

EA Technical Support: 00800 940 55555
Email: nl-support@ea.com

Norway

EA Technical Support: 800 13 897
Email: svsupport@ea.com

South Africa

EA Technical Support: (011) 803-1212
Email: support@ea.co.za

Spain

EA Technical Support: 917 545540

Sweden

EA Technical Support: (08) 594 106 80
Email: svsupport@ea.com

Switzerland

EA Technical Support: 0900/55 40 20

United Kingdom

EA Technical Support: (01753) 546465
Hint/Cheat Line: 09067 53 22 53

(75p per min, ask permission of the person who pays the bill before calling.)
Email: uk-support@ea.com

5. Copyright Information

© 2000 Electronic Arts. Westwood Studios is a trademark or registered trademark of Electronic Arts in the U.S. and/or other countries. All rights reserved. Westwood Studios is an Electronic Arts™ company.