



## Microsoft® “Links 2001”

October 2000

<b>What:</b>	Links™ 2001
<b>Developer:</b>	Microsoft Corp.
<b>Availability:</b>	November 2000
<b>Format:</b>	CD-ROM for the Microsoft Windows® 95 and Windows 98 operating systems
<b>Price:</b>	AUD\$89.00 (includes GST) NZ\$109.00 (includes GST)

### **Product Overview:**

“Links 2001” is the most significant upgrade to the Links series in over a decade. This version of the best-selling golf simulator features an entirely new rendering engine that delivers unprecedented ball physics and graphics. In addition, the Arnold Palmer Course Architect allows PC golfers to re-create their home courses with the same tools used by the “Links 2001” team. Other enhancements include: new tour players and courses, green analyzer and centimeter-accurate GPS green surveys, golfer animations and personalities, customizable club distances that allow for an even more accurate re-creation of a player’s actual game, and faster and easier online play.

### **Key Features:**

- **New engine and graphics.** “Links 2001” features a new rendering engine with a terrain surface that includes cliffs, arches and bunker overhangs. The ball physics are tuned to perfection. Trees, panoramas and golfers are now anti-aliased for seamless transitions between on-screen elements. Images have a new higher resolution (1280x1024), and courses come alive with flying birds and falling leaves.
- **Arnold Palmer Course Architect.** PC golfers can now re-create their home courses with the same tools used by the “Links 2001” team.

“Links 2001” features the long-awaited Arnold Palmer Course Architect (APCA). More than a toy for entry-level builders, the APCA provides users with the power and versatility to accurately re-create their home course in a powerful real-time 3-D system. Players can tweak every inch of fairway with the APCA and create tunnels and arches with full control over each point on the course. A robust library of trees, shrubs and other vegetation allows players to sort for the climate and season that fit their home course, or they can import their own custom trees.

- **The Virtual Golf Association Tour.** The VGA Tour allows Links PC golfers to compete in the largest golfing event on the Internet. The VGA Tour challenges professional golf tours with the competition, courses, sponsors and prizes that used to be exclusive to touring pros. PC golf gamers compete in a series of monthly multiplayer golf tournaments that map to the real-world’s best golf events for a chance to win \$100,000.
- **New tour players and courses.** Arnold Palmer is joined in “Links 2001” by two of the world’s greatest touring pros (to be announced). “Links 2001” featured courses include Aviara in San Diego, Chateau Whistler in the Canadian Rockies, The Prince Course at the Princeville Resort in Kauai, Fred Couples’ Westfield Course in Clifton, Va., and the newly created Red Rock located in the canyon lands of the southwestern United States. Perennial favorite St. Andrews Old Course has also been enhanced for this version.
- **New Green Analyzer and centimeter-accurate GPS green surveys.** The Green Analyzer is a 3D real-time tool that gives players more complete views of each green’s contours and terrain. Players can now read the green as accurately as they would on a real course. Each green has been re-created using the latest in Global Positioning System (GPS) technology. Microsoft now takes 500 GPS readings per green for centimeter accuracy of the fringe and elevation topography.
- **New golfer animations and personalities.** At the highest resolution possible, 14 new golfer animations are captured in Links 2001. New tour players and a variety of other golfers are built with lifelike, pre-shot motions including waggle, aiming and pre-shot fidgeting. Each new golfer can create his own unique personality.
- **New customizable club distances.** If players normally hit a seven iron 130 yards, they can adjust the club’s distance to reflect their real game. This feature, combined with dozens of variables that impact the physics of their shot, makes Microsoft’s “Links 2001” an even more accurate simulation of a player’s actual game.
- **Faster, easier online play.** Asynchronous play speeds up online golfing as people play simultaneously while watching their competitors’ ball flight in an overhead view.

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