



“Amped 2”

Title:	“Amped™ 2”
Publisher:	Microsoft® Game Studios
Developer:	Microsoft Game Studios
Brand:	XSN Sports
Format:	DVD for the Xbox® video game system, Xbox Live™-enabled
Availability:	Christmas 2003
Product Overview:	<p>“Amped 2,” part of the new XSN Sports™ brand, is the ultimate freestyle snowboarding experience, offering gamers an expanded library of tricks with the addition of Snowskate (skateboarding on snow), butter (nose and tail ground tricks) and a smooth new tricking “style”. Gamers can explore vast areas of wide-open, spectacularly rendered mountains, packed with terrain parks designed with world-famous snow park architect Chris Gunnarson. They can play head-to-head with friends to compare skills or challenge up to seven others in multiplayer modes. When ready to take it to the next level, they can connect to Xbox Live and join some of the world’s best virtual riders. Utilizing revolutionary new Web-based technology, riders can even hook up with friends and organize their own events on Xbox Live from a centralized Web site, XSNsports.com. Gamers can feel what it’s like to live the life of a real pro snowboarder by travelling the globe and pulling sick tricks to impress sponsors, photographers, and pros like Jeremy Jones. And they can do all of this to the sounds of more than 300 killer alt-indie tracks on an HDTV at 720p with Dolby 5.1 surround sound.</p>

Key Features:

- **A new way to ride with style, aka “steez.”** Snowboarders can attack the mountain aggressively by combining tricks together or spin like crazy to earn big points. Or they can take a smoother approach, getting big points for pulling tricks with “steez,” like perfectly timed tweaks, slow rotations and flips or dialled balance on rails. This is how the real pros do it, and “Amped 2” lets gamers enjoy the feeling of riding their own way. Fans can ride fast and hard or smooth and stylish, or master both to find the right balance. Boarders decide how to ride to win, instead of following a set of rules...and that’s what freestyle is all about.
- **All kinds of multiplayer options.** Whether via split-screen,



LAN or Xbox *Live*, “Amped 2” offers many multiplayer challenges. Players will compete online in a huge variety of ways from intense head-to-head modes (Sessions) to just chillin’ with friends (Just Ride). Players will be able to hang out and ‘just ride’ online, compare their high scores with the world-wide leaderboards, or dominate the head-to-head modes like ‘King of the Hill’, where players gain or lose ground against opponents with every session.

- **A worldwide nation of snowboarders via Xbox *Live*.** Who’s got bragging rights? Now gamers will be able to find out by challenging riders around the globe to see who’s the best. Gamers can track stats and check regional and worldwide ladders to see the rankings. They can even download new mountains for extended replay value.
- **XSN Sports.** XSN Sports games let you compete in the first truly virtual sports league for your Xbox. Now you can easily set up a league on XSNsports.com, take out your rival over Xbox *Live*, and track up-to-date stats on your PC throughout the season. All XSN Sports games bring the power of the Xbox and PC together for the first time through XSNsports.com, so you are always plugged into the competition.
- **XSNsports.com.** XSNsports.com is the Web-based service that links a gamer’s Xbox console, Xbox *Live*, PC and cell phone together for the first time ever. “Amped 2” fans will now be able to set up a ride with their crew on XSNsports.com, and Xbox *Live* will automatically broadcast up-to-date standings to the Web site for bragging rights.
- **A whole new bag of tricks.** “Amped 2” takes all the moves from “Amped” and adds new rail tricks, stalls and tweaks. Another new addition is Snowskate, which is like skateboarding on the snow. This brings new kick tricks, advanced grabs, rail slides, and hand and foot plants. To bring it all together, “Amped 2” introduces “butter,” the center of a new combo system that allows nose and tail tricks to link jumps or rails together for huge scores. Amped 2 also features a tutorial to teach first-timers the basics of freestyle riding.
- **Professional snow park design.** World-renowned terrain park designer, Chris “Gunny” Gunnarson, again lends his expertise exclusively to Amped 2 level design, improving feature placement, adding more trickable objects, and doubling the size of many jumps to make landing on transition a big part of the game. He also games a ton and has helped with many other aspects of getting Amped 2 just right.
- **Deeper career and portfolio.** Gamers continue to take their character from local rider through the Pro ranks by shooting with photographers, impressing sponsors and trying to keep up with real Pros. This time it’s a bit easier to open levels and advance in ranking with lots of choices, however to reach legendary status will challenge even the best Amped players.
- **The ultimate snowboarding environments.** “Amped 2” goes

global with the addition of new mountains including Laax, Switzerland, Mt. Buller in Australia, and Harris Mountain, a heli-skiing outfit in New Zealand. Fully rendered 3-D environments bring the mountains and canyons alive. Environmental effects such as boarder spray, textures, atmospheric scattering and even real time moving clouds that cast shadows on the terrain make gamers feel like they are really there. With all of this displayed in HDTV 720p format with Dolby 5.1 surround sound, the game comes to life.

- **More than 300 core indie tracks.** Gamers can ride to the sound of their own tracks, but they may never feel the need with a library of more than 300 original cuts to listen to from the latest up-and-coming indie artists.
- **Greater character customization.** With multiple hair styles and clothing options, as well as hidden goodies, there are tons of unique characters to match nearly any style of riding.
- **Fourteen of the top pros.** Travel the globe riding with 14 top Pros, including Jeremy Jones, Travis Parker, Bjorn Leines, Mikey LeBlanc, JP Walker and Janna Meyen, to unlock videos of them telling it like it is.

**Developer
Information:**

“Amped 2” is being developed by Microsoft Game Studios. Microsoft Game Studios is a leading worldwide games company with two core businesses: games development and publishing (<http://www.microsoft.com/games/>) and Zone.com. Zone.com (<http://www.zone.com/>) is the Internet’s largest game site.

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