

1
 PLAYER

8
 MEG

ACT
 GAME



PRICE: £44.99
 BY: CAPCOM

RELEASE

OUT NOW

CONTROL

JOYPAD

GAME DIFFICULTY

MEDIUM/HARD

CONTINUES

3

SKILL LEVELS

4

RESPONSIVENESS

GREAT

1ST DAY SCORE

1000000

ORIGIN

Arcade conversion from the popular two-player coin-op of the same name.



Mad Gear might sound like a range of catalogue kidswear in bright designer colours, but it is in fact the name of the most dangerous street gang in history. For years, the Mad Gear has terrorised the peace loving citizens of Metro City, whilst their corrupt mayor turned the other cheek in return for large wads of cash.

But things are set to change when ex-Streetfighter champion Mike Haggar is voted in as the new mayor, promising to rid the troubled town of the Mad Gear. Of course, the gang don't take too kindly to the idea of being put out of business, so when Haggar refuses their bribes the Mad Gear takes action by kidnapping his daughter Jessica.

Sadly for the Mad Gear, Haggar still refuses to back down, and together with Jessica's bloke Cody (handily enough a master martial artist) he sets off to beat the living daylights out of Mad Gear leader Crossbow in this big name beat 'em up.



▲ Kicks to the face all round!

FINAL FIGHT



▲ Cody makes 'light' work of another of Mad Gear's cronies. ('Light work'—it's a chandelier seal).



▲ The big man, Haggar, gives Axl a good seeing-to in the public lavatories on level four.



FLYING KICK: Knocks opponents down but causes little damage.



PUNCH: Press Y to unleash Haggar's awesome, but very slow, punching abilities.



PUNCH: Press the Y button for this standard attack.

WEAPON IN YOUR HAND

The oil drums and crates which litter Metro City often contain some fab goodies. As well as points-endowing gold, jewels and rings there are energy-restoring food-stuffs to be found, such as pizza, barbecued beef steaks and even chewing gum! Possibly the most useful secreted items though are the weapons. Swords and pipes are handy for adding extra range and power to your swing, especially when Haggar has a pipe in his hands. Knives, meanwhile, are more use in the mitts of Cody, whose stabbing and throwing prowess is second to none.

REVIEW



KNEE BASH: Grab an enemy by making body contact and press Y to knee their face.



▲ Action and excitement is guaranteed as you guide Cody and Haggar through the streets of the West Side, pounding the living daylights out of anyone who gets in your way. You'll need all your gaming skills if you are to succeed where others have failed!

HOW TO ACT HARD

Both Cody and Haggar have different fighting styles. Haggar is slow but has great strength. Consequently his moves are based more on getting close and grappling with opponents, whereas Cody's youth and speed lend themselves more to rapid, light attacks.



HEAD BUTT: Grab an enemy by walking into them, then press Y alone to chin them.



THE LUNGE: Scare your foes silly with this body slam by pressing jump plus left or right followed by down and fire.



JUMP KICK: Jump in the air and press Y to buy some distance with this move.



BACK DROP: Grab an opponent then press left or right and Y to slam their heads into the floor.



SHOULDER THROW: Grab an enemy and press Y plus left or right to toss them over your shoulder. An essential move to master



▲ Level 4 see's our intrepid heroes strolling through the picturesque Bay Area taking out Mad Gear cronies at every opportunity. If you manage to survive you must then confront the stage guardian Abigail, who apart from a dreadful dress sense, also has a short temper.

● **SECTOR 1**
THRASHER

Despite his size, Thrasher gets out of breath easily. At these points he retires to a nearby wall and calls more of his underlings out to help. Wait until he starts laughing to start your attack.



COMMENT



RAD

Final Fight must rank as one of the most popular arcade games ever, and is used as the yardstick to

judge all scrolling beat 'em ups. So how does the SNES version compare to the original? Well, it's missing the two-player mode and one entire level, but apart from that it's pretty much exactly the same. All the moves are there, all the enemies are there (apart from the two girls who've been censored out and replaced by Sid and Billy) and all the action is there. Although Final Fight demands fast reflexes and a degree of skill, strategy plays an important part too, so the game is challenging on all levels. The controls are responsive, there's no slowdown, which is surprising considering the size of the sprites, and the game plays fluidly. There is a real compulsion to see what's next and it's real "just one more go" material, keeping you glued to your screen for ages. Final Fight is a definite classic and a game which should be in every SNES owners collection.

● **SECTOR 2**
KATANA

This masked samurai is tough unless you know how to beat him. First off, approach him from an angle to avoid his swords, then throw him. After this, position yourself directly above or below him to avoid his rushing charge. Simply repeat this procedure for victory.



● **SECTOR 3**
EDI.E

Stay directly above or below this corrupt cop or he'll fill you so full of lead he could use you for a paperweight. Or something. Anyway, he's got a gun, so stay close and keep on with those throws.



How To Control



- Y** ATTACK
- B** JUMP
- X** NOTHING
- A** NOTHING

L NOTHING

R NOTHING

S SELECT: NOTHING

S START: PAUSE

How To Play Final Fight is a single-player only conversion of Capcom's original coin-op. The object of the game is to stalk the psuedo-3D, horizontally-scrolling landscape beating the Mad Gear gang into submission. You choose to play either Cody or Haggar at the start of the game, although you are able to change characters whenever one of your three credits is used up.

SECTOR 4

ABIGAIL

Despite having a girl's name, Abigail is no softy. He's very fast and is followed around by hordes of Mad Gearians. Beat up his pals, throw him and then leap out of the way before he gets up and charges you.



▲ Cody makes light work of the Andore brothers.



▲ Haggar demonstrates the intimacy of wrestling!



▲ Cody gets more than he bargained for when travels on the Northern Line.

LONG-TERM INTEREST

HIGH					
GOOD					
FAIR					
LOW					

HOUR DAY WEEK MONTH YEAR

COMMENT



JAZ

Although this conversion is missing the simultaneous two-player option, Guy, the girls (Doh!) and

the fourth level, it still manages to supply much of the original coin-op's thrills and spills. The action is fast and furious, and on later levels the going gets very tough, with hordes of baddies to kick and punch your way through. Although it doesn't take particularly long to master, the comprehensive option screen means you can toughen the game up to increase the challenge, and the action is such fun you keep on coming back to it even after you've finished several times. With its great graphics and crunching sound effects, Final Fight is a must for beat 'em up fans.

GET SMASHED

There are two bonus screens which appear at the ends of certain levels. The first sees your character smashing up the car of a Mad Gear boss within a set time limit. Total it completely for a mega bonus. The second sees Cody or Haggar in a glass factory. Break as many panes as possible for lots of points, but aim your blows carefully or they might not break, or worse - it may injure your character!

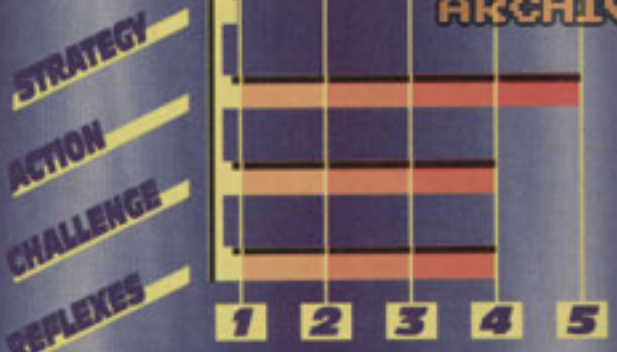
BONUS 1



BONUS 2



THE RAT MEGAN MACHINES ARCHIVE



► BREAKDOWN

PRESENTATION

84

- ▲ Great intros and story screens. Plenty of smart in-game touches. Screen is uncluttered.
- ▼ You have to cheat to get an options screen.

GRAPHICS

92

- ▲ Huge, clear and detailed sprites. Detailed, varied and atmospheric backdrops.
- ▼ Animation is a little poor.

SOUND

86

- ▲ All the arcade tunes are here.
- ▼ The effects add to the atmosphere, but they're not very realistic.

LASTABILITY

89

- ▲ Five long levels. Even once it's completed there's plenty to entice you back.
- ▼ It might not take that long to complete though.

PLAYABILITY

94

- ▲ Fast and responsive controls. Loads of moves and techniques to master.
- ▼ Very little variety between levels.

OVERALL

92

Possibly the best game of its kind on any console so far. The only superior beat 'em up is Streetfighter II.