

Shenmue Mini Games FAQ

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Updated to v2.0 on Dec 21, 2000

-----Shenmue Mini-Games-----

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This guide is to help players with the assortment of mini-games in the game Shenmue. Many of these tips you can probably find out for yourselves, or have already found out. It's just to help those that haven't done or thought of some of the things here. These tips are meant to help you improve your game, and rank in the Network Rankings of the Passport Disc, assuming you have connection to the Internet through your Dreamcast.

Version

December 21, 2000---->(v.2.0) Back once again for the Renegade Master!!! I knew I would have to release another version sometime. Sorry for the late delay people. I just didn't want to update until I had enough information worthy of updating,...umm yeah that's it. Actually I bought Lunar 2 and Skies of Arcadia the other day, and have been pretty preoccupied with that. Plus my computer was T.K.O.'ed for a while, so I had to get it fixed. But it's back now. Well enough excuses, here's what's new:

-Someone was kind enough to e-mail me and explain how the slot machines work! I've reorganized the FAQ because the explanation is pretty long, and so it makes sense to have it at the bottom.

-Made a table of contents for easier navigation.

-Cleaned up a few mistakes that I saw. That's about it. I don't think I'll have to make another version...least I hope. :)Be back in Shenmue 2!!

December 17, 2000---->(v.1.0) First and probably last.

SHENMUE MINI-GAMES

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Darts 7

Congratulations for getting in Fighter Weapons School, better known to its cadets as Top Gun....Okay maybe not. It is sorta like shooting missiles

though. In this darts game, all you have to do is tap the A button when the dart goes over a number on the dart board, simple isn't it? Not as simple as it sounds.

The key to getting a high score and winning is of course to shoot for the high numbers on the board. The highest being the 20 pt. inner ring, which is 60 points. I won't explain the point system, because if you don't already understand the point system for Darts7, then you shouldn't be here. The only tips that I can give for this game is to practice, practice, practice. Practice helps you judge the aim and angle that the dart will follow as it hits the dartboard. If the hand is moving in a downward motion, you can bet that the dart will hit a little lower from the point that you press A. The same goes if the hand is moving up. It may take a while for the hand to move over the exactly area that you want, but have patience. Getting close to the area is not good enough, as hoping it will hit the area by chance is no good. Chances are that the dart won't even get close to the chosen area. You must wait.....

But if you don't like waiting, you can press the B button which will cancel the current dart motion, and bring up a menu that says 'Continue' and 'Quit'. Press continue and the dart will reposition to another spot on the dartboard. This helps to save time when you know the dart is not going to pass over the 60 spot. It also helps you when you want to save as much bonus time as possible. And that brings me to another thing, the bonus time is nothing more than bonus time. It is not a time limit. You have forever to judge your shot. I hold the current record for my state. :)

Neo Darts

A sub-game of sorts derived from Darts7, I dunno why I added this one, I just felt like I should. There are no Network Rankings for this game, but it's fun anyway. Much easier to score than Darts7 for sure. Five attempts; aim for the bulls-eye. It's very possible and fairly easy to get a perfect 500 on this, but you get nothing for it except an applaud from me.

Space Harrier

Space Harrier,...when I first played this game, I thought to myself "What a crappy game" and dismissed it for a while. But then I started to play it to attempt to beat the records in the Network Rankings, and then thought it was pretty fun.

The basic premise of this game is...to shoot!! and shoot!! I have to say that tapping the fire button on the Dreamcast controller is not very ergonomic or something. It is not very easy to rapidly tap the fire button as fast as you can. The good thing is that you can press start to pause the game, and take a rest. My advice would be to press the A button in a certain rhythm in which you know you can last a while without getting tired.

I have not beat the game myself, but I know there are at least 5 stages to get through, which means a lot of firing. The good thing is, that with such a simple game, are simple winning strategies. Shoot and move.

-Stage 1

A pretty easy stage. Nothing too difficult. Shoot anything and everything.

The boss is some sort of fireball dragon. Just shoot his head. Shooting his body will have no effect. If you have the patience, you can keep moving in a circle to avoid his fireballs and kill some time, as doing this will add to your score. How so? Because your score is always growing. Of course, it won't add millions of points, but worth it when you're going for the top score and the scores themselves are separated by a few points.

-Stage 2

A little tougher. This stage introduces non-shootable objects. By which I mean, things-in-the-way-that-can-kill-you. Stupid columns that you must dodge to get through. Learn to dodge them, because the next stage will be about 3 times as worse. The boss here is a green butterfly(looks like it) surrounded by those flying stone heads. Try and shoot all the stone heads first, because they add to your score. Killing the butterfly inside the flying stones will defeat the boss, but will do little to add to your score, because after you kill him, the stones fly away. :(

-Stage 3

A terrible stage. Very tough because you have to deal with more non-shootable objects. And some are not visible until you're up close, mainly because of the enemies that come onscreen. Shoot and move a lot, because there are a lot more enemies, and chances are you won't get them all. Also, with more enemies alive, it means they'll have the chance to attack, which means more dodging on your part. The boss here is a two-headed dragon. Easy like the first stage boss.

-Stage 4

Not bad if you know what you're doing. Of course more columns to block your path, but this time there are these polygonal/metallic objects that will get in your way too. The key is that in each wave that occurs, they're either all at the bottom, or all at the top. Easiest way to avoid them is to go to the extreme top, or running on the ground, whatever the situation arises. A few enemies here, but nothing to terrible. Just avoid those stupid columns.

-Bonus Stage!

A good stage to bring up that score! No shooting in this round, just move the white 'dragon' (?) that you're on, smashing into the trees. More trees equal more points.

-Stage 5

Man, oh man, tough stage. Haven't beat it yet, but will try to. I must. More stupid columns to avoid, plus tougher enemies. These guys will shoot you with authority, and are nothing like the chumps in the previous stages. There is a lot of moving around here, just keep a good eye, and make sure not to run into anything. I can't beat the boss here. He shoots hella fast and a lot! D=

*Note: If for some weird reason you want to change 'up' to 'down' and vice-versa, you can do so by holding down the 'A' or 'B' button before pressing 'Start' for a new game. Another note, I prefer using the D-pad in this game, because it's much easier than the analog (IMO), because the analog re-centers the guy and the D-pad doesn't. Use what you feel most comfortable with.

Hang On

What a fun game!!! This is what I'm talking about. No random stuff like the Darts7 game, or rapid shooting like Space Harrier. It's all based on your skill in handling the Analog stick of the DC controller which is very touchy by-the-way. Note: There are two ways to turn, with the Analog and Digital pad. Of course, the analog is easier, because, well it's analog, which means continuous. And you'll definitely need a continuous motion in this game. The directional/digital pad is okay, but I highly advise against using it because it doesn't give a fast enough response (IMO).

Alritey, in this game, all you have to do is ride, and fast. Press the gas(R trigger) and don't let go! There's the brake too (L trigger), but only use that when you know that you'll crash. It might save you (heh).

Some tips:

In this game, you aren't racing against the people, but the time limit.

You're given 75 seconds to get the first track completed, and are awarded with bonus time if you finish it for the next track. Basically, all the tracks can be complete around 60 seconds, giving you some leeway time. Crashing is not good, as it will take off major seconds. Crash twice, and kiss finishing the game goodbye.

And that brings me to the other racers,...curse them. They are your only problem in this game. Barely touching them will send your moto- to the opposite side of the track, and most likely into a sign or whatnot. So avoid them at all costs. When entering corners, go on the inside, because you can usually cut them off and pass 'em. This is mainly because they go really slow compared to you, especially around corners. Or maybe you're going too fast. :D

When entering corners after the other racers, go on the outside of the corner. During the middle and last stages of the turn, the computer racers drive like pros, entering from the outside of turns and exiting close to the inside. You can usually get by them by staying on the outside. Easy as cheese.

S-turns. Man, these are the worst. Navigating through here without crashing is about the most difficult thing, because if there are a lot of other racers, you'll have to let off the gas, and ride it through going as slow as them. Don't be afraid to slow down(by letting off the gas, not braking), because it's much better than losing 7 or 8 seconds doing a backflip into a 'Dobu-way' sign and blowing up your moto-.

All the turns are pretty easy, a few of them require letting off the gas for a moment. It doesn't get too bad until Stage 4, the night/highway stage. But if you've gotten this far, you've probably got the skills to get through it(but probably not the time ;)).

Also, when passing other racers, try to keep a smooth turn. Turning too much or too little and you'll have to compensate, by more turning!! This is not a good thing to do when in turns. I hold the record for my state in this one too. ;)

Excite QTE 2

An easy game, if you know what to do. Play this game enough times and you'll get the hint. It's a predetermined order. Get a friend to help you out and record the inputs that show up. You'll beat this game easy. I have the order for the inputs all the way up to the Expert level, but am not giving it out, as it would eliminate the competition. Plus, I didn't have anyone else to record the inputs for me, so it was pretty hard doing it myself. Imagine trying to put in the command, while trying to write down what it was. It gets kinda annoying when you get to the higher levels and start messing up because it gets real quick and starting all over to get to that point takes a while also. :(Note: Messing up once will destroy the sequence. For example, some inputs require two button commands in succession, (i.e. pressing the X button and the A button right after) and if you mess up previous to that, the command might change to the X button by itself, then proceeded by the A button. Just something I learned the hard way. So...my point is, don't mess up!!

Here's the beginning input sequence if you don't get what I was talking about in the previous paragraph. Look at it and read the paragraph again if you need to.

B,A,X,(X->A),B,X,A,B,B,....

I'm guessing no one was smart enough to figure this out, as I again hold the record for this game in my state. It's not even that high too 'cause I

haven't spent a lot of time on it....

QTE Title

Another one of those input command things. Thing is, I haven't tried figuring it out yet. Pretty easy game, though. Just make sure you don't get ahead of yourself and press the wrong button, which I've done too many times. ':)

70 Person Battle

Obviously, the best way to win this 'game' is to have mostly all the moves mastered, and 'experienced-out' or something like that. The quickest time wins. I personally like to let the attacker attack me first, I parry, and then counter-attack. It's so much fun that way. Kinda like Bruce Lee. Even the way Ryo walks is similar to my master.(heh) But when trying to go for the quickest time, you'll have to throw away that strategy. Quick moves that K.O. the baddies quickly are the moves you need. I.E. ->,->, X. I think the move's name is 'elbow assault', and is pretty good for knocking guys out quickly. They'll grab their stomachs like they had a bad egg before collapsing (hehe). Throws are good too, for taking out multiple guys. When trying to get the quickest time, you have to run up to the enemies and actually initiate combat, 'cause waiting for them to come to you takes too long. It also helps because you get the 'jump' on them. And then there are certain enemies that won't take the hit, and parry you instead. I hate these guys; you'll get to know them once you've played Free Battle for a while. Easiest way to K.O. them is to throw them, because they'll purposely wait for you to attack them first, which wastes time. I won't go into boss strategies, because you can probably find them somewhere else at GameFAQs. Just so you know, I have beaten Chai at the Game You center... ;)

Forklift Racing

Basic racing. Nothing special. Just don't try and pass a racer when you're going mach 2 in the forklift, or around turns. They have a set path, and there's nothing that can disrupt it. You'll actually get pushed away when you try to run into them, and most likely run into some object, like a wall.

Honking your horn (pressing Up on the D-pad) won't help either. Believe me I've tried. They just ignore it. Losers.

Anyway, when starting out, you can pass the first guy (No. 4 racer) on the first turn, because there is enough room so that you can edge him out. There are also areas where you can cut some time off, particularly the section at the end, but other than that, it's a pretty set course. Learn the course and race hard! You only have a few days to race, unless you use the trick/bug which allows you to play a few more days, so race your best.

Slot Machines

why. Usually I don't have time to write FAQs, mainly because people get their FAQs up and cover most of the things already, and sometimes I just don't have the time. (I've found that I have a lot of time now, since I'm off from college on winter break ;)) I consider myself a 'hardcore' gamer, as spending a lot of time with this specific area of Shenmue I feel compelled to help out those people that seem to be wandering around aimlessly like they haven't played games before. You know them, asking questions like, "I'm stuck in Shenmue, help me?" And you give a blank stare and say, "How can you be stuck in Shenmue?" I mean, I can understand being stuck in a game like Zelda, but not Shenmue. These of course are the newbies, which we try to help.

And of course, the copyright stuff. Everything here is mine, and mine only.

You dare take it, you're asking to be sued for all the yen, gil, and gold that you've got (and US currency too). Everything here I've compiled from playing Shenmue for hours and hours, so please show/give respect, and don't steal it.

*Note: I've been getting a lot of e-mail from other websites asking for my permission to post my FAQ on their site (even though I said I would only check it once a month they still do it anyway; I guess some of 'em have actually seen lightning strike in the same place twice). Please stop. Some of that stuff requires registration for this or/and that, and I simply don't have the time to do such things. More time for games I say. Although it is a good way to get my work out there, I would just rather have it at good 'ol GameFAQs. I admit that I would rather give you permission than find out that you've stolen it and having to go through all the legal hoopla, but if you really want my FAQ on your website then make it easy.

Contact Info. I dunno why on earth you would contact me, but just so it's there, my e-mail addy is: griever_fx@ignmail.com. I don't particularly like the idea of people I don't know e-mailing me asking for help or whatever, so I've given the e-mail address that I rarely use. So if it's a life-threatening, urgent message, don't even bother because I only check it about once a month, and probably won't even e-mail you back. You'll have better luck seeing lightning strike the same place twice, or winning the stereo in the lucky draw (which I have!!! the number one is in red). If you have some tip that you think desperately needs to be added, I'll consider it and credit you. I welcome compliments, too. 8)