

By Scary Larry



In the year 2493, the colonists of New Shanghai found the Aliens...and they weren't very neighborly! In this side-scrolling fighting game, the colonists sent out an emergency distress signal, which was intercepted by an extraterrestrial group of hunters - the Predators. As a Predator, you've just found the perfect prey in this one-player, monster-versus-monster beat-em-up.



Watch your back for an Alien Attack.

Aliens vs. Predator by Activision

Graphics	Sound	Control	Fun/Factor	Challenge
4.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	INT. Intermediate

\$64.95
8 megs
Available June

Action
One player

Activision's Aliens vs. Predator is a monster-mashing beat-em-up, where you play the Predator. Unlike Ripley, you can't just rely on guns to fight the acid-blood terrors. Instead, you must also use your preying strength to make 'em scream. Don't worry! Although the Alien hordes are plentiful, you're more than a match for 'em.

Night of the Hunter

On planetoid LV-426, the six-man crew of a spaceship unearthed the eggs of a terrible parasitic creature - the Alien! Soon the crew was missing and the cargo was lost. Now a group of colonists on New Shanghai are under Alien attack. They've sent out an emergency distress signal, which has been intercepted by a race of extraterrestrial hunters known as the Predators. The Predators live to hunt, and now they believe they've found the perfect prey...

Aliens vs. Predator is a one-player, side-scrolling, punch-and-kick fiesta, where you must hunt down and destroy Aliens to gain honor among your fellow Predators. Traveling through 10 levels of vermin-infested corridors, you hunt through a city, the countryside, the Spaceport, the Space Transport, and finally an Alien world in your final showdown against the Alien Mother.

Your hunting skills had better be as sharp as your opponents' teeth, because you'll face Alien Drones, Warriors, Eggs (complete with Facehuggers), Chestbursters, Guardians, and the Alien Queen. Some Aliens use acid as a defensive weapon, some will

skitter across the floor to attack you, and others resort to their molars to mollify you.

Predator Power

Take heart (or the Aliens will), because you have some pretty mean weapons yourself. You're equipped with a shoulder-mounted Laser Cannon,



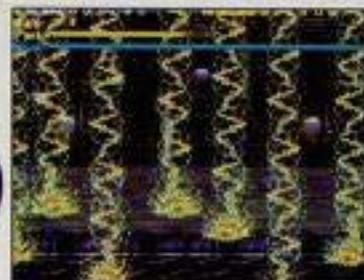
ALIENS VS. PREDATOR

which can fire Light, Medium, or screen-clearing Heavy Laser bolts depending on how long you hold down the Fire button. You can also pick up a Disc weapon, which shoots deadly discs into your foes, or a Predator's Spear, which takes out whole lines of Aliens.



PROTIP: Slide the minute you see the eggs, or they'll hatch.

ALIENS PREDATOR



PROTIP: Using your Heavy Laser will drain your health, so be careful.

down its energy, slide kick it until it's annihilated.

You also have some basic fighting moves, like an elbow punch maneuver and a spinning kick. Your throw move and a sliding kick are useful in tight situations, too.

To satisfy your extraterrestrial hunger and to help you defeat your foes, you can pick up Rhyth meat (restores some power and extends your life gauge) and Ptera meat (replenishes you). You can also find an invisibility shield and an energy-restoring Blue Bottle.



PROTIP: To get rid of those pesky Aliens, stand in one spot and use Light-to-Medium Laser fire over and over again. Be sure to recharge your Shoulder Cannon when the Alien is down.

The well-drawn cinematic sequences between action scenes are a real help. These scenes let you know what's going on, and what's coming up. Kudos to the artist for those gorgeous illustrations.

They say that no one can hear you scream in space, which is a good thing, since the music in this cart may drive you to that point. The sound effects are okay, though, with each punch registering a successful outcry.



PROTIP: Trap Aliens in corners and repeatedly slide to get rid of them. Watch your back.

Cinema Fantastique

Aliens vs. Predator looks great. The detailed backgrounds are eerie, and they have a definite "otherworldly" feel to them. Although the Predator and the Aliens are also well-drawn, the confined depth of animation sometimes misleads you into thinking you have an Alien in your Laser Sights, when in reality the Alien is a little to the right or left of your Sight.



PROTIP: Toss all the Aliens to one side of the screen and work from there.

Fanged Fun

The sheer numbers of Aliens this cart throws at you makes it hard to qualify it as an intermediate game, but Aliens vs. Predator may seem pretty linear to most experienced gamers. The one-dimensional game play is pretty simple. Basically, it's Final Fight in costume. However, fans of the movies and the comic book series may find enough here to quench their thirst. If you suffer from a bad case of xenophobia (look it up, Junior), this game's got the cure for what's Alien you. **G**



PROTIP: When you pick up a weapon, throw it right away. When you hit an Alien, throw it again immediately to hit 'em once more offscreen.



PROTIP: Against the Alien sewer guardian, use Heavy Laser Fire when its feet are touching the ground, or you won't even dent its skin. When you've worn



PROTIP: When you're on the platform in the Spaceport stage, blast enemies off the center platform and grab whatever goodies are left in their wake. If you stand in the middle, the platform goes up and you can't collect what's on the ground.