

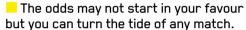
The newly announced box art emphasises the game of cat-andmouse that will be core to Hunting Grounds. The Predator may have advanced tech but even they have to come out of hiding.



## The Big 10

STORIES EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT







Fishnet? No, it's thermal netting. But now you can't unsee kinkwear. You're welcome.

## Predator has its sights on you

Hunting Grounds' Beta weekend really clicked

Back in early March, Illfonic **CEO Charles** Brungardt announced the studio's latest offering

would have a Beta weekend from 27 March. Free to anyone with PS Plus and supporting cross-play with your fellow mercs on PC, it was a promising pre-release tease of what's still to come.

Illfonic is already known for making a similarly asymmetric multiplayer game based on a different '80s film with far too many sequels: Friday The 13th. However, whereas it was definitely much more fun to play as Jason than any of the ill-fated camp counsellors in that game, Illfonic is aiming to strike a better balance this time.

## **STICK AROUND**

In OPM #167, we covered the Predator's armoury and abilities. For the members of the fireteam, any encounter with the extraterrestrial

stalker, whether that's taking a plasma blast from afar or the alien hunter getting up close and personal before darting back into the underbrush, serves as a reminder that they are only fragile humans. There may well be strength in the mercenary squad's numbers - there are four of you and just a single Predator - but sticking together doesn't always guarantee survival.

As a fireteam player, you've plenty on your plate on top of the alienleast-likely-to-win-Miss-Universe, with your own mission objectives to fulfil - and as well as completing those, you have to survive long enough to get to the chopper. The player taking on the mantle of the Predator can use these objectives and the Al-controlled enemies that populate matches to complicate things, but if you're smart, so can you. With plenty of firepower of your own, if you're playing as one of the mercs, it's far from game over. And on 24 April, it'll be game on.

\* Pre-orders receive the '87 Predator skin as well as the Ole Painless minigun. 013