

WALKTHROUGH

METAL GEAR ONLINE

INVENTORY

EXTRAS

CONTROLS

MGS4 PRIMER



The following annotated screenshot (Fig. 1) shows a typical gameplay screen.

Life Gauge: Represents Snake's physical wellbeing. An empty Life Gauge means Game Over.

Psyche Gauge, Stress Percentage: Represents Snake's psychological wellbeing. A diminished Psyche bar and a high Stress percentage will impair Snake's combat ability (particularly in terms of accurately aiming weapons).

Alert Meter: This appears when the enemy has spotted Snake and raised the alarm. The three stages are Alert, Evasion and Caution, with enemy aggression decreasing through each level.

Solid Eye Radar: Only available when the Solid Eye is active, this radar indicates the relative position of all living creatures or vehicles within a fixed radius. The brighter "circle within a circle" centered on Snake's position indicates how much noise he is making. A similar (though smaller) circle appears around moving entities — even incidental fauna such as rats and chickens. When the Solid Eye is not active, this display is replaced by a simple compass; the red circle that appears indicates the direction of the next objective.

Camo Percentage: Snake's current level of camouflage; the higher this is, the better. When potential assailants are distracted by current events in a particular area (for example, if PMC troops are engaged in open combat with local rebel forces), the text is blue. This usually indicates that detection is less likely. If they are actively scouring the environment for signs of movement, the color is orange — which is your cue to move with greater caution.

10 6 7

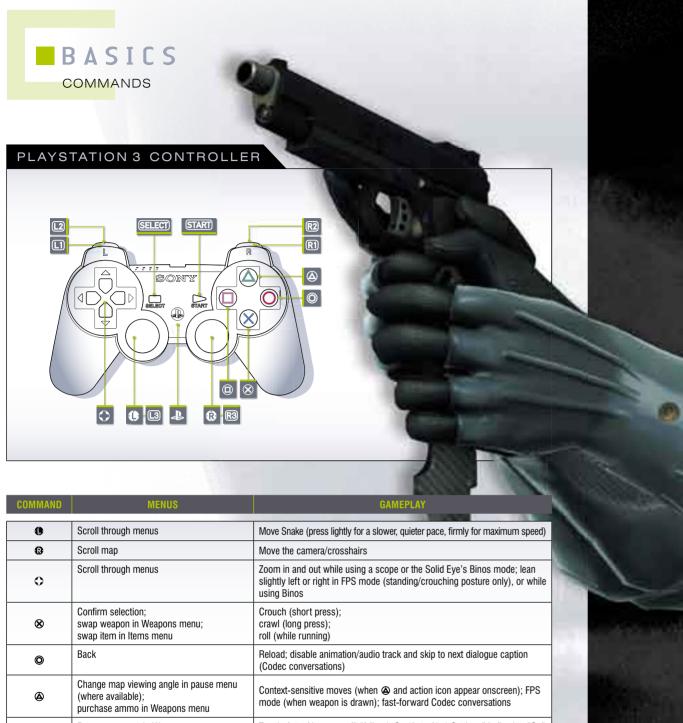
Threat Ring: Indicates the proximity and position of mobile entities (soldiers, vehicles, et al). The higher the "waves", the closer they are.

Weapons Window: Shows the currently selected weapon.

Items Window: Shows the currently selected item. If this item is battery powered, the Battery Gauge appears under this window.

Auto Aim: This text is displayed when Auto Aim is active.

Special Action: An icon appears in this area whenever you can press **a** to perform a context-sensitive action.



USER INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

Metal Gear Solid 4 is a complicated, feature-packed adventure, so we've gone to great lengths to design the sophisticated walkthrough it so richly deserves. We understand that you'd rather dive into the action than read what we have to say here, but trust us: less than five minutes of your time will help you to get the most out of both this chapter and the game itself.

In the (very likely) event that we have a tenuous grip on your attention, we'll begin with the most essential facts.

- Metal Gear Solid 4 is divided into five "Acts", and so is this chapter. We include a large overview map at the start of each Act, with the box outlines detailing the sections that are covered on the pages that follow.
- In the walkthrough, left-hand pages feature magnified, annotated map portions, accompanied by screenshots and extended captions. We know that many players will want to complete their first MGS4 playthrough without too much assistance, and these left-hand pages offer spoilerfree explanations, tips and general guidance.
- The **map portions** feature, among other things, the locations of all collectibles in each zone. However – and this is very important to know – MGS4 occasionally adjusts the types of ammunition, items and weapons found in each location in accordance with the equipment you have in your inventory, and your chosen difficulty level. You'll almost certainly encounter slight variations as you play.
- **Right-hand pages** feature detailed walkthroughs written for the Big Boss Hard difficulty level, but the advice offered is also applicable to the Liquid Easy. Naked Normal and (default) Solid Normal settings – you'll just encounter fewer potential enemies, and certain challenges may be less demanding than we suggest. It's actually impossible to unlock all secret features in MGS4 during your initial run (see "First Playthrough"), but the tactics and strategies we offer are high-level techniques designed to help you achieve "perfect" completion on a subsequent attempt. That's not to say that you can't unlock some cool bonuses on your first sitting, though...
- There are occasional exceptions to the walkthrough format detailed above, but these are very easy to follow.

FIRST PLAYTHROUGH

On your initial run through *Metal Gear Solid 4*, we strongly recommend that you just concentrate on having fun. Enjoy the story, use any weapons or tactics that seem appropriate, and feel free to make as much noise as you like when the urge becomes too great to resist. Once you've completed MGS4 once, you can then try for a "perfect" playthrough. (If you're curious, the requirements for this are no

Alert Phases. no continues, no kills, no health items, no "special" items, and a play time of less than five hours thirty minutes – and all on a difficulty level you can't actually access yet. Suffice to say, it's not something you're going to achieve straight away.)

We generally favor a pacifistic style of play with an onus on pure stealth in our main walkthrough, because this approach leads to the best post-game rewards. However, without revealing any spoilers, we should let you know that the requirements for certain unlockable features are extremely stringent: think in terms of "zero kills" and "no Alert Phases". Attempting to achieve either goal on a first playthrough is not a good idea, because you'll need to repeat both feats (and much more besides) to win the best postgame rewards and accolades at a later date.

ICON	REPRESENTS
A :	Your starting point(s) on each map
0	Zone exit or mission objective
×	Blocked path
	Ladder
I	Turret
	Mortar
	Enemy presence indicators, from light to heavy
	Mines/traps
00	Elevation indicators (upper/lower floor)
A	Walkthrough waypoints
	Elevator

Walkthrough: Left-Hand Page This page offers basic tips to help you through each area of the name on your first sitting accompanied by illustrative screenshots.

The core of the main walkthrough. As an aid to easy navigation, the letters used as headlines correspond with those that appear on each man

Tab System

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Collect the ARCOC. If you rever to the helf or right, you'd rigger the head chemical begannow. We suggest that you wait in the high - this part you in the head solvent to be suggest that you wait in the high - this part of the solvent provider and the second of the head solvent that the head solvent that the right - this part of the solvent that the right - this p

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BRIEFING: GEKKO

ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES

FLASHBACK SUMMARY

It may IECS series assessment per up to some - and its rutting his memories of

The tab system on the right-hand side of each double-page spread is designed to help you find the required walkthrough section without skipping too far ahead – naturally, evil spoilers await for those who flick through the chapter indiscriminately.

META/GEARSO/CITAL

MONTO PLAY

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IDDLE FAST / GROUND ZERO





The detailed map portions are extremely easy

to use: "un" is always north, and the number

above each one corresponds with the same

portion of the overview map. Just in case

you're confused by the presence of certain

icons, we've prepared this short legend.



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Walkthrough: Right-Hand Page

Right-hand pages offer a detailed walkthrough with an emphasis on stealthy infiltration and avoidance. They also regularly feature box-outs marked "Alternative Strategies", "Secret", "Briefing" and "Flashback". The first is pretty self-explanatory, "Secret" indicates a hidden feature, "Briefing" is used to explain new gameplay elements, and the short "Flashback" paragraphs are designed to give a little background information and context when major characters are first introduced

You can find notes in the right-hand margin of each right-hand walkthrough page. These reveal tips, tactics, hidden features and interesting observations.

HOW TO PLAY

META/GEARSO/DZ GUNS OF THE PATRIOTS TACTICAL ESPIDINAGE ACTION

INVENTORY

METAL GEAR ONLINE

ACT 1 ACT 2

ACT 3

ACT 5

HOW TO PLAY

INVENTORY

EXTRAS

ACT 2

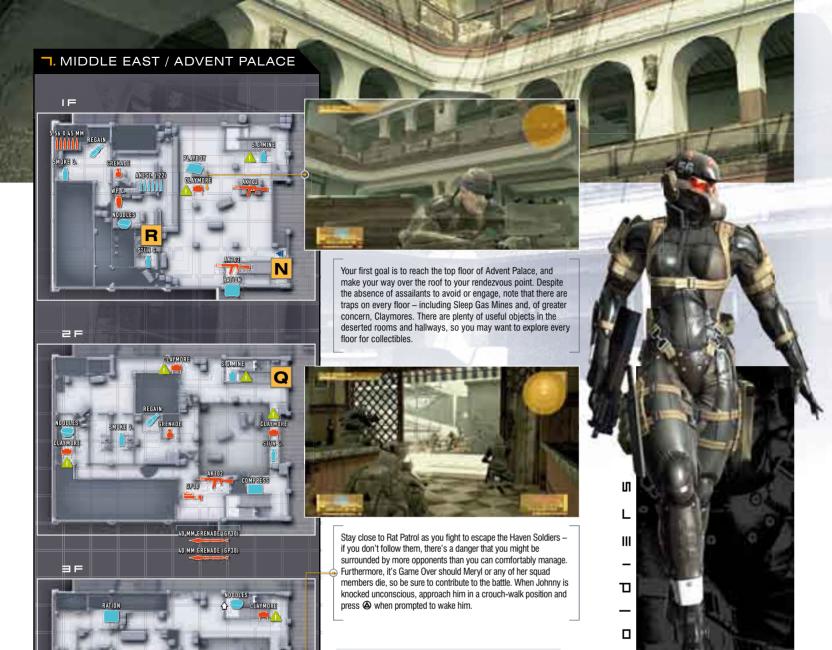
ACT 3

ACT 4

ACT 5

There is an air

duct entrance on 4F



BRIEFING: HAVEN SOLDIERS

follow the onscreen prompts to escape.

Liquid's personal soldiers, the Haven Soldiers (also known as Frog Soldiers, or simply "Frogs") wear

powered armor suits that gift them with heightened resistance to damage and uncanny agility. When you

fight them in groups, checking all surrounding walls is a tactical requisite - they can hold on to vertical

surfaces or ceilings and launch surprise attacks at any time. Frog Soldiers usually wield the powerful P90

submachine gun, and are known to make use of flashbang grenades to stun their targets during assaults.

Don't let them get too close – they can use a garrote to viciously choke Snake. Should this happen to you,

Ш

Stealth isn't an issue in Advent Palace, so don't worry about how much noise you create. However, there are several traps positioned throughout the building, and some are pretty cunningly placed. As primed explosives aren't highlighted by the Solid Eye, you should be especially vigilant. You may even prefer to activate Night Vision mode, which makes the devices clearly visible. You can safely collect primed explosives of all varieties by either defusing them with Metal Gear Mk.II, or by crawling over them. Any traps dealt with in this manner are automatically added to Snake's inventory. (Note that the infrared beam trap located in one corridor cannot be disarmed; disregard this completely for now.)

Your objective point is on 4F and, though some routes are blocked, it's really not hard to get there – use the staircase at the north-east end of the building to reach 3F, then head for the stairs in the south-east corner to reach 4F. Once you arrive, head into the bar and collect everything you want; to trigger the next cutscene, enter the corridor beyond. Oh, and ready a few suitable weapons beforehand...

The Haven Soldiers launch their assault immediately after the conclusion of the cutscene. As with all human assailants, headshots work best; players aiming for a no-kill playthrough should be pleased to learn that the Mk. 2's anesthetic darts work perfectly well against them. From behind the bar counter (or, if you prefer, a prone position to the side of it), aim for headshots until you defeat the initial attack wave. Follow Rat Patrol downstairs when the coast is clear.

Prepare for another batch of assailants to attack from the opposite balcony when you reach 3F. When Rat Patrol move into the diner area, be careful not to be left behind. Your party will now be attacked from both sides - from the area you just left, and the kitchen area ahead. To best protect your companions, it's sensible to first neutralize the Haven Soldiers attacking from the rear, then follow your associates through the restaurant area. If you stay low, only popping up to fire when you have a clear shot, you'll find that Meryl and her squad do a pretty good job of clearing the way forward (or, at least, drawing attention away from you). Your assailants will usually stay within the kitchen area, but it's prudent to watch the Solid Eye radar – you may be attacked from a different doorway.

Haven Soldiers attack from both balconies when you reach 2F, which can prove problematic. Stay low and disable a few on the upper level first, then deal with those on your level when there's less danger of being shot at from above. Again, Rat Patrol moving forward is your cue to follow.

When Johnny is knocked out, approach him in the crouch-walk pose and press (A) to wake him. This part of the fight can be particularly nasty on the Big Boss difficulty setting; within such close confines, and with Haven Soldiers approaching from the newly-formed hole in the wall and the route behind you, it's hard to know which direction to defend. The trick, we found, is to concentrate on one area in particular. However, note that Haven Soldiers will jump from the elevator shaft if you defend the rear, which can be an unpleasant shock if you don't expect it.

Check the immediate area for survivors, then follow Rat Patrol through the hole in the toilet wall. Once Johnny disables the infrared beams, roll over the gap in the floor to reach a secret cache of items, including a GP30 grenade launcher add-on for the AK102. When you're ready, drop down to continue the fight.

a counter, and Haven Soldiers on the other side. It's actually easier to operate from one of the two rooms, firing through the doorway rather than struggling to pick shots from an awkward crouching position - though be careful not to hit your allies as they move back and forth.

When the last Haven Soldier falls, grant yourself the luxury of a big sigh of relief. Drop down into the basement via the lift shaft, collect the items down there and head up the rubble slope to continue.

The battle on 1F takes place with Snake and Rat Patrol situated behind

USER INSTRUCTIONS

METAL GEAR ONLINE



SECRET: FROG SOLDIER DOLL

If you defeat the Haven Soldiers without recording a single kill, you can find the exclusive Frog Soldier Doll in the small Advent Palace Garage area (the last part of Advent Palace before you exit to Crescent Meridian). Though winning the battle with the Mk. 2 pistol alone is challenging, it's an eminently achievable feat. The Frog Soldier Doll will appear on the upper deck of the NOMAD in all subsequent Mission Briefing cutscenes.

FLASHBACK: THE PATRIOTS

An organization thought to have been founded in the early 1970s, The Patriots is a secret committee believed to wield an enormous, practically unchecked degree of influence (though some theorists say "control") over world governments and major corporations.



FLASHBACK: MERYL SILVERBURGH

Daughter of Roy Campbell, Meryl met (and, indeed, assisted) Snake during the Shadow Moses Incident. She later enlisted in an organization dedicated to monitoring Private Military Companies, and became the leader of Rat Patrol Team 01: a special unit composed of her, Jonathan, Ed and Johnny.

(it's just to the right of the bar entrance) that Snake can crawl through, but trust us - it takes an absolute epoch to explore it in this fashion Instead use Metal Gear Mk.II to zip through and pick up the collectibles inside including the useful PSS silenced pistol You can actually crawl through the air duct to ambush the Haven Soldiers on 3F during the battle to escape, though this is something that only experienced players

should attempt.

Fd and Jonathan

are named after the two principle protagonists in Policenauts - a 1994 Hiden Kniims adventure that, lamentably, was never given an official release outside Japan The names Meryl Silverburgh and FOXHOUND were also first used in that game, and miscellaneous references to it abound throughout the Metal Gear Solid series - particularly

HOW TO PLAY WALKTHROU INVENTORY METAL GEAR ONLINE

FXTRAS

ACT 1

ACT 3 ACT 4 ACT 5

If you can collect the machine guns dropped by the warring factions narticularly the PKM carried by the rebels. and the M60E4 used by certain PMC troops - they'll

come in very handy in a forthcoming

battle. There's also

a rebel armed with

a M72A3 anti-tank

rocket launcher

attacking from the

IISER INSTRUCTIONS



Crawl on the path near the rock wall to the left when the rebels begin their attack. From there, continue forward in the shadow beneath the rock overhang, being careful not to attract the attention of the PMC snipers. Follow the narrow path ahead until you reach a grassy mound. Pause here and observe the battle. As you can see, PMC soldiers are raking the field in front of the power transmission substation with a wall of bullets fired from two fixed gun emplacements. To avoid incidental injury, crawl over to the path on the right, and follow it until you see a fallen log; this should provide sufficient cover. Crawl into the grass on the right as soon as it seems safe to do so.

If you observe the terrain ahead, you'll notice strips of grass that lie between two trees. You need to creep through this area cautiously until you reach the second tree. Pause and watch the PMC soldiers. There should be one (perhaps two) stationed on the east side of the substation, not far ahead from your position. When these are killed, reinforcements arrive from inside the facility to replace them. The challenge here is to watch carefully, and use the Solid Eye radar to correctly judge the best moment to break from cover; use the Mk. 2 to accelerate this process if you wish. When the path is temporarily clear, crawl forward on the right-hand side of the sandbag wall until you reach the truck. Hide underneath it for a moment, then crawl through the opening in the wall, and turn left to clamber up the short set of steps leading into the station. Check the door to your right (there may be PMC soldiers in that room), and slip by to the left once you're sure that no one is looking your way.

You're now in the main transmission substation control room. Generally, on a stealth playthrough, you can lie in wait here for rebel forces to blow the control panel (shown on the left-hand page), which disables all power in the facility and usually spells the end of PMC resistance. If you're keen to expedite the process, which can take a while, you can perform this act of sabotage yourself. Head over to the Stryker behind the power station to initiate a cutscene with Drebin when the coast is clear. You'll reach a checkpoint when it ends.

Station and Cove Valley Village zones. If, however, the substation is still active when the cinematics begin, all rebel forces are removed from the area, with an increased PMC presence instead guarding both zones. Naturally, the latter scenario makes things more complicated and reduces potential rewards.

A secondary benefit of disabling the power station is that it allows access to a secret area. From the control room, head out to the enclosure just beyond (it's the south-west section of the facility) with a large metal structure at its center. Climb the ladder to reach the upper level, then approach one of the two heavy wires that link it to the adjacent pylon. Use (a) to jump over the edge of the barrier, then traverse along one of the wires until you are suspended over the walkway on the pylon; press 😵 to drop down. Check your Psyche gauge before you attempt this - if it's low, Snake's grip gauge will be reduced during the climb, which may not give him sufficient time to reach safety.

The treasures in this secret area include a valuable Rifle Scope, FIM-92A surface-to-air launcher, and a PSS silenced pistol in addition to a few boxes of useful ammunition. To reach the Pentazemin collectable on the high boxes at the back, simply perform a forward roll from the nearby rusty crates; from there, you can hop over the wall to return to your starting position.

ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES

As sneaking through the lower east side of this zone on the approach to the substation is pretty simple, visiting the raised area to the west is only necessary or appropriate if you're looking to get directly involved in the battle.

If you're keen to try the alternative scenario that ensues when the rebels fail to gain control of the area (see "Disabling the Substation"), there is a short-cut to the meeting with Drebin. When you reach the grassy mound mentioned at point E, you can actually move to a path that runs alongside the left-hand side of the area. You can follow this all the way to the side of the substation with little chance of discovery, though you'll need to be cautious as you pass the nearest turret. Drop into the trench as you round the corner, then make your way to the end to trigger the cutscene.

east side of the If you're on a speed run, there's no need to wait until the rebels beat the PMC forces - just blow the control panel, then make a dash for Drebin's location at the northeast of the facility, Rebel control will be

established by the

time play resumes.

the rebel forces below. It also offers an excellent overview of the battlefield.

There are two ways to approach the power transmission substation. You

can go straight ahead, and attempt to sneak past the PMC machine guns

the hill area. The latter path brings you into contact with enemy soldiers,

but going up there enables you to pick off the two PMC snipers terrorizing

raking the no-man's land in front of the south wall, or head right to access

There are some useful items inside the buildings, so it's worth the risk of

sneaking in - the entrance on the east side is usually the safest. If there are

soldiers guarding it, you can hide underneath the nearby truck until either they move on, or you silently neutralize them. While you're there, don't

forget to destroy the control panel pictured here.

FXTRAS

ITEMS

CAMOUFLAGE DREBIN'S SHOP

WEAPON MODIFICATION

ENEMIES

HOW TO PLAY WALKTHROUGH

METAL GEAR ONLINE



WEAPONS

The following tables present a detailed breakdown of the most important characteristics for each weapon type available in the game. The basic structure of each table is easy to follow, but these explanations will help to make everything clear.

Weight: The precise weight of each weapon in kilograms.

Range: A weapon's maximum operational distance, expressed in meters (1 meter equals approximately 3.3 feet).

Power: Expresses the raw potency of each weapon type. This only applies to "primary fire" functionality (in other words, not to custom attachments), and often decreases with range. You can find a graph that illustrates this for each armament type in the in-game Weapons menu.

CQC Compatibility: Indicates if Close Quarters Combat moves are possible when the weapon is equipped. As a general rule, you'll enjoy access to the full range of CQC moves while holding a pistol; with compatible rifles, your options are understandably limited.

Firing Modes: When a weapon has more than one firing mode, these are indicated by one star for single shot, three for burst fire, and five stars for full automatic.

Ammo rows:

Ammo Type: The category of ammo used by the weapon.

Magazine Capacity: The quantity of ammo included in each magazine.

Maximum Ammo rows:

This reveals the maximum amount of ammo that Snake can carry on each of the five difficulty settings. Practically unlimited in Liquid Easy, these totals are significantly reduced on Big Boss Hard and The Boss Extreme.

Attributes rows:

This section breaks down the ratings for each of up to seven possible attributes that a weapon may have: Damage, Penetration, Stability, Reload, Lock, Sleep and Stun. "S" is the highest possible rating, and "E" is the lowest. To make this system more intuitive, we're representing each letter in a more visual gauge format. The more color and cell coverage you can see, the better the rating (as illustrated in the following small diagram).



Sleep and Stun are attributes that only apply to certain non-lethal weapons. To learn more about the importance of the other ratings, please turn to the "Best Attributes Ratings" table on page 122 of this chapter.

Regular price (DP):

Some of the weapons are made available in Drebin's Shop at different stages of the game. This line will give you the regular price. Look up in the dedicated section of this chapter for more details on availability. Please note that the weapons with no price indication would have to be collected from the battlefield.

Customization / Notes:

The final section of the tables outlines any available customizations for the weapon in question, and mentions any extra detail worth noting (for example if a weapon has a special feature). You can learn more about custom weapon parts on page 130 of this chapter.



Weight	(kg)	1.1
Range	(m)	76.0
Power		350
CQC Co	mpatibility	V
Firing I	Modes	-
Ammo	Туре	Anest. (.22)
Magazi	ne Capacity	10
Liquid	Easy	9,999
Naked	Normal	893
Solid N	ormal	300
Big Bos	s Hard	100
The Bo	ss Extreme	50
		EDCBAS
20	DMG	
3	SHK	
- 00 -	PNT	
1700	STB	
ATT-	RID	



PISTOL				
Weight (kg)	1.0			
Range (m)	71.0			
Power	420			
CQC Compatibility	y 🗸			
Firing Modes	-			
Ammo Type	.45ACP			
Magazine Capacity 7				
Liquid Easy	9,999			
Naked Normal	893			
Solid Normal	893			
Big Boss Hard 500				
The Boss Extreme 300				
	EDCBAS			
DMG				

		_	_	_	_	 _
300	DMG					
3	SHK					
- 0	PNT					
17	STB					
OB	RLD					
(-)	LKD					
0	SLP					
0	STN					
Regular Price (DP): -						

Top Mount: Suppressor (OP) **Bottom Mount:** Flash Light (H.G.)



CQC C	ompatibility				/			
Firing	Modes				-			
Ammo	Туре		.4	45	AC	Р		
Magaz	ine Capacity			7	7			
Liquid	Easy			9,9	999)		
Naked	Normal			89	93			
Solid I	Normal			89	93			
Big Bo	ss Hard			50	00			
The Bo	oss Extreme			30	00			
		E	n	r	R	Α	9	
		÷	υ	U	ь	п	U	
P	DMG	Ì	J	U	D	_	J	
P	DMG SHK		D		U	٨	3	
P 						^	0	
P	SHK					_	3	
P	SHK PNT							
	SHK PNT STB					_		
	SHK PNT STB RLD							
	SHK PNT STB RLD LKD							



HANDGUNS

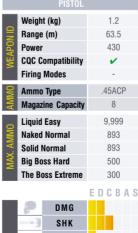
Handguns enable Snake to use his full repertoire of CQC moves, and are extremely quick to reload. However, their poor range makes them appropriate for close encounters only. The three types that can be fitted with a Suppressor (the Operator, MK.23 and 1911 Custom) are excellent choices if you're aiming for maximum stealth. The staple Mk. 2 pistol fires tranquilizer darts, and is a weapon you'll need to learn to love if you're going to unlock all of MGS4's secrets. A fringe benefit of having a pistol equipped as your current weapon is that Snake runs at a slightly faster pace.



LKD

SLP

Regular Price (DP):







Weigh	t (kg)	0.8						
Range	Range (m) 80.0							
Power	Power			300				
CQC C	CQC Compatibility			V				
Firing	Modes				-			
Ammo	Туре	5	.7	χ 2	28	mı	m	
Magaz	ine Capacity			2	0			
Liquid	Easy			9,9	999	9		
Naked	Normal			89	93			
Solid I	Normal			89	93			
Big Bo	ss Hard			50	00			
The Bo	The Boss Extreme			30	00			
		Ē	D	C	В	A	S	
gar.	DMG							
3	SHK							
-00-	PNT							
1	STB							
OB	RLD						L	
(-)	LKD							
6794	01.5							
1000	SLP							
CO	STN							
		: 6,	,00	00				
Regula	STN				Н.0	ā.)		



	PISTO	L					
Weight (kg)				0	.8		
Range	(m)			70	0.0		
Power				32	25		
CQC Ca	mpatibility				/		
Firing I	Modes				-		
Ammo	Туре		9)	(1)	8 n	nm	1
Magazi	ne Capacity			1	2		
Liquid	Easv			9,9	999	9	
•	Normal				93		
Solid N	ormal			89	93		
Big Boss Hard		500					
The Boss Extreme		300					
		E	D	C	В	Α	0
gran (DMG						
3	SHK						
-00-	PNT						
7-1	STB						ı
of C	RLD						Γ
(-)	LKD						Ī
(Z);	SLP	П					
d5	STN						
Regula	r Price (DP):	3	,50	00			



	_				
PISTOL					
Weight (kg)	0.9				
Range (m)	50.0				
Power	350				
CQC Compatibility	V				
Firing Modes	-				
Ammo Type	7.62 x 42 mm				
Magazine Capacity	6				
Liquid Easy	9,999				
Naked Normal	893				
Solid Normal	893				
Big Boss Hard	500				
The Boss Extreme	300				
	EDCBAS				
DMG					
SHK					
PNT					
STB					
Ů € RLD					
LKD					
SLP					
STN					
Regular Price (DP)	: 5,000				
Customization: -					

^{*} DMG (Damage), SHK (Shock), PNT (Penetration), STB (Stability), RLD (Reload), LKD (Lock), SLP (Sleep), STN (Stun)



META/GEARSO/D/ GUNS OF THE PATRIOTS TACTICAL ESPIONAGE ACTION

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Emblems

At the end of each MGS4 playthrough you will be rewarded with one or more "emblems", special accolades that acknowledge your performance in a variety of ways. The emblem with the highest "value" will always be chosen as your post-game title (Fig. 1). The higher this is on the list, the better you did.

Over the following pages, we look at all 40 emblems. Some are quirky; others monumentally difficult to obtain; a few, towards the lower reaches, might leave you feeling a little disappointed. Don't be disheartened if your initial rating is less than stellar, though -MGS4 is a game that takes time to master, and your first playthrough is essentially a dress rehearsal for the fun that follows.

Note: the Race Gun. Suit and Command Vests are unlocked as standard after your first playthrough, so we don't mention these in the "Special Completion Bonus" sections.



EMBLEM LIST

The Boss Extreme



BIG BOSS				
TYPE	Elite			
DIFFICULTY	10/10			
CRITERIA				
Number of Alert Phases	0			
Number of kills	0			
Number of continues	0			
Game time	< 5:00			
Rations, Regain, Noodles used	0			
No use of Stealth Camouflage or the Bandana				

Notes: This is the ultimate accolade, and will be the sole preserve of expert players willing to hone their skills on several playthroughs. Playing a "perfect" game on the unlockable The Boss Extreme setting is ridiculously hard, but it's actually the maximum time requirement that will make it almost prohibitively difficult for most. If you're determined to beat this challenge, you can find a collection of useful tips and guidelines on page 170 of this chapter.

Special Completion Bonuses: Patriot, Big Boss FaceCamo, Big Boss iPod® song



FOX HOUND				
TYPE	Elite			
DIFFICULTY	9/10			
CRITERIA				
Number of Alert Phases	< 3			
Number of kills	0			
Number of continues	0			
Game time	< 5:30			
Rations, Regain, Noodles used	0			
No use of Stealth Camouflage or the Bandana				
Big Boss Hard or higher				

Notes: An ambitious goal even for highly skilled players, obtaining the Fox Hound emblem is the perfect training exercise for those intending to try for the Big Boss accolade. If you can beat Fox Hound, Big Boss is within touching distance. The slightly less stringent time requirement is a real blessing, but knowing how best to beat the Beasts with a minimum of fuss is vital.

Special Completion Bonus: Thor .45-70



FOX				
TYPE	Elite			
DIFFICULTY	8/10			
CRITERIA				
Number of Alert Phases	< 5			
Number of kills	0			
Number of continues	0			
Game time	< 6:00			
Rations, Regain, Noodles used	0			
No use of Stealth Camouflage or the Bandana				
Solid Normal or higher				

Notes: If you're determined to unlock every emblem and bonus feature, this is a good place to start on a second playthrough. Even though a few Alert Phases are allowed, it's a good practice to avoid them entirely. The easier route taken through Midtown in Act 3 means that the game time requirement is still tough, but within your means once you know your way around

Special Completion Bonus: Desert Eagle (Long Barrel)

METAZGEARSOZIDZ.

INTERPRETATION

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BIOGRAPHIES

Do not read this section prior to completing Metal Gear Solid 4 for the first time. It's packed with devastating spoilers, and we would much prefer for you to experience the MGS4 narrative in the way its designers intended.

SYNOPSIS

The story of the Metal Gear series spans over one hundred years, from the origins of The Philosophers to the conclusion of *Metal Gear Solid 4*. Each game in the series is, broadly, a self-contained episode, yet they are all intricately interwoven; to have missed an installment can rob certain encounters or revelations of their full impact. In this synopsis (and following interpretation) of the entire Metal Gear narrative, we explore its key moments and developments to enable readers, die-hards and newcomers alike, to better enjoy this absorbing tale.



COLONEL VOLGIN



NAKED SNAKE



MAJOR ZERO

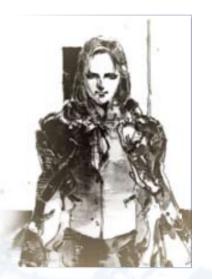
I - THE DAYS OF IDEALS

The starting point of the *Metal Gear* saga, the creation of The Philosophers, occurred during the early 1900s. This unique and deeply secretive organization was established by a select group of eminent figures from the three countries that were to dominate the century that lay ahead: the United States, Russia and China. Together, these individuals gathered a practically boundless sum of funds, known as The Philosophers' Legacy, that they believed would be sufficient to win any present or future world conflict. Those who wield the resources to wage war also possess the means to prevent it, and The Philosophers sought to achieve this noble goal by using their incredible resources and powerful influence to steer world history away from brutal, needless warfare. However, with time and the death of its founding members, the raison d'être of this clandestine committee was gradually corrupted; The Philosophers' philosophy was not passed on to posterity. In the confusion and chaos that ensued after the Second World War, the USSR – or, more precisely, an individual named Colonel Volgin – recovered and gained sole possession of The Philosophers' Legacy.

series) concerns the fight between the three countries that created The Philosophers' Legacy to claim it for themselves. During the Cold War, the growing nuclear arsenals with due reverence, as The Boss.

possessed by the US and USSR led both nations to adhere to a doctrine of mutual assured destruction - the fact that a strike by one nation would lead the other to retaliate with equal or greater force. With full-scale ground war deemed impractical (and, moreover, a catalyst for the inevitably lethal escalation that would surely follow), and any potential nuclear strike certain to trigger "launch on warning" (or "fail deadly") systems, both sides instead engaged in proxy battles on both actual and ideological battlefields. The events of *Metal Gear Solid 3* take place in 1964 following the Cuban Missile Crisis, a breakdown in diplomacy that brought both nations closer to Armageddon than ever before or since.

An American agent (Naked Snake) is sent in to Soviet territory by the US secret services to facilitate the defection of a scientist (Nikolai Sokolov) who is poised to finalize the creation of a weapon so powerful that it could disrupt the delicate balance that prevents nuclear warfare between the two superpowers. To accomplish his mission, Naked Snake has the support of a remote team that includes his Much of the story behind Metal Gear Solid 3 (the first episode in the chronology of the commander (Major Zero), a medical adviser (Para-Medic), an expert in technology and intelligence (Sigint), and his former mentor, a legendary female warrior known,



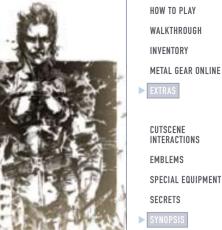
PARA-MEDIC

one of the two nuclear devices.

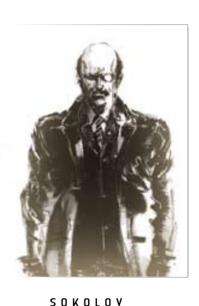


SIGINT





THE BOSS





A master in the arts of infiltration and survival techniques, Naked Snake succeeds in making contact with Sokolov, During their attempt to escape, however, they are confronted by The Boss who. against all odds, chooses to join forces with Colonel Volgin, and provides him with two US-made portable nuclear warheads as a token of her sincerity. Volgin, in possession of The Philosophers' Legacy and aided by The Boss and Ocelot (a young prodigy of the Russian military), plans to overthrow Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's government and use the Shagohod weapon created by Sokolov to enable the USSR to win the Cold War. In a distinctly one-sided fight. The Boss seriously injures Naked Snake and leaves him near death. Volgin and his allies then leave with Sokolov in order to force him to complete his invention. Gravely wounded, Naked Snake witnesses the explosion of the research center where the Shagohod had been developed when Volgin activates

As Naked Snake is convalescing in hospital in the week following his rescue and extraction, the president of the United States receives a call from Soviet Premier Khrushchev. Aware that the destruction of the research center was caused by an American bomb, Khrushchev demands that they make amends by eliminating Volgin who, being an ally of his political rival Leonid Brezhnev, he regards as a dangerous adversary. Major Zero and Naked Snake are given the opportunity to find redemption for their earlier failure by helping to avert a major global crisis. The objective of their mission (dubbed "Snake Eater")

THE SHAGOHOD



OCELOT