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FINAL FANTASY XI ONLINE

Final Fantasy XI Released

The PC version of Square Enix's perpetual online extension to the franchise arrives in North American retailers.

BY IGN STAFF | UPDATED: JUN 16, 2012 9:42 PM | POSTED: OCT 29, 2003 2:21 AM

Today, we received a press release from [Square Enix](#) USA announcing the PC release of [Final Fantasy XI](#), which comes with the Rise of the Zilart expansion and optional mini-game Tetra Master:

FINAL FANTASY XI FOR WINDOWS SHIPS TO NORTH AMERICAN RETAILERS TODAY

- Enter The World of Vana'diel With Thousands of Players Online -

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (October 28, 2003) - Square Enix U.S.A., Inc. ("Square Enix U.S.A."), the publisher of Square Enix products in North America, announced that FINAL FANTASY XI for Windows, the first online title in the world-renowned series, ships to North American retailers today. FINAL FANTASY XI for Windows will include the "Rise of the Zilart" expansion pack and other applications on five CD-ROM discs, and carry a suggested retail price of \$49.99 (USD). FINAL FANTASY XI for the PlayStation2 computer entertainment system is scheduled for release in March 2004. The first cross-platform, cross-continent massively multiplayer online role-playing game (MMORPG), FINAL FANTASY XI allows gamers to connect to the same exact world regardless of whether they are playing on a personal computer (PC) or PlayStation 2 and whether they are playing in North America or Japan.

FINAL FANTASY XI subscribers will receive their first 30 days of access without charge. Aside from Internet service provider access charges, the free trial period will begin on the date players create their first Content ID or character. Any additional Content IDs purchased are also available without charge until the end of the free trial period. After 30 days, players can continue to play FINAL





FANTASY XI by paying a monthly fee of \$12.95 (USD) for one FINAL FANTASY XI character, and can create up to 15 additional characters for an additional charge of \$1.00 (USD) per character, per month. Tetra Master, the online version of the wildly popular and addictive mini-game from FINAL FANTASY IX, will also be included in the package and will be available for \$1.00 (USD) per month. Payment for monthly access charges must be made by credit card only (restrictions apply).

"With the success and overwhelmingly positive response we had with the beta program, we are extremely excited about what we will achieve with players from around the world as we launch FINAL FANTASY XI in North America," said Yasu Kurosawa, US online producer, Square Enix U.S.A. "FINAL FANTASY XI is one of the largest, most in-depth online adventures and promises to deliver an amazing experience with a compelling storyline, highly-detailed graphics, numerous events, boss battles and other features that are unique to the FINAL FANTASY series. There are currently over 300,000 active PlayOnline* subscribers in Japan and we are confident that FINAL FANTASY XI will find similar success in North America."

About FINAL FANTASY XI

In FINAL FANTASY XI, players will undertake multiple adventures through vast environments in the world of "Vana'diel," which has more than 100 areas to explore, including mountains, forests, ice plains, deserts, oceans, rivers, castles, and dungeons. The game allows players to create their alter ego that will exist in the world of Vana'diel, choosing from a variety of races, facial features, hairstyles and colors. They will be able to play at their own pace and form parties by utilizing the various communication tools that have been incorporated into FINAL FANTASY XI, including easy-to-use chat and messaging systems. The inclusion of "Rise of the Zilart" will expand the storyline and open up a variety of higher-level skills and abilities. FINAL FANTASY XI also features:

- ¿ Brand new gaming universe that contains the award-winning visual content, innovative gameplay and deep storyline seen throughout the FINAL FANTASY series
- ¿ Character customization capabilities as well as the ability to equip and switch support jobs at any time
- ¿ A truly persistent world with climate and time changes that range from full day/night cycles to fog, snow, desert sandstorms, and thunderstorms
- ¿ A complex yet well balanced auto-attack battle system fit for beginners and experienced gamers
- ¿ Players can partake in conquests to elevate their nation's standing, missions to build their reputation within a nation and quests to discover useful items, earn money and uncover valuable information and discover more about the story of Vana'diel





- ¿ Players can form a "party" with up to six (6) players or form an "alliance" with up to three (3) parties for a total of 18 players
- ¿ Easy-to-use chat and messaging system
- ¿ Auction houses, where items/weapons/armor can be auctioned off, and Bazaar system, where players can sell/buy items on the fly
- ¿ Various types of guilds to choose from, each with its own skill level
- ¿ Visually stunning event sequences

Naturally, we'll be watching Final Fantasy's post-release progress closely, and it should be particularly interesting to see how the title fares once the cross-platform title is available for the PlayStation 2 as well.

- [TruthSword](#)

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SQUARE ENIX | MAY 16, 2002

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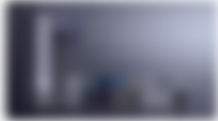
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