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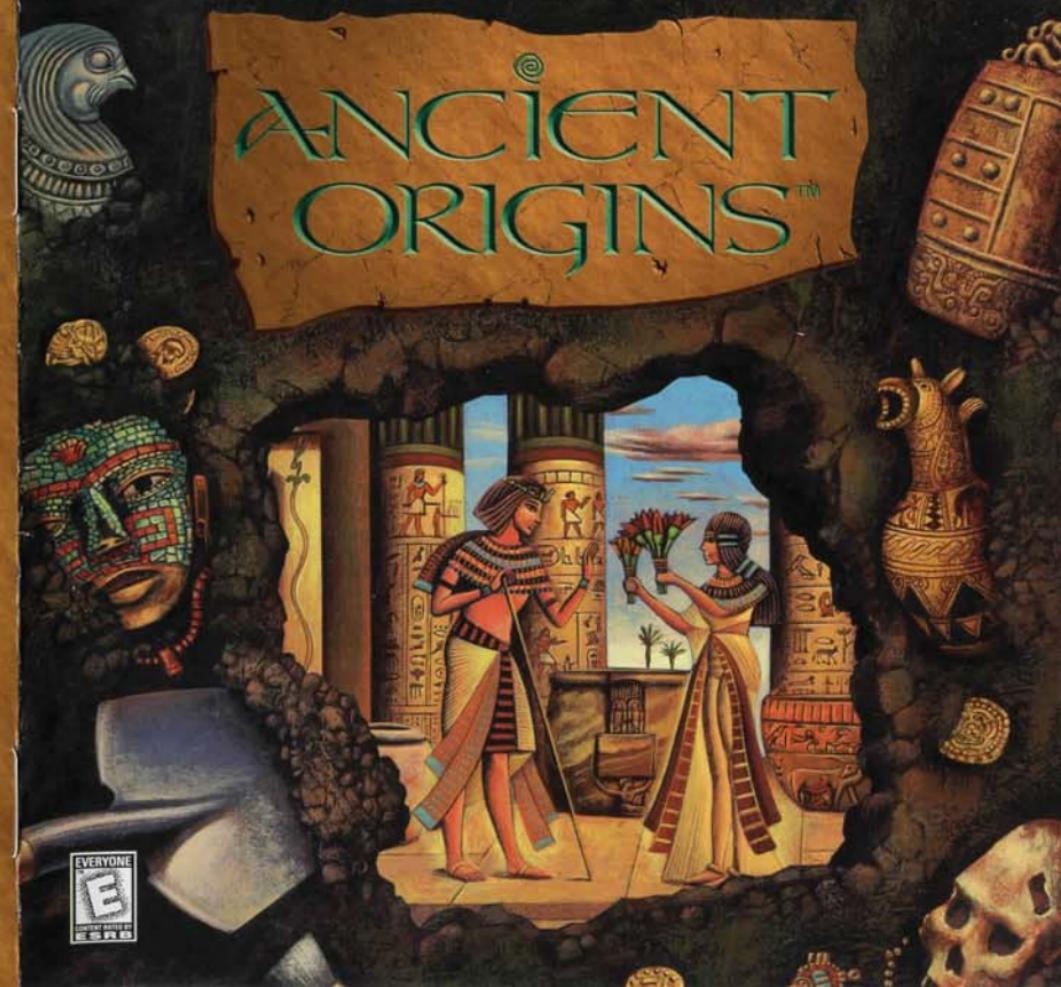


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ABOUT ANCIENT ORIGINS

Ancient Origins™ enables you to time-travel to the roots of civilization with this richly illustrated, multimedia history of mankind!

Relive world-changing discoveries, epoch-making battles and the expansion of art, trade and knowledge. You'll meet 52 different cultures spanning 20,000 years from the Assyrians to the Han Dynasty, from the Carthaginians to the Paleoindians. Choose a moment in time and discover who was living then and how. Or select any part of the world and trace the history of its development. Also, take a tour through eight ancient structures, photo-realistically rendered in full 3-D.

UNDERSTAND MORE OF OUR WORLD TODAY —
BY UNDERSTANDING ITS ORIGINS.

GETTING STARTED

First, verify that your computer meets the system requirements for the program, then insert the Ancient Origins CD into your CD-ROM drive.

PC:

In most cases, the CD will automatically run the setup program to install the program on your hard drive. You can also manually install the program in the following way:

1. Click on the START button on your desktop, then choose RUN.
2. Type D:\Setup in the dialog box (where "D" is your CD drive letter) and press OK.
3. Follow the prompts to complete the installation.
4. To start the program, select Ancient Origins from the START menu in the PROGRAM group.

The SETUP program will also install QuickTime™ for Windows®, which is required to run the program. If you already have this installed, you can skip this part of the installation. Installing QuickTime will require you to restart Windows.

Macintosh®:

Ancient Origins can be run directly from the CD. You may get better performance if you copy the application to your hard drive. Simply drag the Ancient Origins icon over to your hard drive.

To start the program, double-click on the Ancient Origins™ icon.

QuickTime is required to run the program. If you do not already have QuickTime installed, we've included the installer on the CD-ROM. Simply double-click on the Install QuickTime™ icon and follow the instructions that appear on your screen. You will need to restart your system after this installation.

System Requirements:

PC:

Pentium® 100 MHz or better
16 MB RAM
Quad-speed CD-ROM drive
640x480 display (256 color or higher)
Microsoft® Windows® 95
Windows® compatible sound card
Windows® compatible mouse
28.8Kbps modem for Internet functions

Macintosh:

PowerMac (90 MHz or better)
System 7.1 or above
16 MB RAM
Quad-speed CD-ROM drive
640x480 display (256 color or higher)
System 7.1 or above
28.8Kbps modem for Internet functions

BASIC EXPLORING

Basic navigation is conducted by pointing and clicking with the mouse on various areas and topics of interest. You begin on the Main Atlas Screen. This screen features a large rotating Earth on the left, timelines on the bottom and right, and a number of other navigational options.



• Timeline

This controls the overall time period you are referencing. It ranges from 10,000 B.C. to 500 A.D. Arrows on both ends let you move forward and backward in time.

• Globe

This lets you set the geographic position you are interested in. Rotate the globe with your mouse, then click on the region you'd like more information on.

• Menus

These controls allow access to the many functions of the program. They are described in the following section.

• Locations

The location of each civilization is identified in this section. There are arrows at the top and bottom to let you scroll through the continents.

• Civilizations

These are the civilizations that existed in the current time and place. You can double-click on one to receive in-depth information.

CONTROLS



About Atlas - Lists the credits for the program



Help - Brings up the on-line help



Sound - Allows the user to configure sound for the program



Internet - Internet access for more up-to-date information



Quit - Exits the program



Gives you access to road maps for the current cultures.



Easy access to the program's windows.



Set bookmarks for any position in the program, then easily return to that location.



Provides an index for all the information contained in the program.

A quick reference for all of the program's music features.



Brings up tours of eight ancient structures, fully rendered in 3-D virtual reality.

Interactive excavations let you explore several burial structures and tombs.

Pictures and animations which present a "day in the life" of people in historic cultures.

CONTROLS

Civilizations:

Several layered timelines featuring the historic, social, and cultural developments of mankind throughout history. Click on the timeline sections to bring up the hundreds of videos, animations, photographs, action maps, music clips, and pictorial essays which bring the ancient world to life.

Locations:

Click on the Up/Down arrows to scroll through the selections.

Globe:

This lets you select a location on the Earth, and see what types of civilizations were present there through time.

Timeline:

An overall timeline allows the user to select the time frame for exploration. Click on this timeline to shift the time frame of reference for the cultural information displayed on screen.

The on-line Help function features a detailed description of each feature and function.

USEFUL TIPS

- Use the "Check" feature that you will find in many of the data screens to check off where you have been. This will help you navigate to new places which you have not yet seen.
- Use the bookmarks to 'tag' a place so you can return to it easily.
- Ancient Origins contains an enormous amount of richly detailed information. It was designed for easy navigation to help you find what you are looking for. But some of the best exploration of our ancient world is done in a stream-of-consciousness fashion. Allow yourself to explore randomly, traveling from culture to culture as the connections you discover draw you through our rich history. You will be amazed at how history is intertwined and how seemingly disparate elements are, in fact, related. Discovering these connections is part of the fun of studying the origins of our world!

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If performance seems less than optimal, exit all running applications before launching Ancient Origins. Sometimes programs running in the background can take memory from the program which it needs to run.

Make sure you are using the very latest drivers for your video card and that you are running in 640x480 mode. The program supports 256 color, but the graphics look much better in higher colors.

Check that your computer meets all of the minimum system requirements, and that there are no hardware conflicts. Almost all troubleshooting problems result from hardware conflicts, improperly installed hardware, outdated hardware drivers, or not meeting the minimum hardware requirements.

For many technical support answers, please visit the Technical Support forum on our web site at: www.piranhainteractive.com

If you do not find the answer to your question there, or you do not have access to the web, call our technical support line at **(602) 491-0500** and select "Technical Support" at the menu, or fax us at **(602) 491-8990**.

Thank you for purchasing Ancient Origins!

CREDITS

Published by:



Piranha Interactive Publishing, Inc.
1839 West Drake, Suite B
Tempe, Arizona 85283
Tel: (602) 491-0500
Fax: (602) 491-8990
www.piranhainteractive.com

Developed by:



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