

EXPANSION PACK

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**ASPYR**  
Authorized Electronic Arts™ Distributor



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This product has been rated by the Entertainment Software Rating Board. For information about the ESRB rating please visit [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org).

# INSTALLING THE GAME

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** *The Sims™ 2 Open for Business* requires *The Sims™ 2* for Mac OS to play.

## BACKING UP THE SIMS™ 2 GAME FILES

We also recommend that you back up your saved game files before installing *The Sims™ 2 Open for Business*.

### To back up your saved game files:

1. Find your saved games on your computer (the default location for these files is home folder/Documents/EA Games).
2. Copy these files and folders to a safe location on your computer. Because you may have many files to store, we recommend compressing them using a file compression utility or burning them to a CD or DVD.

♦For more information on backing up your game files, please see the readme file.

### To install *The Sims™ 2 Open for Business*:

To install *The Sims™ 2 Open for Business* for Mac OS, double-click the installer on the DVD and follow the onscreen instructions.

# STARTING THE GAME

### To start *The Sims™ 2 Open for Business* (with disc already in drive):

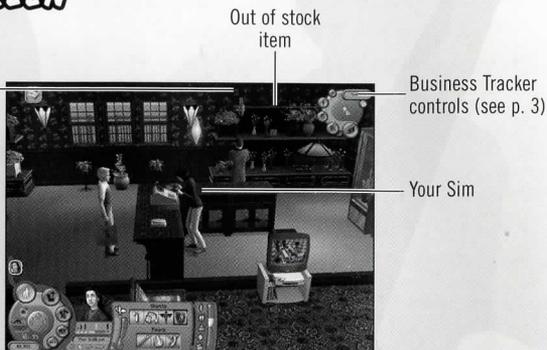
1. To start *The Sims™ 2 Open for Business*, double-click the "*The Sims™ 2*" icon in the "*The Sims™ 2*" folder on your hard drive.

## PLAYING THE GAME

The Sims have finally escaped the rat race—and gone into business for themselves! With new talents, a few high-quality employees, and a lot of hard work, they might just make it big!

### GAME SCREEN

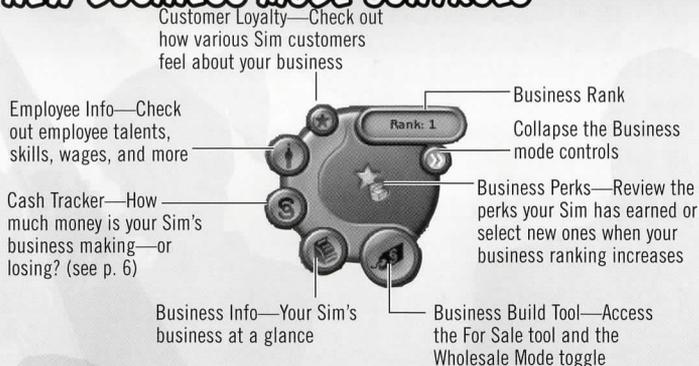
A customer's Buy Bar indicates how close they are to making a purchase. When the bar is filled, they look for a cashier to ring up their selected item(s).



### NEW BUSINESS DISTRICTS

Your copy of *The Sims 2 Open for Business* comes with a bustling shopping district called Bluewater Village. If you associate it to a neighborhood, Sims in that neighborhood then have access to all of the shops and their services. You can associate more than one shopping district to a neighborhood if you create custom shopping districts.

## NEW BUSINESS MODE CONTROLS



## SAVING AND LOADING

Your game data is saved by lot. When you exit a lot, you are asked if you wish to save the game. If your active Sim goes to another lot in the same neighborhood or shopping district, the game saves automatically (with a warning) when you exit the lot.

## BUSINESS BASICS

Get your Sims up to speed (before they get down to business) with these management essentials.

### STARTING A BUSINESS

There are two ways your Sim can get into business. They can start a home business or purchase a community lot and build a business there.

- To start a business from your Sim's home, click the phone or computer, then choose the BUSINESS option, and then START HOME BUSINESS.
- To purchase a community lot, click the phone or computer, then choose REAL ESTATE from the interaction menu, then PURCHASE COMMUNITY LOT.

There are some fundamental objects your Sims needs in order to start a business.

- To sell objects, purchase a cash register so your Sim can ring up customers.
- To charge Sims for time spent socializing and using objects on a lot, purchase an Electrono Ticket Machine.
- To build a salon, simply purchase the Ug-No-More Makeover Station and your Sim is ready to go.
- To build a restaurant, your Sim needs a podium, an industrial stove, and enough table seating for customers.

You should also purchase an Open/Closed sign so your Sim can control when employees and customers arrive and leave.

- To summon employees before the business opens, click the Open/Closed sign and choose CALL IN EMPLOYEES.
- To open the business, click the Open/Closed sign and choose OPEN BUSINESS. At closing time, click the sign again and choose CLOSE BUSINESS.

When your Sim closes up shop for the day, employees stay on until you dismiss them. To send all employees home, click the Open/Closed sign and select SEND EMPLOYEES HOME.

## **HIRING EMPLOYEES**

If your Sim's business is bustling, they may need to hire employees to help keep customers satisfied.

- To hire Sims, choose BUSINESS, then HIRE EMPLOYEES, and then FOR THIS LOT from a phone or computer. Alternatively, you can hire a Sim in person by clicking the Sim and choosing HIRE.

Some Sims may be better at some jobs than others. Review each candidate's skills and Talent Badges carefully and hire accordingly. The more Talent Badges and skills a Sim possesses, the more they expect to be paid.

## **MANAGING YOUR EMPLOYEES**

It's not always fun and games in the world of business—but a good employer knows how to keep the staff happy. Assign Sims according to their skills, pay them well and they'll keep your business running smoothly.

## **ASSIGNING AND DISMISSING EMPLOYEES**

New employees need to have a duty assigned to them—and perform their duties better if they have a related skill or Talent Badge.

- To assign an employee a non-crafting task, choose MANAGEMENT then MAKE MANY from the pie menu, and then choose ASSIGN. All currently available tasks appear.
- To assign an employee to make something, choose MANAGEMENT and then choose either MAKE TOYS, BUILD ROBOTS, or ARRANGE FLOWERS.

If your Sim's employees are disgruntled, they're more likely to abandon tasks or call in sick. To keep employees motivated, have your Sim give them the occasional break—or a raise!

There is a fine line between keeping your Sims busy and working them to death. Reward hardworking employees with a well-earned break now and then.

- To give an employee a break, click the Sim, choose MANAGEMENT from the pie menu, and then choose TAKE A BREAK.
- To end a Sim's shift early, click the Sim, choose MANAGEMENT from the pie menu, and then choose SEND HOME FOR THE DAY.
- To give an employee a raise, click the Sim, choose MANAGEMENT, and then CHANGE WAGE.

## **TALENT BADGES**

Sims with high skill levels can earn badges that denote their expertise. There are three levels of Talent Badges: bronze, silver, and gold. Certain skills boost your Sim's ability to earn certain Talent Badges. Sims with Talent Badges are more adept at related interactions and are less apt to fail when attempting related tasks.

- To see which Talent Badges a Sim has earned, click the Talents icon inside of the Skills panel or review an employee from the Employee Info section of the Business Tracker.

## **RESTOCKING**

When a customer decides to purchase an item, they add it to their Shopping Bag. That object is then replaced by an Out of Stock Sign. Empty shelves and bins disappoint customers so it is important to keep your business well stocked.

- To restock an object, click the Out of Stock Sign and choose RESTOCK. You can also assign employees to restock by clicking the employee, selecting MANAGEMENT, then ASSIGN...RESTOCK ITEMS.

Crafted objects also need to be restocked. However, in order to restock a crafted object, there must be one in your Owner Sim's inventory. Otherwise, a Sim needs to make a new one.

## **DRESS CODE**

Your Sim can set the perfect image for their business by designating uniforms for their employees. Stylish suits, classy aprons, goofy mascot costumes—with so many looks to choose from, even the lowliest cashier can show up dressed for success!

- To set the uniform for an employee, click the employee, choose MANAGEMENT, and then SET UNIFORM. When the menu pops up, select the outfit you want the employee to wear while at work.

## **DEAD WEIGHT**

If your Sim can't afford to pay their employees, or if a Sim simply isn't working out, it might be time to let them go.

- To get rid of an employee, click the Sim you want to terminate, choose MANAGEMENT and then either LAY OFF or FIRE.

## **PROMOTIONS AND REMOTE MANAGEMENT**

Once an employee has enough Talent Badges, your Sim can promote them to a management position. Once a manager is appointed, your Sim no longer needs to be at the store every day. They can simply check in on and run the business from home!

- To promote an employee to management, click the appropriate Sim, and choose PROMOTE TO MANAGER from the Management pie menu.

- To check in on your store from home, click the telephone, choose BUSINESS from the pie menu, and then choose CHECK IN WITH A BUSINESS.

Thanks to remote management, your Sim can oversee multiple businesses—without ever going to work!

**NOTE:** You cannot promote employees to management in a home business.

## CUSTOMER LOYALTY

Keeping the customer happy is a cornerstone to running a profitable business. When Sim's have a positive experience at your shop, they gain Customer Loyalty; when they have negative experiences, their Customer Loyalty drops. Your Sim can improve Customer Loyalty by building a pleasant and well-stocked shop, selling items at a reasonable price, and maintaining good relationships with customers.

## CUSTOMERS AND SALES

While some customers step into your Sim's business ready to spend money, others may need encouragement. Your Sim can use Sales Socials to close the deal and earn some cash. During sales they should keep an eye on the customer's Buy Bar to see how customers react. Push too hard—and they may lose Customer Loyalty.

## BUSINESS RANK AND PERKS

As Customer Loyalty improves, your Sim's Business Rank also goes up—encouraging more people to shop at the establishment. With each increase in rank, your Sim earns a point to spend on a new Business Perk. Spend these points on Business Perks to increase their business savvy. Perks help your Sim build Connections, improve Perception or Motivation abilities, and provide special Wholesale discounts and Cash rewards!

## BUSINESS REVIEW

During business hours, the undercover reporter may visit your Sim's shop. This non-playable character (NPC) takes notes on the ambience, products, service, and prices at your Sim's business. Once they have a feel for the place, they write a review. Bad reviews are bad for business, but a good review can increase the number of customers that stop by.

Impress the reporter and they may give the business a Best of the Best Award. This prestigious prize lets Sims know that they're in a quality store. If your Sim wins this award, make sure they take it out of their inventory and display it proudly!

## CASH FLOW

Check out your Sim's bottom line. The Cash Tracker tab on the Business Tracker displays your Sim's Cash Flow to date and their Cash Flow history. Spending too much and not raking it in? Adjust your Sim's business plan ... or risk going broke.

## FOR SALE AND WHOLESALE GOODS

Once your Sim has started a home or community lot business, they can purchase items at wholesale prices, and mark them for sale at a retail price.

- To mark items already in the world "For Sale," use the For Sale Tool (located in the Build Business Tools section of the Business Tracker). Set their price level with the Price Wheel, or type in a custom price. Then click the item in question to set it "For Sale." Once on sale, the item has a yellow highlight.
- To designate items for sale directly from the catalog, click on the Wholesale Mode Toggle in the Build Business Tools section of the Business Tracker. Once the toggle is on, place items in the world from the Build and Buy catalogs at the price you've set. Items in Wholesale Mode have a yellow background—and once they are placed in the world they display a yellow for-sale highlight.

**NOTE:** "For Sale" items can not be used. Use the For Sale Tool to toggle the sale status of a given object.

## CRAFTING

Your Sims can now craft all kinds of objects to play with, admire, or even help around the house.

- To assign an employee to craft, click the employee, choose MANAGEMENT, then MAKE MANY... and select the item you want them to make.

Objects that your employees craft appear in the business owner's inventory.

## INVENTORIES

Sims now have their own personal inventories, which can hold a variety of items. Access your Sim's Inventory from the Rewards Panel.

### BACKPACK BUTTON

This is the spot for your Sim's belongings that they own but want to take with them if they move or commute from home to work.

- To place an item in your Sim's inventory, use the Hand Tool to drag it into the Inventory Panel. You cannot place an item that is currently being used in your Inventory.

### SHOPPING CART

The shopping cart holds all the items your Sim has picked up but not yet paid for.

**NOTE:** Your Sims may go shopping on their own initiative, but you don't have to worry about them overspending. New acquisitions remain in their inventory until you place or delete them (which refunds you the full cost). This allows you supreme veto power over their impulse purchases.

## NEW STUFF

When your Sim isn't hard at work getting their business venture off the ground, they can enjoy all of the other new objects and features that come with *The Sims 2 Open for Business*.

## STYLES

Same old furnishings getting your Sim down? With three new décor styles and loads of new items in the Buy and Build Mode catalogs, you can give their home or business a facelift.

- International** Modern, sleek, and functional, this style lets your Sim decorate their homes and business with maximum flair and minimum fuss.
- Storybook** Add a bit of ornate whimsy to your Sim's world with this style reminiscent of gingerbread houses and the stories that go with them.
- European** A neo-classical look fit for any of your Sim's decorating needs, this style's clean lines add grace and elegance to any room or structure.

## ITEMS

What's new under the sun in your Sim's world? Lots of stuff!

- Ug-No-More Makeover Station** Ready, set, makeover. Give a Sim a brand-new hairdo or makeup style, but beware of unskilled beautician Sims who may dispense makeover catastrophes.
- Elevators** Going up? These people movers can take your Sims to new heights ... especially when two romantically inclined Sims are aboard.
- Lemonade Stand** Refresh the neighborhood and earn a few Simoleons! But be careful not to sour any relationships with bad drinks or your profits might go down the drain.
- Toy Workbench** Now your Sims can create the toys that top wish lists and set up shop to sell them for a tidy profit.
- Antique Cash Register** Ring up customers and take their money—the old-fashioned way!
- Ninja Statue** Give your Sim's store an air of mystery and intrigue. There's nothing stealthy about this eye-catching statue.

## TURN-ONS AND TURN-OFFS

Your Sim's Turn-Ons and Turn-Offs help determine what they're attracted to in another Sim. When you create a Sim, there is a new tab on the Aspirations screen that lets you set their Turn-Ons and Turn-Offs. Previously created Sims have a one-time-use potion in their inventory called ReNuYu Porta-Chug that allows the Sim to set their Turn-Ons and Turn-Offs.

## HINTS AND TIPS

- If your Sim gets an urge to go fly a kite purchase one from a qualified toymaker or your Sim might be in for a shocking experience.
- Not all Clown-in-the-Boxes are created equally ... and it doesn't take a Sim child to tell you that.
- If your Sim scores a Best of the Best Award, display it prominently near a high-priced item. Sims who see this prize are more motivated to buy as their confidence in your Sim's business soars.
- Have your Sim craft a Cleanbot if they're feeling overwhelmed by the clutter ... but make sure they keep an eye on it.
- Use the new lockable door feature to keep Sims out of places they don't belong ... or to keep them exactly where you want them!

**NOTE:** When you use the Move To Lots & Houses Bin tool, the family living in the lot moves with the lot and loses all of their relationships with their neighbors. The family also forfeits ownership of any community lots, including contents and the value of the business.

## PERFORMANCE TIPS

### SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

It is essential that your Macintosh meets the Minimum Requirements as detailed on the game's packaging. If you are experiencing poor performance, check to make sure your system hardware supports the requirements.

### OTHER APPLICATIONS

We recommend that you quit all other running applications while playing *The Sims 2 Open for Business*.

### OPERATING SYSTEM UPDATES

Keeping your operating system up-to-date will make sure you have the latest video drivers and system improvements available for your version of Mac OS.

If you are still experiencing poor performance, try adjusting the game's graphics/performance options.

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you are having problems installing or using this software, we want to help. You should read through the manual and the Read Me file on the CD before contacting Aspyr Technical Support. Please ensure that your computer meets the minimum system requirements that are listed on the bottom of the box. Our Technical Support representatives will not be able to help customers whose computers do not meet these requirements. So that we can better help you, please have the following information ready:

- Complete product title
- Exact error message reported (if any)
- A brief description of the problem
- Your computer's processor type and speed (iMac 700 MHz, PowerBook 1 GHz, etc.)
- Amount of RAM (MB, GB)
- Make and model of your video card (ATI, Nvidia)
- Speed of your CD-ROM or DVD-ROM (16x, 4x, etc.)
- Operating System (10.2.8, 10.3.4, etc.)

### Contact us over the Internet:

If, after reviewing all the known issues in the Read Me file, you are still having difficulties, please visit our online technical support page at [www.aspyr.com/support](http://www.aspyr.com/support) and click on the title you are having trouble with. If your problem is not currently listed as an issue, please gather all information regarding the problem, including attempts to resolve the problem, error messages, and computer specifications and open a Support ticket located at [www.aspyr.com/contact](http://www.aspyr.com/contact). This form will then be sent to Aspyr Media Technical Support.

You can also access a list of current issues by visiting the title's product page through [aspyr.com](http://aspyr.com), following the Support link, and clicking on Support Form.

### Contact us by Phone:

You can also contact us by phone by calling (512) 708-8100. Note that this number is for technical assistance only. No hints and tips will be given out over the Technical Support line. When calling our Technical Support line, please make sure you are in front of your computer and prepared to provide all necessary information about your computer.

### You can also contact Aspyr Technical Support by mail:

Aspyr Media, Inc., P.O. Box 5861, Austin, TX 78763-5861

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In the U.S. send to:

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- Make copies of the Program or any part thereof, or make copies of the materials accompanying the Program.
- Copy the Program onto a hard drive or other storage device; you must run the Program from the included DVD-ROM (although the Program itself may automatically copy a portion of the Program onto your hard drive during installation in order to run more efficiently).
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# NOTES

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