

The cover art for the video game Mass Effect. At the top, a large, menacing face of a Reaper looms over the title. The title 'MASS EFFECT' is written in a large, metallic, stylized font. Below the title, the main character, Commander Shepard, stands in the center, wearing his iconic N7 armor. He is flanked by two other characters: a Turian on the left and an Asari on the right. The background is a dramatic space scene with a bright orange and yellow nebula or explosion behind the characters, and a large red planet on the right. Various spaceships are visible in the distance.

# MASS EFFECT™



**BiOWARE®**



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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).  
An electronic version of this manual is also available to registered users at: [masseffect.com/manual/](http://masseffect.com/manual/)



## INSTALLING THE GAME

**NOTE:** For system requirements, see the readme file.

### To install (disc users):

Insert the disc into your disc drive and follow the on-screen instructions.

Once the game has installed you can launch it from the game's AutoRun menu or by locating the game through the START menu.

Games on Windows Vista™ are located in the **Start > Games** menu and on earlier versions of Windows™ in the **Start > Programs (or All Programs)** menu.

### To install (EA Store users):

**NOTE:** If you'd like more information about purchasing direct downloads from EA, visit [www.eastore.ea.com](http://www.eastore.ea.com) and click MORE ABOUT DIRECT DOWNLOADS.

Once the game has been downloaded by EA Download Manager, click the install icon that appears and follow the on-screen instructions.

Launch the game (once it is installed) directly from the EA Download Manager.

**NOTE:** If you've already purchased a title and would like to install it on another PC, first download and install the EA Download Manager on the other PC, then launch the application and log in with your EA account. Select the appropriate title from the list that appears and click the start button to download the game.

### To install (third party online users):

Please contact the digital retailer through whom you purchased this game for instructions on how to install the game or how to download and reinstall another copy.

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To learn more about Sound Blaster X-Fi, visit <http://soundblaster.com>.

## STARTING THE GAME

### To start the game:

Games on Windows Vista™ are located in the **Start > Games** menu and on earlier versions of Windows™ in the **Start > Programs (or All Programs)** menu.

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## COMPLETE CONTROLS

### General

Action	Keyboard
Interact	E or ENTER
Cancel	Q
Mission Computer	ESC
Map	M
Equipment	I
Squad	U
Journal	J
Codex	O
Quick save	F6

### Navigation

Action	Keyboard
Move up/down/left/right	W/S/A/D
Look/Aim	Mouse
Sprint/Storm	Left SHIFT
Walk	Z
Crouch	Left CTRL

### Weapons

Action	Keyboard
Fire	Left-click
Zoom	Hold right-click
Change zoom level	E (when zoomed in)
Throw/detonate grenade	R
First aid	F
Tactics HUD	Hold SPACEBAR
Previous/Next weapon	[/]
Pistol	F1
Shotgun	F2
Assault rifle	F3
Sniper rifle	F4

### Powers

Action	Keyboard
Tactics HUD	Hold SPACEBAR
Toggle quick slots	V
Quick slots 1 – 8	1 – 8

### Orders

Action	Keyboard
Tactics HUD	Hold SPACEBAR
Move	Up Arrow
Take cover	Down Arrow
Rally	Left Arrow
Attack	Right Arrow

### Vehicle

Action	Keyboard
Enter vehicle	E
Exit vehicle	Q
Machine gun	Left mouse button
Cannon	Right mouse button
Turret zoom	Left SHIFT
Thrusters	SPACEBAR
Repair vehicle	F
Return to Normandy	N

## MASS EFFECT UNIVERSE



By the year 2183, mankind has mastered the ability to travel throughout the galaxy at faster-than-light speeds, bringing them in contact with a host of alien races. Now humanity struggles to find its place in the greater galactic community.

As Commander Shepard of the Systems Alliance Military, aboard the spacecraft Normandy, you represent humanity's first and last line of defense against the strange wonders of a vast and often dangerous galaxy. Your actions and decisions will determine the fate of the human race ... and shape the future of an entire galaxy.

## CHARACTER CREATION

At the Main Menu, click START NEW CAREER. You enter the Mission Computer database and begin to reconstruct your profile to confirm your identity.

You have two options when initially creating your character:

- Play as the default Commander Shepard and choose a first name.
- Create a custom character, in which you control every detail.

### Custom Character Creation



Start by typing a first name for Commander Shepard.

Next, choose your custom character's early history: Earthborn, Colonist, or Spacer. This choice represents the first of many that affect how characters will react to you during gameplay.

Select a Psychological Profile: Ruthless, War Hero, or Sole Survivor.

Select your character class. If you select the default setting, your character is a Soldier.



## Classes

There are six base classes, with variable strength in up to three areas for the player and two squad members. Some classes concentrate all their strength in one skill area; others divide it between two areas to balance tactics.

Combat skills deal maximum damage to enemies. Tech skills allow decrypting security systems and weakening enemy weapons. Biotic skills enable brain impulses to manipulate the physical world.

### Soldier – Combat Specialist

The Soldier is a tough warrior, able to deal with a range of combat situations. The Soldier gets improved health, has the widest selection of weapons, and is eventually able to wear heavy armor. Gameplay focus is on getting into the thick of the fight, picking the right weapon for tactical situations, and outlasting opponents.

### Engineer – Tech Specialist

The Engineer is a tech specialist, able to quickly and easily manipulate the environment with specific skills. Gameplay focus is on shaping the battlefield during combat, healing the party, and debuffing enemies (disabling weapons and lowering shields).

### Adept – Biotic Specialist

The Adept is the ultimate Biotic, able to affect the physical world with the power of the mind. They can use biotics to violently manipulate objects in the environment, including nearby enemy targets. Gameplay focus is on disabling and debuffing enemies while dealing massive amounts of damage.

### Infiltrator – Combat/Tech

The Infiltrator is a tech-savvy warrior, able to win battles by quickly disabling and killing enemies. Gameplay focus is on unlocking alternate routes, gaining access to good equipment, and obtaining an advantageous position over enemies in combat.

### Vanguard – Biotic/Combat

The Vanguard is a powerful combatant, able to combine the offensive powers of the Adept and the Soldier. They have access to various weapons and armor, as well as biotic powers. Gameplay focus is on taking down enemies with quick and brutal force.

### Sentinel – Biotic/Tech

The Sentinel is the most flexible class, able to combine tech and biotics to manipulate the environment, disable and attack enemies, or defend the party. Gameplay focus is on protecting the party using kinetic barriers and healing it with advanced medical training.

## Facial Customization

Use the Facial Customization screen to create a unique face for your character. You can customize the entire face or focus on a specific area, such as eyes or nose. Use the sliders in each section to adjust a range of facial details. Select Finalize to accept the face you created.





## PLAYING THE GAME

### Conversation

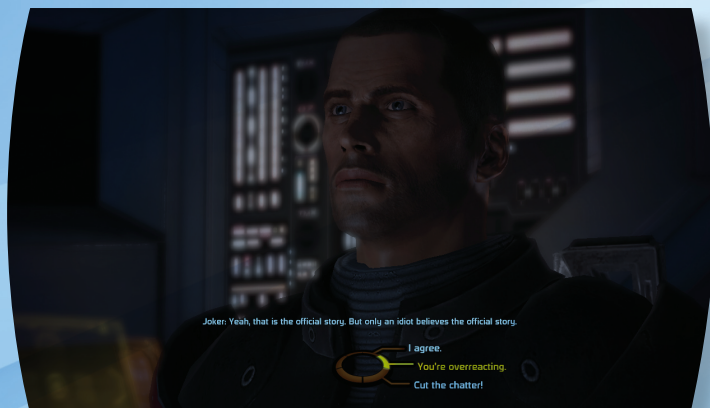
The cinematic, choice-based dialogue in *Mass Effect* lets you fine-tune your character and story using the conversation wheel at the bottom of your screen.

Choices on the wheel's left let you explore a conversation in-depth, while choices on the right tend to move the conversation to completion.

The top of the wheel typically corresponds to the Paragon path, where your character makes selfless, cooperative decisions. The bottom of the wheel generally corresponds to the Renegade path, where your character is more aggressive and hostile.

When you spend Talent points on Charm and Intimidate talents, new options appear on the wheel's left that may help conversation outcomes later. Charm options appear in blue text. Intimidate options appear in red. (See *Talents* on p. 28 to learn more.)

Click your response to play it in a cinematic style. As soon as the conversation wheel appears, you can select your response. Your character speaks the line at the dramatically appropriate time. Press **SPACEBAR** to interrupt or skip a line of dialogue.



### Non-Combat HUD

As you progress through the game, you gain XP (experience points) by exploring new areas and engaging other characters in conversation.

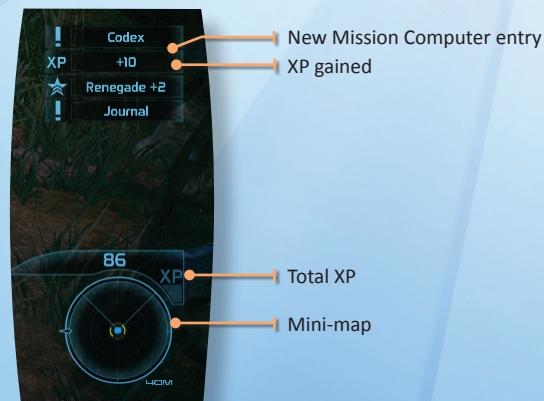
When you can interact with something or someone in the world, the blue focus symbol forms a circle inside it. Press **E** or **ENTER** to interact.



① Selection bar

② Focus symbol

The screen briefly displays your XP. The Squad screen of the Mission Computer also shows the XP gained. (See *Squad Data* on p. 23 to learn more.)



## Mission Computer

Press **ESC** to bring up the Mission Computer display. Click your choice to select it. When an area receives an update it flashes on the display.

The Mission Computer lets you access game details for:

<b>Equipment</b>	View currently equipped weapons, armor, and other items, along with options for equipping new items.
<b>Options</b>	Set gameplay, controller, graphics, sound, and other options from here. Many of these options will affect gameplay difficulty and your visual experience; be sure to look at all the choices.
<b>Map</b>	View your current location and points of interest.
<b>Save</b>	Saves your game in its current state and location.
<b>Squad</b>	View stats for you and your squad members.
<b>Load</b>	Loads your saved and automatically saved games from here.
<b>Journal</b>	View current and recent missions and assignments.
<b>Codex</b>	Learn all about the <i>Mass Effect</i> universe.



## Combat

*Mass Effect's* combat system allows for precise control and considered decision-making.

To draw or holster your weapon, press **Q**.

To switch the weapon, use a special ability, or issue a movement command for any squad member, press and hold **SPACEBAR** to browse the available weapons, abilities, or commands. Click your orders for each squad member, then release **SPACEBAR** to return to the game. (See *Combat Details* on p. 16 to learn more.)

## Advancing Levels

### Level up

You and your squad can advance levels by accumulating XP, which you gain by overcoming enemies, using certain skills, and completing missions.

There is a single pool of XP for your entire squad. All squad actions feed into it, and all squad members level up at the same time, including those back on the Normandy and not part of the active squad.

### Level-Up Benefits

When your character advances to a new level, you:

- Gain health. You can increase this amount through talents.
- Gain Talent points. You can spend these points at any time to increase your rank.

### Auto Level and Undo Talent Points

Click Auto Level Up to automatically distribute your Talent points.

After spending Talent points, you can click Undo Talent Points to undo your choices.



## GALAXY MAP

The Galaxy Map is located in the center of the Normandy's command deck. To access it, ascend the deck, and select the holographic galaxy image. There are four levels to the map, each with varying degrees of detail for galactic navigation.

Click any location to travel to it. Right-click to zoom out from your current view. Press **ESC** to exit the Galaxy Map.

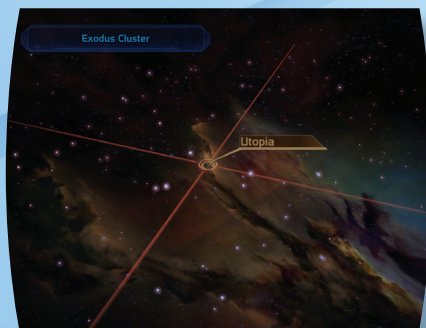
### Galaxy Level

Shows a top-down view of the galaxy and star clusters connected by mass relays.



### Cluster Level

Shows the star systems you can explore and lists the planetary bodies you can travel to in each system, including planets, asteroid fields, and artificial structures, like space stations.



### System Level

Shows a detailed view of a selected star system, with data on the star and the planetary bodies you can explore.



### Planetary Level

Shows detailed features of the planetary body or object you are orbiting, including data and applicable plot elements.





## COMBAT DETAILS

Elements of the HUD (heads-up display) include:

- Target Reticle** Targets objects in your environment. Enemies are highlighted in red, friendly objects in blue. Combat hazards are highlighted in orange.
- Party Status Bar** Shows real-time status for squad health and shields. Also shows your squad's movement status.
- Radar** Shows enemies that are in target range. Also shows map pins from the in-game map.
- Selection Bar** Displays name of highlighted object and results of pressing **E**.

The combat system offers fine-tuned control of movements, decisions, and camera position. Core features include:

**Targeting:** Use the mouse to move the targeting reticle. Abilities and weapons fire go to the center of your reticle.

**Target Assist:** A Target Assist icon highlights the enemy nearest the reticle. Right-click to increase the accuracy of weapons you are already trained on. (You can train on a weapon by spending Talent points on that weapon.)

**Accuracy:** Sustained weapons fire reduces accuracy over time. However, the more training you have on a weapon, the longer your accuracy remains.

Accuracy is reduced through:

- **Recoil** – Weapons fire produces a recoil effect that reduces targeting accuracy.
- **Fatigue** – Sprinting eventually causes exhaustion. (Press left **SHIFT** to sprint or to storm an enemy.)

## Tactics HUD



The Tactics HUD allows you to pause the game and make weapon choices, issue orders, and use abilities.

To use abilities, switch weapons, or issue movement commands press and hold **SPACEBAR** to bring up the Tactics HUD.

While holding **SPACEBAR**, mouse over ability icons to see information about the ability. Click the ability you wish to use, weapon to switch to, or tactical order to issue.

To aim your target point for abilities and tactical orders, right-click and hold and aim using the mouse. You can give squad members commands (attack, hold, move, rally) and orders to use abilities or switch weapons at the same time. To execute the chosen ability, command, or weapon change, release **SPACEBAR**.

### Assigning Quick Keys

You can also drag and drop any of Shepard's abilities to the numbered Quick Slots on the top left side of the HUD to use abilities in real time. Press the corresponding number key to fire powers from the Quick Slots.

## Squad Orders

Use the arrow keys to issue squad orders in the field:

- Press the Up Arrow to send your squad to the location you targeted.
- Press the Right Arrow to order them to take cover.
- Press the Left Arrow to order them to attack a specific enemy.
- Press the Down Arrow to order them to rally to your position, then follow you.

## Weapons

### Pistols

Pistols are highly accurate, have little recoil, and are easy to use when moving. They are effective at a variety of ranges, but inflict limited damage. Soldier, Engineer, Adept, Vanguard, and Infiltrator classes can train with pistols.



### Shotguns

Shotguns have a slow rate of fire and high recoil, but inflict massive damage to multiple targets when fired at close range. Soldier and Vanguard classes can train with shotguns.



### Assault rifles

Assault rifles are the standard armament of most Soldiers, offering a good balance between firepower, range, and accuracy. Only the Soldier class can train with assault rifles.



### Sniper rifles

Sniper rifles have a long range, are highly accurate, and inflict significant damage. They have a limited rate of fire, however, and are practically useless at close range. Only Soldier and Infiltrator classes can train with sniper rifles.



### Grenades

Disk-shaped Alliance grenades can glide long distances and also latch onto targets or flat surfaces to be remotely detonated. Only you, as Commander Shepard, can use grenades.

Press **R** to throw a grenade, and then press **R** again to detonate. A grenade will automatically explode after 10 seconds if you don't detonate it.





## Armor

### Light Armor

Light armor offers a basic level of protection from enemy attacks and minimizes the movement penalties that affect weapon accuracy. All classes can wear light armor.

### Medium Armor

Medium armor offers an increased level of protection, but also increases the movement penalties that affect weapon accuracy. Soldiers can wear medium armor from the start, while Vanguard and Infiltrator classes can train to wear it.

### Heavy Armor

Heavy armor offers the highest level of protection from enemy fire, but also has the highest movement penalties affecting weapon accuracy. Only specially trained frontline Soldiers can wear it. No class can wear heavy armor at the start, but the Soldier class can train to wear it.

## EQUIPMENT

Equipment types include:

- Armor
- Assault rifles
- Bio-amps
- Grenades
- Omni-tools
- Pistols
- Shotguns
- Sniper rifles



## Upgrades

Upgrades enhance and customize equipment, letting you increase damage, boost shields, and more. You can only upgrade the following equipment types: armor, weapons, ammo, and grenades.

Each equipment piece has very specific upgrade slots. For example, the ammo slot on a weapon can only be upgraded with an ammo upgrade.

To upgrade equipment, access the Mission Computer, and then select Equipment. Choose the piece to upgrade from the lower right selection belt, and then click the piece to view the Upgrade screen.

To upgrade ammo, select the applicable weapon, and then click the ammo icon to view the ammo upgrade (no ammo icon means no upgrade is available). Click the Equip button or double-click the upgrade to confirm your upgrade and exit.



## SQUAD DATA

### Squad Member Information



Select Squad on the Mission Computer to display information available on each squad member. The information includes:

- 1 Name
- 2 Class
- 3 Appearance
- 4 Paragon and Renegade meters (Shepard only)
- 5 XP and level
- 6 Health
- 7 Unlocked talent
- 8 Locked talent
- 9 Talent description
- 10 Unspent Talent points

### Current level

As you gain experience, your current level reflects your advancement. Whenever you gain enough experience to advance to a new level, you are granted Talent points that you can spend to purchase higher ranks or additional talents.

### Bio-Amps

Biotics can strengthen their power in specific disciplines by using amps (amplifiers). These specially designed devices often come in the form of small electronic attachments that are worn on a Biotic's ear or the back of their head.

### Omni-Tools

Omni-tools are multipurpose diagnostic and minifabricating tools used for a variety of battlefield tasks, such as hacking, decryption, or repair.

### Resources

#### Containers

Containers are found on every planet and often hold valuable equipment and resources. Containers look like metal footlockers or cargo crates. You cannot place items in them.

#### Omni-Gel

Technological materials that can be salvaged from the environment are called omni-gel. Use it with the omni-tool to do electrical or decryption work. You can also use omni-gel to repair the Mako, your vehicle.

#### Credits

Credits are the primary monetary unit in the Mass Effect universe.

#### Medi-Gel

Medi-gel (medical gel) heals various wounds and ailments. You acquire it through looting or NPCs (non-player characters). You can also purchase an increase in your medi-gel capacity in some shops. Press **F** to deploy First Aid.

### Health

Lists your current and maximum health levels. Health represents your ability to take damage in combat. When your health hits zero, you die. Your maximum health increases as you advance during gameplay.

### Experience points

Lists your current XP (experience points) and the total needed to advance to the next level.

### Paragon and Renegade meters

These meters track your choices throughout gameplay.

The Paragon meter increases when your choices are noble, cooperative, or self-sacrificing. Paragons achieve their goals by doing the right thing in the right way.

The Renegade meter increases when your choices are aggressive, selfish, or ruthless. Renegades achieve their goals by any means necessary.

### Talents

Assigning points to talents lets you improve combat, tech, and biotics, as well as activate special abilities under each talent.

You and your squad can upgrade talents in the same way. (See *Talents* on p. 28 to learn more.)

### Squad Selection

Use the Squad Selection screen to recruit a balanced squad based on the combat, tech, and biotics talents of each potential squad member.

Use the mouse to move among available squad members. Click a member to remove them from or add them to your party. Click Examine Squad at any time to review your squad. When you are satisfied, click the Accept button.

You can only choose squad members in two circumstances:

- When you first encounter a new potential squad member.
- When leaving the Normandy, where you can return to change squad members.

Choose your squad with care: when you leave the Normandy, you may not have an opportunity to change them until you can return.

### How to Navigate to an Uncharted World

Missions throughout the Attican Traverse take you to uncharted worlds with mysterious anomalies. To discover the nature of these anomalies, you must travel to, land on, and explore these planets.

From the Galaxy Map, select Cluster Navigation, System Navigation, and then Planetary Landings.

After landing on a planet, explore its terrain in your Mako, which comes equipped with powerful sensors that detect alien enemies, technological anomalies, and resources.

Use your Mission Computer map on an uncharted world to discover what is nearby. Right-click the map to set a destination, which then displays as an arrow on the in-game radar.

### How to Leave an Uncharted World

When you're ready to leave an uncharted world, and return to the Normandy, click Return to Normandy while you are inside the Mako.

If you are on foot:

1. Press **ESC** to call up the Mission Computer, and then select Map.
2. Click Return to Normandy.





## VEHICLE

### Mako

The Mako is an infantry fighting vehicle (IFV), or rover. It carries you and your squad into battle, where it provides fire support and cover.

To get you and your squad into the Mako, walk close to it and press **E**.

To drive the Mako, press **W**. Press **S** for reverse, and **A** and **D** to steer left and right. Press **SPACEBAR** to jump over rough terrain or dodge enemy fire.

Press left **SHIFT** to zoom the gun camera, right-click to fire the cannon, and left-click to fire the machine gun.

To leave the Mako, find safe, stable ground, and then press **Q**. Be aware of the hazard level outside before departing, as you may only survive for a limited time in some hostile atmospheres.



The Vehicle HUD displays health and shield levels for squad members, and weapons and equipment status for the Mako.

### How to Repair the Mako

You can spend omni-gel to repair the Mako in the field by pressing **F**. Before doing so, however, you must stop the Mako, remain in it, and cease weapons fire.

## DECRYPTING

Some containers or doors are locked and can only be opened by overriding the security using the omni-tool and your decrypting talent. When you encounter a security device you have the option to use omni-gel or manual override.

Decryption uses the omni-tool to hack into the security mechanism and bypass the firewalls and scanners. When attempting to manually override the system, you must complete the operation within a set time.



Move the mouse to rotate the probe around the omni-tool, then click to advance one gateway or right-click to retreat one gateway. Or you can press **A/D** to move around the omni-tool left/right, then press **W** to advance or **S** to retreat one gateway.



## TALENTS

A talent is an area of expertise that can improve as you progress in the game. As you gain experience, you acquire Talent points that you can spend to improve aspects of your character.

The talents available to you and your squad are determined by the class selected in Character Creation. At activation phases, marked with icons on the talent, you unlock new abilities or other talents on the Squad screen.

### Combat Talents



**Pistols** – Improves accuracy and damage when wielding pistols. Activates the Marksman ability that lets you fire more quickly and accurately for a short time.

**Shotgun** – Improves accuracy and damage when wielding shotguns. Activates the Carnage ability that lets you fire a huge blast from your shotgun that damages enemies.

**Assault Rifles** – Improves accuracy and damage when wielding assault rifles. Activates the Overkill ability that lets you fire your weapon in longer, more accurate bursts.

**Sniper Rifles** – Improves accuracy and damage when wielding sniper rifles. Activates the Assassination ability that increases the damage of your next sniper shot.

**Armor** – Improves the amount of damage your armor can absorb and may allow you to equip heavier armor, depending on your class. Activates the Shield Boost ability that restores your shields in combat.

**Assault Training** – Increases melee and weapons damage. Activates the Adrenaline Burst ability that resets the cooldown times on all your talents so that they can be used immediately.

**Fitness** – Boosts your health, upping the maximum damage you can take before dying. Activates the Immunity ability that increases your damage protection for a short period of time.

**Spectre Training** – Increases health, accuracy, and the effectiveness of all attacks and powers. Grants the Unity ability that lets you revive your squad members if they are injured in combat.

### Tech Talents



**Damping** – Increases the explosion radius of your tech mines. It activates the Damping Field, which suppresses enemies' tech and biotic abilities in combat.

**Decryption** – Lets you spend omni-gel to override security systems to open doors or containers. Ultimately, it activates Sabotage, which quickly disables enemy weapons in combat.

**Hacking** – Increases the recharge speed of your tech proximity mines. Ultimately, it activates AI (artificial intelligence) Hacking abilities, which let you control the AI of robotic enemies so they attack everyone around them, including each other.

**Electronics** – Increases shield strength and lets you bypass the security systems of some locked objects. It also activates use of Overload, which damages or disables enemy shields in combat.

## Biotic Talents



**Throw** – Generates a biotic field that throws objects within range.

**Lift** – Generates a biotic field that lifts objects into the air.

**Warp** – Generates a biotic field that slowly tears apart any object it hits, doing damage and temporarily reducing armor effectiveness.

**Singularity** – Generates a biotic field that causes objects to fly and violently smash into each other.

**Barrier** – Generates a biotic field that absorbs weapons fire.

**Stasis** – Generates a biotic field that surrounds and isolates any object it touches, preventing enemies from moving or attacking, but also blocking you from dealing them damage.

## Additional Talents

**Charm** – Increases Charm options in conversation, and decreases the credits needed when purchasing items in stores.

**Intimidate** – Increases Intimidate options in conversation, and increases credits gained when selling items in stores.

## Class Talents

Certain talents are inherent to each character class:

**Soldier** – Improves health and health regeneration.

**Engineer** – Reduces recharge time of tech abilities and increases tech resistance.

**Adept** – Reduces recharge time of biotic abilities and increases biotic resistance.

**Infiltrator** – Increases damage delivered by tech mines and reduces overheating of sniper rifles and pistols.

**Sentinel** – Reduces recharge time of tech and biotic abilities, increases damage and accuracy of pistols, and grants Marksman ability.

**Vanguard** – Increases biotic resistance and damage of shotguns and pistols.

## Talent Upgrade

You and your squad members have a list of talents representing each character's capabilities, strengths, and training. By spending Talent points on these, certain aspects of the character become stronger and eventually open up new attacks, buffs, proficiencies, and skills.

## Talent Points

Use your Talent points to purchase higher ranks.

Press **U**, or press **ESC** to go to the Mission Computer and then choose Squad. Click on a talent's available section or click the + and - icons to add or delete ranks.

## Specialization

Specialization boosts class-specific talents. After completing an optional Systems Alliance Military assignment, choose a specialization for your character, increasing the maximum Talent points you can spend on class-specific talents.



# CREDITS

## BioWare

**Project Director**  
Casey Hudson

**Lead Designer**  
Preston Watanianuk

**Lead Writer**  
Drew Karpshyn

**Art Director**  
Derek Watts

**Lead Programmer**  
David Falkner

**Executive Producers**  
Ray Muzyka (CEO)  
Greg Zeschuk (President)

**Animators**  
Jonathan Cooper – Lead  
Christian Enciso  
Chris Hale  
Ben Hindle  
Mark How  
Rick Li  
Marc-Antoine Matton  
Kees Rijnjen  
Dave Wilkinson

**Cinematics Animators**  
Shane Welbourn – Lead  
Tony de Waal  
Nick DiLiberto  
Mike Higgins  
Ryan Kemp  
Brad Kinley  
Colin Kneuppel  
Pasquale LaMontagna  
Parrish Ley  
Greg Lidstone  
Joel MacMillan  
Sherridon Routley

**Director, Animation & Cinematics Dept.**  
Steve Gilmour

**Character Artists**  
Mike Spalding – Lead  
Tim Appleby  
Matt Charlesworth  
Francis Lacuna  
Ryan Lim  
Steve Runham  
Sean Smalles  
Jaemus Wurzbach

**Concept Artists**  
Fran Gaulin  
Sung Kim  
Matthew Rhodes

**GUI Artist**  
Nelson Housden

## Level Artists

Mike Trotter – Lead  
Don Arceta  
Kally Chow  
Tristan Clarysse  
Nolan Cunningham  
Boali Dashdestani  
Michael Jeffrey  
Noel Lukesewich  
Chris Ryzebol  
Marcel Silva  
Mike Smith  
Jason Spykerman  
Neil Valeriano  
Gina Welbourn

**Technical Artists**  
Adrien Cho – Lead  
Brian Chung  
Jeff Vanelle

**Visual Effects Artists**  
Shareef Shanawany – Lead  
Alim Chaarani  
Trevor Gilday  
Andrew Melnychuk-Oseen  
Ryan Rosanky  
Jacky Xuan

**Director, Art Dept.**  
Dave Hilbein

**Audio Design**  
Steven Sim – Lead  
Michael Kent – Associate Lead  
Matt Besler  
Vance Dylan  
Michael Peter  
Jeremie Voillot

**Cinematic Systems Design**  
Brad Prince – Lead

**Cinematics Designers**  
Ken Thain – Lead  
Jonathan Epp  
James Henley  
Nathan Moller  
Jonathan Perry  
Armando Trois

**Systems Designers**  
Jason Attard  
Jason Booth  
Georg Zoeller

**Technical Designers**  
Dusty Everman – Lead  
Rick Burton  
Keith Hayward  
David Sitar  
Peter Thomas  
Keith Warner  
John Winski

**Writers**  
Luke Kristjanson  
Chris L'Etoile  
Mac Walters  
Patrick Weekes

## Editor

Cookie Everman

**Director, Design Dept.**  
Kevin Barrett

**Project Managers**  
Yanick Roy – Lead  
Corey Andruko

**Asst. Producers**  
Steve Lam  
Nathan Plewes

**VO & External Resources Producer**  
Shauna Perry

**Asst. External Resources Producers**  
Teresa Costata  
Melanie Fleming

**Localization Project Manager**  
John Campbell

**Director, Production Dept.**  
Duane Webb

**Lead Tools Programmer**  
Darren Wong

**Programmers**  
Marc Audy  
Robert Babiak  
Noel Borstad  
Skye Boyes  
Jason Ewasuk  
Dan Fessenden  
Prashan Gunasingam  
Dan Hein  
Brenon Holmes  
Ryan Hoyle  
Mark Jaskiewicz  
Oliver Jauncey  
Don Moar  
Daniel Morris  
Christina Norman  
Chris Ortheroff  
Chris Ozneroff  
Chris Petkau  
Rejean Poirier  
Shawn Potter  
Zousar Shaker  
Janice Thomas  
Craig Welburn  
John Wetmiller

**Tools Programmers**  
Chris Christou  
Andy Despleter  
Blake Grant  
Carson Knittig  
Stefan Lednicki  
Chris Malichal  
Brent Scriver  
Kris Tan  
Jon Thompson  
Ryan Warden  
Tom Zaplachinski

## Graphics Programmers

Jonathan Baldwin  
Rob Krajcarski  
Matt Peters  
Audio Programmers  
Marwan Audeh  
Sophia Chan  
Pat LaBine  
Don Yakielashek

**Asst. Director, Programming Dept.**  
Aaryn Flynn

**QA Analysts**  
Scott Langevin – Lead  
Bob McCabe – Design Lead  
Kim Hansen – Tech Lead  
Guillaume Bourbonniere  
Billy Buskell  
Derrick Collins  
Mitchell T. Fujino  
Ryan Loe  
Brian Mills  
Iain Stevens-Guille

**QA Programmers**  
Alex Lucas  
Jonathan Newton  
Jay Zhou

**QA Term Testers**  
Vanessa Alvarado  
Zachery Blanchette  
Reid Buckmaster  
Chris Buzon  
Chris Corfe  
James Farmer  
Andrew Gauthier  
Darren Gilday  
Stanley Hunt  
Raymond Huot  
Andrea Hussey  
Thomas Jalbert  
Chris Johnstone  
Aron LeBarry  
Michael Liaw  
Jonathan Pacholuk  
Richard Poulin  
Kyle Shewchuk  
Ameet Thandi  
Kevin Therrien  
Malcom Tough  
Thomas Trachimowich  
Daniel Trotter  
Tayce Wilson

**Director, QA Dept.**  
Phillip DeRosa

**Add'l Art**  
Sasha Beliaev  
Ken Finlayson  
Shane Hawco  
Eric Poulin  
Rion Swanson

## Rob Sugama

Jillian Tamaki

**Add'l Design**  
Rafael Brown  
Charly Carlos  
Eric Fagnan  
Chris Hepler  
Scott Horner  
Mike Laidlaw  
Paul Marino  
Kevin Martens  
Aidan Scanlan  
Kris Schoneberg  
Jay Turner

**Add'l Programming**  
Chris Blackbourne  
Howard Chung  
Jordan Dubuc  
Jan Goh  
Michael Graves  
Chris Johnson  
Scott Meadows  
James Redford  
Julie West  
Graham Whildal  
Peter Woytulk

**Add'l Production**  
Alain Baxter

**Add'l QA**  
Steven Deleew  
Nathan Frederick  
Curtis Knecht  
Denny Letourneau  
Vanessa Prinsen  
Homan Sanaie

**Original Score, Composers**  
Jack Wall – Lead  
Sam Hulick

**Add'l Music**  
Richard Jacques  
David Kates

**Credit Music**  
m4 part II  
Written and Performed by Faunts

**VO Direction**  
Ginny McSwain  
Caroline Livingstone  
Chris Borders

**Casting Services**  
Tikiman Productions, Inc.

**VO Recorded at**  
Technicolor Interactive Services (Burbank)  
Blackman Productions (Edmonton)

**Add'l Dialogue Editing**  
Dave Chan

## Mass Effect Cast

**Steve Barr**  
Urdnot Wrex  
Add'l voices

**Kimberly Brooks**  
Ashley Williams

**Keith David**  
Captain David Anderson

**Seth Green**  
Jeff "Joker" Moreau

**Jennifer Hale**  
Commander Shepard (Female)

**Add'l voices**  
Lance Henriksen  
Admiral Steven Hackett

**Ali Hillis**  
Lara T'Soni

**Brandon Keener**  
Garrus Vakarian

**Mark Meer**  
Commander Shepard (Male)

**Add'l voices**  
Marina Sirtis  
Matriarch Benezia

**Liz Sroka**  
Tali'Zorah nar Rayya

**Add'l voices**  
Raphael Sbarge  
Kaidan Alenko

**Fred Tattacore**  
Saren

**Additional Voices**  
Leigh Allyn Baker  
April Banigan  
Wendy Braun  
Scott Bullock  
Andy Chanley  
Cam Clarke  
Townsend Coleman  
Tim Conlon  
Marianne Copithorne  
Belinda Cornish  
Josh Dean  
Grey Delisle  
Charles Dennis  
Robin Atkin Downes  
Alastair Duncan  
Chris Edgerly  
Jeannie Elias  
Gideon Emery  
Dannah Feinglass  
Brian George  
Kim Mai Guest  
Jeff Haslam  
Roger L. Jackson  
Peter Jessop  
John Kirkpatrick  
Lex Lang  
Matthew Levin  
David Ley  
Anndi McAfee

Kim McCaw  
Gord Marriott  
Erin Matthews  
Diane Michelle  
Jeff Page  
Chris Postle  
Bill Ratner  
Neil Ross  
Dwight Schultz  
Carolyn Seymour  
David Shaughnessy  
Armin Shimerman  
Jane Singer  
Jan Alexandra Smith  
Kath Soucie  
Steve Staley  
Stephen Stanton  
April Stewart  
Cree Summer  
Keith Szarabaja  
George Szilagyi  
Mari Weiss  
Gary Anthony Williams  
David Wittenberg  
Shanelle Workman  
John Wright  
Gwendoline Yeo  
Rick Zieff

**Motion Capture**  
Giant Studios

**3D Scans**  
3D Eyetronics

**Mass Effect PC External**

**Project Director**  
Diarmid Clarke

**Associate Producer**  
Darcy Pajak

**Associate Technical Producer**  
Derek French

**Assistant Producer**  
Steve Lam

**Programming Lead**  
Owen Borstad

**Programming**  
Steven Hand

**Localization Producer**  
Jenny McKearney

**Assistant Localization Producer**  
Ryan Warden

**QA Lead**  
Homan Sanaie

**QA Design Analyst**  
Billy Buskell

**QA Term Testers**  
Vanessa Alvarado  
George Blott  
Reid Buckmaster  
Darren Gilday  
Jack Lamden  
Richard Poulin  
Tayce Wilson

Thomas Trachimowich

**Additional Design**  
Chris L'Etoile  
Christina Norman

**Additional QA**  
Chris Buzon  
Kim Hansen  
Scott Langevin

**Additional Programming**  
Marwan Audeh  
Jonathan Baldwin  
Blake Grant  
Brenon Holmes  
Nelson Housden  
Ryan Hoyle  
Rob Krajcarski  
Shawn Potter  
Craig Welburn  
John Wetmiller

**BioWare Marketing**

**Director of Marketing**  
Ric Williams

**Art**  
Sheridon Routley  
Mike Sass

**Community**  
Jason Barlow  
Chris Priestly  
Jay Watanianuk

**Marketing Manager**  
Jarrett Lee

**Assistant Brand Manager**  
Randall Bishop

**PR**  
Matt Atwood  
Erik Einsiedel

**Web**  
Johnn Four  
Jeff Marvin  
Colin Walmesley

**Bioware Operations**

**And Administration**

**Director of Development**  
Darryl Horne

**Director of Business Development**  
Richard Iwaniuk

**Director of Finance and Administration**  
Kevin Gunderman

**Manager of Administrative Services**  
Jo-Marie Langkow

**Finance/Payroll**  
Todd Derechey  
Sharon Pate  
Treena Rees  
Calvin Chan

**Director of Human Resources**  
Derek Sidebottom

**Human Resources**  
Celia Arevalo  
Theresa Baxter  
Mark Kluchky  
Leanne Korotash  
Angela Pappas

**Director of Information Systems**  
Vince Waldon

**Information Systems – Application**  
Lee Evanochko  
Julian Karst  
Robert McKenna  
Jesse Van Herk

**Information Systems – Desktop**  
Dave McGruther  
Jeff Mills  
Brett Tollefson  
Chris Zeschuk

**Information Systems – Facilities**  
Mike Patterson

**Information Systems – Infrastructure**  
Sam Decker  
Wayne Mah  
Craig Miller

**Director of Legal and Business Services**  
Robert Kallir

**Admin Assistants/Reception**  
Keri Clark  
Crystal Ens  
Teresa Meester  
Lanna Mess

**Demiurge Studios Development Team**

**Art Lead**  
Katie Stampf

**Art**  
Andrew Cormier

**Business and Legal**  
Bill Reed

**Design Lead**  
Dan Chretien

**Engineering**  
Ken Clary  
Roger Hanna  
Andy Hendrickson  
Andrew Moise  
Bernie Rissmiller  
Kevin Teich

**Project Lead**  
Bill McFadden

**Production**  
Tim Crosby  
Kristin Price  
Al Reed  
Kurt Reiner

**Quality Assurance Lead**  
Jimmy Storey

**Quality Assurance**  
Bill Wesley Sherman

**Demiurge Studios**  
Dave Elder  
Dave Flamburis  
Andrea Fonger  
Liang Li  
Tom Lin  
Chris Linder  
Andrew Moise  
Leo Montenegro  
Les Nelken  
Evan Nikolich  
Kurt Reiner  
Alex Rice  
Adam Rosenfield  
Eddie Scholtz

**EA Partners**  
David Yee

**Associate Producer**  
Michael Doran

**Assistant Producer**  
Craig Krstolic

**Sr. Development Director**  
John Vifian

**Development Director**  
Crystal Sanchez

**Special Thanks**  
Steve Arnold  
Edwin Caparaz  
Steve D'Eredita  
Brent Dady  
David DeMartini  
Jon Horsley  
Micah Loucks  
DJ Powers  
Raphael Ruland  
Chris Serra  
Ben Smith  
Evelyn Walker

**EA Redwood Shores**

**QA Director**  
Dave Steele

**QA Manager**  
Matthew Brown

**Sr. Test Lead**  
Robert Walton

**QA Project Lead**  
Daniel Allender



## PERFORMANCE TIPS

### QA Assistant Leads

Raasahn Browder  
Jonathan Yan

### QA Testers

Krish Acu  
John Bratnobar  
Jack Beacom  
Ashley Coleman  
Michael Crabtree  
Katharine Ellis  
Robin Giles  
Shelby Goad  
Jared Karklins  
Nathan J. Karklins  
Ronald Nixon  
Tim Olson  
Samuel Retzliff  
Devon M. Smith  
Isaac Stevenson  
Chris Sykora  
Bryan Walsh  
Chad Wilson

### EARS LQA Assistant Lead

Alief Shehadeh

### EARS LQA Testers

Daniel Canton  
Matt Danuser  
Huey Ngo  
Matt Zenel

### QA Support Manager

Dave Koerner

### QA Compliance Leads

Matt Landi  
Steve Jenkins  
Mark Johnson  
Josh Riemersma

### QA Compliance Testers

Chris Anjos  
Sam Wolf

### EARS Compatibility Lab

Angelo Bayan  
Dave Caron

### Mark Gonzales

Jon Naugle  
Ryan Morales  
Josh Platt

### Worldwide Mastering

Michael Yasko

### EARS Mastering

Mike Deir  
Chris Espiritu  
Kima Hayuk  
Rick Helmer  
Belle Vasaya

### North America Submissions and Compliance (NASC)

Jason Collins  
Darryl Jenkins  
Mike Kushner  
Daniel Martell  
Russell Medeiros  
Ryan Roque  
Joyce Sacman  
Matthew Salazar

### Customer Quality Control – North America (CQC-NA)

Dave Beck  
Wes Hendrix  
Ryan Jacobson  
Dave Jordan  
Kyle Killion

### Documentation Layout

Conrad Leiden  
Shaun McCourt  
Garrett Muldoon  
Chance Shiflett  
Bobby Williams

### EA Europe

Christopher Held

### European Mastering Manager

Sam Roberts

### Madrid Mastering

Andreas Berral  
John Brunton  
Dan Burnett

### Ruben Del Pozo

Cristian Giner  
Gonzalez

### Sr. Localization Project Manager

Laurent Gilbert

### Localization Project Manager

Fausto Ceccarelli

### Head Localization Tester

Juan Linaje

### Localization Testers

Alexander Bowman  
Paolo Catozzella  
Damien Haimovici  
David Monteiro  
Tirdad Nosrati  
Federica Rossi

## Problems Running the Game

- Make sure you meet the minimum system requirements for this game and that you have the latest drivers for your video card and sound card installed:  
For NVIDIA video cards, visit [www.nvidia.com](http://www.nvidia.com) to locate and download them.  
For ATI video cards, visit [www.ati.amd.com](http://www.ati.amd.com) to locate and download them.
- If you are running the disc version of this game, try reinstalling DirectX from the disc. This is typically found in the DirectX folder on the root of the disc. If you have Internet access, you can visit [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com) to download the latest version of DirectX.

## General Troubleshooting Tips

- If you have the disc version of this game and the AutoPlay screen does not automatically appear for installation/playing, right-click the disc drive icon found in My Computer and select AutoPlay.
- If the game is running slowly, try reducing the quality of some of the video and sound settings from the game's options menu. Reducing the screen resolution can often improve performance.
- For optimum performance when playing, you may like to disable other background tasks (except the EADM application, if applicable) running in Windows.

## BioWare Special Thanks

Jim Bishop, Mark Darrah, Trent Oster, Dan Tudge, Richard Vogel, Gordon Walton, Jorg Neumann, Russ Almond, and all our friends at BioWare Austin.

A very special thanks to our families and friends, whose patience and support helped us reach for the stars.

See the in-game credits for a complete list of *Mass Effect* team members.

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you have trouble with this game, EA Technical Support can help.

The *EA Help* file provides solutions and answers to the most common difficulties and questions about how to properly use this product.

### To access the EA Help file (with the game already installed):

Click the **Technical Support** link in the game's directory located in the **Start > Programs** (or **All Programs**) menu.

### To access the EA Help file (without the game already installed):

1. Insert the game disc into your DVD-ROM drive.
2. Double-click the My Computer icon on the Desktop. (For Windows XP, you may need to click the **Start** button and then click the My Computer icon).
3. Right-click the DVD-ROM drive that has the game disc and then select **OPEN**.
4. Open the **Support > EA Help > Electronic\_Arts\_Technical\_Support.htm** file in North America or **Support > European Help Files > Electronic\_Arts\_Technical\_Support.htm** in Europe.

If you are still experiencing difficulty after utilizing the information in the EA Help file you can contact EA Technical Support.

### EA Technical Support on the Internet

If you have Internet access, be sure to check our EA Technical Support website at:

**<http://support.ea.com>**

Here you will find a wealth of information on DirectX, game controllers, modems, and networks, as well as information on regular system maintenance and performance. Our website contains up-to-date information on the most common difficulties, game-specific help, and frequently asked questions (FAQs). This is the same information our support technicians use to troubleshoot your performance issues. We keep the support website updated on a daily basis, so please check here first for no-wait solutions.

### Technical Support Contact Info

If you need to talk to someone immediately, call our Technical Support team (Monday through Friday 8 AM – 5 PM PST):

**Telephone:** US 1 (650) 628-1001.

**NOTE:** No hints or codes are available from Technical Support.

**Website:** <http://support.ea.com>

**Mailing Address:** EA Technical Support  
209 Redwood Shores Parkway  
Redwood City, CA 94065



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**NOTE:** The Following warranties only apply to products sold at retail. These warranties do not apply to products sold online via EA Store or third parties.

### Electronic Arts Limited Warranty

Electronic Arts warrants to the original purchaser of this product that the recording medium on which the software program(s) are recorded (the “**Recording Medium**”) and the documentation that is included with this product (the “**Manual**”) are free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of 90 days from the date of purchase. If the Recording Medium or the Manual is found to be defective within 90 days from the date of purchase, Electronic Arts agrees to replace the Recording Medium or Manual free of charge upon receipt of the Recording Medium or Manual at its service center, postage paid, with proof of purchase. This warranty is limited to the Recording Medium containing the software program and the Manual that were originally provided by Electronic Arts. This warranty shall not be applicable and shall be void if, in the judgment of Electronic Arts, the defect has arisen through abuse, mistreatment or neglect.

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### RETURNS WITHIN THE 90-DAY WARRANTY PERIOD

Please return the product along with (1) a copy of the original sales receipt showing the date of purchase, (2) a brief description of the difficulty you are experiencing, and (3) your name, address and phone number to the address below and Electronic Arts will mail a replacement Recording Medium and/or Manual to you. If the product was damaged through misuse or accident, this 90-day warranty is rendered void and you will need to follow the instructions for returns after the 90-day warranty period. We strongly recommend that you send your products using a traceable delivery method. Electronic Arts is not responsible for products not in its possession.

### EA Warranty Information

If the defect in the Recording Medium or Manual resulted from abuse, mistreatment or neglect, or if the Recording Medium or Manual is found to be defective after 90 days from the date of purchase, choose one of the following options to receive our replacement instructions:

*Online:* <http://warrantyinfo.ea.com>

*Automated Warranty Information:* You can contact our automated phone system 24 hours a day for any and all warranty questions:

US 1 (650) 628-1001

### EA Warranty Mailing Address

Electronic Arts Customer Warranty  
209 Redwood Shores Parkway  
Redwood City, CA 94065

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