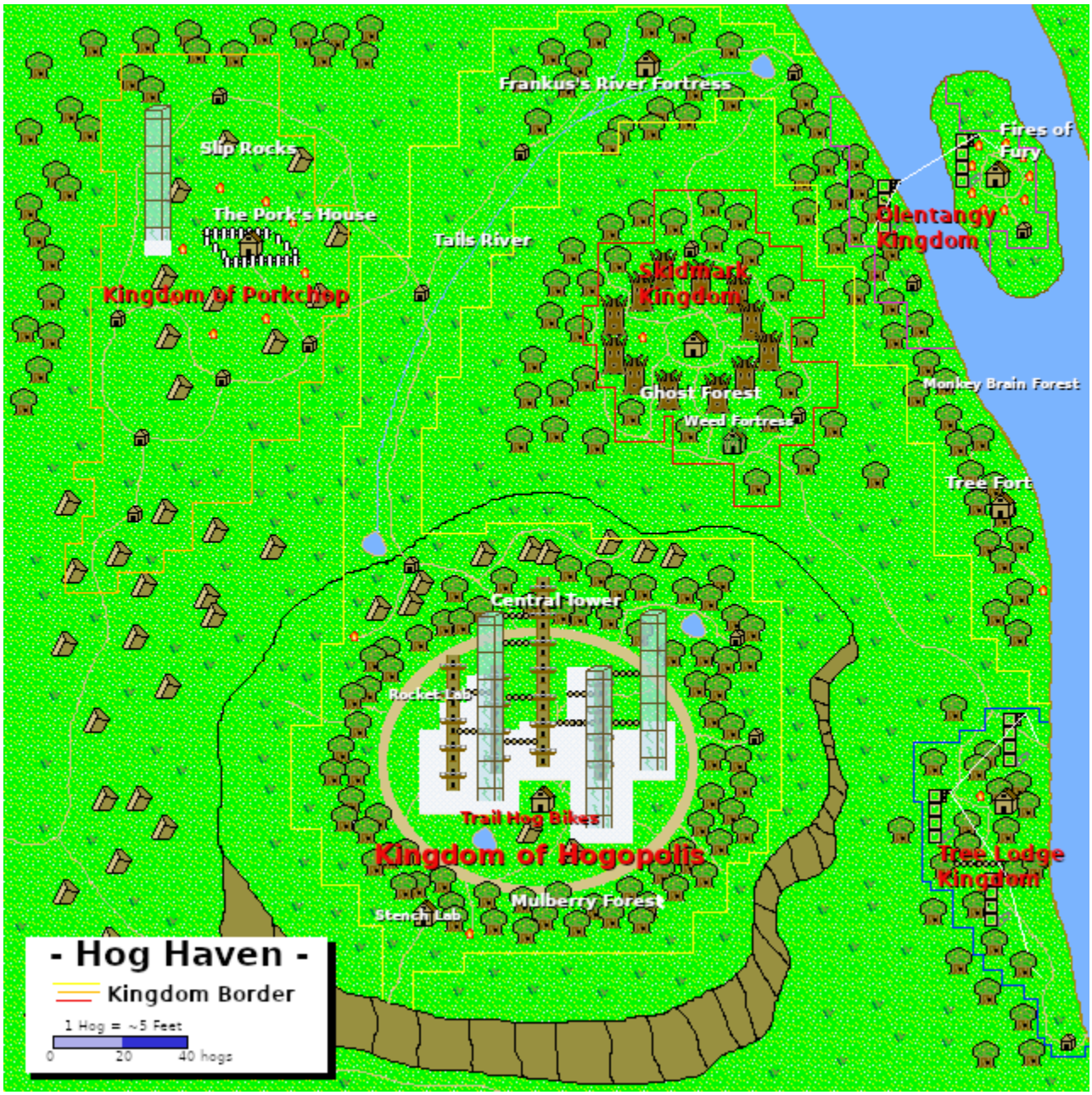
Game Instructions

The Trail Hogs is a bicycle jousting game. Right now it is a 2D platform game similar to Super Mario except that you joust your opponent, whom is also on a bicycle, by running into him very similar to bumper cars. These bikes are also equipped with springs behind the rear axle to allow them to jump similar to a pogo stick, hence the high jump. In the game you ride a bike and battle opponents who have taken over various areas.

Background Story



The story takes place after the creation of the Trail Hog bike and the city of Hog Haven.

During its foundation all bicycle gangs were united into the Trail Hogs but shortly after they split into the Trail Hogs and the Skidmarks, a rowdy group of cyclists. Currently, the Skidmarks have taken over the city by misting it with a foul smelling mist that only a prankster could come up with. Their ringleader, The Pork, has orchestrated this and is said to be the best bicycle Ninja the city has ever seen. Frankus seeing the plight of the Hogs moves out to reclaim his bicycle kingdom!

Controls

Move
Press left or right of the arrow keys on your keyboard or gamepad.

Jump
Press the action key on the keyboard (Z) or gamepad (B). You cannot jump unless you are moving. Press left or right to tweak your jump BMX style.

Brake
Press down on the keyboard or gamepad. You can also press this in midair to "air-brake".

Enter Pipe
Press right on the keyboard or gamepad even when in mid-air!

Cross Road
Press up or down on the keyboard or gamepad.

Use Trail Spear
Press fire #1 button on the keyboard (X) or gamepad (A).

Drop Bomb
Press fire #2 button on the keyboard (C) or gamepad (Y).

Fire Rocket
Press fire #3 button on the keyboard (V) or gamepad (X).

Go to Rescue House
Press R on the keyboard or L on the gamepad.

Enter Area on Map
Press fire #1 button on the keyboard (X) or gamepad (A).

Pause
Click the P button on the screen or press start on the gamepad.

Exit and Save Game
Press spacebar on the keyboard or press select.

Gamepad Information

So far I have tested the game with RetroLink and Logitech gamepads. They work as expected. You will be prompted for buttons when you first start the game. If you do not have any of these gamepads please use the keyboard and disconnect any connected gamepad accordingly. They will slow down keyboard input.

Game Structure

This game consists of a city broken up into many areas. There is a map screen which can only be accessed by tagging goals to finish an area or by entering an exit pipe. You move through areas looking for tokens and the leader of the Skidmarks, The Pork, in order to fight him.

In this game you do not die. You are simply pushed around by your rivals and off platforms if you are high up. All their efforts can make you waste more time in an area. However, in some instances if you fall off a cliff you can end up in another area!

You collect tokens and other treasures throughout the game by finding them and winning races. To earn from a race you must beat the best time. Tokens are used to buy items that you might need, mostly for modding your bike.

Status Display



The "FL" shaped item is a token. You collect these to open up levels and to buy mods for your bike. If you lose a mod for your bike you can get a replacement free of charge. Also the number of tokens you have does not go down when you buy anything. Some areas on the map will also require a certain number of token to enter.

Your speed is measured by the power meter on the right. When it turns green you are at full speed. The fastest a bike can go is 20 miles per hour.

You also see bomb and rocket symbols on the left of the screen. These keep track of bombs and rockets that you pick up in the game. Keep track of these because in some areas they are critical to passing to the next area.

In some levels you will race against a clock. Your time counts backwards from 1000 seconds. You'll want to get to the goal tape at the end of the level as fast as you can. This will set your best time. Come back again and try to beat it!

This game may be unique in that you can intentionally get soft blocked. Here is an example where your character can fall into a trap set up by the Skidmarks. If you get stuck here you must be rescued and to do that you must call a rescue. This is done by pressing the (R) on the keyboard or (L) on the gamepad. The rescue house is in the city and that's where you'll be taken.

Another important aspect to remember is that in this game you cannot die. Enemies do not hurt you but they can push you off of ledges and ropes which can result in you falling into a sewer or into another area. In some cases you will be pushed off of a ledge but can climb back up without having the exit the area!

Characters

Lime Bike
These lime colored bikes are part of a club of cyclists that just like to ride and joust. If you bump into them they give you advice. In some cases they'll hide while the Skidmarks are around only to come back out once the Skidmarks leader has been defeated!

Sidemark Bike
A dark green colored bike. They are with The Pork and follow him out of fear of his great strength. As aggressive cyclists they like to run into you and push you off ledges. Sometimes they also attack with various weapons. To defeat them push them off a ledge or jump on them.

The Pork
A red colored bike. This guy is out to cause trouble in the city by taking over popular riding areas. He is the most powerful cyclist of the Skidmarks and has the most advanced weapons. He does not show his face - he hides in the depths of the city. Defeat him by pushing him into a trap set up by the lime bikes. He is a master of the martial art bicycle-fu and used to go by the name Hong Kong John.

Wheel
This is a bicycle wheel that can be kicked around. Enemies may kick it at you. It is even possible that you can get knocked off a ledge if the thing runs into you!

Airboard
This is a contraption that looks like a big bird with lift propellers. It is powered by a propeller underneath which is rigged to a pedal system. There are also electric motors to assist the rider. Ridden by members of the Skidmarks it is used to harass our hero.

Bluejay
This is a friend, he will follow your moves and can even help get items from hard to reach areas!

Skater

A member of the Skidmarks bicycle gang on a single foot skateboard. They do stunts and can even nosedive!

Weiny
This little sausage guy is back in a cameo appearance! It is more annoying that anything will try to block your path.

Evil Bluejay
This guy is back but as a bad guy. This time he's brought his friends along to steal stuff from your bike - watch out! They can be defeated with rockets.

There are more enemies than labeled here. Just keep an eye out.

Items

Token
A ring just like in Sonic. This items is money so pick it up. In some areas they are even required to enter. Make sure you keep a reserve of these because they count as coins too.

Pulley Attachment
This enhances your bike to that you can ride wires much like a cable car. The difference is that the pulley is powered by your bikes drive train and the wire is stationary. It also comes it a built-in spring so you can jump off the wire.

Trail Spear
Originally built to scare off deer that might get in the way of rides this item is excellent for bicycle jousting and for self defense. It packs quite a punch!

Key
This can only be grabbed by Bluejay. He can then use it to open a locked area.

Keyhole
This is used to warp to other area. You have to grab something or fulfill some kind of mission to get it to work.

Bomb
This is not intended to be used a weapon but to be dropped underneath your bike which causes an explosion to send you flying up. With this valuable item you can master the art of bicycle flight!

Rain Canopy
Very hard to find but once you find it you will be able to break blocks and get to areas that you couldn't reach. The shop appears to be hard to find.

Rocket
These rockets fly in the air on have the the letter "R" inscribed on them. Don't be afraid of these! Be quick and grab them to fill your arsenal. Now you can fire rockets at enemies!

FAQ

It is hard to jump. What am I doing wrong?
You need to build up speed to jump. This is not exactly like Mario.

I got stuck. What do I do?
Most likely you got soft blocked so press R to restart the level.

Can I build a level?
Yes. You are welcome to build whatever you want. Get with me to learn how to use the editors.

How big is the game?
It is going to be big but is constantly being built. Its size is a surprise?

What are blue and green area on the map?
You need to gather tokens to enter these area.

How similar is this game to Mario?
It has similarities but the game is not really divided into levels. It is a city and you go around looking for stuff and, ultimately, the leader of the Skidmarks, The Pork. The game is not necessarily linear and you could go and revisit areas often. It is more similar to an MMORPG.

What is the goal of The Trail Hogs?
The ultimate goal is to fight the leader of the Skidmarks, The Pork. After that you are rewarded with a reformed city.

So you can program a sprite?
Yes, the engine is fully scriptable.

What language are the sprites programmed in?
C-Lesh

What language is the engine programmed in?
JavaScript

Is C-Lesh compiled into JavaScript?
No, it has it own virtual machine written in JavaScript. It is pretty fast!

What is the future of The Trail Hogs? Will it be web-based?
Yes, for the sake of deployment and being integrated with Codeloader. All games will be integrated with Codeloader, always. Codeloader is being ported to a console and is an evolving system.

Will The Trail Hogs be 3D and how will it be like?
It will be someday. That would require a huge rewrite of the engine and right now Codeloader is not that old. A fully 3D or isometric Trail Hogs will consists of missions and battle royals.

Author

The game engine and games are written by the Codeloader.