

Grudge Match : WCW vs NWO Revenge / WWF Warzone

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GRUDGE MATCH

WCW/nWo Revenge

Review Crew Scores: 7.5 8.5 8.5 8.0

Revenge pins down the flash and presentation of TV wrestling, with real WCW venues, well-animated wrestler intros, better crowd and ring graphics—not to mention sharper and more colorful visuals overall. It's got the real TV feel.



Both games hold their own here. Revenge has great crowd noises but no play-by-play, although you won't miss it.

You're limited to choosing one of the existing wrestlers and changing his name and costume (by picking from the game's many outfits). You can swap colors, too.

Here's where Revenge stands out. It packs 50 licensed wrestlers, including the guys from Raven's Flock, nWo White and Red, all the independents, plus the extra Japanese characters for a total of 70-plus in all. And if you want more, you can use the limited Custom-Wrestler Mode.

Presentation

Sound

Customization

Characters

War Zone looks good, but its dark graphics and drab backgrounds make it more of a lightweight when compared to Revenge.

You get real audience chants, play-by-play and the genuine theme tunes for each of the wrestlers. Sometimes, it's too quiet.

War Zone body slams Revenge here. Its create-a-player feature lets you build a wrestler from the head down. You can customize his (or her, if you unlock the gender option) body shape, hair and skin color, every part of his outfit, stats such as speed and strength, moves list, theme music—even his status as a good guy or bad guy. Build your own army.

You only get 18 licensed characters (plus secrets like the ring girl). Still, Create-a-Player lets you build an unlimited roster.

WWF War Zone

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It's a close call, but Revenge has the wrestlers, graphics and party-game feel to put it on top. If it only had War Zone's Create-a-Wrestler Mode, Revenge would be perfect.

What happens when two similar games climb into *EGM's* ring for a face-to-face showdown? Only one walks away the winner.



WCW Champ Goldberg Says...

"When I look at War Zone, I see 16 puny wrestlers. When I look at WCW/nWo Revenge, I see me and the toughest competition anyone's ever faced in the history of professional wrestling. Which leads me to one question, Who's Next?!"

The WCW/nWo wrestlers are cool, sure—especially if you can keep track of all of 'em and their factions. And they are more popular than the WWF crew by a narrow margin. But we prefer the WWF's over-the-top antics.

Gameplay here is pretty basic, in that all the wrestlers share the same move commands. But that's not a bad thing, since it makes Revenge the better party game. Rookies can hop in the ring and start slammin' away from the get-go. Control is top-notch, although it's just as good in War Zone.

Revenge may have more real venues, but it doesn't have quite as many modes of play. You get the basics, plus Battle Royal, and weapons in every mode. Still, all the important modes are here.



Yes.



Coolness

Moves

Play Modes

Bret Hart?

After all, if you're gonna watch sweaty men tumble around, they might as well be grade-A wackos like Mankind and Undertaker. Plus, War Zone's character-specific moves make it easier for wrestling fanatics to get into their favorite characters.

War Zone is a deeper game, since each wrestler has his own set of move commands (you'll have to learn specific moves for each character). The grapple system is more complex, too, but with no reversals. Both games have about the same number of standard and signature moves.

We're talkin' modes aplenty, here. Aside from the standard stuff, you get Cage Matches, Gauntlet and Tornado Modes, Royal Rumble, War, Weapons Mode and lots of co-op options for multiplayer. Talk about variety.

Yes.



"Yeah, Revenge may have more real wrestlers, but then it doesn't have me and the unlimited amount of other kick-ass custom tough guys you can build in War Zone's Create-a-Wrestler Mode. We eat real wrestlers for breakfast!"

Elephant Sak Says...

Custom wrestler Elephant Sak created by Shawn Smith after real WWF wrestlers were unable to be reached for comment.

The Winner Is... WCW/nWo Revenge