

# The Battle for Wesnoth

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The Battle for Wesnoth is a real-time fantasy strategy game that is gaining popularity. In this game, you need to build yourself an army which can consist of more than 200 unit types, each with their own unique set of magical and other skills. Your units will gain experience and skills and grow stronger to take on harder challenges as you play through the several built in scenarios. There are several multiplayer modes so you can take on your friends, and when you get tired of a scenario, there are hundreds of user created battles waiting to draw you in.

From their website: "Wesnoth has many different sagas waiting to be played out. Fight to regain the throne of Wesnoth, of which you are the legitimate heir... step into the boots of a young officer sent to guard a not-so-sleepy frontier outpost... vanquish a horde of undead warriors unleashed by a foul necromancer, who also happens to have taken your brother hostage... guide a band of elvish survivors in an epic quest to find a new home."

For open source games to succeed, they need to reach a critical mass of developers and users, and the Battle for Wesnoth has already done that successfully. Sourceforge reports that over 1.5 million copies have already been downloaded making it one of the most successful open source games to date.

Their [website](#) provides more information on the game itself, as well as ready to install versions for Linux, Mac OS X, Windows and more. It has been translated into 30+ languages and has dozens of people contributing to its continuous improvement. It is released under the General Public License (GPL) and is thus free for all users to download, use, modify, etc. as long as your changes are also available under the same conditions.

They have a [game trailer](#) online at Google Video in which some of the main features can be made out (between the compression artifacts). A full array of [screenshots](#) is on their website, or you can simply [download](#) and try the game for yourself at their download page.

But be warned, this game is addictive.