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Stranded Deep is a realistic, survival game with a steep learning curve. Players will encounter many hazards while they are marooned in the pacific ocean, from man-eating sharks to food poisoning. With so many things to learn, and so many dangers to navigate, staying alive will require both patience and preparation. As players explore their island in the early- game they should focus on accomplishing specific goals such as gathering food and water or building a self-sufficient base. After learning how to stay hydrated and healthy, players will eventually be able to venture further out from their starting island as they explore the procedurally generated map. Updated by Beau Low on September 3, 2021: Six years after its initial release, Stranded Deep continues to grow and evolve. Not only have new features been added to the base game, but there is also a wealth of fan-made mods that can add new features and maps to the realistic survival game. To stay alive on their desert island, players will have to learn numerous tricks to find food, water and shelter from storms or dangerous animals. As well as covering the bare essentials for survival, there are also hidden treasures and underwater shipwrecks to be explored and plundered. Now that fans can enjoy this hardcore survival game on the Switch, this article has been updated to include additional tips for new and returning players alike. 14 Stay In The Raft At The Start During the game's introduction, the main character survives a plane crash that leaves him stranded in the Pacific ocean afloat in a rubber dinghy. Some players may be tempted to leap out of their starting vehicle and swim to shore so they can start gathering materials, leaving their boat to float away — taking a valuable cache of food supplies with it. While the dinghy is slow, it can still be useful in the early game for traveling to other nearby islands. It can also be used as a large bowl for storing loose physics objects such as coconuts or potatoes, although it will sink if players attempt to do this in the water. For most players, the first mission in Stranded Deep will be to find food and water. Coconuts can be used to stay hydrated until water stills can be set up; however, finding food can be a little bit trickier. A reliable source of food at the beginning can be found on cliffs or any tall rock formations. If players can jump to the top of these rocks, they have a good chance of finding bird nests. Nests will often contain eggs that may help a starving player if they can't find anything else. Stranded Deepttempts to simulate every detail of being marooned on a desert island, where every day is a fight for survival. That said, the game is not perfectly realistic, and there are a few ways that players can exploit the mechanics to give themselves a much-needed edge. All food, especially meat, will spoil after a set number of days, making it inedible unless players want to risk getting sick. However, the corpses of slain animals do not degrade in the same way, meaning that if players leave their corpses whole. They can remove pieces of meat from them as necessary, and prevent their food supplies from rotting. Upon reaching land, players will likely want to start gathering as many resources as possible. Stones and fibrous leaves are both useful to collect, but hunting for resources in the sweltering pacific heat will quickly begin to take its toll if players aren't careful. Spending too long in direct sunlight will lead to sunstroke, which is a relatively mild debuff that causes dehydration. The easiest way to deal with this is to find shelter and wait for the effect to wear off. If the player can find a large red shipping container washed up on their island, they will find they can open the doors and use them to hide from the punishing sunlight when necessary. Thirst is one of the more difficult variables to control in Stranded Deep. Players will find that their character's water level decreases steadily over time, or rapidly if they become dehydrated. Initially, players will be able to find enough fluid from coconuts or Quwawa fruit, but eventually, they will need to create a more reliable water supply. Water stills are relatively easy to craft, but in order to do so, players will need to find a tarpaulin, which can be located along the shores, sometimes under rocks. Stills will only accumulate water during rainfall, meaning players should always build more than one to ensure they gather enough water to get through long spells of dry weather. After making a basic still, players will also need a drinking vessel such as a coconut flask or a water skin to carry liquids in their inventory. Eventually, players will want to leave their starting island to find more resources and discover more of the map. Rafts can be used to travel between islands, but the Pacific Ocean is a hazardous place. If players go diving or sailing and encounter a shark, they should immediately either get out of the water or find a shipwreck. Sharks will not attack the player if their back is to a solid object such as a sunken wreck or rock formation. This tactic is also useful for shark hunting, once players have the harpoon gun. Once players have decided where they want to set up their base they can start building a shelter. The recipe for this includes a single lash, three sticks, and four palm fronds all of which can be easily obtained on any starting island. A shelter will facilitate sleeping as well as saving the game. Sleeping reduces food and water, so players should avoid resting too often or they will risk becoming dehydrated. On the other hand, it is vital to save as frequently as possible. Many recipes will require hunting for specific resources, and it is easy to lose progress if players die while they are gathering. Some resources will naturally replenish over time, while others are finite. As players build more tools and bigger structures, they will need more materials, some of which can be generated by farming. A basic farming plot requires 4 sticks and one lashing, which can only be combined in this way if the player has a crude hoe in their inventory. Farms can be used to produce edible fruits such as Quwawa or Kura fruits. Alternatively, players can use plots to grow Yucca trees, a bountiful source of fibrous leaves, or Pipi for creating antidotes to poisons. One thing that players can use their farming plots for is growing potatoes. These vegetables can be eaten; however, it is better to save them in the early game so they can be replanted later on. As well as being a steady source of food, potato farms can also be used to make fuel for boat engines, and generators. To turn potatoes into fuel, players will need to build a fuel still and locate a jerrycan so they can carry their bio-diesel to where it is needed. Making fuel will also require a lot of water to maintain the potato farms. The islands in Stranded Deep are far from paradise, and hungry sharks lurk in the waters between them as a constant threat to intrepid swimmers. Sharks can kill unsuspecting players very quickly, as not only do their attacks do a lot of damage, they also cause lacerating damage. As well as sharks, there are also a plethora of other dangerous creatures, including poisonous eels and starfish. When wandering along the beach, players should keep their eyes peeled for the purple Crown of Thorns starfish, which will poison anything that steps on it. Poison will make health decrease steadily over three days, but players can survive if they have enough water and know how to restore their HP. Most players love Stranded Deep for its replay value. The ability to customize your experience at the beginning of the game allows you to determine whether you want to calmly explore the world or face difficult challenges, meaning you can play it over and over. If you enjoy classic survival gameplay elements like exploration, resource management, and character care, it’s easy to see why you like Stranded Deep. There are many other great survival games that share the same gameplay features. Here are 8 games like Stranded Deep that we’re sure you’ll enjoy, ranging from some of the best survival games on Steam, to dark, open-world RPG titles with a survival theme. The Long Dark is a survival game set in an open-world environment. Just like Stranded Deep, it gives you the option to choose how you’ll experience the game. You have two choices – survival mode and story mode. If you’re up for a true challenge, you should pick survival mode. The Long Dark is a demanding survival game that takes into account caloric intake, fatigue, body temperature, along with several environmental factors. To survive, you need to find whatever resources you can and utilize them to combat these factors. To keep your hunger levels low, you can hunt wildlife for food. Some animals may present a threat to you, including bears and wolves. The game features a full day and night cycle, which is also a notable feature in Stranded Deep. If you’re not careful, your character can die from frostbite, dysentery, hypothermia, and hostile wildlife. There’s a lot to manage and keep an eye on here. The story mode is more of an adventure game, but it still has some survival elements. This mode doesn’t have a permadeath feature so it won’t matter much if you die in the game. The story follows a pilot who crashed in the Canadian wilderness following a geomagnetic storm. The map in The Long Dark has twelve regions. Not all are accessible in the story mode. The Forest is a survival horror game set in a heavily forested peninsula. The events in the game take place after the main character survives a plane crash, which seems to be a common theme in games like Stranded Deep. With non-linear gameplay and an open-world environment, players are left to decide how they’ll survive in this scary world. There are no specific missions that you’ll need to complete here. You only have one goal, and that’s to find your son Timmy who was on the plane with you when it crashed. The game has two different endings that you’ll experience based on your decisions toward the end. What gives The Forest its creepy elements is that the peninsula you’re stuck on is occupied by cannibalistic mutants. They will always be scary when you encounter them but sometimes they won’t be hostile. The night and day cycle in this game is a great addition to other survival elements. It’s notable that cannibalistic mutants that live on the peninsula will be more hostile when it’s night. There are building gameplay elements in The Forest. You can construct a shelter and make traps. There are multiple types of structures you can build, including cabins, shelters, and treehouses. You will need supplies like logs, rocks, and sticks to build a structure. Subnautica is a survival game set in an open-world environment, and it’s one of the best picks on this list for fans of games like Stranded Deep. The story is set in the distant future. You take control of a character named Ryley Robinson. The spaceship you were on crashes on an alien planet known as 4546B and you’re left to navigate this unfamiliar environment. The planet is an alien ocean world filled with dangerous predators, and it also holds a great mystery that you’ll have to solve. You will spend most of your time in Subnautica underwater, and there are only two islands that you can explore. The game features a day and night cycle that has an effect on visibility. There are four different modes to choose from when you start the game. Survival mode is the classic experience you’d expect from a game that’s similar to Stranded Deep. The freedom mode is a great option if you want the same mechanics featured in survival mode but without thirst and hunger. Choosing the hardcore mode unlocks the permadeath feature and is only for experienced players. Creative mode is perfect in case you don’t want to gather resources and worry about statistics or mapping. Subnautica has building elements, too. You are able to build underwater habitats you can visit when it’s time to replenish your oxygen supplies and store resources. It’s hard to find a game with a more realistic take on survival than Green Hell. There are many things that can go wrong in the game, even when you think everything is fine. This game features both single-player and co-op multiplayer modes. The story follows an anthropologist named Jake Higgins. You control Jake as he navigates through the Amazon rainforest. Your ultimate goal is to find your wife Mia who has been missing for some time after going to make first contact with a tribe known as Yabahuca. This game is definitely not for the faint of heart. It has strong psychological aspects that emulate what it must feel like to be alone in extreme conditions. Your fight for survival will be full of unexpected events, and very simple actions can have catastrophic results. Let’s say that you’re tired and want to sleep for a while. Laying down for a quick rest might lead to you waking up with worms burrowing in your skin. You might die due to infected wounds after a successful fight, or eat something that results in stomach parasites. You will need to be mindful of your actions in Green Hell. It’s a truly gritty and demanding survival game that fans of games like Stranded Deep will get a kick out of. Ark: Survival Evolved is one of the most popular survival games to come out in recent years. This game features both single-player and multiplayer modes. If you’re playing online, you have the freedom to form tribes with other players. Whether you decide to play by yourself or not, your experience will be the same in the beginning. For the first few hours in the game, you’ll mostly be collecting resources. Once you finish that, you will be ready to learn more about the strange island you’re on, known as Ark. What makes Ark so mysterious is that it’s filled with prehistoric and mythical creatures. You will run into dinosaurs, phoenixes, griffins, golems, and many other creatures. There are almost 200 creatures in Ark: Survival Evolved. Surviving the island is no easy task and requires you to engage in a number of activities. Players have to monitor their hunger and thirst. The food available on the island varies in nutritional properties. It’s good to load up on supplies but know that having too much in your inventory will make you slow. Weather can affect everything from sanity to energy levels. Games like Ark are truly immersive and engaging. If you liked Stranded Deep, this game should be at the top of your to-play list. This game has a very interesting and unique concept that is appreciated by many survival fans around the world. It’s one of the best picks for fans of games like Stranded Deep, due to its unique survival mechanics and immsersive gameplay. In this game, you control a player that is on a small raft with a hook that they can use to catch items. Some of the things you can catch early on include crates, wood, plastic, and barrels. You can use all of these items to make your raft bigger. Players have the freedom to leave the raft if they want to grab something from the water and can reach it only by swimming. However, leaving the raft may lead to vicious attacks from sharks. It can also pull you away from your raft as a result of the continuous ocean current. The story behind Raft is quite scary when you take a few moments to think about it. It takes place in the near future when polar ice caps have melted due to climate change, causing unprecedented floods. There is hardly any dry land where people can settle and nearly everyone who survived the floods is now living on rafts. You control a character who sets out to find habitable land. Medieval Dynasty is a survival game set in the Middle Ages. It combines gameplay elements of four different genres, including survival, strategy, role-playing, and simulation, and it’s ideal if you want a game like Stranded Deep with a new theme. Players control a character named Racamir, who flees from his settlement after his parents die in a war. You start the game as an inexperienced and poor adventurer in search of a better life. There is a massive, open world to explore in this game. The game features realistic weather conditions, a day and night cycle, as well as four seasons. There is a storyline in Medieval Dynasty but the game encourages players to explore the world and learn stuff on their own. Some of the most important skills you’ll need to develop to survive include cultivation of land, farming, and hunting. The simulation gameplay elements allow you to construct various buildings as well as craft weapons and tools. You will develop your character as you progress the game and interact with many NPCs too. Strategy gameplay elements encourage players to grow a village, manage citizens, and produce goods to consume or trade. Empyrion – Galactic Survival is a sandbox adventure and survival game with a heavy focus on exploration. There isn’t a detailed story in the game, which is completely acceptable for releases in the survival genre. Your character has crashed on an alien planet with a hostile environment and you’ll have to figure out how to survive with the resources at your disposal. You start with a limited supply of common resources and need to find rarer materials to make crucial equipment. When you start the game, you’ll get several small missions that will explain the mechanics of the game. Some of the standard survival gameplay elements like fatigue and thirst are absent from Empyrion. However, you will need to control your hunger levels. The crafting system is where the game really shines. It’s so much fun to craft a variety of items that you’ll use later on. Apart from crafting, you can also build various objects, including spaceships, bases, and ground vehicles. You get experience points when you mine for resources, craft items, and kill hostile creatures. When you level up you will have perk points to spend to learn or upgrade skills. You can play Empyrion either by yourself or with other players. If you choose the multiplayer mode, you’ll be able to create and join factions. If you’re in a faction, only members of it will be able to access your spaceships and bases. Eden Star is an Action-Adventure, Survival, Base Building, Single-player and Multiplayer video game developed and published by Flix Interactive. The game takes place in the Sci-fi world and mixes the shooting, crafting, exploration, space and action elements to offers the unique experience. The player can take on the role of the protagonist, who can explore the world from a first-person perspective, participate in physics-based combat, battle against enemies and other players using the crafted weapons and take down them to earn points. There are a huge arsenal of weaponry available, including machine pistol, assault SMG, Heavy SMG, Assault Rifle, Sniper Rifle, and more. During the gameplay, the player has to explore the world to collect resources and use them to build turrets, ramps, walls and defenses to defend his outpost or build powerful weapons and upgrades for his characters. In battle, the player can remotely grab foes and blast or smash them into the destructible environment. Eden Star includes core features such as Weapons, Build, Craft Items, Protect, Destroy Enemies, Gather Resources, Fauna Creatures, Vehicles, Melee Energy Blade, and more. Try it out, and you’ll like it.Page 2Silent Hill is a 1999’s Top-Hit Horror-Survival and Shooter video game developed by Konami Computer Entertainment Tokyo. The game offers a wonderfully designed 3D Real-time environment and allows you to play from a Third-person perspective. Story revolves around the character of Harry Mason who struggles to find his adopted daughter who ends up in the possession of a cult taking refuge in Silent hill, America, a town filled with all kinds of gory monsters and creatures. In effort of freeing her, Mason fights off the Cult members, kills them and finally frees her. Silent Hill offers five different endings of the game and offers different environments and objectives as well. Combat and Exploration elements in the game add up a bit more fun to the game as they let you traverse through a number of different environments, fight off hordes of monsters, interact with objects and solve a number of challenging puzzles in order to keep going on in the game. Other cool features of the game include Third-person perspective, Heads up Display, Health bar, and Dual Shock controller that helps you keep track of your heart beat and know about when to take a pause. Silent Hill lets you combat against the monsters using Melee Combat techniques and weapons, a number of firearms, and your parkour abilities. With a very challenging and quite addictive gameplay, a fantastic story, brilliant visual details and loads of other great things to discover, Silent hill is one amazing Action, Horror-Survival and Shooter video game to play. Stranded Deep is a challenging first-person survival game set around a host of islands in the Pacific Ocean. As a survivor of a crash, you must explore the gorgeous, yet punishing tropical world in order to survive for the long haul. Stranded Deep dives (pun very much intended) into the survival genre with a suite of fun gameplay options including structure building, vehicle navigations, wildlife combat, in-depth crafting, and so much more. If you have found yourself ready to wrap up your time playing Stranded Deep and want to invest more time in this prolific genre then look no further than the following titles. There are numerous survival and survival-adjacent games to enjoy if you are a fan of Stranded Deep. Prepare for a challenge and look to your resources with these great games. 10 Valheim Are you looking for a taste of the survival genre, one that is infused with Viking culture and lore? If so, then Valheim might just be the game for you. This solo or multiplayer Viking survival game guides you through a procedurally generated world brimming with punishing baddies, unique wildlife, settlements, special weapons and items, and so much more. While the game is still currently in Early Access, it has managed to capture the hearts and minds of survival fans due to its expansive world and a staggering amount of things to craft and create. Valheim is one of those games that quickly immerses you into its brutal world, always dangling a new activity or reward in front of you to keep you moving forward. Subnautica might just be the closest relative to Stranded Deep, both in terms of gameplay and the aquatic-themed presentation. For the uninitiated, Subnautica is a challenging underwater survival game with extensive exploration and a unique premise. This game is all about surviving and thriving in a massive underwater expanse. Subnautica features genre staples such as crafting, scavenging, combat, and base building, but ups the ante with the way you need to focus on oxygen conservation, underwater movement, and diverse aquatic wildlife to contend with. For something a bit more wintery and frozen, look no further than The Long Dark. This mountainous tundra survival game is highly immersive and will keep you captivated as you explore treacherous locales all throughout this chilly survival adventure. What makes The Long Dark particularly unique is that the game seeks to tell an emotional narrative that is wrapped up in a purely single-player experience with exploration as the focal point, as opposed to fighting off enemies. Make no mistake about it, this game will test your mettle. The Long Dark's focus on permadeath means that you need to be highly aware of your status during each and every moment. Yes, you can craft and scavenge, but it's the game's reliance on food, temperature, and shelter that really help it stand apart. It's pretty impressive to know that Ark: Survival Evolved has been (mostly) going strong since 2017. This solo and multiplayer survival game pits you against a gargantuan island, ferocious beasts and dinosaurs, and even other players who happen to be exploring the same island as you. Ark: Survival Evolved might follow the survival playbook with many of its systems and mechanics, however, it's the game's approach to taming and breeding dinosaurs and wildlife that make it a real treat to play. In order to thrive in this game, you will need to focus on understanding the island's nuances while continuously scavenging, crafting, and setting yourself up with a base and allies. Deadcraft is one of those survival games that doesn't seem to get mentioned much in the genre discourse. This zombie-themed survival game blends traditional genre mechanics and the ability to create a zombie army through the protagonist's special nature: being a half-zombie himself. Deadcraft plays out from an isometric perspective and provides you with a robust zombie-centric experience where both scavenging and combat can be enjoyed in equal measure. In an interesting twist on farming gameplay systems, Deadcraft allows you to "plant" your zombie allies in order to grow and spawn new varieties to build up your survival settlement. Space exploration fans are in for a real treat with No Man's Sky, a game that has been around since 2016. While it did have a maligned launch with a lack of content and promised features, developer Hello Games has worked their tails off to provide a near-constant stream of free updates over the years, turning a once barebone title into a space survival juggernaut. No Man's Sky is brimming with unique gameplay experiences all across its vast universe and planets. While the game doesn't focus just on survival elements, it's the balance of mechanics such as exploration, combat, scavenging, base building, and player-created stories that help it stand out in a crowded gaming market. An indie survival darling, Don't Starve throws you into an untamed wilderness where you must use your wits and resources to stay alive. What makes this game particularly noteworthy, apart from its stellar art style and presentation, is its use of magic and science. Yes, the game blends traditional survival elements in the harsh wilds but also throws in plenty of magical elements and scientific shenanigans. In Don't Starve, players take on the role of Wilson, a wacky yet brilliant scientist who unfortunately finds himself tethered to an otherworldly wilderness by a dastardly demon. If you want to guide Wilson through this predicament, you will have to craft items, build shelter, find food sources, and, as the title implies, don't starve. Fans of bugs, insects, and all things creepy-crawly might not be thrilled by Grounded, however, it would be a shame to not include the excellent survival game Grounded on a list such as this one. If you haven't already guessed, Grounded plays out like a gamified version of Honey, I Shrunk the Kids. Players step into the unlikely shoes of a group of friends who must survive the harsh elements of their backyard. Crafted by the prolific development team Obsidian Entertainment, Grounded has been providing shrunken-down survival goodness for fans of this genre. This solo or multiplayer experience tasks you to create a gargantuan base that can serve as a beacon of hope amidst the creepy-crawly onslaught. Crafting items and weapons will aid you in your defense, however, staying resourceful won't always be so easy as you explore past the comforts of your base. Raft is a pretty self-explanatory game. You are thrown into an open ocean and must survive the harsh aquatic environment against all odds. As you might guess from the game's simple one-word title, you must use your wits and crafting skills to stay alive and stay afloat aboard your titular raft. Another survival game that can be enjoyed as a lone wolf or with friends in tow, Raft is all about scavenging and harnessing the recourse of the open ocean, specifically, items that you happen across as you sail along. Spending time crafting and researching will be key to survival in this water-themed survival game. The second zombie-themed survival game on this list, State of Decay 2 blends intense horror action with the finer nuances of survival, base building, and character management. Set amidst a civilization-wrecking zombie outbreak, players in State of Decay 2 must come together to not only survive but thrive in this new zombie-infested landscape. Something that immediately sets this game apart from other survival games is the ability to create your own team and party of zombie fighters and homebase builders. This isn't a lone wolf-style experience. State of Decay 2 tasks you to explore a vast yet ruined open world in the hopes of rebuilding civilization even when hope might be fleeting. NEXT: Video Game Protagonists, Ranked By How Long They’d Survive In A Horror Movie Ashley Erickson Ashley Erickson May 8, 2025 Next page ...Leave feedback on the SteamPeek Discord channel: Promote your game here: Learn how to build raft in Stranded Deep using this raft building guide, which includes a list of materials and recipes and how to find them. Learn how to build raft in Stranded Deep using this raft building guide, which includes a list of materials and recipes and how to find them. | Published: May 1, 2020 08:49 am This article is over 5 years old and may contain outdated information The open world of Stranded Deep is vast, and one of the best ways to traverse the game’s enormous world is by using a raft. This quick raft building guide will show you how to build raft in Stranded Deep. To start the process, you need to open the game’s menu, select “Vehicles,” and choose “Raft.” Then, follow the steps below to craft all the necessary parts. Step 1: Craft a Raft Base The raft base is the first thing you need to build for your raft. There are four types of bases in the game as of now: Base Recipe Wood Raft Base 14x Stick1x Lashing Buoy Raft Base 5x Buoy Ball1x Lashing Tyre Raft Base 2x Tyre1x Lashing Barrel Raft Base 3x Barrel1x Lashing You can build each raft base depending on the resources that you have (you’ll need buoys for the buoy base, etc.). However, out of four raft choices in the game right now, the barrel raft base is the most durable. Barrels can be found tied to the shipwrecks. Use an axe to cut them down. Step 2: Craft a Raft Floor When you have your base ready, you need to craft a raft floor, which you can mount on the base: Floor Recipe Driftwood Raft Floor 4x Stick Plank Raft Floor 2x Plank Corrugated Raft Base 2x Corrugated Steel Clay Raft Base 2x Clay Brick The steel and brick floors are the best, especially if you’re about to undertake a long journey out to sea. Both of these materials will last you the longest. Corrugated steel or scrap can be found in crates and on islands. Bricks are much harder to get because you need to build a Brick Station and a furnace, which lets you make bricks out of clay. Step 3: Craft Accessories Now you need to craft the rest of your raft accessories to make your raft move, stop, and steer: Accessory Recipe Boat Motor 1x Duct Tape1x Engine Part1x Fuel Part1x Filter Part1x Electrical Part Sail 1x Lashing1x Cloth2x Stick Rudder 1x Lashing1x Cloth2x Stick Anchor 6x Rock1x Stick4x Lashing You can find all the necessary parts for the boat motor inside loot crates, which can be found inside shipwrecks and underwater bases. But if you can’t find the parts for the motor, then you can simply use the sail, though you’ll move slower. Once you have the raft base, floor, and accessories, you can press “L2″/”LT” on consoles or “RMB” on PC to drag the raft into the water. — That’s it for our raft building guide, and all you need to know about how to build raft in Stranded Deep. Check out the list below for more helpful topics: Check out our growing collection of Stranded Deep guides here on GameSkinny. Post Tag: GameSkinny is supported by our audience. When you purchase through links on our site, we may earn a small affiliate commission. Learn more about our Affiliate Policy Stranded Deep is a challenging first-person survival game set around a host of islands in the Pacific Ocean. As a survivor of a crash, you must explore the gorgeous, yet punishing tropical world in order to survive for the long haul. Stranded Deep dives (pun very much intended) into the survival genre with a suite of fun gameplay options including structure building, vehicle navigations, wildlife combat, in-depth crafting, and so much more. If you have found yourself ready to wrap up your time playing Stranded Deep and want to invest more time in this prolific genre then look no further than the following titles. 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If you haven't already guessed, Grounded plays out like a gamified version of Honey, I Shrunk the Kids. Players step into the unlikely shoes of a group of friends who must survive the harsh elements of their backyard. Crafted by the prolific development team Obsidian Entertainment, Grounded has been providing shrunken-down survival goodness for fans of this genre. This solo or multiplayer experience tasks you to create a gargantuan base that can serve as a beacon of hope amidst the creepy-crawly onslaught. Crafting items and weapons will aid you in your defense, however, staying resourceful won't always be so easy as you explore past the comforts of your base. Raft is a pretty self-explanatory game. You are thrown into an open ocean and must survive the harsh aquatic environment against all odds. As you might guess from the game's simple one-word title, you must use your wits and crafting skills to stay alive and stay afloat aboard your titular raft. Another survival game that can be enjoyed as a lone wolf or with friends in tow, Raft is all about scavenging and harnessing the recourse of the open ocean, specifically, items that you happen across as you sail along. Spending time crafting and researching will be key to survival in this water-themed survival game. The second zombie-themed survival game on this list, State of Decay 2 blends intense horror action with the finer nuances of survival, base building, and character management. Set amidst a civilization-wrecking zombie outbreak, players in State of Decay 2 must come together to not only survive but thrive in this new zombie-infested landscape. Something that immediately sets this game apart from other survival games is the ability to create your own team and party of zombie fighters and homebase builders. This isn't a lone wolf-style experience. State of Decay 2 tasks you to explore a vast yet ruined open world in the hopes of rebuilding civilization even when hope might be fleeting. NEXT: Video Game Protagonists, Ranked By How Long They’d Survive In A Horror Movie TEST YOUR SURVIVAL SKILLS IN THIS OPEN WORLD ADVENTUREIn the aftermath of a mysterious plane crash, you are stranded in the vast expanse of the Pacific Ocean. Alone, without any means to call for help, you must do what you can to survive.BUILD. CRAFT. SURVIVE. ESCAPE.Explore underwater and on land as you hunt for supplies to craft the tools, weapons, and shelter you’ll need to stay alive. Stay sharp: hunger, thirst, and exposure conspire against you as you brave treacherous elements and the dangerous creatures of the Pacific. Live long enough, Stay Alive!Health, Hunger, Thirst, and sunstroke. Manage and monitor these vitals through an interactive survival watch. Cure poisons, heal broken bones, and bandage bleeding to stay alive.Spears, Axes, Bows, Spearguns, and so much more can all be crafted through an interactive crafting menu or by the quick-craft selection wheel. Items in your inventory and on the ground around you can all be crafted into something useful.Harvesting, Craftsmanship, Cooking, Physical, and Hunting can all be levelled up for maximum efficiency or to unlock different crafting combinations.With dozens of tiers and building pieces to choose from; craft your very own home away from home. From a weak and flimsy palm frond shack to a solid clay brick house. Customise your own raft with sails, canopies, storage, anchors, boat motors, and more. If sailings not for you - fly in style by constructing a gyrocopter!Explore the procedurally generated world with no two islands the same. Dive for sunken shipwrecks, abandoned shelters from previous survivors, or search for rare sea creatures like whales.Build and manage your farm with water management and plant growth cycles.Hunt, Fish, Trap, and Skin animals for food or kill to insert your dominance over the pacific islands.If you’re looking for a challenge then take on one of the three bosses to obtain a wall trophy and a very important reward.Unlock Steam achievements! Compare statistics with your friends from the in-game leaderboards for whose the best survivor.Play online or split screen co-op modes! Customise your world through the map island editor. Play as Female or Male. Change your game difficulty. Play split-screen co-op, and so much more!Create your own custom island and add it to your survival world! Hand sculpt the terrain and manually place each individual tree, rock, and creature to create the adventure island you want!You can even share it with your friends! Page 2 Stay sharp: hunger, thirst, and exposure conspire against you as you brave treacherous elements and the dangerous creatures of the Pacific. Live long enough, Stay Alive! Stranded Deep is a challenging first-person survival game set around a host of islands in the Pacific Ocean. As a survivor of a crash, you must explore the gorgeous, yet punishing tropical world in order to survive for the long haul. Stranded Deep dives (pun very much intended) into the survival genre with a suite of fun gameplay options including structure building, vehicle navigations, wildlife combat, in-depth crafting, and so much more. If you have found yourself ready to wrap up your time playing Stranded Deep and want to invest more time in this prolific genre then look no further than the following titles. There are numerous survival and survival-adjacent games to enjoy if you are a fan of Stranded Deep. Prepare for a challenge and look to your resources with these great games. 10 Valheim Are you looking for a taste of the survival genre, one that is infused with Viking culture and lore? If so, then Valheim might just be the game for you. This solo or multiplayer Viking survival game guides you through a procedurally generated world brimming with punishing baddies, unique wildlife, settlements, special weapons and items, and so much more. While the game is still currently in Early Access, it has managed to capture the hearts and minds of survival fans due to its expansive world and a staggering amount of things to craft and create. Valheim is one of those games that quickly immerses you into its brutal world, always dangling a new activity or reward in front of you to keep you moving forward. Subnautica might just be the closest relative to Stranded Deep, both in terms of gameplay and the aquatic-themed presentation. For the uninitiated, Subnautica is a challenging underwater survival game with extensive exploration and a unique premise. This game is all about surviving and thriving in a massive underwater expanse. Subnautica features genre staples such as crafting, scavenging, combat, and base building, but ups the ante with the way you need to focus on oxygen conservation, underwater movement, and diverse aquatic wildlife to contend with. For something a bit more wintery and frozen, look no further than The Long Dark. This mountainous tundra survival game is highly immersive and will keep you captivated as you explore treacherous locales all throughout this chilly survival adventure. What makes The Long Dark particularly unique is that the game seeks to tell an emotional narrative that is wrapped up in a purely single-player experience with exploration as the focal point, as opposed to fighting off enemies. Make no mistake about it, this game will test your mettle. The Long Dark's focus on permadeath means that you need to be highly aware of your status during each and every moment. Yes, you can craft and scavenge, but it's the game's reliance on food, temperature, and shelter that really help it stand apart. It's pretty impressive to know that Ark: Survival Evolved has been (mostly) going strong since 2017. This solo and multiplayer survival game pits you against a gargantuan island, ferocious beasts and dinosaurs, and even other players who happen to be exploring the same island as you. Ark: Survival Evolved might follow the survival playbook with many of its systems and mechanics, however, it's the game's approach to taming and breeding dinosaurs and wildlife that make it a real treat to play. In order to thrive in this game, you will need to focus on understanding the island's nuances while continuously scavenging, crafting, and setting yourself up with a base and allies. Deadcraft is one of those survival games that doesn't seem to get mentioned much in the genre discourse. This zombie-themed survival game blends traditional genre mechanics and the ability to create a zombie army through the protagonist's special nature: being a half-zombie himself. Deadcraft plays out from an isometric perspective and provides you with a robust zombie-centric experience where both scavenging and combat can be enjoyed in equal measure. In an interesting twist on farming gameplay systems, Deadcraft allows you to "plant" your zombie allies in order to grow and spawn new varieties to build up your survival settlement. Space exploration fans are in for a real treat with No Man's Sky, a game that has been around since 2016. 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NEXT: Video Game Protagonists, Ranked By How Long They’d Survive In A Horror Movie Stranded Deep, like a lot of survival games you'd typically find on the shelves these days, centers its universe around a single objective: to see the break of dawn, either with a beating heart gasping for a few more minutes of freedom, or atop of a cascading waterfall with a stockpile of kindling and a hand-me-down dishcloth. Much like its lookalikes, the nonlinearity that Stranded Deep employs often means that there isn't ever really a story to be told—unless it's one that you and you alone are writing for yourself. And that's fine, so long as you don't mind giving yourself away to the grind and quill.Of course, Stranded Deep isn't the only game that lets you run amok and build a world from the sandy roots up. In fact, there are plenty of alternatives that strike all the same boxes, meaning you won't ever need to look all that far to get your sandbox-survival fill. But if you're curious to know which of the many are the closest to being unofficial DLC for Stranded Deep, then read on.5. The ForestThe Forest – PSX 2017: Multiplayer Trailer | PS4A survival-horror game that immediately springs to mind when we think of Stranded Deep is The Forest, an unpredictable yet astoundingly addictive sandbox-focused tale that puts you in the center of a nightmarish island paradise in which cannibals and otherworldly beasts reign supreme. Similar to Stranded Deep, the primary objective is to learn how to survive without any lengthy tutorials or hand-holding to usher you towards the conclusion.On paper, both Stranded Deep and The Forest are one of the same, as both rely on crafting, foraging, and developing skill trees to expand on the overall narrative. There isn't a whole lot of story to go on here, either, which means the world truly is your oyster as you learn the fundamentals of surviving the day-to-day in a brutal and unforgiving tropical paradise. Is it tough? Absolutely. Is it rewarding? A million percent, yes.4. 7 Days to Die7 Days to Die - Gameplay Trailer "Available Now"7 Days to Die is a lot like Stranded Deep, in the fact that you're given 24 hours to learn the basics, before ultimately losing any form of assistance to a stubborn world that only wishes for your imminent failure. That's really all there is to it, and it's as frustratingly difficult as it is surprisingly memorable. And if it's zombies you want, then it's an absolute win-win.In 7 Days to Die, you enter a post-apocalyptic wasteland in which the zombies have taken over, and all that remains are the vacant memoirs of a broken civilization and nation. To survive it, you must find a suitable place to hone your skills and build on your soon-to-be empire. Craft, construct, and compete against the undead for a stake in the future of the newfound world. Be yourself, and above all, be the survivor that stares the outbreak in the face and3. Conan ExilesConan Exiles - Official 2019 TrailerConan Exiles plays out in a similar fashion to Stranded Deep: as a stowaway in an uncharted land, you're ultimately led to believe that all hope is lost, and that, moving forward, your only goal is to survive on the bare bones of a barren world. Unlike Stranded Deep, a game in which you start with enough essentials to get the snowball rolling, Conan instead exiles you with nothing but the clothes on your back.Granted, Conan isn't the easiest game in the world. If you're not familiar with crafting, scavenging, and building, then a lot of Exiles' hallowed ground will come across as more threatening than friendly and bursting with opportunity. If you're able to get your head around the first few hours and build a settlement to work from, though, then you'll definitely have the tools to build something great—beautiful, even. But let it be said that this tough-as-nails survival sleeper hit certainly isn't for the fainthearted.2. SubnauticaSubnautica Teaser TrailerSubnautica, like Stranded Deep, begins with your plane crashing into the middle of the ocean. Rather than washing up ashore, though, you instead find yourself lost in the center of a watery grave, and one that has no evident signs of life above the shoreline whatsoever. And so, you're primary objective is to suit up, adapt to the harsh conditions on an unknown alien planet, and dive deep into the shadowy abyss below.Similar to Conan Exiles' progression style, Subnautica starts you off with an empty inventory, an open world, and an endless log of craftable items, with which you will need to utilize in order to dive deeper into the unknown. It's beyond replayable, and a fantastic adventure that any survival-loving gamer will want to soak up if time isn't an issue.1. The Long DarkThe Long Dark - Launch Teaser Trailer | PS4The Long Dark is a ruthless, lonely, and effortlessly hearty survival-horror game that lets you feel the wrath of isolation as the world around you shuts down and forces you to adapt to the, well, long dark. In order to do so, you will need to face the icy winters with nothing but the clothes on your back and a one-track mind locked on surviving through the nights as they continue to grow darker, fiercer, and far more dangerous.Like other games that put a harsh focus on surviving the four elements, The Long Dark invites you to fend off the seasons one by one, giving you only the bare essentials in order to craft, innovate, and protect what's yours before it falls to the Canadian wilderness. Question is, can you survive the The Long Dark long enough to see so much as a glimmer of light?So, what's your take? Do you agree with our top five? Are there any games like Stranded Deep you'd recommend picking up? Let us know over on our socials here or down in the comments below.