Phantasy Star Online Free ISP Play Guide (UK)

by inoble

Updated to v2.0 on Apr 4, 2001

How To Use A Free ISP To Play Phantasy Star Online

Version 2.

Submitted by Iain Noble (iain.noble@ntlworld.com) with thanks and acknowledgements to the members of the UGVD newsgroup whose messages form the basis of this file.

DISCLAIMER

I have had quite a few emails about this FAQ. To clarify:

- 1. This is written for UK (United Kingdom) users. I have no experience of setting this up in other countries so I don't know if it will work in country $'\chi'$
- 2. I have used these instructions to setup access using the NTLWorld service. I have no experience in using it with any other ISP (internet service provider.) I have seen reports from people on the UGVD newsgroup (uk.ganmes.video.dreamcast) that they have used it with BT (British Telecom) FreeServe, AOL (America Online) and other services.
- 3. I have only used these instructions to setup online access to PSO. I don't own any other online DC games such as Quake 3, Chu Chu Rocket, Ferrari Challenge, Daytona etc. etc. As fas as I am aware these instructions will not work with these titles but once again I have never tried. Check with the UKVD newsgroup for a more informed response.
- 4. I am not able to burn my own disks so I cannot supply you with a copy of the US browser. If you ask nicely in the UGVD newsgroup some kind soul will probably offer to do so (it worked for me!)
- 5. My own experience of ordering the US browser disk from Sega was not a great success as I never got one. Other people report receiving their disks after a 3 week delay.
- 6. The next version of the Dreamkey browser (2.5) to be released in Europe in about 6 weeks time will allow you to enter your own ISP details making all these instructions irrelevant.
- 7. 'Self booting' means that the disk will run in any Dreamcast console. Utopia and CD-X are programs that will enable you to run non self-booting disks in any Dreamcast console. Utopia is free, CD-X is for sale in most video games stores.

Now that the game has been released in the UK, many people are finding out how expensive it is to play online in a country where we pay for internet access and local phone calls.

The UK version of the DC web browser does not allow you to select an ISP other than Dreamarena and BT.

However it is possible to use the US version of the DC web browser to setup access using a free/unlimited access ISP such as FreeServe, NTLWorld, BT surftime.

Here's how to do it.

What you need:

1. Get a US internet browser disc.

Getting the PlanetWeb browser. You can either burn your own disc, get a copy from Sega of America, or ask around nicely for a copy.

Burning your own disc This disc is self-booting but only runs in 60Hz mode so if your TV can not handle this you will need to boot through utopia.

Download a CD image (4.2Mb) in DiscJuggler or Nero format from www.dcemulation.com (direct link www.dcemulation.com/soft-webrowse.htm) or in DiscJuggler format from www.dccopyworld.com (direct link www.maxtarget.com/dcw/dcw utils misc.shtml) and unzip it.

If you downloaded a DiscJuggler image (.cdi) you can either burn it with DiscJuggler or convert it to Nero format with CDI2NERO (34KB) from www.dccopyworld.com (direct link www.maxtarget.com/dcw/dcw utils disk.shtml).

To burn with DiscJuggler:

Download the trial version of DiscJuggler (9.4 Mb) from www.padus.com (direct link www.padus.com/free.htm). There is a detailed guide to burning the browser at www.dcemulation.com under "Docs & tutorials" (direct link www.dcemulation.com/help/webbrowser_burning_guide..htm), but in short: run DiscJuggler, choose "CD Image to CD Recorder", click on source and choose the place you unzipped the CD Image to, and click on start to burn the file onto CD-R. This should only take a couple of minutes, even at the 1x speed that the demo version of discjuggler is limited to. If you downloaded a Nero image (.nrg):

Get the free Nero 5.0 demo (4.8MB) from www.ahead.de (direct link www.ahead.de/en/download.htm) Burn the disc with Nero: When you first run Nero, the New Compilation dialog will appear. Click the Open... button Change "files of type" to "CD-Image (*.nrg)" Choose the unzipped file wb26nero.nrg Don't change any of the options - just click on Write Say yes to "Really use disc-at-once" The disc will take a few minutes to burn and then you should have a bootable web browser.

Get a copy from Sega of America Note - this site does not work if you are using the Opera web browser. Internet explorer 5 works fine, and hopefully the dreamcast browser too!

This disc is not self booting so you will need a copy of Utopia or CD-X.

Go to http://newbrowser.sega.com/enter.html

Enter your address, but in the city field also put a comma then Great Britain. Enter British Columbia for the state, our postcode for zip code, and Canada for the country.

You should receive a disk in a few weeks.

- 2. Sign up for an unmetered dial up ISP on your PC
- 3. Entering your ISP details

Using your UK Browser, dial in as per usual. When on, you get the options (using L & R triggers). In the Modem options there is a choice to delete all DC internal setting. Do this. It will ask if you are sure. You are.

Turn off the machine and put in US Browser

Go to connect.

It asks for ISP details

Put in your NTL/BT/AOL details
Username, password
The phone number. The phone number as the backup number as well. Put this all in the right hand box.
0.0.0.0 for the DNS.
Leave the modem init string blank.

Turn off machine

Put in PAL PSO. Connect. DO NOT PANIC. It will say that it's dialing DREAMARENA. This is a lie. Many tests have been done. It dials your 0800 ISP.

That's it. Welcome to PSO.

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