Level of Detail, Games ...

- Games + Graphics → Money
- Games are mostly repeats (yawn)
- But glitter sells
- How do we get glamorous pictures in real time?

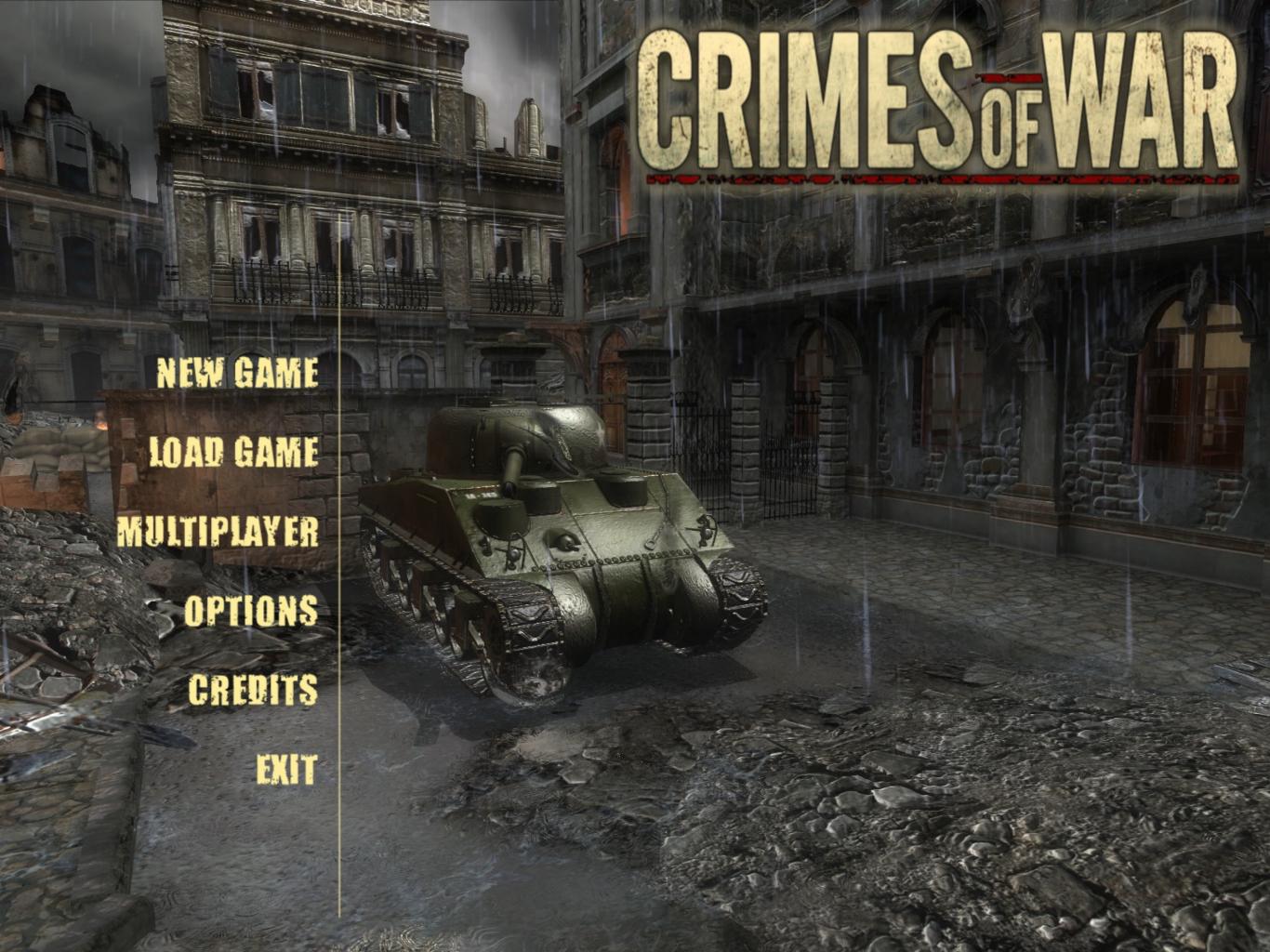
Examples:

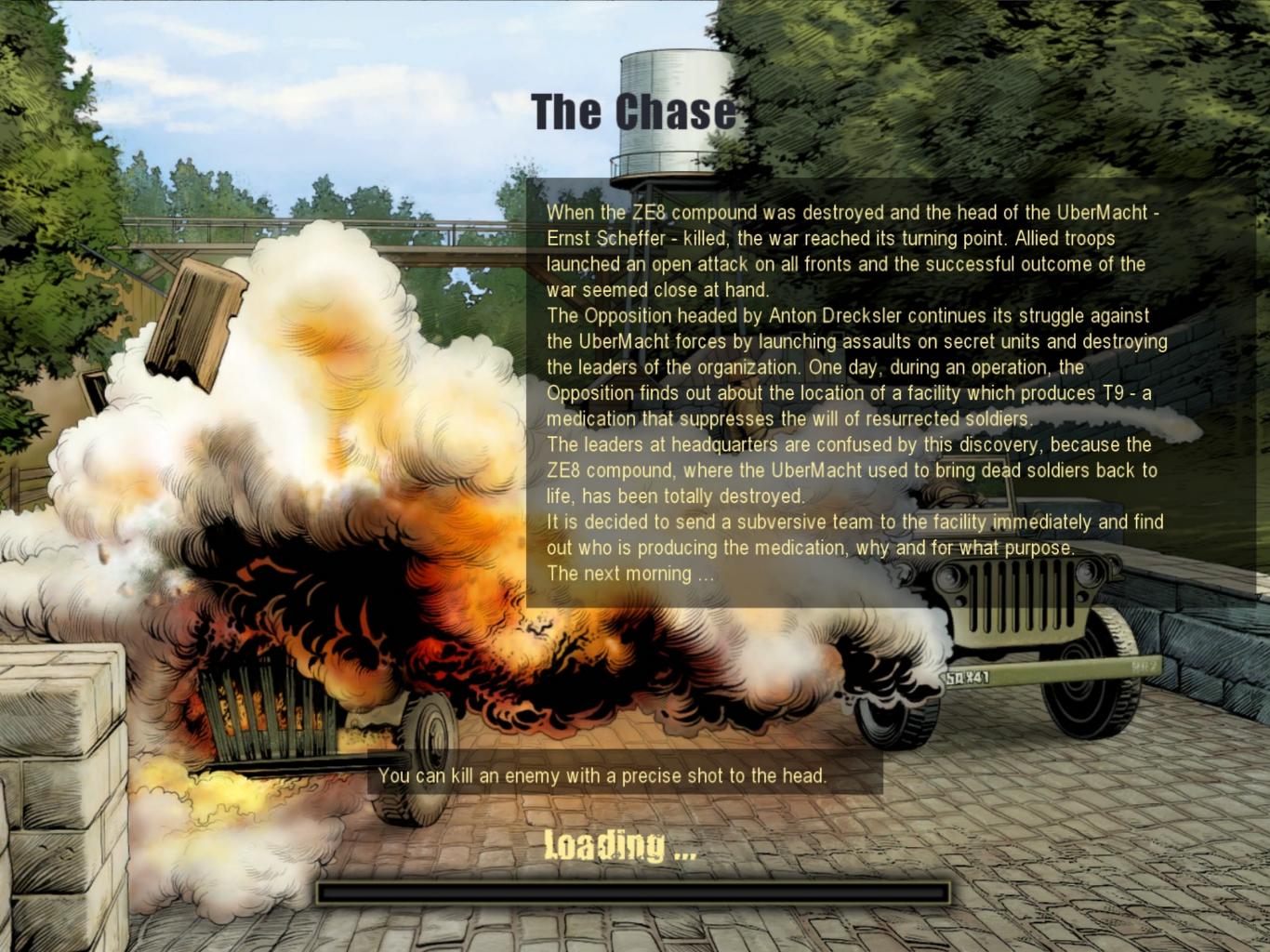
















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PLEASE PRESS ENTER





games.gamepressure.com

The Lord of the Rings: Conquest

9 0 0

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The Lord of the Rings: Conquest of the previmage

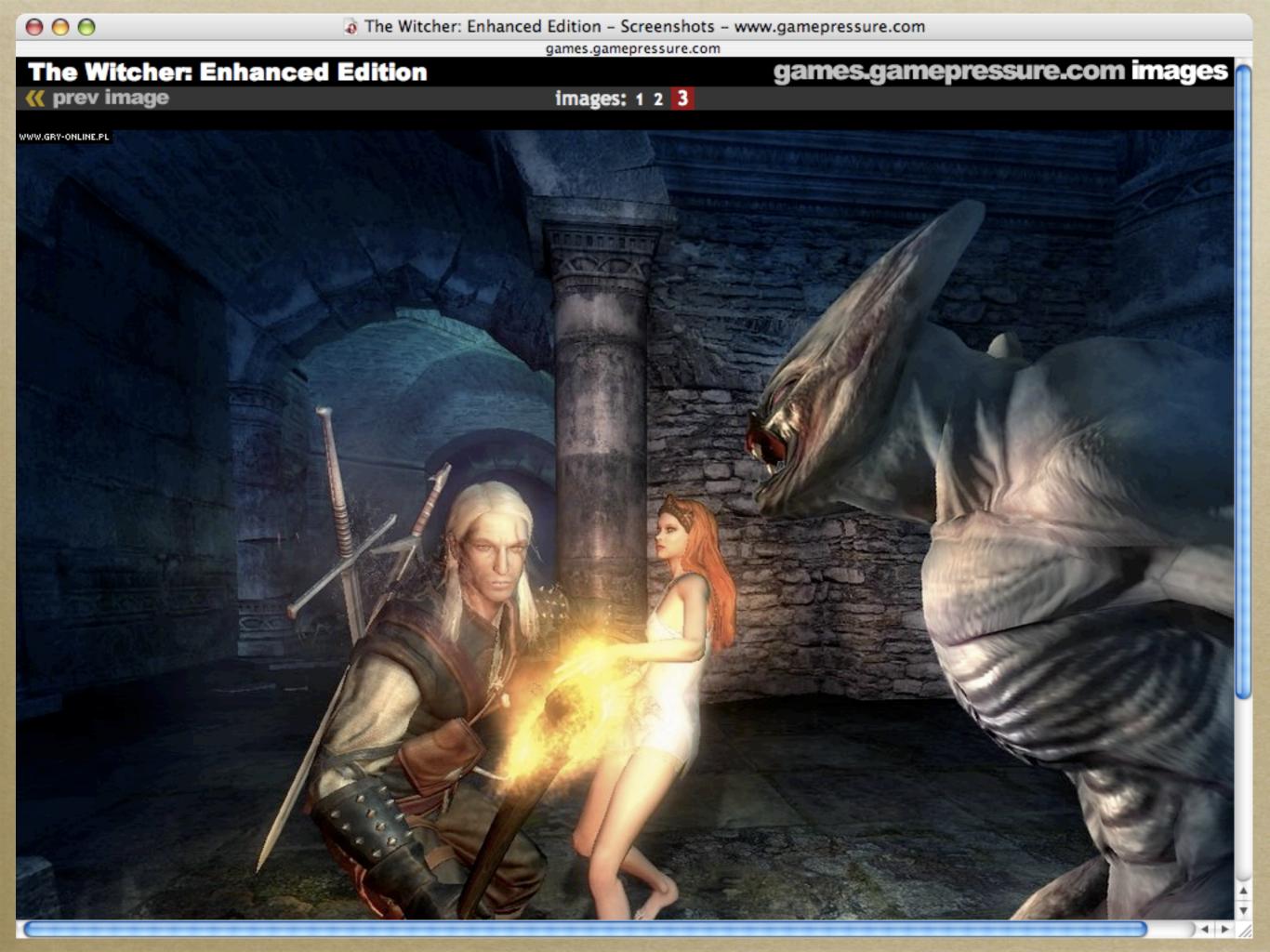
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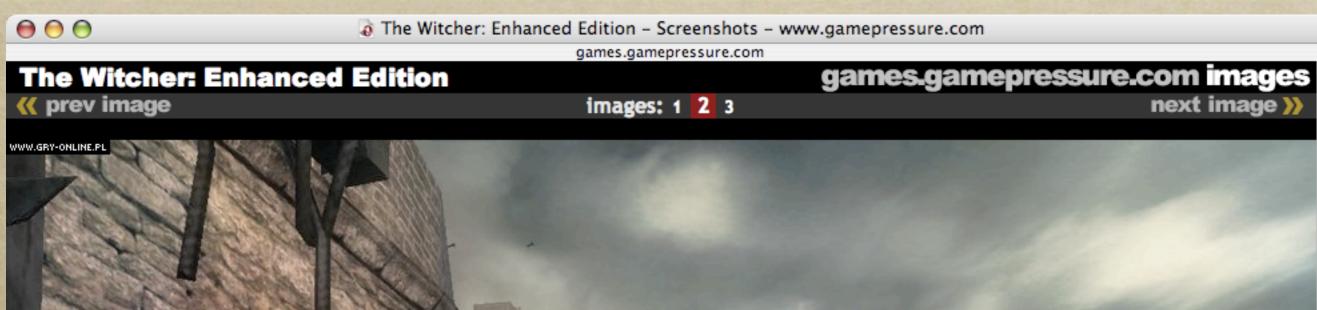
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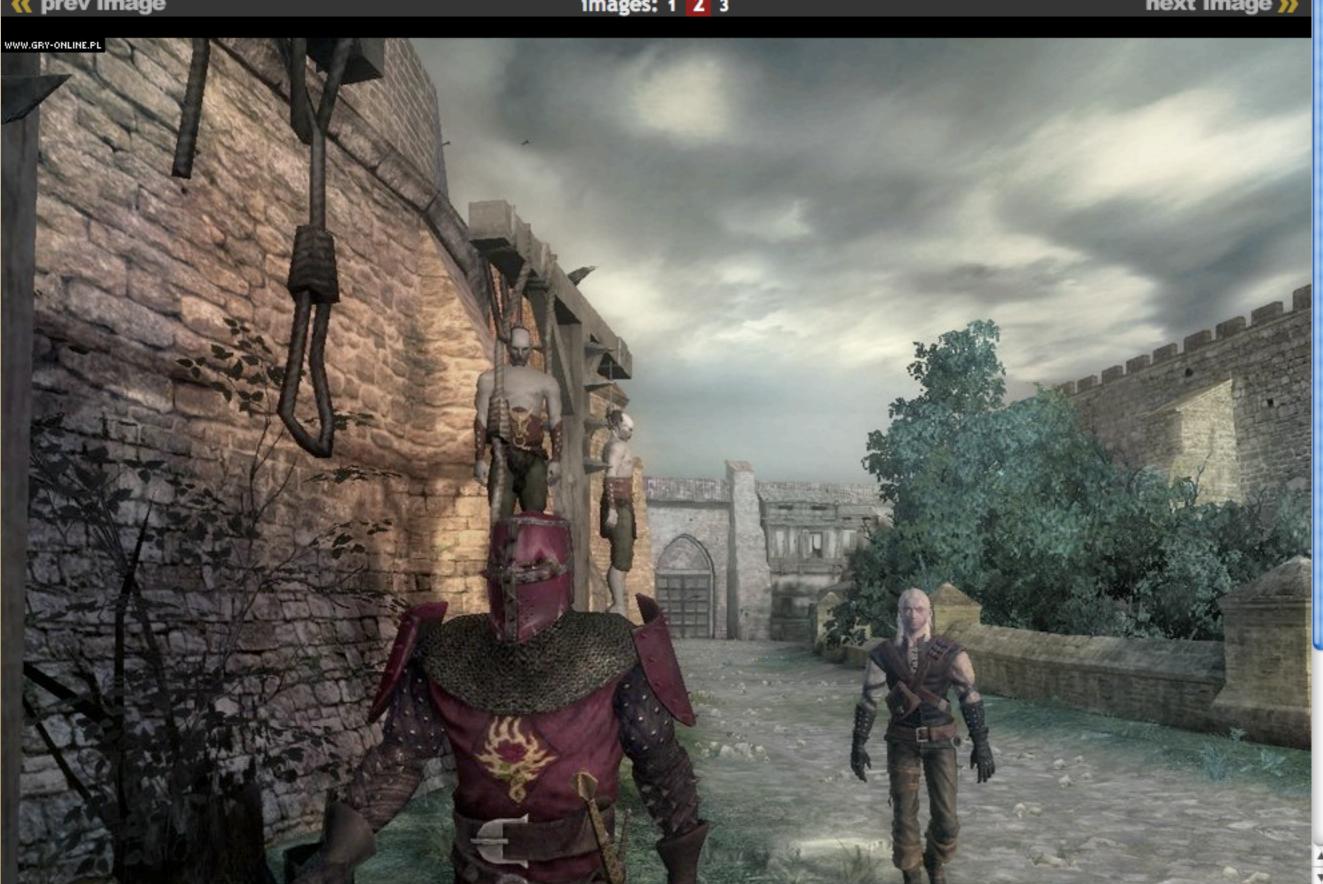
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OK, so how is it done?

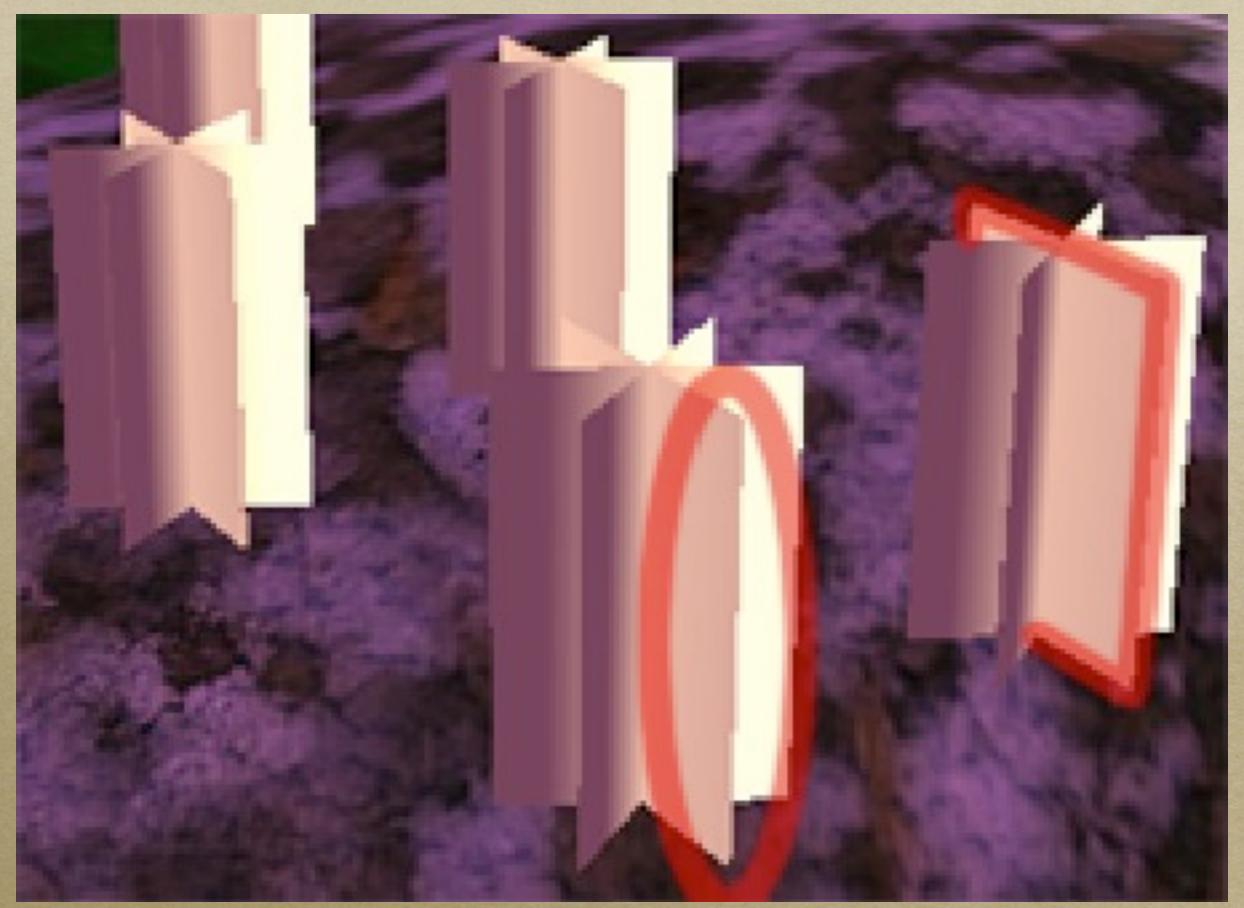
- Partly driven by fast hardware
- Textures and billboards
- Level of Detail
- Pre-rendered background
- Limited viewing possibilities

Textures and Billboards

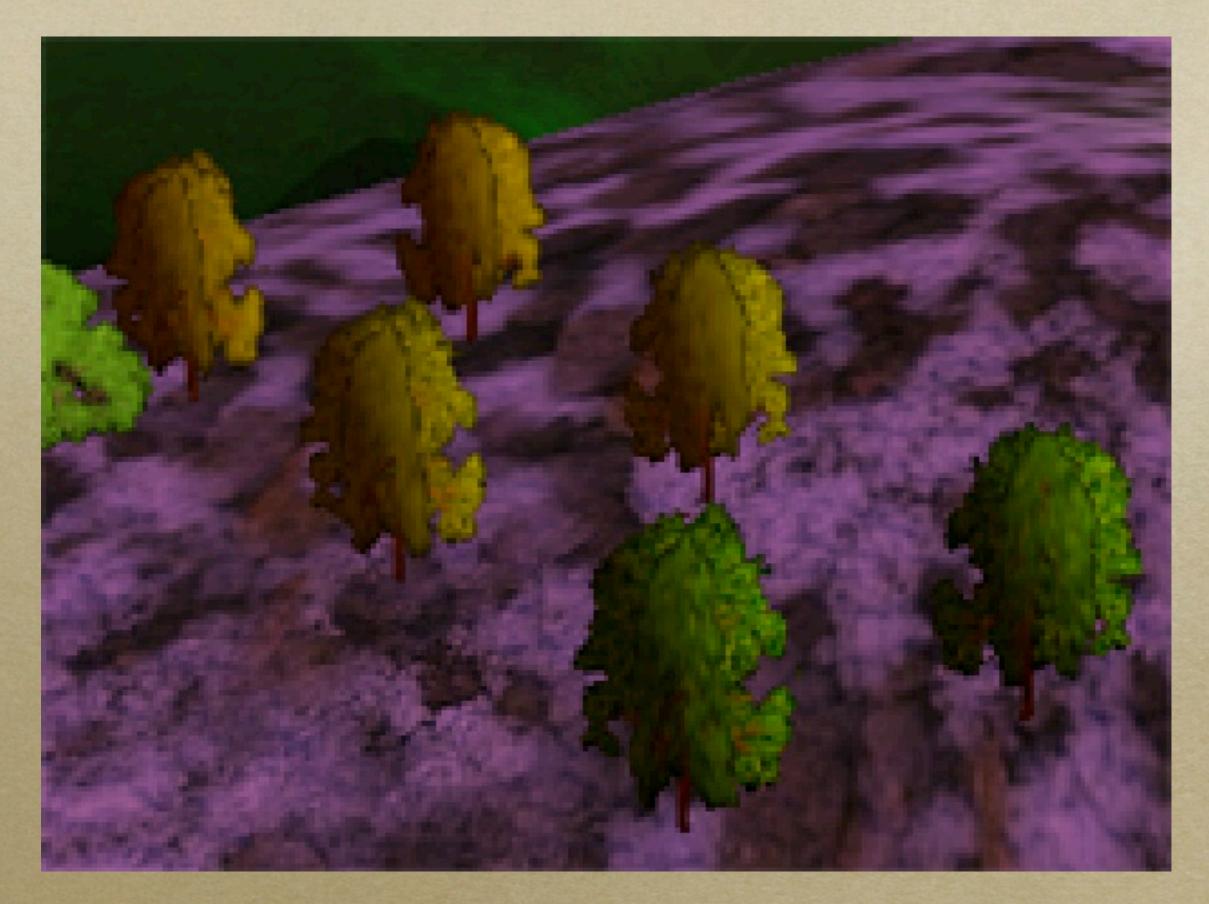
- Wolfenstein 3D introduced cheap scalable wall textures.
- o Only viewed 'vertically'
- Painted on walls all at right angles
- Simply scaled with distance.
- 2.5D visible surface calculation.

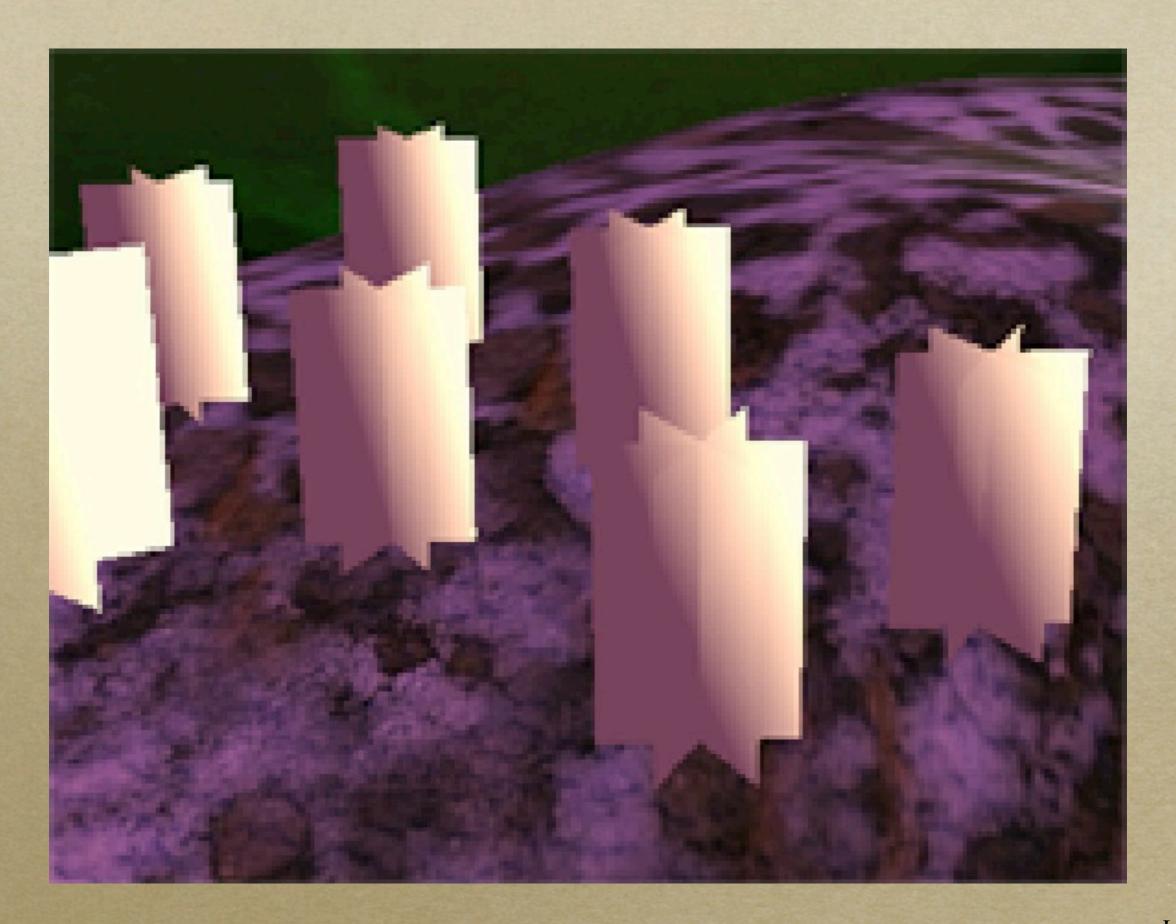
Billboards

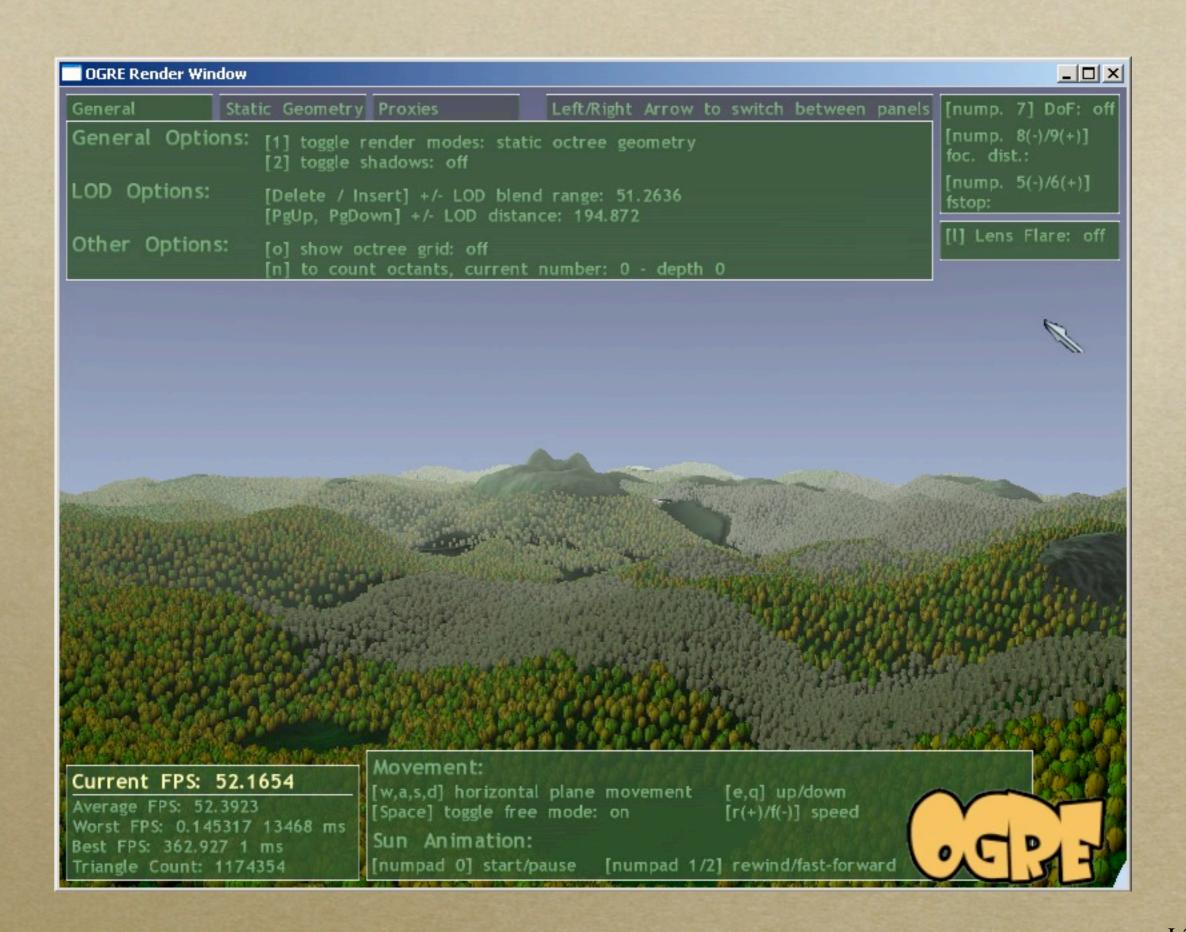
- Paint texture onto a single triangle or quad.
- Include transparency easy with alpha channel
- Swap textures for different viewing angles

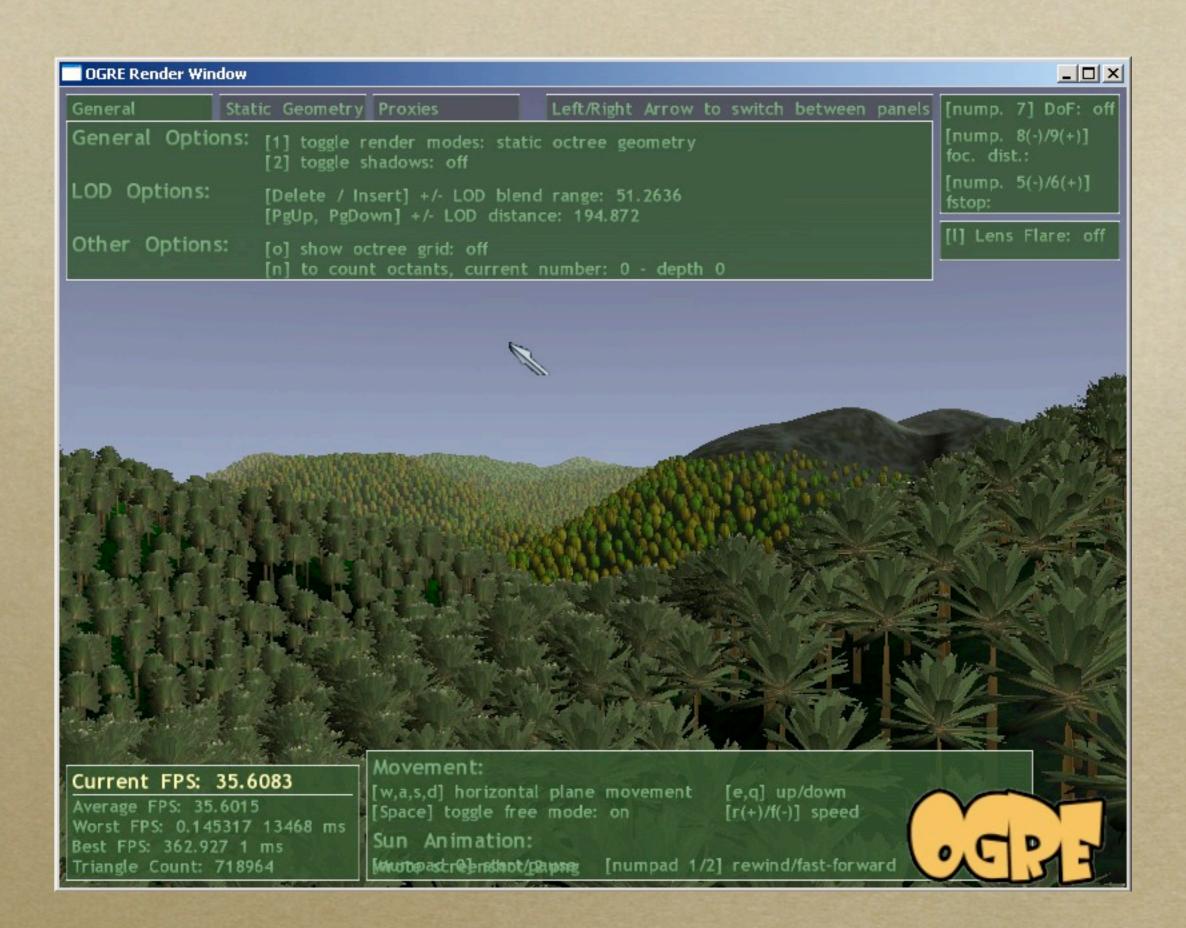








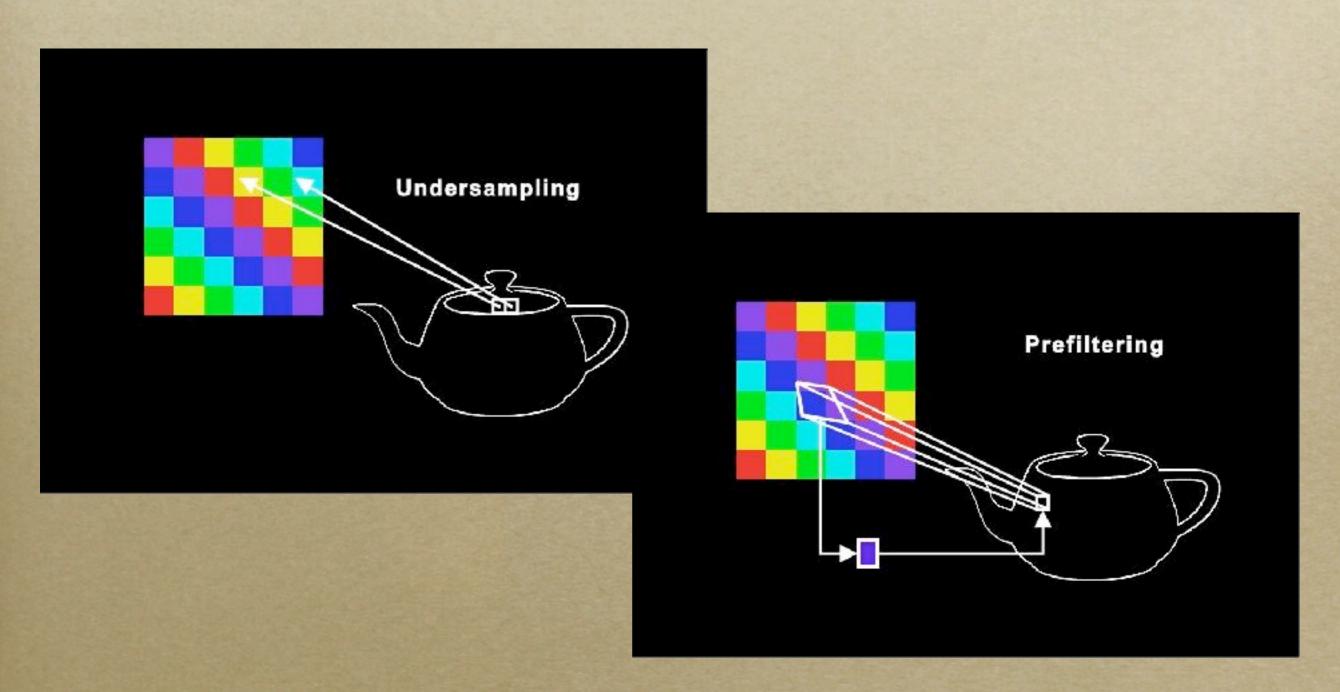




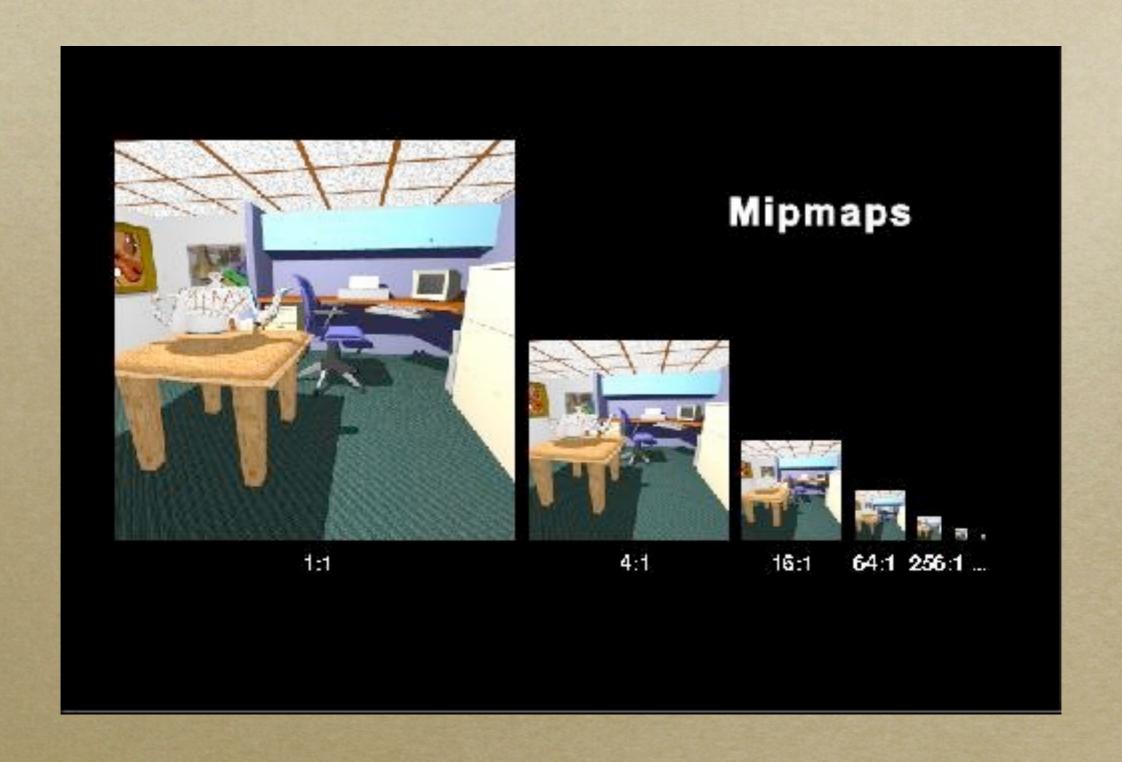
Change LoD with distance

- Far distance colour cubes, impostors
- Nearer, small billboards, larger billboards
- Billboards with depth map
- Actual geometry

Aliasing Problems



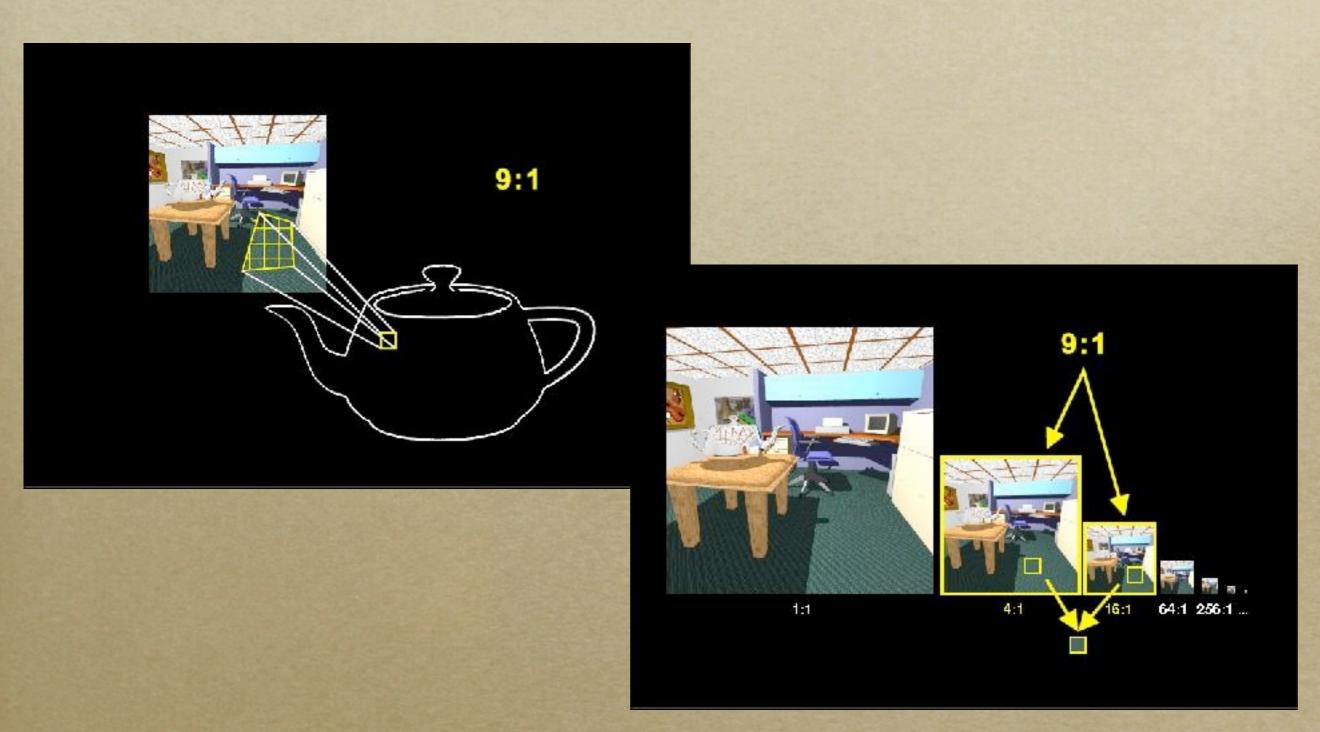
MIP Maps



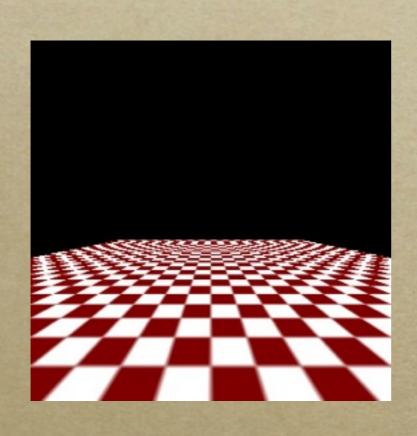
Multum in Parvo

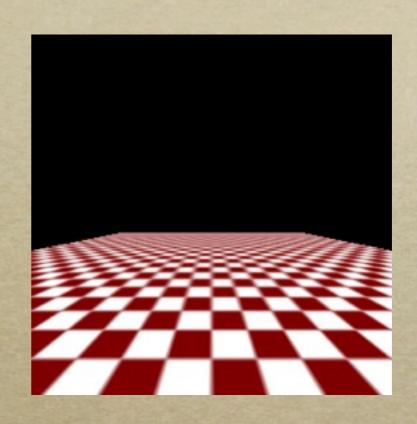
- Start with most detailed texture
- Reduce to half size by combining (averaging) adjacent four texels
- Continue to minimum
- Choose texture level according to distance

Can also blend levels



Example





What's clever?

- Binary tree contains twice as many nodes as leaves
- MIP map is a tree with branch ratio of 4
- MIPmap uses about 34% more memory than raw texture
- Hardware support through GLU

Question before Thursday

Why do we get green when we mix blue and yellow paint?

Last chance to find the answer yourself