

Alabama Crimson Tide Pinball Machine

This is a full size, commercial, arcade style pinball machine that has been re-designed to be an Alabama fan's dream come true.

The machine was originally manufactured by the Gottlieb company who was the recognized leader of this vintage machine. It was originally a game called Target Alpha which is a very fun and collectable machine. This feature makes getting repairs and spare parts possible in case they are needed. The machine was totally stripped down to bare wood and repainted in the Alabama football motif shown. The game features 15 drop targets, bumpers, 4 flippers, Bama Bonus, extra ball, special when lit, stationary targets, and more.

The playfield design is totally original. Action pictures of many Alabama football players were used in the design and centrally located on the playfield is a picture of Bear Bryant. The original design was scanned in full color and professionally printed on a playfield sized overlay covered with protective mylar for long life.

The plastic designs feature several Alabama cheerleaders cheering on the team. In the drain hole if you look real close you'll see the infamous Coach Franchione with the ball lodged in the back of his head. There is even a section on the playfield showing the million dollar band.

The machine has the traditional chime sounds when points are scored and the action coils are activated. In addition, the machine plays either part of the Alabama fight sound or part of Dixie whenever you start a new game, when you win a game or match, each time a ball pops up, whenever you knock down the 10 targets that spell out "BEAT AUBURN" or when you press the button on the bottom of the cabinet - don't let your kids find this button or you may never hear the end of it. You can choose which song the game plays. The sound system runs off of a 12 volt DC power supply.

The back glass features the Alabama state flag in the background. On the back glass is a very unique feature, a mirror with the words "BAMA FAN" on it. The face of whoever is playing the game at the time shows up in the mirror framed with these words. The mirror is totally adjustable for different height players. Below the mirror is a frame in which you can put an autographed 8x10 picture of your favorite player. Currently it has a picture of Andrew Zow in it. At the top of the backglass, there are 12 blue stars that have the dates of the 12 Alabama National Championships on them. These stars are illuminated by a light strip across the top of the machine.

Below the backglass is a row of 10 red lights which alternately light up at the end of the game. Each light has a number from 00 through 90 under it. If your score matches the lit number, you get a free game and the Alabama fight song or Dixie plays as described above.

On top of the back box is a set of Western division replica helmets mounted on a large letter "A". In its proper place on top of the "A" and the other helmets is a larger Alabama #12 helmet. The sides of the back box resemble the jersey of an Alabama player with the #12 on the sleeves. Under the row of helmets are 5 red lights which let you know which ball you are playing.

On the back of the machine is a humorous warning to all Auburn fans that they are playing the wrong end of the machine.

Included with the machine is an Alabama floor mat for the comfort of the player. This machine is totally working. I have cleaned and adjusted all the contacts and replaced all broken parts. The machine has been cleaned, all rubber rings have been replaced, all light bulbs are new, and the playfield glass is brand new without a scratch on it.

By Andy Patko

Update: Wed, November 17, 2004

Hi Jay,

Since we last talked, I modified the game in the area of the sound system. When a game is started and a ball is put into play, the University of Alabama band begins playing and remains playing for about 10 seconds (adjustable). When the band stops, you have to hit one of two targets or go over a specific rollover in order to get them playing again. The object is to keep them playing the whole time. It is really exciting to have a marching band playing while the sounds of the game are going on. If you knock down the bank of 10 top targets which spell out "BEAT AUBURN" (Alabama's arch rival), then the band plays continuously until the ball drains. I have installed two stereo speakers on the backbox to play the sound from an auto-reverse cassette. The cassette player is triggered by a number of micro switches I have installed.

I thought you might want to update the description on the database.

Thanks,
Andy Patko