AmeEdit is a tool to customize creature configs in order to change them to your liking using Amethyst plugin. This guide aims to explain what each of its flags/fields does, so you can configure the creature as you see fit. Note however, that we won't cover the .txt stats here as those become self-explanatory once you open the respective file with TxtEdit.

So, in basic flags category (on the left part of the window) we have:

- 1) **DOUBLE_WIDE-occupies 2 cells** just what it says. Makes a creature take 2 hexes on the battlefield.
- 2) **flying** makes creature ignore obstacles on the battlefield, makes it unable to benefit from *jousting bonus* and speeds up its moving animation. Do <u>NOT</u> set this flag if your creature is going to be teleporter the "*isTeleporter*" flag I'll explain below already allows ignoring obstacles, and for movement to be instant, the "*flying*" flag needs to be disabled.
- 3) **shooter** allows creature to perform ranged attacks and automatically applies -50% damage penalty for melee hits, -50% damage penalty for shooting enemies behind walls, and -50% damage penalty for shooting at range higher than 10 hexes away. If you set this flag, your creature must have:
- shooting frames in battle def at three respective categories
- projectile (shotXXX.def of \$40 type)
- SXXXSHOT.wav sound

If you don't any of these the game will crash on shooting attempt.

- 4) **extended attack radius (two cells)** creature will damage a hex behind the main target like most dragons do. Doesn't care if ally or enemy stands there, and even though the additional taget gets the same damage, it won't be affected by any possible post-attack effects. This flag is mutually exlusive with "hits all enemies around" one which has higher priority so if both are set, only the latter will work.
- 5) **living creature** creature can be affected by Resurrection, Demonology, Sacrifice, Poison, Disease, Blind, Death Ripple, Death Stare, Death Cloud and Life Drain. Can't be affected by Destroy Undead and Animate Dead.
- 6) **CATAPULT can destroy walls** creature will be able to target castle walls with its ranged attack. It should have one first, so it's useless without "shooter" flag above.
- 7) **SIEGE_WEAPON** creature will be considered war machine in battle (0 speed, 0 retaliations). Not recommended since this this flag alone won't get you a new war machine, you should connect it with other mechanics through scripting.
- 8) KING 1 creature will be affected by Slayer spell of any level.
- 9) **KING_2** creature will be affected by Slayer spell of advanced and expert levels, not counting for basic one.
- 10) KING_3 creature will be affected by Slayer spell of expert level only.
- 11) **Mind spell immunity** creature won't be affected by mind spells, specifcially Berserk, Blind, Forgetfulness, Frenzy, Hypnotize, Mirth and Sorrow. It will also take halved damage from Psychic elementals.
- 12) Ray Shooting creature will shoot with a straight ray like Beholders. One would think the ray color is determined by projectile def, since Beholders have Zealot projectile which is white, and so is their ray (same for Arch Magi). But from my tests, no matter what colors is projectile

for other creatures, the ray for them will be always black. This flag is useless without "shooter" one and provides only visual effect.

- 13) **No Melee penalty** shooter creature won't get a -50% damage penalty when performing a melee attack. For creatures that can't shoot this flag doesn't matter. Better set it to storm elementals tho, since even though their description states they don't have melee penalty, they don't posess this flag by default so penalty is actually there which can be considered a SoD bug.
- 14) --- this flag has no in-game effect and is unused, but in MoP it was serving for raid boss mechanic, so technically in ERA with some scripting it is possible to make it useful as well.
- 15) **IMMUNE_TO_FIRE_SPELLS** creature will become immune to all fire spells (including mines on Tower moat) and will ignore the damage from fire shield ability (actually it is the only protection from it since it doesn't count as a level 4 spell).
- 16) Attacks twice after first melee/ranged attack and received retaliation, creature will perform another one.
- 17) **No Enemy Retaliation** enemies won't retaliate on melee attacks of this creature. However, enemies with "*RangedRetaliation*" flag will still retaliate on ranged ones it if their ammo allows.
- 18) **No Morale Penalty** creature morale will be always 0 since this flag removes not only morale penalties, but benefits too.
- 19) **Undead** creature will be lowering allies morale by 1 in battle, will become immune to Bless and Curse spells, but could be affected by Animate Dead and Destroy Undead. That's actually all this flag does every other undead immunity/mechanic is achieved by either disabling "*living creature*" flag, or activating "*no morale penalty"*" mind spell immunity"" fearless" etc.
- 20) **hits all enemies around** just what it says, hits multiple targets but only the main one could possibly be affected by post-attack effects. This flag is mutually exlusive with "extended attack radius (two cells)" one and has higher priority over it so if both are set, only the former will work.
- 21) **extended radius of shooting units** does nothing by itself, but is required for "Missile" field to work (see below).
- 22) **stack killed? 41E617** despite question mark this flag does exactly that marks entire creature stack as killed. Not recommended for using.
- 23) **Summoned** creatures with this flag don't leave corpse upon dying and will disappear from your army after battle ends.
- 24) Clone marks creature as clone, it will be colored in blue and will perish from any damage.
- 25) **already had morale** grants creature a first turn among all others in battle (regardless of their speed), but prevents additional morale-caused turn from happening. This flag lasts only the first round of each battle and will be reset when second one starts.
- 26) **were(already) waiting** disables waiting possibility for the first combat round for this creature. When second round statrs flag will be reset.
- 27) already moved creature won't be able to act in first combat round. When second round statrs flag will be reset.

- 28) **defending** if creature was hit before its turn came, it will act the same as if defend button was pressed will play defending animation and defense bonus will be applied. Doesn't actually skip the creature turn in this round (as the real defend button would).
- 29) **Sacrifice** creature won't leave corpse upon dying. This flag doesn't prevent creature from being a target of Sacrifice spell itself.
- 30) **Don't Change Color** creature won't change color when petrified or cloned.
- 31) Shades of Gray creature will always be colored grey as if it was petrified, and so will its clones.
- 32) **dragon nature** creature will be affected by Vial of Dragon Blood, Mutare hero specialization and "*isDragonSlayer*" special flag.

In <u>special flags</u> category (on the middle part of the window) we have:

- 1) hasSantaGuards at the beginning of each battle creature will be surronded with guards. Type of guard creature is 1st level of owner hero's faction, unless you specify the guards number ID in the respective field. Don't use 2-hex creatures neither as guards, nor the ones who should have them.
- 2) isRogue grants creature Rogue's ability to act as a permanent Visions spell for hero army.
- 3) **isGhost** grants creature a WoG's Ghost ability to add the number of killed creatures to its own amount.
- 4) **isEnchanter** grants creature an Enchanter's ability to automatically cast massive spells on it's turn, while still being able to act. Spell power can be affected by factors set in respective fields.
- 5) **isSorceress** grants creature a WoG Sorceress ability to apply debuffs after attack, amount of which depends on the stack strength difference with victim. Spell power can be affected by factors set in respective fields.
- 6) hasFirewall grants creature a WoG Hell Steed ability to leave a 2-hex firewall after melee attack. The firewall will appear only if target has survived the attack. If creature won't be able to perform attack due to quicksand or landmine, the wall will still appear. After wall worns out, the hexes it used to occupy will become passable, so you can destroy battle obstacles this way (but not castle walls).
- 7) Always + Morale creature morale will never drop below +1 unless some hero has Spirit of Opression which will set it to 0.
- 8) Always + Luck creature luck will never drop below +1 unless some hero has Hourglass of the Evil Hour which will set it to 0.
- 9) Fear creature will have 10% chance to make enemy skip its turn. These chances are not stackable.
- 10) **Fearless** creature will ignore "*Fear*" flag of enemy creatures.
- 11) **NoWallPenalty** ranged creature won't get -50% damage penalty for shooting at targets behind castle walls. All other battle obstacles in game don't even apply that penalty. Flag is useless without "*shooter*" one obviously.

- 12) **Sharpshooters** ranged creature won't get -50% damage penalty for shooting at range higher than 10 hexes away. Flag is useless without "shooter" one obviously.
- 13) **ShootingAdjacent** ranged creature will be able to shoot even if surrounded by adjacent enemies. It seems like only human player could benefit from it AI still attacks in melee in such situation with this flag. Like the two above, is useless without "*shooter*" flag.
- 14) StrikeAndReturn after melee attack creature will return to previous position.
- 15) **JoustingBonus** each hex of distance between initial creature position and the one it attacks from will give 5% damage boost. Doesn't work on flyers, and is not taken under consideration by AI while controlling any creatures aside from Cavaliers/Champions.
- 16) **JoustingImmune** creature will ignore "*JoustingBonus*" flag of enemy creatures.
- 17) MagicAura creature will grant 20% of dwarven magic resistance to all adjacent allies. This flag doesn't provide any for the creature itself though.
- 18) MagicMirror creature will have a chance to reflect hostile spell on random enemy (doesn't count as spell and can't be dispelled). To my experience works only on player-casted spells somehow, I've never seen AI spell reflected by such creature, not sure if this is intended or just bad luck.
- 19) MagicChannel creature will transfer to ally hero 20% of each mana amount enemy hero spents. These are not stackable.
- 20) **isFaerie** grants creature Faerie Dragon ability to cast random damage spell each turn.
- 21) **isPassive** creature will automatically skip its turn every combat round, pretty much like ammo cart does.
- 22) **isCerberus** works only with "hits all enemies around" flag set and limits its effect to three targets main one and the ones adjacent by left and right side of it.
- 23) **isDragonSlayer** gives creature +100% hatred damage to enemies with "*dragon nature*" flag.
- 24) **PreventiveStrike** creature will relatiate before it actually gets hit. If it has more than 1 relatiation per round, the normal retaliation will still follow, so you can make creatures that attack twice but only when defending.
- 25) **RangedRetaliation** creature will always shoot back at other shooters attacking it as long as its ammo allows and there are no adjacent enemies around. While ammo is spent for each triggering of this ability, the amount of melee retaliations remains untact.
- 26) isAmmoCart creature will grant infinite ammo to all ally shooters.
- 27) **isConstruct** marks creature as construct, to heal/revive it with "Repair Constructs" casting option (see below).
- 28) **isAimedCaster** allows creature to pick the spell target area with F (like in Faeries case), and thus opens a wider possibilities for casting options. For example, with this flag creatures are able to cast Remove Obstacles spell which is not possible without. Also this allows caster to buff himself with his own spell (doesn't work with resurrection sadly).

- 29) **isTeleporter** allows creature to ignore obstacles, disappearing in starting position to appear at destination (instant movement). For this to work, couple other adjustments have to be made:
- "flying" flag should be disabled
- creature should have only 1 frame in moving category, preferably empty (full cyan). The moving animation should be separated between Start Moving and Stop Moving categories instead
- creature should have SXXXEXT1.wav and SXXXEXT2.wav sounds, since SXXXMOVE.wav won't be played anymore
- 30) Do Not Genenrate prevents creature from appearing on map, including garrisons.

In *fields* category (on the right part of the window) we have:

- 1) **Creature Spell Power** allows to set creature spell power as you see fit by changing the components of its formula: Spell_Power = (Stack_Size * multiplier / divider) + adder. Affects most unique abilities and direct casts, but doesn't affect demonology (yet).
- 2) **Creature Regeneration** allows to customize regeneration ability per each individual creature you want to have it with. Health field is an amount of hp restored (won't cause resurrection upon overflow), and **Chance** is calculated at each creature's turn separately. Note that having Elixir of Life with you overrides these settings to 100% chance and full hp each time. Also commander regeneration ability overrides the value to 50 as well.
- 3) Mana Drain grants creature a Wraith ability to drain mana from enemy hero each turn. The amount drained vanishes and is not trasfered to anyone.
- 4) Creature Cast Settings (the three fields set to *None* by default)
 Okay, this is a vast one. Mind that whatever you set here will spend creature cast points, so if you want to use any of these, go and add some casts in .txt beforehand. Now to the contents, first field is cast mode, second is cast type, the third one was meant to be cast target, but actually it doesn't matter at all the target type is specified by spell chosen and even if you leave third field as None it will still work perfectly.

<u>First</u> field offers the following options:

- Resurrection this mode has to go in pair with "Resurrection"/"Raise Undead"/"Reapir Constructs"/"Gate Infernals" in second field for them to work properly. Otherwise don't use it.
- Genie Spell this mode is only viable if you aim to replicate Master Genie behavior for your creature, in this case choose it alongside the "Random Friendly Spell" in second field. Otherwise it's not your choice.
- **Demonology** this is Pit Lord ability to resurrect fallen living(!) ally creatures in form of another creature, except instead of Demons it could be anything set in **Demonology Target** field in bottom left corner of the window. When picking a target creature keep in mind hardcoded demonology rules:
- targets are revived for 50 hp per each creature in caster stack, and currently you can't affect this by spell power factors;
- the amount of revived creatures can't exceed the initial stack size (from 4 unicorns you will be able to resurrect up to 4 centaurs despite their health difference);
- total hp of revived creatures can't exceed total hp of the dead stack (you won't be able to resurrect 4 unicorns from 4 centaurs).
- After you picked the desired target for demonology, choose "Resurrection" in second field and you should be good to go.
- Bloodlust/Prot Water/Prot Earth/Prot Air/Prot Fire these modes will allow you to cast specified spells only. Don't use them if you want to fully benefit from custom spell power.

- 0x44835E/Exact spell number/Exact spell number (Twice) these are your best deal as most customizable mode. Taking an exact spell number from the "Casts Spell (ID)" field in bottom left corner and applying your custom spell power formula, they provide the most flexible possibilities including beforementioned Bloodlust and elemental protections. Now to the difference between them - "Exact spell" is just that, "Twice" option could be quite OP as it allows to cast the spell twice in a row while spending only 1 cast point, and "0x44835E" mode allows the spell to become expert once hero has reached the expert level in the respective magic school (by default all creature spells are cast on Advanced level no matter what).
- Random Elemental this mode will allow your creature to summon random elemental (who would have guessed, right?). You don't have to specify any spell for it to work.
- Enchant Target/Minor/Major this mode will allow your creature to increase the target's cast points (by 2 if default, by 1 if minor and by 3 if major).
- Heavenly Inspiration this mode allows to grant a special buff to target: speed & max hp increase for the entire battle + endless retaliation for 1 turn.
- Rush Target Ally this mode allows to grant an additional turn to target in this round.
 Dragon Will this mode allows to grant a dragon nature to target alongside with hp and damage boost.

Second field offers the following options:

- Resurrection consider it "Archangel mode", it will resurect living creatures even from the corpse state. The default power is 100 hp per creature in caster stack, but can be overriden with your formula factors. Has to be used in pair with "Resurrection" in first field to work properly.
- Also required if "Demonology" was picked in the first field.

 Random Friendly Spell apart from being a must-have for "Genie Spell" in first field, it is also one of the two options when you want your spell from the first field to affect allies, not enemies. I.e. when you picked "0x44835E" and the ID of some buff, or just picked something like "Enchant Target". Noone wants to enchant enemies, eh?
- Friendly Spell the second possible option for buffs. The difference from previous one is that it actually respects the creature immunities before allowing to cast it. For example, if you picked "Exact Spell Number" and ID 49, making your creature cast Mirth, then with this mode you won't be able to cast it on mind-immune allies, while with "Random Friendly Spell" option it would still apply.
- Protections ill-advised, for buffs use either of the two above.
- Random Damage Spell the only option for spells which should target enemies. Whether it is an offensive spell or just a debuff - use this mode. But in order to make your damage spell truly random, "isFaerie" special flag must be set first. If your spell has target area, "isAimedCaster would be of use as well.
- Raise Undead essentialy a duplicate of Archangel resurrection, but checks for "Undead" flag. This is more useful than just spell 39 because it can target even completely destroyed stacks. Requires "Resurrection" in first field to work properly.
- Repair Constructs another duplicate of Archangel resurrection, but checks for either "SIEGE_WEAPON" or "isConstruct" flags. Requires "Resurrection" in first field to work properly.

 • Gate Infernals – very OP ability to resurrect creatures of Inferno affinity with overflow. The
- additional creatures stay with you after battle which makes it a very decent necromancy counter. Requires "Resurrection" in first field to work properly.

Third field has three options but don't even bother, as I said, they make no difference whatsoever.

- 5) UpgradesTo this specifies the possible upgrade for creature. Target must be the same level, otherwise won't work.
- 6) MimicArtifact allows creature to grant hero an artifact effect, even two at once since both fields by the sides of this text are related to this feature. Not all artifacts are supported, particular cases require additional tests, but from what I can tell, you can't mimic misc slot artifacts.

- 7) Resource Giving one would think this is the Diamond Dragon ability to give gems daily, but it's actually more balanced - with dragons you could give a stack to every of your 8 heroes and have +8 gems daily, this one however will add the amount you specify regardless of how many heroes have a stack of such creature. Doesn't work in garrison too, you should have the creature in hero army to benefit from this ability.
- 8) Guards specifies a creature type of guards added by "hasSantaGuards" flag. Don't you dare putting a 2-hex creature here, you have been warned.
- Tax this field allows creature to give you gold everyday. But how is it different from the gold type chosen in "Recource Giving" field? Well, the amount you specify as tax isn't total, it is multiplied by the stack size before being added to your current gold. Still doesn't work in garrison though.
- 10) ReduceTargetDefence % this is Behemoth ability to ignore specified % of enemy defence at the moment of melee hit. Takes values in direct numbers: 20% is 20 in the field, not 0.2.
- 11) Spell After Action this allows to cast up to 2 spells after few certain actions, but it's currently bugged (quite a lot) so not recommended. Use at own risk.
- 12) Melee Resistance decreases (with Air Shield animation) or increases (with Disrupting Ray animation) the damage creature takes from melee attacks. Animations will be customizable in the future. Takes values in decimals: 40% is 0.4, -300% is -3.
- 13) Shooting Resistance decreases (with Air Shield animation) or increases (with Disrupting Ray animation) the damage creature takes from ranged attacks. Animations will be customizable in the future. Takes values in decimals: 40% is 0.4, -300% is -3.
- 14) Creature Effects there are 4 different fields: ACAST_/ATT_ is what happens after attack, RESIST_ is magic immunities/dwarf resistances, and VULN_ is golem/elemental damage modifiers. Let's get more in-depth here.

First field, ACAST:

- BIND Dendroid ability to bind in place. Guaranteed to happen after attack.
- BLIND Unicorn ability to apply basic Blind. 20% to happen.
- DISEASE Zombie ability to apply disease. Works only on living targets, 20% to happen.
 CURSE Mummy ability to apply basic Curse. 25% to happen.
- AGE Ghost Dragon ability to apply Age. Works only on living targets, 20% to happen.
- STONE Medusa ability to petrify target. 20% to happen.
- ARALIZE Scorpicore ability to apply Paralyze. 20% to happen.
- POISON Wyvern-Monarch ability to apply Poison. Works only on living targets, 30% to happen.
- ACID Rust Dragon ability to reduce target defence by 3 with each attack till the battle end. Guaranteed and stackable, but won't work on targets with RESIST TOXIC.

Second field, ATT_:

- VAMPIRE Vampire Lord ability to drain life with each hit, adding the damage dealt to own hp with resurrection upon overflow. Works only on living targets.
- THUNDER Thunderbird ability to hit target with thunder, dealing 10 additional damage per creature in attacking stack. Doesn't affect targets with RESIST_TO_AIR and deals double damage to ones with VULN_LIGHTING. 20% to happen.
- DEATHSTARE Mighty Gorgon ability to kill additional creatures in enemy stack with Death Stare. Works only on living creatures, chances to happen depend on stack size.
- DISPEL Serpent Fly ability to dispell all buffs from target with each attack. Guaranteed but won't affect targets with RESIST_DISPEL or RESIST_DEBUFF.
- DISRUPT Rust Dragon ability to deal additional acid damage (25 per each creature in stack). Won't work on targets with RESIST TOXIC. 20% to happen.

Third field, **RESIST**:

- DWARF20/40/60/80/100 Dwarf-type magic resistance: creature will have X% chance to ignore the spell completely. Setting 100 will get it immune to hostile spells, while still allowing to apply buffs.
- LVL1/12/123/1234/MAGICIMMUNE Dragon-type of magic resistance by ignoring entire levels of spells. Setting MAGICIMMUNE will also make creature take 50% less damage from Magic elementals.
- **TO_EARTH** doesn't really give Earth immunity. All it does is protects creature from Meteor Shower and Blind, which is not even an earth spell.
- TO_AIR supposed to protect creature from ATT_THUNDER, Chain lightning, Lighning bolt, Titan's lighning bolt and Armageddon, but doesn't do it at the moment. Author is working on fix, hopefully it will get back to normal someday.
- TO_WATER grants immunty to Frost ring and Ice bolt.
- **SPEED** grants immunity to Slow, Haste, Bind and Quicksand. Quicksand will technically still work, but creature will try to avoid it while moving.
- TOXIC grants immunity to Poison, Disease, Paralyze and Acid.
- WILL grants immunity to Frenzy, Berserk, Hypnotize and Forgetfullness. Basically just a light version of "Mind spell immunity" flag.
- NO_EYES grants immunity to Blind, Stone gaze and Death Stare.
- MASS_DMG grants immunity to Death Ripple, Destroy Undead and Armageddon.
- TO_DISPELL grants immunity to Dispell and ATT_DISPEL as well.
- TO_DEBUFF grants immunity to ATT_DISPEL as well as debuffs like Curse, Weakness, Disrupting Ray, Sorrow, Misfortune, Slow, Forgetfullness, Blind, Stone gaze, Poison, Bind, Disease, Paralyze and Age.

Fourth field, VULN:

- GOLEM_STONE/IRON/GOLD/DIAMOND/125/150/200/300/400/500/600/700/900 Golem-type magic resistance which decreases the incoming magic damage by said percent. STONE is 50, IRON is 75, GOLD is 85, DIAMOND is 95 and values above 100 will heal creature with resurrection as magnetic golems work in H5.
- LIGHTING creature will take x2 damage from all things RESIST_TO_AIR protects from.
- **SHOWER** creature will take x2 damage from all things RESIST_TO_EARTH protects from.
- ICE creature will take x2 damage from all things RESIST_TO_WATER protects from.
- FIRE creature will take x2 damage from Fireball, Inferno and Armageddon. Doesn't seem to affect Fire Shield damage, although it's rather hard to test.
- 15) Creature Misc Statistics two fields here, affinity and level. Should be pretty self-explanatory.
- 16) Fire Shield this is natural fire shield like Efreet Sultans have. You can customize the damage it deals. Takes values in decimals: 20% is 0.20.
- 17) **Self Resurection** Phoenix ability to rebirth. Currently accepts only three values: 0.00 (disabled), 0.20 (normal Phoenix), 1.00 (Sacred Phoenix). Is considered a cast, so requires and spends cast points make sure your creature has some in .txt. And of course your edits to the spell power formula will affect the amount of revived creatures.
- 18) **Skele Transformer** the target creature of transformation in Necropolis special building. Doesn't necessarily have to be undead, could be anything. If set the same number as creature edited, transformation won't be possbile at all.
- 19) **Missile** defines the type of AoE ranged attack, either Magog fireball of Lich death cloud. Requires "extended radius of shooting units" flag set, leaving it at Default won't take any effect.

- 20) **Death Blow** Dread Knight ability to deal double damage when it triggers. The number you set here is a chance of happening. Takes values in direct numbers: 20% is 20 in the field, not 0.2. If set to a shooter creature, will trigger on ranged attacks as well.
- 21) **Preserve Spellpoints** Arch Mage ability to lower the cost of your spells. No matter what you set here, spells will cost at least 1 mana point.
- 22) Magic Damper the opposite to above ability of Pegasus. Increases the cost of enemy spells by the specified amount.
- 23) **Retaliations** defines how many times creature will be able to retaliate each round of battle. When set to 0 creature won't retaliate at all.
- 24) Casts Spell (ID) sets the spell to be cast by 0x44835E/Exact spell number/Exact spell number (Twice) modes. See ERM help in Era Start Menu for the list of available spells. Doesn't affect any other mode so if you haven't choosed any of the listed above don't even bother with this field.
- 25) **Imposed Spells** grants creature a permanent effect of the specified spell (i.e. Sacred Phoenix has an imposed Slayer). If it was dispelled or lost due to death/resurrection, it will automatically reappear next round. Creature can have up to three of those. Doesn't check for immunity so if creature is mind-immune, it could still have imposed Mirth.
- 26) **Demonology Target** decides what creature dead allies will become when resurrected by demonology. Keep in mind that demonology works only on living tagets, so if you set a non-living as a target, you won't be able to revive it again (with living you can "loop" the resurrection as long as your cast points allow since neither corpses nor creatures created by demonology do not disappear).

Afterword:

Before you start customizing the flags/fields exlained above, you should understand one important rule of how Amethyst plugin works: it applies your changes on top of what your creature already has. This doesn't matter much when adding a custom creature, since it is new and has nothig yet, but if you decide to modify some vanilla creature you gotta proceed with caution. Some extra details of this rule I have painfully learnt on personal experience: 1) the basic flags category (on the left part of the window) should be recreated entirely before saving. Say, you want Monk to become mind-immune, you open AmeEdit, activate the respective flag and save as 8.cfg under < ModName > / Data/Creatures folder (as you should do with any creature btw). But then in game you find out that while he is indeed immune to mind spells now, he also can't shoot anymore! Archangels no longer can resurrect him! "I didn't touch those why it is happening?!" Because the basic flags are not 1/0 checks, they result in a sum in config which means that if you make any changes to them, first thing you gonna do is to activate the ones creature had before your edits. In Monk's case, it is shooter and living creature ones. ALWAYS set UpgradesTo and Level fields to what they were before. For some reason these two are not restored to default values when skipped. So, even if you didn't make any changes to Monk besides mind immunity, set him "Level 5" as level and "9" as upgrade, just not to face unexpected issues in game. Also if you are editing Black Dragon, Darkness Dragon, Diamond Dragon or Magic Elemental, set them RESIST_MAGICIMMUNE back otherwise they will loose it somehow.

3) You don't have to activate abilities creature already has, like "JoustingBonus" flag for Champions. BUT if you want to remove the default ability, you have to tick Forced checkbox next to Save button. What it does is it makes game reconsider creature params entirely, which means creature won't have jousting bonus unless you checked it, even if it is its vanilla ability. And since it affects the entire config, you would have to set ALL the fields from scratch, not just basic flags category. Be careful with this one, sometimes it's hard to keep track on what settings creature had by default.