

THE GUNBREAKER



HOMEBREW

A conversion of FFXIV's Gunbreaker job,
for the world's greatest roleplaying game.

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DISCLAIMER

This class is designed under the assumption that your game is using the renaissance firearms presented on page 266 of the Dungeon Master's Guide.

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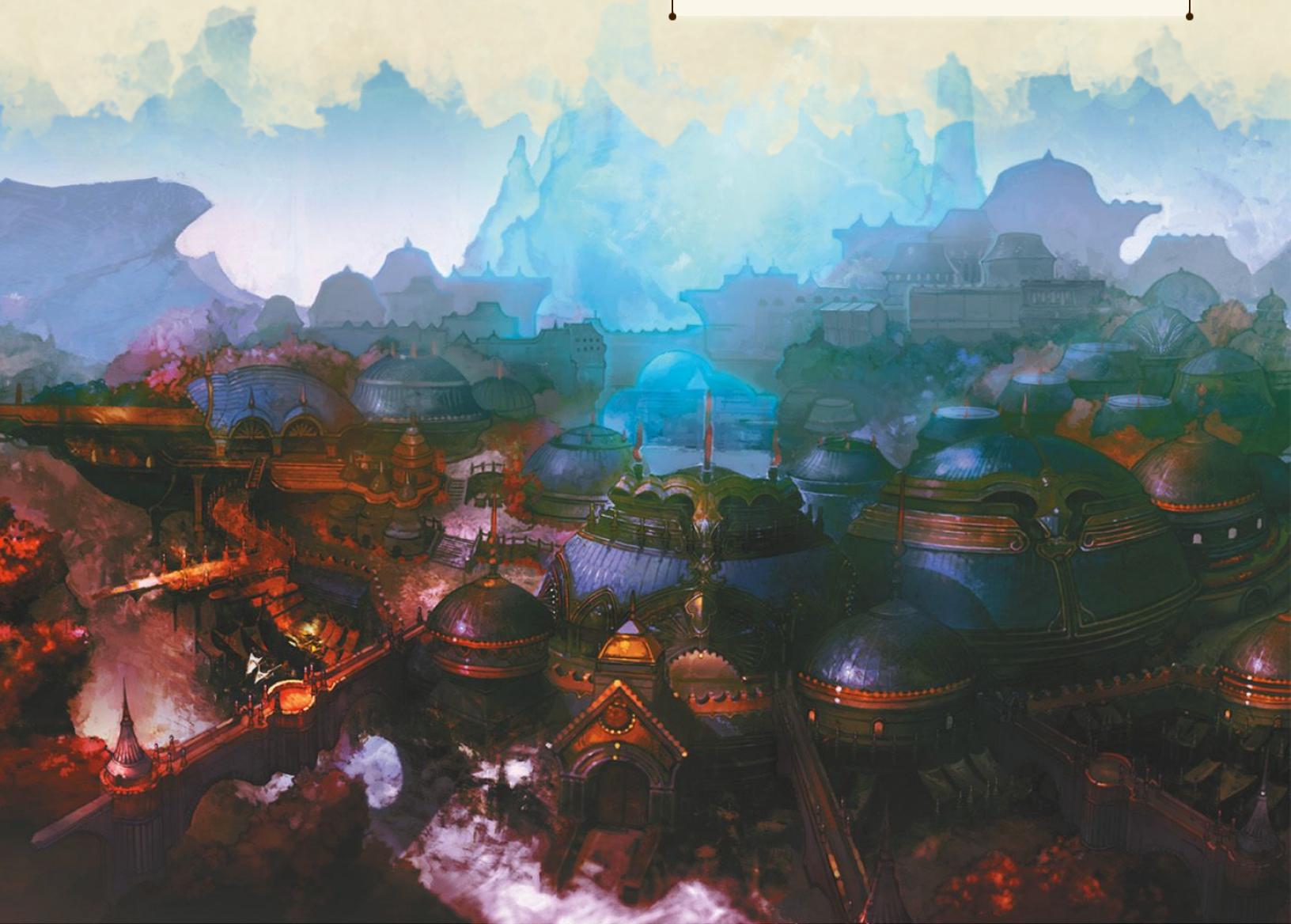
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GUNBREAKER

Charging forward with his allies at his back, a hrothgar smashes through the garlean formation with a blast from his weapon. With a triumphant roar, he dives into the fray, crossing blades with his foes.

On the sunny shores of La Noscea, a mighty blast shatters the silence. A roegadyn woman, brandishing an axe gunblade, swings her weapon, sweeping a trail of explosions around her to fend off a swarm of kobolds.

A quivering merchant recoils, as a wicked blade arcs towards him. It crashes against a miraculous barrier, and the merchant turns in time to see a miqo'te launch herself at the assailant, smoke trailing from her blade.

Trained with rare and unique weapons called gunblades, Gunbreakers are an elite group of warriors charged with defending the innocent. Their weapons use powerful, aether-charged ammunition to decimate their foes and protect their allies.

MASTERS OF THE GUNBLADE

Gunbreakers draw their unique strengths from the weapons they wield. Once the hallmark of the Bozjan royal guard, gunblades are a strange fusion of melee weapons and a unique firearm system. Gunblades require incredibly specialised training that has been passed down through the years by surviving Bozjan warriors. Gunblades are weighty and unwieldy weapons, rendering them unusable by the average soldier. Only by dedicating years of their life can one hope to master the gunblade.

The gunblades themselves are fueled by aetherically charged munitions known as cartridges. Gunbreakers uses their pool of personal aether to charge the cartridges, before quickly loading and pulling the trigger, firing the cartridge and creating one of a variety of unique effects. Gunblades are used for both offense and defense in equal part, being able to create either devastating explosive attacks, or manifest barriers of pure energy around a target. With training, a gunbreaker can master more unorthodox abilities.



THE GUNBREAKER

Proficiency			
Level	Bonus	Features	Cartridges
1st	+2	Gunblade, Cartridges	2
2nd	+2	Fighting Style, Brutal Shell	3
3rd	+2	Gunbreaker Contingent	4
4th	+2	Ability Score Improvement, <i>Martial Versatility (Optional)</i>	4
5th	+3	Extra Attack	5
6th	+3	Deft Hands, Gunblade Improvement	5
7th	+3	Gunbreaker Contingent Feature	6
8th	+3	Ability Score Improvement, <i>Martial Versatility (Optional)</i>	6
9th	+4	Heart of Light	7
10th	+4	Gunbreaker Contingent Feature	7
11th	+4	Cartridges Improvement, Brutal Shell Improvement	8
12th	+4	Ability Score Improvement, <i>Martial Versatility (Optional)</i>	8
13th	+5	Martial Enforcer	9
14th	+5	Continuation	9
15th	+5	Gunbreaker Contingent Feature	10
16th	+5	Ability Score Improvement, <i>Martial Versatility (Optional)</i>	10
17th	+6	Cartridges Improvement, Brutal Shell Improvement	11
18th	+6	Bloodfest	11
19th	+6	Ability Score Improvement, <i>Martial Versatility (Optional)</i>	12
20th	+6	Gunmetal Soul	12

THE ROYAL GUARD OF BOZJA

The origin of the gunbreakers can be traced to ancient Bozja. The first gunblades were used by the royal guard, an elite group of soldiers called Gunnhildr's Blades. At the height of the Allagan Empire's power, the Gunnhildr's Blades were deployed on the battlefield for the first time. Their task was to destroy the Empire's long range siege weapons with their gunblades, quite literally breaking the enemy's guns. And thus, the first gunbreakers were born.

Since then, the techniques of the gunbreakers have been passed down by Bozjan warriors and spread beyond its borders. After the destruction of the Bozjan Citadel, few remain that can teach the art. But they are out there, ready and willing to pass down their techniques to those with the strength to wield them.

CREATING A GUNBREAKER

When creating your gunbreaker character, think about why you chose to walk this path; becoming a gunbreaker is no easy feat, and a gunblade is a dangerous weapon. Think about why you chose this profession and why it is

you fight. Who are you fighting for? Gunbreakers are, at their core, soldiers, and every soldier needs a reason to fight. Next, think about how you learned to become a gunbreaker. Did you find an ancient and battered soul crystal that resonated with you? Did you seek out a wise and elderly mentor from the old days of Bozja? Perhaps you were taken under the wing of a wandering gunbreaker who was fleeing the empire? Or, perhaps you hail from Garlemald itself, having learned similar techniques in your training, or mimicked the style of gunbreakers you met on the field of battle?

Consider next how your alignment might affect or be affected by your past and your goals. Most gunbreakers are typically lawful good; have you strayed from that path? Do you still strive to do good, yet use your abilities to threaten and intimidate others? Maybe you seek vengeance, and use your abilities in an evil manner? Or maybe, you are truly wicked at heart, and should never have been given such abilities?

Finally, think about why you chose to take your abilities and become an adventurer. This could tie into previous answers; maybe you are seeking vengeance on the man who killed your mentor? Or perhaps you want to strike against the empire for the horrors they inflicted on your homeland?

QUICK BUILD

You can make a gunbreaker quickly by following these suggestions. First, you should make Strength your highest ability score, followed by Constitution. Second, choose the soldier background.

MULTICLASSING AND THE GUNBREAKER

If your group uses the optional rule on multiclassing in the *Player's Handbook*, here's what you need to know if you choose gunbreaker as one of your classes.

Ability Score Minimum: As a multiclass character, you must have at least a Strength score and Constitution score of 13 to take a level in this class, or to take a level in another class if you are already a gunbreaker.

Proficiencies Gained: If gunbreaker isn't your initial class, here are the proficiencies you gain when you take your first level as a gunbreaker: Light armour, medium armour, shields, simple weapons, martial weapons, smith's tools.

CLASS FEATURES

As a gunbreaker, you gain the following class features

HIT POINTS

Hit Dice: 1d10 per gunbreaker level

Hit Points at 1st Level: 10 + your Constitution modifier

Hit Points at Higher Levels: 1d10 (or 6) + your Constitution modifier gunbreaker level after 1st

PROFICIENCIES

Armor: All armour, shields

Weapons: Simple weapons, martial weapons, firearms

Tools: Smith's Tools

Saving Throws: Strength, Constitution

Skills: Choose two from Arcana, Athletics, History, Insight, Intimidation, Investigation, Perception or Sleight of Hand

EQUIPMENT

You start with the following equipment, in addition to the equipment granted by your background:

- (a) a martial weapon and a shield or (b) two martial weapons
- (a) a pistol and 20 bullets or (b) any simple melee weapon
- (a) a dungeoneer's pack or (b) an explorer's pack
- Chain mail and a set of smith's tools

GUNBLADE

In your training, you have learned how to design and build your own gunblades. Over the course of an hour, you can use smith's tools to convert a melee weapon into a gunblade. You can have up to two gunblades at once. If you attempt to construct a third, you must disassemble one of your existing gunblades, converting it back into a normal melee weapon. A weapon you convert into a gunblade gains the following properties:

Weighty. Only you know how to wield the unique weight of your gunblade. If another creature tries to use your gunblade, it cannot add its proficiency bonus to the attack roll.

Lightning Shot. You can use your gunblade to make a simple ranged attack. The attack has a range of 30 feet and you are proficient with it. The attack uses your Dexterity modifier for the attack and damage rolls, the damage die is a d6, and it deals lightning damage.

Additionally, when you reach 6th level, your gunblades count as magical for the purposes of overcoming weakness and resistance.

CARTRIDGES

Also at 1st level, you have a number of aether-charged cartridges that you can swiftly load into your gunblade and fire to unleash powerful cartridge features. You begin knowing three such features: Blasting Zone, Burst Strike

and Heart of Stone. You learn more cartridge features as you gain levels in this class.

You must be wielding a gunblade to be able to fire a cartridge. A cartridge is expended after it is fired, and you regain all expended cartridges after finishing a short or long rest.

Some of your gunbreaker features require your target to make a saving throw to resist the feature's effects. The saving throw DC is calculated as follows:

Gunbreaker save DC = 8 + your proficiency bonus + your Strength modifier

BLASTING ZONE

As an action, you can fire a cartridge to instantly destroy a nonmagical, Medium or smaller object within reach of a gunblade you are wielding.

When you reach 11th level, the object can be Large or smaller, and when you reach 17th level, the object can be Huge or smaller.

BURST STRIKE

When you hit a creature with a melee attack using a gunblade, you can fire a cartridge to follow up with a deadly blast. The target must make a Strength saving throw. On a failed save, the creature takes 2d8 fire damage and is knocked prone. On a failed save, the creature takes half as much damage and suffers no other effect. If the attack was a critical hit, the creature automatically fails the saving throw.

When you reach 11th level, the damage increases to 3d8, and instead of knocking a creature prone on a failed save, you can force it to drop an item it is holding. When you reach 17th level, the damage increases to 4d8.

HEART OF STONE

When you or another creature you can see within 30 feet of you takes damage, you can use your reaction to fire a cartridge, creating a magical barrier around the target, that reduces the damage taken by 1d8 + your Constitution modifier (minimum reduction of 1).

When you reach 11th level, the range increases to 60 feet, and when you reach 17th level, the range increases to 90 feet.

FIGHTING STYLE

At 2nd level, you adopt a particular style of fighting as your specialty. Choose one of the following options. You can't take a Fighting Style option more than once, even if you later get to choose again.

BLIND FIGHTING

You have blindsight with a range of 10 feet. Within that range, you can effectively see anything that isn't behind total cover, even if you're blinded or in darkness.

Moreover, you can see an invisible creature within that range, unless the creature successfully hides from you.

DEFENSE

While you are wearing armor, you gain a +1 bonus to AC.

DUELING

When you are wielding a melee weapon in one hand and no other weapons, you gain a +2 bonus to damage rolls with that weapon.

GREAT WEAPON FIGHTING

When you roll a 1 or 2 on a damage die for an attack you make with a melee weapon that you are wielding with two hands, you can reroll the die and must use the new roll, even if the new roll is a 1 or a 2. The weapon must have the two-handed or versatile property for you to gain this benefit.

GUNNER

The damage die of your gunblade's Lightning Shot increases to 1d10.

TWO WEAPON FIGHTING

When you engage in two-weapon fighting, you can add your ability modifier to the damage of the second attack.

PROTECTION

When a creature you can see attacks a target other than you that is within 5 feet of you, you can use your reaction to impose disadvantage on the attack roll. You must be wielding a shield.

PROVOKER

When you deal damage to a creature, that creature has disadvantage on attack rolls against creatures other than you until the start of your next turn.

BRUTAL SHELL

Starting at 2nd level, you become able to use the excess aether from your cartridges defensively. Whenever you fire a cartridge, you gain 5 temporary hit points, which last for 1 minute.

Additionally, when you use Heart of Stone and target another creature while you have temporary hit points from this feature, you can choose to give the target an equal number of temporary hit points, which last until the start of the creature's next turn.

When you reach 11th level, the number of temporary hit points you gain increases to 10, and when you reach 17th level, it increases to 15.

GUNBREAKER CONTINGENT

When you reach 3rd level, you undergo specialised training, joining a contingent of like-minded gunbreakers. Through your contingent, you learn unique techniques and abilities to use in conjunction with your gunblade. The contingent you choose grants you features at 3rd level and again at 7th, 10th, and 15th level.

ABILITY SCORE INCREASE

When you reach 4th level, and again at 8th, 12th, 16th, and 19th level, you can increase one ability score of your choice by 2, or you can increase two ability scores of your

choice by 1. As normal, you can't increase an ability score above 20 using this feature.

MARTIAL VERSATILITY (OPTIONAL)

Whenever you reach a level in this class that grants the Ability Score Improvement feature, you can replace a fighting style you know with another fighting style available to gunbreakers. This replacement represents a shift of focus in your martial practice.

EXTRA ATTACK

Beginning at 5th level, you can attack twice, instead of once, whenever you take the Attack action on your turn.

DEFT HANDS

By 6th level, you have become more adept at handling your gunblade and tools. You can convert a weapon into a gunblade in half the time it would normally take, and you can repair objects using your smith's tools twice as fast. Your proficiency bonus is doubled for any ability check you make using Smith's Tools.

HEART OF LIGHT

Starting at 9th level, whenever a creature you can see forces you to make a saving throw against a spell or other magical effect, you can use your reaction to fire a cartridge and release a surge of defensive energy. You and any other creature within 30 feet that was also forced to make the saving throw have advantage on the roll.

MARTIAL ENFORCER

At 13th level, your imposing presence emboldens your allies. When you or a creature within 30 feet of you makes a Charisma check, the creature gains a bonus to the roll equal to your Strength modifier (minimum of +1). You must be conscious and visible to grant this bonus.

CONTINUATION

At 14th level, you are able to capitalise on the momentum from your gunblade. When you hit a creature with a melee attack using a gunblade, you can fire a cartridge as a bonus action to force the creature to make a Constitution saving throw. On a failed save, the creature suffers one of the following effects of your choice:

Abdomen Tear. The creature has disadvantage on the next Strength or Dexterity saving throw it makes before the end of your next turn.

Eye Gouge. The creature is blinded until the end of your next turn.

Jugular Rip. The creature can't cast any spells that require a verbal component, and can speak only falteringly until the end of your next turn.

BLOODFEST

By the time you reach 18th level, you are able to use the aether of vanquished foes to recharge your ammunition. When a creature within 5 feet of you dies, you can use your reaction to regain 2 expended cartridges.

GUNMETAL SOUL

By the time you reach 20th level, your body and soul has been hardened by war. You have resistance to bludgeoning, piercing and slashing damage. Additionally, whenever you use Heart of Stone and target another creature, you can extend this benefit to them. The creature gains resistance to Bludgeoning, Piercing and Slashing damage until the start of its next turn, including against the triggering damage.

GUNBREAKER CONTINGENTS

Gunbreakers found their origins in the depths of war and strife, where they were deployed to fill a particular role. Throughout history, different divisions and companies have gone on to develop their own unique styles of combat to fill different roles on the battlefield. Over time, they evolved into the contingents we know today.

QUEEN'S GUARD CONTINGENT

Gunbreakers of the Queen's Guard contingent learn a fighting style descended from that of the original Gunnhildr's Blades. Moreso than any other gunbreaker, they strive to protect their allies from any and all harm, empowering their defensive techniques, and putting themselves in harms way in place of their allies.

VIGILANT COMPANION

At 3rd level, you are a dependable and vigilant ally. You have advantage on Wisdom (Perception) checks made while standing watch, and you have a +2 bonus to your passive Wisdom (Perception) score while a friendly creature is within 30 feet of you.

ROYAL GUARD

Starting at 3rd level, you defend your allies even at risk to yourself. As a bonus action, you can fire a cartridge to form a magical link between yourself and a creature within 30 feet of you. While you and the creature remain within 30 feet of eachother, the creature gains +2 bonus to AC. When the creature takes damage, it takes half the damage and you take the other half. Additionally, whenever you regain hit points or gain temporary hit points, the linked creature gains the same effect.

This effect ends after 1 minute, if you are incapacitated, or if you and the linked creature move more than 30 feet away from eachother.

NEBULA

Starting at 7th level, you are able to make the most of your own defences. While you have temporary hit points, you have a +1 bonus to AC.

AURORA

At 10th level, you master an enigmatic technique to prolong yourself on the front lines. As an action, you can fire a cartridge and envelop yourself in healing light. For 1 minute, you regain 1d4 hit points at the start of each of

your turns. You don't gain this benefit if you have 0 hit points.

SUPERBOLIDE

From 15th level, whenever you are reduced to 0 hit points but not killed outright, you can fire a cartridge drop to 1 hit point instead. When you do so, you have resistance to all damage until the start of your next turn.



RAVAGER CONTINGENT

The ravager contingent is a group spoken about with hushed whispers and apprehensive tongues. On the battlefield, these gunbreakers resemble fierce animals, tearing across the battlefield and ripping into their foes. They strike with a flurry of blows, felling a target in moments before setting their sights on fresh prey. Some rumours suggest that they struggle to tell friend from foe, and that the slightest misstep will send them hunting after you.

NO MERCY

Starting at 3rd level, you can fire a cartridge as a bonus action to empower yourself with a merciless fury. For 1 minute, you gain the following effects:

- Your melee weapon attacks using a gunblade deal additional damage equal to your proficiency bonus.
- Your melee weapon attacks using a gunblade score a critical hit on a roll of 19 or 20 on the d20.
- You have a -2 penalty to AC.

This effect ends early if you are incapacitated, or if your turn ends and you haven't taken the Attack action. You can also end it as a bonus action.

BRUTAL VISAGE

Also at 3rd level, your merciless combat style invokes fear in all that have seen you in battle. You can use your Strength modifier in place of Charisma when making Intimidation checks. You have advantage on Intimidation checks against creatures that have seen you fight. You can also fire a cartridge when you make an Intimidation check to give yourself advantage on the roll.

ROUGH DIVIDE

When you reach 7th level, you become able to propel yourself through the air by firing a cartridge. As a bonus action, you can fire a cartridge and move up to 30 feet in any direction without provoking attacks of opportunity.

TERMINAL TRIGGER

At 10th level, your ruthless onslaught cripples your foes. If you hit a creature with two weapon attacks using a gunblade on your turn, that creature must succeed on a Constitution saving throw or be stunned until the end of your next turn.

WICKED TALON

Starting at 15th level, you become able to brutally exploit the pain of your enemies. When you score a critical hit against a creature using your gunblade, you can fire a cartridge to cause the next attack you make against the same creature to also become a critical hit. You can only gain this benefit once on each of your turns.



ELEMENTALIST CONTINGENT

Versatile and adaptive gunbreakers tend towards the elementalist contingent. They imbue elemental energies into their gunblades, before charging forth and scorching the battlefield with unique and unorthodox techniques. Their understanding of elemental energies allows them to perform feats unlike any other contingent, blasting away nearby enemies and crippling their defences. With such variety at their fingertips, they are able to rapidly adjust to any enemy they face.

ELEMENTAL CARTRIDGES

At 3rd level, you have learned to imbue your cartridges with elemental power. When you finish a short or long rest, choose one of the following damage types to infuse into your cartridges: acid, cold, fire, lightning, or thunder. The damage type of your gunblades Lightning Shot and your Burst Strikes changes to your chosen damage type until you choose a different one using this feature. You also gain one of the following benefits, determined by your choice of damage type.

Acid. As an action, you can touch a tiny metal object, such as a lock or key, with your gunblade to rapidly corrode it. The object takes 1d6 acid damage.

Cold. As an action, you can freeze a 5-foot cube of water, provided there are no creatures in it. The ice thaws after one minute, or after you use this feature again.

Fire. You can use your action to touch a flammable object with your gunblade and ignite it.

Lightning. You can use your action to touch a living creature that has 0 hit points with your gunblade, sending a jolt of lightning through it. The creature becomes stable.

Thunder. You can use your action to create a loud burst of sound that can be heard up to 100 feet away.

FATED CIRCLE

Also at 3rd level, when you take the attack action, you can forgo one of your attacks to fire a cartridge and unleash elemental energy around you. Creatures within 15 feet of you must make a Dexterity saving throw. On a failed save, a creature takes 1d8 damage, and is pushed back 10 feet. On a successful save, a creature takes half as much damage and is only pushed back 5 feet. The damage type is the same as the one you chose for your Elemental Cartridges.

The damage of this feature increase as you gain levels in this class, increasing to 2d8 at 11th level, and 3d8 at 17th level.

BOW SHOCK

Starting at 7th level, your elemental ammunition is so intense that it causes lingering damage. When you use Burst Strike or Fated Circle, you can fire a cartridge as a bonus action to afflict one creature that failed the save with lingering energy. Alternatively, if the creature failed the save by 5 or more, they become afflicted without you needing to fire a cartridge.

An afflicted creature takes an additional 1d4 damage of the same type as your Elemental Cartridges, and for 1 minute, the creature takes the same damage at the start of each of its turns.

The creature can repeat the saving throw at the end of each of its turns, ending the effect on a success.

ELEMENTAL HEART

Starting at 10th level, you have resistance to the damage type you chose for your Elemental Cartridges, and when you use Heart of Stone and target another creature, the creature gains the same damage resistance damage until the start of its next turn, including against the triggering damage.

SONIC BREAK

Starting at 15th level, you can shatter a foes defences. When a creature fails the saving throw against Burst Strike, instead of knocking the creature prone, you can cause it to have vulnerability to one of the following damage types of your choice: acid, cold, fire, lightning, or thunder. The vulnerability lasts until the end of your next turn. Once you use this feature against a creature, you can't use it against that creature again until you finish a long rest.



THE GUNBREAKER

CHANGELOG

V0.1 - 25/04/2022

- First draft of the class. 3 subclasses: Queen's Guard, Ravager and Elementalist Contingents

