

# **Darkest Dungeon**



Darkest Dungeon is a grim, stress-driven RPG that tests your leadership and resource management under pressure. For blind players, thriving comes from converting visual complexity into audio landmarks, routinized turn rhythms, and role-based naming. This guide helps you build a mental framework so you can lead your party through the horrors—without needing sight.

### Sound Foundations – The Voice of Fear

- Headphones Are Mandatory: Audio cues like footsteps, monster grunts, torch flicker, item interactions, and stress quakes are vital. Use stereo sound to detect where enemies or events are occurring within the dungeon corridors.
- Silence the Music (Mostly): Reduce or mute background music so important cues—like a stress cresting quiver, heart thump, or trinket click—stand out loud and clear.
- Narrate & Name the Moments: Speak or internally label key events: "Torch flicker—torch decreases," "Crumbling wall reveals secret," "Stress spike on Highwayman." These labels ground you in each moment.

### Dungeon Crawl Loop - Your Unbreakable Cycle

Every dungeon run follows a repeating pattern:

- 1. Expedition Step Move forward.
- 2. Encounter Enter a battle, trap, room, or event.
- 3. Combat or Event Management Act or resolve.
- 4. Camp or Recovery (if available) Heal, reduce stress.
- 5. Proceed / Return to Hamlet when done.

Learn this as your Darkest Rhythm, and recite aloud as each phase begins: "Step," "Encounter," "Combat," "Camp," or "Return."

## Heroes, Skills & Roles - Tag by Function

- Class Roles: Label your heroes by archetype: "Damage Dealer," "Healer," "Stunner," "Support," "Tank." Say it when they enter or act.
- Skill Tags: When you use abilities, speak their function: "Crush—heavy attack," "Inspire—stress heal," "Plague Grenade—AoE DOT," "Riposte—counter."



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• Stress Triggers and Recovery: When stress hits or you use Shuffles or DD, say "Stress +10 on Vestal," or "Shuffled party positions," or "DD used—stress reset."

### **Five-Step Combat (or Room) Routine**

- Entry Cue "Entering room X—torch at Y."
- Enemy Report "Enemies: Bone Soldier front, Cultist back."
- Action Phase Speak: "Vestal stun backline, Bounty Hunter pull front."
- Result & Status "Bone man dead, Vestal stress 0, Torch now at 4."
- Wrap or Retreat "Combat over. Proceeding or camping next turn."

This builds consistency and clarity in the heat of any encounter.

#### Audio Combat—Hear Your Odds

- Position Awareness: Skills and enemy attacks often produce spatial audio. Learn which side your champions are facing by sound panning and label them mentally: "Front rank," "Second rank."
- Stress Sounds: The audio and UI flash of stress damage or affliction jingles are clear triggers. Immediately recite, "Cringing affliction on Crusader," to track mental states.
- Item & Trinket Use: When activating items like Rations or Anti-venom, voices, chimes, or gulping sounds occur—say "Used ration—health up +2."

## Hamlet & Upgrades—Keep Your Mind Organized

- Village Roles: Label buildings by function: "Sanitarium—stress heal," "Blacksmith —weapon buffs," "Abbey—stress therapy," and say them as you move between them.
- Upgrade Decisions: When you upgrade a hero's stat or a building, speak "Upgraded Crusader damage," or "Blacksmith now gives +1 weapon."
- Roster Management: When rehiring or dismissing, say "Recruited Leper damage tank," or "Dismissed Highwayman—stress too high."

#### **Practice Drills**

• Record monster growls, stress jingles, trinket sounds, and train yourself to identify them by ear.

**Learn More**: Darkest Dungeon [Steam]



