

GIANT SANDWEAVER

Native to sandy deserts and shrugged canyons, the Giant Sandweaver is a horrendous sight to encounter. Different to common spiders these monsters do not spin large intricate webs, but instead cover large areas of their territory with a thick weave of silk to act as an alarm system for intruders. Furthermore, Giant Sandweaver live in large families, similar to hives, which form around a matriarch - a so-called Sandwidow.

Appearance. Giant Sandweavers are large serpents that can reach lengths of up to 12 feet and have 6-8 spider-like legs. Individual specimens, especially Sandwidows, are said to have been up to 15 feet in length. The body itself is covered by hard plates, giving a very good resistance to any attack. Closer to the head these bodyplates form massive spikes. While the Giant Sandweaver is buried in the sand these spikes might be mistaken for stones or obelisk by unaware travellers.

Ritual Abomination. The first Giant Sandweavers were created in dark rituals by the lizardfolk tribe Yuan-Shu during the war with the Yuan-Ti. These were released in crucial positions, most commonly canyons, to hinder the advances of the opponent's troops and attack any snakefolk that trespasses the terrain. The Yuan-Shu relished in the idea of turning snakes into spider-like monsters that preyed upon the snake worshipping Yuan-Ti, a metaphor of the lizardfolk's superiority.

During combat the Giant Sandweaver tries to catch or incapacitate its opponents within its webbing. Already caught opponents are not the preferred target if other non-incapacitated opponents are around.

Monstrous Mounts. Over the centuries, Yuan-Ti were able to tame some Giant Sandweavers just enough to serve as mounts in combat. However, Giant Sandweaver are notoriously treacherous creatures and their alliance usually lies with whoever feeds them.

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First created by the Yuan-Shu to gain an advantage in combat and roam through the vast deserts and deep canyons. These monsters are formidable foes and it is ill-advised to mess with their hive.



Variant: Sandwidow

The matriarch of a Giant Sandweaver family has more similarities to an actual snake and its legs are covered in hair, that can detect pressure differences and air movement in the Sandwidow's surroundings.

Hit Points. 163 (15d12 + 66)

Pit organs. The Sandwidow has blindsight in a 50 ft. radius, on creatures whose body temperature is more than half than the temperature of its surroundings.

Trichobothria. The Sandwidow can detect movement within a 100ft. radius.

Spit Venom (Recharge 5-6). The Sandwidow spits venom in a 40 foot line that is 5 feet wide. Each creature in that line must make a DC 18 Constitution saving throw, taking 33 (6d8 + 6) poison damage on a failed save, or half as much on a successful one.

Giant Sandweaver

Huge monstrosity, unaligned

Armor Class 18 (natural armor)

Hit Points 94 (8d12 + 42)

Speed 30 ft., climb 25 ft., dig/tunneling 25 ft.

STR	DEX	CON	INT	WIS	CHA
19 (+4)	15 (+2)	21 (+5)	6 (-2)	9 (-1)	5 (-3)

Damage Resistances bludgeoning, piercing, and slashing from nonmagical attacks (not Sandwidow), poison

Condition Immunities frightened, poisoned, prone

Senses passive Perception 14

Languages Primordial

Challenge 9 (5,000 XP)

Spider Climb. The Giant Sandweaver can climb difficult surfaces, including upside down ceilings, without the need of an ability check.

Web Sense. While in contact with a web, the Giant Sandweaver knows the exact location of any other creature in contact with the same web.

ACTIONS

Multiattack. The Giant Sandweaver can attack twice each turn.

Poisonous Bite. Melee Weapon Attack: +7 to hit, reach 5 ft., one target. Hit: 8 (2d6 + 1) piercing damage. The target must make a DC 17 Constitution saving throw, taking 14 (4d6) poison damage on a failed save, or half as much damage on a successful one. On a failure, the target is poisoned.

Scythe Slashing. Melee Weapon Attack: +6 to hit, reach 5 ft., one target. Hit: 21 (3d8 + 8) piercing damage.

Web Shooter (Recharge 5-6). Ranged Weapon Attack: +3 to hit, range 20/60 ft., 5 ft. radius. Hit: Any target within the radius is restrained by webbing. As an action, the restrained target can make a DC 16 Strength check, bursting the web on a success. The webbing can also be attacked and destroyed (AC 10; HP 7; vulnerability to fire damage; immunity to bludgeoning, poison, and psychic damage).



Ancient Sandweaver Lair

Built by the snakefolk Yuan-Ti, this monument to the snake deity Sseth is winding across the peaks of a jagged cliff formation in the middle of the Serpent's Embrace Desert.

These rugged lands are home to Giant Sandweavers, huge abominations of part spider part snake. Occasionally, members of the Yuan-Ti are following the Path of Enlightenment visiting this shrine to bring offerings. Unbeknownst to many an even larger creature is calling this sanctum home - the Ancient Sandweaver. Legends are spreading around this ungodly creature and feared by those who live to tell the tale of its encounter.

The desert is filled with stone pinnacles and broken obelisks and monument ruins clutter the area - But be aware, not everything is what it seems to be...

LAIR ACTIONS

Passive Effect: Legendary Malevolence. In a radius of 10,000ft. around the lair no creature is benefitting from a long rest.

On initiative count 20, the Ancient Sandweaver takes a lair action to cause one of the following effect. It can't use the same effect two rounds in a row:

- A 30 foot square area of ground within 120 feet of the Ancient Sandweaver becomes quicksand.
- A 5 foot rock the Sandweaver can see is crashing to the ground. Any creature within that area must succeed a DC 14 Dexterity saving throw or suffers 11 (2d10) bludgeoning damage and their movement rate is set to 0 until the end of their next turn.
- A 10 foot wide, 20 foot deep hole within 120 feet of the Sandweaver is opening up.

Ancient Sandweaver

Gargantuan monstrosity, unaligned

Armor Class 22 (natural armor)

Hit Points 280 (16d20 + 112)

Speed 50 ft., dig/tunneling 50 ft.

STR	DEX	CON	INT	WIS	CHA
24 (+7)	10 (+0)	26 (+8)	14 (+2)	15 (+2)	5 (-3)

Damage Resistances bludgeoning, piercing, and slashing from nonmagical attacks

Damage Immunities poison

Condition Immunities frightened, poisoned, prone

Senses Tremorsense 3000ft., passive Perception 19

Languages Primordial

Challenge 22 (41,000 XP)

Web Sense. While in contact with a web, the Ancient Sandweaver knows the exact location of any other creature in contact with the same web.

ACTIONS

Multiaction. The Ancient Sandweaver can attack twice each turn.

Poisonous Bite. Melee Weapon Attack: +10 to hit, reach 25 ft., one target. Hit: 48 (10d6 + 13) piercing damage. The target must make a DC 20 Constitution saving throw, taking 44 (8d6 + 16) poison damage on a failed save, or half as much damage on a successful one. On a failure, the target is poisoned.

Bash. Melee Weapon Attack: +12 to hit, reach 35 ft., one target. Hit: 90 (12d12 + 12) bludgeoning damage. If the targets are creatures, they must succeed on a DC 22 Strength or Dexterity saving throw or be knocked prone.

Web Shooter (Recharge 5-6). Ranged Weapon Attack: +8 to hit, range 20/60 ft., 10 ft. radius. Hit: Any target within the radius is restrained by webbing. As an action, the restrained target can make a DC 16 Strength check, bursting the web on a success. The webbing can also be attacked and destroyed (AC 10; HP 7; vulnerability to fire damage; immunity to bludgeoning, poison, and psychic damage).

REACTION

Wrap. When a creature is hit by the Sandweaver's poisonous bite attack and becomes paralyzed by its poison, the Ancient Sandweaver can use its silk webbing to restrain the target. If the target is Medium in size or smaller, the Ancient Sandweaver can then attach the target to its back or belly. The Ancient Sandweaver can have only one creature attached to its body at a time. A creature freed from this webbing is no longer attached to the Ancient Sandweaver's body.

LEGENDARY ACTIONS

The Ancient Sandweaver can take 3 Legendary Actions, choosing from the options below. Only one Legendary Action option can be used at a time and only at the end of another creature's turn. The Ancient Sandweaver regains spent Legendary Actions at the start of its turn.

Bite. The Ancient Sandweaver makes one Poisonous Bite attack

Sandhide (Costs 2 Actions). The Ancient Sandweaver creates a 50ft. cloud of sand. A creature engulfed by the sand must make a DC 14 Constitution saving throw or is blinded until the end of their next turn.

Dig and Strike (Costs 3 Actions). The Ancient Sandweaver digs down, being hidden until it resurfaces, and has advantage and +30 ft. reach (cumulative) on its next melee attack.