



Final Fantasy VII Remake Any% Easy No Major Glitches Speedrun Guide by TheScruffington

Based on Notes by Royzoga

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FINAL FANTASY VII REMAKE

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Introduction

Welcome to the Final Fantasy VII Remake Any% Easy No Major Glitches speedrun guide! This guide is intended to help anyone interested in speedrunning the Any% Easy NMG category of Final Fantasy VII Remake. It will explain and provide the strategies, shops, menus, and upgrades necessary in order to complete the game as quickly as possible.

Credits and Contributions

Additional credit to Royzoga for his contributions, and to desa3579 for his original routing ideas. Further credit goes to the various FF7R speedrunning community members who contributed to the development of this guide.

Discord

The Final Fantasy VII Remake speedrunning community is very passionate about the franchise and always welcomes new runners. There is no question too silly to ask; if you ever need assistance, feel free to join our server and ask for advice!

You can join the Discord server by [following this link](#).

Timing, Difficulty, and Ruleset

As per speedrun.com, the rules for the Any% Easy No Major Glitches category are as follows:

- All preorder bonuses are banned.
- Timer begins when selecting Easy difficulty and ends at the final hit of the game when the “Sephiroth is defeated” text is displayed.
- Runs require video proof to be submitted.
- The following glitches are banned in this category:
 - Endless Fleeing State
 - Benchlock
 - Running Warning Zone Bypass
 - NPC Warning Zone Bypass

- Bypass Cutscene Trigger Zones
- Interact Collision Detection Bypass
- By extension, the skips for Chapters 8 and 13 are also banned.

Hardware and Software Differences

All versions of Final Fantasy VII Remake have parity in terms of language settings, meaning you are free to play on whichever language you choose (or have access to) without worrying about losing time.

The fastest hardware setup for running Final Fantasy VII Remake is a PS4 Pro with the HDD replaced with an SSD. This will greatly improve load times throughout the course of the run.

It is important to note that the leaderboards are separated between PS4 Pro and PS4, but NOT between SSD and HDD. Thus, it is recommended to at least install an SSD, although it is not required for run submissions.

Cutscene / Dialogue Skipping

Cutscene skips can be buffered. The fastest way to skip cutscenes is to press Down before the cutscene begins, then press Options to pause the cutscene, then X to skip the cutscene.

If you need more of a visual cue, you can mash the \triangle button and you will see a prompt on screen that displays as soon as a cutscene is skippable. This can occasionally be useful as there are some odd delays between skipping certain cutscenes.

To skip dialogue, you can simply mash \triangle or O.

Combat and Movement Primer

In terms of combat, there are a few important things to note before beginning a run.

- Building ATB is one of the most important things to remember in this and can be done by performing basic attacks.
- ATB-Based actions can be assigned to specific shortcuts in the Battle Settings section in the Menu.
 - These shortcuts are L1 + \square , L1 + \triangle , L1 + O, and L1 + X.

- Abilities, magic, items, and limit breaks can be assigned to shortcuts.
- We want to avoid remapping shortcuts frequently, so we generally choose optimal times to setup shortcuts (usually before bosses).
- Cloud's initial mode is called Operator Mode, and can switch to the secondary Punisher Mode by pressing Δ .
 - Punisher does stronger, but slower attacks in wide arching motions.
 - In Punisher Mode, you can hold \square to do a charged attack which will prompt Cloud to slam his sword into the ground and provide a temporary Berserk buff.
 - This increases the damage Cloud deals and receives by 30%.
- For the most part, combat in Easy mode will consist of using Triple Slash and ATB Boost to raise the ATB in order to quickly defeat mobs.
 - Not every mob is best handled with Triple Slash, but they will be mentioned specifically.
- Party Members, while helpful, are generally painfully slow at generating ATB. For certain fights it is best to control them, quickly build ATB, then swap back to Cloud.
 - Cloud is present for majority of the game and is usually controlled at the start of every battle.
- You fully recover HP and MP at the start of a new chapter.
 - Even if you are incredibly low on MP or HP after a boss fight (i.e. Crab Warden), you will not need to heal as long as the end of the chapter immediately follows the battle.

In terms of movement tech, there is fairly limited mobility in Final Fantasy VII Remake.

- With the default controls, sprint can be performed by pressing L3, or R1/R2 outside of battle.
 - Pressing L3 will allow Cloud to sprint indefinitely, while R1/R2 require the button to be pressed at all times.
 - Pressing L3 to sprint is generally preferred as it will allow you to sprint during battles (which will greatly improve your ability to flee from them in certain scenarios).
 - There are certain situations where using L3 to sprint is not preferred; for example, when trying to cut quickly around corners you will want to use R1/R2 to sprint because it allows you to make tighter turns.
 - When combat finishes, characters will usually have a small animation where they're locked into putting away their weapons. When possible, try dodge rolling towards your current destination as it can save a small amount of time.

Legend

[Bracketed Black Text] = Item Pickup

Cutscene, Tutorial, and Dialogue skips will be noted with **PURPLE** text.

Menus will be noted with **GREEN** tables.

Battles will be noted with **BLUE** tables.

Boss Battles will be noted with **RED** tables.

Settings

The game lets you change all of your menu-based settings before starting the game, so make sure everything is set up to your liking prior to beginning the run.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

This write-up was provided by user akroots.

1. How do you get Madam M's missions?
 - a. In Wall Market you want to choose:
 - i. "She's great at handling books"
 - ii. "Heads"
 - iii. Ignore Johnny (as we always do)
 - iv. The 100 Gil Massage
 - v. Tell Aerith, "It matter what I think?"
 - vi. DON'T talk to the guy in front of the Honeybee Inn.
2. Why doesn't Magnify work while slotted in the Battle Settings menu?
 - a. You must first set the quick slot to use the spell attached to Magnify. From the Battle Settings menu, highlight the slot that has the spell attached to Magnify. You should see the option appear in the lower right corner. Press L1 to Magnify. Your spell should now show the Magnify icon.
3. Where is it OK during a run to take a quick break?
 - a. The following events are forced and require no actions from the player for their duration:
 - i. Chapter 8: TV on the way to Aerith's House (~94 seconds)
 - ii. Chapter 9: Dance Off at the Honeybee (~159 seconds)
 - iii. Chapter 16: Shinra HQ Memorial Movie I (~55 seconds)

iv. Chapter 16: Shinra HQ Memorial Movie II (~55 seconds)

Chadley's Intel Report

It is VERY IMPORTANT to note that the current Any% Easy No Major Glitches speedrun route depends greatly on completing Chadley's Intel Report: The Staggering Effect Pt. 1 prior to the end of Chapter 4.

- This requires you to use unique abilities on staggered enemies and charge the ATB gauge 10 times.
- We will primarily be farming these ATB gauge charges in Chapter 4.

Latest Updates

???:

Chapter 1

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Move forward.
3. Skip Cutscene.
4. Skip Tutorial.

Security Officer x2 (1)

- Target left officer.
- Attack, then target other officer and hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.

5. Run forward, left up the stairs.
6. Skip Cutscene.
7. Skip Tutorial.

Security Officer x2 (2)

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Repeat attacks until both enemies are defeated.

8. Move towards the turnstiles.
9. Skip Tutorial.
10. Vault over the turnstiles.
11. Skip Cutscene.
12. Skip Tutorial.
13. Sprint and head up the stairs to flee from the encounter.
14. Skip Tutorial as you approach the Shinra boxes.
15. Approach Wedge.
16. Skip Cutscene.
17. Approach Barret.
18. Skip Cutscene.

19. After the regaining control of Cloud, perform the following menu.

Menu
<p><u>Battle Settings</u></p> <p>Cloud</p> <p>L1 + O: Fire</p> <p>L1 + X: Cross-Slash</p>

20. Head down the stairs.

21. Skip Tutorial.

Security Officer & Guard Dog
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Target and Attack Security Officer to close distance. ➤ Switch to Punisher Mode (△). ➤ Attack the Security Officer until he is defeated. ➤ Swap back to Operator Mode to build up 1 ATB on the Guard Dog. ➤ Cast Fire [L1 + O]. ➤ Use Punisher Mode basic attacks until victory.

22. Run to the left path and touch the treasure chest, then exit the path and head for the lift.

a. This will skip waiting for the lift to reach the bottom.

23. Enter the lift and use the switch.

24. Exit the left, head down the stairs and wait for the gate to be cut open.

a. You can smash the nearby boxes while you wait.

25. Approach the gate.

26. Skip Cutscene.

Security Officer x2 & Guard Dog
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Run right, switch to Punisher Mode (△) and target the right officer.

- Attack the right officer until he is dead, then switch to the other officer.
- After both officers are defeated, lock-on to Guard Dog and cast Fire [L1 + O].
- Repeat basic attacks in Punisher Mode until victory.

27. Enter the fence hole and proceed onwards until the next battle.

Security Officer x2 (3)

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Repeat basic attacks until both enemies are defeated.

28. Approach the gate as it closes, then open it using the switch.

29. Approach the party and turn right at the fork to follow.

30. Skip Cutscene.

31. Hold up-left after skipping the previous cutscene, then talk to Biggs on the left.

32. Skip Cutscene.

33. Skip Tutorial.

Security Officer x4

- Attack the officer that is second from the right.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ) and use 7 Attacks, starting with the one to the far right.

If any officers survive after the 7th attack, use Focused Thrust [L1 + Δ] to cleanup.

34. Talk to Jessie once she approaches the computer console.

35. Skip Cutscene.

36. Approach the elevator on the right and hit the switch.

37. Skip Cutscene.

38. Turn camera slightly left.

39. Skip Tutorial.

Sentry Ray x3 & Monodrive x3

- Target Sentry Ray B, then Overcharge (△).
- Swap targets to Sentry Ray to kill it with the final hit of Overcharge.
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Thunder on Sentry Ray C.
- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Turn Cloud around and face the camera towards where the Monodrives will spawn.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use basic attacks to kill the first two Monodrives.
- Switch back to Operator Mode and attack the final Monodrive.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △] to kill the final Monodrive.

40. Move down the stairs.

41. [Skip Cutscene](#).

42. Follow Jessie through the lasers. If you cannot make it through the first cycle of lasers quickly and have to wait, perform the following menu.

Menu

Battle Settings

Barret:

L1 + □: Thunder

43. Run through the set of six lasers

- a. If you got fast cycles on the lasers, perform the menu the sixth set of lasers.

44. Head down the stairs.

45. [Skip Cutscene](#).

Sweeper

- Attack, then Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack, then Switch to Barret (↑).
- Attack until Barret begins reloading, then use Overcharge (△) to build 1 ATB.

- Cast Thunder [L1 + □].
- Attack until Barret reloads, then repeat attack.
- After Barret's second reload, shortcut cast Fire as Cloud [L1 + R2 + O].

Sweeper should now be STAGGERED.

- Cast Thunder [L1 + □].
- Attack until victory.

46. Run next to the console that Jessie will operate, and use an Ether on Barret.
 - a. Aim to put Barret in Jessie's path. This can cause Jessie to quickly open the door.
47. Exit through the opened door and continue onwards.
48. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
49. Slide down the ladder.
50. Continue onwards and slide down the second ladder.
51. As soon as you are able to, lock-on to the first Monodrive you can target and Attack to close the distance. Unlock the camera and sprint to flee from the encounter.
52. Slide down the ladder, then approach the Mako Reactor core.
53. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
54. Select the First Option -> "20 Minutes."
55. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

--- Scorpion Sentinel: Phase 1 ---

- Attack, then immediately shift to Barret (↑).
- Run left out of Electrostomp's range, then use Overcharge (△).
- Shift back to Cloud (↑).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△) and Parry (Hold R1).
 - Cloud should parry Electrostomp.
- Use 7 Attacks, then hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
 - During Cloud's charged attack, cast Thunder as Barret [L1 + R2 + □].
- After Barret casts Thunder, use Fire as Cloud [L1 + O].

--- Scorpion Sentinel: Phase 2 ---

- Cast Fire [L1 + O].
- Shift to Barret (↑).
- Attack until Barret reloads.
- Charge (△) during the first reload animation. Repeat.

This should break its shield and have it jump to the wall. Barret should have 1 ATB by now.

- Cast Thunder as Barret [L1 + □].
- Attack until reload.
- Shift to Cloud (↑). Position yourself to where Scorpion Sentinel will land.
- Shift to Punisher Mode (△) and Parry (Hold R1).
- Use 7 Attacks, then hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.

Scorpion Sentinel should now be STAGGERED.

- Use Fire [L1 + O].
- Repeat attacks until Phase 3 begins.

--- Scorpion Sentinel: Phase 3 ---

- Attack, then immediately shift to Barret (↑).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Attack until Barret has 2 ATB.
- Cast Thunder x2 [L1 + □].
- Shift to Cloud (↑).
- Leave the cover and intentionally tank Scorpion Sentinel's laser.
 - This will allow Cloud to build up his Limit Break meter.
- Use Fire [L1 + O].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Phase 4 begins.

--- Scorpion Sentinel: Phase 4 ---

- Target Scorpion Sentinel.

- Use Cross-Slash [L1 + X].

56. Skip Cutscene.

57. Climb the ladder, then run up the stairs and continue to the next battle.

Monodrive x2

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Attack until the first Monodrive is defeated.
- Switch to Operator Mode (Δ).
- Attack the second Monodrive until you have 1 ATB.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + Δ].

58. Continue following Barret up the ladder.

59. Skip Cutscene.

60. Shimmy across and save Jessie.

61. Skip Cutscene.

62. Slide down the ladder and follow Jessie up several ladders. Jump across the gap.

63. Skip Cutscene.

Monodrive x2 & Security Officer x2

- Target the Monodrive on the left.
- Use basic attacks to kill the Monodrive and both Security Officers.

If the second Monodrive is still alive, switch to Barret (\uparrow) and use Overcharge (Δ).

64. Continue into the next area.

65. When Sweeper spawns on the right, attack to close the distance, then roll and flee from the battle by running back to where you originally entered the reactor.

66. Continue up the stairs.

67. When the Monodrives spawn, attack to close the distance, then roll and continue fleeing from the Monodrives.
68. Proceed upwards.
69. Aim the camera at the Shock Trooper when it spawns, then continue running upstairs.
70. When you reach the area with the Sentry Rays and Shock Troopers, target Sentry Ray A as Cloud and run into the corner beside the stairs.
71. Swap to Barret (↑). This should teleport him next to Cloud and into the battle.

Sentry Ray x2 & Shock Trooper x3

- Overcharge the targeted Sentry Ray A (△).
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Thunder on Sentry Ray B.
- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Hold Parry (R1) and wait in the corner until the Shock Troopers attack.
 - Ideally, Cloud will parry all of the Shock Troopers at the same time.

All Shock Troopers should be STAGGERED.

- Use Fire [L1 + O].
- Repeat basic attacks or parries as necessary until victory.

If Barret did not teleport next to Cloud at the start of the encounter, improvise using similar strategies from above.

If the final Shock Trooper does not come up the stairs, simply run to him, parry, and use Fire.

72. Press the button to lower the elevator.
73. Skip Cutscene.
74. Run to the Mako Reactor bridge.
75. Skip Cutscene.
76. Chapter 1 complete after skipping the previous cutscene.

Chapter 2

1. Follow Barret and gang through the rubble until you reach Jessie detonating a door.
2. Skip Cutscene.
3. Walk forward and out the hole Jessie made.
4. Skip Cutscene.
5. Open the treasure chest directly in front of you for an [Ether].
6. Follow after Barret and the others.
7. Skip Cutscene.
8. Skip Tutorial offer by Jessie.
9. Skip Dialogue with Jessie.
10. Continue forward and up the stairs, over the rubble.
11. Skip Cutscene.
12. Run towards the overpass.
13. Skip Cutscene.
14. Follow SLOWLY after Sephiroth while Cloud suffers headaches.
15. Skip Cutscene.
16. Continue forward and up the fire escape on the buildings, then across the rooftop and down the fire escape.
17. Run to the right to encounter Aerith.
18. Skip Cutscene.
19. Select the First Option -> "How much?"
20. Skip Cutscene.
21. Turn around immediately and hug left.
22. Flee from these encounters and head towards the fountain.

Fountain Battle (4x Security Officer, Guard Dog, 4x Grenadier, 2x Shock Trooper)

- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.
 - If the Guard Dog survives, use Fire [L1 + O].
 - 2x Security Officers and 2x Grenadiers will spawn.
- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.
- After this group of enemies is defeated, position yourself underneath the helicopter.
 - 2x Shock Troopers will spawn.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Parry (Hold R1) and wait until the Shock Troopers attack.

Both Shock Troopers should be STAGGERED.

- Use Fire [L1 + O].
- More enemies will spawn.
- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.
- Repeat Attacks as necessary until victory.

23. After defeating all enemies, move towards the ladder towards the left of the burning rubble.
24. Pick up the **[Grenade x2]** from the chest next to the ladder.
25. Climb up to the top, then climb down the first ladder.
26. Open the nearby chest for an **[Iron Bangle]**.
27. Slide down the ladder directly to the side and back to street level.
28. Flee from all encounters and progress through the areas.
 - a. Use Attack -> Roll movement wherever possible, but be careful to avoid doing this to the Riot Troopers as their shields will deflect your attacks.
29. As you move down the street, if you can manage to keep the dogs with you, you will exit the following cutscene with full ATB from all the running.
30. **Skip Cutscene.**

--- The Huntsman ---

If necessary, attack the group immediately in front of you until Cloud has 1 ATB.

- Use Tactical Mode to throw a Grenade at the enemies.
- Head to the opposite side of this arena and wait for The Huntsman to appear.

If necessary, attack this group of enemies to build up 1 ATB.

- Use Fire [L1 + O] to put The Huntsman into a Pressured state.
- Switch to Punisher Mode.
- Attack until 1 ATB, then Focused Thrust [L1 + △].
- Attack until 1 ATB, then Braver [L1 + □].

The fight ends as soon as The Huntsman is defeated. Do not kill the other enemies unless you need the ATB.

31. Skip Cutscene.
32. Follow after Barret and gang. Continue into the second car with Barret.
33. Skip Cutscene.
34. Talk to Jessie at the end of the train car.
35. Skip Cutscene.
36. Chapter 2 complete after skipping the previous cutscene.

Chapter 3

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Follow Barret into town and approach the stand.
3. Skip Cutscene.
4. Continue onto Sector 7.
5. Skip Cutscene.
6. Approach Seventh Heaven.
7. Skip Cutscene.
8. Wait for Marlene to finish speaking to Barret, then speak to her.
9. Skip Cutscene.
10. Immediately turn around and examine the Jukebox, then exit its menu.
11. Follow Tifa out of the bar and towards the apartments.
12. Skip Dialogue with Tifa outside of Cloud's room.
13. Enter Cloud's room.
14. Skip Cutscene.
15. Exit Cloud's room and move to the room to the left, examine the door.
16. Skip Cutscene.
17. Exit Cloud's room.
18. Skip Dialogue with Marle.
19. Run to Seventh Heaven.
20. Skip Cutscene.
21. Exit Seventh Heaven and follow Tifa to the Item Shop to replace the water filter.
 - a. Make sure to stay behind Tifa to prevent her AI pathing from messing up.
22. Skip Tutorial.
23. Skip Dialogue with Item Shop owner.
24. Exit the menu without purchasing anything.
25. Skip Dialogue with Tifa.
26. Follow Tifa to Marle.
27. Skip Dialogue with Marle.
28. Follow Tifa to the Weapon Shop.
 - a. You can pass Tifa by hugging far left on the path to the Weapon Shop, but you can't enter until you hear her say, "Next stop is the Weapon Shop."
29. Skip Dialogue with Weapon Shop Owner.
30. Follow Tifa upstairs to Biggs and Wedge, the Neighborhood Watch.
31. Skip Cutscene.
32. Skip Tutorial for Weapon Upgrades.

33. **Skip Dialogue** with Biggs, Wedge, and Tifa.
34. Make your way to Scrap Boulevard. Take the Left Path first.

Scrap Boulevard Battles

- Use Attacks in Operator Mode.
- Hold Attack (□) while shifting the camera for the charged attack finisher as necessary.

Note: Gorgers are weak to Fire.

35. **Skip Dialogue** after defeating the enemies.
36. Pick up **[Ice Materia]** in the cave after defeating the last set of enemies.
37. Exit Scrap Boulevard and use the ladder to return to Biggs and Wedge.
38. **Skip Cutscene.**
39. **Skip Dialogue** with Tifa.
40. Return to the Weapon Shop owner.
41. **Skip Dialogue** with Weapon Shop Owner.
42. **Skip Tutorial.**
43. **Skip Dialogue** with Tifa.
44. Exit the Weapon Shop and talk to Wymer and Chadley.

Menu

Upgrade Weapons (↓)

Cloud:

Buster Sword

-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)

-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Iron Blade (↓)

-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)

-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Tifa (R2):

Leather Gloves

-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)

-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Materia & Equipment (↑)

Cloud:

Weapons -> Iron Blade (↓)

Reslot Materia

Armor (↓) -> Iron Bangle (↑)

Set Materia (△)

[Fire] [ADD ICE] [ADD ASSESS]

[Empty]

Battle Settings (↓↓)

Cloud

L1 + □: Triple-Slash

L1 + X: Assess

45. Re-enter Scrap Boulevard. Take the Left Path.

Scrap Boulevard Battle

- Attack to build up ATB.
- Use Assess [L1 + X] on one Wererat.
- Repeat above steps and Assess [L1 + X] one Gorger.
- Defeat all enemies.

46. Return to Chadley when prompted.
47. Skip Dialogue with Chadley.
 - a. This is where you can see your progress on The Staggering Effect Pt. 1. Ideally, you would have at least 3-5/10 at this point.
48. Skip 2 Tutorials.
49. Skip Dialogue with Tifa.
50. Run to the crowd of people in front of Johnny's house.
51. Skip Cutscene.
52. Skip Dialogue with Tifa.
53. Skip Cutscene.
54. Follow after Tifa as she chases Johnny and the Security Officers.

Elite Security Officer, Security Officer x2 & Guard Dog

- Use Attacks in Operator Mode.
- Hold Attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □] if necessary.

55. Examine Johnny to save him.
56. Skip Cutscene.
57. Skip Dialogue with Tifa.
58. Return to Seventh Heaven and confirm with Tifa that you are done.
59. Skip Cutscene.
60. Select the First Option -> "Something Hard"
61. Skip Cutscene.
62. Play Darts and immediately quit the game.
63. Return to the bar and examine your previous seat, choose to wait for Tifa.
64. Skip Cutscene.
65. Leave Seventh Heaven and talk to the crowd of thugs to the left.
66. Skip Cutscene.
67. Follow the thugs to the vacant lot.
68. Skip Cutscene.

Henchmen x4

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use 7 Attacks, then hold attack to enter Berserk status.
- Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat attacks for ATB, repeat Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

69. Return to Cloud's room and run into Jessie.

70. Skip Cutscene.

71. Talk to Jessie and confirm you are ready to go.

72. Skip Cutscene.

73. Chapter 3 complete after skipping the previous cutscene.

Chapter 4

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Begin the Bike Minigame.
 - a. Jumping off of the ramps in the middle of the tunnel will instantly charge your special meter. Try to use the ramps whenever possible.
3. Once you make it outside and deal with the initial 4 grunts on bikes, two more elites will show up. Ignore them and wait for Roche to appear.

--- Roche (Bike Chase) ---

- Roche's multi beam will never hit the edge of the highway.
- The lightning in Phase 2 always strikes slightly ahead of where you currently are.
- Avoid damage and use your special attacks whenever possible.
- Always prioritize Spinning Slash when you have your special attacks.

Phase 2 can be skipped if you're fast with your damage and avoid getting hit too much by Roche, but Roche can also just give you bad RNG attacks.

4. Skip Cutscene.
5. Follow everyone up the stairs.
6. Open the door switch, then follow after everyone.
7. Skip Cutscene.
8. Follow Jessie to her house and stay close to trigger her dialogue.
9. After she is finished speaking, go to the left side of her house.
10. Skip Cutscene.
11. Enter the backside of Jessie's house.
12. Skip Cutscene.
13. Enter the door on the right.
14. Skip Cutscene.
15. Take the ID card from the hazmat suit on the left side of the bed.
16. Leave through the same door.
17. Skip Cutscene.
18. Exit through the backdoor and return to the front of the house.
19. Skip Cutscene.

20. Follow after Biggs and Wedge, but stay close to them so they can say their lines.
21. Follow Biggs and Wedge down the street.
22. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Biggs and Wedge.
23. Run up past the empty lot and to the offices.
24. [Skip Cutscene](#).
25. Use the Vending Machine nearby.

Menu
<p><u>Buy</u></p> <p>Items:</p> <p>Hi-Potion x2 (↓)</p> <p>Ether x1 (↓)</p> <p>Accessories (R2, R2):</p> <p>Power Wristguards</p> <p>Materia (R2):</p> <p>Fire Materia x2 (↓)</p> <p>Ice Materia x1 (↓)</p> <p>Lightning Materia x2 (↓)</p>

26. Speak to Biggs.
27. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Biggs and Wedge.
28. [Skip Tutorial](#).
29. Perform the following menu before the next battles.

Menu
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Cloud:</p> <p>Accessories (↑) -> Power Wristguards</p> <p>Set Materia (△)</p> <p>[Fire] [Ice] [ADD LIGHTNING]</p>

Open Slot (→) Ifrit

You can slot Tifa's Materia from Chapter 5 here. This gives her a little extra AP on Ice and Lightning Materia earlier and saves a partial menu later.

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Tifa:

Remove Chakra (□)

[ADD ICE] [ADD LIGHTNING]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud

L1 + X: Thunder

30. Talk to Biggs after the previous menu.

31. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Biggs and Wedge.

32. Confirm you are ready to go with Biggs.

33. [Skip Cutscene](#).

34. Approach the open gate.

35. [Skip Cutscene](#).

36. NOTE: The Staggering Effect Pt. 1 of Chadley's Report MUST be completed by the end of this chapter! Prioritize using unique abilities on staggered enemies and charge the ATB gauge 10 times during this next segment.

Security Officers

- Use Attacks in Operator Mode, then hold attack (□) for a charged attack finisher.
- Triple-Slash [L1 + □] whenever you have full ATB.
- Repeat attacks for ATB, repeat Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

You will have to move around this large area frequently to defeat these enemies.

37. After the first wave of soldiers, 2 Missile Launchers will spawn that will fire at you.

38. Skip Cutscene.

Riot Troopers & Co.

- Use Fire on the Riot Trooper [L1 + O].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks to defeat the Elite Security Officer.

Once these enemies are dead, Biggs will drop one of the missile launchers.

- Make your way to the right side of the base, towards the door.

A few more enemies will spawn.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △] on the Elite Grenadier to stagger.
- Repeat Attacks until Elite Grenadier is defeated.
- Parry (Hold R1) the Shock Trooper.
- Repeat Attacks until Shock Trooper is defeated.

Note: By this point, you should be trying to stagger as many different enemies as possible.

39. Skip Cutscene.

Guard Dogs

- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break.
- If you do not have Cross-Slash yet, use Focused Thrust [L1 + △] on the dog immediately in front of you.

- Move closer to the pack and Cross-Slash as many as you can.
- Alternatively, perform the following:
 - Use Attacks in Operator Mode, then hold attack (□) for a charged attack finisher.
 - Triple-Slash [L1 + □] whenever you have full ATB.
 - Repeat attacks for ATB, repeat Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

40. Skip Cutscene.

Sweeper x2

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks to build up 1 ATB.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].
- Repeat Attacks to build up 1 ATB.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △].

Sweeper should be STAGGERED.

- In Punisher Mode, simply defeat the Sweeper using regular attacks.

If you have enough Limit Break for Cross-Slash, you can use it on the remaining Sweeper (provided you have enough ATB for Chadley's Report).

- Otherwise, repeat the above steps for the remaining Sweeper.

Ideally, you want to build up about 2 ATBs on each Sweeper for Chadley's Report (if necessary).

41. Skip Cutscene.

--- Roche: Phase 1 ---

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use 3-4 Attacks.
- Parry (Hold R1) to build up 1 ATB.
- Use Fire [$L1 + O$].
- Repeat Attacks in Punisher Mode until Phase 2.

--- Roche: Phase 2 ---

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Parry (Hold R1) his dash attacks.
- Use 3-4 Attacks in Punisher Mode, and hold attack to enter Berserk status.
- Parry (Hold R1).
- Repeat Attacks until Cloud has 2 ATB.
- Use Fire x2 [$L1 + O$].

If you still need to farm ATB, you can use Focused Thrust [$L1 + \Delta$] when Cloud has 1 ATB and attempt to Stagger with attacks. Then, use Punisher Mode attacks to kill. You can potentially get 1-2 ATBs here.

42. Skip Cutscene.
43. Follow after Biggs and back towards the empty lot you saw before.
44. Skip Cutscene.
45. Follow Jessie to the door in the middle of town.
46. Follow Jessie down the linear path and pick up the **[Revival Materia]** on the left side.
47. Move to the end of the path to the parachutes.
48. Skip 2 Cutscenes.
49. Follow Wedge around town.
50. Skip Dialogue.
51. Return with Wedge to his home.
52. Skip Cutscene.
53. Return to Jessie's home and enter the door.
54. Skip Cutscene.
55. Select the First Option -> "No promises."
56. Skip Cutscene.

57. Return to Cloud's room and go to sleep until tomorrow.

58. [Skip 2 Cutscenes.](#)

Mysterious Spectres

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Target Mysterious Spectre B.
- Use 3-4 Attacks and hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Attacks until it is defeated.
- Target Mysterious Spectre C.
- Use 3-4 Attacks and hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat attacks until Mysterious Spectre C is dead.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

Note: You can Parry their Impale attacks.

59. Follow the linear path to Seventh Heaven.

60. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

61. Work your way back towards Seventh Heaven.

62. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

63. Note: This is the LAST BATTLE you can farm ATB in Punisher Mode before reporting to Chadley.

Enigmatic Spectre

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Target a Mysterious Spectre.
- Use 3-4 Attacks and hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Repeat attacks until Mysterious Spectre B is dead.
- Target Enigmatic Spectre.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △] to STAGGER Enigmatic Spectre.

If you still need to farm ATB, you can instead try to use Punisher Mode attacks to kill. You can potentially get 1-2 ATBs here.

- Switch to Tifa (↑).
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].
- Repeat attacks until victory.

Make sure you do not attack the boss unless it is staggered or pressured.

64. Skip Cutscene.

65. Exit Seventh Heaven.

66. Skip Dialogue with Tifa.

67. Skip Tutorial.

68. Run towards the train station and access the Item Shop.

Menu
<p><u>Sell (↓)</u></p> <p>Materia (↑):</p> <p>Healing Materia</p> <p>Revival Materia</p> <p>Barrier Materia (↑)</p> <p>Items (L2):</p> <p>Potions, Hi-Potions, Grenades (Keep 1 Grenade), up to 5,100 Gil.</p>

69. Exit the Shop, then speak to Chadley.

70. Skip Dialogue.

- a. Note: You MUST have completed The Staggering Effect Pt. 1 of Chadley's Report by this point of the run.

Menu

Buy

First Strike Materia x2 (↓)

71. Talk to Barret and confirm you are ready to leave.
72. [Skip Cutscene](#).
73. Chapter 4 complete after skipping the previous cutscene.

Chapter 5

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Walk forward towards Tifa and talk to her.
3. Skip Dialogue with Tifa.
4. Move forward towards Barret.
5. Skip Cutscene.
6. Return to Tifa.
7. Skip Cutscene.

Slug-Rays x6

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

8. Run to the back door after defeating these enemies and open it.
9. Skip Cutscene.
10. Flee from every encounter you see until you get to the subsequent scene.
11. Run towards the blue light on the right side, the source of the yelling.
12. Skip Cutscene when the camera starts to shift horizontal on Cloud and Tifa.
13. Ignore the next immediate encounter.
14. Keep moving forward towards the staircase on the rightmost side, then towards Barret.
15. Escape from the fight as soon as you have Barret and continue towards your objective.
16. Continue down the train tracks and run away from EVERY encounter.
17. Move to the stairs and follow the party.
18. Skip Dialogue with Tifa and Barret.
19. Continue forward and escape from the Wererats, down the stairs.
20. Perform the following menu before the next set of battles.

Menu

Upgrade Weapons (↓)

Barret:

Gatling Gun

-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)

-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Materia & Equipment (↑)

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[Fire] [Ice] [Lightning]

[**ADD FIRST STRIKE**]

Barret:

Remove Healing (□)

[Lightning] [**ADD FIRE**]

[**ADD FIRE**]

Tifa:

Remove Chakra (□)

[**ADD ICE (If not done earlier)**] [**ADD LIGHTNING (If not done earlier)**] [**ADD FIRST STRIKE**]

Battle Settings (↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + O: Blizzard

Tifa:

L1 + □: Remove Somersault

L1 + O: Blizzard

L1 + X: Thunder

21. Head down the stairs.

Grashtrike & Wererat

- Use Attacks until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Blizzard [L1 + O] on the Grashtrike.
- Repeat Attacks until Grashtrike is defeated, then target Wererat.
- Hold Attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.

22. Break off the webbing blocking the next set of stairs.

Grashtrike x2

- Use Attacks until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Blizzard [L1 + O] on a Grashtrike.
- Attack until the Grashtrike is defeated.
- Wait until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Command Tifa to use Blizzard [L1 + L2 + O] on the second Grashtrike.
- Wait at the next set of webbing for your party to defeat the remaining Grashtrike.

23. Continue to the next set of enemies.

Queen Grashtrike & Grashtrikes

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Blizzard [L1 + O] on the Grashtrikes and Queen Grashtrike.
- Whenever Tifa has 1 ATB, command her to use Blizzard [L1 + L2 + O] on an enemy.

- Repeat Attacks and Blizzards until victory.

24. After defeating the previous enemies, turn around and interact with the webbing.
25. Open the treasure chest at the bottom of the staircase for **[Phoenix Down x3]**.
26. Continue up the stairs, across, then down to the Flamethrower Troopers.

Flamethrower Troopers

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [**L1 + \square**].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [**L1 + \square**] until victory.

Flametroopers stumble when you hit the fuel tanks on their backs.

27. Continue across the tracks and look at the map to get your direction going.
28. **Skip Dialogue** with Barret.
29. **Skip Cutscene**.
30. Continue down the train tracks and hang left at the fork.
31. Ignore Tifa and Barret at the containers and proceed to the next battle.
 - a. Keep left of the train to avoid slowing down.

Flametroopers x2 & Sentry Launcher x2

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Fire [**L1 + O**] on Flametroopers.
- Use Thunder [**L1 + X**] on Sentry Launcher.
- Attack until Sentry Launcher is defeated.
- Command Tifa to use Thunder [**L1 + L2 + X**] on second Sentry Launcher.
- Cleanup with Triple-Slash [**L1 + \square**] or Barret's Overcharge (Δ) as needed.

32. Head up the stairs and move through the door. Use an Ether or two on Cloud and make sure his health is not too low before Crab Warden.

33. Enter the door on the right to fight two Elite Security Officers.

Elite Security Officer x2

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

Try to line up the enemies to avoid accidentally attacking any walls.

34. Head out the door, down the ladder, and run to the Stamp graffiti on the shipping container in the back.

35. Skip Cutscene.

--- Crab Warden: Phase 1 ---

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Focus one of the front legs.
- Use 7 Attacks, then hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].

Crab Warden should be STAGGERED.

- Attack the other Front Leg until it is <50% HP.
- Attack the Generator until Phase 2 begins.

--- Crab Warden: Phase 2 ---

- Use Tactical Mode to command Cloud to cast Thunder on remaining front leg.

Crab Warden should be STAGGERED.

- Attack Generator to close distance.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Attack the Generator until Phase 3 begins.

--- Crab Warden: Phase 3 ---

- Run up to a rear leg.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use 5 Attacks, the hold attack (\square) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Thunder [$L1 + X$].
- Command Barret to use Thunder [$L1 + R2 + \square$].

Crab Warden should be STAGGERED.

- Use Tactical Mode to cast Thunder on Generator.
- Lock-on camera.
- Command Tifa to use Thunder [$L1 + L2 + X$] on the Generator.
- Repeat Tifa's Thunder [$L1 + L2 + X$].

36. Skip Cutscene.

37. Continue forward and then slide down the ladder.

38. Approach the lift and press the button.

39. Skip Cutscene.

40. Chapter 5 complete after skipping the previous cutscene.

Chapter 6

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Follow Barret and Tifa, then head right and up the ladder into the control room.
3. Flip the switch on the panel.
4. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Tifa.
5. Head back down the ladder, then left and up the ladder to turn off the first sunlamp.
6. Skip Cutscene.
7. Slide back down the ladder, return to Barret and Tifa and open the gate.
8. Skip Cutscene.
9. Flee from the first set of enemies you see and continue left, then down the stairs.
10. Continue forward and back up another set of stairs across the way.
11. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Tifa.
12. Continue forward towards the fans, avoiding combat along the way.
13. Climb the ladders leading up to the fans behind Barret and Tifa.
14. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Tifa.
15. Continue behind the party and past the fans until you move down the ladder.
16. Move across the plank and towards the lift.
17. Skip Cutscene.
18. Run across and left, then up the stairs.
19. Flee from the Grashtrikes, then head up the ladder.
20. Flip the second switch and turn off the second sunlamp.
21. Skip Cutscene.
22. As you return the way you came, the security system will come back online.

Sentinel Rays & Grashtrikes

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Blizzard [L1 + O] on the Grashtrikes.
- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△) on a Sentinel Ray.
- Use Barret's Thunder [L1 + □] on the remaining Sentinel Ray.

23. Approach the panel and move the platform into place to make a bridge, then cross it and head left.
24. Continue left across another bridge, escaping from the security systems and turn off another sunlamp.
25. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
26. Turn to Cloud's right and slide down the ladder, then use the lift to move across.
27. Continue forward across the bridge directly in front of Cloud and hang left, then take another lift across the gap.
28. Move past the shipping containers to another panel and move the platform into place to make a bridge.
29. Cross the bridge for another encounter.

Sentry Gun Prototype x2 & Terpsicolt x2

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△) on Sentry Gun Prototype.
- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X] on a Terpsicolt.
- Whenever Barret or Tifa have 1 ATB, command them to use Thunder.
 - Barret's Thunder: [L1 + R2 + □].
 - Tifa's Thunder: [L1 + L2 + X].

30. Climb the ladder for the sunlamp and turn off the final sunlamp.
31. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
32. Make your way back to platform H1 and towards the main lift.
33. Activate the lift.
34. [Skip Dialogue.](#)
35. Get on the lift, then activate it again from the inside.
36. Tell Barret there is no time to continue.
37. You will have one more fight with several turrets and security systems here.

Sentry Ray x2, Sentry Launcher x2 & Sentry Gun Prototype

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X] on enemies.
- Whenever Barret or Tifa have 1 ATB, command them to use Thunder.
 - Barret's Thunder: [L1 + R2 + □].
 - Tifa's Thunder: [L1 + L2 + X].

38. Climb the ladder and follow the linear path to Biggs.

39. [Skip Cutscene](#).

40. Chapter 6 complete after skipping the previous cutscene.

Chapter 7

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Follow the linear path forward until Barret notes there is nowhere to go.
3. Move closer to Tifa and progress downward sliding on the piping.
4. Move towards the door and progress downwards into the Reactor.

Monodrive x4

- Attack as Cloud until he has 1 ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

5. Slide down the ladder.

Slug-Rays & Monodrives

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Attack until Cloud and/or Tifa have 1 ATB.
- Use Cloud or Tifa's Thunder [L1 + L2/R2 + X] on the remaining enemies.
- Use Barret's Thunder [L1 + □] if necessary.

6. Slide down the next ladder and continue forward before another encounter.

Laser Cannon x2 & Sweeper x2

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△) on a Laser Cannon.
- Target second Laser Cannon.
- Use Thunder [L1 + □].

- If any Laser Cannon survives, Attack until defeated.
- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Use Tifa's Thunder [L1 + L2 + X] on a Sweeper.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △].

Sweeper should be STAGGERED.

- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].
- Whenever Barret or Tifa have 1 ATB, command them to use Thunder.
 - Barret's Thunder: [L1 + R2 + □].
 - Tifa's Thunder: [L1 + L2 + X].
- Repeat above steps on remaining Sweeper until victory.
 - If possible, use Focused Shot as Barret during the battle to gain proficiency.

Note: This will generally be the method for dealing with Sweepers from now on.

7. Continue down the ladders and make your way to the core.
8. Skip Cutscene.
9. Move closer to the core.
10. Skip Cutscene.
11. Approach the ladder you used to get down to the core.
12. Skip Cutscene.

Elite Shock Trooper x3

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

13. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Tifa.
14. Move forward through the doors the Shock Troopers came from and continue deeper into the reactor.

15. You will need to open the second door with a switch on the leftmost side.

16. Skip Cutscene.

Room 1

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [$L1 + \square$].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [$L1 + \square$] until victory.

17. Approach the console in the back right, then pick up the keycard on the side of the area.

18. Use the console to stop the transport systems.

19. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Tifa.

20. Open the door to exit the room.

21. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Tifa.

22. Progress forward until the next encounter.

Monodrive x2 & Laser Cannon x2

- Switch to Barret (\downarrow).
- Use Overcharge (Δ) on a Laser Cannon.
- Attack until Cloud and/or Tifa have 1 ATB.
- Use Cloud or Tifa's Thunder [$L1 + L2/R2 + X$] on the remaining enemies.

23. Move up the ramp, then open the door to the lab.

24. Skip Cutscene.

Room 2

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

25. Open the door to exit the room.

26. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Barret and Tifa.

27. Exit the lab and move up the ramp for the next encounter.

Elite Shock Trooper & Laser Cannon x2

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△) on a Laser Cannon.
- Attack until Cloud and/or Tifa have 1 ATB.
- Use Cloud or Tifa's Thunder [L1 + L2/R2 + X] on the remaining enemies.

28. Move up the ramp to the next lab area and open the door.

Room 3

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

29. Open the door after the previous battle.

30. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Tifa.
31. Continue up the ramp and open the next door.
32. Skip Cutscene.
33. Clean up the goons the same as before.
34. Open the door to exit the room.
35. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Tifa.

Elite Shock Trooper x2

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

36. Open the door to the next area, then approach the large console to open into the next area.
37. Continue up the ramp, open the door.
38. Skip Cutscene.

Room 4

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Attacks and build up ATB.
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Fire on the Riot Troopers.
- Switch to Operator Mode (△).
- Run to the back of the area with the Elite Grenadier.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks until victory.

39. Interact with console.
40. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Tifa.

41. Move towards the pipe you first used to enter the reactor to trigger a voice line from Barret, then move over to where he was standing for the next battle.

Cutter

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Attack until Cloud and Tifa have ATB.
- Use Cloud and Tifa's Thunders [L1 + L2/R2 + X] until victory.

42. Run up the stairs the Cutter revealed and continue upwards.
43. Flee from all encounters in this area, then use the elevator.
44. [Skip Cutscene](#).
45. Approach the larger console and use it.
46. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Barret and Tifa.
47. Enter the room and move over towards the larger console.
48. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Barret and Tifa.
49. [Skip Tutorial](#).
50. Complete the Lever-Pulling Minigame.
- a. Pull the lever when the arrows light up.
51. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Barret and Tifa.
52. Run out towards the door that opened and rest on the bench.

Menu

Upgrade Weapons (↓)

Tifa:

Metal Knuckles

-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)

-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Materia & Equipment (↑)

Tifa:

Only if Tifa has learned Divekick by this point.

Weapons -> Metal Knuckles

Reslot Materia

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Barret:

[Lightning] [Fire]

[SWAP FIRE WITH TIFA'S FIRST STRIKE]

Tifa:

[Ice] [Lightning] **[SWAP FIRST STRIKE WITH BARRET'S FIRE]**

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + □: Cross-Slash

L1 + O: Thundara

53. Move towards the door and down the walkway.

54. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

--- The Airbuster: Phase 1 ---

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use 7 Attacks, then hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].
- Use 4 Attacks, then hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].

- Use Focused Shot as Barret [**L1 + R2 + △**].
- Repeat Attacks.

Airbuster should be STAGGERED.

- Continue attacking until Airbuster shifts to Phase 2.

--- The Airbuster: Phase 2 ---

- Airbuster will float backwards over the walkway and charge Tank Buster.
- Run up to Airbuster.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack, then hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status BEFORE Airbuster begins using Tankbuster.
- Use Thundara [**L1 + O**].
- Tank Airbuster's laser.
- Run back towards Airbuster.
- Use Punisher Mode Attacks, then hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Thundara [**L1 + O**].
- Switch to Tifa (↑).
- Attack until Tifa has 2 ATB.
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [**L1 + △**].
- Repeat Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [**L1 + △**].
- Switch to Cloud (↓).
- Command Barret to use Focused Shot [**L1 + R2 + △**].
- Walk up to Airbuster, then use Focused Thrust [**L1 + △**].

Airbuster should be STAGGERED.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Thundara [**L1 + O**].
- Attack until Phase 3.

If you are not fast enough, you may get hit by the hand attacks. (Partly RNG here.)

--- The Airbuster: Phase 3 ---

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Use Thunder [L1 + □].
- Command the party to use Thunder whenever they have sufficient ATB.
 - Cloud's Thunder: [L1 + L2 + X].
 - Tifa's Thunder: [L1 + R2 + X].
- When Barret has 1 ATB, use Thunder [L1 + □].
- Try to tank one hit from Airbuster to build up Limit Break if necessary.

Avoid the electric mines and the finger lasers. If you avoid getting stunned, Airbuster will float closer and allow Cloud & Tifa to attack.

- Repeat attacks, Thunder spells, and use Overcharge (△).
- Switch to Tifa (↓) when Airbuster is close to the bridge.
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].
- Switch to Barret (↑).
- Use Focused Shot [L1 + △].

Airbuster should be STAGGERED.

- Use Barret's Limit Break.

--- The Airbuster: Phase 4 ---

- Attack until Barret has 1 ATB.
- Use Thunder [L1 + □].
- Attack until Airbuster comes next to the bridge within melee range of Cloud.
- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break.
- If necessary, attack until victory.

55. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

56. Chapter 7 complete after skipping the previous cutscene.

Chapter 8

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Talk to Aerith.
3. Skip Cutscene.

Security Officer x2 & Elite Security Officer (Then Repeat)

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use Attacks in Punisher Mode to build up ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + \square].
- Use Attacks to build up 1 ATB.
- Stagger the Elite Security Officers with Focused Thrust [L1 + Δ].
- Repeat Attacks and Triple-Slash [L1 + \square] until victory.

Note: You must stagger both Elite Security Officers to build up Limit Break for Reno.

--- Reno: Phase 1 ---

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Parry (Hold R1) Reno's attack.
- Use 3-4 Attacks, then Focused Thrust [L1 + Δ].

Reno should be STAGGERED.

- Attack until Phase 2.

--- Reno: Phase 2 ---

- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break.

4. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
5. Follow Aerith through the linear path until Aerith falls down to the ground below.
6. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
7. Climb the rafters, drop the chandelier on the goons, then meet Aerith on the other side.
8. Push the debris out of the way and climb the ladder.
9. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
10. Move through the linear path and follow Aerith out onto the rooftops.
11. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Aerith.
12. Follow the path across the rooftops until you get to the gap Cloud has to jump across.
13. Continue a bit further until Aerith asks you to wait.
14. Run back to Aerith to force her to jump across, then resume travelling the linear path.
15. Continue to the rusted tower and climb up the ladder.
16. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
17. Help Aerith up on top.
18. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Aerith.
19. Continue the linear path and follow Aerith.
20. Follow down the slide after Aerith then continue forward.
21. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

Menu

Upgrade Weapons (↓)

Aerith:

Guard Stick

-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)

-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Materia & Equipment (↑)

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Aerith:

Remove All Materia (□)

[[ADD LIGHTNING FROM BARRET](#)] [[ADD FIRE FROM BARRET](#)] [Empty]

[[ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM BARRET](#)] [[ADD ICE FROM TIFA](#)]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + □: Triple-Slash

22. Flee from all encounters until you reach the station.
23. **Skip Cutscene.**
24. Move forward towards the bench and to the cutscene trigger.
25. **Skip Cutscene.** (Use △. This allows you to skip the cutscene earlier.)
26. Shimmy past the fence and continue into the scrapyard.
27. Flee from all encounters until you reach the gate Aerith wants you to open. Afterwards, turn left and push the shipping container out of the way.
28. Continue until you get ambushed.

Hedgehog Pie x3

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

29. Follow the path and up the ladder, then onto the overlook of the Sector 5 Slums.
30. **Skip Dialogue** with Aerith.
31. Continue along the path, running from the encounter you see, then open the gate ahead with the switch.
32. Move forward until you encounter a Smogger.

Smogger

- Use Thundara [L1 + O].
- Attack until victory.

33. Continue left and up a ladder to push another shipping container into position.

34. Drop back down then turn to the side, up another ladder and climb across the obstacles to get to the other side of the gate and open.
35. Continue forward on the linear path until you reach the Sector 5 Slums.
36. [Skip Cutscene](#).
37. Move onto the television in the center of town and watch the TV scene.
 - a. Note: This is a ~94 second unskippable scene.
38. Follow Aerith around town. She will be stopped by several NPCs.
39. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Aerith and Leaf House Owner.
40. Follow behind Aerith towards her house.
41. [Skip Cutscene](#).
42. Run upstairs towards Aerith's room. Touch the door, then head downstairs.
43. [Skip Cutscene](#).
44. Follow behind Aerith and pick flowers.
45. [Skip Tutorial](#).
46. Pick the closest flower 3 times, then move back towards the Leaf House.
47. [Skip Cutscene](#).
48. [Skip Tutorial](#).
49. Run back towards the middle of town and talk to Oates.
50. Run back and talk to Aerith at the Leaf House.
51. Follow Oates to the kid's secret hideout.
52. Run towards the entrance of town and talk to Chadley.

Menu
<p><u>Buy</u></p> <p>Wind Materia x2</p> <p>ATB Boost Materia (↓↓)</p>

Menu
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Cloud:</p> <p>Armor (↓) -> Titanium Bangle (↓↓)</p>

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[Fire] [ADD WIND] [Lightning]
[First Strike] [ADD ATB BOOST]

Aerith:

[Lightning] [Fire] [ADD WIND]
[First Strike] [Ice]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + O: Aero

Aerith (R2):

L1 + □: Fire

L1 + O: Aero

L1+ X: Thunder

53. **Skip Dialogue** with Aerith and Oates.

54. Move to the back of the hide out and under the fence.

55. Progress forward and engage the first encounter you find.

56. NOTE: Now that you have ATB Boost, know that if you need to finish a mob quickly and do not have the ATB for it, you can press L1 + R1 to instantly charge a bar of ATB. It has a cooldown in combat, but not between fights.

Hedgehog Pie & Wererat x2

➤ Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

57. Shimmy past the crates and into another batch of Wererats.

Wererats

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Wait for more enemies to spawn.
- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.

58. Continue on.

Hedgehog Pie x2 & Wererat

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

59. Continue down the nearby ladder.

Smogger x3 & Hedgehog Pie x6

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Target Smogger, then command Aerith to cast Thunder [L1 + R2 + X].

After the first group of enemies dies, the second group will spawn.

- Run back the way you came towards the ladder to encounter 2 of the Hedgehog Pies.
- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

After all 4 Hedgehog Pies are dead, the final 2 Smoggers will spawn.

- Attack to close the distance.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use 4 Attacks.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].

- Repeat attacks until the first Smogger is defeated.
- Target the second Smogger.
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].
- Repeat attacks until victory.

60. Move back towards the water where the kids are trapped.

61. Skip Cutscene.

62. Return the way you came from. Wait for Aerith to climb the ladder, then follow her.

Smogger

- Target Smogger, command Aerith to cast Thunder [L1 + R2 + X].
- Run all the way back near the crates where you will have to shimmy through.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].

63. Continue making your way back.

Hedgehog Pie x3

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

64. Continue up the ladder and back to the kid's secret hideout.

65. Skip Cutscene.

66. Enter the secret hideout and talk to Oates.

67. Skip Dialogue with Oates.

68. Move towards the exit back towards town.

69. Skip Cutscene.

70. Move back towards town and get stopped by Oates.

71. Skip Dialogue with Oates.

72. Return to town and then make your way back all the way back to the Leaf House.

73. Skip Dialogue with Leaf House Owner.

74. Move back towards Aerith's Home.

75. Skip Cutscene.

--- Rude: Phase 1 ---

- Attack.
 - Switch to Punisher Mode (\triangle) and Parry (Hold R1).
 - You should parry Rude.
 - Use Attacks, then command Aerith to cast Aero [$L1 + R2 + O$].
 - Wait until Rude lands.
 - Use Focused Thrust [$L1 + \triangle$].
- Rude should be STAGGERED.*
- Attack until Phase 2.

--- Rude: Phase 2 ---

- Use Aero [$L1 + O$].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (\triangle).
- Repeat Attacks until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Focused Thrust [$L1 + \triangle$].

Rude should be STAGGERED.

- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Aero [$L1 + O$].
- Switch to Aerith (\uparrow).
- Hold Attack (\square) until Aerith has 1 ATB.
- Use Aero [$L1 + O$].

If Rude survives by this point, switch to Cloud (\uparrow) and finish him with Punisher Mode attacks.

76. Skip Cutscene.

77. Return to Aerith's house and confirm that you are done for the day.

78. Skip Cutscene.

79. Sneak out of Aerith's house without making noise!

80. Skip Tutorial.
81. Skip Dialogue with Elmyra.
82. Leave Aerith's house and make your way towards Wall Market / Sector 6.
83. Skip Cutscene.

Chapter 9

1. Follow the linear path.
2. Skip Cutscene.
3. Follow behind Aerith and enter the Collapsed Expressway.
4. Skip Cutscene.

Terpsicolt

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Command Aerith to cast Thunder [L1 + R2 + X].

5. Climb the nearby ladder.

Lesser Drake

- Command Aerith to cast Arcane Ward [L1 + R2 + △] on Cloud.
- If necessary, use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- When the Drake stays still, use Aero [L1 + O].

Lesser Drake should be STAGGERED.

- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.

6. Progress forward and down the ladder, then examine the console and control the arm.
7. Put Aerith onto the upper platform so she can drop the ladder.
8. Climb the ladder.
9. Skip Cutscene.
10. Continue forward and a Sweeper Prototype will emerge from the nearby rubble.

Sweeper Prototype

- Command Aerith to cast Arcane Ward [L1 + R2 + △] on Cloud.

Stand in Arcane Ward while performing the next steps.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Cloud has 2 ATB.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].
- Repeat use Thunder [L1 + X].
- Attack until victory.

- Continue forward and down the nearby ladder, then past the shimmy-side section.
- Climb another ladder.
- Flee from the next group of enemies and make your way to the next Giant Arm console.
- Skip Tutorial.
- Pick up a crate and move it out of the way.
- Skip Cutscene.
- Move the crate to the left, then place Aerith on the top side by the ladder and have her kick it down.
- Climb up after her.
- Continue forward, but stick closer to the right side as you can skip the cutscene onlooking the next area by the bench.
- Slide down the ladder and move forward to a wooden gate.
- Skip Cutscene.

Beck, Burke, and Butch

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.

If Cloud gets stunned by an EM Mine, switch to Aerith (↑) and attack until victory.

22. Continue forward towards the red door and up the following ladder.

Sweeper Prototype & Bandit x2

- Command Aerith to cast Arcane Ward [L1 + R2 + △] on Cloud.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use 7 Attacks on a Bandit, then hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.

Stand in Arcane Ward while performing the next steps.

- Use Thunder [L1 + X].
- Repeat use Thunder [L1 + X].
- Switch to Aerith (↑).
- Attack until Aerith has 1 ATB.
- Use Thunder [L1 + X].

23. Approach the nearby console and control more Big Arms!

24. [Skip Tutorial](#).

25. With the first arm, move the box to the left in the yellow rectangle.

26. With the second arm, stack the box on top of it.

27. Swap back to the first arm and carry Aerith to the top of the boxes.

28. Swap to the other arm and carry Aerith to the other side so she can drop the ladder.

29. Climb the ladder and follow after Aerith.

30. [Skip Cutscene](#).

31. Follow the linear path forward.

Bandit x4

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.

If Cloud gets stunned by an EM Mine, switch to Aerith (↑) and attack until victory.

32. Continue forward and high five Aerith.
33. [Skip Cutscene](#).
34. Enter the playground.
35. [Skip Cutscene](#).
36. Walk over to the far “animal castle thing” which Aerith moves to.
37. [Skip Cutscene](#).
38. Talk to Aerith and confirm you are ready to return to Sector 7.
39. [Skip Cutscene](#).
40. Head forward to the Chocobo Porter outside of Wall Market,
41. [Skip Dialogue](#) with the Chocobo Porter.
42. Talk to Chocobo Sam.
 - a. Select the Third Option -> “She’s great at handling the books.”
43. Continue forward and enter Wall Market.
44. [Skip Cutscene](#).
45. Run to Don Corneo’s mansion and enter the door.
46. Speak to Leslie.
47. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Leslie.
48. Leave Don Corneo’s mansion and cross the bridge.
49. [Skip Cutscene](#).
50. Run to the Weapon Shop.



51. Run back towards Sam at the entrance to Wall Market and talk to him.
52. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Sam.
53. [Skip Cutscene](#).
54. Select the Third Option -> “No Deal.”
55. [Skip Cutscene](#).
56. Move back towards Wall Market and stick to the middle-right side of the road.
57. Continue past the outdoor shop with the purple text sign, run up the stairs directly in front of you and open the chest at the end of the path for an **[Elixir]**.
58. Run back the way you came and make your way to the Honeybee Inn.

59. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Aerith.
60. Enter the Honeybee Inn.
61. [Skip Cutscene](#).
62. Run to the last objective, Madam M's, and enter.
63. [Skip Cutscene](#).
64. Select the Third Option -> "Poor Man's choice for 100 Gil."
65. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Madam M.
66. [Skip Cutscene](#).
67. As Aerith, use up to 2 Ethers on Cloud to refill his MP.
68. Speak to Madam M.
69. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Madam M.
70. Select the Third Option -> "It matter what I think?"
71. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Aerith and Madam M.
72. Exit Madam M's and head to the colosseum.
73. Speak to the elevator attendant inside.
74. [Skip Dialogue](#) with attendant.
75. Use the elevator.
76. [Skip Cutscene](#).

Menu
<p><u>Upgrade Weapons (↓)</u></p> <p>Cloud:</p> <p>Hardedge (↑)</p> <p>-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)</p> <p>-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)</p>
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Cloud:</p> <p>Weapons -> Hardedge (↑)</p> <p>Reslot Materia</p> <p>Aerith (R2):</p> <p>Armor (↓) -> Caliginous Bracelet (↑)</p>

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Aerith:
[Lightning] [Fire] [Wind]
[First Strike] [Ice] [ADD ICE LEVEL 2 (FROM MENU, FROM CLOUD)]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:
L1 + O: Blizzard

Aerith (R2):
L1 + O: Blizzard

77. Approach the second waiting room on the left, closest to the door and talk to Johnny.
78. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Johnny.
79. [Skip Dialogue](#) with the doorman and start your first round in the arena.
80. [Skip Cutscene](#).

Beast Tamer and Bloodhound x2

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat attacks to build ATB, then repeat Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

81. Return through the door you entered through.
82. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Aerith.
83. Wait by the door to be called.
84. [Skip Dialogue](#) with the doorman to start the next battle.
85. [Skip Cutscene](#).

Bandit x8

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Hold attack (\square) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Triple-Slash [$L1 + \square$].
- Use ATB Boost [$L1 + R1$].
- Repeat Triple-Slash [$L1 + \square$].
- *If Cloud is stunned by a nearby EM Mine, swap to Aerith.*
- *Build ATB (hold \square) and use Fire [$L1 + \square$] or Thunder [$L1 + X$] on any stragglers.*

86. Return through the door you entered through.

87. *Skip Cutscene.*

88. Exit the room and return to the doorman, then wait for the announcement.

89. *Skip Dialogue* with doorman and talk to him to start the next fight.

90. *Skip Cutscene.*

Sweeper and Cutter

- Swing around the side of the Cutter and focus on the Sweeper first.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use 3-4 Attacks, then hold attack (\square) to enter Berserk status.
- Use Thunder [$L1 + X$].
- Use Focused Thrust [$L1 + \Delta$].

Sweeper should be STAGGERED.

- Have Aerith cast Thunder [$L1 + R2 + X$].

Repeat the above strategy for Cutter, with the exception of skipping Focused Thrust and repeating Punisher Mode attacks.

- Finish with a Thunder from Aerith [$L1 + R2 + X$].

91. Return through the door you entered through.

92. Skip Cutscene.

Menu
<p align="center"><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p align="center">Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)</p> <p align="center">Cloud: [Fire] [Wind] [Lightning] [First Strike] [SWAP ATB BOOST WITH AERITH'S ICE]</p> <p align="center">Aerith: [Lightning] [Fire] [Wind] [First Strike] [SWAP ICE WITH CLOUD'S ATB BOOST] [Ice]</p>

93. Skip Dialogue with doorman and start the final fight against Hell House.

94. Skip Cutscene.

--- Hell House: Phase 1 ---
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Switch to Aerith (↑). ➤ Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1]. ➤ Use Arcane Ward [L1 + △] on Aerith. ➤ Use a fully charged Tempest (hold △). ➤ Switch to Cloud (↑). ➤ Use Blizzard x2 [L1 + O] while in Arcane Ward. ➤ Switch to Punisher Mode (△). ➤ Attack until Hell House is STAGGERED. ➤ Attack until Phase 2. <p align="center"><i>If you can push past Phase 1 early into the Stagger, Hell House will start Phase 2 with half a Stagger bar filled.</i></p>
--- Hell House: Phase 2 ---

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Parry (Hold R1) two attacks from Hell House.
- Use 3 Attacks, the hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.

Hell House should be STAGGERED.

NOTE: If you miss the Stagger glitch, you can force Pressured after the double parry with more Punisher Mode attacks, then follow up with a Focused Thrust [L1 + △] to Stagger as needed.

- Use Tactical Mode to cast Infinity's Edge.

--- Hell House: Phase 3 ---

Once it takes enough damage it will subtly start Phase 3, with a large barrier around its body and arms now available as targets.

- Build up ATB by attacking the boss.
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Thundara on one of the arms as both Cloud and Aerith while in Arcane Ward.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack the arm to cripple it and put the boss into a Pressured state.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △].
- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break.

--- Hell House: Phase 4 ---

- Avoid damage and conserve ATB until it uses Hellbound.
- When you see it line up, switch to Aerith (↑) on the Arcane Ward.
- Use a spell according to Hell House's current weakness.
 - White Windows = Use Fire [L1 + □]
 - Red Windows = Use Blizzard [L1 + O]
 - Green Windows = Use Thunder [L1 + X]
 - Yellow Windows = Use Aero
- Once it falls, it will be put into a Pressured state.
- Switch to Cloud (↑).

- Use Punisher Mode Attacks until Cloud has 2 ATB.
- Use Focused Thrust x2 [L1 + △].

Hell House should be STAGGERED.

- Command Aerith to use magic with shortcuts and attack until victory.

95. Skip Dialogue with the doorman.
96. Skip Tutorial.
97. Go back all the way to Madam M's.
98. Skip Dialogue with Madam M.
99. Drop Aerith off with her.
1. Skip Dialogue with Madam M.
2. Madam M should give you a bunch of side quests you can ignore here.
3. Return to Madam M and Johnny will interrupt.
4. Skip Dialogue with Johnny.
5. Follow Johnny back to Don Corneo's mansion.
6. Skip Dialogue with Johnny.
7. Enter through the front door.
8. Skip Dialogue with Leslie.
9. Exit back towards the bridge.
10. Skip Cutscene.
11. Follow Aerith to the Honeybee Inn
12. Skip Dialogue with Aerith.
13. Enter the Honeybee Inn and talk to the clerk.
14. Skip Dialogue with the clerk at the front desk.
15. Move towards the back and talk to the trio of bees.
16. Skip Dialogue with the bees.
17. Move onto the stage and complete the Dancing Tutorial Minigame.
18. Skip Tutorial.
 - a. Note: You can simply AFK at this minigame.
19. Be sure to say you are done with practice here and move onto the main event.
20. Skip Cutscene.
21. Complete the Dancing Minigame with Andrea.
 - b. This unskippable scene is ~159 seconds.
22. Skip Cutscene.
23. As Aerith, approach Cloud once he stops moving and talk to him twice.

24. **Skip Dialogue** with Cloud.
25. As Cloud, run all the way to Don Corneo's mansion and talk to Leslie.
26. **Skip Dialogue** with Leslie.
27. Enter the estate, then run up the stairs and enter the last door on the second floor.
28. **Skip Cutscene**.
29. Approach the Vending Machine in the back.

Menu
<p><u>Buy</u></p> <p>Ether x1 (↓↓↓↓↓)</p> <p>Phoenix Down x1 (↓↓)</p> <p><i>Note: You need at least 6 Phoenix Downs for Chapter 11.</i></p>

30. Pick up the chest to obtain [**Turbo Ether**].
31. Wait by the door for the voice lines to finish.
32. Progress up the stairs.
33. **Skip Cutscene**.
34. Take control of Aerith with Tifa in tow and sneak down the stairs.
35. Open the hidden treasure chest behind the stairs for the [**Fury Ring**].
36. As you move back out from behind the stairs, you will begin an encounter.

Corneo's Goons x3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Switch to Tifa (↑). ➤ Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △]. ➤ Repeat until victory. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Alternatively, use Tactical Mode to command Aerith to cast Fira.

37. Run back up the stairs and into Don Corneo's office.

Corneo's Goons x2

- Switch to Tifa (↑).
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].
- Repeat until victory.
 - Alternatively, use Tactical Mode to command Aerith to cast Fira.

38. Enter the door directly in the back.

39. Skip Cutscene.

40. Select the First Option -> "When they're faced with certain death."

41. Skip Cutscene.

Chapter 10

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Perform the following menu.

Menu
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Cloud: Accessories (↑) -> Fury Ring (↓)</p> <p>Tifa (R2): Accessories (↑) -> Power Wristguards Armor (↑) -> Iron Bangle (↓↓↓)</p> <p><i>Equip Metal Knuckles here if you did not do so earlier.</i></p>
<p><u>Battle Settings (↓↓↓)</u></p> <p>Cloud: L1 + O: Aero L1 + X: Fire</p>

3. Approach Aerith on the right and interact with her.
4. Skip Cutscene.

--- Abzu: Phase 1 ---

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Attack to build up ATB.
- Switch to Aerith (\uparrow).
- Use ATB Boost [$L1 + R1$].
- Use Fire [$L1 + \square$].

Abzu should be Pressured.

- Switch to Cloud (\downarrow).
- Use Focused Thrust [$L1 + \Delta$].
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Repeat Focused Thrust [$L1 + \Delta$].
 - *If Focused Thrust misses, repeat attacks instead.*

Abzu should be STAGGERED.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Repeat Attacks.
- Command Tifa to use Divekick [$L1 + R2 + \Delta$].
- Attack until Phase 2.

--- Abzu: Phase 2 ---

Abzu will be Enraged.

- Immediately command both Cloud [$L1 + X$] and Aerith [$L1 + L2 + \square$] to use Fire.
- Repeat Aerith's Fire [$L1 + L2 + \square$].
 - *If done correctly, Abzu will be Pressured.*
- Use Focused Thrust [$L1 + \Delta$].
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Repeat Focused Thrust [$L1 + \Delta$].

Abzu should be STAGGERED.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Attack until victory.
- *If Tifa has 1 ATB, command her to use Divekick [$L1 + R2 + \Delta$].*

Note: If you do not get the early Pressure / Stagger, remember to avoid the Blackwater attack and follow the same strategy when it lands.

5. Skip Cutscene.
6. Move towards the hole in the wall and follow Tifa.
7. Skip Dialogue with Tifa.
8. Follow Tifa through the waterway.
9. Perform the following menu before the next battle.

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Cloud:

Weapons -> Iron Blade (↓)

Reslot Materia

Sahagin

- Use Fire [L1 + X].
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [L1 + L2 + □].

Make sure to finish them off quickly. They deal a TON of damage and inflict the Toad status effect which can be incredibly annoying to deal with at this point.

10. Continue into the sewers and climb the ladder.
11. Continue on the linear path until Cloud has to pull a lever to drain the water.
12. Move into the lower part of the waterway.
13. Open the chest containing the **[Feathered Gloves]**.

Menu

Upgrade Weapons (↓)

Tifa:

Feathered Gloves

-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)

-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Materia & Equipment (↑)

Tifa:

Weapons -> Feathered Gloves (↓)

Reslot Materia

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[Fire] [Wind] [Lightning]

[First Strike] [**SWAP ICE WITH AERITH'S ATB BOOST**]

Aerith:

[Lightning] [Fire] [Wind]

[First Strike] [**SWAP ATB BOOST WITH CLOUD'S ICE**] [Ice]

Battle Settings (↓↓)

Tifa:

L1 + □: Starshower

14. Continue forward through the sewers and ignore the group of Wererats you encounter.
15. Battle the second set of enemies.

Scissorclaw and Wererat x2

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Fire [L1 + X] on the Scissorclaw.

16. Hang to the left side of the fork and continue through the darkened tunnels while the voicelines play.
17. After reaching the door at the end of the path, turn around and open the power room.
18. Skip Dialogue with Aerith.
19. Flip the switch.
20. This time, run out to the opposite side from where you came from.

Scissorclaw x2

- Use Fire [L1 + X] on one Scissorclaw.
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [L1 + L2 + □] on the other Scissorclaw.

21. Flip the switch to lower the water.
22. Skip Cutscene.
23. Slide down the ladder and pick up the Sewer Key.
24. Return to the door across from the power room and open it with the new key.
25. Follow after Tifa down the hall till you get to the waterway.
26. Skip Dialogue with Aerith and Tifa.
27. Continue over the linear path.

Blugu & Wererat x3

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.

Note: Blugus can put party members to sleep.

28. Slide down the ladder and pull the lever in the green glowing box to open the sluice.

29. [Skip Cutscene](#).

30. Slide down the ladder.

Scissorclaw & Blugu x2

- Target Scissorclaw.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [L1 + L2 + □] on Scissorclaw.

31. Continue under the sluice and into the next area.

Scissorclaw x2 & Blugu

- Use Fire [L1 + X] on one Scissorclaw.
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [L1 + L2 + □] on the other Scissorclaw.
- Build up 1 ATB using basic attacks in Operator Mode.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

32. Climb up the ladder and flip the switch in the green glowing box to lower the sluice.

33. [Skip Cutscene](#).

34. Climb up the ladder and then cross the sluice before sliding down another pair of ladders into the waterway.

Sahagin

- Use Fire [L1 + X].
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [L1 + L2 + □].
- Attack until victory.

35. Command Aerith or Tifa to use an Ether on Cloud until he has >30MP.
36. Flip the switch to raise the water,
37. Skip Cutscene.
38. Cross the floating platforms.
39. Skip Cutscene.
40. Climb the ladder and follow after Aerith and Tifa.
41. Skip Cutscene.
42. Heal if needed in the hallway and keep following the party forward to rest stop.
 - a. Skip the bench if you do not need it.
43. Slide down the ladder and back into the sewers.
44. Hang to the left and up a ladder, then squeeze past some pipes blocking the way.

Scissorclaw x2

- Use Fire [L1 + X] on one Scissorclaw.
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [L1 + L2 + □] on the other Scissorclaw.

45. Continue through the open door on the left and down the ladder into the sewer again.
46. Hang left and up another ladder.

Blugu, Wererat x2 & Scissorclaw

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [L1 + L2 + □] on the Scissorclaw.

47. You will encounter a few trash mobs here, just mow them down with magic and attacks as needed.
48. Head down another ladder.
49. Run across directly from where you were and up another ladder, then open the door in front of you.
50. Walk to the control room; Aerith and Tifa will insist they look into the blockage here.

51. **Skip Dialogue** with Aerith and Tifa.
52. Command Aerith or Tifa to use an Ether on Aerith until she has >30MP.
53. Pull the lever.
54. **Skip Dialogue** with Aerith and Tifa.
55. Go to the steam lever minigame.
56. **Skip Tutorial**.
57. Complete the steam lever minigame with Aerith and Tifa.
 - a. This can be kinda tricky. You need to match the arrow up from Aerith in the red section that Tifa makes by mashing X.
 - b. It might take a couple tries, especially on the last one, just be patient and get through it.
58. Return to Cloud and flip the switch to drain the sewer.
59. **Skip Cutscene**.
60. Work your way back towards the now accessible ladder.

Sahagin x2

- Use Fire [L1 + X].
- Switch to Tifa (↓).
- Target the other Sahagin.
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [L1 + R2 + □].
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].
- Repeat attacks and use Whirling Uppercut (△) on remaining Sahagin.

61. Climb down the ladder into the waterway again.

Sahagin & Blugus x2

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [L1 + L2 + □] on Sahagin.
- Switch to Tifa (↓).
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.

- Use Whirling Uppercut (Δ), then Divekick [$L1 + \Delta$].

62. Command Aerith to use an Ether on Cloud until he has >25MP before the next battle.

63. Continue up the ladder and along the path.

Sahagin x3

- Use ATB Boost [$L1 + R1$].
- Command Aerith to cast Fire [$L1 + L2 + \square$].
- Use Triple-Slash [$L1 + \square$].
- Use Fire [$L1 + X$].
- Switch to Tifa (\downarrow).
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Starshower [$L1 + \square$].

64. Approach the ladder at the end of the path.

65. Skip Cutscene.

Chapter 11

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Climb the ladder on the train car, then wait for Aerith and Tifa to climb up and talk about the area.
3. Slide down the ladder after the party.
4. Skip Dialogue with Aerith and Tifa.
5. Continue forward through the train cars.
6. If you move a little too much to the left immediately after exiting the first car, you will have to clear a mob of Wererats.

Wererat x3

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

7. Continue through the next immediate train car and back out.
8. Pick up **[Mythril Rod]** from a chest hidden behind some shipping containers.
9. Move back where you came from and up a ladder across from the train cars you jumped out of, then slide down a ladder on the other end of the top of the car.

Menu

Upgrade Weapons (↓)

Aerith:

Mythril Rod (↑)

-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)

-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Materia & Equipment (↑)

Cloud:

Weapons -> Hardedge (↑)

Reslot Materia

Aerith (R2 R2):
 Weapons -> Mythril Rod (↑)
 Reslot Materia

If Aerith does not know Arcane Ward by this point, do NOT swap her weapon.

10. Approach the door directly in front of you after the previous menu.

Cripshay x3

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

11. Continue forward and under the rubble into the train grave again.

12. Continue through the train car and sidle along the wreckage until you reach the end.

13. You will encounter a few more enemies here.

Cripshay x2 & Wererat x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

14. Follow the party up the ladder, then slide down the other side.

Cripshay x5

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

- Use attacks to build up ATB.
- Repeat Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

15. Climb the ladder on the opposite side of them and walk forward across the rubble.
16. Skip Cutscene.
17. Move forward and approach the Maintenance Hall entrance.
18. Skip Cutscene.
19. Continue forward into the Maintenance Facility.
20. Skip Cutscene.

Ghost

- Use Tactical Mode to throw a Phoenix Down at the Ghost. It will die instantly.

21. Move forward again as Cloud to where you triggered the previous cutscene.
22. Skip Cutscene.

Cripshay x3

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Use Tactical Mode to command Aerith to cast Fira on the first two Cripshays.

23. Move back towards the lit train car by the entrance and move through it until the secondary one lifts away.
24. Exit out the side and climb the stairs to the upper level.
25. Continue to the opposite side from where you climbed and enter the office.
26. Attempt to open the door.

Ghost x2

- Use Tactical Mode to throw Phoenix Downs at the Ghosts.

27. Open the door and exit this office.

28. Run across to the opposite side office and enter.

Ghost

- Use Tactical Mode to throw a Phoenix Down at the Ghost.

29. Run down the stairs and up a nearby ladder, then across the metal makeshift bridges until you can slide down another ladder.

30. Ignore these enemies and climb the stairs to the top.

- Ignore the bench unless absolutely necessary.

31. Enter the power room.

32. Examine the console to start the boss fight.

--- Ghoul: Phase 1 ---

- Approach the Ghoul.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use 3-4 Attacks.
- Use Triple-Slash [$L1 + \square$].

Ghoul should be Pressured.

- Use Tactical Mode to have Aerith throw an Elixir at Ghoul.
- Use ATB Boost [$L1 + R1$].
- If necessary, attack to force Phase 2.

--- Ghoul: Phase 2 ---

- Approach the Ghoul.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use 3-4 Attacks.
- Use Triple-Slash [$L1 + \square$].

Ghoul should be Pressured.

- Use Tactical Mode to have Aerith throw an Elixir at Ghoul.

Note: Ghoul MUST be in a Pressured state in order for Elixirs to work.

33. Skip Cutscene.

34. Exit out the opposite door and return to the crane console, then use it.

35. Skip Dialogue with Aerith and Tifa.

36. Return to the train car on the first floor and make your way to the exit.

37. Skip Cutscene.

38. Squeeze through the doors and out into the train grave again.

39. Use the nearby lever to activate the turning platform.

Wererats, Ghosts, Cripshays

- Use Triple-Slash [$L1 + \square$] on Wererats.
- Use attacks to build up 1 ATB.
- Repeat Triple-Slash [$L1 + \square$] on Cripshays.
- Use ATB Boost [$L1 + R1$].
- Use Tactical Mode to have Aerith and Tifa throw Phoenix Downs at the Ghosts.

40. Make your way up the ladder, down a ladder, and activate the nearby train.

41. Skip Cutscene.

42. Climb up the nearby ladder and run across the train car roofs until you reach another ladder to slide down.

43. Climb into the nearby train, then out the opposite end to find another train to move.

44. Skip Cutscene.

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Aerith:

Accessories (↑) -> Fury Ring (↑) from Cloud

If not done earlier, swap Aerith's weapon for Mythril Rod and reslot materia.

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[Fire] [Wind] [Lightning]

[First Strike] [**SWAP ATB BOOST WITH AERITH'S ICE**]

Aerith:

[Lightning] [Fire] [Wind]

[First Strike] [Ice] [**SWAP ICE WITH CLOUD'S ATB BOOST**]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + O: Blizzara

Aerith:

L1 + □: Fira

L1 + O: Blizzara

L1 + X: Thundara

Tifa:

L1 + X: Thundara

45. As you move forward, you will begin another encounter.

Lesser Drake and Cerulean Drake

- Target Cerulean Drake.
- Use Fire [L1 + X].
- Switch to Aerith (↑).
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1]
- Use Arcane Ward [L1 + △] on Aerith.
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Aero on Cerulean Drake.
- Attack to build up ATB.
- Repeat Aero on Cerulean Drake if necessary.
- Repeat attacks and Aero spells on Lesser Drake.

46. Move forward around the back of the train to find the third train we can move.

47. Skip Cutscene.

48. Make your way back the way you came and climb up the ladder on the nearby train, then down the ladder on the opposite end.

49. OPTIONAL: Use bench before Eligor.

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Tifa:

[ADD SUBVERSION] [Lightning] [Fire]

[ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM CLOUD]

50. Move forward to trigger the boss.

51. Skip Cutscene.

--- Eligor: Phase 1 ---

- Attack.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
 - Cloud should parry Eligor.
- Use Blizzara [$L1 + O$].
- Switch to Aerith (\uparrow).
- Use Blizzara [$L1 + O$].
- Use a fully charged Tempest (hold Δ).
- Switch to Tifa (\uparrow).
- Attack until Tifa has 2 ATB.
- Repeat attacks until Phase 2.

--- Eligor: Phase 2 ---

- Use Tactical Mode to cast Breach.
- Switch to Aerith (\downarrow).
- Attack until Aerith has 2 ATB.
- Use Thundara [$L1 + X$].
- Use ATB Boost [$L1 + R1$].
- Use Arcane Ward [$L1 + \Delta$] on Aerith.

Stand in Arcane Ward.
- Use Blizzara [$L1 + O$].
- Switch to Cloud (\downarrow).
- Use Blizzara [$L1 + O$].

--- Eligor: Phase 3 ---

OPTIONAL: If you have a spare Adrenaline, have Cloud use it on Cloud, then intentionally get hit by Winds of Gehenna. This will build Limit Break for him and allow you to kill the boss a bit faster. If you do, swap it for where you see Triple Slash.

- Switch to Aerith (\uparrow).
- Use a fully charged Tempest (hold Δ).
- Run back to Arcane Ward.

- Use Blizzara [L1 + O].
- Switch to Cloud (↓).
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Repeat attacks until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

52. Skip Cutscene.

53. Move forward slightly past all the shipping containers and to the gate.

54. Skip Cutscene.

Chapter 12

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Move forward into the Sector 7 Slums.
3. Skip Cutscene.

Enigmatic Spectre

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Target a Mysterious Spectre.
- Use 3-4 Attacks and hold attack (□) to enter Berserk status.
- Repeat attacks until a Mysterious Spectre is dead.
- Focus on Enigmatic Spectre.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △] to STAGGER Enigmatic Spectre.
- Repeat attacks until victory.

Make sure you are not attacking the boss unless it is staggered or pressured.

4. Skip Cutscene.
5. Move forward again.
6. Skip Cutscene.

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Cloud:

Weapon -> Iron Blade (↓)

Armor (↓) -> Swap with Aerith's Caliginous Bracelet (↓)

Accessories (↓) -> Add Fury Ring (↓) from Aerith

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[Fire] [Wind] [Lightning]

[ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM TIFA] [SWAP ICE WITH AERITH'S ATB BOOST]

Tifa:

[REMOVE SUBVERSION, ADD AERITH'S FIRST STRIKE] [Lightning] [SWAP FIRE WITH AERITH'S ICE]

Barret:

[ADD LIGHTNING FROM AERITH] [ADD FIRE FROM AERITH] [ADD ICE FROM AERITH]
[ADD WIND FROM AERITH]

Aerith:

[Empty] [Empty] [Empty] [Fire]
[Empty] [Empty] [Empty]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + △: Thunder

L1 + O: Fira

Tifa:

L1 + O: Blizzara

Barret:

L1 + O: Aero

L1 + X: Thundara

7. Continue forward up the tower and shimmy past the crates.

Elite Security Officer x3 & Sentry Gun

- Head to the top of the stairs at the back.
- Wait for all three Elite Security Officers to group up.
- Use Fira [L1 + O].

8. Continue up the stairs and into another encounter.

Elite Riot Trooper x2 & Elite Grenadier

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fire [L1 + X] on Elite Riot Trooper.
- Repeat Fire [L1 + X] on Elite Grenadier.
- If necessary, repeat basic attacks until victory.

9. Continue up the stairs and under some rubble.

10. Skip Cutscene.

11. Select the First Option -> "I won't."

12. Skip Cutscene.

13. Continue forward past Biggs and up a nearby ladder.

14. Continue forward.

Helitrooper x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on Helitrooper.
- Repeat Fira [L1 + O] on second Helitrooper.

15. Continue up the stairs.

Helitrooper & Elite Security Officer x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on Helitrooper.
- Use Fire [L1 + X] on Elite Security Officer.
- Repeat attacks until victory if necessary.

16. Continue forward and up the ladder, then up a single set of stairs.
17. Skip Cutscene.
18. Here you will take control of Aerith, but just move her forward slightly after Wedge.
19. Skip Cutscene.
20. As Aerith, continue moving forward to a small group of people.
21. Skip Cutscene.
22. Then continue towards Seventh Heaven.
23. Skip Cutscene.
24. Follow the linear path around the rubble and destruction.
25. Skip Cutscene.
26. Take the girl to Marle at the tunnel. Try using the escaping citizens to push you faster.
27. Skip Cutscene.
28. Run back towards Seventh Heaven and the downed helicopter.
29. Skip Cutscene.
30. Again, run to Seventh Heaven to rescue Marlene, she is hiding under the bar in the back.
31. Skip Cutscene.
32. Walk out of the bar to encounter Tseng.
33. Skip Cutscene.
34. Continue forward with Tifa having joined the party.
35. Command Tifa to use 2 Ethers on Cloud as you move through the next section.
36. Continue up the tower and ignore all Sentry Guns.
37. Climb the nearby ladder and hang right.
38. Continue forward and hang to the right to avoid the sentry guns.
39. Climb the stairs.

- Use Fire [L1 + X] on Elite Riot Trooper.
- Repeat Fire [L1 + X] on second Elite Riot Trooper.

40. Hang left immediately to vault some debris.

41. Climb the nearby ladder to follow after Tifa.

42. [Skip Cutscene](#).

43. Move forward.

Elite Riot Trooper x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Command Tifa to use Thundara [L1 + R2 + X] on Elite Riot Trooper.
- Use Fire [L1 + X] on the other Elite Riot Trooper.
- Use Attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.

44. After the previous battle, hide from the helicopter.

45. After a few seconds of Reno complaining, more enemies will spawn.

Helitrooper & Elite Grenadier

- Use Fira [L1 + O] on Helitrooper.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks on Elite Grenadier until victory.

46. Move up the stairs under the debris.

Elite Shock Trooper, Sentry Gun x2, & Helitrooper x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Command Tifa to use Thundara [L1 + R2 + X] on a Sentry Gun.
- Use Thunder [L1 + △] on the remaining Sentry Gun.
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on the Elite Shock Trooper.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks until the Elite Shock Trooper is defeated.

The Helitroopers will spawn.

- Use Fira [L1 + O] on a Helitrooper.
- Parry (Hold R1) in Punisher Mode.
- Attack until victory.

47. Continue upwards using the debris.

48. [Skip Cutscene](#).

49. Continue up the stairs and rest on the bench.

Menu
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Cloud: Weapons -> Hardedge (↑) Reslot Materia</p>
<p><u>Battle Settings (↓↓↓)</u></p> <p>Cloud: L1 + △: Focused Thrust L1 + O: Aero</p> <p>Barret:</p>

L1 + O: Aero

50. Climb to the top floor to meet up with Barret and a boss fight.

51. [Skip 2 Cutscenes.](#)

--- Reno and Rude: Phase 1 ---

OPTIONAL: Use Tactical Mode to command Tifa to use an Adrenaline on Cloud.

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Wait until Reno uses an attack that has ending lag, such as Flashstrike.
- Use Aero [L1 + O].
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks until Reno is STAGGERED.
- Repeat attacks until Phase 2.

--- Reno and Rude: Phase 2 ---

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Run as far away as you can from where Reno hopped the fence.
- Use Overcharge (△) on the helicopter as it flies overhead.
- Once Reno jumps back over the fence, wait a very short amount of time.
- Use Aero [L1 + O].

Reno should be Pressured.

- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △].

If done correctly, this will skip Reno's Pyramid attack.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Rude returns in the Helicopter.

Cloud should build up Limit Break. Save it for the next phase.

- Command Barret to use Thunder [L1 + R2 + □].

--- Reno and Rude: Phase 3 ---

- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break on Rude.

If you are lucky, both Reno and Rude will be hit by Cloud's Limit Break.

- Switch to Tifa (↑).
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Starshower [L1 + □].
- Attack until victory.

52. Try and end the fight as close to the console at the back as possible.

53. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

54. Run towards Tifa nearby the railing overlooking the Sector 7 Slums.

55. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

Chapter 13

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Follow Tifa through the rubble and to Barret.
3. Skip Cutscene.

Menu
<u>Battle Settings (↓↓↓)</u>
Cloud:
L1 + X: Thundara
Barret:
L1 + X: Thundara

4. Slide through the rubble and continue more out of Sector 7 and towards Wall Market.
5. Skip Cutscene.
6. Follow Barret through Wall Market avoiding the Shinra security.
7. Skip Dialogue with Barret.
8. Trek back to Sector 5 to return to Aerith's house.
9. Enter the house.
10. Skip Cutscene.
11. Move up the stairs and check on Marlene.
12. Skip Cutscene.
13. Leave Aerith's house and return to the Collapsed Expressway.
14. After entering, you will encounter a battle.

Gorger x4
➤ Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

15. Slide down the ladder and climb the one opposite to it, past the first mecha arm, only to find your path blocked.
16. Head left here and squeeze through some rubble.
17. Continue forward and ignore the Ringmaw enemies you see.
18. Run from the next two encounters you see here, past those seahorse looking enemies until you come across a Sweeper and Smogger pair.

Sweeper Prototype & Smogger

- Attack to close distance to Sweeper Prototype.
- Target Sweeper Prototype.
- Command Tifa to use Thundara [L1 + L2 + X].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Cloud has 2 ATB.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X] on Smogger.

19. Slide down the ladder and continue forward under the debris into the bandit territory.
20. Run forward past the bandits until you run into Beck and his gang again.

Beck and the Bandit Gang

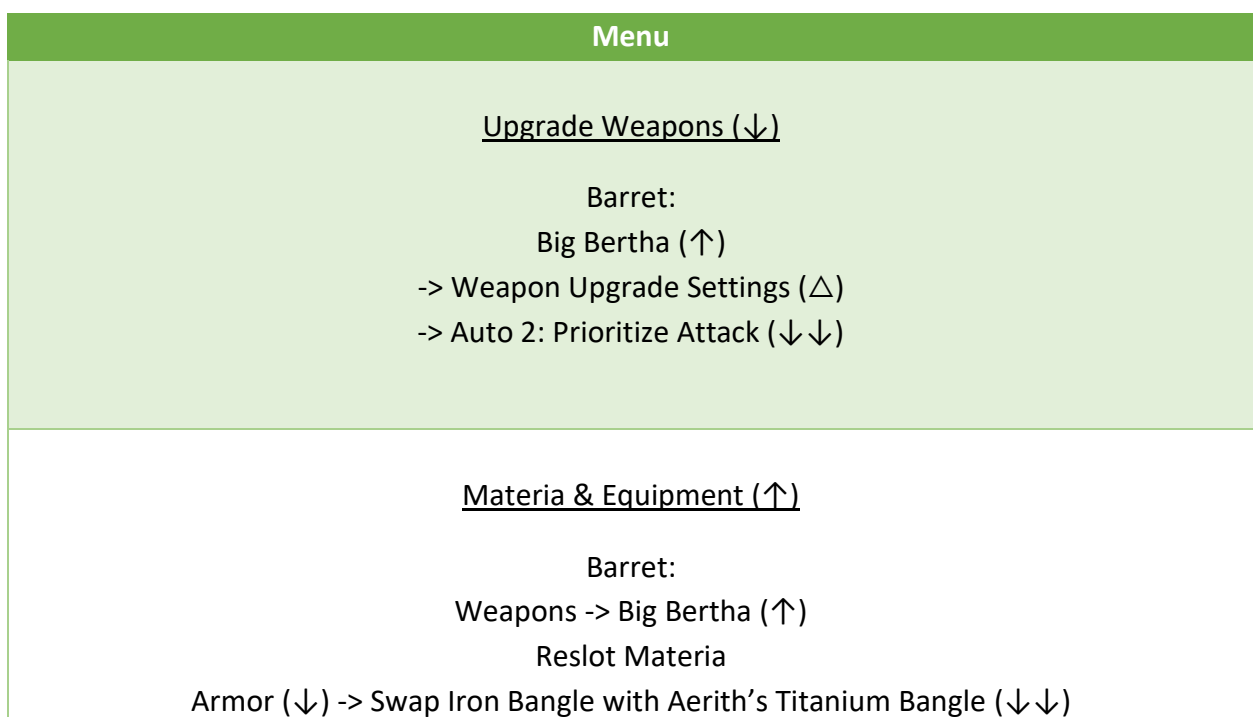
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Use Attacks to build up ATB.
- Repeat Triple-Slash [L1 + □] until victory.

21. Climb the nearby ladder.

Ringmaw x3

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

22. Slide down the nearby ladder.
23. Pick up the blue **[Magnify]** materia on the ground.
24. Climb up the nearby ladders and push forward out of the Collapsed Expressway into the playground.
25. *Skip Cutscene.*
26. Talk to the Weapon Shop owner next to the objective.



Accessories (↓) -> Add Fury Ring from Cloud (↓)

Tifa (R2):

Armor (↑) -> Mythril Armlet (↓↓↓)

Cloud (L2 L2):

Armor -> Gothic Bangle (↓↓)

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[Fire] [Wind] [Lightning]

[**GIVE FIRST STRIKE TO BARRET**] [**GIVE ATB BOOST TO BARRET**]

Barret:

[Lightning] [Fire] [Ice] [**ADD ATB BOOST FROM CLOUD**] [**ADD IFRIT FROM CLOUD**]

[Wind] [**SWAP WIND FOR CLOUD'S FIRST STRIKE**]

Tifa:

[First Strike] [Lightning] [**MOVE ICE TO LINKED SLOT BELOW**]

[Ice] + [**ADD MAGNIFY**]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Barret:

L1 + □: Maximum Fury

L1 + O: Blizzara

Tifa:

L1 + O: Blizzara-Magnify (L1)

27. Take the shortcut under the playground.

28. **Skip 2 Cutscenes.**

29. Continue forward through the underground and follow after Barret up the ladder.

30. Walk into Sector 7 Slums.
31. *Skip Cutscene.*
32. Follow behind Barret.
33. *Skip Cutscene.*
34. Push the rubble with Barret, then follow after Wedge's cat.
35. Progress into the underground and find Wedge!
36. *Skip Cutscene.*
37. *Skip Tutorial.*
38. Shoot down the wall.
39. Flee from the Wererats and run to the back of the hallway.

Bugaboo x4

- Use Overcharge (△).

40. Continue forward until you bust another wall down.

Bloodhound x2

- Use Overcharge (△) on the first Bloodhound.
- *If necessary, attack until 2 ATB.*
- When Barret has 2 ATB, use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].

41. Climb up the ladder and progress forward.

Bugaboo x3 & Bloodhound

- Use Overcharge (△) on a Bugaboo.
- *If necessary, attack until 2 ATB.*
- When Barret has 2 ATB, use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].

42. Continue forward to another wall shooting section.

Gorger x2

- Use Overcharge (△).

43. Continue forward.

Gorger & Bugaboo x2

- Use Overcharge (△) on the Gorger.

44. Destroy the fan blocking your path and climb the ladder behind it.

45. Flee from the encounter and head up the stairs.

46. Continue forward until you encounter Tifa.

47. Climb the stairs and shoot the explosive to destroy the bug nest.

48. Skip Cutscene.

49. Follow the linear path to Tifa.

50. Flee from these enemies and continue up the stairs to the three fans.

51. Destroy the middle fan.

52. Flee from the Bloodhounds and climb up the stairs. Wait by the ladder to climb.

53. Climb up another ladder.

Cutter & Monodrive x2

- Use Overcharge (△) on a Monodrive.
- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □] on the remaining Monodrive.
- Switch to Tifa (↑).
- Attack 3-4 Times.
- Command Barret to use Thundara [L1 + L2 + X].
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].

54. Slide down the ladder and continue along the linear path, ignoring the next set of encounters and moving up the stairs.
55. Keep moving forward past the slightly ajar door.
56. *Skip Cutscene.*

--- Unknown Entity ∞ and Failed Experiment: Phase 1 ---

- Use Overcharge (△).
- *If necessary, attack until 2 ATB.*
- When Barret has 2 ATB, use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].
- Command Tifa to use Starshower [L1 + R2 + □].
- Attack, and cancel reload animation with Charge (△).
- Repeat attacks and Charges until Phase 2.

--- Unknown Entity ∞ and Failed Experiment: Phase 2 ---

- Run to the left so Barret has vision of the three Unknown Entities.
- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].
- Attack until Barret has Overcharge.
- Use Overcharge (△).
- *If there are any Unknown Entities out of reach, use Thundara [L1 + X].*
- Repeat Attacks until there is only one Unknown Entity remaining.
- Switch to Tifa (↑).
- Move Tifa back towards the yellow staircase blocker in the back.

Ensure Barret has 2 ATB before Phase 3.

--- Unknown Entity ∞ and Failed Experiment: Phase 3 ---

- Use Tactical Mode to cast Blizzara-Magnify on Failed Experiment's Appendage.
 - *Note: Tifa should build Limit Break from Magnified Blizzara.*
- Use Tactical Mode to command Barret to use Blizzara on Failed Experiment Appendage.

- Repeat Barret's Blizzara on Failed Experiment Appendage.

Failed Experiment should either be Pressured from the appendage breaking, or the spells will do enough splash damage to force Phase 4.

- If necessary, perform the following steps:
 - Switch to Barret (↑).
 - Target the exposed Heart.
 - Attack until Failed Experiment is STAGGERED.
 - Attack until Phase 4.

--- Unknown Entity ∞ and Failed Experiment: Phase 4 ---

- Use Tactical Mode to cast Blizzara-Magnify on Failed Experiment's Appendage.
- Command Barret to use ATB Boost [L1 + L2 + R1].
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Somersault Limit Break on Failed Experiment.
- When Barret has 1 ATB, command him to use Maximum Fury [L1 + L2 + □].
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Starshower [L1 + □].
- Repeat attacks until victory.

If necessary, switch to Barret (↑), build up ATB using attacks, and use another Blizzara [L1 + O] spell.

57. Walk forward with Barret and shoot the exposed wall.

58. Skip Cutscene.

59. Continue forward with Wedge on your back until a few voice lines happen.

60. Skip Cutscene.

Chapter 14

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Continue outside and walk over towards Barret.
3. Skip Cutscene.
4. Run back to the center of town towards Kyrie's speech.
5. Skip Cutscene.
6. Skip Tutorial.
7. Talk to the Stablehand.
8. Skip Dialogue with Stablehand.
9. Skip Tutorial.
10. Fast travel all the way back to Wall Market.
11. Skip Cutscene.
12. Run back towards Don Corneo's mansion, but make a stop at the Weapon Shop.

Menu
<p><u>Buy</u></p> <p>Weapons</p> <p>Mythril Saber (↓↓)</p>

13. Make your way back to Don Corneo's office to find Leslie.
14. Skip Cutscene.
15. Talk to Leslie to enter the sewers again.
16. Skip 2 Cutscenes.

Menu
<p><u>Upgrade Weapons (↓)</u></p> <p>Cloud:</p> <p>Mythril Saber (↑)</p> <p>-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)</p> <p>-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)</p>

Tifa (L2 L2):
 Mythril Claws (↓↓)
 -> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)
 -> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Materia & Equipment (↑)

Cloud:
 Weapons -> Mythril Saber (↓)
 Reslot Materia
 Accessories (↑) -> Add Fury Ring from Barret (↓)

Tifa (L2 L2):
 Weapons -> Mythril Claws (↓)
 Reslot Materia

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:
 [Fire] [Wind] [Lightning] [Empty] [**ADD IFRIT FROM BARRET**]
 [**ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM BARRET**] [**ADD ATB BOOST FROM BARRET**] [Empty]

Barret:
 [Lightning] [Fire] [Ice] [Empty]
 [Wind] [Empty]

Tifa:
 [First Strike] [Lightning] [**MOVE ICE HERE**] [**ADD FIRE FROM AERITH**]
 [Empty] + [Magnify]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:
 L1 + O: Fira

Barret:
L1 + O: Fira

Tifa:
L1 + O: Fira

17. Follow behind Leslie then move ahead without him and through the drained waterway.
18. **Skip Dialogue** with Leslie.

Sahagin

- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O].
- Attack until victory.

19. Note: Blade Burst, Cloud's new ability from the Mythril Saber, deals non-elemental magic-based damage in a tri-tipped, cone-shaped AoE from the point of impact.
20. Continue up the ladder, through the tunnels and down another ladder down into the waterway again.
21. Ignore the next 3 encounters and keep running through the tunnels, past the opened Corneo Door, then up a ladder.

Blugu & Scissorclaw x2

- Use Fira [L1 + O] on Scissorclaw.
- Command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O] on remaining Scissorclaw.
- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△) on Blugu.

22. Continue more into the waterway.

Blugu & Wererat x3

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

23. Climb the ladder and move back through the door you opened last time.

24. *Skip Dialogue.*

25. Move through the Corneo Door further down.

26. *Skip Dialogue* with Leslie.

Scissorclaw x3

- Use Tactical Mode to cast Blade Burst.
- Command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O] on remaining Scissorclaw.

If timed correctly, both Scissorclaws will die instantly.

27. Continue through the nearby door and Leslie will take the lead.

28. *Skip Cutscene.*

29. Chase down the linear path after the Mischievous Shoat.

30. Ignore the first set of enemies you encounter.

Sahagin x3

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Repeat Fira [L1 + O].
- Command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Parry (Hold R1).
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Cross-Slash Limit Break.

31. Continue forward and up the nearby ladder.
32. Here we will have a chase section where we vault and scurry under debris a lot, but also occasionally have fight some Abzu Shoats.

Abzu Shoat

- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O].

33. Command Barret to use an Ether on both Tifa and Cloud.
34. Continue the chase.

Abzu Shoat x2 & Blugu

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on Abzu Shoat.
- Command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O] on second Abzu Shoat.
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Fire on Abzu Shoat.
- Attack Blugu until victory.

35. Proceed to the next room.

Abzu Shoat x2 & Sahagin

- Walk to the left side of the room.
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on Sahagin after he lands.
- Repeat Fira [L1 + O].
- If necessary, command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O].

- 36. Command Tifa or Barret to use an Ether on Cloud.
- 37. Continue chasing the Mischievous Shoat from before.

Scissorclaw x2 & Abzu Shoat

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fire [L1 + X] on Scissorclaw.
- Use Fire [L1 + X] on remaining Scissorclaw.
- Command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O] on Abzu Shoat.
- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△) on Abzu Shoat.
- Attack until victory.

- 38. Command Barret to use an Ether on Tifa.
- 39. Slide down the ladder into the waterway.

Blugu x2, Sahagin, & Scissorclaw

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Blade Burst on Scissorclaw.
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on Sahagin.
- Command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O] on Sahagin.

- 40. Chase the Mischievous Shoat through the door and into the sewers again.
- 41. Skip Cutscene.
- 42. Slowly sneak up one side of the sewer to try and trap the Shoat.
- 43. Command Barret to heal up the party to full HP while you are walking towards it.
- 44. Run back after the Mischievous Shoat.

Mischievous Shoat & Abzu Shoat x3

- Target Abzu Shoats.
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].

- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Repeat Fira [L1 + O].
- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].
- Switch to Tifa (↓).
- Target Mischievous Shoat.
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Switch to Cloud (↓).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Attack and repeat Firas until Mischievous Shoat is defeated.

45. **Skip Cutscene.**

46. Follow the linear path back towards the door you originally approached.

47. Use the bench.

- a. As long as you stay ahead of him, you have time to use it before Leslie gets back.

48. Wait for Leslie to enter the door, then follow after him after a voiceline from Barret.

49. **Skip Cutscene.**

--- Abzu II: Phase 1 ---

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Parry until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Command Tifa to cast Fira [L1 + L2 + O].

Abzu should be Pressured.

- Attack until Cloud has 2 ATB.
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Repeat attacks until Abzu has fully transitioned to Phase 2.

Note: You want to hit the HP threshold for Phase 2 without staggering Abzu.

--- Abzu II: Phase 2 ---

- Run up to Abzu.
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
 - *If necessary, use Focused Thrust [L1 + Δ].*

Abzu should be STAGGERED.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Use 7 Attacks.
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Command Tifa to use Fira [L1 + L2 + O].
- Repeat attacks until Phase 3.

--- Abzu II: Phase 3 ---

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (Δ).
- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].
- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Parry (Hold R1) until Cloud has Limit Break.
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Repeat Fira [L1 + O].
- Repeat attacks.

Abzu should be in Pressured or Enraged.

- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break.
 - *Otherwise, buildup ATB with attacks and cast Fira until victory.*

50. Run to through the only door available
51. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
52. Shortcut head back up to the surface.
53. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
54. Move forward and confirm with Barret to head up the wall.
55. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Barret.
56. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

Chapter 15

1. [Skip Cutscene](#).
2. Slowly walk forward through the rubble of Sector 7.
3. [Skip Dialogue](#) with neighborhood watch guy.
4. Continue into the rubble and approach the Vending Machine.

Menu
<p><u>Sell (↓)</u></p> <p>Materia (↑):</p> <p>Healing</p> <p>Subversion</p> <p>Prayer</p> <p>Weapons / Armor (L2):</p> <p>Iron Bangle</p> <p>Items (L2):</p> <p>Potions, Non-Restorative Items (i.e. Antidotes, Grenades, etc.) up to 15,000 Gil.</p>
<p><u>Buy (↑)</u></p> <p>Materia (↑):</p> <p>Time (↑↑↑↑)</p> <p>Items (R2 R2):</p> <p>Up to 30 Ethers</p> <p>[OPTIONAL]: Phoenix Downs</p>

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Tifa:

[First Strike] [Lightning] [Ice] [Fire]
[ADD TIME] + [Magnify]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + △: Aero

Barret:

L1 + △: Aero

5. Climb the ladder after the previous menu.
6. Move forward.

Byobapolis x3

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Command Tifa to use Fira [L1 + L2 + O] on a second Byobapolis.
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on a third Byobapolis.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until victory.

7. Continue up 2 sets of ladders.

Cerulean Drake x2

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Use Aero [L1 + △].
- Switch to Tifa (↓).
- Use Starshower [L1 + □].
 - Alternatively, use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].
- Switch to Barret (↑).
- Target remaining Cerulean Drake.
- Attack until Barret has 1 ATB.
- Use Aero [L1 + △].
- Repeat attacks and charge (△).
- Use Overcharge (△).

8. Climb the nearby ladder and continue forward.
9. Slip under the rubble and move to the gap.
10. Skip Dialogue.
11. Skip Tutorial.
12. Grapple to the nearby location!
13. Skip Cutscene.
14. Move forward.

3-C SOLDIER Operator x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Repeat Fira [L1 + O] on second SOLDIER.

15. Ignore the radio and continue forward,
16. Command Barret to use an Ether on Cloud for safety.
17. Grapple to the next ledge!
18. Skip Cutscene.

Shinra Enemy Gauntlet

First group of enemies.

- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on remaining enemy.

Run forward to the next group of enemies.

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on Helitrooper when it can be hit.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack remaining Elite Security Officers until victory.
- Command Barret to use an Ether on Cloud.

Run forward to the next group of enemies.

- Use Fira [L1 + O] on the group of four enemies.
- Use attacks, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher on the final enemy.

Run up to the final group of enemies.

- Use Fira [L1 + O] on Helitrooper.
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Cross-Slash Limit Break on Elite Grenadier (the enemies should be clustered here).

19. Continue forward and use another Ether on anyone that needs more MP.

a. Try to have >30MP on everyone.

20. Grapple to the next ledge and begin another encounter.

Slug-Ray x3 & Shock-Ray x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Command Tifa to use Thundara [L1 + L2 + X].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Repeat Thundara [L1 + X].
- Switch to Barret (↓).

- Use Overcharge (Δ).
- Attack until all enemies are defeated.

21. Command Barret to use an Ether on Tifa and Cloud.

22. Continue forward and up the stairs while fleeing from the next set of enemies.

Blast-Ray

- Use ATB Boost [$L1 + R1$].
- Command Tifa to use Thundara [$L1 + L2 + X$].
- Use Thundara [$L1 + X$].
- Repeat Thundara [$L1 + X$].

23. Head up the ladder.

24. Use an Ether on anyone that needs more MP.

a. Try to have >25MP on everyone.

25. Continue following the linear path and under some rubble.

Byobapolis x2 & Cerulean Drake

- Use ATB Boost [$L1 + R1$].
- Use Fira [$L1 + O$] on Byobapolis.
- Repeat Fira [$L1 + O$] on a second Byobapolis.
- Switch to Barret (\downarrow).
- Use Overcharge (Δ).
- Wait for Cerulean Drake to stand still.
- Use Aero [$L1 + \Delta$].
- Switch to Tifa (\downarrow).
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Starshower [$L1 + \square$].
- Attack until victory.

26. Continue forward past the rubble and shimmy around.

Byobapolis

- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Simply walk across while waiting for your party to kill the enemy.

27. Skip Cutscene.

28. Chase sequence begins. Try to avoid its direct gunfire and move forward.

29. Recover MP for Cloud if needed.

Blast-Ray x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Command Tifa to use Thundara [L1 + L2 + X].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Repeat Thundara [L1 + X].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Attack the remaining Blast-Ray to build up 2 ATB.
 - Parry (Hold R1) if necessary.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Command Tifa to use Thundara [L1 + L2 + X] when she has 1 ATB.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].

30. Command Barret to use an Ether on Cloud.

31. Climb to the top of the nearby ladder.

Elite Helitroopers x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O].

- Repeat Fira [L1 + O].

32. OPTIONAL: Use the bench around the corner of the building.
33. Recover everyone's MP above 30 here.
34. Move forward and grapple up to the boss fight.
35. Skip Cutscene.
36. Run from the Valkyrie again.
37. Skip Cutscene.

--- The Valkyrie: Phase 1 ---

- Use Tactical Mode to command Tifa to cast Magnify-Haste.
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Repeat Thundara [L1 + X].

--- The Valkyrie: Phase 2 ---

- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Attack until Barret has 2 ATB.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Repeat Thundara [L1 + X].

The Valkyrie should be Pressured.

- Command Tifa to use Thundara [L1 + R2 + X].
- Attack, using Charge (△) to cancel reload animation, until Barret has 2 ATB.
- Make sure Barret has 2 ATB before Phase 3.

--- The Valkyrie: Phase 3 ---

- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].
 - This should stop The Valkyrie's shield from activating.

- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Wait underneath the boss until the laser begins.
- Run out of the laser's range.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].

The Valkyrie should be STAGGERED.

- Command Tifa and Barret to use Thundara [L1 + L2/R2 + X] whenever they have ATB.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Repeat Thundara spells until victory.

38. Skip Cutscene.

Chapter 16

1. Skip Cutscene.

Menu
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)</p> <p>Cloud: [Fire] + [ADD MAGNIFY FROM TIFA] [Lightning] [MOVE CLOUD'S WIND HERE] [First Strike] [ATB Boost] [Empty]</p> <p>Barret: [Lightning] [Fire] [Ice] [Empty] [Wind] [Empty]</p> <p>Tifa: [First Strike] [Lightning] [Ice] [Fire] [Time] + [Empty]</p>
<p><u>Battle Settings (↓↓↓)</u></p> <p>Cloud: L1 + O: Fira-Magnify (L1)</p>

- Follow the linear path down and across the bridge.
- Skip Cutscene.

Elite Security Officer x3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1]. ➤ Use Fira [L1 + O].

- Attack until victory.

4. Continue forward following the linear path. Several groups of encounters will follow.

Shrina Enemy Gauntlet II

- Use Fira [L1 + O] on the cluster of enemies in front of you.
- Use Attacks on Elite Grenadiers, then hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher.

Proceed through the gate to the next set of enemies.

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Hold attack (□) for the charged attack finisher as necessary.

Head to the next set of two 3-C SOLDIER Operators.

- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Repeat attacks until victory.

Command Barret to use 2 Ethers on Cloud, then head through the gate to the next encounter.

- Head to the right side, then use Fira [L1 + O].
- Repeat Fira [L1 + O].
- Repeat attacks until this initial group of enemies is defeated.
- Command Barret [L1 + L2 + O] and Tifa [L1 + R2 + O] to use Fira on remaining enemies while attacking.

Head under the garage door to the next area.

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on middle Elite Riot Trooper.
- Attack Guard Dog until it is STAGGERED.
- Use Fira [L1 + O] on staggered Guard Dog.
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Cross-Slash Limit Break on 3-C SOLDIER Operator.

- Command Barret [L1 + L2 + O] and Tifa [L1 + R2 + O] to use Fira on remaining enemies while attacking.
- Repeat attacks until victory.

5. Command Tifa or Barret to use Ethers as needed in-between battles.
6. Continue forward into Shinra HQ!
7. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
8. Run to the kiosk surrounded by the barrier in the center and wait for Tifa's voice lines.
9. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Tifa.
10. Take this time to heal MP as needed, keep everyone above 30 MP!
11. Approach the door to the elevators directly in the center.
12. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
13. Take control of Tifa and complete this LONG and tedious climbing section until you can open the middle kiosk and get the keycard.
14. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
15. Run back to the central door up the stairs and use the elevator.
16. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

Elevator Battles 1 & 2

- Battle 1: Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Return to the elevator.
- [Skip Cutscene.](#)
- Battle 2: Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Return to the elevator.

17. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
18. Talk to the receptionist AI and upgrade your keycard.
19. [Skip Dialogue](#) with AI receptionist.
20. There will be a nice break of walking and chances to heal / recover MP here.
21. Walk up the escalator and continue on.
22. [Skip Cutscene.](#)
23. Approach the door to the museum and enter.

24. Skip Cutscene.
25. Go immediately to the back of the museum.
 - a. ~55 second unskippable scene.
26. Continue forward into the second part of the museum.
 - a. ~55 second unskippable scene.
27. As soon as you can, leave the room.
28. Skip Cutscene.
29. Run to the opposite side and update your keycard leaving the museum.
30. Skip Dialogue.
31. Climb the stairs and make your way to the theater.
32. Skip Cutscene.
33. Try to leave and update your keycard.
34. Skip Dialogue.
35. Skip Cutscene.
36. Enter the Mayor's office.
37. Skip Cutscene.
38. Leave the Mayor's office and make your way up to the 63rd floor.
39. Skip Cutscene.
40. Enter the leisure hall of Shinra HQ.
41. Skip Cutscene.
42. Hug the right side and make your way up the stairs to the battle sim.
43. Skip Dialogue with Collaborator.
44. Enter the battle sim and use the console.
45. Skip Cutscene.
46. Select the only option available.

Cutter x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △].
- Command Tifa to use Thundara [L1 + L2 + X].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until the first Cutter is defeated.
- Attack until Cloud builds up 2 ATB, then repeat above steps until victory.

47. Talk to the collaborator again to get a new keycard.
48. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Collaborator.
49. [Skip Tutorial](#).
50. Make your way down the stairs again.
51. [Skip Cutscene](#).
52. Go out the way you came.
53. [Skip Cutscene](#).
54. Go up the escalator to the 64th floor and move forward through the door.
55. [Skip Dialogue](#).
56. Make your way to the men's bathroom.
57. [Skip Dialogue](#).
58. Check the final stall for the secret passage.
59. [Skip Cutscene](#).
60. Climb through the air ducts until you reach the end.
61. [Skip Cutscene](#).
62. Leave the bathroom and follow after Hojo.
63. [Skip Cutscene](#).

Menu
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Cloud:</p> <p>Weapons -> Hardedge (↑)</p> <p>Reslot Materia</p>
<p><u>Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)</u></p> <p>Cloud:</p> <p>[ADD ICE FROM TIFA] + [Magnify] [Lightning] [Wind]</p> <p>[First Strike] [ATB Boost] [MOVE CLOUD'S FIRE HERE]</p> <p>Tifa:</p> <p>[First Strike] [Lightning] [Empty] [Fire]</p> <p>[Time] + [Empty]</p>

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + O: Blizzara-Magnify (L1)

- 64. Follow up the stairs.
- 65. OPTIONAL: Use the nearby bench.
- 66. Continue into Hojo's lab.
- 67. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

--- Specimen H0512: Phase 1 ---

- Use Tactical Mode to command Tifa to cast Haste on Cloud.
- Use Blizzara [L1 + O] on H0512-OPT enemies.
 - *If done correctly, Cloud will have Limit Break.*
- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break on Specimen H0512.
 - Avoid using it on the claw.

--- Specimen H0512: Phase 2 ---

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Parry (Hold R1) when Specimen H0512 begins to use "Rake".
 - Cloud should parry the attack.
- Use Blizzara [L1 + O] on H0512-OPT enemies.
- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break on Specimen H0512.
- If necessary, switch to Tifa (↑).
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].

--- Specimen H0512: Phase 3 ---

- Run away from the enemies.
- Parry (Hold R1) when Specimen H0512 begins to use "Rake."

- Cloud should parry the attack.
- Use Blizzara [L1 + O] on H0512-OPT enemies.
- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break on Specimen H0512.

68. Skip Cutscene.

69. Use the bench by the elevator before chasing after Hojo.

Menu
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Cloud:</p> <p>Weapons -> Mythril Saber (↓)</p> <p>Reslot Materia</p>

70. Use the elevator.

71. Skip Cutscene.

Elite Security Officer x4 & Elite Riot Trooper x2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use Tactical Mode to cast Blade Burst. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aim to hit multiple targets. ➤ Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1]. ➤ Use Blizzara (L1 + O).

72. Skip Cutscene.

Armored Shock Trooper x2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use Tactical Mode to cast Thundaga. ➤ Attack to build up 1 ATB.

- Use Tactical Mode to cast Thundaga.

73. Skip Cutscene.

74. Follow Aerith and Red XIII after Hojo.

75. Skip Cutscene.

76. Shamble forward towards the elevator.

77. Skip Cutscene.

Chapter 17

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Talk to Aerith twice.
3. Skip Dialogue with Aerith.
4. Skip Cutscene.
5. Walk forward towards the TVs.
6. Skip Cutscene.

Menu
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Cloud: Weapons -> Hardedge (↑) Reslot Materia</p> <p>Aerith (L2): Armor (↓) -> Cog Bangle (↑↑↑)</p> <p>Tifa: (If Starshower is not learned) Weapons -> Feathered Gloves</p> <p>(If Starshower is learned) Weapons -> Metal Knuckles (↓)</p>
<p><u>Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)</u></p> <p>Barret: [Lightning] [Fire] [Ice] [ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM TIFA] [Wind] [Empty]</p> <p>Tifa: [Empty] [Lightning] [Empty] [Fire]</p>

[Time] + [Empty]

7. NOTE: For this chapter, when we swap materia between the two parties, we want both active members to have First Strike and Lightning Materia, Cloud or Aerith to have ATB Boost Materia, and Barret or Aerith to have LINKED Magnify and Time Materia.
 - a. By the end of Ward 3 we need at least 1 maxed Lightning and Fire Materia, as well as a level 2 Wind Materia, but you should have them already by now.
8. Follow everyone out the door and back to Hojo's lab.
9. Take the elevator.
10. Skip Cutscene.
11. Approach the wreckage by Barret and Red.
12. Skip Cutscene.

Unknown Entity x4

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

13. Skip Cutscene.
14. Follow after Hojo to the big elevator from before.
15. Skip Cutscene.
16. Slow walk around and approach Jenova's containment chamber.
17. Skip Cutscene.
18. Run to the right and pull the switch.
19. Jump across the tubes and continue forward until, fleeing from the Monodrives.
20. Keep pushing forward and under some rubble, encounter Red XIII.

Unknown Entity x2

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].

21. Skip Dialogue with Red XIII.

22. Follow the linear path to the next switch.
23. [Skip Tutorial](#).
24. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Red XIII.
25. Send Red XIII across to flip the lever and continue across until you run into Barret.

Monodrive x2 & Mark II Monodrive x2

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + □].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X] on Mark II Monodrive.
- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].

Unknown Entity x2 & M.O.T.H. Unit

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Unknown Entities are defeated.
- Target M.O.T.H. Unit.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Parry (Hold R1) whenever it uses its spinning blade attack.
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Switch to Barret (↓).
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].

26. [Skip Dialogue](#) with Barret and Red XIII.
27. Continue out the door of Ward 1.
28. Open the nearby chest for **[Twin Stinger]**.
29. Run up the stairs and send Red across to flip the switch.

30. Skip Cutscene.
31. Red XIII will flip the switch. Travel across and use the PHS voice terminal to talk to Tifa.
32. Skip Dialogue with Tifa.
33. Skip Cutscene.
34. Swap parties to Tifa and Aerith.
35. Skip Dialogue.
36. Move upstairs and pull the lever near Ward 3.
37. Swap parties again using the PHS terminal.
38. Skip Dialogue.
39. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Red XIII.
40. Skip Cutscene.

Shock-Ray x2 & Blast-Ray

- Switch to Barret (↑).
- Use Overcharge (△) on Shock-Ray.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X] on Blast-Ray.
- Switch to Cloud (↑).
- Use Thundara [L1 + X] on Shock-Ray.
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X] on Blast-Ray.
- Repeat Thundara [L1 + X] on Blast-Ray.

41. Pull the nearby switch and run over to the central switches.
42. Pull the switch for Ward 3.
43. Skip Cutscene.
44. Swap parties again using the PHS.
45. Skip Dialogue.

Menu

Upgrade Weapons (↓)

Cloud:

Twin Stinger (↑)

-> Weapon Upgrade Settings (△)

-> Auto 2: Prioritize Attack (↓↓)

Materia & Equipment (↑)

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Tifa:

[**ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM BARRET**] [Lightning] [Empty] [Fire]
[Empty] + [Empty]

Aerith:

[**ADD TIME FROM TIFA**] + [**ADD MAGNIFY FROM CLOUD**] [**ADD LIGHTNING FROM CLOUD**]
[**ADD FIRE FROM BARRET**]
[**ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM CLOUD**] [**ADD ATB BOOST FROM CLOUD**] [**ADD WIND FROM CLOUD**]

Cloud:

[Empty] [**REMOVE ICE**] [Empty]
[Empty] [Empty] [Empty]

Barret:

[Lightning] [Empty] [Ice] [Empty]
[Wind] [Empty]

46. Move forward with Aerith and Tifa, pull the lever in the side room and continue onward.

Unknown Entity x3

➤ Use Starshower [**L1 + □**].

47. Generally, a lot of these fights are going to consist of building ATB with Tifa and using Starshower until you learn it.
- After you learn Starshower, change Tifa's weapon to Metal Knuckles.
48. Continue forward to the dog kennel.

Bloodhound x6

- Use Starshower [L1 + □].
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Starshower [L1 + □].
- Repeat until victory.

49. Slide under some debris. Move past the Shinra boxes in the way and continue forward.

Zenene

- Command Aerith to use Fira [L1 + R2 + □].
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].

50. Continue into the side room and flip the lever.
51. Continue through the open door and into the side room, then up some stairs and across the pipe.
52. Skip Cutscene.

Zenene x2

- Command Aerith to use ATB Boost [L1 + R2 + R1].
- Command Aerith to use Fira [L1 + R2 + □].
- Use Starshower [L1 + □].
- Command Aerith to use Fira [L1 + R2 + □].

- Switch to Aerith (↑).
- Attack until Aerith has 1 ATB.
- Use Fira [L1 + □].
- Attack until victory.

53. Exit Ward 3.

54. Continue forward.

Sentry Launcher x3

- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Command Aerith to use ATB Boost [L1 + R2 + R1].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X] on different Sentry Launcher.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X] on third undamaged Sentry Launcher.
- Attack until victory.

55. Continue forward up the ladder and flip another lever to pull out experiment pods.

56. Skip Cutscene.

57. Jump across, use the PHS Terminal and swap parties.

58. Skip Dialogue.

59. Pull the lever to Ward 2.

60. Skip Cutscene.

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Weapon -> Twin Stinger (↓↓)

Reslot Materia

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM AERITH] [ADD ATB BOOST FROM AERITH] [Empty]
[ADD LIGHTNING FROM AERITH] [Empty] [Empty]

Barret:

[Lightning] [Empty] [ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM TIFA] [Empty]
[Wind] [ADD TIME FROM AERITH]

Tifa:

[Empty] [Lightning] [Empty] [Fire]
[Empty] + [Empty]

Aerith:

[Empty] [Magnify] [Empty] [Fire]
[Empty] [Empty] [Wind]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + □: Counterstance
L1 + △: Focused Thrust
L1 + O: Triple-Slash

61. Jump across the pods and use the bench on the side rest area if needed.

62. Continue forward into Ward 2 through several doors until you reach the first encounter.

Zenene x2

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Begin attacking.
- Switch to Barret (↑).
- Use Overcharge (△).

- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].

63. Continue forward more into the ward after Hojo taunts you and into the next experiment room.

M.O.T.H. Unit & Shock-Ray x2

*Now that we have Counterstance, we want to try learning / maxing it out as soon as possible.
We will be farming some proficiency for it in this battle.*

- Run immediately next to M.O.T.H. Unit.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Wait for M.O.T.H. Unit to use its spinning blade.
- Use Counterstance [L1 + □].
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Repeat Counterstance [L1 + □].
- Repeat Counterstance [L1 + □].
- Switch to Barret (↑).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Cloud:

Only if you have learned Counterstance by this point:

Weapons -> Hardedge (↑↑)

Reslot Materia

64. Continue into the ward.

65. NOTE: Make sure you have learned Counterstance before Jenova Dreamweaver.

Sledgeworm x3

- Use Tactical Mode to command Barret to cast Haste on Cloud.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- As soon as a Sledgeworm is pressured, chase it down.
- Attack until STAGGERED.
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Use Counterstance [L1 + □] when the Sledgeworms use "Rock Hard."
- Switch to Barret (↑).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].

66. Continue up the stairs after Red XIII.

67. Make sure the party is healed and has sufficient MP before the next battle.

68. Skip Cutscene.

--- Brain Pod: Phase 1 ---

- Command Barret to cast Thundara [L1 + R2 + X].
- Attack.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Brain Pod has ~60% HP.

--- Brain Pod: Phase 2 ---

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Repeat Triple-Slash [L1 + O].

- Switch to Barret (↑).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Use Maximum Fury [L1 + □].
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Repeat attacks and Triple-Slash [L1 + O] until victory.

69. Continue up the linear path of stairs to Ward 4, then down the stairs on the other side.

70. Before pulling the lever at the bottom, move forward and have Red XIII jump across to pull out more test pods.

Unknown Entity x2

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Attack until victory.

71. Skip Cutscene.

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[Empty] [Empty] [Empty]

[Empty] [Empty] [Empty]

Barret:

[Lightning] [Empty] [Empty] [Empty]

[Wind] [Empty]

Tifa:

[Empty] [Lightning] [Empty] [Fire]

[Empty] [ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM BARRET]

Aerith:

[ADD TIME FROM BARRET] + [Magnify] [ADD LIGHTNING FROM CLOUD] [Fire]
[ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM CLOUD] [ADD ATB BOOST FROM CLOUD] [Wind]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Aerith:

L1 + O: Thunder

72. Climb across the pods and use the PHS Terminal to swap parties again.

73. Tifa and Aerith will be put on a timer to save Red XIII.

Sledgeworm x2

- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Command Aerith to use Thundara [L1 + R2 + X], when Sledgeworm will not hide.

Sledgeworm should be STAGGERED.

- Command Aerith to use Thunder [L1 + R2 + O].
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Switch to Aerith (↑).
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].

Sledgeworm should be STAGGERED.

- Use Thunder [L1 + O].

74. Note: If Tifa has learned Starshower, switch her weapon to Metal Knuckles and reslot materia.

- 75. Use an Ether on Tifa.
- 76. Move down the ladder.

Enhanced Shock Trooper x2

- Use Fira [L1 + O].
- Command Aerith to use Thunder [L1 + R2 + O].
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.
- Use Whirling Uppercut (Δ), then Divekick [L1 + Δ].

- 77. Use an Ether on Tifa.
- 78. Move onto Red XIII.

Unknown Entities x5

- Use Starshower [L1 + \square].
- Attack until Tifa gains 1 ATB.
- Use Starshower [L1 + \square].
- Repeat above steps until victory.

- 79. Skip Cutscene.
- 80. Continue down the path and have Red climb across and pull a switch.
- 81. Aerith mentions the elevator not working. Move to the lever opposite it and pull.

Shock-Ray x2 & Slug-Ray x2

- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Switch to Aerith (\uparrow).
- Attack until Aerith has 2 ATB.
- Use Thunder [L1 + O].
- Repeat Thunder [L1 + O].
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Thunder [L1 + O].

➤ Repeat Thunder [L1 + O].

82. Use an Ether on Aerith if she has <44MP.

83. Pull the lever to open Ward 4.

84. Skip Cutscene.

85. Use the PHS Terminal to swap parties.

86. Skip Dialogue.

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM TIFA] [ADD LIGHTNING FROM TIFA] [Empty]
[Empty] [Empty] [Empty]

Barret:

[Lightning] [Fire] [Empty] [Empty]
[Wind] [Empty]

Tifa:

[Empty] [Empty] [Empty] [SWAP FIRE WITH AERITH'S FIRE] [Empty]
[Empty] [Empty]

Aerith:

[Time] + [Magnify] [Lightning] [SWAP FIRE WITH TIFA'S FIRE]
[First Strike] [ATB Boost] [Wind]

Materia & Equipment (↑)

Cloud:

Weapons -> Mythril Saber (↓)

Reslot Materia

87. Continue forward into the ward until you trigger the boss fight.

88. [Skip Cutscene](#).

--- Swordipede: Phase 1 ---

- Run just in front of Swordipede.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).

Cloud should parry Swordipede.

- Use Thundara [L1 + X].
- Repeat Thundara [L1 + X].
- Switch to Barret (↑).
- Use Overcharge (△).
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].

Note: If you try and physically attack as Cloud on anywhere aside its head, Cloud will bounce off and the damage reduced. Make sure you are attacking the head!

89. Hold (□) to menu before skipping the cutscene.

90. [Skip Cutscene](#).

91. Exit the menu and enter the fight.

--- Swordipede: Phase 2 ---

- Switch to Aerith (↑).
- Attack until Aerith has 2 ATB.
- Use Arcane Ward [L1 + △] on Aerith.
- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Thundaga.
- Repeat Tactical Mode cast Thundaga.
- Switch to Tifa (↑).

- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].
- Attack until Tifa has 1 ATB.

92. Skip Cutscene.

93. Continue forward through the path as Tifa.

94. Skip Cutscene.

95. Head into Ward 4 to save Cloud and Barret.

96. Skip Cutscene.

97. Return the way Tifa came and use the elevator.

98. Skip Cutscene.

99. Follow the linear path past Jenova's empty container.

1. Skip Dialogue with Barret and Red XIII.
2. Use the elevator on the opposite side.
3. Skip Dialogue with Aerith and Tifa.
4. Confirm you are ready.
5. Skip Cutscene.
6. After exiting the elevator, perform the following menu.

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Note: If you did NOT learn Focused Shot as Barret, swap his weapon to Gatling Gun here.

Cloud:

Weapons -> Hardedge (↑)

Reslot Materia

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Cloud:

[First Strike] [REMOVE LIGHTNING] [ADD ATB BOOST FROM AERITH] [REMOVE ICE]

[Empty] [Empty] [Empty]

Tifa:

[Empty] [Empty] [Empty] [Fire] [Empty]
[Empty] [Empty]

Barret:

[Lightning] [Empty] [Empty] [Empty]
[Wind] [Empty]

Aerith:

[Time] + [Magnify] [Lightning] [Fire]
[First Strike] [Empty] [Wind]

Battle Settings (↓↓↓)

Cloud:

L1 + X: Cross-Slash

Aerith:

L1 + □: Firaga

L1 + O: Aerora-Magnify (L1)

Barret:

L1 + △: Focused Shot

7. Follow the trail of blood up to the president's office, then outside slightly.
8. Recommended: Use the bench before approaching President Shinra.
9. Approach President Shinra on the ledge.
10. [Skip Cutscene](#).

--- Jenova Dreamweaver: Phase 1 ---

- Use Tactical Mode to command Aerith to cast Magnify-Haste on the party.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
 - *Aim for the tentacles.*
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until the tentacles break.

- Attack until Cloud has 2 ATB.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + Δ].
- Repeat Focused Thrust [L1 + Δ].
- Repeat attacks until Phase 2.

--- Jenova Dreamweaver: Phase 2 ---

Jenova will swap between physical and magical immunity, but usually starts with magical.

- Continue using attacks in Punisher Mode.
- As soon as Jenova casts "Rejection," use Counterstance [L1 + \square].
- Attack the regenerated tentacles while ensuring Cloud has 2 ATB.
- After defeating the tentacles, approach Jenova.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + Δ].
- Repeat Focused Thrust [L1 + Δ].

Jenova should be STAGGERED.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Command Aerith to use Firaga [L1 + L2 + \square] while attacking.
- Repeat attacks until Phase 3.

--- Jenova Dreamweaver: Phase 3 ---

Tentacles will appear; we need to break all of them in order to damage Jenova again.

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + \circ] to instantly kill a tentacle.
 - If no ATB, hold attack (\square) in Operator Mode.
- Use the above attacks to defeat all the tentacles.
- Make sure Cloud has 1 ATB when Jenova becomes Pressured.
- After defeating the tentacles, attack Jenova.
- As soon as Jenova casts "Rejection," use Counterstance [L1 + \square].

Jenova should be STAGGERED.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (Δ).
- Command Aerith to use Firaga [L1 + L2 + \square] while attacking.

- Repeat attacks until Phase 4.

--- Jenova Dreamweaver: Phase 4 ---

- Use Tactical Mode to command Tifa to use Ethers on Aerith if she has insufficient MP for Firaga.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Command Aerith to use Firaga [L1 + L2 + □] while attacking.
- Attack until Jenova is STAGGERED.
- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break [L1 + X].

If you were too slow and Jenova regained Physical Immunity, use Phase 2 strategies to finish!

11. Skip Cutscene.

12. Approach the bench and rest before continuing around the roof and up the ladder.

13. Skip Cutscene.

14. Approach the helipad towards your party.

15. Skip Cutscene.

--- Rufus & Darkstar: Phase 1 ---

This strategy will assume you do not have an Adrenaline.

- Run to Darkstar on the right.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].

Darkstar should be Pressured.

- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Darkstar is STAGGERED.
- Repeat attacks until the helicopter begins pulling away and Darkstar shifts phases at around ~50% HP.
- Take additional damage from Rufus to build Limit Break.

--- Rufus & Darkstar: Phase 2 ---

- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- *Darkstar should be Pressured.*
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Darkstar is STAGGERED.
- Attack until Darkstar is defeated.

--- Rufus: Phase 3 ---

- Stick close to Rufus, avoiding his gunfire until he uses "Reload."
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Braver on him.

Rufus will be STAGGERED.

- Post-stagger, use Limit Break as soon as you are able to.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].

16. Skip Cutscene.

17. Hold (□) to menu before skipping the cutscene.

18. Skip Cutscene.

Menu

Materia & Equipment

Aerith:

Accessories (↑) -> Fury Ring from Cloud (↑)

Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)

Barret:

[Lightning] [ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM CLOUD] [ADD TIME FROM AERITH] [Empty]

[Wind] [Empty]

Aerith:

[**MOVE WIND TO THIS SLOT**] + [Magnify] [Lightning] [Fire]
[First Strike] [**ADD ATB BOOST FROM CLOUD**] [Empty]

Cloud:

[Empty] [Empty] [Empty] [Empty]
[Empty] [Empty] [Empty]

Tifa:

[Empty] [Empty] [Empty] [Fire] [Empty]
[Empty] [Empty]

19. Once you have made your preparations, exit the menu.

--- The Arsenal: Phase 1 ---

The first phase involves having Aerith use Magnified Aerora spells to kill the drones. If you see the boss charging up "PRIMARY FIRE" during ANY PHASE, switch to Barret (↑) and use Overcharge (△).

- Use Tactical Mode to command Barret to cast Haste on Aerith.
- Switch to Aerith (↑).
- Run into the open area.
- Use Arcane Ward [**L1 + △**] on Aerith.
- Use Attacks until Aerith builds up ATB.
- Use Aerora-Magnify [**L1 + O**].
- Command Barret to use an Ether or Turbo Ether on Aerith when her MP is low.
- Repeat attacks to build up ATB, then repeat Aerora-Magnify [**L1 + O**] until the drones are defeated.

--- The Arsenal: Phase 2 ---

- Run to Aerith's Arcane Ward.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X] on The Arsenal.

The Arsenal should be Pressured.

- Switch to Barret (↑).
- Use Overcharge (△).
 - Alternatively, use Attacks.
- Ensure Barret has 2 ATB.
- Use Focused Shot [L1 + △].

The Arsenal should be STAGGERED.

- Switch to Aerith (↑).
- Use a fully charged Tempest attack (hold △).
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].

--- The Arsenal: Phase 3 ---

- Run to Aerith's Arcane Ward.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X] on The Arsenal.

The Arsenal should be Pressured.

- Use a fully charged Tempest attack (hold △).
- Command Barret to use an Ether or Turbo Ether on Aerith when her MP is low.
- Use Thundara [L1 + X].

--- The Arsenal: Phase 4 ---

- Use Tactical Mode to cast Thundaga.
- Command Barret to use Thundara [L1 + L2 + X].
 - You may need to switch to Barret and use Overcharge (△) to gain 1 ATB.

20. [Skip Cutscene.](#)

21. Once you see the game has saved, it means it has pushed into the next segment and past the long cutscene you skipped.

Chapter 18

1. Skip Cutscene.
2. Bike Minigame begins.

Bike Minigame

- Use basic attacks on the enemies with basic attacks.
- Use your special meter whenever it is available.
- Try to have one special meter by the end of the first 4 grunts.
- A truck will spawn.
- Focus your specials and attacks on the truck.
- Once the truck is defeated, Phase 2 will begin with a helicopter dropping bombs.
- Flying drones and a M.O.T.H. Unit will spawn.
- Guard the M.O.T.H. Unit when it begins using its spinning blade.
- Use basic attacks and special meters to defeat M.O.T.H. Unit.
- After defeating the M.O.T.H. Unit, Phase 3 will start.
- *SOLDIERS will join the fight here. They are a lot more difficult to kill than normal grunts and have charging attacks that stun Cloud.*
- Avoid the SOLDIERS' charging attacks.
- Use basic attacks and specials until both SOLDIERS are defeated.
- Barret will shoot the chopper with Big Bang Shot and end this segment.

--- Motor Ball ---

Avoid M.O.T.O.R.'s AoE fire spins, energy shots, and EM Mines on the ground.

- Use Spinning Slash liberally to break the tires on the boss.
 - *M.O.T.O.R. should be STAGGERED and vulnerable to damage.*
- Once M.O.T.O.R. uses EM Mines, feel free to use the long-range ability to hit the tires.
- It should take 3 cycles of defeating its tires and damage before it is defeated.

3. Skip Cutscene.

Menu
<p><u>Materia & Equipment</u></p> <p>Cloud: Accessories (↑) -> Add Fury Ring from Aerith (↑)</p>
<p><u>Set Materia For All Party Members (R1)</u></p> <p>Cloud: [ADD FIRST STRIKE FROM BARRET] [ADD ATB BOOST FROM AERITH] [Empty] [Empty] [Empty] [Empty] [Empty]</p> <p>Barret: [Lightning] [Empty] [GIVE TIME TO AERITH] [Empty] [Wind] [Empty]</p> <p>Tifa: [Empty] [Empty] [Empty] [Fire] [Empty] [Empty] [Empty]</p> <p>Aerith: [SWAP WIND WITH AERITH'S TIME] + [Magnify] [Lightning] [Fire] [First Strike] [ADD TIME FROM BARRET, THEN SWAP WITH WIND] [ADD ICE]</p>

- Run forward towards the end of the bridge, ignoring the bench and vending machine.
- Once the camera swaps to Cloud watching a black feather fall.
- Skip Cutscene.
- Walk past Aerith and examine the portal, then confirm you are ready to go.
- Skip Cutscene.
- Follow the linear path forward until you run into Barret and Tifa fighting some Whispers.

As Cloud, you want to prioritize Whisper Rubrum (Red) and Counterstance physical attacks.

- Use Counterstance [L1 + □] on Whisper Rubrum (Red).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack Whisper Rubrum until it is Pressured.
- Repeat attacks until ~50% HP.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Target Whisper Croceo (Yellow).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack Whisper Croceo until it is Pressured.
- Repeat attacks until ~50% HP.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Target Whisper Viridi (Blue-Green).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack Whisper Viridi until it is Pressured.
- Repeat attacks until it is defeated.

Whisper Harbinger will use Reformation, and several moments later it will use Correction.

- Stand near the tunnel leading upwards before Correction is used.
- Move up and out of the tunnel to the next segment.
- Continue up the slope and follow Barret and Tifa.

--- Whisper Trio: Phase 2 ---

Counterstance works against magic. If you see Firaga from Whisper Rubrum (Red), you can counter it.

- Simply ignore and avoid Indomitable attacks in Operator Mode.
- After several long moments, Whisper Harbinger will use Intercession.
- This opens a path for Barret to shoot.
- Continue forward and slash the hand once for it to pull away.
- Slide down the slope and encounter Whisper Rubrum again.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack Whisper Rubrum until it is Pressured.
- Repeat attacks until it is defeated.
- After several cutscenes, two of the Whispers will reappear.

- Target Whisper Croceo (Yellow).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack Whisper Croceo until it is Pressured.
- Repeat attacks until it is defeated.
- Continue attacking to damage Whisper Harbinger.
- Target Whisper Viridi (Blue-Green).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack Whisper Viridi until it is Pressured.
- Repeat attacks until it is defeated.
- Continue attacking to damage Whisper Harbinger.
- More cutscene will play before a transition to Phase 3.

--- Whisper Trio: Phase 3 ---

- Use Counterstance [L1 + □] on Whisper Rubrum (Red).
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack Whisper Rubrum until it is Pressured.
- Repeat attacks until ~50% HP.
- Ensure Cloud has conserved his ATB for the next section.

After the three Whispers take enough cumulative damage between them, they will shift into Whisper Bahamut.

--- Whisper Bahamut & Whisper Harbinger ---

This fight boils down to big damage and doing it fast.

- Run to Whisper Bahamut.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks on Whisper Bahamut.
- Command Aerith to cast Firaga [L1 + L2 + □].
- Repeat Attacks until Whisper Bahamut is Pressured.
 - If Cloud achieves Limit Break, conserve it for the next section instead.
- Command Tifa to use Starshower [L1 + R2 + □] when she has 1 ATB.

- Command Aerith to cast Firaga [L1 + L2 + □] when she regains 1 ATB.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △].

Whisper Bahamut should be STAGGERED.

- Repeat attacks until Whisper Bahamut is defeated.

--- Whisper Trio & Whisper Harbinger ---

After Bahamut dies, it will scatter into the trio of Whispers.

- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break [L1 + X].
- When a Harbinger is downed, use Triple-Slash [L1 + O].
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack a Whisper.
 - Prioritize downed Whispers.
- Command Tifa to use Starshower [L1 + R2 + □] when she has 1 ATB.
- Command Aerith to cast Firaga [L1 + L2 + □] when she regains 1 ATB.

Once the three of them are all dead, Whisper Harbinger will have a tiny spec of health left.

- Use any high-level Thunder spells you have the ATB for with Aerith.

10. Skip 2 Cutscenes.

--- Sephiroth: Phase 1 ---

The boss will always start with Firaga here.

- Attack.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Sephiroth is about to cast Firaga.
- Use Counterstance [L1 + □].

Sephiroth should be Pressured.

- Repeat attacks until Sephiroth is STAGGERED.

- Use ATB Boost [L1 + R1].
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Infinity's End.

--- Sephiroth: Phase 2 ---

*If you follow the guide up to this point, Aerith should show up here!
Sephiroth will actually start in Pressured, but always cast Aeroga at the start.*

- Attack.
- Use 3 Attacks, then prepare for Sephiroth's Aeroga cast.
- Guard (Hold R1) Aeroga.
 - Wait until both hits have been guarded.
- Use Focused Thrust [L1 + △].

Sephiroth should be STAGGERED.

- As soon as Cloud and Aerith land in this segment, use Tactical Mode to command Aerith to cast Magnify-Haste on the party.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Attack until Cloud has 1 ATB.
- Use Triple-Slash [L1 + O] towards the end of the stagger.
- Repeat attacks until Phase 3.

--- Sephiroth: Phase 3 ---

*If you follow the guide up to this point, Tifa should show up here!
Sephiroth will choose a random Infusion here, meaning he will take on the element described, but also become weak to its opposite (e.g., Lightning is weak to Wind.)*

- Use Tactical Mode to command Aerith to cast Sephiroth's weakness.
- Switch to Punisher Mode (△).
- Use Attacks.
- Command Tifa to use Starshower [L1 + R2 + □] when she has 1 ATB.
- Repeat Attacks until Sephiroth is STAGGERED.
- Use Tactical Mode to cast Infinity's End.
 - If you have insufficient ATB, continue doing as much damage as you can before the Stagger ends.

- Repeat attacks until Phase 4.

If Sephiroth recovers from the Stagger before the phase ends, perform the following:

- Repeat attacks in Punisher Mode.
- Parry (Hold R1) or use Counterstance [L1 + □] when he uses physical attacks.
- Repeat attacks and command Tifa to use Starshower [L1 + R2 + □] until Phase 4 begins.

--- Sephiroth: Phase 4 ---

- Use Cross-Slash Limit Break [L1 + X].
- Switch to Tifa (↓).
- Use Whirling Uppercut (△), then Divekick [L1 + △].

11. Timer ends as soon as you deal the final hit to Sephiroth when the “Sephiroth is defeated” text is displayed.
12. Congratulations!