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# Introduction

Monsters are all of the various non-humanoid creatures that exist in the world of Rise. Many of them are dangerous, and adventurers may need to fight them. This book describes the rules for monsters, and the combat statistics for a variety of monsters.

# **Basic Mechanics**

# 2.1 Starting Abilities

A monster can have many abilities that are not specifically defined by its traits. These abilities should be appropriate for the monster's nature and narrative role. While the rules do not prevent creating a monster with every ability described below, such a creature would be unnecessary complex and would be difficult to integrate into a realistic world.

## **Attributes**

Each of a monster's starting attributes can range from -9 to 3, as appropriate for the type of monster. A monster's attributes scale with level in the same way as character attributes. A monster can also have up to two attributes starting at 4 or 5. In general, a monster with higher starting attributes will be slightly stronger, but not all monsters need to start with the same starting attribute total.

### **Combat Prowess**

A monster's combat prowess is normally equal to four-fifths of its level + 2. Some abilities can increase or decrease a monster's combat prowess.

## **Communication**

A monster may know any number of languages. In addition, a monster may also have any number of communication abilities from the following list.

• Telepathy (100 ft. range, willing only)

## **Damage Resistances**

A monster may naturally have damage reduction against up to three specific damage types. It can resist bludgeoning, piercing, or slashing damage, but not all three. Its damage reduction is equal to its power. In addition, it may be completely immune to a single non-physical damage type. A monster may also be **vulnerable** to any number of damage types.

# **Movement Speeds**

A monster can have a land speed up to ten feet faster than the normal land speed for its size without spending a trait. Some monsters have slower land speeds, or no land speed at all. In addition to a land speed, a monster may have any number of movement speeds from the following list.

• Climb speed (up to a maximum of ten feet faster than a size- prerequisites for that trait.

- appropriate land speed)
- Swim speed (up to a maximum of ten feet faster than a size-appropriate land speed)

These movement speeds are too minor to be worth a trait. More powerful movement speeds can be gained with traits (see Traits, page 8).

## **Natural Armor**

Most monsters have tough hide, armored skin, or similar abilities that make them more difficult to harm. A monster can naturally have up to a +4 bonus to Armor defense without using a trait. Higher bonuses to Armor defense require traits.

## **Natural Weapons**

A monster can have any number of natural weapons.

#### **Power**

All monsters have a **power**. A monster's power affects the strength of many of its special abilities. Its power is normally equal to its level + its **challenge rating**. Some abilities can increase a monster's power.

#### Senses

In addition to the normal senses provided by a monster's type (see Types, page 5), it may have any number of special senses from the following list.

- Blindsense (50 ft. range)
- Darkvision (50 ft. range)
- Low-light vision
- Scent
- Tremorsense (50 ft. range)

These senses are too minor to be worth a trait. More powerful senses can be gained with the Superior Senses trait (see page 12).

### **Skills**

A monster has 10 skill points that it can spend in any skill. Most monsters do not use all of their available skill points.

### Traits

A monster has a single trait (see Traits, page 8). It must meet all prerequisites for that trait.

## 2.2 Level Advancement

As a monster becomes stronger, it gains levels. Monsters do not gain levels in specific classes, like characters. A monster simply has a single level that describes its overall strength.

Whenever a monster gains a level, it can change any or all of its current traits to new traits. It must currently meet the prerequisites for any new traits, but it does not have to have met those prerequisites when that trait was first acquired. However, any traits it gained with special restrictions, such as traits that must be associated with a certain template, can only be changed into other traits that fulfill those same restrictions.

# 2.3 Challenge Rating

All monsters have a **challenge rating** (CR) that describes how difficult it is to defeat. A monster is an appropriate challenge for a number of player characters equal to its challenge rating, assuming both are the same level. Most monsters have a challenge rating of 1. Extraordinarily powerful monsters, such as dragons, can have a higher challenge rating. Monsters with a high CR automatically gain special abilities, as described below. A monster cannot have a CR higher than 4.

### Low CR

Some monsters, such as horde monsters, have a CR of less than 1.

Weak: The monster has one quarter of its normal hit points.

**Rapid Demise**: Whenever the monster takes damage in excess of its hit points, it immediately dies.

### **CR 1**

Most monsters have a CR of 1.

**Rapid Defeat**: Whenever the monster takes critical damage and has no hit points remaining, it falls unconscious.

## CR<sub>2</sub>

Powerful monsters, such as the leaders of warbands, can have a CR of 2. This grants the following abilities.

**Legend Points**: The monster gains a number of **legend points** equal to one quarter of its level (minimum 1).

**Durability**: The monster gains bonus hit points equal half its normal hit points.

**Alacrity**: The monster can choose to take two standard actions during the action phase. The extra action is delayed. However, it can still only make a single **standard attack** during each action phase. If it uses this ability, it cannot use it again during the next round.

### CR 3

**Legend Points**: The monster gains a number of **legend points** equal to one third of its level (minimum 1).

**Legendary Aura**: Enemies within Long (300 ft.) range of the monster cannot use legend points.

**Durability**: The monster has twice as many hit points as it otherwise would

Alacrity: The monster takes two standard actions during each

action phase. The extra action is delayed. However, it can still only make a single **standard attack** during each action phase.

## **CR 4**

**Legend Points**: The monster gains a number of **legend points** equal to one third of its level (minimum 1).

**Legendary Aura**: Enemies within Long (300 ft.) range of the monster cannot use legend points.

**Durability**: The monster has three times as many hit points as it otherwise would.

**Alacrity**: The monster takes three standard actions during each action phase. However, it can still only make a single **standard attack** during each action phase.

# **Types**

Monsters are divided into types. Monster types are like races for player characters, but they have a stronger effect on a monster's statistics. There are eight monster types: aberrations, animals, constructs, humanoids, magical beasts, monsterous humanoids, outsiders, and undead.

# 3.1 Type Overviews

**Aberration:** An aberration is a monster with a bizarre anatomy, strange abilities, an alien mindset, or a similar separation from "ordinary" monsters. Aboleths and gibbering mouthers are aberrations.

**Animal**: An animal is a living, nonhumanoid creature with limited intelligence and no inherently magical abilities. Dogs and bears are animals.

**Animate:** An animate is a plant, fungus, or similar living thing with the ability to move independently. Animates do not have minds or sentience, but are alive. Assassin vines, gelatinous cubes, and treants are animates.

**Construct**: A construct is an object or elemental force imbued with a semblance of life. Elementals and golems are constructs.

**Humanoid**: A humanoid is a living creature with a humanshaped body: two arms, two legs, one head, and so on. Humanoids typically have only limited magical abilities, if any, and are always similar in size to humans. Humans, elves, and goblins are humanoids.

**Magical Beast**: A magical beast is a living, nonhumanoid creature with monstrous features, supernatural abilities, or extraordinary intelligence. Basilisks, griffons, and worgs are magical beasts.

**Monstrous Humanoid**: A monstrous humanoid is a living creature a generally human-shaped body as well as monstrous or animalistic features or significant magical abilities. Giants, medusas, and trolls are monstrous humanoids.

**Outsider**: An outsider is a creature composed of planar material from a plane other than the Material Plane. Angels, devils, and demons are outsiders.

**Undead**: An undead is a previously living creature reanimated by spiritual or supernatural powers. Ghosts, skeletons, and zombies are undead.

# 3.2 Defense Progressions

The base defenses of monsters are determined by their type, not their class. Each monster type has one of three defense progressions: Good, Average, or Poor. The effects of these progressions on a monster's base defense progression are shown on Table 3.1: Defense

Progressions.

**Defense Bonuses:** In addition to its base defense progression, a monster always gains a separate defense bonus based on its progression type. A Good progression grants a +4 bonus, an Average progression grants a +2 bonus, and a Poor progression grants no bonus. This is equivalent to the base class defense bonuses gained by characters.

**Table 3.1: Defense Progressions** 

| Level | Good | Average | Poor |
|-------|------|---------|------|
| 1st   | +1   | +1      | +()  |
| 2nd   | +2   | +2      | +1   |
| 3rd   | +3   | +3      | +2   |
| 4th   | +5   | +4      | +3   |
| 5th   | +6   | +5      | +3   |
| 6th   | +7   | +6      | +4   |
| 7th   | +8   | +7      | +5   |
| 8th   | +10  | +8      | +6   |
| 9th   | +11  | +9      | +6   |
| 10th  | +12  | +10     | +7   |
| 11th  | +13  | +11     | +8   |
| 12th  | +15  | +12     | +9   |
| 13th  | +16  | +13     | +9   |
| 14th  | +17  | +14     | +10  |
| 15th  | +18  | +15     | +11  |
| 16th  | +20  | +16     | +12  |
| 17th  | +21  | +17     | +12  |
| 18th  | +22  | +18     | +13  |
| 19th  | +23  | +19     | +14  |
| 20th  | +25  | +20     | +15  |

# 3.3 Type Descriptions

## **Aberration**

Fortitude: Poor. Reflex: Poor. Mental: Good.

**Darkvision**: Aberrations have **darkvision** with a range of 50

feet

### **Animal**

Fortitude: Average. Reflex: Average.

Mental: Poor.

**Limited Intelligence**: Animals have an Intelligence of -6 or lower. An animal whose Intelligence permanently increases to -5 or higher becomes a magical beast.

### Animate

Fortitude: Good. Reflex: Poor. Mental: Good.

Mindless: Animates are immune to Mind effects.

Nonsentient: Animates do not have Intelligence or Willpower

attributes.

## **Construct**

Fortitude: Average. Reflex: Poor. Mental: Good.

**Artificial Body**: Constructs are immune to poison, disease, and all **Vivimancy** effects. They do not recover hit points by resting, and effects that restore hit points have no effect on them unless they specifically affect constructs. All constructs can restore hit points in some manner, as stated in their monster description.

Mindless: Constructs are immune to Mind effects.

**Nonliving**: Constructs are not alive. They are immune to effects that only affect living creatures.

## Humanoid

Fortitude: Poor. Reflex: Poor. Mental: Poor.

## **Magical Beast**

Fortitude: Average. Reflex: Average. Mental: Poor.

Low-Light Vision: Magical beasts have low-light vision.

## **Monstrous Humanoid**

Fortitude: Average. Reflex: Poor. Mental: Average.

### **Outsider**

Fortitude: Average. Reflex: Average. Mental: Average.

**Darkvision**: Outsiders have **darkvision** with a range of 50 feet. **Extraplanar Body**: The body of an outsider is made of planar

essence. Outsiders cannot be resurrected after dying.

## Undead

Fortitude: Poor. Reflex: Poor. Mental: Good.

**Darkvision**: Undead have **darkvision** with a range of 50 feet.

**Necromantic Body**: Undead are immune to poison and disease. They do not recover hit points by resting, and effects that restore hit points have no effect on them unless they specifically affect undead.

**Nonliving**: Undead are not alive. They are immune to effects that affect living creatures.

# **Templates**

Unlike player characters, monsters do not have "classes". Instead, monsters have templates that grant them specific powers and abilities. A template grants a monster specific powers and abilities. All monsters have at least one template, and many have multiple.

All templates provide a **challenge rating** adjustment. Before applying CR adjustments, the monster is considered to have a CR of 0.

# 4.1 Templates

## Adept

An adept monster has unique special abilities that it relies on in combat. Allips, medusas, and nymphs are adept monsters.

CR Adjustment: +1.

**Power**: An adept increases its **power** by 1.

**Adept Traits**: An adept gains up to four adept or general traits (see Traits, page 8). If it chooses more than two traits, its CR increases by 1.

## **Behemoth**

A behemoth monster is extraordinarily resilient or durable. Behemoth monsters are often larger than other monsters. Giants, hydras, and trolls are behemoth monsters.

CR Adjustment: +1.

**Durable**: A behemoth increases its maximum hit points by an amount equal to its **power**.

**Behemoth Traits**: An behemoth gains up to four behemoth or general traits (see Traits, page 8). If it chooses more than two traits, its CR increases by 1.

### Horde

A horde monster is a minor foe intended to be accompanied by other horde monsters. It cannot have any other templates applied to it. Any monster can be a horde monster.

CR Adjustment: +1/4.

**Combat Prowess**: A horde monster's combat prowess is equal to its level + 2.

**Single Strike**: A horde monster can only make one **strike** as part of a **standard attack**. It ignores all abilities that would grant it extra attacks.

**Trait**: A horde monster gains a single trait. It ignores template prerequisites for this trait, but must meet all other prerequisites.

## Slaver

A slayer monster has abilities that allow it to move and kill its foes quickly. Ankhegs, minotaurs, and winter wolves are slayer monsters.

CR Adjustment: +1.

**Combat Prowess**: A slayer's combat prowess is equal to its level + 2.

**Slayer Traits**: An slayer gains up to four slayer or general traits (see Traits, page 8). If it chooses more than two traits, its CR increases by 1.

# **Traits**

## 5.1 Trait Limitations

The number of traits you have from a particular class cannot exceed the levels you have in that class.

# 5.2 Trait Types

**Active:** An active trait grants a monster a new active ability to use. Most active traits can be used as a standard action. A monster with too many active traits will have difficulty using them all in combat, and may feel unfocused. A monster without active traits may feel boring and repetitive to fight.

**Augment:** An augment trait improves a monster's existing attacks or special abilities. Most augment traits are passive abilities or are activated as an immediate action. A monster with too many augment traits may be overly specialized in a single ability, and not be interesting to fight. A monster without augment traits may be less effective with its attacks and special abilities.

**Body**: A body trait alters a monster's body. Most body traits are passive abilities. A monster with too many body traits may be bizarre or confusing to fight.

**Defense**: A defense trait improves a monster's defenses or heals it. Most defensive traits are passive abilities that do not require activation. A monster with too many defense traits may take a long time to kill without posing any challenge. A monster without defense traits may die too quickly to use its abilities.

**Mobility**: A mobility trait improves a monster's ability to move around a battlefield. A monster with too many mobility traits may have redundant ways to move. A monster without mobility traits may not be able to effectively attack mobile characters.

## 5.3 Trait Tables

Table 5.1: Traits

| General Traits           | Prerequisites                                | Benefit  | Trait Types | Page |
|--------------------------|--|--|-------------|------|
| Incorporeal              | 4th level                                    | Become incorporeal                               | Body        | 10   |
| Increased Size           | 6th level                                    | Increase size with level                         | Body        | 10   |
| Innate Magic             | 6th level                                    | Continuously gain spell effect                   | Augment     | 11   |
| Natural Grab             | Natural weapon, combat prowess 4             | Natural weapon can grapple                       | Augment     | 11   |
| Natural Shove            | Natural weapon                               | Natural weapon can shove                         | Augment     | 12   |
| Natural Trip             | Natural weapon                               | Natural weapon can trip                          | Augment     | 11   |
| Natural Venom            | Natural weapon                               | Natural weapon becomes poisonous                 | Augment     | 12   |
| Resist Magic             | 8th level                                    | Gain spell resistance                            | Defense     | 12   |
| Spellfeeder              | 8th level                                    | Heal from spells cast nearby                     | Defense     | 12   |
| Spit Web                 | _  | Gain ability to spit immobilizing webs           | Active      | 12   |
| Superior Senses          | _  | Gain extraordinary sense                         | Augment     | 12   |
| Adept Traits             | Prerequisites                                | Benefit  | Trait Types | Page |
| Draining Touch           | _  | Gain ability to deal damage with a touch         | Active      | 10   |
| Humanoid Form            | 4th level                                    | Gain ability to change into humanoid form        | Body        | 11   |
| Magical Ability          | _  | Gain ability to mimic a spell's effects          | Active      | 11   |
| Magical Retribution      | 8th level                                    | Deal damage to attackers                         | Defense     | 11   |
| Magical Strike           | 4th level, Natural weapon                    | Can make an attack that imposes spell's effects  | _           | 11   |
| Natural Magic            | 8th level, Natural weapon                    | Natural weapon causes a spell's effects          | Augment     | 11   |
| Myriad Magical Abilities | 6th level                                    | Gain many abilities that mimic spell effects     | Active      | 11   |
| Petrifying Gaze          | 4th level                                    | Gain gaze attack                                 | Active      | 12   |
| Spellcaster              | _  | Gain ability to cast spells                      | Active      | 12   |
| <b>Behemoth Traits</b>   | Prerequisites                                | Benefit  | Trait Types | Page |
| Damage Resistance        | <del>_</del>                                 | Resist damage                                    | Defense     | 10   |
| Defensive                | <del>_</del>                                 | Increase defense                                 | _           | 10   |
| Retributive Spikes       | 4th level                                    | Deal damage to melee attackers                   | Defense     | 12   |
| Titanic Body             | 10th level                                   | Increase size by one size category               | Body        | 13   |
| Slayer Traits            | Prerequisites                                | Benefit  | Trait Types | Page |
| Boulder Toss             | Slayer 4, Strength 5                         | Throw objects incredible distances               | Active      | 10   |
| Breath Weapon: Cone      | <del>_</del>                                 | Gain cone-shaped breath weapon                   | Active      | 10   |
| Breath Weapon: Line      | <del>_</del>                                 | Gain line-shaped breath weapon                   | Active      | 10   |
| Brute Force              | _  | Increase damage of physical attacks              | Augment     | 10   |
| Burrower                 | <del>_</del>                                 | Gain burrow speed                                | Mobility    | 10   |
| Damaging Aura            | <del>-</del>                                 | Gain aura that damages nearby foes               | Augment     | 10   |
| Damaging Ray             | _  | Gain ability to fire damaging ray                | Active      | 10   |
| Multistrike              | 6th level, three hands                       | Attack all threatened foes                       | Active      | 11   |
| Natural Energy           | 4th level, Natural weapon                    | Natural weapon deals energy damage               | Augment     | 11   |
| Rend                     | Two strikes, Strength 5, two natural weapons | Deal bonus damage after hitting with two weapons | Augment     | 12   |

# **5.4** Trait Descriptions

## **Boulder Toss [Active, Slayer]**

**Prerequisite**: 4th level, slayer template, Strength 5.

**Benefit**: You can throw improvised objects, such as rocks, with great accuracy and power. You gain proficiency with improvised thrown weapons, and your **range increment** with all thrown weapons becomes 50 feet.

At 10 Strength, and every 5 Strength thereafter, your range increment with thrown weapons increases by 50 feet.

## **Breath Weapon: Cone [Active, Magical, Slayer]**

Prerequisite: Slayer template.

Choice: Choose a damage type when you gain this trait.

**Benefit**: You gain a breath weapon attack. As a standard action, you can make a **Power** vs. Reflex attack against all creatures within a Medium (20 ft.) cone-shaped burst. Success deals 1d8 damage of your chosen damage type per two power. Critical success deals double damage. Failure deals half damage. After using this ability, you cannot use it again for 1d4 rounds.

At 8th level, the area increases to a Large  $(50 \, ft.)$  cone. At 16th level, the damage increases to 1d10 damage per two power. At 20th level, the area increases to a Huge  $(100 \, ft.)$  cone.

## Breath Weapon: Line [Active, Magical, Slayer]

Prerequisite: Slayer template.

**Choice**: Choose a damage type when you gain this trait.

**Benefit**: You gain a breath weapon attack. As a standard action, you can make a **Power** vs. Reflex attack against all creatures within a Large (50 ft.), 5 ft. wide line-shaped burst. Success deals 1d8 damage of your chosen damage type per two power. Critical success deals double damage. Failure deals half damage. After using this ability, you cannot use it again for 1d4 rounds.

At 6th level, the area increases to Large (50 ft.), 10 ft. wide line. At 10th level, the area increases to Huge (100 ft.), 10 ft. wide line. At 14th level, the area increases to Huge (100 ft.), 20 ft. wide line. At 18th level, the damage increases to 1d10 damage per two levels.

### **Brute Force [Augment, Slayer]**

Prerequisite: Slayer template.

**Benefit**: You gain a +2 bonus to damage with physical attacks. At 6th level, and every 4 levels thereafter, this bonus increases by 1.

### **Burrower** [Mobility, Slayer]

**Prerequisite**: Slayer template.

**Benefit**: You gain a burrow speed equal to half your land speed. You can only burrow through loose earth and dirt, and you cannot construct usable tunnels while burrowing.

At 6th level, and every 4 levels thereafter, you can gain one of the following abilities.

- Your burrow speed because equal to your land speed.
- You gain the ability to construct usable tunnels while burrowing. You burrow at half speed while doing so.
- You gain the ability to burrow through solid rock and objects of similar durability.
- If you have the ability to burrow through solid rock, you can

burrow through iron and objects of similar durability.

## Damage Resistance [Defense]

**Choice**: Choose a type of damage to resist: physical damage or energy damage.

**Benefit**: You gain damage reduction against your chosen damage type equal to your **power**.

At 10th level, this damage reduction becomes equal to twice your **power**.

## Damaging Aura [Augment, Magical]

**Prerequisite**: Slayer template. **Choice**: Choose a damage type.

**Benefit**: At the end of every round, enemies within a 5-ft. radius emanation from you take damage equal to your **power** of the chosen damage type. At 6th level, the area increases to a Small (10 ft.) radius emanation. At 12th level, the area increases to a Medium (20 ft.) radius emanation. At 18th level, the area increases to a Large (50 ft.) radius emanation.

## Damaging Ray [Active, Magical, Slayer]

**Prerequisite**: Slayer template.

**Choice**: Choose a damage type when you gain this trait.

**Benefit**: As a standard action, you can fire an ray at a creature or object within Close (30 ft.) range. You make a **Power** vs. Reflex attack against the target. Success deals 1d6 damage of your chosen damage type per power. Critical success deals double damage. Failure deals half damage.

## Defensive [Behemoth, Defense]

**Choice**: Choose a defense: Armor, Fortitude, Reflex, or Mental. **Benefit**: If you chose Armor defense, you gain a +1 bonus to Armor defense. Otherwise, you gain a +2 bonus to your chosen defense.

At 6th level, and every 4 levels thereafter, this defense bonus increases by +1 if you chose Armor defense, or by +2 otherwise.

**Special**: You may take this trait multiple times. Each time, you choose a new defense.

## **Draining Touch [Active, Adept, Magical]**

Prerequisite: Adept template.

**Benefit**: If you touch a creature, it takes 1d6 life damage + 1 per two **power**. You heal hit points equal to half the damage dealt in this way. In addition, you become proficient with touching creatures, gaining the normal +4 accuracy bonus for proficiency.

### Incorporeal [Body]

Prerequisite: 4th level.

**Benefit**: You become **incorporeal**. You no longer have a land speed, and gain a fly speed with perfect maneuverability. Your fly speed is equal to what your land speed would be.

#### **Increased Size [Body]**

**Prerequisite**: 6th level.

**Benefit**: Your size increases by one size category. At 11th level, and every six levels thereafter, you can increase your size by one additional size category. This effect stacks with most other effects that increase your size.

Special: If you have the behemoth template, you can increase

your size by an additional size category.

## **Innate Magic [Augment, Magical]**

**Prerequisite**: 4th level. **Choice**: Choose a spell

**Benefit**: You continuously gain the benefit of a spell effect. The spell must be a **targeted spell** with a duration of Short (*Focus* + 5 *rounds*) or longer, and its level must not exceed half your level. If the effect is discharged or otherwise ended, it automatically resumes its effect after 5 minutes. This is a supernatural ability, and cannot be dispelled.

## Humanoid Form [Adept, Body, Magical]

**Prerequisite**: 4th level, adept template.

**Benefit**: As a standard action, you can spend an adept point to change your shape. When you change your shape, you can assume a humanoid form. You choose the appearance and nature of your humanoid form when you gain this trait, and are not able to change it freely. Your humanoid form resembles your choice of the common humanoid races: dwarf, elf, gnome, half-elf, half-orc, halfling, or human. Your form has the size and shape of the race you mimic, but you do not gain any abilities of the chosen race. While in humanoid form, you cannot use any special abilities that require physical features of your normal form. This includes natural weapons, poisons, Armor defense bonuses, and similar abilities.

In addition to assuming the humanoid form completely, you can also assume a hybrid form. In a hybrid form, you retain physical features of your normal form, allowing you the full use of your special abilities. However, a DR 20 Awareness check can identify unusual physical features that reveal your inhuman nature.

In both humanoid and hybrid forms, you can wield weapons and wear equipment like other humanoids. Changing your form with this ability is not a magical effect, does not have a duration, and cannot be dispelled. You revert to your true form when killed.

### Magical Ability [Active, Adept, Magical]

**Prerequisite**: Adept template.

**Choice**: Choose a spell. You may also choose any number of augments to apply to the spell, increasing its level appropriately. The spell's total level must be no greater than half your level (minimum 1).

**Benefit**: As a standard action, you can concentrate to cause your chosen spell's effect, including any augments. Its spellpower is equal to your **power**.

When using this ability, you cannot apply additional augments to the spell, apply metamagic feats, or use similar abilities, since you are not actually casting the spell.

**Special**: You may take this trait multiple times. Each time, you choose a new spell.

#### Magical Retribution [Adept, Defense, Magical]

**Prerequisite**: 8th level, adept template.

**Choice**: Choose a damage type.

**Benefit:** Whenever a creature within Medium (100 ft.) range of you attacks you, the attacking creature takes 1d6 damage per two **power** of your chosen damage type. Any individual creature can only take this damage once per round. This is a supernatural ability.

## Magical Strike [Active, Adept, Magical]

**Prerequisite**: 4th level, adept template.

**Choice**: Choose a **targeted spell** with a level no higher than half your level. The spell cannot deal damage.

**Benefit**: As a standard action, you can make a single **strike**. If you hit with the strike, you deal damage normally. In addition, the struck target is affected by your chosen spell. If you miss with the strike, the target suffers no effects.

## Multistrike [Active, Slayer]

**Prerequisites**: 6th level, slayer template, at least three hands or hand-like appendages.

**Benefit**: As a standard action, you can make one **strike** against all creatures you threaten. For each strike per round you can make beyond two, you can make one additional strike against all creatures in this way, up to a maximum number of strikes equal to the number of hand-like appendages you have.

## Myriad Magical Abilities [Active, Adept, Magical]

**Prerequisite**: 6th level, adept template.

**Choice**: Choose up to three spells. You may also choose any number of augments to apply to the spell, increasing its level appropriately. The total level of each spell individually must be no greater than half your level, – 2.

**Benefit**: As a standarda ction, you can concentrate to cause the effect of any one of your chosen spells, as if you had cast the spell. Its spellpower is equal to your **power**.

When using this ability, you cannot apply additional augments to the spell, apply metamagic feats, or use similar abilities, since you are not actually casting the spell.

**Special**: You may take this trait multiple times. Each time, you choose up to three new spells.

## **Natural Grab [Augment]**

**Prerequisite**: At least one **natural weapon**, combat prowess 4. **Choice**:

**Benefit**: Choose one of your natural weapons. When you make a successful attack with that weapon, you can attempt to **grapple** the struck creature as an immediate action.

### Natural Energy [Augment, Slayer]

**Prerequisite**: Slayer, Natural weapon, 4th level.

**Choice**: Choose a natural weapon you have, and a type of **energy damage**.

**Benefit**: Your chosen natural weapon deals 1d6 extra damage of your chosen energy type on every successful attack.

At 8th level, and every 4 levels thereafter, this damage increases by one dice increment.

### Natural Magic [Adept, Augment, Magical]

**Prerequisites**: Natural weapon, adept level 8.

**Choice**: Choose one of your natural weapons, and a spell. The spell must be a **targeted spell**. You may also choose any number of augments to apply to the spell, increasing its level appropriately. The spell's total level must be no greater than half your level, – 3.

**Benefit**: When you make a successful attack with your chosen weapon, you can inflict your chosen spell's effects on the struck creature as an immediate action. Its spellpower is equal to your **power**.

When using this ability, you cannot apply additional augments to the spell, apply metamagic feats, or use similar abilities, since you are not actually casting the spell.

**Special**: You may take this trait multiple times. Each time, you choose a new spell.

## **Natural Shove [Augment]**

**Prerequisite**: At least one **natural weapon**. **Choice**: Choose one of your natural weapons.

**Benefit**: When you make a successful attack with your chosen weapon, you can attempt to **shove** the struck creature as an immediate action.

## **Natural Trip [Augment]**

**Prerequisite**: At least one **natural weapon**. **Choice**: Choose one of your natural weapons.

**Benefit**: When you make a successful attack with your chosen weapon, you can attempt to **trip** the struck creature as an immediate action.

## **Natural Venom [Augment]**

**Prerequisite**: At least one **natural weapon**.

**Choice**: Choose one of your natural weapons, and a poison effect from the options below. Some poison effects have level prerequisites, as described in the name of the ability.

- Damaging Poison: Primary effect 1d6 poison damage per two potency, terminal effect 1d8 poison damage per potency.
- Sickening Poison: Primary effect sickened (moves at half speed), terminal effect nauseated (unable to act in action phase, move at half speed) for 2 rounds.
- Paralyzing Poison (6th): Primary effect immobilized (*Unable to leave its location*), terminal effect paralyzed (*helpless, unable to move*) for 2 rounds.

**Benefit:** Whenever you deal physical damage with your chosen weapon, you can inject your chosen poison into the damaged creature as an immediate action. The potency of the poison is equal to your **power**.

At 6th level, and every 6 levels thereafter, this ability improves, and you gain one of the following benefits.

- Choose a different natural weapon and apply a single type of poison to it.
- Choose a natural weapon that already has poison and apply a new type of poison to it. If one natural weapon has multiple poisons, you can inject all poisons as part of the same immediate action.
- Choose a natural weapon that already has poison. You do not need to spend an immediate action to apply poison with that weapon. You still cannot poison more than one creature per round in this way.

## Petrifying Gaze [Active, Adept, Magical]

**Prerequisite**: Adept 6.

**Benefit**: You gain a gaze attack, allowing you to harm a creature by gazing at it. As a standard action, you can focus your gaze on a creature within Close (30 ft.) range. You must be able to see the target, but you do not need **line of effect** to it. You make a **Power** vs. Fortitude attack against the target. Success means it is slowed (unable to act in movement phase, move at half speed) for 2 rounds.

Critical success means it is petrified (turned to stone).

## Rend [Augment, Slayer]

**Prerequisites**: Slayer template, two strikes, Strength 5, two natural weapons.

**Benefit**: If you hit the same target twice in the same round with two different natural weapons, you can rend it as an immediate action. If you do, you make a **Power** vs. Fortitude attack against the target. Success deals 1d10 slashing damage per two power. Failure deals half damage.

## Resist Magic [Defense]

Prerequisite: 8th level.

Benefit: You gain magic resistance equal to 10 + your power.

## Retributive Spikes [Behemoth, Defense]

**Prerequisite**: 4th level, behemoth template.

**Benefit**: Whenever a creature attacks you with a physical melee attack, the attacking creature takes 1d6 piercing damage per two **power**. Any individual creature can only take this damage once per round.

## Spellcaster [Active, Adept]

Prerequisite: Adept template.

Choice: Choose a type of spellcasting: arcane, divine, or nature. Benefit: You can cast spells from your chosen magic source. You know a number of spells equal to half your adept level + 1. The maximum spell level you can learn and cast is equal to half your level (minimum 1). These spells can be of any level. You do not have spell slots, and may freely cast any spells you know. Your spellpower is equal to your power.

**Special**: You may take this trait multiple times. Each time, you choose a new type of spellcasting. You track your spells known separately for each type of spellcasting you have.

### Spellfeeder [Defense, Magical]

Prerequisite: 8th level.

**Benefit**: Whenever a spell is cast within Medium (100 ft.) range of you, you heal hit points equal to your **power**. In addition, whenever you resist a spell with spell resistance, you regain hit points equal to twice your **power**. This ability does not grant you spell resistance if you do not have it.

#### Spit Web [Active]

**Benefit**: As a standard action, you can spit a web (or similar substance) at a creature or object within Medium (100 ft.) range. You make a **Power** vs. Reflex attack against the target. Success means the target is immobilized (Unable to leave its location) for 2 rounds. As a standard action, the target can make a grapple attack or Escape Artist check to escape the webbing. The DR to escape is equal to 10 + your power.

If you are 8th level or higher, you can use this ability as a swift

### **Superior Senses [Augment]**

**Prerequisite**: 6th level.

**Benefit**: You gain up to two of the following senses.

- Blindsense (200 ft. range)
- Darkvision (200 ft. range)

- Lifesense (200 ft. range)
- Tremorsense (200 ft. range)
- Lifesight (50 ft. range)
- Tremorsight (50 ft. range)
- Truesight (50 ft. range)

**Special**: You may take this trait multiple times. Each time, you choose a new sense.

## Titanic Body [Behemoth, Body]

**Prerequisite**: 10th level, behemoth template.

Benefit: Your size increases by one size category. This stacks

with other effects that increase your size.

# **Descriptions**

## **6.1** Aberrations

Aboleth Level 12 [CR 3]

**Senses** Darkvision 50 ft., Awareness +17

Movement 10 ft. land speed, 60 ft. swim speed

Size Huge; Reach 20 ft.

HP 504; Defenses AD 33, Fort 42, Ref 22, Ment 40

Attacks Tentacle +18 (2d10+10); Strikes 3

Special Attacks Slime +15; Power 15

Alacrity Two actions per round

Attributes Str 15, Dex 0, Con 15, Int 12, Per 8, Wil 16

Level Aberration 12 [Adept, Behemoth]

**Encounter** Underground; solitary

Abilities Natural armor +4

**Traits**: Armored Carapace, Increased Size, Magical Ability, Magical Ability, Magical Strike, Myriad Magical Abilities, Titanic Defenses.

**Slime** [Magical]: As an immediate action, when an aboleth strikes a creature with a tentacle, it can secrete slime onto the struck creature. If it does, it makes a **Power** vs. Fortitude attack against the struck creature. Success means that target is sickened (moves at half speed) for 2 rounds. Critical success means the target is also nauseated (unable to act in action phase, move at half speed) for 1 round.

**Psionics** [Magical]: As a standard action, an aboleth can concentrate to cause the effects of one of the following spells. Its spellpower is equal to its power.

- The *create image* spell, augmented to affect all senses.
- The *dominate person* spell, augmented to affect creatures of any type.
- The *phantasmal killer* spell.
- The *invisibility* spell, augmented to affect Huge creatures.
- ullet The *invulnerability* spell.

## **6.2** Animals

## Bear, Black

Level 3 [CR 1]

Senses Low-light vision, scent

Movement 30 ft. land speed

Size Medium; Reach 5 ft.

HP 44; Defenses AD 18, Fort 25, Ref 15, Ment 12

Attacks Bite +10 (1d8+4); Strikes 1

Attributes Str 6, Dex 1, Con 6, Int -7, Per 1, Wil 0

Levels Animal 3 [Behemoth]

**Encounter** Temperate forests; solitary or pair

**Abilities** Natural armor +2

Traits: Durable, Natural Grab

# Bear, Brown

Level 6 [CR 1]

Senses Low-light vision, scent, Awareness +11

Movement 40 ft. land speed

Size Large; Reach 10 ft.

HP 100; Defenses AD 20, Fort 29, Ref 17, Ment 14

Attacks Bite +12 (2d6+5); Strikes 2

Attributes Str 9, Dex 2, Con 9, Int -7, Per 2, Wil 0

Levels Behemoth 6 [Animal]

**Encounter** Temperate forests; solitary or pair

Abilities Natural armor +2

Traits: Behemoth Size, Durable, Great Fortitude, Natural Grab

## 6.3 Constructs

# 6.4 Humanoids

## **Cultist**

## Level 1 [CR 1] Aranea

Level 5 [CR 2]

Senses Awareness -1

**Movement** 30 ft. land speed **Size** Medium; **Reach** 5 ft.

**HP** 9; **Defenses** AD 11, Fort 10, Ref 10, Ment 18

Attacks Club +4 (1d6+0); Strikes 1

Attributes Str 0, Dex 0, Con 0, Int -1, Per -1, Wil 3

Languages Common

Levels Adept 1 [Humanoid]

**Encounter** Any environment; solitary, group (5–10), or cult (11+)

Traits: Magical Ability, Mighty Will

**Adept Points**: A cultist has one adept point. It returns one hour after being spent.

**Reward the Faithful:** As a standard action, a cultist can spend an adept point to cause the effects of a spell. The spell's spellpower is 2. The spell depends on what cult the cultist is a member of, as given below.

• Evil deity: inflict wounds.

# **6.5** Magical Beasts

Ankheg

Level 6 [CR 1]

Senses Low-light vision, tremorsense 50 ft.

Movement 40 ft. land speed, 20 ft. burrow speed

Size Large; Reach 10 ft.

HP 84; Defenses AD 20, Fort 29, Ref 17, Ment 16

Attacks Bite +13 (2d6+7): Strikes 2

Attributes Str 10, Dex 2, Con 7, Int -8, Per 2, Wil 0

Level Magical beast 6 [Slayer]

**Encounter** Warm plains; solitary or cluster (2–4)

Abilities Natural armor +4

**Traits**: Burrower, Increased Size, Natural Grab.

**Burrower**: An ankheg can burrow through loose earth and dirt. It can construct usable tunnels while burrowing, but moves at half speed while doing so.

Senses Low-light vision

Movement 30 ft. land speed, 20 ft. climb speed

Size Medium; Reach 5 ft.

HP 82; Defenses AD 21, Fort 17, Ref 19, Ment 22

Attacks Bite +10 (1d8+3); Strikes 2

**Special Attacks** Poison +7 vs Fort (3d6, 7d8) [Immediate]

Alacrity Extra action every other

Attributes Str 2, Dex 6, Con 0, Int 6, Per 4, Wil 8

Level Magical beast 5 [Adept]

**Encounter** Temperate forests; solitary or colony (3–6)

Abilities Natural armor +4

**Traits**: Humanoid Form, Natural Venom, Spellcaster, Spit Web. **Humanoid Form**: As a standard action, an aranea can spend an adept point to change into a humanoid or hybrid form. The appearance and race of its humanoid form depends on the aranea, but any individual aranea has a consistent appearance. While in humanoid form, an aranea cannot use its bite, poison, or web attacks, but it can cast spells. While in hybrid form, an aranea appears humanoid and can use all of its abilities, but a DR 20 Awareness check reveals its spider-like characteristics.

**Poison:** If an aranea damages a target with its bite attack, it can inject poison as an immediate action. The poison's potency is 7. The primary effect deals 3d6 poison damage. The terminal effect deals 7d8 poison damage.

**Spells**: An aranea can cast arcane spells by spending an adept point. It knows *mage armor*, *create image*, and *sleep*. Its spellpower is 7. In a typical combat, an aranea has already cast *mage armor* to gain an armor bonus before the fight starts. This bonus is included in its statistics above.

**Web:** As a standard action, an aranea can spit a web at a creature or object within Medium (100 ft.) range. It makes an attack vs. Reflex against the target with a +7 accuracy. Success means the target is immobilized (Unable to leave its location) for 2 rounds.

## **6.6** Monstrous Humanoids

## Giant, Frost

## Level 10 [CR 1] Arrowhawk

Level 3 [CR 1]

Senses Awareness +7

Movement 50 ft. land speed Size Huge; Reach 20 ft.

Defenses AD 27, Fort 40, Ref 14, Ment 20; HP 226

Immune Cold

Attacks Greataxe +15 (4d6+11); Strikes 3

Rock +15 (2d10+10)

Special Attacks Frost breath +13 (6d8 cold)

Skills Craft +7

Attributes Str 13, Dex 0, Con 10, Int 0, Per 3, Wil 7

Levels Behemoth 5, Slayer 5 [Humanoid]

**Encounter** 

Abilities Natural armor +4

Items Greataxe, breastplate

Traits: Behemoth Size, Breath Weapon: Line, Brute Force,

Durable, Great Fortitude, Innate Magic

#### 6.7 **Outsiders**

# Angel, Astral Deva

Level 14 [CR 2]

Senses Darkvision 50 ft., low-light vision, truesight 50 ft.

Movement 30 ft. land speed Size Medium; Reach 5 ft.

HP 357; Defenses AD 29, Fort 35, Ref 28, Ment 32

Attacks Greatsword +23 (1d10+19); Strikes 3

**Attributes** Str 17, Dex 13, Con 13, Int 13, Per 13, Wil 13

**Level** Outsider 14 [Adept, Slayer]

**Encounter** Any good-aligned plane; solitary, pair, or squad (3–5)

Abilities Natural armor +4

**Traits**: Brute Force, Resist Damage, Resist Magic, Spellcaster, Superior Senses.

Senses Darkvision 50 ft., Awareness +11

**Movement** 60 ft. fly speed

Size Small; Reach 5 ft.

**HP** 21; **Defenses** AD 21, Fort 12, Ref 21, Ment 15

Attacks Bite +13 (1d6+2, 1d6 electricity); Strikes 1 **Special Attacks** Electricity ray +5 (4d6 electricity)

Attributes Str 3, Dex 7, Con 3, Int 0, Per 6, Wil 1

Languages Auran

Levels Slayer 3 [Outsider]

**Encounter** Plane of Air; solitary or clutch (2–4)

**Abilities** Natural armor +2

Traits: Damaging Ray, Flight, Natural Energy

Electricity Ray: As a standard action, an arrowhawk can fire a ray of electricity from its tail at a creature or object within Medium (100 ft.) range. It makes a +5 vs. Reflex attack against the target. Success means the target takes 3d10 electricity damage. Critical success deals double damage. Failure deals half damage.

## Demon, Bebelith

# Level 11 [CR 1] Allip

Level 4 [CR 1]

Senses Darkvision 50 ft., darkvision 50 ft.

Movement 50 ft. land speed, 25 ft. climb speed

Size Huge; Reach 20 ft.

HP 237; Defenses AD 26, Fort 39, Ref 23, Ment 24

Attacks Bite +17 (2d10+12, poison); Strikes 3

Claw +17 (2d8+7, rend)

**Special Attacks** Poison +15 vs Fort (6d6, 13d6) [Immediate]

Rend +15 vs. Fort (7d10) [Immediate]

Web +15 vs. Ref (immobilized 2 rounds) [Swift]

Attributes Str 14, Dex 11, Con 11, Int 3, Per 7, Wil 3

Languages Abyssal (hearing only)

Levels Behemoth 5, Slayer 6 [Outsider]

**Encounter** The Abyss; solitary

**Abilities** Natural armor +4, telepathy (100 ft., willing only)

**Traits**: Behemoth Size, Durable, Natural Force, Natural Venom, Rend, Spit Web

**Poison:** If a bebelith damages a target with its bite attack, it can inject poison as an immediate action. The poison's potency is 14. The primary effect makes the target sickened (*moves at half speed*) and deals 7d6 poison damage. The terminal effect makes the target nauseated (*unable to act in action phase, move at half speed*) for 1 round and deals 14d8 poison damage.

**Rend**: If a bebelith hits the same target with two claw attacks in the same round, it can attempt to rend as an immediate action. It makes a +15 vs. Fortitude attack against the target. Success deals 7d10 bludgeoning damage.

**Web**: As a swift action, a bebelith can spit a web at a creature or object within Medium (100 ft.) range. It makes a +15 vs. Reflex attack against the target. Success means the target is immobilized (Unable to leave its location) for 2 rounds.

As a standard action, the target can make a grapple attack or Escape Artist check to escape the webbing. The DR to escape is 21.

6.8 Undead

Senses Darkvision 50 ft.

Movement 30 ft. land speed, 30 ft. fly speed

Size Medium; Reach 5 ft.

HP 48; Defenses AD 17, Fort 14, Ref 17, Ment 24

Attacks Touch +10 (1d6+2); Strikes 1

Attributes Str 0, Dex 6, Con 0, Int 0, Per 2, Wil 7

Level Undead 4 [Adept]

**Encounter** Any environment; solitary

Traits: Draining Touch, Incorporeal, Magical Ability.

**Babble**: As a standard action, an allip can spend an adept point to babble incoherently. It makes a +5 vs. Mental attack against all creatures within an Medium (20 ft.) radius of it. Success against a target means it is disoriented (moves randomly) for 2 rounds. Critical success means it is confused (randomly babbles, flees, attacks nearest, or acts normally) for 2 rounds instead. This is a **Auditory**, **Compulsion**, **Mind** effect.

**Draining Touch:** If an allip touches a creature, the touched creature takes 1d6 + 2 life damage. The allip heals hit points equal to half the damage dealt in this way. In addition, it is proficient with its touch attack, gaining the normal +4 accuracy bonus for proficiency.

Incorporeal: Allips are incorporeal.

# Appendix A

# Glossary

**adept**: An adept monster has unique special abilities that it relies on in combat. For details, see Adept, page 7.

**cover**: Cover represents any obstacle that physically prevents you from striking your target, such as a tree or intervening creature. A creature behind cover is more difficult to attack. For details, see the Core Rulebook.

**darkvision**: A creature with darkvision can see in the dark clearly up to a given range. Beyond that, it can see dimly, treating areas of darkness as shadowy illumination. Darkvision does not function if a creature is in a brightly lit area, and does not resume functioning until 1 round after the creature leaves the brightly lit area.

**incorporeal**: An incorporeal creature does not have a body. It has no Strength or Constitution attributes. It cannot take any action that requires having a body, and is immune to all such effects. This includes suffering critical hits, moving objects, grappling, setting off pressure traps, and so on.

An incorporeal creature is immune to all nonmagical effects. Even magical effects, including spells and attacks with magic weapons, have a 50% chance to fail.

An incorporeal creature can enter or pass through solid objects, but it must remain adjacent to the object's exterior at all times. If it is completely inside an object, it cannot see out or attack. It can fight while partially inside an object, which grants it passive **cover** and allows it to attack and see normallly.

magic resistance: A creature with magic resistance can automatically resist magical abilities. It functions like any other defense, except that it only works against magical effects. To affect a magic resistant creature with a magical ability, you must make an additional magical attack against the creature's magic resistance value. Your accuracy is equal to your power with the ability you using, such as your spellpower with spells. If your attack result beats the creature's magic resistance, the ability works normally. Otherwise, the ability has no effect on the creature.

**physical defenses**: Your physical defenses are your Armor and Reflex defenses. For details, see the Core Rulebook.

**power**: All monsters have a power that affects the strength of many of their special abilities. For details, see Power, page 3.

range increment: Physical ranged attacks often have a specific range increment. A range increment is always measured in feet. You take a -2 penalty to accuracy with the ranged attack for each full range increment between you and your target.

**vulnerable**: A creature can be vulnerable to a type of damage or a special weapon material. It takes double damage from sources it is vulnerable to.

## A.1 Monsters

## **Dire Animals**

#### **Dire Bear**

Level: 12

Archetypes: Brute 6, Disabler 1, Tank 5

Attributes:

**Traits**: (4+12+6) Natural Weapon I x2, Natural Weapon II x2, Natural Armor I, Natural Armor II x2, Senses I x2,

#### **Dire Lion**

Level: 10

Archetypes: Brute 7, Disabler 2, Tank 1

**Attributes**: 5, 6, 4, -8, 1, 0

**Traits**: (4+10+5) Natural Weapon I x2, Natural Weapon II x2, Natural Armor I, Senses I x2, Pounce, Area Debuff (shaken), Widen Area Debuff x2, Attribute (Dex) x3, HV Increase, Attribute (Str) x2, Attribute (Con), Size Increase

#### **Dire Wolf**

Level: 8

Archetypes: Brute 6, Disabler 1, Tank 1

**Attributes**: 7, 2, 4, -8, 1, 0

**Traits**: (4+8+4) Natural Weapon I, Natural Weapon II x2, Natural Armor I, Natural Armor II x2, Improved Trip, Size Increase, Senses I x2, Attribute (Strength) x4, Attribute (Con) x1, HV Increase

#### Animals

### Bear, Black

Level: 3

Archetypes: Brute 1, Disabler 1, Tank 1

**Attributes**: 4/0/5/-8/2/0

**Traits**: (2+5) Natural Weapon I x2, Natural Armor I, Attr (Str),

Attribute (Con x2), Improved Grab

#### Bear, Brown

Level: 6

Archetypes: Brute 2, Disabler 1, Tank 3

**Attributes**: 6/0/6/-8/3/0

**Traits**: (2+9) Natural Weapon I x2, Natural Armor I, NA II, Attr (Str), Attribute (Con x3), Attr (Per), Improved Grab, Size Increase (Large)

# A.2 Monster Design

Creating a monster involves following a series of steps. These steps need not be followed in the order given, as long as all of them are done.

- 1. Choose a level for the monster
- 2. Choose a creature type (Animal, Dragon, etc.)
- 3. Choose one or more archetypes (Warrior, Scout, etc.)
- 4. Assign attributes
- 5. Choose traits (special abilities unique to monsters)
- 6. Choose skills and feats
- 7. Choose equipment (if any)

## **Monster Level**

A monster's level affects many things. Like a PC, a monster's level affects its core statistics, such as hit points, base attack bonus, and saving throws. In addition, monsters gain a number of special abilities based on their level, like class abilities for PCs.

## **Creature Types**

HV: Hit points gained at each level.

**BAB**: Base attack bonus progression (Good, Average, or Poor). **Saving Throws**: Saving throw progressions (Good, Average, or poor).

**Attributes**: The number of points the creature can spend on its attributes. If the creature has a special modifier to its attributes, such as the low Intelligence of animals, that is also listed here.

**Automatic Traits**: Many creature types automatically grant certain traits. These are listed here. Individual creatures may not have these traits if appropriate.

## **Aberration**

**HV**: 5

BAB: Average

Saving Throws: Average Fort, Ment; poor Ref

**Attributes**: 10 points

Automatic Traits: Natural Weapon, Natural Armor

### **Animal**

**HV**: 5

BAB: Average

**Saving Throws**: Average Fort, Ref; poor Ment **Attributes**: 10 points, -8 Intelligence (max -5)

Automatic Traits: Natural Weapon, Natural Armor, Senses

(Low-light vision, Scent)

## **Archetypes**

Archetypes are thematic representations of the powers a creature has and the role it plays in a typical combat. For example, a Warrior is more powerful in physical combat, while a Brute is more difficult to kill. A creature may have any number of archetypes.

Each archetype has two main effects. First, archetypes often change a creature's base progressions for attacks, saving throws, or hit points. Second, each archetype has an associated list of traits called a "trait pool". Creatures gain bonus traits from each of the archetypes they have, chosen from the traits in that archetype's trait pool.

For each archetype the creature has, it gains trait points equal to its level which can be spent on traits from that archetype's trait pool.

#### Brute

**BAB**: Increases by one step

Saving Throws: Fort increases by one step

#### **Trait Pool:**

- Attribute (Str, Con)
- Combat Feat (Power)
- Natural Weapon I, II
- Poison I, II
- Size Increase
- Trample

#### **Disabler**

#### Trait Pool:

• Improved Grab

#### **Monster Traits A.3**

Traits are unique abilities that monsters gain. A monster has a number of trait points equal to its level, which it can use to acquire traits. Most traits cost a single trait point to acquire.

A monster with an archetype gains additional trait points equal to half its level (minimum 1). These trait points can only be spent on traits from that archetype's trait pool. If a creature has multiple archetypes, it gains and spends trait points separately for each archetype.

For example, a 5th level monster with the Scout and Warrior archetypes has nine trait points: five which can be spent on any trait, two for traits from the Scout trait pool, and two for traits from the Warrior trait pool.

Some traits can be taken multiple times. Unless otherwise stated, no trait can be taken more times than half your level (minimum 1).

Traits come in two main groups: active traits, which grant new attacks or special powers the monster can use, and passive traits, which improve the monster's statistics.

## **Active Traits**

### **Natural Grab**

Choose one of your natural weapons.

**Prerequisite**: Natural Weapon

Benefit: When you hit a creature with your chosen natural weapon, you may make a grapple attempt as an immediate action. The creature must be at least one size category smaller than you.

#### Natural Grab, Improved

Prerequisite: Natural Grab, Natural Weapon.

Benefit: You can use your natural grab ability on creatures of your size category or smaller.

#### **Natural Poison**

Choose one of your natural weapons.

Prerequisite: Natural Weapon.

Benefit: As a swift action, you can ready your chosen natural weapon to inflict poison. The next time you deal damage with it, the struck creature must make a Fortitude save or be afflicted with poison. The DR for the save is equal to 10 + 1/2 your level + Constitution.

The poison deals 1 damage each round to an attribute of your choice (other than Constitution). It continues until the subject makes two successful Fortitude saves against the poison.

### **Natural Poison, Extended**

Prerequisite: Natural Poison, Natural Weapon

Benefit: Your poison lasts until the subject makes three successful Fortitude saves.

#### **Natural Poison, Improved**

Prerequisite: Natural Poison, Natural Weapon.

other than Constitution, or 1 damage per round to Constitution.

## Trample

Prerequisite: Large size or larger.

Benefit: As a full-round action, you can move up to twice your speed in a straight line and literally run over any creature at least one size category smaller than you without being impeded. Any creature whose space is completely covered by your own at any point during this movement takes damage.

This attack deals 1d10 damage + your Strength for a Large creature, and the save DR is equal to 10 + your level + Strength.

### **Passive Traits**

### Attribute

Choose an attribute.

**Benefit**: You gain a +1 inherent bonus to the appropriate attribute. **Special**: This trait can be taken any number of times. Its effects stack. You can choose a different attribute or the same attribute each time. However, your bonus with a single attribute cannot exceed half your level (minimum 1).

## Damage Reduction

Benefit: You gain damage reduction equal to your HV + Constitution against any of the damage types listed below. This damage reduction can overcome by your choice of a different one of these

- Aligned damage, single (chaotic, good, evil, lawful)
- Energy damage, single (acid, cold, electricity, or fire)
- Physical damage, single (bludgeoning, slashing, piercing, non-

Advanced: For an additional trait point, your damage reduction can instead resist any of the following damage types.

- Energy damage, all
- Physical damage, all
- Spell damage

#### Natural Armor

**Benefit**: You gain a +2 inherent bonus to your natural armor modifier.

Special: You can take this trait multiple times. Each time, you gain an additional +1 inherent bonus to your natural armor.

### Natural Weapon

Benefit: You gain a natural weapon from the following list. The natural weapon deals damage appropriate for your size. The damage listed is for Medium creatures.

- Bite (d8)
- Claws (d6 main, d6 flurry)
- Slam (d8)

### Natural Weapon, Improved

Choose a natural weapon. Prerequisite: Natural Weapon.

Benefit: You increase the damage die of one of your natural weapons by one category.

Special: You can take this trait multiple times. Each time, you Benefit: Your poison deals 1d4 damage per round to an attribute can apply it to a different natural weapon or to the same natural weapon. You cannot apply this trait to the same weapon more times than half your Constitution.

#### Sense

**Benefit**: You gain one of the following senses.

- Blindsense 50 ft.
- Darkvision 50 ft.
- Low-light vision
- Scent
- Tremorsense 50 ft.

**Special**: This trait can be taken multiple times. Each time, you may select a different sense.

**Advanced**: For an additional trait point, you can instead gain one of the following senses.

• Blindsight 30 ft.

## Sense, Improved

Choose one of your senses from the Sense trait with a range.

Prerequisite: Sense.

Benefit: You double the range of your chosen sense.

## **Size Increase**

**Prerequisite**: Medium size or smaller, Attribute (Strength) x2.

Benefit: Your size increases by one category.

**Special**: You can take this trait multiple times. You must have Attribute (Strength) x2 to become Large, x4 to become Huge, x6 to become Gargantuan, and x8 to become Colossal.

## **Templates**

#### Dire

Prerequisite: Animal type

**Benefit**: Base attack bonus progression improves by 1 step. HV improves by 1.