

Super Smash Bros. Master Document

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1 Super Smash Bros. Ultimate (2018)

1.1 Meta Knight

The Galactic Warrior **Meta Knight** returns for a third time, with noticeable *nerfs* to his toolkit.

Meta Knight is known in Ultimate for his bait-and-switch playstyle focused on touches-of-death (??)

1.1.1 Moves

Rapid Jab

| Startup | Endlag | Total | BKB | KBG |
|---------|--------|-------|-----|-----|
| 4 | 27 | 45 | 60 | 140 |

(*Rapid Jab Finish*)

While generally unsafe, Meta Knight's *rapid jab* has notable strength in dealing shield pressure, either by the edge of a platform or by crossing up shields using the lengthy skid animation. If it does hit, it may deal up to 20.1%. The move does not fill the typical role of a jab, which would be relegated to his *down tilt*, instead.

Down Tilt

| Startup | Endlag | Total | BKB | KBG | Trip |
|---------|--------|-------|-----|-----|------|
| 3 | 13 | 18 | 15 | 88 | 0.25 |

An excellent poking tool. With a 3-frame startup and a 25% chance to trip, Meta Knight's *down tilt* serves as the perfect jab for the character, letting him jab-lock or set up for a combo-starter such as a grab or *dash attack*.

Dash Attack

| Startup | Endlag | Total | BKB | KBG | Angle |
|---------|--------|-------|-----|-----|-------|
| 7 | 21 | 32 | 65 | 107 | 60° |
| - | - | - | - | - | 70° |
| - | - | - | 67 | - | 80° |

Often revered as one of the best (combo-starting) dash attacks in the game, Meta Knight's *dash attack* is one of, if not the most important, moves in his toolkit. The variable angles it can send at set up for various *up air* strings. The downside of this move is that it scales somewhat fast. It ceases to be an effective combo-starter at early-mid percentages, but does not become a potent KO-threat until much later percentages.

Nonetheless, this move is fundamental to Meta Knight's combo game, is hard to react-DI, and always provides at least **8 frames** of hit advantage.

Up Air

| Startup | Endlag | Total | BKB | KBG | Angle | Landing Lag | Shield Stun |
|---------|--------|-------|-----|-----|-------|-------------|-------------|
| 6 | 20 | 26 | 65 | 128 | 67° | 9 | 3 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 50° | - | - |

The essential move for Meta Knight's ladder combos, as well being an important aspect of his bridges and stage-carries. While its hitboxes are lacklustre, and the move does not come out as fast as in Brawl, and is certainly out-shined by other up-aerials in Ultimate. In order for ladders to be true, you need to deal 26 frames of hitstun, so that *up air* strings into *up air*. This threshold is approximately $0.236/w$, where w is the opponent's weight:

| Character | Pichu | Mario | Bowser |
|-----------|-------|-------|--------|
| w | 62 | 98 | 135 |
| % | 17.4 | 22.2 | 27.1 |
| $\%/w$ | .281 | .227 | .200 |

The usual strategy with *up air ladders* is to keep going until it starts sending into tumble, to then finish the opponent off with *shuttle loop*.

Forward Smash Due to its absurd shield safety and low endlag, *f-smash* is one of Meta Knight's best grounded neutral options. A potent KO-threat at mid-high percentages that functions greatly as a conditioning tool. After hitting a shield, Meta Knight may throw out a *d-smash* to cover for certain out-of-shield options (e.g. grabs, shield-drops).

1.1.2 Matchups

Bowser

Zero to Death

$$fthrow \rightarrow DA \rightarrow bridge \rightarrow finisher$$

Death is avoidable by **DI in**, but may result in getting carried across stage, leaving Bowser at $\sim 50\%$