



SESSION ZERO: CHECKLIST

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A simple list of topics you need to discuss with your players before you kill them!



SESSION 0: CHECKLIST



This sheet includes a list of topics that you, the Dungeon Master, could discuss with your players during the "session zero" of a new campaign. You can also print this sheet (letter size) and have it with you during the session.

SO WHAT'S A SESSION ZERO?

Session zero is a planning session that is run at the beginning of a new campaign. This session usually includes a lot of discussion between the dungeon master and the players, and sets some expectations and rules. The character creation usually also happens during this session.

ESSENTIALS TO BE DISCUSSED

- How often you're gonna play
- Where you're gonna play
- How much time will each session last on average
- Type of game

THE WORLD

- What's the setting that the story will be set in
- Notable locations, races, and people
- Other notable information about the world
- Class or race restrictions

THE CAMPAIGN

- Estimated campaign length
- Which system-version will be used
- Which books from the system are allowed
- Genre & tone of the campaign
- Emphasis on combat & roleplaying
- Level of campaign difficulty

THE DM STYLE

- Improvisation or preparation
- Rules flexibility
- Roam flexibility
- Experience/reward distribution
- Expectation of consequences
- Balance changes
- Homebrew material
- Restrictions

IN-GAME TOPICS

- Disruptive topics or actions
- In-game expectations from players and from the DM
- Metagaming
- Rules debates
- Handling problematic situations
- Character deaths
- Player vs Player situations
- In-game house rules

OUT-OF-GAME TOPICS

- Disruptive topics or situations
- Out-of-game expectations from players and from the DM
- Required session equipment
- Alcohol & drugs
- Mobile phone use and distractions during play
- Commitment
- Player Absences
- Snacks
- Out-of-game house rules



CREDITS

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Formatted Using: homebrewery.naturalcrit.com

INSPIRATION:

- reddit.com/r/dndnext/comments/601awb/session0_topic_checklist_and_guide/
- docs.google.com/document/d/1h2f89FHJHHq5jPrzKEB0V24EwE4ebto3WutJq_tVr90

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