

# **Basic Path of Exile Crafting Guide**

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner of the page, consisting of a cluster of overlapping triangles in various shades of blue, creating a geometric, crystalline effect.

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# Chapter 1. Introduction

**Goal:** This guide is created for practicing the theory covered in the Udemy course *How to Write Using DITA XML* , and only for an educational purpose.

**Content:** The guide's content is based on my knowledge gained from playing the Path of Exile online game, and I used <https://www.poewiki.net> as a reference to ensure the correctness of some items' names or facts mentioned in the guide.

**Audience:** The guide provides versions for experienced and novice players.

- Experienced players are considered those, familiar with the Path of Exile game concepts and terminology, who only need guidelines for a specific crafting features.
- Novice players are just entering the world of Path of Exile. They need additional information about the general aspects related to the items, and item crafting.

Both groups are considered to have an experience with the game itself, knowledge of the gameplay and of how the interface and the different items look like, what their names are, and how to interact with them.

# Chapter 2. Overview

## What is crafting

*Crafting* in Path of Exile means changing an existing item's characteristics to create an item that otherwise does not exist in the game.

**NOTE:** Although the crafting goal is to create a better item, the process is random, and the outcome is not guaranteed. Usually obtaining a high-end game item requires multiple crafting attempts.

## Currency

Currency is the common name of all of the in-game non-equipable items that are dropped by killing monsters. Currency can be used to buy items from the NPC vendors, for trades with the other players in game, and for crafting. Some currency types have specific functions like opening portals or identifying an item.

**The currency type used for crafting is Orbs.**

Orbs can be dropped in any area, but each orb type has a different chance of dropping. Some are very common, others are very rare or may be dropped only by a boss. The character's level, the area level, or other factors like map enchantment or gear attributes can also influence the drop chance.

## How to use Orbs

The type of orbs applicable to an item is determined by its rarity.

Rare items have the largest orb pool. Normal, Magic or Unique items can have only a few orb types applied to them.

Every type of orb has a different effect - affixes' values change, affixes reroll, removal of affixes, item rarity change, etc.

**How to discover an orb function:** Hovering over an orb opens a window with information about its effect and the rarity type it may be used on. If no rarity type is mentioned, the orb may be applied to an item of any type.

## Item Rarity

Rarity measures the chance of an item with a given combination of characteristics to appear in the game. It's related to the benefits the item may provide, and the higher rarity items are usually better than the lower ones.

### Rarity types

Rarity	Color	Description
Normal	White	Base version of the item without any affixes.
Magic	Blue	Magic version of an item. May have up to 2 affixes - one prefix and one suffix.
Rare	Yellow	Rare version of an item. May have up to 6 affixes - three prefixes and three suffixes.
Unique	Orange	Unique skin and name. They have special affixes that can't be found on other items. The Unique items have limited crafting options compared to the Rare items.

## Affixes

Every non-normal type item in Path of Exile has modifiers that provide various effects or improvements. These modifiers are known as affixes.

There are two types of affixes - prefixes and suffixes. All of the existing affixes in the game are separated between prefixes and suffixes and may belong to only one of these groups.

The maximum number of prefixes and suffixes an item can have is limited by its rarity.

[Item Rarity \(on page 5\)](#)

## Available affixes

How to find out how many prefixes and suffixes an item has.

A Magic or Rare item may not always have the full number of affixes, offering the option of an additional prefix or suffix to be added via different crafting methods.

Here is how to check for available affix slots:

1. Hover the cursor over an item.
2. Press and hold the Alt key.
3. A window showing the item's affixes and their name and type will open.

# Chapter 3. How to Craft

## Crafting Steps

How to use different orbs and change the item affixes.

Items used for crafting must be identified and non-corrupted. Increasing the item's quality is optional, but the higher quality improves the chances to obtain better modifier values.

1. Put the item in your inventory.
2. Optional for armors: Use Armourer's scrap on an armor to increase the quality to 20% (max %).
3. Optional for weapons: Use Blacksmith's Whetstone on a weapon to increase the quality to 20% (max %).
4. Use the appropriate type of Orb according to the desired outcome.
5. Right-click an orb to mark it for use.
6. Left-click the item to apply the orb.

**Example:** Use Orb of Transmutation to upgrade the item's rarity from Normal to Magic. Keep applying Orbs of Alteration until receiving the desired outcome, for example *12% Increased Intelligence*. Finish the crafting by using a Regal Orb to upgrade the item to Rare. It will keep the Magic version affixes and will add at least one more random modifier to the item.

# Chapter 4. Special Crafting Types

## Harvest Crafting

Crafting using Lifeforce currency.

Harvest crafting is an advanced type of crafting and provides options for a better control over the outcome.

It becomes available after clearing the harvest plots in the Sacred Grove - a random encounter area that can be found on maps. After a player enters the Sacred Grove, and finishes the small side quest there, they unlock the Horticulture Station in their hideout.

Horticulture station requires a currency called Lifeforce which is dropped only by the monsters in the Sacred Grove.

## Lifeforce types

There are four Lifeforce currency types:

- Vivid
- Wild
- Primal
- Sacred

Sacred Lifeforce can be dropped only by the Sacred Grove final boss while the other types are dropped by the common monsters in the Grove.

## Popular Harvest Crafts

Harvest Crafting is mostly used to:

- Change the elemental resistance modifier into a different one of the same tier - for example from Fire into Cold;
- Change an item socket color into white;
- Change a Key Fragment into a different Fragment of the same Key;
- Change the type of a Splinter or a Breachstone;

## How to Use Horticulture Station



Unlock Horticulture Station and collect enough Lifeforce.

Items used for crafting must be identified and non-corrupted. Increasing the item's quality is optional, but the higher quality improves the chances to obtain better modifier values.

1. Click on the Horticulture Station to open the crafting options window.
2. Place the item into the item's slot.
3. Select the desired modification.
4. Press "Craft".

**Example:** Use gloves with a Fire Resistance modifier and choose to replace it with a Cold Resistance modifier of the same tier.

## Bench Crafting

A type of crafting that uses the Crafting bench, Orbs and Crafting Recipes.

- The Crafting Bench is an item located in the player's hideout.
- The Crafting Recipes are hidden throughout the game's locations. After the player discovers them, they are added to the list of the Bench crafting options.
- Veiled modifiers, once discovered, are also available for craft via the Crafting Bench.

## Bench Crafting Restrictions

Requirements to use the Crafting Bench.

1. Bench crafting can only be used with Rare or Unique identified items, but has no restriction on whether they are corrupted or not.

**NOTE:** The Corrupted items always require the usage of Vaal Orbs in addition to the other orbs used during the crafting process making it more expensive.

2. The crafting requires a number of orbs of a given type depending on the desired outcome.
3. An affix can only be added to an item if it has a free slot of the corresponding type. For example, a suffix can be added to an item only if it has at least one free suffix slot.
4. Apart from some specific cases, Bench Crafting provides the option for only one affix to be added to the item, even if there are more affix slots available. For example, a Rare item with three suffixes can only receive one prefix even though Rare items are allowed to have up to three.
5. For the Unique items, Bench Crafting only provides options for socket number, links number, or socket color change. Their affixes are immutable.

[Available affixes \(on page 5\)](#)

## Popular Bench Crafts

Among the popular Bench Crafts are:

- Adding six sockets to an item.
- Adding six linked sockets to an item.
- Adding Resistance modifier.
- Flask enchantments.
- Adding Veiled modifiers.
- Remove a bench-crafted modifier from an item.

## How to Use Crafting Bench

The item used has to meet the Bench Crafting requirements. There must be enough orbs of the required type for the recipe in the player's inventory.

1. Click on the Crafting Bench to open the crafting options window.
2. Place the item into the item's slot.
3. Select the desired modification.
4. Press "Craft".

Place an armor into the Crafting Bench and choose *Add Six Linked Sockets To An Item*. According to the recipe requirements, 1500 Orbs of Fusing from your inventory will be consumed, and the armor will receive six linked sockets of random colors.

Use Chromatic Orbs to change the sockets' color to match your gems' colors.