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DOWNTIME ACTIVITIES

This document describe some downtime activities in detail, the mechanics behind them, and how they are resolved. The activities described are suggestions - you are free to come with your own ideas of what you want your character to do during downtime.

During downtime, characters have to pay lifestyle expenses. They are listed in more detail in the Player's Handbook on page 157.

Lifestyle expenses	Price/tenday
Wretched	-
Squalid	1gp
Poor	2gp
Modest	10gp
Comfortable	20gp
Wealthy	40gp
Aristocratic	100gp minimum

PURCHASING AN EXPENSIVE OR MAGICAL ITEM

Purchasing a magic item requires time and money to seek out and contact people willing to sell items. Even then, there is no guarantee that a seller will have the items a character desires. The price of a magic item varies from seller to seller, but you can expect that an item's price is likely to be similar to the price of the item in Sane Magical Item Prices, a pdf available for free online.

Cost. At least 100gp.

Time. At least one tenday.

Resolution. The character rolls Charisma (Persuasion). The character may add +1 to the roll for every additional tenday spent, and +1 to the roll for every additional 100gp spent, for a maximum of +10 to the check. Then, consult the table. Note that the listed results are what

can be expected, but not promises.

Check result	Seller inventory
1-5	1d6 common consumables
6-10	1d4 uncommon consumables
11-15	1d4 rare consumables
16-20	1d4 very rare consumables
21-25	1d4 legendary consumables
26-30	1d4 uncommon items
31-35	1d4 rare items
36-40	1d4 very rare items
41+	1d4 legendary items

SELLING AN EXPENSIVE OR MAGICAL ITEM

Selling a magic item is by no means an easy task. Con artists and thieves are always looking out for an easy score, and there's no guarantee that a character will receive a good offer even if a legitimate buyer is found. The price of a magic item varies from buyer to buyer, but you can expect that an item's price is likely to be similar to the price of the item in Sane Magical Item Prices, a pdf available for free online.

Cost. 25gp.

Time. One tenday.

Resolution. The character makes a Charisma (Persuasion) check to determine the offer for the item. The character can always opt not to sell, instead forfeiting the initial cost and the workweek of effort and trying again later. Consult the below table to determine the offered price.

Check result	Offer
1-10	30%-70% of the item's value
11-20	80% - 120% of the item's value
21+	130%-170% of the item's value

PURCHASING SPELLCASTING SERVICES

Sometimes, you need the benefits of spells that you aren't able to cast. In exchange for a donation to a temple, its clerics can provide spells.

Cost. Varies.

Time. Up to 3 spells can be bought per day.

Resolution. If you have access to a temple whose clerics are of a high enough level to cast the spell you wish to have cast, you can calculate the cost of the spell as follows. A spell of level L with a consumed material component costing CMC and a non-consumed material component costing NMC costs (in gp):

$$\text{cost} = 10 \times L^2 + 2 \times CMC + 0.1 \times NMC$$

A few example spells are given below:

Spell	Cost
Identify	20gp
Augury	40gp
Remove curse	90gp
Sending	90gp
Speak with dead	90gp
Divination	210gp
Greater restoration	450gp
Legend lore	770gp
Raise dead	1250gp
Reincarnate	2250gp
Resurrection	3000gp
True Resurrection	50000gp

CAROUSING

Carousing is a default downtime activity for many characters. Carousing is a means to gain contacts; NPCs which either owes the character a favour or has some reason to bear a grudge. A hostile contact works against the character, placing obstacles but stopping short of committing a crime or a violent act. Allied contacts are friends who will render aid to the character, but not at the risk of their lives.

Carousing covers any living expenses for the duration of the carousing.

Resolution. Regardless of which folks the character carouses, the character makes a Charisma (Persuasion) check and consults the

below table.

Check total	Result
1-5	Character has made a hostile contact
6-10	Character has made no new contacts
11-15	Character has made an allied contact
16-20	Character has made two allied contacts
21+	Character has made three allied contacts

LOWER CLASS

Lower-class contacts include criminals, laborers, mercenaries, the town guard, and any other folk who normally frequent the cheapest taverns in town.

Cost. 10gp per tenday.

Time. At least one tenday.

MIDDLE CLASS

Middle-class contacts include guild members, spellcasters, town officials, and other folk who frequent well-kept establishments.

Cost. 50gp per tenday.

Time. At least one tenday.

UPPER CLASS

Carousing with the upper class requires some means to gain access to nobility. Such means may include a noble background, having already made a number of contacts among the nobility, or through the use of a disguise kit and successful deception.

Upper-class contacts are nobles and their personal servants. Carousing with such folks covers formal banquets, state dinners, and the like.

Cost. 250 gp per tenday.

Time. At least one tenday.

CRAFTING A NON-MAGICAL ITEM

A character who has the time, the money and the needed tools can use downtime to craft armour, weapons, clothing, or other kinds of non-magical gear. In addition to the appropriate tools for the item to be crafted, a character needs raw materials worth half of the item's value.¹ To determine how many tendays it takes to create an item, divide an item's cost by 50. A character can complete multiple items in a tenday, as long as their combined cost is 50gp or lower. Items that cost more than 50gp can be completed over longer periods of time, as long as the work in progress is stored in a safe location.

A character needs the appropriate tools and proficiency with said tools to craft an item. For examples, see the below table.

Tool/Proficiency	Item
Alchemist's supplies	Antitoxin, <i>potion of healing</i>
Leatherworker's tools	Leather armour, boots
Smith's tools	Armour, weapons
Weaver's tools	Cloaks, robes

Cost. Half the cost of the item.

Time. At least one tenday.

CRAFTING A MAGICAL ITEM

The process of crafting a magical item is more complicated than that of crafting a non-magical item. However, the results are often much more potent.

Almost all magical items require time, a potent main ingredient, (money for) secondary ingredients, and someone who can combine

these ingredients correctly.

Ingredient	Notes
The main ingredient	This is something strange, exotic, and often magical in nature. Main ingredients are often found or otherwise acquired during adventuring. Examples are a strange plant, a dragon's tooth, or a mind-flayer's brain.
Secondary ingredients	The secondary ingredients are less precise, and might be various herbs if brewing a potion, a chain if making a necklace, or parchment and rare inks if crafting a book. We often abstract these to be a cost in gold pieces.
Knowledge	Crafting a magical item requires specialised skills. Sometimes, a character needs proficiency in a skill such as Arcana or Religion. Othertimes, a character would need specific knowledge in a particular field, such as "the flow of earth energy through the elemental plane of mud" or "the secret guarded by the fourth Tome Archon of Mount Celestia". For these hyper-specific knowledge requirements, it is often easiest to befriend, hire or make a contact for assistance.
Time	The final ingredient is time. The crafter makes a series of checks, each check requiring a tenday to perform.

See table 1 for a few example items. It is impossible to list recipes for all magical items in the game. Similarly, there is no single method of crafting a particular item. For example, a potion of greater healing could also be crafted

¹See the Player's Handbook for a list of items and their values.

from a specific, rare herb - in addition to the below suggested vial of holy water. Additionally, you are not limited to the items available in e.g. source-books - approach me with an idea for an item, and we will figure out how to make it work.

CRIME

Sometimes it pays to be bad. This activity gives a character the chance to make some extra cash, at the risk of arrest.

Cost. 25 gp.

Time. One tenday.

Resolution. The character must make a series of checks, with the DC for all checks chosen by the character according to the amount of profit sought from the crime. Possible DCs are shown in the table below.

DC	Value
10	50gp, robbery of a struggling merchant
15	200gp, robbery of a prosperous merchant
20	500gp, robbery of a noble
25	2000gp, robbery of one of the richest figures in town

To attempt a crime, a character makes three checks: Dexterity (Stealth), Dexterity (thieves' tools), and the character's choice of Intelligence (Investigation), Wisdom (Perception), or Charisma (Deception).

If all checks are successful, the character earns the loot. If two checks are successful, the character fails the heist but the character escapes unnoticed. If a single check is successful, the character fails the heist but the character escapes and a complication occurs. If no checks are successful, the character must pay a fine equal to the profit the crime would have earned and spend a tenday in jail for each 25gp of the fine.

GAMBLING

Games of chance are a way to make a fortune - and perhaps a better way to lose one.

Cost. A stake of at least 10gp, to a maximum of 1000gp.

Time. One tenday.

Resolution. The character must make a series of checks, with a DC determined at random based on the quality of competition that the character runs into. Part of the risk of gambling is that one never knows who might end up sitting across the table.

The character makes three checks: Wisdom (Insight), Charisma (Deception) and Charisma (Intimidation). If the character has proficiency with an appropriate gaming set, that tool proficiency can replace the relevant skill in any of the checks. Consult the below table to see how the character did.

Result	Value
0 successes	Lose all the money you bet, and accrue a debt equal to that amount.
1 success	Lost half the money you bet.
2 successes	Gain the amount you bet plus half again more.
3 successes	Gain double the amount you bet.

PIT FIGHTING

Pit fighting includes boxing, wrestling and other nonlethal forms of combat in an organized setting with predetermined matches.

Cost. None.

Time. One tenday.

Resolution. The character must make a series of checks, with a DC determined at random based on the quality of the opposition that the character runs into. Part of the challenge in pit fighting lies in the unknown nature of a character's opponents.

The character makes three checks: Strength (Athletics), Dexterity (Acrobatics), and a special Constitution check that has a bonus equal to a roll of the character's hit die (the roll doesn't spend that die). Consult the table below to see

Item	Primary ingredient	Secondary ingredients	Knowledge	Time
Potion of greater healing	A vial of holy water	100gp of herbs	Proficiency in Alchemist's supplies or Herbalism kit	2 successful DC 15 checks
Potion of hill giant strength	A hill giant's fingernail	1000gp of herbs and spices	Proficiency in Alchemist's supplies or Herbalism kit	3 successful DC 15 checks
Potion of cold resistance	A scale from a white dragon	1000gp of herbs	Proficiency in Alchemist's supplies or Herbalism kit	3 successful DC 17 checks
Flame tongue enchantment	The heart of a remorhaz	3000gp of flammable materials	Intricate knowledge of the Elemental Fire, e.g. from a Fire Elemental	5 successful DC 15 checks
loun stone	a small, semi-polished stone or pebble	varies, 10000gp-50000gp of materials	Proficiency in Arcana	varies, at least 15 successful DC 20 checks
Helm of brilliance	Crown of a mummy lord or liche	20000gp of gems and rare powders	Proficiency in Religion	10 successful DC 20 checks

Table 1: Example formulas for crafting magical items

how the character did.

Result	Value
0 successes	Lose your bouts, win nothing.
1 success	Win 50gp.
2 successes	Win 100gp.
3 successes	Win 200gp.

RELAXATION

Sometimes the best thing to do between adventures is relax. Whether a character wants a hard-earned vacation or needs to recover from injuries, relaxation is the ideal option for adventurers who need a break. This option is also ideal for players who don't want to do anything particular during the downtime.

Cost. The character needs to maintain at least a modest lifestyle during the activity.

Time. At least one tenday.

Resolution. Characters who maintain at least a modest lifestyle while relaxing gain several benefits. While relaxing, a character gains advantage on saving throws to recover from long-acting diseases and poisons. In addition, at the end of the tenday, a character can end one effect that keeps the character from regaining hit points, or can restore one ability score that has been reduced to less than its

normal value. This benefit cannot be used if the harmful effect was caused by a spell or some other magical effect with an ongoing duration.

RELIGIOUS SERVICE

Character with a religious bent might want to spend downtime in service to a temple, either by attending rites or by proselytizing in the community. Someone who undertakes this activity has a chance of winning the favor of the temple's leaders.

Performing religious service requires access to, and often attendance at, a temple whose beliefs and ethos align with the character's.

Cost. None.

Time. One tenday.

Resolution. At the end of the tenday, the character chooses to make either an Intelligence (Religion) or a Charisma (Persuasion) check. The total of the check determines the benefits of the service, as shown on the table below.

Check total	Result
1-10	No effect. Your efforts fail to make a lasting impression.
11-20	You earn one favor.
21+	You earn two favors.

A favor, in broad terms, is a promise of future

assistance from a representative of the temple. It can be expended to ask the temple for help in dealing with a specific problem, for general political or social support, or to reduce the cost of cleric spellcasting by half.

Favors need not be expended immediately, but only a certain number can be stored up. A character can have a maximum number of unused favors equal to their proficiency bonus.

RESEARCH

Forewarned is forearmed. The research downtime activity allows a character to delve into lore concerning a monster, a location, a magic item, or some other particular topic.

Research requires access to a library, a sage, or equivalent source of knowledge.

Cost. At least 100gp spent on materials, bribes, gifts, and other expenses.

Time. One tenday.

Resolution. The character declares the focus of the research - a specific person, place, or thing. After one tenday, the character makes an Intelligence check with a +1 bonus per 100gp spent beyond the initial 100gp. In addition, a character who has access to a particularly well-stocked library or knowledgeable sages gains advantage on this check. The total of the check determines the lore acquired, as shown on the table below.

Check total	Result
1-5	No effect.
6-10	You learn one piece of lore.
11-20	You learn two pieces of lore.
21+	You learn three pieces of lore.

Each piece of lore is equivalent to a true statement about a person, place or thing. Examples include knowledge of a creature's resistances, the password needed to enter a sealed dungeon level, the spells commonly prepared by an order of wizards, and so on.

SCRIBING A SPELL SCROLL

With time and resources, a spellcaster can transfer a spell to a scroll, creating a spell

scroll. Only a character who knows or has the spell prepared and is proficient in the arcana skill can scribe a spell into a spell scroll. If the scribed spell is a cantrip, the version on the scroll works as if the caster were 1st level.

Cost. Scribing a spell scroll takes an amount of money related to the level of the spell the character wants to scribe, as shown in the table below. The character also must provide any material components required for the casting of the spell.

Time. Scribing a spell scroll takes an amount of time related to the level of the spell the character wants to scribe, as shown in the table below.

Spell level	Time	Cost
Cantrip	1 day	15gp
1st	2 days	50gp
2nd	5 days	350gp
3rd	1 tenday	700gp
4th	2 tendays	1,400gp
5th	4 tendays	2,000gp
6th	8 tendays	4,700gp
7th	16 tendays	8,700gp
8th	32 tendays	13,000gp
9th	64 tendays	24,000gp

TRAINING

Given enough free time and the services of an instructor, a character can learn a language or pick up proficiency with a skill, a tool or a weapon.

Cost. 25gp per tenday.

Time. Ten tendays, reduced by the character's Intelligence modifier. A negative modifier increases the time needed. The time needed is doubled for skill proficiencies.

Resolution. At the end of the training, the character becomes proficient in the trained skill, tool, or weapon.

TRAVEL

To get from point A to point B, travel is usually needed. Common means of travel are by horse or by boat. More exotic means of travel such as by airship and by teleportation circles are only available in certain locations.

Cost. Varies.

Time. Varies.

Resolution. The distance between two points in Faerûn can be measured using a map. For travel speed and costs, see the below table. Distances are rounded to the nearest 10 miles (minimum 10 miles) when calculating cost and time taken.

Travel overland where the terrain is particularly hazardous is done by half the speed. Examples of such terrains are the jungles of Chult and the harsh north of Icewind Dale.

Travel by horse is only available in densely populated areas, as the character needs to change horse every so often. Different regions may have other options in addition to those listed here. For example, travel by canoe is common on the peninsula of Chult.

Vehicle	Speed	Cost
Walking	20 miles per day	None
Horse	40 miles per day	10gp per tenday
Carriage	30 miles per day	20gp per tenday
Keelboat	10 miles per day	10gp per tenday
Sailing ship	20 miles per day	30gp per tenday
Galley	40 miles per day	100gp per tenday

table below.

Check total	Earnings
1-9	Poor lifestyle for the tenday
10-14	Modest lifestyle for the tenday
15-20	Comfortable lifestyle for the tenday
21+	Comfortable lifestyle for the tenday, and 25gp

WORK

When all else fails, an adventurer can turn to an honest trade to earn a living. This activity represents a character's attempt to find temporary work, the quality and wages of which are difficult to predict.

Cost. None.

Time. One tenday.

Resolution. To determine how much money a character makes, the character makes an ability check: Strength (Athletics), Dexterity (Acrobatics), Intelligence (any set of artisan's tools), Charisma (Performance), or Charisma (any musical instrument). The result of the check determines the money earned, see the