

Basic System Reference (BSR) for CODA

This document outlines the basic CODA system rules that are common between the Star Trek and Lord of the Rings RPG's and list features in both systems to allow for a generic framework for games based in fantasy, modern, or futuristic. There are a few places where I have taken some creative license to: 1) come up with rules that would be consistent between the games and also allow for some of the disparities, and 2) add a few things here and there that I believe make better sense to the system. I have modeled the format of the document off of the Open Game Content SRD for d20.

All notes and additional information and rules that I have come up with will be denoted using *italics*. There maybe some rules that I came up with or changed and forgot to italicize and for that I apologize.

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THE BASICS

Dice

Dice rolls are described with expressions such as “2d6+3,” which means “roll two six-sided dice and add 3” (resulting in a number between 5 and 15). The first number tells you how many dice to roll (adding the results together). The number immediately after the “d” tells you the type of die to use. Any number after that indicates a quantity that is added or subtracted from the result.

Core Mechanic

Whenever you attempt an action that has some chance of failure, you roll 2 six-sided dice (2d6). To determine if your character succeeds at a task you do this:

- Roll a 2d6
- Add any relevant modifiers
- Compare the result to the target number (TN)

If the result equals or exceeds the target number, your character succeeds. If the result is lower than the target number, you fail.

Degrees of Success/Failure

Whereas a test’s TN derive the difficulty of the test, degrees of success evaluate the outcome quality. Aside from qualifying the character’s overall performance, degrees of success also can determine special effects or abilities. Such effects could be reduced/increased time required to perform the test, damage bonuses/penalties, or additional bonuses/penalties to subsequent tests.

Table 1: Degree of Success

<u>Test Result</u>	<u>Degree of Success or Failure</u>	<u>Time Modifier</u>
11+ below TN	Disastrous Failure – Attempt may make matters worse	x1.5
6-10 below TN	Complete Failure – Attempt fails and may prevent future attempts	x1
1-5 below TN	Failure – Attempt fails but may attempt again with a cumulative -2 penalty	x1
Equal to TN	Marginal Success – Basic goal achieved, possibly with minor setbacks	x1
1-5 above TN	Complete Success – Achieves goal with no setbacks	x0.75
6-10 above TN	Superior Success – Performs beyond expectation, possibly gaining a small advantage such as reduced test duration	x0.5
11+ above TN	Extraordinary Success – Performs far beyond expectation, gains an advantage such as bonus to initiative or maybe an additional action at a reduced action cost	x0.25

Rounding Fractions

In general, if you wind up with a fraction, round normally unless told otherwise. An exception is damage where a minimum of 1 point is dealt.

CHARACTER CREATION, EXPERIENCE, & ADVANCEMENT

Creating a Basic Character

The outline listed below details how to create a 0-advancement character that is the basic character in the game. When anything refers to “character creation”, it is during these phases that the specified action(s) occur.

• Phase 1: Attributes

1. Generating Primary Attributes

A character's primary attributes are generated in one of two ways: randomly using dice or by the pick method. Generally using the pick method creates more balanced characters while the random method can give unusual highs and lows. Regardless of method, the character is of a stature greater than the average person is but no attribute may increase past a score of 12 without special dispensation *such as bonuses granted by a PC's race or other special circumstances*.

Random Method

Take two six-sided dice (2d6) and add the values on the two dice together. Do this nine times and keep the six highest scores.

Pick Method

Start with these scores: 10, 9, 7, 7, 5, and 4. From a pool of eight points, these score may be increased at a rate of one point per +1 score.

2. Select Favored Attributes

Choose two favored attributes from the list based on either guidance given by descriptions of professions or a player's personal preference. The benefit gained for the favored attributes is that increases to the attribute are purchased at a reduced cost and have the ability to exceed the limit of 12.

3. Generating Secondary Attributes

Follow the guidelines listed in each of their descriptions. As a baseline for Size, a human is considered to be Medium.

4. Select Favored Reaction

Choose one favored reaction from the list based on either guidance given by descriptions of professions or a player's personal preference. The benefit gained for the favored reaction is that increases to the reaction are purchased at a reduced cost.

• Phase 2: Native Skills

Choose your Native Skills from a pool of points (called ‘picks’) equal to your character's Intellect x2. *If a larger multiplier, such as x3, is used, there runs the risk of characters being too competent early in the game with those skills or run out of ideas for which skills to select.* These picks are spent on ranks and specialties come from Knowledge and Language. Make note that no skill may have more than six ranks at the end of character creation, though its total bonus may be higher than +6.

• Phase 3: Background

1. Select Background

Choose a background for your character and apply its background modifiers, if any, to the character's attributes. Make note of the character's background abilities.

2. Select Background Package or Create Your Own

Either choose a pregenerated background package or spend 6 picks (1 pick = +1 rank or 1 specialty).

3. Optional: Select Background Flaw

Choose one flaw from a list of background flaws or upon Narrator's approval. Gain either 1) one edge, 2) +1 rank in any background skill, or 3) one specialty for a previously acquired skill.

• Phase 4: Profession

This could also be called an Order (most suitably for fantasy settings).

1. Select Profession

Professions are common types of templates a character can choose from to focus his character on. Examples of professions could be Fighter, Mage, Rogue, Starship Pilot, Merchant, etc.

2. Select Profession Package or Create Your Own

Either choose a pregenerated profession package or spend 20 picks (1 pick = +1 rank or 1 specialty).

3. Select a Profession Edge

From the list of five edges in the profession package, choose an edge for the character. If a player created his own package, the Narrator must approve of the chosen edge.

4. Select Profession Ability

Choose one profession ability from those listed in the profession description.

Experience

Awarding Experience

Characters in the Harry Potter: The Role-playing Game, like most characters in Rowling's novels, are not static. As they experience things through their adventures, they learn, grow, and become more capable and powerful. For example, Neville Longbottom started off as a bumbling accident just waiting to happen as a first year; by the time he was a fifth year student, he was helping Harry battle a group of Death Eaters in the Ministry of Magic. In game terms, character growth and development is reflected in the award of experience points. The amount given depends upon the judgement of the Narrator; some prefer to be generous while others are less so. Table 2 below shows conditions for experience awards and their suggested values in points.

Table 2: Experience Awards

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Experience Point (XP) Award</u>
Successful test related to the story	TN of the test
Completion of primary objective	1000 (divided among PC's)
Completion of secondary objective(s)	500 each (divided among PC's)
Completion of scene's purpose	100 (divided among PC's)
Exceptional Role-playing	Special (Narrator determines)

Successful Tests

The most common way of gaining ongoing experience is through the completion of story-related tests. When a character succeeds in a particular test, he gains experience in an amount equal to the TN of the test. His companions gain half this amount of experience. Some Narrators may require their players to keep a record of the tests that they perform so as to justify certain advancement picks. Also, some may impose a limit to one test per type: if a PC makes three Ride tests in one scene, then the Narrator may only limit the gain in experience for one of those tests (normally the test with the highest TN).

Fulfilling Objectives

Characters also gain experience by fulfilling the primary and secondary objectives of the story, as well as scene goals along the way. These may involve solving riddles, interacting with specific NPC's, or thwarting the nefarious plans of an enemy or rival.

Exceptional Role-playing

Depending on the Narrator's personal style and type of game s he runs, good role-playing may be as important as the completion of story objectives. The Narrator doesn't have to give out additional experience for performing well; however, players who truly embrace their characters and setting probably deserve a little something extra. And even sometimes characters will do something so extraordinary that their action screams for some type of award – by all means give experience as award for their performance.

Advancement

Table 3: Advancement Picks

<u>Cost</u>	<u>Advancement Items</u>
1	+1 rank Native Skills (Knowledge & Language skills from Intellect xX)
1	+1 rank Profession Skill
1	Specialty
2	New Edge or upgrade existing Edge
2	New Combat Trait or upgrade existing Combat Trait
2	Remove Flaw (Narrator approval)
2	+1 rank Non-Profession Skill
2	+1 Favored Reaction
2	+1 Renown
3	+1 Non-favored Reaction
3	+1 Courage
3	New Ability or upgrade existing Ability
4	+1 Favored Attribute
5	+1 Non-favored Attribute
5	+1 Health
5	Gain new Profession, Basic or Elite (after prerequisites are met)

There is only one restriction when spending Advancement Picks: you cannot spend more than 2 picks for any skill per advancement. *Other reasonable restrictions may apply for particular game settings.*

1000-Point Method

When a character accumulates 1000 experience points (XP), the player may spend the experience to allow his character to undergo advancement. Advancement represents how the character has grown, learned, and improved during the course of his adventures. When a character undergoes advancement, he receives five picks to spend on Table 3. With the picks, you can improve your character's attributes, reactions, learn new skills or improve the ones he has, acquire or improve edges, and so on. If appropriate, the Narrator may allow you to take a flaw with advancement to give you a sixth pick. The only restriction when purchasing items from Table 3 is that no more than two picks may be spent to increase the number of ranks a character has in a particular skill. Although a player can theoretically purchase any item from the table, the player should justify the purchase of particular items by having them reflect the events and accomplishments of the chapter or chronicle.

Limitations to Character Attributes

Primary Attributes

The score of any primary attribute is limited to 12 or 12+Racial Modifiers with the exception of Favored Attributes under the Legendary Attribute rules.

Reactions

The score of any reaction has no upper limit.

Skills

The number of ranks for any given skill is limited to 12.

Courage

The number of Courage points a character can have has no upper limit.

Health

A character's Health score has no upper limit.

Defense

The Defense score of any given character is limited to the base Defense score (7 or 10) + Agility modifier. The Agility modifier's value is limited to the upper limit on a character's Agility attribute.

Legendary Attributes

There are persons in the various gaming worlds of extraordinary ability where it comes to one or more of their attributes. As attributes are normally capped at 12+Racial Modifiers, where humans have +0 for all attributes and thus capped at 12 *unless otherwise specified by a specific game*, but favored attributes are special and this guideline accounts for that.

Narrators can incorporate this into their narratives for PC's and NPC's if they are or become pivotal figures in the fate of the world or universe. A character that has increased a favored attribute to its maximum value and gained at least 6 Renown through its use over the course of the narrative may petition the Narrator for the chance to increase the attribute to 1 point above the normal cap. Non-favored attributes are forever capped at 12 + Racial Modifiers. When requesting this consideration, the player must pay the normal cost to increase the attribute in advance **before** actually receiving the benefit; the Narrator will decide when and if this will occur.

Over the following chapters in the narrative, the Narrator considers the character's actions and behavior. Ideally, the Narrator would incorporate scenes where the character's chosen attribute has a chance to shine but the scenes shouldn't be simple matters reduced to dice rolls, even if the tests are of great importance. Rather, the character – through actions and choices – has the opportunity to demonstrate his heroic mettle as it relates to the attribute.

Once these scenes have run their course and the Narrator feels the character's conduct in the situations presented reflect the manner of one of the world's great heroes, the attribute increase is granted. If the character fails in this attempt to achieve this level of worth, the player is informed that his efforts came up short and no increase will be given, thus losing the spent advancement picks. In either case of success or failure, the character may never try this again ever.

Additional Rules for Consideration

Character Creation

Free Picks

Before finishing character creation, using 5 picks purchase selections from the Advancement Picks Table. *Increased restrictions on what may be purchased using the free picks could be used as well.* Any selections may be purchased, except:

- **Health** or **Reactions** (they aren't final until after initial character creation),
- **Abilities**, or
- **Removing a Flaw**

Free Specialty

When a new skill during character creation is selected, a free specialty is automatically gained (if available). All subsequent specialties for this skill must be purchased using one pick or spending one advancement pick. If a new skill acquired after character creation, this rule is not in effect *or it could be*.

Capping Ranks

As the rule stands, a character cannot have any skill with more ranks than six, but this may be too high for a Narrator's liking and reduce the cap to say 3 or 4.

Experience

Accumulation Method

This method is based on the 1000-Point Method but allows players to purchase items from the advancement table as he receives experience. One pick is equal to 200 XP and so XP-pick equivalents may be purchased from the table. The experience doesn't have to be spent as soon as the experience is received, but no more than 1000 XP may be saved to spend. This method reflects reality a bit better than the 1000-Point Method in that advancement and relative power of the character increase gradually as opposed to incremental spurts. The only restriction when purchasing items from Table 3 is that no more than 400 XP may be spent to increase the number of ranks a character has in a particular skill.

Advancement

Capping Reaction Scores

As the rule stands, reactions have no upper limit, but a Narrator may decide that this is too generous. A reasonable cap to reactions could be a reaction score is limited to a score equal to the lower attribute score of the attributes used to generate the initial reaction score. Favored reactions could have an upper limit to higher attribute score + its attribute modifier of the attributes used to generate the initial reaction score.

Legendary Skills

Use the same rules for Legendary Attributes, but instead of only increasing the skill one more rank, the skill

- *Must be an Profession Skill*
- *No more ranks can be acquired than equal to the attribute modifier of the skill's governing attribute*
- *No more than +1 ranks per advancement may be gained in this fashion*

PRIMARY ATTRIBUTES

Each attribute partially describes your character and affects some of his or his actions.

Strength (STR)

This attribute represents the ability to exert force and do damage physically.

In the game, Strength affects:

- **Lifting and Carrying Capacity:** You can lift and throw an amount no greater than Strength x10, *going a maximum distance equal to your Strength test result * (character's Size - object's Size, minimum 1).*
- **Damage:** The damage caused by your natural ability regardless of weapon, not including spells.
- **Reactions:** Stamina
- **Skills:** Armed Combat, Athletics, Ranged Combat, Sports

Vitality (VIT)

This attribute reflects vigor, stamina, and health. Strong and sturdy people tend to have high Vitality while the weak and sickly ones have low Vitality.

In the game, Vitality affects:

- **Resistance to injury** by helping determine how many wounds a character can withstand within a Wound Level.
- **Health:** A character's Health score is primarily based on this attribute.
- **Reactions:** Stamina, Willpower
- **Skills:** None

Agility (AGL)

This attribute represents coordination, dexterousness, and deftness. *This ability can also be referred to as Agility (NIM) but I think this choice is better to help avoid confusion with other systems.*

In the game, Agility affects:

- **Accuracy:** Your ability to hit targets while in combat and aiming spells.
- **Defense:** Your general natural ability to avoid being hit by an opponent's weapon or spell.
- **Reactions:** Swiftiness
- **Skills:** Acrobatics, Armed Combat, Craft, Forgery, Legerdemain, Ranged Combat, Ride, Sports, Stealth, Unarmed Combat

Perception (PER)

This attribute represents a character's awareness of your surroundings.

In the game, Perception affects:

- **Reactions:** Swiftiness, Wisdom
- **Skills:** Appraise, Inquire, Observe, Survival

Bearing (BRG)

This attribute reflects a character's force of personality, presence, and ability to inspire feelings such as awe, fear, or courage. *This attribute can also be called Presence (PRS), but, in my opinion, this sounds better.*

A character's Bearing can be judged based on how he conducts and comports himself. To ascertain this, a TN 7 Perception test is required.

Table 4: Bearing Assessment Results

<u>Success</u>	<u>Result</u>
Failure	Bearing undetermined or incorrect
Marginal	Bearing within 3 pts
Complete	Bearing within 2 pts
Superior	Bearing within 1 pt
Extraordinary	Exact Bearing score

A character's Bearing can also be concealed when traveling in disguise, to pass unnoticed, or to lull your enemies into a false sense of safety. To do this, reduce your Bearing to the desired score and use the modifier of that score. Others may attempt to ascertain his Bearing by making a Perception check with an affinity from Inquire (Deduce) against a TN equal to his true Bearing score. He may at any time drop his guise and reveal his full, true Bearing and obtaining the full modifier bonus to the appropriate skill tests when doing so.

In the game, Bearing affects:

- **Reactions:** Willpower
- **Skills:** Impersonate, Indoctrinate, Influence, Inspire, Perform

Intellect (INT)

This attribute reflects a character's memory, capacity for clear and reasoned thought, intelligence, and store of basic knowledge. *This attribute can also be known as Wits (WIT), but, in my opinion, this sounds better even if it is close to Intelligence, a term oft used by other systems.*

In the game, Intellect reflects:

- **Native Skills:** Determines how many picks you receive to apply to initial Knowledge and Language skills
- **Reactions:** Wisdom
- **Skills:** Computer Use, Conceal, Debate, Demolitions, Engineering, Enterprise, First Aid, Games, Knowledge, Language, Medicine, Operate Vehicle, Repair, Science, System Operation, Tactics

Attribute Modifiers

These values are the bonuses (or penalties) of which represent the character's natural ability regarding a particular skill. They are also important as they form your character's base Reaction scores.

Table 5: Attribute Modifiers

<u>Success</u>	<u>Result</u>
0	-6
1	-3
2	-2
3	-1
4 - 7	±0
8 - 9	+1
10 - 11	+2
12 - 13	+3
14 - 15	+4
16+	+1 / 2 levels

SECONDARY ATTRIBUTES

Reactions

Using your attribute modifiers, determine your character's reactions. These secondary attributes allow his to avoid injury, danger, and other threats. Each reaction is derived from one of two chosen attribute's modifiers denoted in Table 6: Generating Reaction Scores.

Table 6: Generating Reaction Scores

<u>Reactions</u>	<u>Attribute Modifiers</u>
Stamina	Strength or Vitality
Swiftness	Agility or Perception
Willpower	Bearing or Vitality
Wisdom	Perception or Intellect

The conditionals used to determine each Reaction score reflect what I feel are the most proper pairs of attributes that would create the scores. They don't reflect those used by either game system. I defend my reasoning in the descriptions of each Reaction.

• Stamina (St)

Stamina represents your toughness, ability to withstand pain, to throw off the effects of poison or sickness, to resist heat or cold, etc. The higher of your Strength or Vitality modifiers determines it.

Disease

Stamina is used to resist disease and pestilence, both natural and those created by other means. There are specific traits that can help your character to be more resilient in fighting off such maladies.

Poison

Stamina is used to resist poisons and toxins, both natural and those created by other means. There are specific traits that may augment your character to be more resistant to their ill effects.

Temperature

Stamina is used to resist the oppression of the elements, both excessive heat and cold. There are specific traits that may augment your character to be more resistant to the discomfort and/or restriction due to temperature.

Stun Effects

Stamina is used to resist being knocked unconscious by an attack or other means.

Weariness

Stamina is used to resist fatigue from certain conditions such as travel, marching, combat, or staying awake too long. The character must make a reaction check to stave off the effects of Weariness (i.e. lose Weariness levels). After becoming too weary, the character must rest to recover the lost levels so he can return to Hale. There are six Weariness levels and, for each level, an associated test penalty that is in addition to any penalties associated with loss of Wound Levels.

Table 7: Weariness Levels

<u>Weariness Level</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
Hale	0
Winded	-1
Tired	-2
Weary	-4
Spent	-8
Exhausted	Character collapses from exhaustion and may take no actions until at least one Weariness Level is regained.

• Swiftiness (Sw)

Swiftiness represents your speed and reflexes: your ability to avoid being hit by a falling rock and like dangers or make a reaction test to dodge your enemies' attacks. *This reaction can also be called Quickness (Qu), but, in my opinion, this sounds better.*

Dodge

In response to a ranged or melee attack, a character may dodge to attempt to avoid injury. The result of this reaction changes the TN to hit the character for the rest of the round, but a dodge attempt cannot lower a character's Defence (see *Defence*, below). A character can attempt to dodge more than once a round to attempt to increase the chance of being missed. There are traits that can increase your bonus when you are rolling for a dodge test.

Initiative

Initiative describes the order in which characters act during a round. To determine initiative, make a reaction test; the order of characters to act is from highest to lowest. There are traits that can help your chances of rolling a better initiative.

• Willpower (Wp)

Willpower represents your strength of will: your ability to stave off fear and domination and to remain true to yourself and your word, regardless of blandishments or torture. You can also make Willpower tests when engaging in a Contest of Wills with other. The higher modifier of Bearing or Vitality determines it.

Domination

Domination refers to forced attempts to bend another to one's will through intimidation, torture, interrogation, and indoctrination. There are traits that can help your character resist these means of breaking an individual's self-control.

Fear

Fear is a disease that can spread like the wind through rumor and suspicion. There are traits that can strengthen one's resolve and warm one's heart against the icy touch of fear.

Mind Effects

Mind Effects are spells, illusions, etc. that can affect or alter your perception of reality or even invade your mind and your private thoughts.

• Wisdom (Ws)

Wisdom represents your common sense and insight: your ability to determine which is true, or the best course of action, or what others feel or believe. You use it mainly to resist efforts to fool or trick you. *This reaction can also be called Savvy (Sa), but, in my opinion, this sounds better* The higher modifier of Perception or Intellect determines it.

Table 8: Sample Reaction Tests

Condition	Reaction	TN/Test to Oppose
Overcome fear	Willpower	Varies by degree
Resist intimidation	Willpower	Influence (Intimidate)
Resist charm, flattery	Wisdom	Influence
Resist rhetoric	Wisdom	Debate
Detect lie or bluff	Wisdom	Influence
Withstand temperatures	Stamina	Varies by degree
Resist poison	Stamina	Varies by potency
Resist disease	Stamina	Varies by potency
Resist Weariness	Stamina	Varies by degree
Dodge attack	Swiftness	Melee or Ranged Combat
Avoid/reduce falling damage	Swiftness	Varies by falling distance

Defense

Defense represents the natural ability to avoid blows and weapon fire in combat. *If combat figures heavily in the world with archaic hand-to-hand and ranged weapons, a Defense of 10 + Agility modifier is suggested, while a world with advanced technology where weapons mostly consist of high-powered ranged weapons, a Defense of 7 + Agility modifier is suggested.*

Health

Health represents your how many wound points per Wound Level that you have. It is equal to Vitality + Strength modifier.

Courage

PC's are the most important characters in the game and, as such, possess qualities of heroism and noble destiny that set them apart from most. In short, they're special and to represent this, they have an attribute called Courage.

Each starting character has 3 points of Courage and more can be gained through special abilities, traits, or advancement picks begin with more. During the course of the game, a character can use his Courage to help accomplish objectives and to even achieve the impossible. Only the most important characters in a story have Courage, which includes NPC's as well. On the other hand, the average NPC may have a few or even no Courage points at all.

Spending Courage

You can spend Courage for your character in two different ways. Regardless of how many points he has, no more than 4 points may be spent per round (unless otherwise noted). First, Courage may be spent to improve test results; a +3 bonus is conferred to the test per point. You do not have to specify in advance whether or not to use the Courage, which means you can roll for a test and then decided to spend a Courage point. The second way, in some circumstances, the Narrator may have you spend a Courage point as a prerequisite to be able to perform an extremely difficult or daunting task and not conferring the bonus.

Recovering Courage

A character eventually regains the Courage he uses during a game – how quickly is up to the Narrator. Some profession abilities or traits may also affect the recovery of Courage. If the character uses Courage in a way that improves the story or help make it fun, the Narrator may decided to return the Courage back at the end of the scene. If the character uses

Courage in an unheroic, ignoble, or selfish way, the Narrator may decide that it may take days or weeks to return the Courage.

Renown

The main characters in the Harry Potter books, like those in your chronicle, are usually larger than life. Their qualities and accomplishments allow the characters to become well known and develop a reputation. Their fame and notoriety is represented in the game as Renown. The higher the character's Renown, the more known and recognizable he is. Other folk, including NPC's he may encounter, may have heard or know something about him. It has two uses in the game: allows a character to see if he knows another and to modify some social skills.

Acquiring Renown

All characters start the game with Renown 0 unless the Narrator rules otherwise; it is developed through gameplay as an award or by spending advancement picks. *Depending on the scope of the game's setting, a high Renown score might be 25, 30, or more for most likely a game set for sci-fi that spans the galaxy, while 10-20 may be considered high for games with limited worldly scope like a fantasy game that is confined to one world.* The ignoble or exceptional events or actions that would draw unusual notice or acclaim are called 'triggers'. Awards are generally limited to one or two points at a time, but if some sort of groundbreaking or world-spanning even occurred, five, ten, fifteen or more points could conceivably be awarded. Alternatively, as Renown can be purchased using advancement picks, Narrators may players may be required to buy their Renown using advancement picks even though they've earned the right to have it.

Table 9: Sample Renown Triggers

Trigger	Award
Rescuing an important NPC	NPC's Renown/5*
Rescuing an important NPC during a routine encounter or event	+1
Rescuing an important NPC during a public event or encounter	+2
Rescuing an important NPC during a highly publicized event or encounter	+3 - +5 or more
Thwarting the plans of an enemy, spy, or agent	Servant's Renown/5*
Thwarting the plans of an enemy, spy, or agent during a routine encounter or event	+1
Thwarting the plans of an enemy, spy, or agent during a publicized routine encounter or event	+2
Thwarting the plans of an enemy, spy, or agent during a highly publicized routine encounter or event	+3 - +5 or more
Making an arcane or exploratory discovery of importance	+1
Making an arcane or exploratory discovery of major or critical importance	+2
Making an arcane or exploratory discovery of world-spanning importance	+3 - +5 or more
Discovering a new or innovative use for existing magic, lore, or technology	+1 - +3 or more

* - rounded down, minimum of 1

Recognition Tests

To allow a character to determine if he has heard of or what he knows about another, he must make a recognition test. The TN for the test depends on what the two characters have in common, as shown in Table 10 and 11. These tests are usually Wits tests, but the Narrator may deem a Knowledge: Culture test acceptable. Regardless of the means of the test, the Renown modifier is still the same. If the Recognition test fails, the character hasn't heard of the other person or cannot remember anything he may have learned about him. If the test succeeds, the character does know him and the greater the success, the more the character knows.

Table 10: Difficulty Due to Location Familiarity

<u>Base Difficulty</u>	<u>Proximity</u>	
	<u>World</u>	<u>Intergalactic</u>
TN 5	Local	Local
TN 10	Region	World
TN 15	Country	Sector
TN 20	Continent	Region
TN 25	World	Quadrant
TN 30+	- - -	Galaxy

Table 11: Recognition Modifiers

<u>Situation</u>	<u>Recognition TN Modifier</u>
Same Race/Citizenship	±0
Friendly/Allied Race/Country	+1
Hostile Race/Country	+3
Unknown Race/Country	+5
Same profession	-1
Same elite profession	-2

Table 12: Renown Modifiers

<u>Score</u>	<u>Renown Modifier</u>
1 - 5	±0
6 - 10	±1
11 - 15	±2
16 - 20	±3
21 - 25	±4
26 - 30	±5
31+	+1 / 5 levels

Social Tests

The Renown modifiers listed in Table 12 can also apply to some uses of social skills and Bearing tests. If the person were known for something the character would consider being positive, beneficial, or admirable, then the Renown modifier is a bonus. If he's known for something negative, wicked, or hurtful, the modifier is a penalty.

Size

A character's size is only pertinent when it concerns physical tests – such as a combat action – where it can cause a penalty or a bonus to the test and in determining the number levels of Health.

Physical Tests

It's decidedly harder for larger creatures to physically affect smaller ones and the converse is true, too – it's easier for smaller creatures to physically affect larger creatures. Opponents of the same size don't have any size-related test modifiers while opponents who are of differing size have a +/-2 TN added to their test for each size category apart they are. For example, if a Medium creature were to attack a Large, the TN (i.e. Defense) to hit it would have a -2 modifier while if the Large creature made an attack on the Medium creature, it would have a +2 TN modifier to the test.

Table 13: Size and Wound Levels

Size	Standard	Strength	Vitality	Wound Levels
Microscopic	Less than ¼"	-6	-6	1 Wound Point
Fine	¼" - ½"	-3	-3	Healthy
Miniscule	½" - 1"	-3	-3	Healthy, Dazed
Tiny	1" - 11"	-2	-2	Healthy, Dazed, Injured
Little	1 - 1.4 ft	-2	-2	Healthy, Dazed, Injured, Wounded
Small	1.5 ft - 1 yd	-1	-1	Healthy, Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated
Medium	1.1 - 2.5 yds	±0	±0	Healthy, Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated, Near Death
Large	2.6 - 5 yds	+1	+1	Healthy (2), Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated, Near Death
Mammoth	6 - 10 yds	+3	+2	Healthy (3), Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated, Near Death
Huge	11 - 25 yds	+6	+4	Healthy (4), Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated, Near Death
Gigantic	26 - 50 yds	+12	+8	Healthy (5), Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated, Near Death
Titanic	51 - 100 yds	+24	+16	Healthy (6), Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated, Near Death
Titanic +X	(X+1)*100 yds	+(24*Y)*	+(16*Y)*	Healthy (6+X), Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated, Near Death

* - $Y = 2^X$

In the document, I will use feet and yards for the standard units of measurement, but using the exact same values in meters without doing the actual mathematical conversion is also valid and would suggest doing so if you want to use metric distances.

Additional Rules for Consideration

Corruption

If the game setting being played deals with essentially the black and white of evil, the use of corruption and mechanics for corrupting influences would be a useful and dramatic component. Refer to the Lord of the Rings RPG Core Rule Book for more information. [This section is to be expanded on in later versions of the BSR.]

Reach

Larger creatures have a distinct advantage to smaller ones in that they can reach farther when it comes to melee combat. A creature bigger than Large can reach out to a distance of an extra 2 yards for every Size category it is greater than Medium. For example, a Mammoth creature would be able to strike at opponents out to a distance of 4 yards from where it stands. If using a hex map to play out combat, that equals 2 hexes in every direction from the perimeter of its body (as it would cover more than just one).

BACKGROUND

A character's background refers to his race, sub-race, and/or upbringing.

Modifiers and Abilities

If the game setting has more than just humans available for PC races, the human racial abilities are the baseline against what the other races have for their abilities. The human abilities are:

- +2 Stamina, Agility, or Willpower. This isn't a bonus, but an increase in the base Reaction score.
- +1 Courage.
- +2 ranks to one available Background skill OR +1 rank to two available Background skills.

If the game setting breaks down the human race into sub-races or sub-groups, all racial abilities may still apply to all forms of humans while each sub-group may have their own racial modifiers.

If the game only has humans as the available PC race, racial abilities and racial modifiers do not apply to the game.

Skills and Packages

Choosing the skills a character has due to his background and upbringing can be done in one of two ways. The first is to select a pre-made group of skills called a 'package.' If a package is not chosen, the character has six picks to spend on ranks and specialties for skills – each rank and specialty cost one pick apiece. Each racial description will have a list of racial skills to choose from for this part of character creation. When creating a background package, no skill is to be given more than 2 ranks.

Sample Package template:

<Title>: Skill1 (Specialty) +1, Skill2 +2, Skill3 +1, Skill4 +1

Packages are based on the character's type of upbringing (orphan, wealthy, famous, etc.) or the typical upbringing of a person from a certain area (city, mountains, colony, etc.).

Optional: Acquiring a Background Flaw

From either a list of common racial edges or upon Narrator approval, select one flaw. By acquiring the flaw, a character may gain one edge, +1 rank to an available racial skill, or one specialty to an acquired skill.

Additional Rules for Consideration

Edges in Background Packages

With the available six picks during this phase, allow the acquisition of edges along with skills and specialties at the cost of 1 pick per edge. A list of available edges could be found in a similar list as the background skills. *I would suggest that to allow no more than 2 edges are acquired in this fashion as players could potentially abuse it.*

PROFESSIONS

Professions are the chosen focuses a character may take, providing packages that can be chosen from during character creation.

Basic Professions

Basic Professions reflect the typical template of the type of character – fighters/warriors/soldiers are skilled in the arts of combat, rogues/thieves are skilled stealth and some combat, etc. Basic Profession descriptions list these important features:

- A description of what kind of person is typically found in the profession
- Adventuring goals
- Suggested favored attributes and reactions
- A list of profession skills
- Sample profession packages, and
- A list of profession abilities to choose from

Character Creation

Only Basic Professions are available at this time. After choosing a profession, if a player does not wish to use of the pregenerated packages, then he may create his own by spending 20 picks on ranks and specialties on any of the profession skills. When creating a profession package, no skill should be given more than 3 ranks.

Sample Package template:

<Title>

- Skill1 (Specialty) +3, Skill2 (Specialty) +1, Skill3 +2, Skill4 +2, Skill5 (Specialty) +2, Skill6 +1, Skill7 +1
- 5 picks to assign to any profession skills
- Select **one** edge: Edge1, Edge2, Edge3, Edge4, Edge5

Additional Basic Professions can be “bought into” at any time by spending all five advancement picks. At this time, only the profession label is gained and nothing else – this gives a character the right to purchase profession skills and abilities of the new profession during subsequent advancements.

Elite Professions

Elite Professions are similar to Basic Professions, but have their own rules to them. These professions reflect specialized forms of the Basic Professions – knights, archers, special forces, ambassadors, etc. Elite Profession descriptions list these important features: a description of what kind of person is typically found in the profession, adventuring goals, prerequisites for acquiring the profession, a list of profession skills, and a list of profession abilities to choose from.

To gain an Elite Profession, there are a few requirements that must be met:

- Acquire six advancements in a minimum of one Basic Profession alone
- Meet all prerequisites listed
- Spend five advancement picks to acquire

Just as with Basic Professions, only the profession label is gained at this time.

Professions and Advancement

As a character can acquire multiple professions, only two may be “active” at one time. This means only profession abilities and skills listed by the two professions may be purchased upon gaining an advancement. Professions that have been left may be made active again, but must be done in the same manner as if it were being acquired for the first time.

Additional Rules for Consideration

Acquiring Additional Edges and Flaws

During the Profession phase, allow the acquisition of additional edges (no more than 4, 3 if the optional background edge, skill, or specialty was acquired) at the cost of one flaw each. The edges to choose from should come from the list of five edges from the Profession Package and/or upon the Narrator's approval.

Playing without Professions

Instead of using the rules for professions, have characters spend the 20 picks and acquire the edge(s) and flaws in the same way. Since there are no professions, abilities would be open for acquisition by all characters as well.

SKILLS

Understanding Skills

Specialties

Specialties are distinct subcategories within skills that provide a +2 bonus when a skill test involves it. They are identified by the surrounding parentheses.

Example: (Find) or (Spot, Hear)

Skills

Skills are individual categories in which tests are made to determine whether a character can perform the action. They may or may not have specialties associated with them. “X” refers to an arbitrary number of ranks the character has in the skill (no greater than 12).

Example: Conceal +X or Acrobatics (Tumble) +X

Skill Groups

Skill groups are broad topics that include from skills within them. Skills within skill groups may or may not have specialties associated with them. Each skill within a skill group is denoted separately from one another since knowing a skill in a particular group does not give a character the ability to know other skills within the group.

Example: Athletics: Run +X or Armed Combat: Blades (Longsword) +X

Skill Descriptions

Table 14: Skills List

<u>Skill/Group</u>	<u>Attribute(s)</u>	<u>Skills/Specialties</u>	<u>Skill/Group</u>	<u>Attribute(s)</u>	<u>Skills/Specialties</u>
Acrobatics	Agl	Balance, Swing, Tumble	Inspire	Brg	None
Appraise*	Per	Distance, Gold, Gems	Knowledge*	Int	Group, History, Race
Armed Combat*	Agl/Str	Blades, Polearms	Language*	Int	English
Athletics*	Str	Climb, Jump, Run	Legerdemain	Agl	Open Lock, Pickpocket
Computer Use	Int	Hacking, Programming	Medicine*	Int	General, Surgery
Conceal	Int	Cache, Weapons	Observe	Per	Listen, Spot, Track
Craft*	Agl	Blacksmith, Pottery	Operate Vehicle*	Int	Airplanes, Boats, Cars
Debate	Int	Bargain, Negotiate	Perform*	Brg	Play Instrument, Sing
Demolitions	Int	Build, Defuse, Identify	Ranged Combat*	Agl/Str	Bows, Guns, Thrown
Engineering*	Int	Electronics, Propulsion	Repair	Int	Specific Item or System
Enterprise*	Int	Business, Streetwise	Ride	Agl	Specific Animal Mount
First Aid	Int	Treat Wounds	Science*	Int	Physical, Social, Space
Forgery	Agl	Currency, Identification	Sports*	Agl/Str	Baseball, Football
Games*	Int/Agl	Chess, Darts, Poker	Stealth	Agl	Hide, Move Silently
Impersonate	Brg	Disguise, Mimicry	Survival	Per	Environment or World
Indoctrinate	Brg	Brainwashing, Hypnosis	System Operation	Int	Nav Control, Weapons
Influence	Brg	Charm, Intimidate	Tactics	Int	Air, Ground, Sea, Space
Inquire	Per	Converse, Forensics	Unarmed Combat*	Agl	Karate, Wrestling

* - Denotes Skill Groups

This list of skills and their descriptions is the most comprehensive and complete list I was able to devise based on both published systems with a couple changes that I made that made more sense in my opinion. The list is exhaustive enough that can be used for fantasy, sci-fi, or modern RPG's, though, of course, not all skills would be advisable or applicable for all settings.

Some of the values listed in the results of achieving different difficulties do not correspond to either RPG as they didn't agree to use that same values, so I decided to split the difference as best as I could and yet leave some believability to them.

Skill/Group Name

<Descriptive Text>

Attribute:	The attribute(s) that normally applies to tests with the skill
Test Category:	Academic, <i>Magic</i> , Physical, Psionic, or Social
Trained:	Yes or No. Refers to whether the skill can be used without having ranks in it or not. If a character has no ranks in a skill, bonuses from traits or abilities that are affiliated to a skill's specialty do not apply until both ranks and the specialty are acquired.
Sample Skills:	For skill groups, two or more skills.
Sample Specialties:	For skills, two or more specialties if it has specialties.
Test:	Common ways in which a character can use the skill, including circumstances that may affect the TN of the test and examples of use in each difficulty category (Routine, Standard, Challenging, Difficult, and Virtually Impossible).
Additional Modifiers:	In addition to common test modifiers, some skills have modifiers that specifically affect to them.
Affinity:	Any skills that frequently provide affinity bonuses to the skill and the situations in which they apply.
Action Time:	The base time, expressed in actions, rounds, minutes, etc. to perform the skill test. Based on the circumstances, the Narrator may alter these values.
Extended Test:	With some skills, a failure during an extended test may prevent the character from making further tests to finish the task. 'N/A' indicates that characters don't normally use this skill in extended tests. 'Yes' means that if a character fails a test during the extended test, he may attempt to continue the test and possibly suffer penalties (typically cumulative -2 per failure or Narrator's discretion) due to the failure. 'No' indicates that if any of extended tests fail, the entire test has failed and cannot continue.

Acrobatics

Lithe and agile, you have little trouble balancing on narrow ledges, swinging across chasms, and performing similar feats.

Attribute:	Agility
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	No
Sample Specialties:	Balance, Swing, Tumble
Test:	A successful test allows you to complete tasks such as balancing, swinging, tumbling, and squeezing through narrow openings safely. The Narrator determines the TN based on how difficult or dangerous the task. <i>This skill could also be used to avoid being hit in a similar means as a Dodge test or could provide an affinity bonus to Dodge tests if the character has the Tumble specialty.</i>

Routine (TN 5): Balancing on a wide ledge; swinging ≤5 yds

Standard (TN 10): Balancing on a broad ledge; swinging 6 - 10 yds

Challenging (TN 15): Balancing on a narrow ledge; swinging 11 - 15 yds

Difficult (TN 20): Balancing on a very narrow ledge; swinging 16 - 25 yds

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Balancing on a rope; swinging 26+ yds

Additional Modifiers:	If the character tries to balance on sloped, slippery, or rough surfaces, apply terrain modifiers. Using a slippery rope to swing entails a -2 penalty (or greater) to the test result.
Affinity:	Athletics
Action Time:	1 action
Extended Test:	N/A

Appraise

You have a fine eye for the value of objects, judging distance, and giving evaluations in general.

Attribute:	<i>Perception</i>
Test Category:	Academic
Trained:	Yes
Sample Skills:	Distance, Gems, Art, Precious Metals
Sample Specialties:	Paintings, Gold, Diamonds
Test:	This skill has two uses: determining value and evaluating quality. A Marginal Success will give a value within 10% of its actual value. A Complete Success will give a value within 5% of its actual value. Any greater success will give the value within 1%. A failure, complete failure, and Disastrous Failure will give a misestimate of 10-20%, 20-50%, and 60-100%, respectively. A Superior Success or better on the test will identify the origin of the item.

Routine (TN 5): Simple, everyday items (ordinary market purchases); *distances up to 20 ft*

Standard (TN 10): Common objects (gold nuggets, ordinary weapons); *distances 21-50 ft*

Challenging (TN 15): Uncommon objects (valuable gems, quality smithcraft); *distances 51-100 ft*

Difficult (TN 20): Rare objects; *distances 100-500 ft*

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Unique objects; *distances 501+ ft*

Affinity:	Appropriate Craft skills and specialties, Forgery
Action Time:	1 minute
Extended Test:	Yes

Armed Combat

You are skilled in the art of melee combat using certain types of weapons.

Attribute:	Agility or Strength
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	No
Sample Skills:	Blades, Polearms, Whips, Axes, Clubs
Sample Specialties:	Short Sword, Spear, Battle Axe, Flail
Test:	Make a test with Armed Combat to hit a target in hand-to-hand combat. The base TN is the target's Defense. Strength is used for heavy or clumsy weapons such as large axes, clubs, and polearms. The skills could also be named after a particular combat style that uses a particular weapon(s) such as fencing instead of generic categories of weapons. <i>I have a couple of suggestions: 1) split the Blades skill into Swords and Knives, and 2) use Strength as the associated attribute if the weapon requires two hands for use or is one size category larger than the wielder.</i>
Special:	At skill ranks 6, 9, and 12, select a maneuver from the list of combat maneuvers to receive a +1 bonus when you use the selected maneuver with any weapon you have a specialty for. You can select the same maneuver repeatedly to be granted a greater bonus when the subsequent numbers of ranks are acquired.
Action Time:	1 action
Extended Test:	N/A

Athletics

Use this skill to jump over a chasm, climb a sheer rock face, or swim a fast-moving river. While anyone can use these untrained, you have practiced and learned how to maximize your physical prowess to great effect.

Attribute:	Strength								
Test Category:	Physical								
Trained:	No								
Sample Skills:	Climb, Escape Artist, Jump, Run, Swim, Throw								
Test:	With a successful test, you complete the desired task. The effects of a successful test depend on the use of the skill: <table><tr><td>Climb, Jump, Swim -</td><td>The distance traveled equals the test result in feet you may move horizontally or on the surface, half that (rounded down) vertically, submerged, or diving.</td></tr><tr><td>Escape Artist -</td><td>Allows character to attempt to break bonds that are holding him</td></tr><tr><td>Run -</td><td>The distance traveled equals the test result in feet x5.</td></tr><tr><td>Throw -</td><td>Covers throwing objects for accuracy, speed, or distance.</td></tr></table>	Climb, Jump, Swim -	The distance traveled equals the test result in feet you may move horizontally or on the surface, half that (rounded down) vertically, submerged, or diving.	Escape Artist -	Allows character to attempt to break bonds that are holding him	Run -	The distance traveled equals the test result in feet x5.	Throw -	Covers throwing objects for accuracy, speed, or distance.
Climb, Jump, Swim -	The distance traveled equals the test result in feet you may move horizontally or on the surface, half that (rounded down) vertically, submerged, or diving.								
Escape Artist -	Allows character to attempt to break bonds that are holding him								
Run -	The distance traveled equals the test result in feet x5.								
Throw -	Covers throwing objects for accuracy, speed, or distance.								

Routine (TN 5): Climb a slightly sloped surface or one with many handholds; Breaking vines; Point Blank range (≤ 10 yards)

Standard (TN 10): Climb an average sloped surface or one with a moderate number of handholds (most trees); Breaking belts, curtain sashes, other ad hoc bonds; Short range (11-30 yards)

Challenging (TN 15): Climb a steep surface or one with few handholds – a typical cliffside; Breaking ropes or tentacles of creature Strength 10 or less; Medium range (31-60 yards)

Difficult (TN 20): Climb a very steep surface or one with almost no handholds; Thick cables, chains, or heavy manacles; Long range (61-100 yards)

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Climb a perfectly smooth wall; Breaking wire, shrunken rawhide, formed plastic “cuffs”; Extended range (101-150 yards)

Additional Modifiers: For every 5 lbs of weight over Strength x5, add +1 TN. For a running jump, add +2 to the test result. If in personal combat, suffer a -5 penalty to the test roll. For every 10 degrees of slope up to 70 degrees, suffer an additional -2 penalty when running. For every 1 mph the current runs, suffer an additional -2 penalty when swimming upstream. Attempting to covertly break bonds while being watched adds a +5 TN to the Escape Artist attempt *or requires an Persuade (Bluff) test against the captor’s Observe (Spot)*. Range increments increase in an amount equal to the character’s Strength modifier. Hitting a target less than 1/10 of the distance of the range to target adds +5 TN.

Affinity: Acrobatics, Legerdemain, applicable Sport

Action Time: 1 action

Extended Test: No (except for Jump and Throw, N/A)

Computer Use

You can use personal computers and PDA’s, futuristic computer systems, or attempt to use archaic computers.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Academic
Trained:	No
Sample Specialties:	Encryption, Hacking, Programming, Retrieval, Sabotage
Test:	Encryption allows a character to hide, disguise, or safeguard computer systems and/or files. Hacking breaks into systems or files that are encrypted. Programming derives applications to be run on computers. Retrieval accesses computer systems and databases while searching for information.

Routine (TN 5): Write a simple program; access basic information; hack into a Security Level 5 system
Standard (TN 10): Write an average program; correlate related information; hack into a Security Level 10 system
Challenging (TN 15): Write a complicated program; correlate unrelated information; hack into a Security Level 15 system
Difficult (TN 20): Write a complex program; access obscure or unknown information; hack into a Security Level 20 system
Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Develop an artificial intelligence; access restricted information; hack into a Security Level 25 system

Additional Modifiers: When accessing information stored on a computer, gain an affinity bonus from Inquire (Research). Gain an affinity bonus from Science: Physical (Mathematics) for Computer Use (Encryption, Hacking, and Programming) tests. When programming equipment or large computer systems, gain an affinity bonus from System Operation (applicable specialty). *When attempting to make an average Computer Use test of your Current TL, it is TN 10. When attempting to make a Computer Use test against something of lower TL, it is TN 10 - 2/TL. When attempting to make a Computer Use test against something of greater TN, it is TN 10 +5/TL. Military-grade encryption is always Current TL +1 or greater.*

Action Time: Varies; rounds to minutes for Retrieval and Hacking, minutes to hours for Encryption and Programming.

Extended Test: Yes. A failed Hacking attempt may initiate security countermeasures or set off alarms.

Conceal

You know how to hide objects such as valuables or weapons so others cannot find them.

Attribute: Intellect
Test Category: Physical
Trained: No
Sample Specialties: Cache, Camouflage, Weapons
Test: Conceal tests are against opposed Observe (Spot) skill of another trying to find the object on yourself or Search skill if looking to find your hidden treasure or hideout. How well something is concealed depends upon the size of what is being hidden and, if applicable, the available hiding places. A Conceal test can also be used to determine the best place to hide something, giving a +1 modifier per level of success to the Conceal test when actually hiding the object. The size and shape of the object, along with available hiding places, affect the difficulty.

Routine (TN 5): Hiding a knife in a jacket
Standard (TN 10): Hiding a pistol in a jacket
Challenging (TN 15): Hiding a pistol beneath a tight shirt
Difficult (TN 20): Hiding a rifle beneath a jacket
Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Hiding a rifle up a sleeve.

Affinity: Stealth (Hide) and Inquire (Investigate)
Action Time: Full-round action to conceal on person or variable minutes for hiding a cache or camouflaging a hideout.
Extended Test: Yes

Craft

You know how to create items like paintings, sculptures, etc.

Attribute:	Agility
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	Yes
Sample Skills:	Pottery, Cooking, Painting
Sample Specialties:	Types of dyes, Oils, Chalk
Test:	Most uses of Craft are as extended tests since few tasks of craftwork can be performed with speed and skill.

Routine (TN 5): Cook a simple, nutritional meal; sew on a button

Standard (TN 10): Cook an appetizing, nutritional meal; repair ripped or torn clothing

Challenging (TN 15): Cook a gourmet meal; perform major alterations

Difficult (TN 20): Cook a large gourmet meal; create a well-made item of clothing

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Cook a multi-course gourmet feast; make an excellent suit of clothing from poor materials

Affinity:	Appraise and Enterprise: Business
Action Time:	Varies, most require hours.
Extended Test:	Yes

Debate

You are skilled with words and arguments, reasoning and logic.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Social
Trained:	No
Sample Specialties:	Bargain, Negotiate, Parley
Test:	Debate represents a character's ability to convince others with reasoned thought and logic, rather than force of personality and will (this requires Influence). It is an opposed test against another's Wisdom (such as attempt to get another to agree with you) or against another character's Debate (such as two courtiers vying to sway a king's viewpoint). The effects last as long as the Narrator deems them to do so or until another person or event changes the target's mind. Debate is not a form of domination as the target can freely disagree and reject absurd ideas regardless of the test result.
Affinity:	Influence, any skill related to the subject debated
Action Time:	Full-round
Extended Test:	Yes

Demolitions

This skill allows you to build, defuse, and identify explosives.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Academic
Trained:	Yes
Sample Specialties:	Build, Defuse, Identify, Sabotage
Test:	Make a Demolitions test to build an explosive or to determine the best position or type for the mission. Make an opposed Demolitions test to defuse or identify an explosive. Using Demolitions usually requires time to perform and should be considered an extended test. If a Complete Success is achieved on the extended test, the amount of damage dealt is increased by 10%; an Extraordinary Success would grant an increase of 25%. If a Failure occurs, the bomb won't go off at all or when intended. On a Complete or Disastrous Failure, the bomb blows up in the character's face.

Routine (TN 5): A simple explosive dealing 2d6+6 damage in a 2-yard radius and 1d6+3 damage out to a 4-yard radius (gunpowder)

Standard (TN 10): A standard explosive dealing 3d6+12 damage in a 3-yard radius and 2d6+3 damage out to a 5-yard radius (dynamite)

Challenging (TN 15): A complex explosive dealing 5d6+18 damage in a 5-yard radius and 3d6+9 damage out to a 7-yard radius (plastic explosives)

Difficult (TN 20): An extremely volatile explosive (napalm)

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Defusing a doomsday device (nuclear weapon)

Additional Modifiers:	All physical modifiers.
Affinity:	Engineering and Science: Physical
Action Time:	Varies; TN x10 minutes to build, TN minutes to identify or defuse.
Extended Test:	Yes

Engineering

You have the know-how to devise and create either one-of-a-kind items or for mass production.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Academic
Trained:	Yes
Sample Skills:	Electronics, Propulsion, Structure, Systems
Sample Specialties:	Chemical rockets, computers, aerospace frames, weapons, Sabotage
Test:	Conducted as extended tests, Engineering tests are made to solve a problem in a particular field based on your knowledge of operations, diagnose and repair malfunctions, create new items, or develop new innovations.

Routine (TN 5): Recall a basic fact

Standard (TN 10): Recall a basic theory or complex fact

Challenging (TN 15): Recall a complex theory or obscure or unknown fact

Difficult (TN 20): Recall an extremely obscure fact; resolve a complex problem

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Recall/discover a fact beyond knowledge of mankind; resolve enormous problem

Additional Modifiers:	A typical diagnostic device gives a +3 bonus for detecting and diagnosing problems. A task- or device-specific diagnostic device gives an additional +2 bonus.
Affinity:	Repair and System Operation for repairing items or systems. Science: Physical for designing something using theoretical work.
Action Time:	Varies, most require hours.
Extended Test:	Yes

Enterprise

You know how to interact and navigate through bureaucracies, run a shop, or where to go to buy or sell illegal items.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Social
Trained:	No
Sample Skills:	Administration, Business, Streetwise
Sample Specialties:	Specific Government, Specific School, Black Market
Test:	Make a skill test to answer a question or solve a problem related to your area of expertise.

Routine (TN 5): Call upon a low-level bureaucrat; operate a local business; Locate legal goods

Standard (TN 10): Call upon a mid-level bureaucrat; operate a large business; Locate common contraband

Challenging (TN 15): Call upon a high-level bureaucrat; operate a complex, worldwide business; Locate rare contraband

Difficult (TN 20): Call upon the cabinet-level bureaucrat; operate an interplanetary business; Locate extraordinary contraband

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Call upon the head of state of a country; operate an intergalactic crime syndicate; Locate unique contraband

Additional Modifiers:	The Narrator may alter the TN of the test depending on the location, circumstances, and your reputation.
Affinity:	Debate, Influence (Bluff or Fast Talk), Inquire (Converse), or appropriate Knowledge skills
Action Time:	Varies; from one minute per action to hours or days.
Extended Test:	Yes

First Aid

You are able to treat wounds and provide short-term relief for such ailments as setting a broken bone and applying bandages.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	Yes
Sample Specialties:	Specific Race, Treat Wounds, Herbal Remedies
Test:	Make a First Aid test to treat and stabilize an injured person. The test depends on the subject's degree of injury. When a character makes successful test, the subject recovers all damage sustained in his current Wound Level, effectively reducing his degree of injury by one Wound Level. Once the subject is stabilized, he may make Stamina tests twice a week to recover additional Wound Points.

Routine (TN 5): Provide care for minor cuts and scrapes; stabilize a person in shock

Standard (TN 10): Provide basic medical care for someone who is Dazed

Challenging (TN 15): Provide basic medical care for someone who is Injured

Difficult (TN 20): Provide basic medical care for someone who is Wounded

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Provide basic medical care for someone who is Incapacitated

Special:	Providing first aid to a character that is Near Death requires a minimum of TN 30.
Additional Modifiers:	A medical-specific diagnostic device gives a +5 bonus for diagnosing problems. Without Science: Life (Exobiology), all First Aid tests made for patients of a race that you don't have a specialty for have a +2 TN.
Affinity:	Medicine, Science: Life
Action Time:	1 minute per degree of difficulty.
Extended Test:	Yes

Forgery

You can produce false credentials, counterfeit currency, or fake artwork in the attempt to pass it off as the real thing.

Attribute:	Agility
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	Yes
Sample Specialties:	Artwork, Currency, Data, Identification
Test:	When creating a fake item, the Forgery test is the TN for an opposed Appraise test to identify it as false. Forgery would be used as academic test to identify items required, specific details, etc. needed to construct the forged item.

Routine (TN 5): Create a convincing copy of a single-page document or file

Standard (TN 10): Forge an official ID or hard currency; create a convincing copy of a simple work of art

Challenging (TN 15): Create a convincing copy of an ordinary work of art

Difficult (TN 20): Forge complex ID, documents, files, or hard currency; create a convincing copy of a superior work of art

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Create a convincing copy of a masterwork

Additional Modifiers:	Add +2 - +5 TN when showing the copied item(s) to people who know you are a forger.
Affinity:	Computer Use for forging computer data. Appropriate Craft and Engineering skills for creating items and artwork.
Action Time:	Varies; minutes, hours, or days.
Extended Test:	Yes

Games

You are skilled in playing games such as chess, poker, darts, etc.

Attribute:	Intellect or Agility
Test Category:	Academic or Physical
Trained:	No
Sample Skills:	Chess, Checkers, Poker
Sample Specialties:	None
Test:	Most Games tests are opposed tests against one or more opponents. For a solitaire-like game, the Narrator sets the TN for the character to beat. The test is either academic or physical depending on the game being played.
Affinity:	Science: Physical (Mathematics) when attempting to cheat while playing certain games like blackjack. Influence (Bluff) when attempting to bluff through force of personality.
Action Time:	Varies with the game.
Extended Test:	Yes

Impersonate

Through the use of props and costumes and vocal training, you are able to disguise yourself, both body and voice.

Attribute:	Bearing
Test Category:	Social
Trained:	No
Sample Specialties:	Disguise, Mimicry, Undercover
Test:	Impersonate tests are made with all appropriate social test modifiers against others' Wisdom. For long-term tests such as being undercover, tests are made once per week to keep up the façade.

Routine (TN 5): A simple disguise using a mask or uniform
Standard (TN 10): A mundane disguise such as a typical guard or worker
Challenging (TN 15): A complicated charade such as being disguised as a prominent figure like a manager
Difficult (TN 20): An intricate performance such as impersonating an official or leader of minor import
Virtually Impossible (TN 25): A masterful performance such as impersonating someone famous or disguising yourself so that your family wouldn't even recognize you

Additional Modifiers: Gain a +3 bonus for studying a person you intend to impersonate and -5 penalty for impersonating someone you don't know at all
Affinity: Knowledge: Culture, Perform (Acting)
Action Time: Varies; minutes to hours.
Extended Test: Yes

Indoctrinate

Through the use of props and costumes and vocal training, you are able to disguise yourself, both body and voice.

Attribute: Bearing
Test Category: Social
Trained: Yes
Sample Specialties: Brainwashing, Hypnosis, Neural Alteration
Test: Attempts to indoctrinate someone is performed as an opposed test against another's Willpower. A successful attempt will gain control of the target's mind for one day plus the difference between the two test results. To retain control over the target for an extended period of time, additional opposed tests are required with a cumulative -2 penalty (max -8) for every attempt to continue control. An additional test is required (not affecting the cumulative penalty) every time the target is ordered to perform a task he strongly resists.
Additional Modifiers: The target gains a +1 - +5 bonus to his Willpower reaction when attempting to resist an objectionable order. The amount depends on how objectionable it is to the character.
Action Time: Varies; hours.
Extended Test: Yes

Influence

You possess great personal force and skill with words, and you can use them to convince others to agree with you or cow your enemies causing them to fear you.

Attribute: Bearing
Test Category: Social
Trained: No
Sample Specialties: Bluff, Charm, Fast Talk, Fear, Intimidate, Torture
Test: Influence is typically an opposed test against another person's Wisdom or Influence. The effects of the test last indefinitely (however long the Narrator dictates). Bluff, Charm, and Fast Talk are not domination, for a person can disregard whatever the speaker says, regardless of the result. Only those who are of evil intent should take the Torture specialty.

Fear and Intimidate resemble Inspire in some ways, yet it is used as a weapon not an aid for your allies. It requires an opposed test against either your opponents' Willpower or, in some cases, Inspire. After determining the test results, consult the Fear Effects table for the effects of the test.

This skill need not be used for just instilling fear. Often heroes must persuade others with Intimidate. In such cases, compare the desired result to Table 63: Fear Effects to determine what level is necessary. In combat, a character can use Fear or Intimidate to make an opponent hesitate, back down, or falter. If the character succeeds with the test and attains at least the level "Unnerved," select one of the following bonuses: +1 bonus to initiative against target next round, +1 bonus to attack tests against target that or next

round, or +1 bonus to dodge and parry tests that or next round. An "Unmanned" result can double one of these bonuses, cause the target to flee, or elicit a reaction the Narrator deems appropriate.

Most uses of Fear or Intimidate require you to be able to speak, but, in some cases, actions alone will suffice. The effects of Fear and Intimidate last as long as seems appropriate to the Narrator, so in some cases for days or possibly a lifetime. Usually the effects only last until the source leaves, turns its attention elsewhere, or changes its attitude.

Depending on the situation, Inspire may confer an affinity bonus.

Affinity:

Action Time:

Full-round

Extended Test:

Yes

Inquire

This skill is used to search for concealed items, hidden passages, or Gather information.

Attribute:

Perception

Test Category:

Academic

Trained:

No

Sample Specialties:

Converse, Deduce, Forensics, Interrogate, Research, Search

Test:

The test difficulty depends on the complexity and scope of the task at hand for Inquire (Converse or Interrogate or Research) tests. Using Inquire (Search) to discover hidden objects is an opposed test against the Conceal test result to hide the object.

Routine (TN 5): Solve an obvious mystery; Gather and analyze obvious and untainted evidence or information; Research a popular subject

Standard (TN 10): Solve an easy mystery; Gather and analyze indistinct but untainted evidence or information; Research an unusual topic

Challenging (TN 15): Solve a typical mystery; Gather and analyze obvious but tainted evidence or information; Research an esoteric subject

Difficult (TN 20): Solve a complex mystery; Gather and analyze indistinct and tainted evidence or information; Research obscure facts about a secretive person, place, or object

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Solve a highly complex mystery; Gather and analyze minute quantities or badly tainted evidence or information; Research carefully guarded facts about restricted or closely guarded people, places, or objects

Affinity:

Appropriate Enterprise skills for Converse and Search. Influence (Intimidate) for Inquire (Interrogate) tests.

Action Time:

Full round action per 5 ft square of ground for Find, 10 minutes per action for Research, Inquire, or Interrogate.

Extended Test:

Yes

Inspire

Through nobility of spirit, heroic deeds, or powerful will, you have the ability to inspire others, dispelling their fears and encouraging them to bolder deeds and greater effort.

Attribute:	Bearing
Test Category:	Social
Trained:	No
Sample Specialties:	None
Test:	<p>There are several ways to use Inspire.</p> <p>1) You can kindle fires of will and courage in those companions near you to help them resist fear and confusion. Make an opposed Inspire test against the Influence (Intimidate) test that unmanned them. If you succeed, they may make another Willpower test with a +1 bonus for every level of success over marginal that you made.</p> <p>2) Even if your companions around you haven't felt the bite of fear, you can rouse the heroism within them. Make a TN 10 Inspire test and if you succeed, they are granted a +1 bonus to any appropriate test in the next round. Also, you can either extend the effect for +1 round or increase the bonus by +1 for every level of success above marginal.</p> <p>3) Once per game session (or more often, at the Narrator's discretion), you can use Inspire to reduce the Weariness felt by you and your comrades. The TN of the test is based on the Weariness Level of the most weary character: TN 5 for Winded, TN 10 for Tired, TN 15 for Weary, TN 20 for Spent, and TN 25 for Exhausted. If you succeed, all who were inspired regain one lost Weariness Level; on an Extraordinary Success, regain two Weariness Levels.</p> <p>Most uses of Inspire require you to be able to speak, but, in some cases, actions alone will suffice. The effects of Inspire last as long as seems appropriate to the Narrator, so in some cases for days or possibly a lifetime. Usually the effects only last until the source leaves, turns its attention elsewhere, or changes its attitude.</p>
Affinity:	Influence (Charm or Intimidate) in appropriate situations.
Action Time:	Full-round
Extended Test:	Yes

Knowledge

This skill represents the study of some body of lore such as geography, culture, history, etc.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Academic
Trained:	Yes
Sample Skills:	Geography, History, Nature, Culture
Sample Specialties:	England, Europe, Presidents of the United States
Test:	A Knowledge test must be made to recall facts pertaining to specific areas of information.

Routine (TN 5): Remember a basic, significant fact

Standard (TN 10): Remember specific facts

Challenging (TN 15): Remember obscure facts

Difficult (TN 20): Remember extremely obscure facts

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Remember extremely obscure, distantly related facts

Additional Modifiers:	You receive a +2 bonus for recalling information about your native country, world, culture, or family.
Action Time:	1 action
Extended Test:	No

Language

You can speak a language other than your native tongue and write it as well.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Academic
Trained:	Yes
Sample Skills:	Specific Language
Sample Specialties:	Specific Dialect
Test:	Make a Language test when you try to read, speak, or understand a language. The difficulty depends on the complexity of the speech. Tests for your native language(s) are typically not required.

Routine (TN 5): Simple phrases or sentences

Standard (TN 10): Simple conversation

Challenging (TN 15): Complex conversation; Understanding obscure idioms or dialects

Difficult (TN 20): Subtle or obscure conversation; Speaking as a native

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Understanding ancient versions of the language

Additional Modifiers:	If you know a language, but not a particular dialect of that language (i.e. conversing in English (British) with someone who is English (American) and you don't know dialect), the test is either TN 5 or apply an additional +2 TN to it.
Action Time:	1 action
Extended Test:	Yes

Legerdemain

Like a juggler or thief, you can manipulate objects and observers with great dexterity.

Attribute:	Agility
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	No
Sample Specialties:	Palm, Pick Locks, Prestidigitation, Rope Use
Test:	Most uses of Legerdemain are opposed tests against the Observe (Spot) skill of the onlooker(s). If he beats your result, he's seen through your trick and may have dangerous consequences. Rope Use refers to either tying knots or escaping from being tied up.
Additional Modifiers:	If you are wearing gloves, you suffer a -1 penalty.
Affinity:	Observe (Spot)
Action Time:	1 action
Extended Test:	No (Yes for Rope Use)

Medicine

You have the skill to perform surgery, diagnose illnesses, and treat wounds.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Academic
Trained:	Yes
Sample Skills:	Diagnose, Emergency, Forensics, General, Pathology, Toxicology, Surgery
Sample Specialties:	Specific Race, Specific Anatomy, Viruses, Bacteria, Organic poisons
Test:	Medicine: Emergency tests can be made in lieu of First Aid tests to aid recovery. As having the proper medical knowledge and equipment, these tests are more curative than First Aid tests (as reflected in the reduced difficulty of tests for similar conditions), but have the same healing effects. In addition, if a character is in constant medical observation, a Medicine test made once per day can double the character's normal rate of Wound Point recovery for the day.

Routine (TN 5): Provide basic medical care for someone who is Dazed; stabilize a person in shock
Standard (TN 10): Provide basic medical care for someone who is Injured
Challenging (TN 15): Provide basic medical care for someone who is Wounded
Difficult (TN 20): Provide basic medical care for someone who is Incapacitated
Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Provide basic medical care for someone who is Near Death

Additional Modifiers: A medical-specific diagnostic device gives a +5 bonus for diagnosing problems. Without Science: Life (Exobiology), all Medicine tests made for patients of a different race have a +2 TN.
Affinity: Science: Life (Biology, Anatomy), Science: Physical (Chemistry)
Action Time: Varies; hours
Extended Test: Yes

Observe

You are alert and wary, possessing keen senses in noticing unusual or noteworthy things.

Attribute: Perception
Test Category: Physical
Trained: No
Sample Specialties: Spot, Smell, Taste, Touch, Listen, Sense Power, Track
Test: In many cases, Observe requires an opposed test against such skills as Conceal, Legerdemain, or Stealth. If no one actively opposes your ability to observe, the difficulty depends on the size, cover, and obviousness of what you are trying to perceive. Sense Power may only be chosen if you have the Sense Power magic ability or can cast the Sense Power spell.

Routine (TN 5): Observing something obvious
Standard (TN 10): Observing something average
Challenging (TN 15): Observing something small
Difficult (TN 20): Observing something tiny
Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Observing something miniscule

Additional Modifiers: If the object stands out against its environment, apply a -2 TN (or greater). Conversely, trying to perceive something that blends in with the environment naturally confers a +2 TN (or greater).
Affinity: Conceal, Inquire (Search); Survival (Specific Environment) also for Observe (Track)
Action Time: 1 action
Extended Test: Yes

Operate Vehicle

You are able to operate or pilot a vehicle other than complex controls found in futuristic vehicles.

Attribute: Intellect
Test Category: Physical
Trained: Yes
Sample Skills: Airplane, Boat, Car, Wagon
Sample Specialties: Fighter, Airliner, Speedboat, Big Rig, Chariot
Test: A single test is usually required to get you where you want to go. If the trip is especially long or difficult, the Narrator may require an extended test. If the vehicle is being used as a weapon, make an Operate Vehicle test against the person or object's Defense.
Action Time: Varies; depends on vehicle speed and other conditions. *Note: This skill is used for vehicles of TL 5 and lower.*
Extended Test: Yes

Perform

You are a skilled entertainer, able to play music, create songs and poems, or tell amusing stories.

Attribute:	Bearing
Test Category:	Social
Trained:	No
Sample Skills:	Play Specific Instrument, Sing, Stage-acting, Tell Stories
Sample Specialties:	Type of Music, Opera, Tall Tales
Test:	The difficulty of a Perform test depends on the nature and complexity of your attempted performance.

Routine (TN 5): Compose a simple verse; Play a simple song

Standard (TN 10): Compose an average verse; Play an average song

Challenging (TN 15): Compose a complicated verse; Play a complicated song

Difficult (TN 20): Compose a complex verse; Play a complex song

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Flawlessly compose and sing a complex verse on the spot

Additional Modifiers:	A friendly, receptive audience may confer a +1 bonus, while a critical or heckling crowd may confer a -1 penalty (or more).
Affinity:	Impersonate for Perform (Stage-acting and Tell Stories)
Action Time:	Varies; depends on the nature of the performance.
Extended Test:	Yes

Ranged Combat

You are skill in the art of ranged combat, harming foes from a distance.

Attribute:	Agility or Strength
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	No
Sample Skills:	Bows, Energy Weapons, Heavy Energy Weapons, Heavy Weapons, Guns, Thrown
Sample Specialties:	Longbow, Laser Pistol, Grenade Launcher, Mortar, Revolver, Rifle, Spear
Test:	Make a test with Ranged Combat to hit a target in hand-to-hand combat. The base TN is the target's Defense. Strength is used when wielding large weapons such as spears. The skills could also be named after a particular combat style that uses a particular weapon(s) such as fencing instead of generic categories of weapons. <i>Use Strength as the associated attribute for Ranged Combat: Thrown skill.</i>
Special:	At skill ranks 6, 9, and 12, select a maneuver from the list of combat maneuvers to receive a +1 bonus when you use the selected maneuver with any weapon you have a specialty for. You can select the same maneuver repeatedly to be granted a greater bonus when the subsequent numbers of ranks are acquired.
Action Time:	1 action
Extended Test:	N/A

Repair

You are able to fix items when they are broken or malfunctioning.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	Yes
Sample Specialties:	Specific Items or Systems, Sabotage
Test:	As an extended test, Repair should be used to fix equipment, items, and components. When using Repair to diagnose problems, it is considered an academic test. <i>Though this skill could be ignored and use Engineering skills for creation, construction, and repair tests.</i>

Routine (TN 5): Fix a simple problem
Standard (TN 10): Fix a typical problem
Challenging (TN 15): Fix a complicated problem
Difficult (TN 20): Fix a complex problem
Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Fix an astronomical problem

Additional Modifiers: A typical diagnostic device gives a +3 bonus for detecting and diagnosing problems. A task- or device-specific diagnostic device gives an additional +2 bonus.
Affinity: Armed Combat, Computer Use, Engineering, Ranged Combat, and/or System Operation depending on the nature of the target of repair.
Action Time: Varies; minutes to hours
Extended Test: Yes

Ride

You are a skilled rider, able to handle a mount be it magical or animal.

Attribute: Agility
Test Category: Physical
Trained: No
Sample Specialties: Specific animals
Test: In most situations, riding requires no test. Only when difficulty arises, such as performing a stunt, a must be made. A character with Ride knows how to tend to his mount.
Additional Modifiers: If your mount is injured/damaged, you suffer the same penalties for your Ride tests if you were injured. If both you and your mount are injured/damaged, add the penalties together.
Affinity: Appropriate Knowledge skill
Action Time: 1 action, but sometimes 2 actions or a full round if the mount is unruly or fearful.
Extended Test: N/A

Science

You have studied long and understand the inner workings of the world.

Attribute: Intellect
Test Category: Academic
Trained: Yes
Sample Skills: Life, Physical, Social, Space
Sample Specialties: Astronomy, Anatomy, Anthropology, Biology, Organic Chemistry, Meteorology
Test: Perform a test to recall information related to the particular Science skill.

Routine (TN 5): Remember a basic, significant fact; perform a simple experiment; Plotting a course through a populous region of space
Standard (TN 10): Remember specific facts; perform a basic experiment; Plotting a course using major stars detectable for guidance
Challenging (TN 15): Remember obscure facts; perform a complicated experiment; Plotting a course through an unmapped region of space without recognizable stars
Difficult (TN 20): Remember extremely obscure facts; perform a complex experiment; Plotting a course through a region of space with many interstellar hazards
Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Remember extremely obscure, distantly related facts; perform a complex, multistage experiment; Plotting a course outside the galaxy or different dimension

Additional Modifiers:	Access to navigational aids such as astrometric charts each confer a +2 bonus to the appropriate test.
Affinity:	Gain a +1 affinity bonus for Inquire (Research) when conducting an experiment.
Action Time:	Free action to remember a fact; 10 minutes to research from books; 1 hour to research by experiment
Extended Test:	No (recall), Yes (research)

Sports

You know how to hide yourself, shadow others without being seen, and move silently.

Attribute:	Agility or Strength
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	No
Sample Skills:	Baseball, Football, Rugby
Test:	To compete in a sporting event, make an opposed test against all opponents with the highest result determining the winner. Multi-event competitions and tournaments require multiple opposed tests. Strength is used for sports that require extensive physical exertion like weightlifting.
Affinity:	Double affinity bonus from Athletics
Action Time:	Varies; minutes to hours
Extended Test:	No

Stealth

You know how to hide yourself, shadow others without being seen, and move silently.

Attribute:	Agility
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	No
Sample Specialties:	Hide, Move Silently, Shadow, Surveil
Test:	Stealth requires an opposed test against an appropriate Observe test by whomever you are trying to hide from.
Additional Modifiers:	Cover and loud noises often aid Stealth attempts. Trying to move silently across a noisy surface incurs a -2 penalty to the test. Using Stealth while running incurs a -5 penalty to the test.
Affinity:	Observe; Survival while in natural areas.
Action Time:	Full-round action
Extended Test:	No

Survival

You are adept at knowing how to survive in your surrounding environment by being able to build shelters, find edible plants and water, and hunt.

Attribute:	Perception
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	No
Sample Specialties:	Arctic, Desert, Forest, Jungle, Mountains, Oceans, Plains, Sky, Swamp, Underground, Urban
Test:	The difficulty depends on the environment you're in. You can usually find food and shelter in a forest with ease, but doing the same in the desert is another matter. This skill also allows you to read the weather.

Routine (TN 5): Determining if a plant is edible; Determining what the weather will be in an hour; Finding your way through mountainous areas with many physical features
Standard (TN 10): Locating food, water, and shelter in the jungle or forest; Starting a fire; Determining what the weather to be later today and tomorrow; Finding your way through hilly and/or forested area with a some physical features
Challenging (TN 15): Locating food, water, and shelter in the mountains; Determining what the weather to be in 2-3 days; Finding your way though fairly flat land with few physical features
Difficult (TN 20): Locating food, water, and shelter in the desert; Determining what the weather to be in 4-5 days; Finding your way through the desert or open water not near land
Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Locating food, water, and shelter in the arctic; Determining what the weather to be in 6+ days; Finding your way through unknown lands

Additional Modifiers:	Poor weather – hard rains, high winds, driving snow – causes you to suffer a minimum -4 penalty to tests. Access to navigational aids such as maps of the region, a sextant, or a compass each confer a +2 bonus for determining your location or plotting a course on the surface of a planet.
Affinity:	Observe gives an affinity bonus for noticing things and hunting; Knowledge of the country or region gives an affinity bonus when trying to survive there.
Special:	At skill ranks 6, 9, and 12, you may choose a +1 bonus to one of the following environments: forest, mountains, plains, arctic, underground, or urban. If you choose the same environment, the bonuses are cumulative.
Action Time:	Starting a fire takes one minute. Finding food, water, or shelter and hunting takes no less than one hour.
Extended Test:	Yes

System Operation

You are adept in running and maintaining systems in a large vessel be it in a command-and-control center, aboard a naval vessel, or travelling through space on a starship.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	Yes
Sample Specialties:	Command, Nav Control, Sabotage, Sensors, Tactical, Weapons
Test:	Make a System Operation test to perform tasks pertaining to a specific system. When answering questions about systems, it would be considered an academic test. If a vehicle is being used as a weapon, make an System Operation (Nav Control) test against the person or object's Defense. <i>Note: This skill is for vehicles and vessels of TL 7 or higher.</i>

Routine (TN 5): Perform a simple task
Standard (TN 10): Perform a typical task
Challenging (TN 15): Perform a complicated task
Difficult (TN 20): Perform a complex task
Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Perform an immeasurably difficult task

Affinity:	Computer Use for to recalibrate system's console; Engineering and Repair for diagnosing and fixing problems with system.
Action Time:	Varies; 1 action to minutes or hours
Extended Test:	Yes

Tactics

You are adept in running and maintaining systems in a large vessel be it in a command-and-control center, aboard a naval vessel, or travelling through space on a starship.

Attribute:	Intellect
Test Category:	Academic
Trained:	Yes
Sample Specialties:	Air, Ground, Sea, Space, Specific Nation or Race
Test:	Tactics is used to determine initiate in vessel/vehicle combat, where best to lay an ambush, devise and/or execute movements of troops or maneuvers of a vessel or vessels against an enemy, and is skill used by commanding officers to perform Command maneuvers.

Routine (TN 5): Hide vessel along shoreline or in a fog or nebula

Standard (TN 10): Determine next action by opponent(s)

Challenging (TN 15): Enhance effectiveness of ground troops during combined tests

Difficult (TN 20): Perform extremely difficult maneuver involving multiple vessels or coordinating assault with multiple military branches

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Mount decisive attack against a vastly superior enemy

Additional Modifiers:	If you are able to study the enemy for at least three rounds, gain a one-time +2 bonus to any subsequent Tactics test made against them.
Affinity:	Observe (Spot) to detect an ambush
Action Time:	Varies; 1 action to minutes or hours
Extended Test:	No

Unarmed Combat

You are skill in the art of unarmed combat, literally fighting foes hand-to-hand.

Attribute:	Agility
Test Category:	Physical
Trained:	No
Sample Skills:	Boxing, Brawling, Specific Martial Art
Test:	Make a test with Unarmed Combat to hit a target in hand-to-hand combat. The base TN is the target's Defense.
Special:	At skill ranks 6, 9, and 12, select a maneuver from the list of combat maneuvers to receive a +1 bonus when you perform the selected maneuver. You can select the same maneuver repeatedly to be granted a greater bonus when the subsequent numbers of ranks are acquired.
Action Time:	1 action
Extended Test:	N/A

Additional Rules for Consideration

Handle Animal

You are able to tame and control animals, wild or domesticated, magical or Muggle.

Attribute:	Bearing
Test Category:	Social
Trained:	No
Sample Specialties:	Specific animals (dogs, cats, unicorns, dragons)
Test:	Most Handle Animal tests are opposed tests against the creature's Wisdom. On a Marginal Success, the creature will act indifferently and won't comply with commands. On a Complete Success, the creature will perform the action commanded, nothing more. On a Superior Success or better, the creature will comply with all commands and no further tests for this encounter. On a failure, the creature will act indifferently and won't perform the action commanded. On a complete failure, the animal will run away and won't respond to any commands given by the character for the rest of the encounter. On a Disastrous Failure, the creature will attack the character once, run away, and never comply with any commands given by the character anymore.
Affinity:	Influence, appropriate Knowledge skills, Ride (Specific Animal)
Action Time:	Varies; rounds to hours.
Extended Test:	Yes

Breaking Down Skill Groups

Especially for fantasy/medieval-era games, the skill list would be reduced significantly. Break down a few of the skill groups into separately listed skills to give the list the look of diversity. Some specialties from skills could also be handled in this fashion as well. See the Lord of the Rings RPG for examples of this.

Defining Affinity Bonuses

Typically affinity bonuses are supposed to be +1 or +2 depending on circumstances, but there are very few guidelines, rationale for what to give and when, or examples of this in the skill descriptions. To clarify and expand upon the affinity bonus rules, I have devised a simple table to determine what an affinity bonus from a skill would be depending on a character's proficiency in the skill. If the affinity bonus lists a skill accompanied by a specialty, the specialty is required to gain the benefit of the affinity bonus.

Table 15: Affinity Bonuses

<u>Ranks in Affinity Skill</u>	<u>Affinity Bonus</u>
1-6	+1
7-9	+2
10-11	+3
12+	+4

Knowledge Skill Redefinition

The essential broadness of scope of Knowledge skills can be a bit overpowering, an aspect very much felt in the Lord of the Rings RPG. Alternate rules in the use of the skill group could be thus:

- 1) No specialties for Knowledge skills. This would break down the skills to Knowledge, History: Gondor +X instead of Knowledge: History (Gondor) +X.
- 2) Switch skills and specialties. This would break down skills to Knowledge: Gondor (History) +X instead of Knowledge: History (Gondor) +X.

Random Distances, Times, etc.

Some skills have effects where ranges of values (distance, time, etc.) are given for specific TN's for a skill. A couple of suggestions to get a better idea of exact values are 1) make the test result be the resultant value, or 2) roll $Xd6 \pm$ modifier that would give a value within the specific range. Rolling one additional die and having a negative modifier will guarantee a smaller minimum value and larger average score while rolling one less and having a positive modifier will guarantee a larger minimum value and smaller average score.

Example:

Jordan's PC decides to swing across a wide chasm that is 25 yards across. To do this, he makes an Acrobatics (Swing) test. If the first condition were used, Jordan would have to have a test result of 25+ to make it across the chasm. If the second condition were used, Jordan would have to have a test result of 20+ and because the range is 21-40 yards (an absolute difference of 20), then 1) roll $3d6+2$ and add the result to 21, or 2) roll $4d6-4$ and add the result to 21.

CHARACTER TRAITS

Edges

Due to the fact that there are a lot of edges between both Star Trek and Lord of the Rings, I decided to list only the unique edges (but not game-specific like Elf-friend) from both the games that aren't easily created such as those giving bonuses to test types, test categories, reactions, and skills. See 'Additional Rules for Consideration' for basic, common sense guidelines to create those edges.

Table 16: Edges List

Edge	Prerequisite	Upgrade?	Edge	Prerequisite	Upgrade?
Ally	None	Yes	Hardy	Vitality 6+ or 9+	No
Ambidextrous	Agility 6+	Yes	Healer	None	No
Charmed Life	None	Yes	Innovative	None 1 Advancement	Yes
Command	See text	Yes	Likeable	Bearing 8+	No
Commendation	See text	Yes	Linguist	See text	No
Concentration	Willpower 4+	No	Multitasking	Intellect 6+ or 9+	No
Connections	None	Yes	Night Vision	None	Yes
Courageous	None	No	Psionics	See text	No
Cultural Flexibility	None	No	Rank	See text	Yes
Direction-sense	Survival (any specialties) 4+	No Yes	Rapid Healing	Vitality 9+	No
Eidetic Memory	Intellect 9+	No	Sense of Time	Perception 9+	No
Everyman	None	No	Species Friend	None	No
Faithful	None	Yes	Speed	Agility 6+ or 9+	No
Fame	Renown 6+	Yes	Suit-trained	None	No
Famous Event	See text	Yes	Trait Upgrade	Selected edge	Yes
Favor of Fortune	None	Yes	Wakefulness	Vitality 6+	No
Foresight	Intellect 12+, Wisdom 5+	No	Wealth	None	Yes
Fortitude	Vitality 6+ or 9+	No	Zero-G Trained	None	No

Edge

<Descriptive Text>

- Prerequisite:** Attributes, Skills ranks, or traits needed before acquiring Edge.
- Restriction:** Flaws or other circumstances you may not have in order to get this Edge.
- Effect:** What happens when the Edge is invoked.
- Upgrade:** Yes or No; How many times if limited. The effects of upgrading the Edge.

Ally

A person great and powerful is know to you and considers you a boon companion or at least worthy of respect. If you seek his aid, he will give it if able.

Prerequisite: None

Restriction: *Enemy, Intolerant, Rival (same person)*

Effect: You must speak with your Narrator to determine who your ally is. He could be someone known across the wizarding world or a person of lesser import, but must be able to aid, either with counsel or deeds. When you seek his help by making social tests, he is always friendly to you (+5 bonus to result to social tests when making a request). Do not press him too closely or often as he may become unwilling to help you (penalties to tests may accrue). Because your ally is a person with hopes and fears, you cannot seek his assistance through dice rolls alone; you must talk with him, taking into account his whims and fancies and justifying your requests with kindly and persuasive words. At times, he may seek you out to request a favor in return for past aid. Giving aid to your ally may grant additional bonuses to the social tests when making a request.

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this edge, select another person or people as your Ally.

Ambidextrous

Most folk have one hand they favor over the other, but not you – you can use either hand with equal ease.

Prerequisite: Agility 6+

Restriction: *Crippled (Crippled Arm or Loss of Arm)*

Effect: Using your off hand confers a +4 TN instead of the standard +8 TN. You still incur multiple action penalties when appropriate.

Upgrade: Yes; once. *Prerequisite: Agility 9+*; you suffer no penalty when using your off hand.

Charmed Life

Fate smiles upon you, preserving your life when need or your own folly imperils it.

Prerequisite: None

Restriction: *None*

Effect: Once per game session, when you suffer injury sufficient to decrease your Wound Level, you may make a TN 10 Vitality test. If successful, you lost no Wound Levels, but have one Wound Point level in your current level regardless of number of Wound Levels that would've been lost. Damage is incurred normally if the test fails.

Upgrade: Yes; once. The Vitality test is reduced to TN 5. *Would suggest TN 7 instead.*

Command

You have a captaincy or command over a force of men.

- Prerequisite:** Unless by Narrator approval, you must have minimum Rank 1.
- Restriction:** *None*
- Effect:** You command a group of up to 10 men or a low-level supervisor in a department. In addition, subordinates gain a +1 bonus to profession skill tests made in your presence during each game session.
- Upgrade:** Yes; four times. You are restricted (unless by Narrator approval), to have no more picks in Command than you do for Rank. In addition, for each pick for Command, subordinates have a total bonus to spend on profession skill tests while they are in your presence during each game session equal to the number of picks you have in this edge. The bonus can be broken down in any fashion for any number of tests. For example, you are Command 3, granting a +3 bonus. A subordinate could make 1) one test with +3, 2) one test with +2 and one test with +1, or 3) three difference tests with +1 each.
- Command 2: 11-25 men or an intermediate-level supervisor
 - Command 3: 26-50 men or an upper-level supervisor
 - Command 4: 51-100 men or a department head
 - Command 5: 101-500 men or head of operations
 - Command 6: 501-1000 men or commander of a vessel
 - Command 7: 1001-5000 men or commander of a group
 - Command 8: 5001-10000 men or commander of a fleet
 - Command 9: 10001-100000 men commander of a branch of military/head of military
 - Command 10: 100001-1000000 men or commander-in-chief

Commendation

You have performed above and beyond the call of duty and that service is worthy of recognition.

- Prerequisite:** You must do something during gameplay worthy of acquiring this edge; it requires Narrator approval.
- Restriction:** *Infamy of same event*
- Effect:** You receive +1 Renown bonus per level of Commendation to social tests against those who would appreciate the significance of the award. You must spend the number of advancement picks equal to the commendation's level.
- Commendation 1: Minor award or achievement
 - Commendation 2: Significant award or achievement
 - Commendation 3: Major award or achievement
- Upgrade:** Yes

Concentration

You have the ability to “tune out” the distractions around while performing delicate tasks.

- Prerequisite:** *Willpower 4+*
- Restriction:** *Easily Distracted*
- Effect:** Ignore normal penalties due to outside distractions.
- Upgrade:** No

Connections

You have a series of contacts you can turn to for information or assistance.

- Prerequisite:** None
Restriction: *Enemy, Intolerant of same group*
Effect: Choose a particular group or place where you have connections with and select a relevant Enterprise skill. You gain a +2 bonus when making a test using this skill, reflecting the assistance provided from your contacts. Also, if another skill gains an affinity bonus from the selected Enterprise skill, the bonus is also applied to that skill as well.
Upgrade: Yes; twice for bonus. Every time you pick this edge, you receive an additional +2 bonus (max +6) or to add a new group.

Courageous

You are no stranger to bravery, often leaping in situations where others would fear to be.

- Prerequisite:** None
Restriction: *Craven*
Effect: You may use 6 Courage per round instead of the usual 4. *I would change this to “+1 Courage per round”.*
Upgrade: No (*I would change this to “Yes; a number of times equal to your Vitality modifier. Every time you pick this edge, you receive the use of +1 Courage points per round per pick.”*)

Cultural Flexibility

You feel right at home when dealing with those of other races as you embrace and are fascinated by their cultures.

- Prerequisite:** None
Restriction: *Enemy, Intolerant of same race*
Effect: +2 bonus to social tests involving races other than your own.
Upgrade: No

Direction-sense

You never get lost or lose your sense of direction, even underground.

- Prerequisite:** *Survival (any specialties) 4+*
Restriction: *None*
Effect: You know the right way to the bridge on a foreign ship, the direction to the nearest port or city, or which way is north. This edge does not function in outer space. *Pick one of your Survival specialties. You will always know which way is north when traveling in this environment.*
Upgrade: No *Yes. Every time you pick this edge, choose a different Survival specialty from those you have acquired. This edge may have an effect in space of giving a +2 bonus to Science: Space (Astrogation) tests if the character has Perception 10+.*

Eidetic Memory

You have a mind with the gift of photography memory and total recall.

- Prerequisite:** *Intellect 9+*
Restriction: *None*
Effect: All academic tests of TN 5 or less are automatically successful and those with greater TN's are granted a +2 bonus. This includes physical skills used as academic tests and academic skills used as physical tests.
Upgrade: No

Everyman

You have a “plain” appearance, making you difficult to recognize.

- Prerequisite:** None
Restriction: *Familiar Face*
Effect: Increase the difficulty of recognition tests by +5 TN.
Upgrade: No

Faithful

You possess great devotion, loyalty, and/or love for a person, group, or place which inspires you to fight harder and risk great dangers to preserve it and keep it safe.

- Prerequisite:** None
Restriction: *Enemy, Intolerant, Rival of same person or group*
Effect: You select a person, group, or place. When fighting on behalf of that which you hold dear, you receive a +1 to all combat actions when defending it directly and attacking foes who directly threaten it (the Narrator determines whether the bonus applies in any given situation). You also receive a +1 bonus to Willpower vs. Fear and Domination in these situations. However your determination to protect that which you are faithful to may tempt you to do things you wouldn't normally do. When this happens, you receive a -1 penalty to Willpower to resist being persuaded against your action.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this edge, you receive an additional +1 bonus to Willpower vs. Fear and Domination and an additional -1 penalty to Willpower to resist being persuaded against your action.

Fame

Your reputation precedes you and most people respect and admire your particular qualities.

- Prerequisite:** Renown 6+
Restriction: *Infamy of same aspect*
Effect: Select an aspect of your character's personality for your Fame. When a person attempts a recognition test, chances are he will recognize you for one of your Fame aspects. Favorable aspects will normally improve a stranger's stance towards you by one interaction stance category.
Upgrade: Yes. Each time you pick this edge, you may add another aspect to your Fame.

Famous Event

You played a critical or central role in an extremely important event. Record the event – when you are recognized in the future, people may react to you according to your participation in the event.

- Prerequisite:** You must do something during gameplay worthy of acquiring this edge; it requires Narrator approval.
Restriction: *Infamy of same event*
Effect: +1 Renown
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this edge, you receive an additional +1 Renown.

Favor of Fortune

You are more lucky than others where every your mistakes can still turn out for the better.

- Prerequisite:** None
Restriction: *None*
Effect: Once per game session, you may re-roll any one test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this edge, you will receive an additional re-roll per game session.

Foresight

You have the innate gift of precognition, the ability to see into the future.

Prerequisite:	Wisdom 5+, Intellect 12+
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	Once per <i>narrative</i> , a character can make a TN 12 Intellect test to gain a brief vision of possible events later in the chapter or adventure. The Narrator has total control over what the character sees, making the vision available for wide interpretation as usually the visions give sight into events that don't necessarily impact the game. <i>In my opinion, this should be an ability as it is very powerful regardless of the stiff prerequisites.</i>
Upgrade:	No

Fortitude

You have an unusually hearty constitution

Prerequisite:	Vitality 6+ <i>Increase to 9+ or higher</i>
Restriction:	<i>Slow Healing, Weak</i>
Effect:	Reduce healing tests by -5 TN and gain a +4 bonus to weekly or semi-weekly tests for recovering Wound Points.
Upgrade:	No

Hardy

A hard and perilous life has inured you to pain, allowing you to withstand more than other folk.

Prerequisite:	Vitality 6+ <i>Increase to 9+ or higher</i>
Restriction:	<i>Weak</i>
Effect:	Reduce all injury penalties to one level less than normal. For example, Near Death would be a -7 penalty instead of -9.
Upgrade:	No

Healer

You possess a natural gift for the healing arts. Your aid often brings comfort to the injured and sick.

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	+5 bonus to healing tests. When the effects of this edge are used, make a Stamina test of 8 + 2 per Wound Level the patient has lost. If the Stamina test fails, lose 1 Weariness Level for every 2 Wound Levels the patient has lost.
Upgrade:	No

Innovative

You approach problems from a different perspective when devising solutions to problems.

Prerequisite:	None <i>Minimum 1 advancement</i>
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	You may purchase a Profession Ability from any Basic Profession other than your own. All prerequisites must be met before purchasing. <i>Narrator's choice as to whether this edge must be acquired again to purchase additional picks of the same ability. Further house rules may be applicable if a Narrator decides to use the Star Trek method of tiered abilities.</i>
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this edge, you may select a new Profession Ability to purchase.

Likeable

You have a knack for people gravitating toward you.

Prerequisite:	<i>Bearing 8+</i>
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	Adjust any modifiers from interaction stance by +3.
Upgrade:	No

Linguist

You have a good ear for languages and speak them with ease and fluency.

Prerequisite:	3 Language skills with 4+ ranks, Minimum of one language of non-native tongue. <i>Increase to 6+ ranks</i>
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	+3 bonus to all Language tests. <i>Reduce bonus to +1 or have Language tests TN's be reduced by -2 TN.</i>
Upgrade:	No

Multitasking

You can accomplish multiple tasks rapidly.

Prerequisite:	Intellect 6+ <i>or</i> 9+
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	You may make full-round actions in 2 standard actions. Further actions are still possible with the multiple-action penalty as well as off-hand penalties still apply.
Upgrade:	No

Night Vision

While the night blinds others, you retain the ability to see.

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	Reduce penalties due to darkness by -2. This reduction is only in effect while above ground.
Upgrade:	Yes; once. Penalties due to darkness are reduced to 0.

Psionics

You have the ability to tap into and use the power of the mind.

Prerequisite:	Must be of a race that is not psionically “mute”. <i>Typically, this edge should only be available during character creation.</i>
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	Gain the Psi attribute with a beginning value of 4 along with access to psionic-based traits, skills, and powers. It is also a favored attribute for the purposes of advancement. <i>For a variable starting value roll $\frac{1}{2}$-d6 +3 (if a ‘6’ is rolled, add 4 to the bonus for a total result of 7).</i>
Upgrade:	No

Rank

You possess a position of authority, be it in the military, a bureaucrat, or aristocracy.

- Prerequisite:** Some positions require you to be of a certain bloodline or people while others require you to be appointed, elected, or promoted.
- Restriction:** *None*
- Effect:** Rank has no effects on its own, but the story effects such as privileges and deference from NPC's can be significant. Having Rank does not, however, confer any power over forces for combat (Command) or extra money (Wealth).
- Upgrade:** Yes. Examples are given below:
- Rank 1: 2st Lieutenant, City Official
 - Rank 2: 1st Lieutenant, Mayor
 - Rank 3: Captain, Local Representative
 - Rank 4: Major, State Representative
 - Rank 5: Lt. Colonel, State Senator
 - Rank 6: Colonel, State Governor
 - Rank 7: Brigadier General, Cabinet Member
 - Rank 8: Major General, Speaker of the House of Representatives
 - Rank 9: Lt. General, Vice President
 - Rank 10: Branch General, President

Rapid Healing

Your body has an increased capacity for recovering from wounds.

- Prerequisite:** Vitality 9+
- Restriction:** *Slow Healing*
- Effect:** Recover double the normal amount of Wound Points due to natural or assisted healing. *This effect does not include the Wound Points regained by the weekly or semi-weekly Stamina tests.*
- Upgrade:** No

Sense of Time

You have an innate sense of time.

- Prerequisite:** *Perception 9+*
- Restriction:** *None*
- Effect:** You always remain aware of the time within a $\pm 10\%$ margin of error.
- Upgrade:** No

Species Friend

Through propaganda or some great feat that you performed for them, you have become a friend and ally to a specific race.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Restriction:** *Enemy, Intolerant of same race*
- Effect:** Choose a race of which you are a friend. Upon a successful recognition test by one of that race, gain a +3 bonus to social tests to influence them. This bonus is in addition to other bonuses due to a successful recognition test.
- Upgrade:** No

Speed

You are naturally faster than others.

Prerequisite:	Agility 6+ <i>Increase to 9+</i>
Restriction:	<i>Crippled (Crippled Leg or Loss of Leg)</i>
Effect:	Your base movement increases by 25% for walking, running, and sprinting.
Upgrade:	No

Suit-trained

You are trained the use of performing duties while wearing an environmental suit.

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	Penalties due to wearing an environmental suit or other lesser clothing that may cause penalties (gloves, boots, etc.) are reduced to 0.
Upgrade:	No

Trait Upgrade

You are really good at what you do, excelling over even most of the best in this ability.

Prerequisite:	Selected edge
Restriction:	Edges affecting Courage and Courage bonuses cannot be upgraded.
Effect:	You may upgrade an edge that cannot normally be upgraded for a cumulative effect. An edge of this sort can be affected by this edge only once.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this edge, choose a different edge.

Wakefulness

Your strength of body and will allows you to remain awake without ill effects longer than most people.

Prerequisite:	Vitality 6+
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	Whereas most sleep some each day, a character with this edge can remain awake a number of nights in a row equal to his Stamina. Though awake, he still can regain Weariness Levels by resting. However, the character loses one Weariness Level a day that he goes without sleep and may not recover those lost levels until he sleeps.
Upgrade:	No

Wealth

You or your family possesses great stores of money, credit, and other valuables.

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	You have access to a small personal fortune. It is not just in coinage, but also in items and goods. You must speak with your Narrator about the nature of your wealth.
Upgrade:	Yes; four times. Hoard 2: Moderate personal fortune Hoard 3: Medium personal fortune Hoard 4: Large personal fortune Hoard 5: Vast personal fortune

Zero-G Trained

You have extensive training in low- and zero-G environments.

Prerequisite: None

Restriction: None

Effect: You suffer no penalties when in low- and zero-G environments. This edge isn't the same as Suit-trained and doesn't convey and special space-going skill.

Upgrade: No

Flaws

These cover both character flaws and combat weaknesses.

Table 17: Flaws List

<u>Flaw</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>	<u>Flaw</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Addiction	Yes	Greedy	No
Bloodlust	Yes	Infamy	Yes
Coward	No	Intolerant	Yes
Craven	No	Night-blind	No
Crippled	Yes	Oath-bound	Yes
Easily Distracted	No	Pacifist	Yes
Enemy	Yes	Rival	Yes
Familiar Face	No	Slow Healing	No
Fealty	No	Stubborn	No
Fey	No	Weak	No

Flaw

<Descriptive Text>

Restriction: Edges or other circumstances you may not have in order to get this Flaw.

Effect: What happens when the Flaw is invoked.

Upgrade: Yes or No; How many times if limited. The effects of upgrading the Flaw.

Addiction

You have a physical and psychological dependence upon chemical substances such as alcohol or illegal drugs.

Restriction: None

Effect: You must consume the substance once every two days at least or suffer a -1 penalty to Bearing or Intellect. When both attributes reach 1, the “shakes” set in and reduce a character’s Vitality or Agility by -1. Lost attribute levels cannot be recovered during this time. When all four attributes are 1, the character is “rock bottom” and will remain there for one week. At the end of the week, attribute recovery will then be possible at a rate of 1 point per day. At this point, the Narrator may decide that the character has been cured of his addiction. *If the character that has been cured encounters the substance again, he must make a TN 10 Willpower test to resist the temptation.*

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this flaw, either gain a new substance that you are addicted to or increase the need for a substance – a second pick will increase the need to once per day and a third will increase the need to twice per day.

Bloodlust

Once engaged in battle, you cannot resist the fire burning within to continue.

Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	If both you and your opponents remain standing, you must spend 1 Courage point to stop fighting. Influence tests to persuade you to stop have a -3 penalty and Debate tests automatically fail.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this flaw, the intensity of your rage increases. A second pick requires you to spend 1 Courage to refrain from killing injured or unconscious opponents and Influence tests have a -6 penalty. A third pick requires you to spend 1 Courage to refrain from attacking and killing anyone near you, including your allies and innocents, and Influence tests have a -9 penalty.

Coward

You don't possess the power to confront danger or terror, unmanning you at times when bravery is most needed.

Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	When confronted with combat or threats (use of Influence (Intimidate) with a result of 10 or higher), you flee, cower to the will of the other, or some other appropriate effect unless you spend a point of Courage.
Upgrade:	No

Craven

You don't possess "the heart of a lion." After all bravery and foolishness is two sides of the same coin. You'd Rather stand back and consider your options before rushing headlong into a tense situation.

Restriction:	<i>Courageous</i>
Effect:	You may only spend up to 2 points of Courage per round instead of the usual 4.
Upgrade:	No

Crippled

You suffer a grievous injury from combat, an accident, illness, or from birth. It impairs your ability to perform normally in regards to what has been harmed.

Restriction:	<i>Ambidextrous for arms, Speed for legs</i>
Effect:	Confer with your Narrator and select a body part that is crippled or missing. Here are some sample impairments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crippled Leg – Movement reduced by 1/3; all physical tests (which include attribute and reaction tests) requiring the use of your legs have a -5 penalty• Loss of Leg – Movement reduced by 2/3; all physical tests (which include attribute and reaction tests) requiring the use of your legs have a -10 penalty• Crippled Arm – All physical tests (which include attribute and reaction tests) requiring the use of your arms have a -5 penalty• Loss of Arm – All physical tests (which include attribute and reaction tests) requiring the use of your arms have a -10 penalty• Loss of Eye – All physical tests requiring sight have a -8 penalty.• Blind – All physical tests requiring sight have a -15 penalty.
Upgrade:	No

Dark Secret

Your heart holds some dread secret, one so terrible it would shame you if others were to learn of it.

- Restriction:** *None*
- Effect:** Speak with your Narrator to determine something proper. It must be something that would harm you if revealed, but wouldn't be something so bad that it would make your character not actually a hero. When you meet someone who knows of your Dark Secret, you suffer a -10 penalty to all social skills and any others that the Narrator may deem appropriate.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this flaw, select a new aspect for secrecy.

Easily Distracted

You have a difficult time maintaining your focus and concentration, not even able to shake off the slightest distraction.

- Restriction:** *Concentration*
- Effect:** Additional -3 penalty due to outside distractions.
- Upgrade:** No

Enemy

Your heroic conduct and goals have earned you an enemy who begrudges your achievements and would keep you from further success if he could.

- Restriction:** *Ally, Connections, Cultural Flexibility, Faithful, Species Friend*
- Effect:** Speak with your Narrator about choosing your Enemy. They wouldn't work against you in every adventure, but he will always bear you ill will. When a 1 on a d6 is rolled before the adventure, your Enemy becomes part of the story.
- Upgrade:** Yes; once. The effect is either your Enemy is someone of great evil or a large group of people/beings, or your Narrator will include your Enemy if a 1 or 2 is rolled on a d6.

Familiar Face

You are easily recognized due to your famous or distinct features.

- Restriction:** *Everyman*
- Effect:** Recognition tests made against you have a -5 TN.
- Upgrade:** No

Fealty

You are bound to serve a lord or lady, be they an earl or king of the land.

- Restriction:** *None*
- Effect:** You must obey all lawful commands by the one whom you swore fealty to and he or she must in-turn give you rewards and honors due to you for your service. If you break with your duty to your liege, you suffer a -10 penalty to all social tests with those that know of your unfaithfulness. Typically, a character may only have Fealty to one person, but if circumstances are appropriate, the Narrator may allow others.
- Upgrade:** No

Fey

Stricken with despair and hopelessness, you desire death or you do not seek to avoid it.

Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	When you meet with any danger or fearsome foe, you must confront and chance it, unless you spend 1 Courage.
Upgrade:	No

Greedy

Avaricious and miserly, you desire riches above all other things.

Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	When wealth falls into your path, you must spend a point of Courage to resist its lure; otherwise you must do whatever you can to obtain it.
Upgrade:	No

Infamy

Your reputation precedes you and most people fear or revile you for one or more of your qualities.

Restriction:	<i>Commendation, Fame, Famous Event for same event or aspect</i>
Effect:	Choose a specific aspect of your personality for your Infamy. When a person attempts a recognition test, chances are he will recognize you for one of your Infamy aspects. Unfavorable aspects will worsen a stranger's stance towards you by one interaction stance category.
Upgrade:	Yes. Each time you pick this edge, you may add another aspect to your Infamy.

Intolerant

You do not like a particular group, large or small. When you speak about them, you have nothing kind to say; they, conversely, cannot contribute anything useful to any discussion.

Restriction:	<i>Ally, Connections, Cultural Flexibility, Faithful, Species Friend</i>
Effect:	The object of your intolerance is a small group. When interacting with the object of your ire, you cannot hide your dislike. You must spend 1 point of Courage to engage in social tests with them.
Upgrade:	Yes; twice. Every time you pick this flaw, you can either increase the size of the group, the frequency of encountering them, or add another group.

Night-blind

You have more trouble seeing in conditions with little to no light than others do normally.

Restriction:	<i>Night Vision</i>
Effect:	Double normal penalties due to lighting conditions.
Upgrade:	No

Oath-bound

On your honor, you have bound yourself to someone, an ideal, place, or thing.

Restriction:	<i>None</i>
Effect:	If you are Oath-bound to a person, you must obey what their instructions. Being Oath-bound to an ideal, place, or thing means that you will do whatever you can to defend it either with words or by the sword. Upon failing this commitment, this flaw changes into Infamy (Oath-breaker).
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this flaw, choose a new thing that you have sworn an oath to.

Pacifist

You committed yourself to not actively use force against others.

- Restriction:** *None*
- Effect:** You may not use Courage points for any kind of attack tests, but are allowed for use when defending (parry/block, dodge, etc.).
- Upgrade:** Yes; twice. Every time you pick this flaw, your passivity in combat increases. With a second pick, you cannot spend Courage on attack, dodge, or initiative tests. With a third pick, besides the above restrictions, you must also spend 1 Courage to attack another.

Rival

For reasons deserved or undeserved and perhaps even unknown to you, you have earned a rivalry with another person who is your equal.

- Restriction:** *Ally, Faithful*
- Effect:** Speak with your Narrator about choosing your Rival. The person must be someone with whom you would normally have cordial or at least neutral relations. They wouldn't work against you in every adventure, but he will always bear you ill will and seek to make you seem inferior to him. When a 1 on a d6 is rolled before the adventure, your Rival becomes part of the story.
- Upgrade:** Yes; once. The effect is your Narrator will include your Rival if a 1 or 2 is rolled on a d6.

Slow Healing

Sickly, or perhaps simply weak in body or will, you heal slowly when injured or laid low by illness.

- Restriction:** *Fortitude, Rapid Healing*
- Effect:** When allowed to heal naturally, you heal twice as slow as others, recovering one Wound Point instead of their two.
- Upgrade:** No

Stubborn

Stiff-necked and prideful, you refuse to obey others when you find their commands insulting or to change your mind once you have made your decision.

- Restriction:** *None*
- Effect:** Once you make a decision, you resist all attempts to change your mind unless you spend a point of Courage.
- Upgrade:** No

Weak

You have little tolerance for pain and injury.

- Restriction:** *Fortitude, Hardy*
- Effect:** Increase all injury penalties by 2. For example, Near Death would have a -11 penalty instead of -9.
- Upgrade:** No

Additional Rules for Consideration

Creating New Traits

Here are a few guidelines to think about when creating new traits:

1. Compare your idea to established traits and make sure you aren't just copying an existing one.
2. Review similar traits to make sure it is approximately of the same power. If you think it has more power than what you consider the most powerful of similar traits, you may want to consider either making it an ability instead or scaling back its effects.
3. If your trait grants a bonus/penalty to types or categories of tests:
 - The modifier should not be greater than ± 1 for a general modifier.
 - The modifier should not be greater than ± 2 for a modifier in a specific situation.
 - Highly suggest a prerequisite of Intellect 8+ for academic tests, Bearing 8+ for social tests, and Vitality 8+ for physical tests.
4. If your trait grants a bonus/penalty to attribute tests:
 - The modifier should not be greater than ± 1 for a general modifier.
 - The modifier should not be greater than ± 2 for a modifier in a specific situation.
 - Highly suggest a prerequisite of the attribute with a score of 9+.
5. If your trait grants a bonus/penalty to reactions:
 - The trait should not give more than a ± 1 modifier to the base reaction and have a maximum modifier of ± 4 after 3 additional picks of the trait that grant an additional ± 1 modifier.
 - The trait should not give more than a ± 2 modifier to the base reaction and have a maximum modifier of ± 4 after 2 additional picks of the trait that grant an additional ± 1 modifier.*
 - The trait should not give more than a ± 2 modifier to a reaction test in a specific circumstance and have a maximum modifier of ± 8 after 3 additional picks of the trait that grant an additional ± 2 modifier.
 - The trait should not give more than a ± 4 modifier to a reaction test in a specific circumstance and have a maximum modifier of ± 8 after 2 additional picks of the trait that grant an additional ± 2 modifier.*
6. If your trait grants a bonus/penalty to skills:
 - The trait should not give more than a ± 2 modifier to a single skill without a listed specialty.
 - The trait should not give more than a ± 1 modifier to two skills without listed specialties.
 - The trait should not give more than a ± 4 modifier to a single skill and one specialty.
 - The trait should not give more than a ± 2 modifier to two skills and one specialty each.
 - The trait should not give more than a ± 1 modifier to four skills and one specialty each.
7. Remember a key idea: Most edges can be made into flaws by a little adjustment and/or turning their bonuses into penalties.

* Suggested for use in flaws over edges.

COMBAT TRAITS

Trait

<Descriptive Text>

Prerequisite: Attributes, Skills ranks, or traits needed before acquiring the trait.
Effect: What happens when the edge is invoked.
Upgrade: Yes or No; How many times if limited. The effects of upgrading the Edge.

General

Table 18: General Combat Traits

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>	<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Alert	Perception 6+	No	Lion-hearted	None	No
Blends In	<i>Tactics (Ground) 3+</i>	No	Quick-draw	Any Armed or Ranged Combat skill +1	Yes
<i>Blind-fighting</i>	<i>See Text</i>	<i>Yes</i>	Rapid Attack	Agility 6+ and Combat skill 6+	No <i>Yes</i>
Dead Aim	<i>Any Combat skill 1+ and specialty</i>	No <i>Yes</i>	Speed	Agility 6+	No
Defensive Attack	None	No	Two-Weapon Fighting	Agility 6+	Yes
Deliberate Attack	None	No	Valiant	Bearing 9+	No
Dodge	Perception 6+	No	War-wise	<i>Tactics 6+</i>	Yes <i>No</i>
Fell-handed	<i>Any Combat skill 6+, Tactics 3+</i>	Yes	Weapon Mastery	Any Combat Skill 4+	Yes <i>No</i>
Lightning Reflexes	Agility 6+, <i>Quick-draw 2</i>	No			

Alert

Naturally cautious and ready for anything, you can react to peril more swiftly than others.

Prerequisite: Perception 6+
Effect: +3 bonus to Swiftess tests for initiative.
Upgrade: No

Blends In

You are particularly adept at using cover to your advantage in combat.

Prerequisite: *Tactics (Ground) 3+*
Effect: When you use cover in combat, there is an additional +2 TN to hit you.
Upgrade: No

Blind-fighting

You have trained extensively to overcome the disadvantage of not being able to see.

Prerequisite: *An Observe specialty other than Spot, Must have two of these edges: Dead Aim, Defensive Attack, or Lightning Reflexes*
Effect: *When temporarily blinded, blind, or in complete darkness, reduce Blind penalty by 5.*
Upgrade: *Yes; twice. Every time you pick this trait, you may reduce the Blind penalty by an additional 5.*

Dead Aim

Steadiness and concentration are the name of the game. You rarely miss when you take your time.

- Prerequisite:** Any Armed, Ranged, or Unarmed Combat skill 1+ and specialty
Effect: Choose a combat skill and specialty. Double the Aim action bonus for the type of weapon [selected weapon] you are using (+2 for Armed or Unarmed Combat skills and +6 for Ranged Combat skills). This trait affects only the selected combat skill.
Upgrade: No Yes. Every time you select this trait, choose a new combat skill to apply the bonus to.

Defensive Attack

You are able to fight defensively.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You may add up to +3 to a parry or block attempt and thus gaining the equivalent penalty to your next attack test.
Upgrade: No

Deliberate Attack

You can alter your attack to deal additional damage to your opponent.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You may take up to a -3 penalty to an Armed or Unarmed Combat attack to deal an equal bonus to damage upon a successful attack.
Upgrade: No

Dodge

Through hard experience or pain or a desire of self-preservation, you have developed a knack for avoiding peril and moving quickly in face of immediate danger.

- Prerequisite:** Perception 6+
Effect: +3 bonus to Swift tests for dodge actions.
Upgrade: No

Fell-handed

You have studied your foes and their tactics well, giving you the upper hand in battle.

- Prerequisite:** Any Combat skill 6+, Tactics 3+
Effect: +1 bonus to attack tests against a limited group or sub-group of individuals.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this edge, you either increase your bonus (max +3) or increase the size of your group of foes (a large group or whole race, then to all foes).

Lightning Reflexes

You approach problems from a different perspective when devising solutions to problems.

- Prerequisite:** Agility 6+, Quick-draw 2
Effect: You may make Reload and Recover actions as free actions.
Upgrade: No

Lion-hearted

Your courage shines through in battle, protecting you from injury.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You spend Courage points to avoid injury. For each point spent, reduce the damage from the current attack by 1d6 + Vitality Modifier. The damage avoided cannot be more than the amount dealt by the current attack and it cannot reduce damage dealt by previous attacks.
- Upgrade:** No

Quick-draw

- Prerequisite:** Any Armed or Ranged Combat skill +1
- Effect:** You can ready your wand or weapon from your side as a free action. If do so against someone else who has Quick-draw, whomever has the most picks in this edge wins. If you have the same number of picks, make a Swifttness test to determine the winner.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you select this trait, you become relatively faster than anyone that has fewer picks in this trait.

Rapid Attack

Constant vigilance in your training has allowed you to attack more quickly than normal during a fight.

- Prerequisite:** Agility 6+ *and any Combat skill 6+*
- Effect:** On your first action passed your normal action allotment, the penalty for the Combat skill test has a -3 penalty instead of a -5 penalty. Any further actions made are done at the normal penalty (-10, -15, etc.). *The effect would only pertain to the specific Combat skill.*
- Upgrade:** No *Yes. Every time you pick this trait, select a new Combat skill.*

Speed

You are quick on your feet and able to move farther than normal.

- Prerequisite:** Agility 6+
- Effect:** You can move +5 feet walking, +10 feet jogging, and +15 feet sprinting/running.
- Upgrade:** No

Two-Weapon Fighting

You can fight with two weapons, one in each hand, making one additional attack per round.

- Prerequisite:** Agility 6+
- Effect:** Select either an Armed Combat or Ranged Combat skill (Blades, Energy Weapons, etc.) and a specialty. You can make an additional attack with your off-hand using the selected weapon as a free action. Multiple-attack and off-hand penalties apply.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this edge, you must select a new specialty and/or skill.

Valiant

The fire of true courage and noble determination burn within you. When only heroic action can win through to victory, you can succeed where others fail.

Prerequisite: Bearing 9+

Effect: Make a TN 10 Bearing test. You may only roll once unless Favor of Fortune is used to re-roll. If you succeed, you receive +2 Courage to spend on any one action in the scene. You may only spend it on a truly heroic action where the victory or defeat hangs in the balance, not simply to look good. The Narrator will determine the appropriateness of its use during the scene. If the extra Courage is not used, it vanishes. This edge may only be used once per game session.

Upgrade: No

War-wise

After countless battles, both won and lost, you have great knowledge of tactics and fighting.

Prerequisite: Tactics 6+

Effect: +1 bonus to all Combat Skills and Tactics. *I, as many, believe this is a very powerful trait without at least a prerequisite. A Narrator may opt to increase to prerequisite, reduce the skill set receiving a bonus, reduce the bonus, or use my optional trait effects. Select a specialty: Unit Leadership, a specific weapon, or specific vehicle. Gain a +1 bonus to Tactics tests when performing tests using this specialty.*

Upgrade: Yes; three times. Every time you pick this trait, you receive a +1 bonus (max +4) to the listed skills. *Yes. Every time you pick this trait, you receive a +1 bonus (max +4) to Tactics tests using the specified specialty or you may select a new specialty.*

Weapon Mastery

Your prowess with your chosen weapon is legend – allies look at you with awe and enemies regard you in fear.

Prerequisite: Any Combat Skill 4+

Restriction: *This trait may only be chosen once for one weapon.*

Effect: Choose one skill and specialty. Gain a +3 bonus to tests using that skill and specialty. *For every four ranks gain a +1 bonus to tests using that skill and specialty.*

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this trait, you must select a new weapon (skill and specialty). *No*

Armed Combat

Table 19: Armed Combat Traits

Edge	Prerequisite	Upgrade?
Blunt Attack	Armed Combat skill and specialty	Yes
Throw Weapon	Armed Combat skill and specialty	Yes
FENCING		
• Lunge	Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 2+	Yes
• Feint	Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 4+	Yes
• Corps-à-corps	Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 4+	Yes
• Riposte	Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 6+	Yes
• Sentiment de Fer	Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 8+	Yes

Blunt Attack

Instead of causing lethal damage, you can use the blunt part of a weapon in the attempt to stun your opponent.

Prerequisite: Armed Combat skill and specialty

Effect: Choose a weapon denoted by the skill and specialty. On a successful attack test, you will stun an opponent for $1d6 + \text{Strength modifier}$ rounds instead of rolling damage. Opponents do not make a Stamina test to resist as they do not fall unconscious, but have a -5 penalty to all actions for the duration. *Further attacks in this manner are cumulative for as long as the duration of previous attacks. For example, in round 1 a character is hit and has a -5 penalty to actions for 3 rounds and then hit again the next round and now has another -5 penalty lasting 4 rounds. This means for the next two rounds the character has a -10 penalty and then has a -5 penalty for two more rounds, barring further attacks of this sort. If within a span of three consecutive rounds a character receives $3+$ blunt attacks against him, he will fall unconscious for $1d6 + \text{Strength modifier}$ minutes (use the Strength modifier of the last attacker). These rules only apply to weapons not meant for dealing stun effects.*

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this trait, select a new specialty and/or skill.

Throw Weapon

You are able to a weapon not meant for ranged attacks.

Prerequisite: Armed Combat skill and specialty

Effect: Choose a weapon denoted by the skill and specialty. You can throw this weapon using your Armed Combat skill with a -2 penalty in addition to range increment penalties. The range of such weapons used in this fashion is $2/3/4/6$ (yards); there is no extended range increment for a weapon used in this fashion.

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this trait, select a new specialty and/or skill.

FENCING

Style-Specific Weapons: Epee, Rapier, Saber

• Lunge

Stepping forward while thrusting your weapon forward at your opponent.

- Prerequisite:** Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 2+
- Effect:** You may attack an opponent up to 3 yards away and deal +3 damage from the attack. You may not dodge or parry as your next action.
- Upgrade:** Yes; once. You gain a +1 bonus from Athletics: Jump when performing the “ballestra” or “flying lunge.” *Gain an affinity bonus from Athletics: Jump using the optional rules for affinity bonuses.*

• Feint

You attempt to make your opponent defend against a fake attack so as to open him to your real attack.

- Prerequisite:** Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 4+
- Effect:** Roll 1d6 and subtract the result from your opponent’s Perception modifier, generating your “feint value.” If greater than 0, subtract your feint value from your opponent’s Defense during your next attack. Performing a feint costs one combat action. *Make a Persuade (Bluff) test against your opponent’s Wisdom. On a successful test, you gain a +1 bonus for each level of success on your next fencing attack.*
- Upgrade:** Yes; three times. Your minimum feint value is 1, increasing by +1 per additional pick. *Yes; once. Double the bonus to your next fencing attack.*

• Corps-à-corps

You attempt to make your opponent defend against a fake attack so as to open him to your real attack.

- Prerequisite:** Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 4+
- Effect:** Performing a corps-à-corps attack gives your opponent a penalty equal to your Agility modifier if attempting to parry the attack; dodging does not confer a penalty. If the attack was successful, both weapons are bound together. To free his weapon, your opponent must make a Strength test against your attack result; you may free the weapons at any time.
- Upgrade:** Yes; once. You can disarm your opponent by defeating your opponent in an opposed Strength test. You gain a +1 bonus to this test every time your opponent fails his attempt to unbind his weapon.

• Riposte

You turn your parry into an attack on your opponent.

- Prerequisite:** Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 6+
- Effect:** After successfully parrying a blow, you gain a +2 bonus to your next fencing test. In addition, if you don’t have the initiative already, you will next round. *Gain a bonus equal to half the difference between the attack and parry results, rounded down and minimum of 1.*
- Upgrade:** Yes; once. You gain a +4 bonus to your next fencing test. *Gain a bonus equal to the difference between the attack and parry results.*

• Sentiment de Fer

By leaving your blade in contact with your opponent's, you can better feel for his next move.

- Prerequisite:** Armed Combat: Blades (Specified weapon) or Armed Combat: Fencing 8+
- Effect:** Following a successful attack or parry, you gain a +2 bonus to attack and parry tests against your opponent with the weapon your are holding. This effect lasts until one of three things happens: the end of combat, you dodge, or your opponent successfully dodges an attack.
- Upgrade:** Yes; once. The bonus increases to +4.

Ranged Combat

Table 20: Ranged Combat Traits

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Cover Fire	Ranged Combat: Energy Weapons or Guns 3+	Yes
Double Fire	Ranged Combat: Energy Weapons or Guns 6+ and specialty	Yes
Get the Drop	Ranged Combat: Energy Weapons or Guns 3+ or Quick-draw	No
Snap Shot	Any Ranged Combat 4+	Yes

Cover Fire

Cover fire is a pattern of weapons fire intended to keep enemies at bay while the shooter and/or a comrade(s) performs an action.

- Prerequisite:** Ranged Combat: Energy Weapons or Guns 3+
- Effect:** Choose an empty area (30-degree cone) and fire into it repeatedly at a TN 10 ± any applicable modifiers. For every 10 degrees of cover fire, one shot must be fired expending the needed rounds or charges. Anything that moves into the area designated for covered fire will be hit, sustaining normal damage, unless he makes a Swiftess test with a -5 penalty (-10 on an Extraordinary Success) due to cover fire.
- Upgrade:** Yes; six times. Each time you pick this trait, gain +10 degrees to your cone of cover fire, up to a total of 90 degrees.

Double Fire

Firing single-shot guns and energy weapons require a little extra dexterity to “double tap” their triggers, allowing for two shots on one target at a time.

- Prerequisite:** Ranged Combat: Energy Weapons or Guns 6+ and specialty
- Effect:** Select the appropriate Ranged Combat skill and specialty. You may fire two shots in one combat action with the weapon of the selected specialty. The second shot has an additional +3 TN and must be fired upon the same target. *This trait cannot be used when using an assault rifle that is set to anything other than Single Shot.*
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this trait, choose a new specialty (weapon) or if this trait has already been picked for a particular weapon, the second shot may be fired upon another target within 10 feet of the first.

Get the Drop

Often the easiest way to talk to an enemy is to hold a gun on him.

Prerequisite:	Any Ranged Combat skill 3+ or Quick-draw
Effect:	Draw your weapon (1 action unless you have Quick-draw) and make a Ranged Combat test without firing (free action). If the test succeeds, then you have the drop on your opponent. The effect continues until you attack, dodge, or put your weapon away. As long as you have the drop on an opponent for at least one round, you may fire your weapon using the previous result. If you become distracted, your opponent may attempt to dodge, but must subtract your Perception modifier as a penalty to the dodge test.
Upgrade:	No

Snap Shot

This is a shot fired quickly from the safety of cover without exposing yourself to enemy fire.

Prerequisite:	Any Ranged Combat skill 4+
Effect:	You may keep the benefit of hiding behind cover while retaining the ability to attack with a ranged weapon. The Combat skill test is at +5 TN and into cover fire has is at +8 TN.

To hit an enemy firing snap shots, you must make an Aim action for one round at the shooter (conferring no benefit to the subsequent Ranged Combat test). Then you must make a successful opposed Swiftiness test with the shooter before making a Ranged Combat test. Failing the Swiftiness test causes your shot to go wide, missing your target.

Upgrade:	Yes. Snap shots are now made at +3 TN and +5 TN into cover fire.
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Unarmed Combat

Table 21: Unarmed Combat Traits

AIKIJUTSU

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
• Nikyo	Unarmed Combat: Aikijutsu 3+	Yes
• Yonkyo	Unarmed Combat: Aikijutsu 4+, Nikyo	Yes
• Aiki Otoshi	Unarmed Combat: Aikijutsu 5+	Yes
• Maa	Unarmed Combat: Aikijutsu 8+	Yes

BOXING

• Cross	Unarmed Combat: Boxing 2+	Yes
• Jab	Unarmed Combat: Boxing 3+	Yes
• Hook	Unarmed Combat: Boxing 4+	Yes
• Uppercut	Unarmed Combat: Boxing 5+	Yes

BRAWLING

• Roundhouse Punch	Unarmed Combat: Brawling 2+	Yes
• Hammer Blow	Unarmed Combat: Brawling 3+	Yes
• Flying Tackle	Unarmed Combat: Brawling 4+, Agility 5+	Yes
• Hatchet Chop	Unarmed Combat: Brawling 6+	Yes
• Flying Smash	Unarmed Combat: Brawling 8+, Agility 5+ or <i>Flying Tackle</i>	Yes

AIKIJUTSU

This combat form, created in the 1920's, is derived from aikido with an emphasis on balance, calm, and the redirection of an opponent's strength and power against them.

• Nikyo

With a turn of the wrist, you pivot yourself away from your attacker while parrying.

- Prerequisite:** Unarmed Combat: Aikijutsu 3+
Effect: Upon a successful block, you may add half the difference between the block and attack tests (rounded up) to your Defense against the next attack from that opponent.
Upgrade: Yes; once. Add the difference between the block and attack tests to your Defense against the next attack from that opponent.

• Yonkyo

With a turn of the wrist, you may immobilize your opponent's limb and, if need be, damage it.

- Prerequisite:** Unarmed Combat: Aikijutsu 4+, Nikyo
Effect: Upon a successful block, you may attempt to pin your opponent's limb as if grappled (free action). All attack tests and attempts to free himself have a -3 penalty.
Upgrade: Yes; once. You may choose that your opponent take damage equal to half his escape attempt (rounded up) whether the attempt was successful or not.

• Aiki Otoshi

This maneuver uses your opponent's momentum against him by deflecting the attack into you throwing to the ground.

- Prerequisite:** Unarmed Combat: Aikijutsu 5+
Effect: Upon a successful block, you may attempt to grapple your opponent as a free action. If you do grapple him, you may throw him to the ground for 1d6+1 (1d6+3 for Superior Success and 1d6+5 for Extraordinary Success) plus Strength modifier damage.
Upgrade: Yes; once. Your grapple attempt is made with a +3 bonus.

• Maai

This allows you to precisely judge your opponent's location and potential for doing harm.

- Prerequisite:** Unarmed Combat: Aikijutsu 8+
Effect: Add your Perception bonus to your dodge result (minimum +1).
Upgrade: Yes; once. Double your Perception bonus to your dodge result (minimum +2).

BOXING

Also known as pugilism or "the sweet science," boxing is a sport that has been around for thousands of years based on endurance, agility, and raw power.

• Cross

A punch across your opponent's body to force him out of position and throw off his aim.

- Prerequisite:** Unarmed Combat: Boxing 2+
Effect: +1 bonus to damage and block attempt against opponent's next attack.
Upgrade: Yes; once. Double both bonuses.

• Jab

A short, fast punch used to set up another blow or sequence of blows.

Prerequisite: Unarmed Combat: Boxing 3+

Effect: A successful attack deals half damage but gives a +3 bonus to your next attack.

Upgrade: Yes; once. You make two Unarmed Combat: Boxing tests in one combat action. If both are successful, gain a +6 bonus to your next attack.

• Hook

A wide, arcing punch made ideally from outside your opponent's peripheral view.

Prerequisite: Unarmed Combat: Boxing 4+

Effect: A hook attempt made after a successful dodge gains a +3 bonus. Any successful hook deals +2 damage.

Upgrade: Yes; twice. Every time you pick this trait, you gain a +1 bonus to the bonuses above.

• Uppercut

A savage punch to the jaw or body.

Prerequisite: Unarmed Combat: Boxing 5+

Effect: A successful uppercut deals +2 damage and requires your opponent to make a TN 10 Stamina test +1 for each level of success greater than Marginal. Failing the Stamina test causes your opponent to fall unconscious for a number of rounds equal to your Strength modifier +1.

Upgrade: Yes; twice. Each time you pick this trait, gain +1 to damage and +2 TN to the base Stamina test to resist being stunned.

BRAWLING

A loose style of fighting common to those who don't know or haven't developed structured martial arts.

• Roundhouse Punch

A slow, devastating punch which uses your entire body's momentum.

Prerequisite: Unarmed Combat: Brawling 2+

Effect: You deal double damage upon a successful strike, but lose initiative for the next round and opponents have a +2 bonus to dodge or block tests to evade.

Upgrade: Yes; once. Upon a successful strike, your opponent suffers a skill test penalty equal to that of one Wound Level lower than his current level. For example, if the opponent were at Dazed, the penalty would be as if he were at Injured.

• Hammer Blow

With hands interlaced to form one large fist, you smash your opponent

Prerequisite: Unarmed Combat: Brawling 3+

Effect: Upon a successful strike, you deal +2 damage.

Upgrade: Yes; three times. Every time you pick this trait, you gain a +1 bonus to damage.

• Flying Tackle

You leap upon your opponent with the intent of bearing him to the ground.

Prerequisite: Unarmed Combat: Brawling 4+, Agility 5+

Effect: Treat this attack as a charge attack but can be done from 2-5 yards away. The TN for your opponent to avoid the attack is your Strength +4.

Upgrade: Yes; once. Your Defense isn't lowered due to the charge and only takes one combat action.

• Hatchet Chop

You strike your opponent in the neck from behind with the edge of your flattened hand.

Prerequisite: Unarmed Combat: Brawling 6+

Effect: You deal normal damage and requires your opponent to make a TN 10 Stamina test +1 for each level of success greater than Marginal. Failing the Stamina test causes your opponent to fall unconscious for a number of rounds equal to your Strength modifier +1.

Upgrade: Yes; twice. Each time you pick this trait, gain +2 TN to the base Stamina test to resist being stunned

• Flying Smash

You strike your opponent in the neck from behind with the edge of your flattened hand.

Prerequisite: Unarmed Combat: Brawling 8+, Agility 5+ *or Flying Tackle*

Effect: Upon a successful strike, you deal normal unarmed damage and knock your opponent to the ground. You must make a TN 12 Acrobatics (Tumble) test to avoid falling as well.

Upgrade: Yes; once. You deal double unarmed damage upon a successful strike.

Additional Rules for Consideration

Creating Combat Styles

1. *Determine your combat art form.*
2. *Choose 4-5 noteworthy moves or aspects to it. More is acceptable but could be overwhelming to players.*
3. *Decide on appropriate prerequisites for the traits.*
4. *Decide on the traits' effects. Use similar traits and traits with equal prerequisites as a baseline.*

Restrictions

Restrictions can also be used with combat traits except those of combat forms (Fencing, Boxing, etc.). Flaws could also be created that are close to or the exact opposite of the combat trait.

ABILITIES

Ability

<Descriptive Text>

Prerequisite: Attribute scores, Skills ranks, traits, or other abilities needed before acquiring ability
Effect: What happens when the ability is invoked.
Upgrade: Yes or No; How many times if limited. The effects of upgrading the ability.

Basic Profession Abilities

I am leaving the task of placing abilities into tiers to the Narrator if he so chooses to use that ability scheme.

• Actor/Artist/Bard

Table 22: Actor/Artist/Bard Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Gladden	Perform 4+	No
Inspiring Performance	Perform 6+	No
Jugglery	Agility 6+	No
Natural Talent	None	No
Mesmerizing Voice	Gladden, Inspiring Performance, Bearing 8+	No
Woven Words	Gladden, Inspiring Performance, Perform 8+	No
<i>Mesmerizing Voice other than the other abilities</i>		

Gladden

Your words or music are comforting and soothing to those listening.

Prerequisite: Perform 4+
Effect: Make a TN 10 Perform test. Those listening recover Weariness Levels at twice the normal rate while listening, but you do not – you recover them normally. You must perform for at least an hour and to be affected, a person must be able to hear your performance.
Upgrade: No

Inspiring Performance

When need arises, you can give a performance to hearten and embolden your comrades and allies.

Prerequisite: Perform 6+
Effect: Make a TN 10 Perform test. Gain a +1 bonus to your Inspire test for each level of success. You may make additional Inspire tests while continuing to perform. Those who cannot hear you are not affected by your Inspire results.
Upgrade: No

Jugglery

To your repertoire of music or oratory you have added the arts of the juggler.

Prerequisite: Agility 6+
Effect: +2 bonus to Acrobatics, Games, Legerdemain, and Ranged Combat: Thrown tests.
Upgrade: No

Natural Talent

Your extraordinary gift for your chosen art has always been apparent, even in your youth.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: Gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage points for Debate, Influence, or Perform tests.
Upgrade: No

Mesmerizing Voice

Your words and force of personality add to the effect when words of power are spoken.

Prerequisite: Gladden, Inspiring Performance, Bearing 8+
Effect: Add half again the bonus due to the Power of Words.
Upgrade: No

Woven Words

Your performance is so exceptional that it invokes images of what is being said in your song, story, poetry, etc.

Prerequisite: Gladden, Inspiring Performance, Perform 8+ *Mesmerizing Voice other than the other abilities*
Effect: Make a TN 15 Perform test. On a Marginal or Complete Success, an image appears pertaining to the subject of the performance. The vision, as observed by those within earshot, is known to be a phantasm. On a Superior Success or better, the illusion is complete and the onlookers must make an opposed Observe test against your Perform result to realize the illusion. The images only extend as far as the character's voice can be projected, lasting only as long as the performance lasts, and cannot harm anyone.
Upgrade: No

• Alchemist/Loremaster/Scientist/Wise-man

Table 23: Alchemist/Loremaster/Scientist/Wise-man Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Breakthrough	Doctorate OR Research & Development	No
Brewing	<i>Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+ OR First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+ OR Science: Physical (Chemistry) +1</i>	Yes
Computer Whiz	Utilitarian	Yes
Decipher Scripts	2 Language skills 4+ other than the character's native language(s), <i>Library</i>	No
Doctorate	Field of Study	Yes
Expertise	None	Yes
Field of Study	<i>Any academic skill 8+</i>	Yes
Field Research	None	No
Fundamentals	None	No
Intensive Scan	Tech Proficiency	No
Journeyman	None	No
Level Head	<i>Willpower 4+</i>	No
Library	None	Yes
Practical Application	Field Research	No
Research & Development	Utilitarian, Innovative	No
Scientific Protocols	Journeyman	No
Secretive	Three Knowledge skills 6+	No
Tech Proficiency	Field Research	No
Theorize	Scientific Protocols	No
Utilitarian	None	No
Working Model	Fundamentals	No

Breakthrough

Your reputation is based on your achievements and skill in your field of study.

- Prerequisite:** Doctorate OR Research & Development
Effect: Whenever you achieve any number of Extraordinary Successes in a chapter for Computer Use, Engineering, or Science tests, you gain +1 Renown.
Upgrade: No

Brewing

Your knowledge of plants, herbs, and beasts allows you to brew poisons, elixirs, or create salves and poultices

- Prerequisite:** *Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+ OR First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+ OR Science: Physical (Chemistry) +1*
Effect: *You have the ability to create consumables that can be used to harm or help others depending on your Craft: Brewing specialties.*
Upgrade: *Yes. Every time you pick this ability, select a type of brewed item (determined by your specialties) and an aspect of it – the particular aspect's stage TN is reduced by -2 TN for the extended test to create the item.*

Computer Whiz

You know your way around a computer better than most.

- Prerequisite:** Utilitarian
Effect: You are able to accomplish tasks in 25% less time than normal for System Operation and Computer Use tests.
Upgrade: Yes; once. The amount of time required for the task is now at 50% less time.

Decipher Scripts

Over the years and beyond the stars, there are many different languages and scripts – so many in fact that they are either lost in time or only known by a dedicated few.

- Prerequisite:** 2 Language skills 4+ other than the character's native language(s), *Library*
Effect: Deciphering an unknown script takes time, from an hour to a day per paragraph. At the end of the time required for deciphering the document, the character must make a Wits test to determine the result, receiving a +1 bonus for each language he knows. The TN of the test is based upon the difficulty of the complexity of the writing: 10 for simple texts, 15 for complex texts, and 20 for very complex texts. A Marginal Success determines that the character gets the gist of the text, but may miss some pertinent details. A Complete Success means that he understands most of what he read, but misunderstands a few phrases. A Superior Success means that the character is very confident he understands what he has read barring a few words. An Extraordinary Success conveys that the character made a perfect translation of the text, understanding everything he read.
Upgrade: No

Doctorate

You have a Ph.D. in your area of expertise.

- Prerequisite:** Field of Study
Effect: Once per game session, you may re-roll one test that pertains to the subject of the Field of Study ability and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, select a new subject from your Field of Study ability.

Expertise

You have come to prefer a certain weapon over others and learning to use it to neglect of experience with other weapons.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** Select an academic skill (Engineering, Knowledge, Science, etc.) and specialty (if applicable). You gain an additional +2 bonus when using the selected skill/specialty and a -4 penalty to use the skill without that specialty.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2 bonus to use the selected weapon specialty and -2 to use other weapons (max +6/-8 total) or select a new skill and/or specialty.

Field of Study

Among your peers, you are regarded as one of the most, if not the most, knowledgeable in your chosen field(s).

- Prerequisite:** *Any academic skill 8+*
- Effect:** Select a general subject that pertains to the skill used in the prerequisite and receive a +2 bonus to any skill tests pertaining to the subject.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you receive an additional +2 bonus (max +8) or select a new subject.

Field Research

You employ a variety of investigative techniques when trying to understand new phenomena.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You gain an affinity bonus to Inquire (Research) from the applicable Science skill pertaining to the subject you are investigating.
- Upgrade:** No

Fundamentals

Mathematics is the language of science.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You gain a +4 bonus to Science: Physical (Mathematics) tests.
- Upgrade:** No

Intensive Scan

After extended use and experience with sensors and the like, you are able to increase the ability and accuracy of your equipment.

- Prerequisite:** Tech Proficiency
- Effect:** With a successful TN 15 System Operation (Sensors) test, you are able to double the range, reliability, and all other quantitative factors of the sensors you use for your next System Operation test.
- Upgrade:** No

Journeyman

You have received a broad education in the sciences.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** If you have or when you acquire a Science skill, you automatically gain one specialty for one Science skill and are able to use all Science skills untrained.
- Upgrade:** No

Level Head

You are able to keep your cool in the heat of the moment.

- Prerequisite:** *Willpower 4+*
Effect: When making profession skill tests, you may ignore all penalties due to distractions.
Upgrade: No

Library

Through years of careful searching, collecting, or possibly stealing, you have acquired an extensive library of books, scrolls, and other records.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: When you have an opportunity to use your library to search for an answer to a question, you receive a +2 bonus to any corresponding Language or Knowledge tests.
Upgrade: Yes; twice. Every time you pick this ability, you receive an additional +2 bonus.

Practical Application

You understand your equipment so well that you are able to complete minor repairs and recalibrations on the controls.

- Prerequisite:** Field Research
Effect: Once per game session when making repairs, you may re-roll one Engineering: Systems or Repair test with an affinity bonus from Science: Physical and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

Research & Development

With your vast knowledge and years of hands-on experience, you are able to create develop new innovations.

- Prerequisite:** Utilitarian, Innovative
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Engineering and Repair tests from Science: Physical or are able to reduce the base action time in half (even for extended tests). The decision of which effect will be used must be made before the skill test.
Upgrade: No

Scientific Protocols

You put your well-being and safety aside when researching and observing potentially dangerous phenomena.

- Prerequisite:** Journeyman
Effect: When you perform an Inquire (Research) or Observe test that could possible endanger yourself, you can make an appropriate Science test (TN 10) to gain the foresight necessary to avoid any disastrous consequences.
Upgrade: No

Secretive

Stubborn and proud, you scorn to reveal your hard-acquired knowledge to others, even with the possibility to those in dire need of assistance.

- Prerequisite:** Three Knowledge skills 6+
Effect: You may add your Intellect modifier to all Willpower tests you make. If attempting to resist efforts to be forced into revealing your knowledge through domination, double your Intellect bonus.
Upgrade: No

Tech Proficiency

You typically use sophisticated devices and equipment to help you explore and understand the universe.

Prerequisite: Field Research
Effect: When using equipment such as hand-held scanning devices, sensors, radar, etc. to aid you, you may re-roll one System Operation test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

Theorize

If the face of questions and scrutiny, you are often forced to speculate and theorize.

Prerequisite: Scientific Protocols
Effect: If the character is completely unable unravel a scientific enigma at hand, the Narrator can give a little help. The player can work with the Narrator to devise a hypothesis and then make a TN 15 Inquire (Deduce) test. The Narrator then will then give a hint based upon the test's degree of success. This ability is meant for helping to further the story along, not for the Narrator to give away the adventure itself.
Upgrade: No

Utilitarian

You are able to get the most out of your equipment, even when you lack the proper tools for the job.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You may ignore up to a -3 penalty due to lack of or improper equipment and double any bonuses conferred by equipment for Computer Use, Engineering, Repair, and Science tests.
Upgrade: No

Working Model

You have extensive training in hands-on laboratory work.

Prerequisite: Fundamentals
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Engineering: Structural from Science: Physical.
Upgrade: No

• Barbarian/Primitive

Table 24: Barbarian/Primitive Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Brewing	<i>Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+, First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+</i>	Yes
Champion	<i>Any Combat skill 8+</i>	Yes
Hard March	<i>Survival 6+</i>	Yes
Favored Weapon	None	Yes
Trackless Step	<i>Survival 9+ or Observe (Track) 6+</i>	Yes

Brewing

Your knowledge of plants, herbs, and beasts allows you to brew poisons, elixirs, or create salves and poultices

- Prerequisite:** *Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+, First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+*
- Effect:** *You have the ability to create consumables that can be used to harm or help others depending on your Craft: Brewing specialties.*
- Upgrade:** *Yes. Every time you pick this ability, select a type of brewed item (determined by your specialties) and an aspect of it – the particular aspect's stage TN is reduced by -2 TN for the extended test to create the item.*

Champion

You are one of the chief protectors and warriors of your people.

- Prerequisite:** *Any Combat skill 8+*
- Effect:** *You gain a +1 bonus to attack, dodge, and parry/block tests against a specified enemy. At the Narrator's discretion, this bonus may also be applied to other skills when they apply to tests concerning the specified enemy.*
- Upgrade:** *Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you can either choose a new enemy and apply the same effects or increase the bonus against a particular enemy by +1 (max +3).*

Hard March

You are accustomed to journeying long distances and over all sorts of terrain, doing it swiftly nonetheless.

- Prerequisite:** *Survival 6+*
- Effect:** *Select a specialty. You may move at normal movement through this type of terrain regardless of the conditions, barring any impediments that would normally be impossible to overcome such as a blocked or non-existent pass, a very wide river, etc.*
- Upgrade:** *Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you may select a new specialty to gain this benefit for.*

Favored Weapon

You have come to prefer a certain weapon over others and learning to use it to neglect of experience with other weapons.

- Prerequisite:** *None*
- Effect:** *Select a Combat skill and specialty (for Armed and Ranged Combat skills). You gain an additional +2 bonus when using the selected skill/specialty and a -4 penalty to use other weapons. *Note: This ability can only be acquired for one style only.**
- Upgrade:** *Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2 bonus to use the selected weapon specialty and -2 to use other weapons (max +6/-8 total) or select a new skill and/or specialty.*

Trackless Step

So woodcrafty you are that you can walk through natural areas without leaving a trail or traces of your passage behind.

- Prerequisite:** *Survival 9+ or Observe (Track) 6+*
- Effect:** *Select a Survival specialty that you have. Those who attempt to track you in this environment have a -8 penalty to their Observe (Track) test.*
- Upgrade:** *Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you may select a new specialty to gain this benefit for or increase the tracking penalty by -2 (max -12 total).*

• Businessman/Craftsman/Merchant

Table 25: Businessman/Craftsman/Merchant Abilities

Edge	Prerequisite	Upgrade?
Astute	Horsetrading	No
Business	Appropriate Craft 6+ or <i>Enterprise: Business</i> 6+	Yes
Business Acumen	None	No
Credit	Pandering, Connections	No
Enchantment	Preservation, <i>Appropriate Craft</i> 10+	No
Horse-trading	Business Acumen	No
Masterwork	1 other Businessman/Craftsman/Merchant ability, Appropriate Craft 8+	No
Pandering	Knowledge: Race 4+, Perception 6+	No
Preservation	Masterwork, Appropriate Craft 8+	No
Procurement	Horse-trading, Connections	No
Refuge	Business	Yes
Speedy Work	<i>Business</i>	Yes

Astute

You are quite adept at appraising items as you keep abreast of current market prices and such.

Prerequisite: Horsetrading
Effect: Once per game session, you may re-roll an Appraise test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

Business

You own a place of trade where you conduct business.

Prerequisite: Appropriate Craft 6+ or *Enterprise: Business* 6+
Effect: You can earn a profit for the business you conduct. Every month you earn an amount of money that would be considered average in the game world (3d6+3 x100 dollars, 2d6+4 x1000 credits, etc.). *But you can also gamble to see if the current economy plays a factor in how well you prosper. To do this, roll to see what your monthly profit would have been, then make a TN 10 Enterprise: Business test and consult the table below. External factors can also affect the TN such as wars, competing products or services, new innovations, etc.* Note: This ability may not be suitable for PC's as it can tie them to a certain locale. Consult your Narrator before selecting this ability.

Table 26: Profit/Loss of a Business

Success Level	Profit/Loss*
Disastrous Failure	25%
Complete Failure	50%
Failure	75%
Marginal Success	100%
Complete Success	100%
Superior Success	150%
Extraordinary Success	200%

* - Based on what your average monthly profit.

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this edge, you increase your profit by +1d6.

Business Acumen

You are skilled in all aspects of business.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to Enterprise: Business tests.
Upgrade: No

Credit

You can obtain loans or lines of credit based on your reputation and business savvy.

Prerequisite: Pandering, Connections
Effect: To obtain the credit amount you desire, make a Enterprise: Business test of *TN 7 +2 for every Wealth level your amount of credit desired is equivalent*. You generally have one month to pay back 50% of the loan and must repay the rest back installments at 10% interest – 2% for every level of success greater than Complete. If you fail to make a scheduled payment, the lender must make a recognition test against you with +5 TN. If it is successful, then you are labeled a bad credit risk and all Enterprise: Business test TN's are doubled when for future dealings with the lender or any of his associates.
Upgrade: No

Enchantment

So skilled are you in creating items of beauty or strength that you are able to weave magical properties into them.

Prerequisite: Preservation, *Appropriate Craft 10+*
Effect: You are able create items that have the ability to have magical powers stored in them.
Upgrade: No

Horse-trading

You love to haggle over prices to get the best price when selling your wares or buying supplies from others.

Prerequisite: Business Acumen
Effect: You gain the Bargain specialty for free when you first purchase ranks in Debate or immediately if you don't have it. You also gain 2 ranks per one pick spent for Debate, but acquire a –2 penalty per pick (cumulative) spent for tests that require other Debate specialties or no specialties.
Upgrade: No

Masterwork

The items you create are above and beyond the quality of average craftsmen.

Prerequisite: 1 other Businessman/Craftsman/Merchant ability, *Appropriate Craft 8+*
Effect: When you score an Extraordinary Success while creating an item, it may imbue +1 damage, +1 of protection, or +100% of its standard value for every 5 the test result is above the successes' threshold (Craft TN +15, +20, +25, etc.).
Upgrade: No

Pandering

You know how to cater to the whims and natures of your customers.

Prerequisite: Knowledge: Race 4+, Perception 6+
Effect: You may ignore all penalties for social skills when you make Influence tests.
Upgrade: No

Preservation

Your skill is so great that your worked items can stand the test of time.

- Prerequisite:** Masterwork, Appropriate Craft 8+
Effect: Your masterwork items do not suffer the ravages of time or through normal wear and always seeming new, yet remain able to be damaged by attacks and the like.
Upgrade: No

Procurement

You are able to get almost anything at anytime for anyone.

- Prerequisite:** Horse-trading, Connections
Effect: You are able to acquire all sorts of items from common goods (TN 5) to exotic wares (TN 12) to illegal substances (TN 20). When attempting to acquire one of these types of items, make an Enterprise: Business test with an affinity bonus from your Enterprise: Streetwise skill. The degree of success will depend on how soon the item can be delivered: Marginal Success ($\frac{1}{2}$ -d6+3 days), Complete Success ($\frac{1}{2}$ -d6 days), Superior Success (3d6 hours), and Extraordinary Success (1d6+3 hours).
Upgrade: No

Refuge

Though you have great skill and attention to detail, your works' quality is also an aspect of the place where you perform your trade.

- Prerequisite:** Business
Effect: Select a place as your Refuge, be it your home or place of business, or a secret laboratory (Narrator's approval). You gain a +2 bonus to Craft, Engineering, and Repair *and Spellcraft* tests while in your refuge.
Upgrade: Yes; four times. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2 bonus to these tests.

Speedy Work

You are able to complete tasks quickly and produce your wares in a timelier manner than most.

- Prerequisite:** *Business*
Effect: Decrease the time for creating an item by 25%.
Upgrade: Yes; twice. Every time you pick this ability, you decrease the time for creating an item by an additional 25% of the base time (max 75% total).

• Cleric/Mystic/Priest

Table 27: Cleric/Mystic/Priest Abilities

Edge	Prerequisite	Upgrade?
Channeling	Faith's Virtue, 2 other Cleric/Mystic/Priest abilities	Yes
Conviction	None	No
Enlightenment	Inspiration	Yes
Faith's Virtue	None	No
Inquisition	Conviction	No
Inspiration	Conviction, Faith's Virtue	No
Meditation	Mind Over Body	No
Mind Over Body	Faith's Virtue, Vitality 8+	No
Pilgrim's Faith	Wanderer	No
Talisman	Channeling	No
Visions	Faith's Virtue, Knowledge: Religion 9+	Yes
Wanderer	Vitality 6+	No

Channeling

Your faith and purity of heart towards your god allows you to act as a conduit of its power to affect yourself, others, and the world around you in similar fashion to practitioners of the arcane arts.

Prerequisite: Faith's Virtue, 2 other Cleric/Mystic/Priest abilities
Effect: You have the ability to cast spells and 5 spell picks to spend on acquiring or augmenting spells.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you gain 5 more spell picks.

Conviction

Your demonstration of sincere and ardent faith helps you to bring others around to your point of view.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Influence tests from Knowledge: Religion.
Upgrade: No

Enlightenment

Your aura of spirituality commands awe and respect.

Prerequisite: Inspiration
Effect: Hostile opponents are required to make a Willpower test of TN 5 + your Renown modifier + affinity bonus from Knowledge: Religion.
Upgrade: Yes; once. Double the affinity bonus from Knowledge: Religion.

Faith's Virtue

Through your devotion and study of your chosen faith, your god (of a monotheistic faith or chosen from a polytheistic faith) or conceptual object of worship (life, nature, etc.) you favor bestows its grace upon you.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: By invoking your focus of worship, for inspiration or warding off hostile threats, you achieve a greater effect than others do. First, when invoking words of power and spend Courage, you gain an additional +2 bonus per point of Courage spent instead of +1. Second, doing so to provide inspiration, you gain an additional +1 bonus. Third, your focus of worship grants you special bonuses special to it; consult your Narrator when determining this.
Upgrade: No

Inquisition

Your powers of persuasion and inquisitiveness allow you to glean information from the masses.

- Prerequisite:** Conviction
Effect: You may ignore all social test penalties when making Inquire (Converse) tests.
Upgrade: No

Inspiration

Using your eloquence and knowledge of religion, you are able to encourage others.

- Prerequisite:** Conviction, Faith's Virtue
Effect: Once per chapter, you may make an Inspire test of TN 10 +1 per person listening with an affinity from Knowledge: Religion to allow them to recover 1 Courage point. The test requires 10 minutes +1 minute for every person listening and may be treated as an extended test.
Upgrade: No

Meditation

You derive inner strength from ritual contemplation.

- Prerequisite:** Mind Over Body
Effect: Once per game day, you may make a Knowledge: Religion test with a TN equal to your Strength + Vitality (all physical modifiers apply) to regain 1 Courage point. The time to do this is 10 minutes and the TN is reduced by -2 for every 5 additional minutes spent meditating (max -6).
Upgrade: No

Mind Over Body

Whether through intense physical conditioning or fierce conviction, you are able remove yourself from pain.

- Prerequisite:** Faith's Virtue, Vitality 8+
Effect: When making a Stamina test, you roll 3d6 and choose the best two before adding any modifiers. The double sixes rule still applies.
Upgrade: No

Pilgrim's Faith

Your many travels have hardened your resolve when living in hostile environments.

- Prerequisite:** Wanderer
Effect: Once per game session, you may re-roll one Survival test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

Talisman

You possess a talisman of power that aids you in channeling divine power.

- Prerequisite:** Channeling
Effect: *When you have your talisman, you gain a +2 to the test for activating spells or Stamina tests against Weariness (including those imposed by the Endurance ability). If your talisman were taken from you, it does not confer the bonuses to anyone else.*
Upgrade: No

Visions

The connection you have with the object of your devotion is so strong that when it warrants, you receive visions of the past, present, and future.

Prerequisite: Faith's Virtue, Knowledge: Religion 9+
Effect: You gain the Foresighted edge, waiving the prerequisites.
Upgrade: Yes; twice. Every time you pick this ability, you increase the frequency of your visions. With the first upgrade, you now can use this ability once per chapter, but you also gain the Easily Distracted flaw. With the second upgrade, you now can use this ability once per game session, but you also double the penalty from the flaw. The flaw's penalty is a permanent penalty for all tests since you must now cope with these frequent and distracting premonitions.

Wanderer

Your wanderings on pilgrimages and personal quests have toughened your body against the rigorous physical activity.

Prerequisite: Vitality 6+
Effect: You gain a +5 bonus to Stamina tests against Weariness.
Upgrade: No

• Conjurer/Mage/Wizard

Table 28: Conjurer/Mage/Wizard Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Brewing	Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+, First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+	Yes
Endurance	Spellcasting, 2 other Conjurer/Mage/Wizard abilities	Yes
Focus	Spellcasting	Yes
Permanence	Spellcasting, 4 other Conjurer/Mage/Wizard abilities	Yes
Spellcasting	None	Yes
Spell Specialty	Spellcasting	Yes
Staff	Spellcasting	No

Brewing

Your knowledge of plants, herbs, and beasts allows you to brew poisons, elixirs, or create salves and poultices

Prerequisite: Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+, First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+
Effect: You have the ability to create consumables that can be used to harm or help others depending on your Craft: Brewing specialties.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, select a type of brewed item (determined by your specialties) and an aspect of it. The selected aspect's stage TN is reduced by -2 TN for the extended test to create the item.

Endurance

You possess great fortitude and presence of mind to be able to cast spells with greater ability.

Prerequisite: Spellcasting, 2 other Conjurer/Mage/Wizard abilities
Effect: Make TN 7 Stamina test. If successful, you are able to cast an additional spell as a free action with no multiple action penalty. If you fail, then you cannot cast further spells this round or make any further tests that would incur multiple action penalties.
Upgrade: Yes; three times. Every time you pick this ability, you gain the ability to cast additional spells as free actions in one round, but for each subsequent free action the Stamina test increases by +5 TN. If you have multiple free actions to cast spells and fail a Stamina test, you may not attempt to make use of any further free actions for casting spells or make tests that would incur multiple action penalties.

Focus

You have focused your study of magic in a particular area such as the elements or protection.

- Prerequisite:** Spellcasting
Effect: Select a type of spell focus. You gain a +2 bonus for activating spells of this type and any tests associated with the spells of this type.
Upgrade: Yes. Each time you pick this ability, you must select a new type of spell focus.

Permanence

You are able to make spells last forever until dispelled.

- Prerequisite:** Spellcasting, 4 other Conjurer/Mage/Wizard abilities
Effect: *A spellcaster has the ability to make spells with a duration (Narrator's discretion) permanent by adding +10 TN to the spell's activation test. The spell will continue to be in effect until dispelled.*
Upgrade: *Yes; twice. Each time you pick this ability, the TN increase is +7 TN and +5 TN, respectively.*

Spellcasting

Through great study or essence of bloodline, you are able to tap the power of arcane energies that pervade the world.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Note: This ability must be the first acquired ability of this profession. You have the ability to cast spells and 5 spell picks to spend on acquiring or augmenting spells.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you gain 5 more spell picks.

Spell Specialty

You are quite practiced in the casting of a particular spell.

- Prerequisite:** Spellcasting
Effect: Pick a spell that you know or spell-like ability. Your experience in the use of this power allows you to augment one of these aspects: activation TN (reduce TN by -2), duration (+1d6 units of duration), damage (+2 damage), or range (+1d6 units of range).
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you may select the same aspect of a spell, select a new aspect of a spell, or select a new spell or spell-like ability and one of its aspects to augment.

Staff

You possess a staff of power that aids you in your spellcasting.

- Prerequisite:** Spellcasting
Effect: When you have your staff, you gain a +2 to the test for activating spells or Stamina tests against Weariness (*including those imposed by the Endurance ability*). If your staff were taken from you, it does not confer the bonuses to anyone else.
Upgrade: No

• Diplomat/Noble/Politician

Table 29: Diplomat/Noble/Politician Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Acclaim	Renown 6+	No
Anticipate Opposition	Insight, Bearing 6+	No
Deference	Appropriate Rank, Bearing 6+	Yes
Educated	None	No
Gain Trust	Courtier	No
Insight	Perception 8+	No
Mien of a Leader	Appropriate Rank, Bearing 8+	Yes
New Order Skill	None	Yes
Poker Face	Insight	No
Power Player	Mien of a Leader, Knowledge: Politics 4+	No
Upwardly Mobile	Acclaim, Power Player	No

Acclaim

You have worked hard to improve and strengthen your reputation for use in dealing with others.

Prerequisite: Renown 6+

Effect: When someone makes a recognition test against you, they gain a +5 bonus to the test. If you are recognized, double your Renown bonus for the duration of the encounter.

Upgrade: No

Anticipate Opposition

While able to see into the hearts and minds of those around you, you are able to make convincing arguments through passion and wisdom.

Prerequisite: Insight, Bearing 6+

Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to Debate and Influence tests when trying to convince those of greater rank than you (more picks in the Rank edge) such as nobles, bureaucrats, heads of state, and the like to your point of view. Also, if you spend 10 minutes or more with a group of people, you may make a TN 10 Perception test to evaluate the relationships and dynamics within it (who defers to whom, who is the leader, etc.)

Upgrade: No

Deference

Those of royalty or who through their personal presence or office command the respect and obeisance.

Prerequisite: Appropriate Rank, Bearing 6+

Effect: To reflect this attitude, you gain a +2 bonus to all social skills except Influence (Inspire and Intimidate) tests used with or against your subjects or electorate and a +1 bonus against those not under your rule or of your constituency.

Upgrade: Yes; three times. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2 and +1 bonus to social tests except Influence (Inspire and Intimidate) tests made against the respective groups.

Educated

You gain a vast collection of knowledge in your travels and dealings with others.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You may use all Knowledge skill untrained and when you acquired ranks in a new Knowledge skill, you gain the first specialty for free.
Upgrade: No

Gain Trust

You are good at getting people to trust you even if they are hostile.

- Prerequisite:** Courtier
Effect: You gain a +4 bonus to Debate (Parley) tests. On a successful result, you also change the interaction stance of those listening to you one category better.
Upgrade: No

Insight

As you must constantly deal in half-truths and equivocation, you are also quite apt in seeing through deception.

- Prerequisite:** Perception 8+
Effect: When you make a Wisdom test, you roll 3d6 and choose the best two before adding any modifiers. The double sixes rule still applies.
Upgrade: No

Mien of a Leader

You have the gift of command and leadership over your subjects or constituency.

- Prerequisite:** Appropriate Rank, Bearing 6+
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to Influence (Inspire and Intimidate) tests against your subjects or the people you represent.
Upgrade: Yes; three times. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2 Influence (Inspire and Intimidate) tests made against your people.

New Order Skill

Due to the ever-changing nature of your station or profession, you encounter and learn many new and interesting things.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Select a skill that is not listed as one of your profession skills. This skill is now considered a profession skill for the purposes of acquiring ranks during advancement.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, choose a new skill.

Poker Face

You can make authoritative statements but not be entirely truthful.

- Prerequisite:** Insight
Effect: You may ignore all penalties for social skills when you make Influence (Bluff) tests.
Upgrade: No

Power Player

You know how to leverage your position and manipulate bureaucracies.

Prerequisite: Mien of a Leader, Knowledge: Politics 4+
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Enterprise: Administration test from Knowledge: Politics.
Upgrade: No

Upwardly Mobile

You know how to get what you want when you want it mostly based on your reputation and achievements.

Prerequisite: Acclaim, Power Player
Effect: You may purchase the Rank edge and upgrades to it at half the normal cost. You may also permanently remove one upgrade from your Rank to substitute it for one prerequisite for an ability or purchasing an Elite Profession.
Upgrade: No

• Mercenary/Seaman/Soldier/Warrior

Table 30: Mercenary/Seaman/Soldier/Warrior Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Battle-hardened	Stamina 4+, Vitality 8+	No
Battle-tested	None	No
Capable	Intrepid, <i>Multitasking</i>	No
Diver	Vitality 6+	Yes
Duty	None	Yes
Evasion	Agility 6+	No
Familiar Systems	None	No
Favored Weapon	Any Combat skill 6+	Yes
Intrepid	Duty OR New Order Skill	No
Never Say Die	None	No
New Order Skill	None	No
Reconnaissance	Perception 8+	No
Rope-craft	Agility 6+	No
Sailor's Eye	Perception 6+	No
Sea Legs	None	Yes
Specialist	Agility 9+, Strength 8+	No
Survival Training	None	No
Swift Strike	Armed Combat or Unarmed Combat 8+, Agility 6+	Yes
Tactical Advantage	Reconnaissance	No
Well-briefed	Reconnaissance, Tactics 4+	No

Battle-hardened

You have learned how to function while injured, stunned, and fatigued.

Prerequisite: Stamina 4+, Vitality 8+
Effect: You gain +1 Health and reduce physical test penalties from injury, stun effects, or Weariness by 1.
Upgrade: No

Battle-tested

You are a veteran of skirmishes and battles and experience gives you the edge in attaining victorious results.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for Tactics, *System Operation (Command, Nav Control, Weapons)*, *Operate Vehicle* tests for combat craft (*spaceships, jet fighters, tanks, siege engines, etc.*).
Upgrade: No

Capable

You are able to manage many activities in rapid succession

- Prerequisite:** Intrepid, *Multitasking*
Effect: Reduce all multiple action penalties by 2.
Upgrade: No

Diver

You are a strong swimmer, accustomed to rough seas and strong currents while holding your breath for a long period of time.

- Prerequisite:** Vitality 6+
Effect: You are able to hold your breath for +1 minute more than normal and gain a +2 bonus to Athletics: Swim tests.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you can hold your breath an additional +1 minutes and gain an additional +1 bonus to Athletics: Swim tests.

Duty

You have committed yourself to serving a government or ruler as a professional in the military or other defense force as an enlisted man, officer, or agent.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: This ability allows you to automatically join one of these Elite Professions: Assassin/Spy, Captain/Command Officer/Knight, Counselor/Doctor/Medicine-man, Engineer/Operations Officer, Helm/Flight Control/Navigator/Pilot, Ranger/Special Forces, or Investigator/Security/Weapons Officer. Select one of the Elite Profession's skill packages and a Profession Ability. *Note: This ability is best used in modern or futuristic games.*
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you may use it as a prerequisite as specified for another Elite Profession, but the rules for multiple professions still apply.

Evasion

You are a strong swimmer, accustomed to rough seas and strong currents while holding your breath for a long period of time.

- Prerequisite:** Agility 6+
Effect: When performing a dodge action, you roll 3d6 and choose the best two before adding any modifiers. The double sixes rule still applies.
Upgrade: No

Familiar Systems

You are able to use your country or race's technology with ease.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You are able to make Computer Use, Repair, or System Operation tests while using familiar equipment in half the base time.
Upgrade: No

Favored Weapon

You have come to prefer a certain weapon over others and learning to use it to neglect of experience with other weapons.

- Prerequisite:** Any Combat skill 6+
Effect: Select a Combat skill and specialty (for Armed and Ranged Combat skills). You gain an additional +2 bonus when using the selected skill/specialty or unarmed style and a -4 penalty to use other weapons or styles. *Note: This ability can only be acquired for one weapon or style only.*
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2 bonus to use the selected weapon specialty or unarmed style and -2 to use other weapons (max +6/-8 total) or select a new skill and/or specialty.

Intrepid

You are the best of the best of the best.

- Prerequisite:** Duty OR New Order Skill
Effect: You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for professional skills.
Upgrade: No

Never Say Die

You represent the spirit of your people, especially those who defend it.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Once per game session, you may re-roll one Willpower test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

New Order Skill

You encounter and learn many new and interesting things in your travels to all sorts of destinations and posts.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Select a skill that is not listed as one of your profession skills. This skill is now considered a profession skill for the purposes of acquiring ranks during advancement.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, choose a new skill.

Reconnaissance

You've been taught observation techniques for investigating their surroundings for hazards, enemies, etc.

- Prerequisite:** Perception 8+
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Inquire (Investigate) tests from Observe. Also, you can make a TN 10 Observe test to identify any conditions that would confer physical test modifiers (bonuses and penalties) in a given area and the extent that they would affect combat (Low: $\pm 1-2$, Medium: $\pm 3-4$, High: ± 5 or greater).
Upgrade: No

Rope-craft

You are particularly skillful in tying knots and other rope-related tasks.

- Prerequisite:** Agility 6+
Effect: You gain a +4 bonus to Legerdemain (Rope Use) tests and Athletics: Escape Artist tests to free oneself from rope.
Upgrade: No

Sailor's Eye

Reading the weather and understanding weather patterns is essential to the life of someone who lives on or near the sea.

- Prerequisite:** Perception 6+
Effect: You gain a +4 bonus to Science: Physical (Meteorology) tests on or near large bodies of water.
Upgrade: No

Sea Legs

Unlike landlubbers, you find yourself quite at ease aboard a ship rocking on the sea.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to Acrobatics (Balance) tests while aboard a ship and never have to make Stamina tests to resist seasickness.
Upgrade: Yes; three times. Every time you pick this ability, you gain a +2 bonus to Acrobatics (Balance) tests while aboard a ship (max +8 total).

Specialist

From the moment you first picked up a weapon or began learning to defend yourself, all could see that you were destined for greatness.

- Prerequisite:** Agility 9+, Strength 8+
Effect: *Select a combat skill.* When you spend a 1 point of Courage, you gain a +2 bonus to all tests *using this skill for a number rounds equal to your Agility and Strength modifiers combined.*
Upgrade: No

Survival Training

You have been trained in techniques for survival in a multitude of environments.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to all Survival tests and an additional +2 bonus when using a specialty.
Upgrade: No

Swift Strike

You fight with speed and grace, able to attack and counterattack more easily than others.

- Prerequisite:** Favored Weapon, Armed Combat or Unarmed Combat 8+
Effect: *Make a TN 7 Agility test. If successful, you are able to make another Armed or Unarmed Combat action as a free action with no multiple action penalty. If you fail, then you cannot make any further actions this round that would incur multiple action penalties.*
Upgrade: Yes; three times. Every time you pick this ability, you gain the ability to make an additional Armed or Unarmed Combat action as a free action, *but for each subsequent free action the Agility test increases by +2 TN. If you have multiple free actions to make combat actions and fail an Agility test, you may not attempt to make use of any further free actions for Armed or Unarmed combat actions or make any further tests that would incur multiple action penalties.*

Tactical Advantage

You are able to combine your knowledge of the area with your combat experience to gain an advantage.

Prerequisite:	Reconnaissance, Tactics 4+
Effect:	When you use your Reconnaissance ability to scout the physical test modifiers of a given area, you can reduce any one penalty in half (rounded up) or double any bonus. If you are able to communicate with your companions, the benefit also applies to them.
Upgrade:	No

Well-briefed

You don't go into any potentially hostile land or unknown territory without proper preparation.

Prerequisite:	Reconnaissance
Effect:	If your mission or adventure lasts more than a few days (modern or futuristic games) or a few weeks (fantasy or medieval games), you gain a new specialty to your Knowledge: World or Knowledge: Country or Knowledge: Realm skill.
Upgrade:	No

• Rogue/Thief

Table 31: Rogue/Thief Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Backstab	1 other Rogue/Thief ability, Agility 8+	No
Con Artist	Enterprise: Streetwise 3+, Bearing 6+	No
Fast	Agility 6+	No
Guile	None	Yes
Johnny-on-the-Spot	Fast	No
Lurker	None	No
Sabotage	Guile, Intellect 8+	Yes
Safecracker	Legerdemain 6+, Intellect 8+	No
Safehouse	None	Yes
Signature	Streetsmart, Renown 3+	No
Streetsmart	Con Artist, Guile	No

Backstab

You have the particular ability of striking down your enemies from behind or by surprise.

Prerequisite:	1 other Rogue/Thief ability, Agility 8+
Effect:	You receive a +5 bonus to your attack test and immediately gain the initiative the next round on the opponent you just attacked. <i>You may only use this ability once per opponent per combat sequence.</i>
Upgrade:	No

Con Artist

You are able to get what you want through deceit and trickery.

Prerequisite:	Enterprise: Streetwise 3+, Bearing 6+
Effect:	When you make an Influence test, you roll 3d6 and choose the best two before adding any modifiers. The double sixes rule still applies.
Upgrade:	No

Fast

You have the swiftness of the wind, enabling you to escape capture or run down a fleeing adversary.

- Prerequisite:** Agility 6+
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to Athletics: Run tests and reduce physical penalties on your movement by half (rounded up).
Upgrade: No

Guile

Your experience and a little luck guide your life's fortune.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Once per game session you may re-roll any profession skill test with a +2 and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you may make an additional re-roll of an profession skill per game session.

Johnny-on-the-Spot

You have the uncanny ability of showing up at the right time and act before anyone else.

- Prerequisite:** Fast
Effect: You gain a +3 bonus to Swiftness tests for Initiative.
Upgrade: No

Lurker

You have great skill in making sure you aren't seen either through altering your appearance or keeping out of view of others.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for Impersonate and Stealth tests.
Upgrade: No

Sabotage

You know how to disable or destroy equipment and systems.

- Prerequisite:** Guile, Intellect 8+
Effect: Select one of these skills: Computer Use, Demolitions, any Engineering, or System Operation. You gain 1 rank in this skill and the Sabotage specialty. The skill is also regarded as a profession skill for the purposes of advancement.
Upgrade: Yes; five times. Every time you pick this ability, you may select a new skill.

Safecracker

You are extremely skilled in the arts of breaking into secured items and locations.

- Prerequisite:** Legerdemain 6+, Intellect 8+
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to Legerdemain (Pick Locks) and Computer Use (Hacking) tests for the purpose of picking locks or bypassing security systems and protocols. Also, you only suffer half the penalty for not using the proper tools or any tools at all.
Upgrade: No

Safehouse

You have a place to hide when the heat is on.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You have a secret apartment, warehouse, hideout, etc. that no one knows about. For others to find the safehouse requires a TN 15 Inquire (Search) test modified by your Forgery affinity bonus if your safehouse is a house, apartment, or building or Conceal affinity bonus if your safehouse is not in a populated area or secret rooms in a building or underground within a populated area.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, increase the base TN to find your safehouse by +3 TN.

Signature

After long years in the game, you have developed your own style of how you pull jobs or do business.

- Prerequisite:** Streetsmart, Renown 3+
- Effect:** Upon rolling any number of extraordinary successes for profession skill tests, you gain +1 Renown at the end of the chapter.
- Upgrade:** No

Streetsmart

You are able to handle yourself in the underworld of any city and any planet.

- Prerequisite:** Con Artist, Guile
- Effect:** You gain an affinity bonus to Enterprise: Streetwise from Knowledge: World or Knowledge: Realm or Knowledge: specific city. If you don't have one of these skills, double the attribute bonus for the skill.
- Upgrade:** No

Elite Profession Abilities

I am leaving the task of placing abilities into tiers to the Narrator if he so chooses to use that ability scheme.

• Adept/Archbishop

Table 32: Adept/Archbishop Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Greater Channeling	None	Yes
Imposing	Willpower 4+	No
Impenetrable Mind	None	No
Mental Block	Vitality 9+, Intellect 9+	Yes
Sense Power	Greater Channeling, Perception 8+	No

Greater Channeling

Through great devotion and sacrifice, you are able to tap the divine power of your object of worship.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You have the ability to cast spells. <To be further expanded later>
- Upgrade:** Yes

Imposing

Your great wisdom, majesty, and power is demonstrated through your dealings with others.

Prerequisite: Greater Channeling, Willpower 4+
Effect: You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for Influence (Inspire or Intimidate) tests.
Upgrade: No

Impenetrable Mind

Your mind has strength against outside influences.

Prerequisite: Greater Channeling
Effect: You gain a +4 bonus to Willpower tests or Mind Shield tests (if you have the skill).
Upgrade: No

Mental Block

You have the power to temporarily reject the discomfort of pain and fatigue.

Prerequisite: Vitality 9+, Intellect 9+
Effect: Upon a successful TN 10 Stamina test, you may ignore half the penalties due to injury, stun effects, and Weariness (rounded up) for one hour. This can be extended each hour but the Stamina test has a cumulative +5 TN.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the base time covered by the first Stamina test is increased by one hour.

Sense Power

Your powers of perception are distinctly attuned to the world about you.

Prerequisite: Greater Channeling, Perception 8+
Effect: You are able to use the spell Sense Power as if it were a spell-like ability.
Upgrade: No

• Ambassador/Head of State/Ruler

Table 33: Ambassador/Head of State/Ruler

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Adamant Resolve	None	No
Cultural Proficiency	None	No
Diplomatic Immunity	Knowledge: Law 6+	No
Embassy	Diplomatic Immunity	No
Exploitation	Infiltration	Yes
Infiltration	Cultural Proficiency	No
Inoculated	1 advancement in Ambassador/Head of State/Ruler	No
Magnanimous	None	No
Master Negotiator	Magnanimous	No
Tact	Magnanimous	No

Adamant Resolve

You display amazing determination and resoluteness as a representative of your planet, government, or realm.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You may add your Bearing modifier to Wisdom tests.
Upgrade: No

Cultural Proficiency

You have an immense knowledge of different cultures: their history, customs, laws, etc.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You may use all Knowledge skill untrained. Also, if you are making a skill test with a specialty and you have that specialty in another skill, you gain an affinity bonus from the other skill.
Upgrade: No

Diplomatic Immunity

You cannot be arrested for minor crimes you commit while at place that is under the authority of another government or rulership.

Prerequisite: Knowledge: Law 6+
Effect: To avoid being arrested, you must make an opposed Knowledge: Law test against the local constabulary. You could attempt to assert that the immunity also extends to any number of associates, conferring a -1 penalty to the test per person.
Upgrade: No

Embassy

You rely on your personality and bearing to put others at ease.

Prerequisite: Diplomatic Immunity
Effect: To keep the embassy running smoothly, you must make a monthly TN 10 Enterprise: Administration test. In a time of crisis, the test is TN 15. In a time of war, the test is TN 20. Failed tests confer a -1 penalty per level of failure to all personnel at the embassy, including yourself. You may attempt another Enterprise: Administration test with a cumulative +2 TN every day after the first failure until either you succeed or a week goes by. If a week has passed without recovering control, the embassy will be shut down for 1d6+2 days if the situation is calm, 2d6+4 days if there is a crisis, and it will be evacuated and won't open again until the end of hostilities during wartime.
Upgrade: No

Exploitation

Your time spent analyzing a culture has revealed to you their strengths and weaknesses.

Prerequisite: Infiltration
Effect: You may make a TN 15 Science: Social test to determine a realm, country, or race's strengths and weaknesses (social test modifiers). During all future social tests against someone of that realm, country, or race, you can exploit the modifier by doubling a bonus or ignoring a penalty.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you can attempt to identify an additional strength or weakness to exploit with another Science: Social test.

Infiltration

After studying a culture, you are able to walk freely and interact with the populace without arousing suspicion.

- Prerequisite:** Cultural Proficiency
Effect: When making a Stealth (Hide) test to walk openly among an alien (other country, realm, or planet) populace, you gain an affinity bonus from Impersonate. If you make an Extraordinary Success, you gain the country, realm, or race as a Knowledge: Culture specialty for free.
Upgrade: No

Inoculated

You work in far off countries, realms, or unknown worlds requires that you are immunized against as many forms of contagion as possible.

- Prerequisite:** 1 advancement in Ambassador/Head of State/Ruler
Effect: You are immune to all known diseases and gain +1 Health.
Upgrade: No

Magnanimous

You rely on your personality and bearing to put others at ease.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: As a full round action, you can make a Influence (Charm) test to endear yourself to the other negotiating partners and improve his reaction stance. The test depends on the negotiating partners' initial reaction: TN 5 (Cooperative), TN 10 (Indifferent), TN 15 (Uncooperative), and TN 20 (Hostile). A successful test improves your stance one full category (Extraordinary Success improves two categories) for the rest of the game session, gaining the benefits of the improved reaction stance for all social tests against that person or people.
Upgrade: No

Master Negotiator

You are quite articulate and can evoke passionate responses to your point of view.

- Prerequisite:** Magnanimous
Effect: Once per game session, you may re-roll one Debate or Influence test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

Tact

You are skilled at saying the right thing at the right time, but more importantly not the wrong thing at the wrong time.

- Prerequisite:** Magnanimous
Effect: You may ignore all social test penalties due to differences in race and/or cultural norms.
Upgrade: No

• Archer/Sharpshooter/Weaponsmaster

Table 34: Archer/Sharpshooter/Weaponsmaster Abilities

Edge	Prerequisite	Upgrade?
Accurate	Mighty Shot, Ranged Combat 10+	Yes
Ammo	Craft: Bowyer or Craft: Weaponsmith 1+, Ranged Combat 8+, Agility 8+	No
Far Shot	Mighty Shot	Yes
Favored Weapon	Any Combat skill 6+	Yes
Meditation	Ritual Attack	No
Mighty Shot	Ranged Combat 8+, Agility 8+	Yes
Ritual Attack	Favored Weapon	No
Swift Attack	Accurate	Yes
Weaponcraft	None	No

Accurate

No matter how difficult the shot is, you strike with lethal accuracy.

Prerequisite: Mighty Shot, Ranged Combat 10+

Effect: Select a ranged weapon. When making a called shot using the chosen weapon, you gain a +2 bonus to your Ranged Combat test.

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you gain a +2 bonus (max +8 total) to your Ranged Combat test or choose a new weapon specialty and/or Ranged Combat skill.

Ammo

The most versatile of shooters can make their own ammunition when they need to.

Prerequisite: Craft: Bowyer or Craft: Weaponsmith 1+, Ranged Combat 8+, Agility 8+

Effect: You gain +4 bonus to your Craft: Bowyer test to make arrows and Craft: Weaponsmith to make arrowheads or bullets. You can also fashion crude weapons and ammunition if you do not have the proper tools for making them. These crude items give a -2 penalty for the weapon and -1 for the ammunition. Crude arrows deal 1d6+1 damage with a sharpened end and stun attacks with blunt ends.

Upgrade: No

Far Shot

You are more accurate than most when shooting at distant targets.

Prerequisite: Mighty Shot

Effect: Select a ranged weapon. Add +5 yards to each range increment when using that weapon.

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you may add +5 yards to the weapon's range increments (max +10 yards total) or select a new weapon.

Favored Weapon

You have come to prefer a certain weapon over others and learning to use it to neglect of experience with other weapons.

- Prerequisite:** Any Combat skill 6+
- Effect:** Select a Combat skill and specialty (for Armed and Ranged Combat skills). You gain an additional +2 bonus when using the selected skill/specialty or unarmed style and a -4 penalty to use other weapons or styles. *Note: This ability can only be acquired for one weapon or style only.*
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2 bonus to use the selected weapon specialty or unarmed style and -2 to use other weapons (max +6/-8 total) or select a new skill and/or specialty.

Meditation

You derive your intense focus from quiet contemplation.

- Prerequisite:** Ritual Attack
- Effect:** Once per game day, you may make a TN 10 Willpower test against Mind Effects with a TN equal to your Strength + Vitality (all physical modifiers apply) to regain 1 Courage point. The time to do this is 10 minutes and the TN is reduced by -2 for every 5 additional minutes spent meditating (max -6).
- Upgrade:** No

Mighty Shot

You are able to ignore most distractions and conditions that normally hamper ranged attacks.

- Prerequisite:** Ranged Combat 8+, Agility 8+
- Effect:** You may reduce penalties to your Ranged Combat test by 2.
- Upgrade:** Yes; twice. Every time you pick this ability, you may further reduce penalties by 1 (max 4 total).

Ritual Attack

You can perform an elaborately stylized attack to confuse your opponent.

- Prerequisite:** Favored Weapon
- Effect:** Using this ability costs 2 combat actions and requires your opponent to use 3 combat actions to make his defensive movement (dodge or parry), usually requiring a multiple action penalty to his test.
- Upgrade:** No

Swift Attack

You can ready your weapon and fire it with blinding speed.

- Prerequisite:** Favored Weapon
- Effect:** *Make a TN 7 Agility test. If successful, you are able to make another combat action using the skill based off the Favored Weapon ability as a free action with no multiple action penalty. If you fail, then you cannot make any further actions this round that would incur multiple action penalties.*
- Upgrade:** Yes; *three times*. Every time you pick this ability, you gain the ability to make an additional combat action as a free action, *but for each subsequent free action the Agility test increases by +2 TN. If you have multiple free actions to make combat actions and fail an Agility test, you may not attempt to make use of any further free combat actions for combat actions or make any further tests that would incur multiple action penalties.*

Weaponcraft

You view your weapons as extensions of yourself, taking their craft very seriously.

Prerequisite:	None
Effect:	You gain 1 rank in Craft: Weapons and one free weapon specialty. This skill is considered a profession skill for the purposes of acquiring ranks. Also, you gain an affinity bonus to Craft: Weaponcraft from the appropriate Armed or Ranged Combat skill.
Upgrade:	No

• Archmage

Table 35: Archmage Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Final Strike	Spell Enhancement	No
Greater Focus	Greater Spellcasting	Yes
Greater Spellcasting	None	Yes
Greater Spell Specialty	Greater Spellcasting	Yes
Imposing	Greater Spellcasting, Willpower 4+	No
Mastery	Greater Spellcasting	No
New Order Skill	Greater Spellcasting	Yes
Sense Power	Greater Spellcasting, Perception 8+	No
Spell Enhancement	Greater Spellcasting, 2 other Archmage abilities	No

Final Strike

It can be quite dangerous to trap you for even in ultimate defeat, you are still able to strike out at your enemies.

Prerequisite:	Spell Enhancement
Effect:	Whenever you so choose, you may unleash a blast of magical energy harming all close by: friend, foe, and structures. The amount of damage you deal is equal to 3 x the number of spells you know out to a distance of 2 x the number of Conjuror/Mage/Wizard and Archmage/Hierophant advancements you have in yards. The Narrator may decide that this ability doesn't end the character's life but leaves him weak and unable to cast spells for a very long time (number of days, weeks, or months equal to your advancements), if ever again.
Upgrade:	No

Greater Focus

You have focused your study of magic in a particular area such as the elements or protection.

Prerequisite:	Greater Spellcasting
Effect:	Select a type of spell focus. You gain a +2 bonus for activating spells of this type and any tests associated with the spells of this type.
Upgrade:	Yes. Each time you pick this ability, you must select a new type of spell focus.

Greater Spellcasting

Through great study or essence of bloodline, you are able to tap the power of arcane energies that pervade the world.

Prerequisite:	None
Effect:	Note: This ability must be the first acquired ability of this elite profession. You have the ability to cast spells. <To be further expanded later>
Upgrade:	Yes

Greater Spell Specialty

You are quite practiced in the invocation of a particular spell.

- Prerequisite:** Greater Spellcasting
- Effect:** Pick a spell that you know or spell-like ability. Your experience in the use of this power allows you to augment one of these aspects: activation TN (reduce TN by -2), duration (+1d6 units of duration), damage (+2 damage), or range (+1d6 units of range).
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you may select the same aspect of a spell, select a new aspect of a spell, or select a new spell or spell-like ability and one its aspects to augment.

Imposing

Your great wisdom, majesty, and power is demonstrated through your dealings with others.

- Prerequisite:** Willpower 4+
- Effect:** You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for Influence (Inspire or Intimidate) tests.
- Upgrade:** No

Mastery

Even more so than your peers you are able to wield your power with great skill and knowledge.

- Prerequisite:** Greater Spellcasting
- Effect:** You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for all tests related to magic and spells.
- Upgrade:** No

New Order Skill

Due to your breadth of knowledge and experience, it isn't difficult to acquire odd skills and obscure bits of lore.

- Prerequisite:** Greater Spellcasting
- Effect:** Select a skill that is not listed as one of your profession skills. This skill is now considered a profession skill for the purposes of acquiring ranks during advancement.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, choose a new skill.

Sense Power

Your powers of perception are distinctly attuned to the world about you.

- Prerequisite:** Greater Spellcasting, Perception 8+
- Effect:** You are able to use the spell Sense Power as if it were a spell-like ability.
- Upgrade:** No

Spell Enhancement

Because you command great faith or knowledge, when the need arises, you can cast spells with greater effect.

- Prerequisite:** Greater Spellcasting, 2 other Archmage abilities
- Effect:** Once per game session, you may either double the range, area of effect, damage, or other quantifiable effect of a spell you cast. The TN for the spell's activation is +10 TN.
- Upgrade:** No

• Assassin/Spy

Table 36: Assassin/Spy Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Arms Proficiency	None	No
Assassination	Arms Proficiency	No
Brewing	<i>Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+, First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+</i>	Yes
Friends in Low Places	Bearing 7+	No
Gain Access	Computer Invasion or Infiltration	No
Gather Intelligence	Intellect 8+	No
Hacker	Gather Intelligence	No
Infiltration	Master of Disguise, Knowledge: Culture 6+	No
Master of Disguise	None	No
New Order Skill	None	Yes
Reconnaissance	Perception 8+	No
Requisitioning	Friends in Low Places	No
Retreat	None	Yes
Sabotage	Infiltration, Intellect 8+	Yes
Signature	Assassination, Renown 3+	No
Stalker	None	No
Wary	None	No

Arms Proficiency

You have studied and trained in a multitude of armed and unarmed combat forms and styles.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: Every time you acquire a new Armed, Ranged, or Unarmed Combat skill, you gain one free specialty.
Upgrade: No

Assassination

You strike at your targets with deadly precision.

Prerequisite: Arms Proficiency
Effect: If you make an attack upon a target by surprise, you may re-roll your Armed, Ranged, or Unarmed Combat test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

Brewing

Your knowledge of plants, herbs, and beasts allows you to brew poisons, elixirs, or create salves and poultices

Prerequisite: *Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+, First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+*
Effect: *You have the ability to create consumables that can be used to harm or help others depending on your Craft: Brewing specialties.*
Upgrade: Yes. *Every time you pick this ability, select a type of brewed item (determined by your specialties) and an aspect of it. The selected aspect's stage TN is reduced by -2 TN for the extended test to create the item.*

Friends in Low Places

For you to be successful in your work, you must depend heavily upon information from your network of contacts.

- Prerequisite:** Bearing 7+
Effect: Select a city or small region where you can get information. You gain a +5 bonus to Inquire tests there.
Upgrade: No

Gain Access

You are able to bypass excessive inspection by authorities by means of fake credentials, hacked passwords, etc.

- Prerequisite:** Computer Invasion or Infiltration
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Computer Use (Hack), Influence (Bluff), or System Operation (Security) tests from Forgery when trying to pass off false documents or security codes as the real thing. If the test fails, you may spend 1 Courage point to re-roll the test and use the result of your preference (this aspect may only be used once per chapter).
Upgrade: No

Gather Intelligence

You are an expert at collecting, collating, and analyzing information.

- Prerequisite:** Intellect 8+
Effect: You may add your Intellect modifier to your Inquire (Research) tests.
Upgrade: No

Hacker

You are adept at bypassing computer security protocols and infiltrating highly secure computer networks.

- Prerequisite:** Gather Intelligence
Effect: When you make Computer Use (Hacking) tests, you roll 3d6 and choose the best two before adding any modifiers. The double sixes rule still applies.
Upgrade: No

Infiltration

After studying a culture, you are able to walk freely and interact with the populace without arousing suspicion.

- Prerequisite:** Master of Disguise, Knowledge: Culture 6+
Effect: When making a Stealth (Hide) test to walk openly among an alien (other country, realm, or planet) populace, you gain an affinity bonus from Impersonate. If you make an Extraordinary Success, you gain the country, realm, or race as a Knowledge: Culture specialty for free.
Upgrade: No

Master of Disguise

You often work in disguise so as to conceal your identity or avoid your enemies.

- Prerequisite:** *Conceal and Impersonate* 3+
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Impersonate tests from Conceal and to Conceal from Impersonate.
Upgrade: No

New Order Skill

Due to your unconventional nature and job, you encounter and learn many new and interesting things.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** Select a skill that is not listed as one of your profession skills. This skill is now considered a profession skill for the purposes of acquiring ranks during advancement.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, choose a new skill.

Reconnaissance

You've been taught observation techniques for investigating their surroundings for hazards, enemies, etc.

- Prerequisite:** Perception 8+
- Effect:** You gain an affinity bonus to Inquire (Investigate) tests from Observe. Also, you can make a TN 10 Observe test to identify any conditions that would confer physical test modifiers (bonuses and penalties) in a given area and the extent that they would affect combat (Low: ± 1 -2, Medium: ± 3 -4, High: ± 5 or greater).
- Upgrade:** No

Requisitioning

You are able to get the equipment and supplies needed to carry out your mission.

- Prerequisite:** Friends in Low Places
- Effect:** You are able to acquire equipment needed for your mission through your underground contacts or employer from weapons (TN 10) to special gear (TN 15) to restricted/illegal weapons and explosives (TN 20). When attempting to acquire one of these types of items, make an Enterprise: Administration test with an affinity bonus from your Enterprise: Streetwise skill. The degree of success will depend on how soon the item can be delivered: Marginal Success ($\frac{1}{2}$ -d6+3 days), Complete Success ($\frac{1}{2}$ -d6 days), Superior Success (3d6 hours), and Extraordinary Success (1d6+3 hours).
- Upgrade:** No

Retreat

You have a place to hide, store supplies, and plan your actions.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You have a secret hideout that no one knows about. For others to find your retreat requires a TN 15 Inquire (Search) test modified by your Forgery affinity bonus if it is a house, apartment, or building in a town or city or Conceal affinity bonus if it is in not in a populated area or a secret room in a building or underground within a populated area.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, increase the base TN to find your retreat by +3 TN.

Sabotage

You know how to disable or destroy equipment and systems.

- Prerequisite:** Infiltration, Intellect 8+
- Effect:** Select one of these skills: Computer Use, Demolitions, any Engineering, or System Operation. You gain 1 rank in this skill and the Sabotage specialty. The skill is also regarded as a profession skill for the purposes of advancement.
- Upgrade:** Yes; five times. Every time you pick this ability, you may select a new skill.

Signature

After long years in the game, you have developed your own style of how you pull jobs or do business.

Prerequisite:	Assassination, Renown 3+
Effect:	Upon rolling any number of extraordinary successes for Armed, Ranged, or Unarmed Combat skill tests or a successful use of poison you created during assassination attempts, you gain +1 Renown at the end of the chapter.
Upgrade:	No

Stalker

You are excellent at sneaking and hiding, making the most of your environment to your benefit.

Prerequisite:	None
Effect:	You may either ignore all physical penalties due to environment or double one environmental bonus.
Upgrade:	No

Wary

You are always on the lookout for danger

Prerequisite:	None
Effect:	You gain +2 Defense.
Upgrade:	No

• Captain/Command Officer/Knight

Table 37: Captain/Command Officer/Knight Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Air of Command	Influence (Inspire, Intimidate) 6+	No
Anticipate Opposition	Protocol, Perception 8+	No
Born to the Saddle	Handle Mount, Ride 9+, Bearing 8+	No
Dogfighter	Fighting Captain or System Operation (Nav Control) 6+	No
Expert Tactician	Tactics 6+, Intellect 8+	No
Fighting Captain	Commander or executive officer of unit or vessel	No
Fire Control Officer	Fighting Captain or System Operation (Weapons) 6+	No
Fires of Devotion	Air of Command, Influence (Inspire) 8+	No
Handle Mount	Ride 7+, Agility 6+, Bearing 6+	No
Hero's Strength	Air of Command, Any Combat skill 10+	No
Leadership	Fires of Devotion	No
Mounted Archer	Handle Mount, Ride 6+, <i>Agility</i> 8+	No
Mounted Attack	Handle Mount, Armed Combat 6+, Ride 8+	No
Protocol	None	No
Shield Wall	None	No
Thinks Like A...	None	Yes
Universal Renown	Air of Command	No

Air of Command

Great leaders command through decisiveness and aura of authority.

- Prerequisite:** Influence (Inspire, Intimidate) 6+
Effect: When making a Willpower test, you roll 3d6 and choose the best two before adding any modifiers. The double sixes rule still applies.
Upgrade: No

Anticipate Opposition

Occasionally, commanders and leaders of men must also be diplomats or even politicians.

- Prerequisite:** Protocol, Perception 8+
Effect: Same as the Diplomat/Noble/Politician ability.
Upgrade: No

Born to the Saddle

You have a natural gift for riding and can coax greater effort from your steed without causing them harm.

- Prerequisite:** Handle Mount, Ride 9+, Bearing 8+
Effect: You can increase your mount's pace 30% without increasing the TN to resist Weariness. You also gain a +5 bonus to Stamina tests for resisting Weariness due to riding.
Upgrade: No

Dogfighter

Your expertise in knowing how to maneuver a vessel is shown through the competence of your helmsman and/or your own personal control of the vessel.

- Prerequisite:** Fighting Captain or System Operation (Nav Control) 6+
Effect: Same as Helm/Flight Control/Navigator/Pilot ability when in command of the vessel, acting as executive officer, or at the navigation controls.
Upgrade: No

Expert Tactician

Officers and commanders study at battlefield tactics and maneuvers.

- Prerequisite:** Tactics 6+, Intellect 8+
Effect: Once per game session, you may re-roll a Tactics test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

Fighting Captain

By your prowess in combat or mere presence while in command bolsters those under you.

- Prerequisite:** Commander or executive officer of unit or vessel
Effect: All Command combat maneuvers gain a +2 bonus to their results while you are in command and are in a location where your orders can be directly carried out (bridge, command and control, etc.).
Upgrade: No

Fire Control Officer

Your expertise in combat and tactics is shown through the competence of your weapons officer and/or your own personal control of the vessel's weapons.

- Prerequisite:** Fighting Captain or System Operation (Weapons) 6+
Effect: Same as Investigator/Security/Weapons Officer ability when in command of the vessel, acting as executive officer, or at the weapons controls.
Upgrade: No

Fires of Devotion

You inspire loyalty and devotion in those who follow you, in both life and death.

- Prerequisite:** Air of Command, Influence (Inspire) 8+
Effect: When leading a unit in battle, your unit has +2 Morale. You also gain a +2 bonus to Inspire tests to keep them together, against fear, etc. These bonuses remain in effect while you are alive and in command of the unit. *If you die, make an Inspire test of TN 15 + your unit's Morale minus your bonus. If successful, your Morale bonus is doubled for a number of rounds equal to your Bearing modifier as your unit fights determinedly to seek revenge and then disappears.*
Upgrade: No

Handle Mount

Great leaders command through decisiveness and aura of authority.

- Prerequisite:** Ride 7+, Agility 6+, Bearing 6+
Effect: You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for a Ride test.
Upgrade: No

Hero's Strength

Your own personal strength and prowess lend itself to your unit's strength giving it the ability to fight against more powerful foes.

- Prerequisite:** Air of Command, Any Combat skill 10+
Effect: When leading a unit in battle, your unit is +2 Strength. This bonus remains in effect while you are alive and in command of the unit. If you lose command of the unit, the unit loses the bonus. If you are slain, the bonus is lost and the unit is -2 Strength for 1/2-d6 rounds.
Upgrade: No

Leadership

Great leaders command others, doing his best to lead them to accomplish the group's goals.

- Prerequisite:** Fires of Devotion
Effect: As a full-round action, you make an Inspire test of TN 15 +1 per member of the group. Each member must be within 10 yards of the leader and able to hear him to gain a +2 bonus to combined tests. The leader must participate in the combined test and make a successful Inspire test with the same TN above each round for the bonus to continue. If anything interrupts the leader making his Inspire tests, the bonus is immediately lost and cannot be regained until the leader is able to start making Inspire tests again.
Upgrade: No

Mounted Archer

You are very adept at shooting from the back of your mount.

Prerequisite: Handle Mount, Ride 6+, *Agility* 8+
Effect: You do not incur the -4 penalty for Ranged Combat attacks while riding your mount.
Upgrade: No

Mounted Attack

Thanks to many hours of training and practice, you are better fighting while mounted than on foot.

Prerequisite: Handle Mount, Armed Combat 6+, Ride 8+
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to Armed Combat tests while mounted and Ride tests in combat.
Upgrade: No

Protocol

Commanders must constantly deal with the inane intricacies of bureaucracy.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You gain a +4 to Enterprise: Administration tests.
Upgrade: No

Shield Wall

Many warriors use shields when they fight and are especially skilled in protecting themselves with them.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: When fighting next to someone (within 2 yards) who is also using a shield, you gain an additional +2 bonus to parry and -2 to ranged attacks against you.
Upgrade: No

Thinks Like A...

As all schools of military stand by, studying and understanding one's enemy is vital to being successful against him.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: Choose a race, country, or realm other than your own. You may ignore all academic test penalties for Tactics (Race or Country or Realm) tests.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this edge, you must select a new specialty.

Universal Renown

Your reputation is enhanced by your noteworthy victories in wartime and peace.

Prerequisite: Air of Command
Effect: When you achieve any number of Extraordinary Successes for Debate or Tactics tests in a chapter, you gain +1 Renown.
Upgrade: No

• Counselor/Doctor/Medicine-man

Table 38: Counselor/Doctor/Medicine-man Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Brewing	<i>Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+ OR First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+ OR Science: Physical (Chemistry) +1</i>	Yes
Comfort in a Crisis	Relief	No
Diagnosis	General Medicine	No
Emergency Response	Field Medicine	Yes
Field Medicine	None	No
General Medicine	None	No
Good Bedside Manner	None	No
Head Doctor	None	No
Ignore the Equipment	General Medicine, Perception 8+	No
Immunization	Brewing, Diagnosis	No
Lab Work	None	Yes
Lie Detector	Pry Secrets	Yes
One for the Textbooks	General Medicine, Lab Work	No
Primitive Medicine	Field Medicine	No
Professional Demeanor	None	No
Pry Secrets	Good Bedside Manner	No
Relief	Therapist	No
Sense Motive	Pry Secrets	No
Error! Reference source not found.	None	No
Verbal Economy	Therapist or appropriate Language 6+	No

Brewing

Your knowledge of plants, herbs, and beasts allows you to brew poisons, elixirs, or create salves and poultices

- Prerequisite:** *Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+ OR First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+ OR Science: Physical (Chemistry) +1*
- Effect:** *You have the ability to create consumables that can be used to harm or help others depending on your Craft: Brewing specialties.*
- Upgrade:** *Yes. Every time you pick this ability, select a type of brewed item (determined by your specialties) and an aspect of it. The selected aspect's stage TN is reduced by -2 TN for the extended test to create the item.*

Comfort in a Crisis

Your comrades lean on you for support during and after battle.

- Prerequisite:** Relief
- Effect:** Once per game session, you can give a patient 1 “free” Courage point (it doesn’t count towards the limit per round) to spend and 2 points upon an Extraordinary Success of a TN 15 Inspire test.
- Upgrade:** No

Diagnosis

Because you frequently encounter different diseases, maladies, and other debilitating causes, you excel at diagnosing illness and treating harmful conditions.

- Prerequisite:** General Medicine
- Effect:** You gain an affinity bonus to Medicine: Diagnose from Inquire. Also after diagnosing a malady, you gain a bonus from this test (+1 per level of success) to the Medicine: Diagnose test to treat the malady.
- Upgrade:** No

Emergency Response

You are well-prepared to act decisively in a crisis.

- Prerequisite:** Field Medicine
Effect: You are able to make a First Aid and Medicine tests in 25% of the base time.
Upgrade: Yes; twice. Every time you pick this ability, you reduce the time to perform First Aid or Medicine tests by another 25% (max 75% total).

Field Medicine

Though doctors prefer to treat patients in a ward, he is sometimes required to give treatment in the field.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Once per game session when making a First Aid or Medicine test not in sickbay, a surgical ward, emergency room, etc., you may re-roll one test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

General Medicine

You are well rounded in various forms of medicine.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to Medicine tests.
Upgrade: No

Good Bedside Manner

You are skilled at making people comfortable and at ease.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You may ignore all social test penalties when making Inquire (Converse) tests.
Upgrade: No

Head Doctor

You are skilled dealing with head injuries and mental trauma.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain a +4 bonus to First Aid tests to treat injuries to the head, including stun and sonic attacks.
Upgrade: No

Ignore the Equipment

There are times when you know what the equipment should be telling you even if it comes up with anomalous results.

- Prerequisite:** General Medicine, Perception 8+
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to System Operation (Medical) from Medicine: Diagnose.
Upgrade: No

Immunization

After diagnosing and treating a new malady, you are able to develop a cure for it.

Prerequisite: Brewing, Diagnosis

Effect: Make a Medicine: Diagnosis test to diagnose a malady. The success level of this level will determine the difficulty of the Inquire (Research) test to develop the cure. The test's TN is 25 – 5 per success level greater than Marginal with a base action time of 30 minutes. With an hour's time in a fully supplied sickbay, ward, or hospital, you can develop the cure, otherwise you will have to make a Science: Physical (Chemistry) or Science: Life (Biochemistry) or Craft: Brewing test with the same TN to create the cure taking 1d6 hours or more.

The cure you have devised will permanently counteract all effects of the malady and will protect the recipient for up to 2d6+3 hours.

Upgrade: No

Lab Work

You are familiar with the inner workings of a medical laboratory.

Prerequisite: None

Effect: Select a laboratory-related Science or Medicine skill and specialty. You gain a +4 bonus to tests using the selected skill and specialty.

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you must select a new Science or Medicine skill and specialty.

Lie Detector

Through extensive experience in dealing with people, you can easily detect falsehoods.

Prerequisite: Pry Secrets

Effect: If someone lies in the presence of you, make a TN 15 Wisdom test (standard social test modifiers apply) as a free action to determine that a falsehood has been told. You are not able to determine the underlying truth better than your own powers of deduction can determine.

Upgrade: Yes; once. You gain an affinity bonus to the Wisdom test from Inquire or Observe (whichever is greater).

One for the Textbooks

Research and new discoveries are based on the sharing of knowledge and rapid propagation of new theories.

Prerequisite: General Medicine, Lab Work

Effect: Whenever you achieve any number of Extraordinary Successes for any Medicine tests or successful uses of the Immunization ability in a chapter, you gain +1 Renown.

Upgrade: No

Primitive Medicine

You are able to perform to your utmost ability even in the most basic of settings.

Prerequisite: Field Medicine

Effect: You may ignore all equipment penalties.

Upgrade: No

Professional Demeanor

No one can bluff like a person who is trained to see through them.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You gain an affinity bonus to appropriate Games tests from Science: Social.
- Upgrade:** No

Pry Secrets

You are able to get even the most unwilling to open up and divulge their secrets.

- Prerequisite:** Good Bedside Manner
- Effect:** Once per game session, you may re-roll an Inquire (Converse) test and use the result of your preference.
- Upgrade:** No

Relief

You are able to help others get past emotional turmoil and psychological problems that can be detrimental to their job performance.

- Prerequisite:** Therapist
- Effect:** With a successful TN 15 Science: Social (Psychology) test, you can refresh 1 Courage point for a patient. The base time it take is 30 minutes, minus 5 minutes for every level of success greater than Complete. You can use this ability more than once per day, but a patient cannot gain the benefit of it more than once per day.
- Upgrade:** No

Sense Motive

By listening to others, you are able to determine the motives for their actions.

- Prerequisite:** Pry Secrets
- Effect:** You gain an affinity bonus to Inquire (Interview) tests from Science: Social for determining a person's motives. To determine a general, emotional motive is TN 15 while attempting to determine a specific motive is TN 20.
- Upgrade:** No

Therapist

You know how to delve into neuroses and counsel those who are in anguish.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You gain a +4 bonus to Science: Social (Psychology) tests.
- Upgrade:** No

Verbal Economy

You know how to say the right thing at the right time.

- Prerequisite:** Therapist or appropriate Language 6+
- Effect:** You make Influence tests in half the base amount of time, including extended tests.
- Upgrade:** No

• Engineer/Operations Officer

Table 39: Engineer/Operations Officer Abilities

Edge	Prerequisite	Upgrade?
24/7	None	No
A Wee Bit More	Never Say Die or Theoretical Application	No
Contingency	Ops Manager, must be at the Mission Ops station on the vessel	No
Cool Under Pressure	Station Proficiency	No
Cross-trained	Rounded or Station Proficiency	No
Duty Officer	None	Yes
Engineering Certification	None	No
Engineering Expertise	None	No
Exemplary Support	Cross-trained or Eyes on the Board, Ops Manager, Tactics 6+	No
Eyes on the Board	Cool Under Pressure	No
Fire Control Officer	None	No
Improvise	Engineering Certification	No
Miracle Worker	Engineering Expertise	Yes
Mr. Fix-it	None	No
Ops Manager	None	No
Professional Edge	Engineering: Systems 6+	No
Pure Theory	None	No
Solid Workmanship	Engineering Certification, Engineering: Systems 6+	No
Station Proficiency	None	No
System Overhaul	Improvise or Miracle Worker	No
Systems Technician	Duty Officer	No
Theoretical Application	Engineering Certification or Pure Theory	No

24/7

An engineer is always on duty and never let up in a crisis because fuel line leaks won't wait for you to finish your coffee.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You gain a +5 bonus to Stamina tests against Weariness.
Upgrade: No

A Wee Bit More

The bond between you and your vehicle or vessel is tight and when you need it, he will give you 110%.

Prerequisite: Never Say Die or Theoretical Application
Effect: You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for Engineering or Repair tests.
Upgrade: No

Contingency

You have a backup plan in case of an emergency.

Prerequisite: Ops Manager, must be at the Mission Ops station on the vessel
Effect: You may re-roll any reliability check for the vehicle or vessel's systems, including the test for transferring power, as a System Operation (Ops Manager) test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

Cool Under Pressure

You have undergone extensive emergency and crisis management training so that you are able to perform efficiently while under fire.

Prerequisite: Station Proficiency
Effect: When making a System Operation test, you may ignore all penalties due to distractions.
Upgrade: No

Cross-trained

You are well versed in many aspects and positions on a vessel and could perform competently in all of them.

Prerequisite: Rounded or Station Proficiency
Effect: When you perform a test specific to another Elite Profession, you may add your Intellect modifier to the test result.
Upgrade: No

Duty Officer

You specialize in the type of system that you charged in overseeing.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You immediately gain one specialty for System Operation and a +2 bonus to System Operation tests when using a specialty you have while all other System Operation tests have a -4 penalty.
Upgrade: Yes; twice. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2 bonus to System Operation tests with specialties you have and an additional -2 penalty to all other System Operation tests.

Engineering Certification

You have learned to operate archaic ground and/or aircraft.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You may use Repair, Computer Use, and all Engineering skills untrained.
Upgrade: No

Engineering Expertise

You have dedicated more of your time to one type of engineering over all others.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to a selected Engineering skill from Science: Physical.
Upgrade: No

Exemplary Support

You have been trained to work seamlessly with other crewmembers in a crisis situation.

Prerequisite: Cross-trained or Eyes on the Board, Ops Manager, Tactics 6+
Effect: Treat all Computer Use, System Operation, and Tactics tests with the command crew as combined tests, even if they are not normally. You make the same test at -5 TN and provide the test's "leader" with a bonus equal to the level of your success (+1 for Marginal Success, +2 for Complete Success, etc.).
Upgrade: No

Eyes on the Board

You have learned to keep your eyes and ears out for anything anomalous while at your duty station.

Prerequisite: Cool Under Pressure
Effect: You may add your Perception modifier to System Operation tests.
Upgrade: No

Fire Control Officer

Weapons control is just one of many systems you have been trained to use.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: Same as the Investigator/Security/Weapons Officer ability.
Upgrade: No

Improvise

You are able to do your work even when using inferior or inadequate tools.

Prerequisite: Engineering Certification
Effect: You may ignore all equipment penalties for all Engineering and Repair tests.
Upgrade: No

Miracle Worker

When it comes to crunch time, you are able to bring out your “A” game every time.

Prerequisite: Engineering Expertise
Effect: Same as the Businessman/Craftsman/Merchant Speedy Work ability when making tests for Engineering skill chosen for Engineering Expertise or Repair tests (choose one) including extended tests and repairs to a vehicle or vessel’s systems.
Upgrade: Yes; twice. Every time you pick this ability, you decrease the time for creating an item by an additional 25% of the base time (max 75% total).

Mr. Fix-it

You love to take things apart and put them back together to figure out how they work.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: If you have or when you acquire the Repair skill, you automatically gain all specialties.
Upgrade: No

Ops Manager

You are in charge of system utilization, power regulation, and other resources.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: At the beginning of a game session, you announce a System Operation specialty as “mission critical.” All System Operation tests made during the rest of the game session have a +1 bonus when the specialty is used.
Upgrade: No

Professional Edge

You are highly competent and show great professionalism in your duties.

Prerequisite: Engineering: Systems 6+
Effect: You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for any professional skill tests.
Upgrade: No

Pure Theory

You are fluent with the science that goes on behind the workings of your equipment.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: If you have or when you acquire the Science: Physical skill, you automatically gain one additional specialty and a +2 bonus to all Science: Physical tests.
Upgrade: No

Solid Workmanship

Your repairs stay repaired and patches stay patched.

Prerequisite: Engineering Certification, Engineering: Systems 6+
Effect: The reliability test for emergency system repair is made at -5 TN.
Upgrade: No

Station Proficiency

You are able to perform many tasks from any duty station on the vessel.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: Once per game session, you may re-roll one System Operation test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

System Overhaul

Every once in awhile an engineer takes the time to overhaul and modify the systems on his vehicle or vessel to upgrade it or maximize its efficiency or effect.

Prerequisite: Improvise or Miracle Worker
Effect: Once per chapter, select one system on a vehicle or vessel to overhaul. Make a TN 15 with the appropriate Engineering skill. If successful, the vehicle gains the Enhanced System trait and/or counts as 1 pick to the trait if it was already acquired for the selected system.
Upgrade: No

Systems Technician

You understand your equipment so well that you are able to complete minor repairs and recalibrations on the controls

Prerequisite: Duty Officer
Effect: Once per game session when making repairs, you may re-roll one Engineering: Systems or Repair test with an affinity bonus from Computer Use and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

Theoretical Application

Most engineers are trained in the practical application of theoretical knowledge.

Prerequisite: Engineering Certification or Pure Theory
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Repair and all Engineering skill from Science: Physical when attempting to repair equipment or systems.
Upgrade: No

• Explorer/Inventor

Table 40: Explorer/Inventor Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Applied Engineering	None	No
Brewing	<i>Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+ OR First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+ OR Science: Physical (Chemistry) +1</i>	Yes
Discovery	Surveyor	No
Grant	Enterprise: Administration 6+, Intellect 9+	No
Hardiness	None	No
Materiel Acquisition	Grant	No
Surveyor	None	No
Technical Enhancement	Technical Wizard	No
Technical Wizard	Technophile	No
Technophile	None	No
Tinkerer	Intellect 9+	No

Applied Engineering

You have a knack for creating and using your own equipment.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You may use all Engineering skill untrained and gain a free specialty upon acquiring your first rank in a new Engineering skill.
Upgrade: No

Brewing

Your knowledge of plants, herbs, and beasts allows you to brew poisons, elixirs, or create salves and poultices

Prerequisite: *Craft: Brewing (any specialty) 1+ OR First Aid (Herbal Remedies) 1+ OR Science: Physical (Chemistry) +1*
Effect: *You have the ability to create consumables that can be used to harm or help others depending on your Craft: Brewing specialties.*
Upgrade: *Yes. Every time you pick this ability, select a type of brewed item (determined by your specialties) and an aspect of it – the particular aspect's stage TN is reduced by -2 TN for the extended test to create the item.*

Discovery

Your reputation is based on discoveries and scientific reports.

Prerequisite: Surveyor
Effect: If you discover a new species, culture, religion, etc., make a TN 10 Science test of the appropriate skill with an affinity bonus from an appropriate Knowledge skill to determine its fame. If you score an Extraordinary Success, you gain +1 Renown at the end of the chapter.
Upgrade: No

Grant

Based on your reputation and the potential profitability of your work, you are able to secure a line of credit to purchase equipment, supplies, and other items and services for your work.

- Prerequisite:** Enterprise: Administration 6+, Intellect 9+
- Effect:** To obtain the credit amount you desire, you make a Enterprise: Administration test *of TN 7 +2 for every Wealth level your amount of credit desired is equivalent*. You must turnover all supplies, equipment, and data to your backer unless otherwise negotiated. If you fail to do so, the lender must make a recognition test against you with +5 TN. If it is successful, then you are labeled a bad credit risk and all Enterprise: Administration test TN's are doubled when for future dealings with the lender or any of his associates.
- Upgrade:** No

Hardiness

You are accustomed to and able to adapt to new and challenging environments.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You gain a +4 bonus to Survival tests.
- Upgrade:** No

Materiel Acquisition

You are able to acquire whatever equipment or resources your projects require.

- Prerequisite:** Grant
- Effect:** You are able to acquire all sorts of items from common goods (TN 5) to rare substances (TN 10) to hazardous substances (TN 15) to illegal substances (TN 20). When attempting to acquire one of these types of items, make an Enterprise: Administration test with an affinity bonus from your Enterprise: Streetwise skill. The degree of success will depend on how soon the item can be delivered: Marginal Success ($\frac{1}{2}$ -d6+3 days), Complete Success ($\frac{1}{2}$ -d6 days), Superior Success (3d6 hours), and Extraordinary Success (1d6+3 hours).
- Upgrade:** No

Surveyor

You are adept at making your way around in a realm, country, or on a planet.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You gain an affinity bonus to Inquire (Research) tests from either Science: Physical or Science: Social depending on the nature of your investigation.
- Upgrade:** No

Technical Enhancement

You are able to augment or redesign equipment so that they will perform at their peak capability.

- Prerequisite:** Technical Wizard
- Effect:** Once per chapter, select one device or system to enhance. Make an extended test with three stages, two TN 15 Engineering tests with the appropriate skill and one TN 15 Repair test. If successful, a system gains the Enhanced System trait and/or counts as 1 pick to the trait if it was already acquired for the selected system or a device has one aspect of its capabilities doubled (range, damage, etc.).
- Upgrade:** No

Technical Wizard

You are able to design and create new equipment faster than anyone else.

- Prerequisite:** Technophile
Effect: When making an Engineering or Repair test, you can either gain an affinity bonus from Science: Physical or perform the action in half the base amount of time, including extended tests. You must decide which effect to use before performing the test.
Upgrade: No

Technophile

You know how to make do with the equipment you have at hand.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: When making any Engineering or Repair tests, you may ignore equipment penalties up to -3 and double all equipment bonuses.
Upgrade: No

Tinkerer

You depend heavily upon your equipment and know how to keep it running.

- Prerequisite:** Intellect 9+
Effect: You can use Repair and all Engineering skills untrained. Also, once per game session, you may re-roll one Repair or Engineering test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

• Free Trader/Smuggler

Table 41: Free Trader/Smuggler Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Business Contacts	Business Savvy or Low Profile	No
Business Savvy	None	No
False Credentials	None	No
Long-hauler	Operate Vehicle or System Operation 3+	No
Low Profile	Enterprise: Streetwise 6+	No
Operator	The Trade	No
Shrewd	None	No
Stalwart Reputation	Shrewd, Business Contacts	No
The Trade	None	No

Business Contacts

Over time, you have gained associates who help run and/or finance your business.

- Prerequisite:** Business Savvy or Low Profile
Effect: Every time you complete a transaction with a new contract (buying or selling), you may make a TN 10 Enterprise: Administration test to acquire him as a trade partner. The degree of success will determine the person's reaction stance the next time you make a Debate (Negotiate) test with him: Indifferent for a Marginal or Complete Success, Cooperative for a Superior Success, and Loyal for an Extraordinary Success. The social test modifiers will pertain to all future dealings, but you can make a new Enterprise: Administration test to change the person's reaction stance (an Extraordinary Success improves his stance by one category and a failure worsens his stance by one category).
Upgrade: No

Business Savvy

You understand all aspects of business and can get yourself out of a bad deal that would lead to financial loss.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Once per game session, you may re-roll one Enterprise: Business test and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade: No

False Credentials

You created fake ID's and documents to help facilitate your bypassing of the authorities.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Influence (Bluff) from Forgery when trying to pass off false documents as the real thing.
Upgrade: No

Long-hauler

You own and command your own ship, airplane, or spacecraft.

- Prerequisite:** Operate Vehicle or System Operation 3+
Effect: Aboard your vehicle or vessel, you gain a +2 bonus to Operate Vehicle or System Operation tests and Influence tests to command your crew.
Upgrade: No

Low Profile

You know how to remain as inconspicuous as possible.

- Prerequisite:** Enterprise: Streetwise 6+
Effect: All recognition tests made against you are at +15 TN and you gain an affinity bonus to Influence (Bluff) from Conceal when dissembling to legal authorities.
Upgrade: No

Operator

You are able to competently pilot or operate the controls of your vehicle or vessel.

- Prerequisite:** The Trade
Effect: You gain 1 rank in either Operate Vehicle (specific vehicle) or System Operation (Nav Control) and the skill is considered a profession skill for acquiring ranks. Also, you may re-roll, once per test, any failed Operate Vehicle or System Operation test when attempting to evade pursuing vehicles or vessels.
Upgrade: No

Shrewd

You range throughout a region, knowing the local prices of certain wares.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus Debate (Bargain) tests from Knowledge: World when making a test against a buyer from a realm, country, or planet that you are familiar with. If you score an Extraordinary Success, you are able to get a price 10% higher than normal.
Upgrade: No

Stalwart Reputation

You have made a reputation in the trade business through cunning and a bit of luck.

Prerequisite: Shrewd, Business Contacts
Effect: Whenever you achieve any number of Extraordinary Successes in a chapter for Enterprise: Business or Debate (Bargain) tests, you gain +1 Renown.
Upgrade: No

The Trade

Concealing items and cargo from the authorities is your bread and butter.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You gain +4 bonus to Conceal tests.
Upgrade: No

• Helm/Flight Control/Navigator/Pilot

Table 42: Helm/Flight Control/Navigator/Pilot Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Archaic Vehicles	None	Yes
By the Seat of Your Pants	Natural Navigator, Science: Space (Astrogation) or Survival 6+	No
Combat Piloting	Evasive Maneuvers	No
Dogfighter	None	No
Evasive Maneuvers	System Operation (Nav Control) or Operate Vehicle (appropriate vehicle) 6+	No
Hide in Plain View	None	No
Hot Hands	Agility 6+	No
Natural Navigator	None	No
Navigation	None	No
Systems Technician	Engineering: Systems 6+	No
Wheelman	Hot Hands, Engineering: Systems 3+	No
You Call That a Storm?	Atmospheric Craft, Hot Hands	No

Archaic Vehicles

You have learned to operate archaic ground and/or aircraft.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to appropriate Operate Vehicle and/or System Operation tests with vehicles of Current TL -1 and lower.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2.

By the Seat of Your Pants

Through great instinct and some dumb luck, you are able to guide your vehicle or vessel to destinations faster than most thought possible without pushing your craft beyond normal limits.

Prerequisite: Natural Navigator, Science: Space (Astrogation) or Survival 6+
Effect: With a Science: Space (Astrogation) or Survival test of TN 10 + vehicle's applicable maximum speed, the vehicle will arrive at its destination as if it were travelling at the craft's maximum speed as if it were pushing the vehicle's propulsion without the harmful side effects.
Upgrade: No

Combat Piloting

You have honed your reflexes and timing through extensive time spent in flight simulators and battle simulations.

Prerequisite: Evasive Maneuvers
Effect: You may perform +1 Helm combat maneuvers without incurring multiple action penalties.
Upgrade: No

Dogfighter

Tactics you have learned in training serve you and your vessel well.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: All Helm combat maneuvers gain a +2 bonus to results when you are at the helm.
Upgrade: No

Evasive Maneuvers

It is your duty to get your vehicle out of harm's way or maneuver to a better tactical position.

Prerequisite: System Operation (Nav Control) or Operate Vehicle (appropriate vehicle) 6+
Effect: When performing a Helm maneuver, you roll 3d6 and choose the best two before adding any modifiers. The double sixes rule still applies.
Upgrade: No

Hide in Plain View

You are taught to use all sorts of tricks of environmental phenomena (fog, forest, tails of a comet, etc.) to hide your vessel.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: All tests to spot your vehicle or vessel or locate on sensors gain a +2 TN.
Upgrade: No

Hot Hands

It's all in the reflexes.

Prerequisite: Agility 6+
Effect: When making Swiftess tests, you roll 3d6 and choose the best two before adding any modifiers. The double sixes rule still applies.
Upgrade: No

Natural Navigator

You are able to find your way through even the most difficult of conditions, terrain, or interstellar hazards.

Prerequisite: None
Effect: You gain a +4 bonus to Science: Space (Astrogation) tests.
Upgrade: No

Navigation

While anyone can punch in coordinates or set an autopilot, true helmsmen receive extensive training in plotting courses and navigating about all sorts of hazards.

Prerequisite:	None
Effect:	You gain an affinity bonus to System Operation (Nav Control) or Operate Vehicle (appropriate vehicle) from Science: Physical (Mathematics).
Upgrade:	No

Systems Technician

You understand your equipment so well that you are able to complete minor repairs and recalibrations on the controls.

Prerequisite:	Engineering: Systems 6+
Effect:	Once per game session when making repairs, you may re-roll one Engineering: Systems or Repair test with an affinity bonus from System Operation (Nav Control) or Operate Vehicle (appropriate Vehicle) and use the result of your preference.
Upgrade:	No

Wheelman

A vehicle is a vehicle, regardless when it was made.

Prerequisite:	Hot Hands, Engineering: Systems 3+
Effect:	You gain an affinity bonus to Operate Vehicle from System Operation.
Upgrade:	No

You Call That a Storm?

After lengthy time spent out in the terrible conditions of outer space, a force 5 hurricane are nothing.

Prerequisite:	Atmospheric Craft, Hot Hands
Effect:	Ignore all penalties to System Operation (Nav Control) or Operate Vehicle tests due to poor visibility, adverse weather conditions, etc.
Upgrade:	No

• Investigator/Security/Weapons Officer

Table 43: Investigator/Security/Weapons Officer Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Coordination	Security Protocols	No
Deduction	Telling Detail	No
Favored Style	None	Yes
Fire Control Officer	None	No
Gumshoe	None	No
Physically Fit	Hardy, Strength 8+	No
Reconnaissance	Perception 8+	No
Responsive	Physically Fit	Yes
Security Protocols	None	No
Subdue	None	Yes
Telling Detail	Security Protocols	No
Thinks Like A...	None	Yes
Weapons Specialist	None	Yes

Coordination

You are able to coordinate and direct tactical operations.

- Prerequisite:** Security Protocols
Effect: Make a TN 10 System Operation (Tactical) test with an affinity bonus from Tactics. Those whom you direct in unit combat gain a bonus to Command maneuvers depending on your level of success (+1 for a Marginal Success, +2 for a Complete Success, etc.).
Upgrade: No

Deduction

Sometimes even the most experienced and intelligent investigator requires some help and a little luck.

- Prerequisite:** Telling Detail
Effect: Same as the Alchemist/Loremaster/Scientist/Wise-man Theorize ability where it concerns possible criminal activity (murder, theft, etc.).
Upgrade: No

Favored Style

You know all the operational procedures concerning your duty station.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Select an Unarmed Combat style. You gain an additional +2 bonus when using the selected style and a -4 penalty to use other styles. *Note: This ability can only be acquired for one style only.*
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you gain an additional +2 bonus to use the selected style and -2 to use other styles (max +6/-8 total).

Fire Control Officer

You are the go-to guy when your vehicle or vessel is in combat.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain a +2 bonus to Weapons Combat maneuvers while at the tactical console for the vehicle or vessel.
Upgrade: No

Gumshoe

You excel at criminal investigation and the forensic sciences.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: If you have or when you acquire the Inquire skill, you automatically gain one additional specialty and a +2 bonus to all Inquire tests.
Upgrade: No

Physically Fit

Through demanding physical training, you have increased your strength and endurance.

- Prerequisite:** Hardy, Strength 8+
Effect: You gain +1 Stamina and double your attribute bonus for Strength, Vitality, and Athletics tests.
Upgrade: No

Reconnaissance

You've been taught observation techniques for investigating their surroundings for hazards, enemies, etc.

- Prerequisite:** Perception 8+
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Inquire (Investigate) tests from Observe. Also, you can make a TN 10 Observe test to identify any conditions that would confer physical test modifiers (bonuses and penalties) in a given area and the extent that they would affect combat (Low: ± 1 -2, Medium: ± 3 -4, High: ± 5 or greater).
Upgrade: No

Responsive

You are trained to respond to threats faster than most.

- Prerequisite:** Physically Fit
Effect: Same as the Mercenary/Seaman/Soldier/Warrior Swift Strike ability, but for Armed, Ranged, and Unarmed Combat actions.
Upgrade: Yes. Same as the Mercenary/Seaman/Soldier/Warrior Swift Strike ability, but for Armed, Ranged, and Unarmed Combat actions.

Security Protocols

You know all the operational procedures concerning your duty station.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to System Operation (Security and Tactical) from Computer Use.
Upgrade: No

Subdue

You have been taught to value and respect all life.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Select one of these skills: Armed Combat: Club, Armed Combat: Whip, Ranged Combat: Guns, Ranged Combat: Energy Weapons, or any Unarmed Combat skill. When making a test to stun or restrain an opponent, you gain a +3 bonus to the selected skill test.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you must select another skill to gain the same bonus.

Telling Detail

It is difficult for minute details to be missed by your practiced eye.

- Prerequisite:** Security Protocols
Effect: You gain an affinity bonus to Observe from Inquire.
Upgrade: No

Thinks Like A...

As all schools of criminal science stand by, studying and understanding the criminal mind is vital to successfully apprehending them.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Same as the Captain/Command Officer/Knight ability.
Upgrade: Yes. Same as the Captain/Command Officer/Knight ability.

Weapons Specialist

You excel at the use of a specific vehicle weapon.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Select a main weapon of the vehicle or vessel. When making a System Operation (Weapons) or Ranged Combat test to fire the weapon, you gain a +2 bonus to the result.
Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you must select a new vehicle or vessel weapon.

• Ranger/Special Forces

Table 44: Ranger/Special Forces Abilities

<u>Edge</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Upgrade?</u>
Camouflage	None	Yes
Covert Ops	None	No
Demolitions Expert	None	Yes
Hard March	<i>Survival</i> 6+	Yes
Mission Specialist	<i>Intellect</i> 9+	Yes
New Order Skill	None	Yes
Protector	1 other Ranger/Special Forces ability, Oath-bound, any Combat skill 8+	Yes
Reconnaissance	<i>Perception</i> 8+	No
Requisitioning	Mission Specialist, leader of a special forces unit	No
Retreat	None	Yes
Sabotage	Demolitions Expert, <i>Intellect</i> 8+	Yes
Survival Training	None	No
Trackless Step	<i>Survival</i> 9+ or <i>Observe (Track)</i> 6+	Yes
Unbreakable	<i>Vitality</i> 9+	No
Wilderness Lore	None	No

Camouflage

You have learned how to use special clothes, dyes, paint, and natural elements to conceal yourself in the wilderness.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: Make a TN 5 Conceal (Camouflage) test. You gain a bonus to all Stealth tests equal to 1 +1 for every level of success you achieve. This bonus lasts as long as you are in the wilderness.
Upgrade: Yes; once. You may extend the bonus to others characters in the wilderness.

Covert Ops

Your work depends on your ability to remain hidden and discreet.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You gain a +3 bonus to Stealth tests.
Upgrade: No

Demolitions Expert

You specialize in sabotaging equipment and blowing things up.

- Prerequisite:** None
Effect: You make Demolitions and Repair (Sabotage) tests in 25% of the base time.
Upgrade: Yes; twice. Every time you pick this ability, you further reduce the base time to make Demolitions and Repair (Sabotage) tests by 25% (max 75% total).

Hard March

You are accustomed to journeying long distances and over all sorts of terrain, doing it swiftly nonetheless.

- Prerequisite:** *Survival 6+*
- Effect:** Select a specialty. You may move at normal movement through this type of terrain regardless of the conditions, barring any impediments that would normally be impossible to overcome such as a blocked or non-existent pass, a very wide river, etc.
- Upgrade:** Yes. *Every time you pick this ability, you may select a new specialty to gain this benefit for.*

Mission Specialist

You excel in one or small group of niche skills and act as the mission specialist for performing certain tasks.

- Prerequisite:** Intellect 9+
- Effect:** Select one of these skills: Computer Use, Demolitions, Enterprise: Administration, Enterprise: Streetwise, First Aid, Forgery, Inquire (Interrogate), Knowledge: Culture, Knowledge: World or Knowledge: Country or Knowledge: Realm, Repair, or System Operation. You gain 1 rank in this skill and one free specialty (even if you have already acquired the skill). The skill is also regarded as a profession skill for the purposes of advancement.
- Upgrade:** Yes; ten times. Every time you pick this ability, you may select a new skill and specialty.

New Order Skill

During your many travels to distant locations, you encounter and learn many new and interesting things.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** Select a skill that is not listed as one of your profession skills. This skill is now considered a profession skill for the purposes of acquiring ranks during advancement.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, choose a new skill.

Protector

Part of your job is to defend, preserve, and protect people, often when they are unaware of dangers while in the midst of harm's way.

- Prerequisite:** 1 other Ranger/Special Forces/Weaponsmaster ability, Oath-bound, any Combat skill 8+
- Effect:** Select a group of people to protect. You gain a +2 bonus to attack and parry/block tests when fighting those who threaten those whom you are protecting. It is at the Narrator's discretion if there is any doubt about those who may threaten people from your group.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you may select a new group to protect.

Reconnaissance

You've been taught observation techniques for investigating their surroundings for hazards, enemies, etc.

- Prerequisite:** Perception 8+
- Effect:** You gain an affinity bonus to Inquire (Investigate) tests from Observe. Also, you can make a TN 10 Observe test to identify any conditions that would confer physical test modifiers (bonuses and penalties) in a given area and the extent that they would affect combat (Low: $\pm 1-2$, Medium: $\pm 3-4$, High: ± 5 or greater).
- Upgrade:** No

Requisitioning

You are able to get the equipment and supplies needed to carry out your mission.

- Prerequisite:** Mission Specialist, leader of a special forces unit
- Effect:** You are able to acquire equipment needed for your mission through your quartermaster, underground contacts, or employer from weapons (TN 10) to special gear (TN 15) to restricted/illegal weapons and explosives (TN 20). When attempting to acquire one of these types of items, make an Enterprise: Administration test with an affinity bonus from your Enterprise: Streetwise skill. The degree of success will depend on how soon the item can be delivered: Marginal Success ($\frac{1}{2}$ -d6+3 days), Complete Success ($\frac{1}{2}$ -d6 days), Superior Success (3d6 hours), and Extraordinary Success (1d6+3 hours).
- Upgrade:** No

Retreat

You have a place to hide, store supplies, and plan your actions.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You have a secret hideout that no one knows about. For others to find your retreat requires a TN 15 Inquire (Search) test modified by your Forgery affinity bonus if it is a house, apartment, or building in a town or city or Conceal affinity bonus if it is in not in a populated area or a secret room in a building or underground within a populated area.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, increase the base TN to find your retreat by +3 TN.

Sabotage

You know how to disable or destroy equipment and systems.

- Prerequisite:** Demolitions Expert, Intellect 8+
- Effect:** Select one of these skills: Computer Use, Demolitions, any Engineering, or System Operation. You gain 1 rank in this skill and the Sabotage specialty. The skill is also regarded as a profession skill for the purposes of advancement.
- Upgrade:** Yes; five times. Every time you pick this ability, you may select a new skill.

Survival Training

You have been trained in techniques for survival in a multitude of environments.

- Prerequisite:** None
- Effect:** You gain a +2 bonus to all Survival tests and an additional +2 bonus when using a specialty.
- Upgrade:** No

Trackless Step

So woodcrafty you are that you can walk through natural areas without leaving a trail or traces of your passage behind.

- Prerequisite:** Survival 9+ or Observe (Track) 6+
- Effect:** Select a Survival specialty that you have. Those who attempt to track you in this environment have a -8 penalty to their Observe (Track) test.
- Upgrade:** Yes. Every time you pick this ability, you may select a new specialty to gain this benefit for or increase the tracking penalty by -2 (max -12 total).

Unbreakable

You are able to resist the harshest physical punishments.

Prerequisite: Vitality 9+

Effect: You may ignore up to -3 in penalties from injury, stun effects, and Weariness and the cost to purchase Stamina at advancements is reduced by one pick.

Upgrade: No

Wilderness Lore

You are quite knowledgeable in the ways of the wild that you amaze even your peers.

Prerequisite: None

Effect: You gain an additional +2 bonus when using Courage for any wilderness-related skills such as Observe (Track), Survival, *Handle Animal*, or other tests that the Narrator deems acceptable to apply the bonus for.

Upgrade: No

Additional Rules for Consideration

Abilities and the No-Professions Rule

If a Narrator has decided to not use professions in his game, then he has also decided that characters can acquire any abilities available, meeting the prerequisites in advance of course. Determining the scheme for available abilities would work the same way as having professions, but I would advocate using the Tier system as I think it provides more security against power-gaming.

Creating Abilities

Low-Powered Abilities

These abilities usually provide a simple bonus to a skill, a set of skills, or reaction that is on par or more powerful than the average Edge or Combat Trait. A +3 bonus to a basic skill, +2 bonus to a set of obscure or specialist skills, +2 bonus to a reaction, or +3 or more bonus to a reaction for a specific condition are good examples for this kind of ability. These abilities typically should not have prerequisites nor allow for upgrades.

Moderate-Powered Abilities

These abilities usually build upon skills or other abilities by providing greater bonuses or more powerful effects. Skill bonuses can usually take the form of relating it to another skill. A bonus to System Operation (Nav Control) from Space: Science by dividing the number of ranks in Space: Science by 2, rounding down, is a good example. These abilities will have at least a low-powered ability as their prerequisite and/or number of ranks in a skill between 4 and 7; a related trait along with either the ability or skill also makes for a reasonable prerequisite.

High-Powered Abilities

These abilities are either abilities that build upon lesser-powered abilities or have very powerful effects with correspondingly high prerequisites. Allowing a spacecraft pilot to attempt to send the ship forward or backward in time, allowing additional actions per combat round, or allow an engineer to create amazing experimental devices are good examples. These abilities have the potential to unbalance a game or nullify a Narrator's best-laid plans for adventure so care is needed in both creating them and their use in the game.

Determining an Ability Scheme

Regardless of the ability scheme that is used, it is advised to be consistent between both Basic and Elite Professions.

Prerequisites

This is the simplest way to segregate abilities. Usually the most fundamental or least powerful of abilities have no or very low prerequisites while the more powerful and exotic abilities have many and/or very high prerequisites. This is how the Lord of the Rings RPG delineates abilities.

This scheme allows the freedom to make up abilities with no regard to the security of hierarchy. The catch is to be aware of the relative power of the abilities and to set the prerequisites accordingly so that beginning or low-level characters could not attain powerful abilities very quickly.

Tiers

The tiered system uses both prerequisites and an additional feature of ability hierarchy to segregate abilities for professions. In this manner, a Tier I ability must be acquired before higher tiered abilities, even if the character already meets the prerequisites. Tier I abilities have no prerequisites. Tier II abilities have a prerequisite or either a Tier I ability and/or a skill with a minimum of ranks and/or traits. Tier III abilities have prerequisites of Tier I and/or Tier II abilities and/or traits. This is how the Star Trek RPG delineates abilities.

This scheme gives the security that there will be certain abilities available to beginning characters and that more powerful abilities are not always or easily available to low-level characters. The catch is that abilities associated in the same tier should have similar relative power in their effects and prerequisite(s).

Prerequisites and Abilities with Multiple Picks

When an ability's prerequisite mentions other unnamed profession abilities, additional picks of an applicable ability would count as an individual ability. For example, the Conjurer/Mage/Magician ability Endurance requires Spellcasting and 2 unnamed profession abilities. Spellcasting and Spell Focus 2 would cover the prerequisite.

SYSTEM RULES

Tests

In the CODA system, the outcome of actions is determined by the results of tests. This is the format of a standard test; attribute, reaction, and skill tests are variations on this theme:

$$\text{Test Result} = 2d6 + \text{modifiers} - \text{penalties}$$

The test result is then compared to a target number (TN) which refers to action's difficulty. The amount of the result exceeds or misses the TN determines the overall success or failure of the test.

Rolling 6's

When rolling dice for any test or dealing damage, having all the dice come up with 6's is a very special situation. Unless specified in a given situation, roll an additional 1d6 until a 6 does not come up; the total of all the dice rolled is then added to the total modifier for the test to get the test result.

Test Difficulty, Target Numbers, and Modifiers

A test's difficulty establishes the severity of the challenge posed by the action the character attempts, ranging from Simple to Virtually Impossible. To determine the difficulty of a test, the Narrator must decide the general difficulty category the action belongs to (refer to the table below). The difficulty category gives the Narrator the base TN for the character's test. The attribute and skill descriptions in earlier chapters provide specific TN's for typical game situations.

Table 45: Standard Target Numbers

<u>Difficulty Category</u>	<u>Base TN</u>
Routine	5
Standard	10
Challenging	15
Difficult	20
Virtually Impossible	25

After the Narrator determines the base TN, he must consider any factors that might increase or decrease the base TN and modify the TN accordingly. These factors may include adverse lighting, surface conditions, equipment availability, or cultural biases. It is for these reasons that the tests are grouped into three categories: Academic, Physical, and Social. Except in unusual circumstances, there should be few modifiers that apply to any given test. The tables below outline a number of possible factors that could modify a given test.

Table 46: Academic Test Modifiers

DISTRACTIONS

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Modifier</u>
Situated in comfortable surroundings	±0 TN
Engaged in a life-threatening situation	+5 to +10 TN
Affected by loud noise/talking	+3 to +6 TN
Affected by environmental factors	½ physical modifier (see Table 47)

MEMORY LOSS

Suffers from mind-altering drug/toxin	+5 to +10 TN
Suffers from selective amnesia	+3 to +9 TN
Suffers from near total amnesia	+10 to +15 TN

Table 47: Physical Test Modifiers

EXTREME TEMPERATURE		
Temperate		±0 TN
Uncomfortable heat/cold		±2 TN
Extreme heat/cold		±5 TN
TERRAIN		
Flat/unobstructed terrain		±0 TN
Uneven/lightly obstructed terrain		±3 TN
Broken/heavily obstructed terrain		±5 to ±10 TN
On moving ship/boat		+2 TN
Slick surface/uncertain footing		+3 TN
Slippery surface/poor footing		+7 TN
Disadvantageous position		+3 to +9 TN
Advantageous position		-3 to -7 TN
VISIBILITY & LIGHTING		
Clear visibility/ideal lighting		±0 TN
Dim lighting		±2 TN
Darkness		±5 TN
Light smoke/fog		±2 TN
Heavy smoke/fog		±5 TN
Light rain		±1 TN
Heavy rain		± 3 TN
OTHER MODIFIERS		
Difference in opponent's Size		±2 TN/level of difference
Using off-hand		+8 TN

Note: The use of the “±” means that the modifier is used in a way specific to the test. If a Stealth test was used in dim lighting, the modifier would be used as a minus to the test's TN while the modifier would be used as a plus to the test's TN for a Search or an Observe test.

Table 48: Social Test Modifiers

INTERACTION STANCE		
	Condition	Modifier
	Target is loyal/devoted	-10 TN
	Target is friendly/pacifistic	-5 TN
	Target is indifferent	±0 TN
	Target is aggressive/unfriendly	+5 TN
	Target is hostile/violent	+10 TN
	Target speaks a different native language	±0 to +15 TN
	Target is of the same country	±0 to -5 TN
	Target and character of different race	+0 to +10 TN
OTHER MODIFIERS*		
	Environmental factors making communication difficult	1.5 x physical modifier, rounded up
	Demonstrates evidence or sincerity	-3 to -9 TN

* - The modifiers in Table 63 can be used as well for helping decide opposing social tests like Persuade, Debate, etc.

Types of Tests

Attribute Tests

All characters possess at least six defining attributes that measure a character's personal endowment in each of these areas. Attribute scores translate into fixed modifiers and these are added to the 2d6 dice roll for an attribute test. Attributes tests are used when skill isn't required to accomplish the feat like lifting a heavy object or catching something before it hits the ground.

$$\text{Attribute Test Result} = 2d6 + \text{Attribute Modifier} + \text{Miscellaneous Modifiers}$$

Reaction Tests

Although characters generally make attribute tests when exercising their raw talents, but sometimes they are required to resist outside influence, which is typically hostile. These types of tests are called reaction tests, using the reaction score and modifiers for given situations as listed in Chapter 2.

$$\text{Reaction Test Result} = 2d6 + \text{Reaction Score} + \text{Miscellaneous Modifiers}$$

Skill Tests

Most tests in the game will come in the form of skill tests such as when a character wishes to brew a potion, cast a spell, or speak a different language. As with attributes and reactions, characters show a level of progression, in this case experience and competence, for skills; this is measured in ranks, which is added to the test roll. Because natural talent also augments a character's level of competence, their attribute modifiers are added to the test roll.

$$\text{Skill Test Result} = 2d6 + \text{Attribute Modifier} + \text{Skill Ranks} + \text{Miscellaneous Modifiers}$$

Skill tests results can be augmented by a number of factors. First, skill specialties confer a +2 bonus, if the skill has specialties. Second, affinities gained through similar skill or unique conditions can grant a bonus from +1 and higher.

Some skills tests can be attempted without having any ranks in the skill; this is referred to as an untrained attempt. When a skill test is an untrained attempt, use the following equation, the -2 penalty is due to unfamiliarity with the skill:

$$\text{Untrained Skill Attempt} = 2d6 + \text{Attribute Modifier} + \text{Miscellaneous Modifiers} - 2$$

Sometimes certain tests would be considered impossible due in the current conditions of the attempt. If this is the case, the Narrator could either declare the attempt impossible, set the TN to a very high number to let the character attempt, or set the TN to 30 and require the character expend as much Courage as possible to make the attempt successful.

Lastly concerning skill tests are repeated attempts for certain skills and situations. They may be allowed if a previous attempt failed, but with a cumulative -2 penalty as well as having the possibility remain that the entire attempt may fail regardless.

Variant Tests

Regardless of test type, some tests warrant special rules due to the nature of the challenge. The types of test variants are discussed below.

Opposed Tests

Whenever a test's success or failure depends on the actions of a character's opponent, the Narrator may call for an opposed test. When this happens, each contestant rolls for his test and the one who has the highest score is the winner; degrees of success are then based off the opponent's score.

Table 49: Sample Opposed Tests

Situation	Character's Test	Opponent's Test
Acting in disguise	Disguise	Observe (Spot) or Wisdom
Bargaining	Debate (Bargain)	Debate (Bargain)
Competing at games	Games	Games
Dodging spells	Ranged Combat: Spells	Swiftness
Foot race	Athletics: Run	Athletics: Run
Hiding	Stealth (Hide)	Observe (Spot)
Searching	Observe (Spot) or Inquire (Search)	Stealth (Hide) or Conceal

Combined Tests

Some challenges are so broad or encompassing that they require multiple characters to combine their effort into resolving the situation. Examples of this would be a group searching an area for an item or pulling open a door; to account for the teamwork needed, the Narrator initiates a combined test. After the Narrator sets the TN for the test, the characters select one of them to be the leader. Everyone but the leader makes the test at TN -5 to determine their effectiveness of their contribution. A Marginal or Complete Success grants a +1 bonus to the leader's test, a Superior Success grants a +2 bonus, and an Extraordinary Success grants a +3 bonus. On the other hand failure could give penalties – a Failure grants a +0 bonus to the leader's test, a Complete Failure grants a -1 penalty, and a Disastrous Failure grants a -2 penalty. Once the team members have complete their contribution attempts, the leader makes his test with the total bonus/penalty from the team members. Just as a note, not all tests that may require combined tests can have them made as some situations may not allow it like trying to fit a whole group of people in a small hallway to pull a door open.

Extended Tests

Extended tests apply to complex and/or protracted actions such as brewing a potion, creating an item, or repairing something that is broken. Tests may also, for dramatic effect require the use of different skills or abilities for different stages to complete it. To establish an extended test, first decide what attributes and skills will play a role in the action. Second, break the test into a number of stages (a time interval such as rounds, minutes, hours, etc.), where at the end of each interval a test is performed. Third, set a TN for test roll, noting each individual test's requirements. Then add all the TN's together to determine the aggregate TN for the extended test. Finally, determine the amount of time required to make the test by multiplying the number of individual tests by the time interval; this can allow the character to finish the test faster than normal by achieving Superior and Extraordinary Successes while making it take longer due to failures. Because extended tests translate a number of repeated attempts into elapsed game time, they are especially useful for heightening the tension and drama as characters race against the clock.

When a player rolls each test sequentially, add the incremental test results together. When the total of the tests meets or exceeds the aggregate TN, the action is complete. If the skill or Narrator-defined test allows it, a player can retry a failed test but that will require the expenditure of another time interval and the failed test results does not add to the incremental test results. Complete or Disastrous Failures, may even cause penalties to further rolls, increase subsequent TN's, cause further delays, or even ruin the attempt in it's entirety. If an extended test requires different attribute or skill tests, do not let the character continue on to a test with a new attribute or skill until they have surpassed the test TN for the current stage of the test.

Time

Time plays a crucial role in many game adventures. Within the game, time breaks down into five generic and abstract intervals that are subsequently described: action rounds, scenes, chapters, narratives, and interludes.

Action Round

Action rounds are the smallest intervals of time in the game, representing about 6 seconds of real time – the amount of time needed to avoid an attack, draw your wand, or thrust your sword. A lot of the drama in the games revolve around tense and often life-threatening moments of action, so whenever the characters are involved in fast-paced feats one after another, the story moves in sequential rounds. The number of actions a character can make in an action round are defined by his “action allowance.”

Scene

Scenes are increments of time of varying length in which a particular goal or purpose are had in mind by the Narrator. Scenes can last several minutes to an hour or more and end when the goal or purpose has been met. The characters will then move on to the next scene. A scene could be a conversation with NPC's or a combat sequence.

Chapter

Chapters in the game, similar to those in a book; represent a number of different scenes and interludes made by the Narrator which can take place over hours, days, or longer in game time.

Narrative

Narratives consist of two or more chapters, a sequence of adventures often ending in a important and often climactic scene. For example, the face-off between the main characters and a villain or obtaining a particularly powerful magical item before it fell into the hands of a Dark Wizard.

Interlude

Narrators use interludes when describing events beyond the first-hand experience of the PC's or to account for ordinary activities that don't warrant detailed narration. Generally, Narrators use these to gloss over unimportant details between scenes and chapters.

Actions

In a CODA-based game, characters accomplish important or time-critical things by attempting or performing actions. An action represents a singular feat such as running down a hall, casting a spell, or climbing a cliff. You can often assume minor or menial tasks automatically succeed without the need for rolling dice. But when situations are meant to challenge PC's, the Narrator will break them down into manageable actions, often occurring in a sequential order. Determining what a character can and cannot and letting him decide what he wishes to attempt is one of the things that makes the game so fun and challenging to play.

The rest of this chapter presents an assortment of actions that characters commonly perform during the game's chapters. These actions fall into one of several categories, including movement actions (running, diving, climbing), combat actions (aiming, casting spells, striking a blow), free actions (dropping an object, issuing a command), and full-round actions (searching for a concealed object, deciphering an unknown script). **A typical character can perform 2 standard actions per combat round normally;** spells or abilities may grant additional actions.

Further actions may be possible (except for full-round actions), at the Narrator's discretion, but would incur a cumulative -5 penalty to the test (-5, -10, -15, etc.). If an action costs more than 1 to perform, the action's test is affected by the largest penalty. If an action without a specific test is attempted and would incur a penalty to a test, then an applicable attribute test is required with a TN equal to the test penalty. For example, if a character has used his 2 actions and attempts to make one additional Walk action, he must make a TN 5 Agility test to successfully perform that action. If actions are done outside combat, ignore the action cost and penalties for multiple actions.

Movement and Travel

Table 50: Movement Based on Size

<u>Size</u>	<u>Walk Distance Per Action</u>	<u>Walk Distance Per Hour</u>
Miniscale or smaller	1 inch	100 yards
Tiny	1 foot	250 yards
Little	1 yard	1 mile
Small	3 yards	2 miles
Medium	6 yards	3 miles
Large	12 yards	10 miles
Huge	24 yards	25 miles
Mammoth	48 yards	50 miles
Gigantic	96 yards	100 miles
Titanic	180 yards	200 miles
Titanic +X	180 + X*180 yards	200 + X*200 miles

Table 51: Encumbrance

<u>Load (lbs.)</u>	<u>Movement Penalty</u>	<u>Physical Test Modifier</u>
<i>Average burden (up to Strength x5)</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>±0</i>
<i>Moderate burden (Strength x6-10)</i>	<i>¾ normal pace, rounded down; cannot Sprint</i>	<i>-2</i>
<i>Heavy burden (Strength x10-20)</i>	<i>½ normal pace, rounded down; cannot Run</i>	<i>-5</i>
<i>Very Heavy burden (Strength x21-30)</i>	<i>¼ normal pace, rounded down; cannot Jog</i>	<i>-10</i>
<i>Extreme burden (Strength x31+)</i>	<i>Cannot walk</i>	<i>-15</i>

Table 52: Sample Movement Actions

<u>Action</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Test</u>
Walk	1	See Table 9-x	**
Crawl/Step	1	½ Walk effect	**
Jog	1	½ Run effect	**
Run	2	*	**
Sprint	Full Round	Run effect x 1.5	N/A
Swim	1	*	**
Jump	1	*	**
Climb	1	*	**
Drop prone	1	Lay prone on the ground	**
Stand from prone	1	Get up from prone	**

* - See Athletics skill description

** - Attribute test equal to the test penalty is required if performed after action allowance is used

Table 53: Sample Free Actions

<u>Action*</u>	<u>Effect</u>
Command	Issue a command of ≤10 words
Drop Object	Drop item/weapon to the ground
Target	Acquire a new target in combat
Warn/Alert	Shout a warning or alert

* - Environmental factors (noise, smoke, etc.) may warrant a test for specific actions

Table 54: Sample Full-Round and Extended Actions

Action	Effect	Test
Hide	Hide in cover or shadows	Stealth (TN variable)
Inspirational Speech	Inspire others with words	Inspire (TN variable)
Perform Healing	Treat Wounds	First Aid (TN variable)
Repair Weapon	Fix damaged weapon	Craft (TN variable)
Search	Search 1 yd x 1 yd area	Search (TN variable)

Combat

Of all the action sequences in a game, personal combat is probably the most dramatic due to the potential of physical harm or even death. Although it can be broken down into simple skill resolution, combat is more involved than other situations from the number of modifiers and options available.

Basics

Running combat is simple enough: the characters resolve surprise, if there is any, roll their initiative, then, when it is their turn, spend their 2 standard actions (plus more with penalties if the Narrator so allows), and finally begin again at the start of a new round. Re-rolling initiative at the beginning of a new round is at the discretion of the Narrator.

Surprise

The Narrator determines if the character(s) is/are surprised by having him/them make a TN 10 Observe (Spot) test with the appropriate modifiers. Being caught by surprise allows the other(s) to gain first initiative through combat and lose one action in the first round of combat.

Combat Tests

Combat involves combat actions while fighting in close-quarters (armed or unarmed attacks) or from a distance (ranged attacks). When a character uses a Combat skill to perform an attack, he must make a Combat skill test. The base difficulty of the attack is his opponent's Defence. Physical test and combat modifiers may apply. For ranged attacks, refer to the weapon's range increments for additional bonuses or penalties to the test. Scoring a Marginal Success or better indicates a successful attack. The attacker rolls the weapon's damage dice to determine the amount damage dealt by the attack. Greater degrees of success indicate greater damage as well. To avoid damage from a successful attack, the opponent must perform a opposed Dodge or Parry/Block test with a TN equal to the attacker's Combat test result; only Dodge actions are effective for ranged attacks.

Table 55: Armed and Unarmed Combat Modifiers

Situation	Modifier
Defender prone	-5 TN
Attacker in advantageous position	-1 to -3 TN
Defender in advantageous position	+1 to +3 TN
Off-hand penalty	+8 TN

Table 56: Ranged Combat Modifiers

RANGE CATEGORY

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Modifier</u>
Point Blank range	-2 TN
Short range	±0 TN
Medium range	+2 TN
Long range	+4 TN
Extended range	+6 TN
Extended +X range	6+(X*2) TN

SITUATION

Defender prone	+5 TN
Attacker in advantageous position	-1 to -5 TN
Defender in advantageous position	+1 to +5 TN
Attacker on horseback	+4 TN

TARGET MOTION

Pace is 3-6 yd/round	+2 TN
Pace is 7-12 yd/round	+4 TN
Pace is 13-18 yd/round	+6 TN
Pace is 19-40 yd/round	+9 TN
Pace is 41-80 yd/round	+12 TN
Pace is 81-160 yd/round	+15 TN
Pace is 161+X yd/round	+15 TN +X*

* - X= +5 TN per 160 yd/round

Armor and Cover

Some characters wear armor or hide behind objects to help conceal themselves from detection and attacks. Each time an attack inflicts damage, his armor or cover absorbs some of the damage. Both can only absorb so much damage before they become useless or destroyed. See Chapter 11 for more information concerning armor.

Table 57: Cover's Protection

<u>Cover Type</u>	<u>Hardness*</u>	<u>Damage*</u>
Thin wooden door	6	5
Average wooden door	8	10
Thin metal door	10	15
Reinforced wooden door	12	20
Reinforced metal door, large rocks	14	25
Worked stone wall	15+X**	60+X***

* - See the Glossary for descriptions of these traits and their meanings.

** - X = 2 per 1 foot of thickness

*** - X = 5 per 1 foot of thickness

Combat Actions

The following tables and text outline some of the more common actions performed during combat encounters. Narrators may vary the costs, test modifiers, and bonuses for variations of these.

Table 58: Combat Actions

<u>Actions</u>	<u>Action Cost</u>	<u>Test Type</u>	<u>Test Modifiers</u>
Aim	1	See text	Armed, Ranged, or Unarmed Combat*
Attack	See Table 59	Armed, Ranged, or Unarmed Combat*	*
Delay	0	None	None
<i>Disarm</i>	2	*	Armed or Unarmed Combat**
Dodge	1	Swiftness	*
Parry/Block	1	*	*
Ready/Recover/ Reload	1 or 2	None (<i>Agility, if required</i>)	Physical Test

Aim

The Aim action confers a +1 bonus to a Melee Combat test and a +3 bonus to a Ranged Combat test. If visual conditions are poor, Observe (Spot) tests may be required to receive the bonus.

Attack

These actions, requiring the use of the either Melee or Ranged Combat skills, are discussed later.

Delay

Instead of acting in the order as determined by Initiative, a character could wait to see what happens in the course of combat and use his actions when he feels like it before the end of the combat round. This is useful since parrying, blocking, or dodging attacks does cost actions to perform.

Disarm

To disarm an opponent, you must first make a successful Combat skill test (a Called Shot to the arm is required for Ranged Combat disarm attempts, but doesn't incur additional actions spent). The opponent holding the weapon must then make an opposed Strength test against your attack test (-5 TN from a Ranged Combat disarm attempt). If the disarm attempt was made as surprise attack, the opposed Strength test is made at +5 TN. Where the weapon lands in relation to its wielder depends on the success level of your attack test against the Strength test: falls to the ground requiring a Recover action to retrieve it for a Marginal or Complete Success, lands ½-d6 yards away on a Superior Success, and 1d6+1 yards away on an Extraordinary Success.

Dodge

In response to either a Melee or Ranged attack, a Dodge action can be made to avoid injury. The Dodge action must be announced and performed before any opponent makes an attack on the character, thereby spending the action. The Dodge result, if higher than the character's normal Defence, becomes his new Defence score and the new TN for all opponents who attempt to attack him for the rest of the combat round. Multiple Dodge actions can be made in the same combat round in attempts to further increase a character's Defense and may incur penalties for extra actions. A Dodge test result cannot lower a character's Defence ever.

Parry/Block

In Melee Combat, a character can use a weapon, object, or limb to deflect an incoming blow and avoid injury. Resolving a Parry/Block is similar to a Dodge action, but its effect is only beneficial against the one successful attack. The Parry/Block action must be announced before a given opponent's attack, thereby spending the action. The attacker makes his attack roll and on a successful attack, the character rolls the appropriate skill (Melee Combat: Specific Weapon or Melee Combat: Unarmed skill test plus the weapon's parry bonus; the unarmed block bonus is ±0) to either parry or block using the attacker's result as the TN.

Ready/Recover/Reload

You may ready a weapon, wand, or item for use, recover something dropped nearby (<1 yard away), or reload a bow. *Reloading crossbows requires 2 actions.*

Combat Maneuvers

Table 59: Combat Maneuvers

Maneuver	Action Cost	Test Type	Test Modifiers
Basic Attack (weapon, punch, kick, firing or throwing a ranged weapon)	1	Melee/Ranged Combat	Melee/Ranged Combat
<i>Called Shot</i>	2	<i>Melee/Ranged Combat</i>	<i>Melee/Ranged Combat</i>
Casting a Spell	1	Ranged Combat	Ranged Combat
Charge	2	Melee Combat*	Melee Combat**
<i>Coup de Grace</i>	<i>Full-Round</i>	*	**
Defensive Attack	1	*	**
Grab	1	*	**
Power Attack	2	*	**
Precise Attack	2	*	**
Sweep Attack	2	*	**
Trip	1	*	**
Two-Handed Attack	2	*	**

Basic Attack

This maneuver is the basic use of a weapon while in combat -- a Melee or Ranged Combat skill test is performed with no special rules are applied to it. Basic Attacks for one- and two-handed weapons take 1 action.

Called Shots

Whenever a character wishes to target a specific location on an opponent to inflict as much damage as possible, he would make a called shot. This maneuver must be declared before the attack is attempted and is an all or nothing proposition just like any other attack. It requires 2 actions as it thematically incorporates the Aim action along with the Combat test. Certain locations are more or less difficult to hit, and the greater the called shot's success, the more potentially lethal the strike or effective the spell is (see Table 61: Called Shots). Courage points can be spent to escape the effects of Superior and Extraordinary Successes at a cost of 2 points per success level.

Casting a Spell

Like Basic Attack, this maneuver is used when attempting to cast a spell during combat.

Charge

Using his strength, mass, and momentum, a character can attempt to inflict greater damage on an opponent and possibly knocking them down. He must first move at least 3 yards then make a Armed Combat test, gaining a +1 bonus to the test and a -3 penalty to any Dodge or Parry/Block attempts for the rest of the round. On a successful attack, the opponent is dealt damage equal to 1.5 times normal damage and then must make an opposed Strength test against the character's Strength +1 for every success level of the attack. If the opposed Strength test fails, the opponent is knocked back a *number of feet equal to the difference between the Strength test results and taking 1d6 damage for every 10 feet knocked back*. A charge cannot be split between two combat rounds by making the movement in one round then attacking in the next.

Coup de Grace

You deliver an undeniably vicious deathblow that more often than not kills your target. This maneuver requires a full-round action and your target to be at Wounded at a minimum. If you attempt to avoid incoming attacks, the tests have a -10 penalty with a cumulative -5 penalty for subsequent actions. Upon making an Armed or Unarmed Combat test to hit your target with a TN of its Defense -3 if base Defense is 7 or Defense -5 if base Defense is 10, you deal an amount of damage equal to double your

maximum damage for each level of success. If you deal enough damage to kill your target, it must make a Stamina test with a TN equal to 5 + 5 per level of success to resist being killed. If your target manages to succeed in his Stamina test, he has 1 Wound Point left in the Near Death Wound Level.

Grab

This unarmed attack maneuver allows a character to grapple an opponent requiring an Unarmed Combat: Unarmed style test. If successful, the opponent is bound with a +5 TN to any tests other than trying to break free; the Narrator may even rule some actions are impossible as well. To break free, the opponent must spend 1 action to win an opposed Strength test to break free. While holding his opponent, a character can do any of these things at the cost of 1 action:

- Squeeze or throttle the opponent for 1d6 + Strength modifier damage
- Maintain the hold, gaining a +3 bonus to the next opposed Strength test (not cumulative)
- Throw opponent to the ground or against the wall either while maintaining the hold for no damage or letting go and causing 1d6 + Strength modifier damage

Power Attack

A character uses this maneuver when he makes an all-out attack with little regard to safety. He can add a bonus to his attack test up to a value of Defense - 5 in the skill while conferring a penalty equal to half the bonus (rounding up to worsen the penalty) to his Defence. If the attack is successful, he adds a bonus to his damage equal to double the attack bonus.

Precise Attack

A character using this maneuver when intending to hit his opponent while not inflicting the most damage. He receives a +2 bonus to the attack roll while the damage dealt by a successful hit is modified by -2.

Sweep Attack

If a character has multiple foes in close proximity to his, he may attempt to make blows on all of them. For each attack test made, there is a cumulative -2 penalty (i.e. the first test is at -2, the second test is at -4, third is at -6, etc.); only one test per opponent can be made. This maneuver can be ended before the character finishes attacking all the intended opponents if he either misses an opponent or one of them in the sequence makes a successful Parry/Block action against his attack.

Trip

This maneuver is used for tripping or unbalancing an opponent, which requires an opposed Agility test (action cost of 0 for opponent). If successful, the opponent takes no damage but falls to the ground prone until he gets up.

Two-handed Attack

A character sometimes uses one-handed weapons with two hands (if it is possible), which allows them to strike a more powerful blow at the expense of being able to use a shield. Doing so grants a +2 bonus to attack tests and +5 damage.

Extra Successes in Combat

If a character scores a Superior or Extraordinary Success on a Combat skill test, effects other than just weapon damage are possible. These effects refer to when using weapons in combat, not spells as their effects are outlined in their descriptions unless they would be otherwise appropriate.

Table 60: Sample Combat Effects for Greater Successes

<u>Superior Success</u>	<u>Extraordinary Success</u>
Initiative over opponent for 2 rounds	Gain initiative over opponent for rest of combat
+2 bonus to hit opponent for rest of fight	Break or sever limbs (see the Crippled flaw)
+2 bonus to defensive actions against opponent for rest of fight	Unsaddle an opponent causing 1d6+1 points of damage unless he makes a TN 15 Acrobatics or Athletics: Jump test

Table 61: Called Shots

<u>Location</u>	<u>Test Modifier</u>	<u>Marginal or Complete Success*</u>	<u>Superior Success*</u>	<u>Extraordinary Success*</u>
<i>Torso</i>	+2 TN	+1d6	+1d6	+2d6
<i>Legs</i>	+4 TN	+1d6	Lose 1/3 Wound Level each round**	Gain Crippled flaw
<i>Arms</i>	+8 TN	+1d6	Lose 1/4 Wound Level each round	Gain Crippled flaw
<i>Head</i>	+12 TN	+2d6	Lose 1 Wound Level each round	DEAD; Head cloven or smahed
<i>Eye, Neck, Specific Organ</i>	+15 TN	+3d6	Gain Crippled flaw and/or Lose 2 Wound Levels each round	DEAD; Pierced brain, loss of head, etc.

* - The damage effects for called shots are cumulative.

** - The loss of Wound Levels continues until a First Aid test is performed.

Unseen Attacks

Fear

One of the most powerful weapons for an enemy is to be able to induce fear. The fear from servants of evil or the power of intimidation by champions of good creates despair and anguish in those who oppose them and many monsters also have the ability to instill terror into others. To cause fear in a target, the aggressor must make an Influence (Fear or Intimidate) test (Fear for evil characters and monsters or Intimidate for good characters) and the defender attempts to rebut this with an opposed Willpower test. The effects due to the outcome of this test and situational modifiers for fear are outlined in the tables below.

Table 62: Fear Effects

<u>Aggressor's Test Result</u>	<u>Effect</u>
Extraordinary Success	<u>Unmanned</u> : Defender flees or falls to the ground and cowers unable to move or act
Superior Success	<u>Unnerved</u> : Defender may take no actions for one round and suffers a -4 penalty to all tests
Complete Success	<u>Panicked</u> : Defender suffers a -2 penalty to all tests
Marginal Success	<u>Frightened</u> : Defender suffers a -1 penalty to all tests
Failure	<u>No effect</u> : Defender resists and acts normally

Table 63: Fear Modifiers

INSPIRING FEAR

<u>Situation</u>	<u>Modifier</u>
Aggressor is in a friendly location	+2 to +8
Aggressor is near a friendly location	+1 to +3
Aggressor has the advantage (overwhelming numbers, etc.)	+2 to +4
Aggressor utters terrifying soliloquy	+1 to +6
Appropriate display of power or might	+1 to +6
Aggressor brandishes object that instills fear	+1 to +4

RESISTING FEAR

Defender is in a friendly location	+2 to +8
Defender is near a friendly location	+1 to +3
Defender utters an inspiring soliloquy	+1 to +6

Contest of Wills

Characters may have to engage in a contest of wills to see whose authority, desires, or power holds sway over some situation. To fight a Contest of Wills, the participating players determine initiative for their characters normally – the winner being the aggressor and the other becomes the defender. *The participants make an opposed Bearing test. The loser of the test makes a number of marks on a piece of paper depending on his level of failure: 1 mark for a Failure, 2 for a Complete Failure, and 3 for a Disastrous Failure.* Once a character receives a number of marks equaling or exceeding his Bearing score, he loses and must acknowledge defeat in a way that is obvious like looking away and, as appropriate, do what the victor wants. A character doesn't have to enter into a Contest of Wills and can turn away, leave the presence of the challenger, or disdain the challenge in some way.

Injury, Healing, and Weariness

Whenever a character sustains damage, he may be injured or killed depending on the amount of damage he has sustained. As characters suffer damage from attacks or other sources, they progress from healthy to injured, to incapacitated, and finally to death. Similarly, as characters act, they become tired and eventually suffer penalties due to Weariness. The following sections discuss how injuries and Weariness accumulate, how they affect characters, and how characters may recover from them.

Health and Wound Levels

As discussed previously, a character has a Health score equal to his Vitality + Strength modifier. This number represents the amount of damage a character can sustain within each Wound Level. As characters suffer damage, they progress through a number of Wound Levels, which describe their overall degree of injury. Medium-sized beings and larger have these Wound Levels: Healthy, Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated, and Near Death; if damage sustained goes past the limit of Near Death, the character is killed. Small-sized beings (unless otherwise noted) have fewer Wound Levels, removing Near Death, then Incapacitated, and so on as their size gets smaller. Once a character has suffered enough damage to bring his to the Dazed Wound Level, he then begins to suffer effects of injury.

Table 64: Effects of Injury

<u>Wound Level</u>	<u>Effect</u>
Healthy	None
Dazed	-1 penalty*
Injured	-3 penalty
Wounded	-5 penalty
Incapacitated	-7 penalty
Near Death	-9 penalty

* - These penalties affect all physical tests and most academic tests, see the appropriate tables in the previous section, except for the Stamina tests made to recover Wound Points from injury.

Damage

Stun Effects

Characters can attack with blunt weapons or blunt parts of a weapon with the intent to subdue their opponent without killing them. To do this successfully, a Called Shot to the head is required (normally) but the attack doesn't do damage normally. If successful, the opponent must make a Stamina test based on the attacker's level of success to shake off the brunt of the attack's effectiveness. If the defender fails the test, he is unconscious for the duration listed in the table below. If the defender succeeds, he is then quite woozy and has a penalty to his physical and academic tests for the duration listed; on a Superior Success, he the duration is halved and an Extraordinary Success negates all effects.

Table 65: Stun Effects

Success Level	Stamina TN	Duration	Failure/Success
Marginal or Complete Success	5	3d6 x3 rounds	Unconscious/-5 penalty
Superior Success	10	2d6 +3 minutes	Unconscious/-9 penalty
Extraordinary Success	15	1d6 x10 minutes	Unconscious/-12 penalty

Drowning or Suffocating

When immersed in water for a prolonged period of time or at any time unable to breathe normally, characters will suffer damage. A character can hold his breath to delay the onset of drowning or suffocation for a period of time equal to 1 + Stamina Modifier (minimum 1 minute). Every round thereafter, the character must make a Stamina test to resist falling unconscious. Once unconscious, he immediately suffers automatic damage each round while he remains unconscious and unable to breathe. Assuming the character doesn't die, from the moment he begins breathing again, the character will recover the damage due to suffocation at a rate of 4d6 per hour (1d6 every 15 minutes). Smoke inhalation can dealt with in the same manner and could include toxin/poison effects as well.

Table 66: Drowning/Suffocation Damage

Exposure Time	Stamina TN	Damage
1 st Round	5	1d6
2 nd Round	7	1d6+3
3 rd Round	10	2d6+6
4 th Round	15	3d6+12
5 th Round	20	4d6+18
6 th Round	25	5d6+24
6+X th Round	25+(5*X)	(5+X)-d6+24+(6*X)

Falling

When a character stumbles or falls, even a short distance, he can suffer damage. The amount of damage sustained depends on the distance fallen. *A successful Acrobatics (Balance) test (TN equals distance fallen) will reduce the damage to half; an Extraordinary Success will reduce it to a quarter.*

Table 67: Falling Damage

Distance Fallen	Damage
0-2 yards	1d6-3
2-5 yards	1d6
5-10 yards	2d6+(1/2 distance fallen)*
10-15 yards	3d6+(1/2 distance fallen)
15-20 yards	4d6+(1/2 distance fallen)
20-25 yards	5d6+(1/2 distance fallen)
25-30 yards	6d6+(1/2 distance fallen)
30+X yards	(6+Y)-d6+(1/2 distance fallen)**

* - Rounded up

** - Y = X / 5, rounded up

Extreme Heat and Fire

When a character comes into contact with extreme heat or fire, he suffers damage for each round of exposure. If exposed to fire, he must make a Swiftiness test to avoid catching on fire. The TN depends on the size of the fire. If a character does catch on fire, he does not immediately take damage from it; he may attempt another Swiftiness test to put out the flames at the same TN as before, costing his a full-round action. If the character remains exposed, he sustains damage as listed in the table for every round of exposure or 2d6+4 damage every round he is on fire, but not exposed to a source of fire.

Others can try to help put out the flames on the burning character; treat this as a combined test. However, those who come into contact with the burning character are susceptible to catching on fire as well. Helpers must make the same Swiftiness test as the character did, but with a +5 bonus.

Table 68: Fire Damage

<u>Source</u>	<u>Damage Per Round</u>	<u>Swiftiness TN</u>
Torch	1d6+3	5
Campfire	2d6+4	10
Bonfire	3d6+6	15
Burning building or similar	6d6+18	20

Healing

Attribute Reductions

Some sources of damage like poisons, potions, or spells can reduce a character's attribute scores; most do this temporarily as permanent reductions are very rare. Attribute points are recovered at a rate of 1 point per day unless specified. The same conditions apply as for natural healing (see below), but no Stamina test can be used to hasten their recovery.

Natural Healing

Injuries heal naturally over time although most of the time the wand of a proficient healer or doctor will aid it and speeding up recovery time. Without either of those or knowing how to do it themselves, characters must rely on their own vigor and fortitude to restore their bodies.

Natural healing requires rest, food, and – if possible – a clean and comfortable environment. Assuming a character can get all of these, *he will recover a number of Wound Points equal to his Vitality modifier*. In these conditions, characters will also make one Stamina test at the end of each week to recover *1d6+Vitality Modifier Wound Points on a Marginal or Complete Success, 2d6+Vitality Modifier Wound Points on a Superior Success, and 3d6+Vitality Modifier Wound Points on an Extraordinary Success*. If the character receives the attention of a doctor or equivalent or healer, he can make an additional weekly Stamina test. If the Narrator doesn't feel the character has done what is necessary for continued healing, he may suspend the recovery of the Wound Points and maybe deny the weekly tests.

Table 69: Natural Healing

<u>Wound Level</u>	<u>Stamina TN</u>
Dazed	10
Injured	15
Wounded	20
Incapacitated	25
Near Death	30

Assisted Recovery

Characters who are wounded or sick can benefit greatly from those who are trained in the arts of healing and medicine. First, those who are trained in First Aid can perform tests to keep a person's injuries from getting worse (see the respective skill descriptions). With a successful test, the character regains all Wound Points in his current level plus into the level above; if in the (highest) Healthy Wound Level, all points are regained and no other effect. Afterwards, natural healing takes over (see Natural Healing above). Though if the Narrator thinks a character's wounds could get infected, the attendant can make another First Aid test to determine whether the character heals naturally for the time being or becomes infected, not recovering any Wound Points, and possibly losing more due the infection.

Hospitals

Sometimes maladies or injuries are so dire that a small ward, like that of a rural clinic, wouldn't be able to handle it so a hospital or large sickbay is required. Those who perform First Aid and Medicine tests in a hospital gain a bonus from Above Average equipment to their tests while those at specialty wards and hospitals gain a bonus from Masterwork or

Current TL+1 equipment. When a healer succeeds at his initial Healing test, the patient recovers a number of Wound Points equal to his Health, effectively going up one Wound Level. Afterwards, natural healing takes over (see Natural Healing above). If the healer keeps the patient under his constant supervision, the he can make a Medicine test to double the results of natural healing with a TN equal to that corresponding to his current Wound Level (see First Aid skill description). If a patient with a magical or psionic malady were to show up to a hospital that didn't specialize in these types of injuries, it would be impossible for him to be cured there. Depending on the malady's severity, his symptoms could be briefly alleviated on a TN 30 First Aid or TN 25 Medicine: Emergency test and a Disastrous Failure would cause some other odd effect to occur or worse.

Weariness

Even the strongest and most bold of heroes cannot fight forever or journey day and night without rest. After time has passed, Weariness begins to set in. Like Wound Levels, characters have 6 levels of Weariness.

Table 70: Weariness Levels

<u>Level</u>	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Rest Required</u>
Hale	None	None
Winded	-1	30 minutes
Tired	-2	1 hour
Weary	-4	2 hours
Spent	-8	4 hours
Exhausted	Unconscious	*

* - To recover from Exhausted to Spent, a TN 10 Stamina test is required (using by applicable modifiers). It can be attempted once per round in combat or once per minute outside of combat or at any other dramatically appropriate time as designated by the Narrator.

Stamina tests are thusly required depending on the type of action that the character is currently engaged in. Different actions are classified by levels denoting how strenuous and taxing they may be. Each level has a base amount of time that an action can be done before requiring the Stamina test is performed and a regular interval at which Stamina tests are required while sustaining the action. The base difficulty for Weariness-based Stamina tests is TN 10. A character's encumbrance is also a factor in gaining Weariness and burdensome loads can add significant modifiers to a Stamina test for Weariness. All factors and triggers for Weariness are cumulative and after each failed Stamina test for Weariness, the character drops to the next lowest Weariness Level until either he stops to rest or falls unconscious.

Table 71: Weariness Rates

<u>Level</u>	<u>Base</u>	<u>Interval</u>
Extreme	<i>10 minutes</i>	<i>5 minutes</i>
Demanding	<i>30 minutes</i>	<i>15 minutes</i>
Standard	<i>1 hour</i>	<i>30 minutes</i>
Relaxed	<i>3 hours</i>	<i>1.5 hours</i>

Extreme

Actions requiring vigorous activity such as sprinting or swimming. Most physical tests are considered Extreme.

Demanding

Actions requiring rigorous or sustained activity requiring attention to detail such as searching a house. Academic skills and those used as physical tests performed under pressure along with some physical tests are considered Demanding.

Standard

Actions requiring an average amount of exertion such as healing or searching a room. Most social tests are also considered Standard.

Relaxed

Actions requiring a minimum of energy or physical activity such as reading or walking at an easy pace. Most academic tests are considered Relaxed.

Encumbrance

Table 72: Encumbrance Modifiers

Burden	Weariness Test Modifier
<i>Average burden (up to Strength x 5)</i>	<i>±0</i>
<i>Moderate burden (Strength x 6-10)</i>	<i>+2</i>
<i>Heavy burden (Strength x 10-20)</i>	<i>+5</i>
<i>Very Heavy burden (Strength x 21-30)</i>	<i>+10</i>
<i>Extreme burden (Strength x 31+)</i>	<i>+20</i>

Weariness penalties are cumulative with penalties due to injury and also apply to future Stamina tests to resist Weariness. Should a character continue to push himself when at the Spent level, he will collapse into unconsciousness upon failing another test.

Sleep

A character can remain awake for 16 hours + his Vitality modifier, after than he must make Stamina tests (+1 TN per hour) to resist Weariness.

Example:

A character has a +2 Vitality modifier and stays up for 19 hours then engages in a Demanding physical test for 1 hour. During this time he will make 3 Stamina tests to resist Weariness:

1. Loss of sleep
2. Demanding action
3. Staying up 1 extra hour

If the character fail the first test, he will Winded (-1 penalty). Failing the second would drop his to Tired (-2 penalty). Failing the third to stay awake would drop his to Weary (-4 penalty).

Recovering Weariness

Regaining lost Weariness Levels requires one thing – rest. Rest means performing no tasks more strenuous than sleeping, casually reading, cooking, etc. Table 70 lists the amount of time required to rest to regain lost Weariness Levels.

Additional Rules for Consideration

Rolling 1's

When a similar situation happens as with 6's above and all 1's are rolled, the Narrator could create a "fumble table" to roll for random failures or randomly roll to determine how bad a failure is (1-3 Failure, 4-5 Complete Failure, 6 Disastrous Failure).

Infection

If the character exerts himself too much, neglects the tending of bandages, fails a daily Stamina test to recover Wound Points, or has a substance in a wound that promotes infection or prevents healing, he will have to make another Stamina test based off Table 69 to fend off possible infection. If the second Stamina test fails, the character's wound(s) is/are infected; use the rules for toxins, poisons, and diseases to create a suitable infection for injuries.

PSIONICS

Attribute

Psi (PSI)

This attribute reflects a character's ability to use his mental powers to affect the world around him along with entering another's mind. This attribute is only available to those who have the Psionics edge and the only way to get it is either through a racial ability or purchasing the edge during character creation; only through Narrator approval could it otherwise be acquired after character creation. This attribute is not rolled for but has an initial value of 4. *To allow for potentially more potent psionics from the beginning, roll 1d6 and divide by two and add that value to 4.* This attribute is always considered a favored attribute in addition to the selected favored attributes.

In the game, Psi reflects:

- **Skills:** Empathy, Mind Control, Mind Meld, Mind Shield, Telepathy

Skills

Table 73: Psionic Test Modifiers

DISTRACTIONS

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Modifier*</u>
Situated in comfortable surroundings	±0 TN
Engaged in a life-threatening situation	+5 to +10 TN
Affected by loud noise/talking	+3 to +6 TN

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

Affected by physical environment factors	½ physical modifier (see Table 47)
Warping/dampening fields	±1 to 6 TN**
Dense matter between character and target	±1 to 3 TN
Multi-mind interference or emotional noise	±3 to 6 TN

NUMBER OF MINDS AFFECTED/TARGETED

2 minds	+2 TN
$(2^{(X-1)} + 1) - 2^X$ minds***	+(X*2) TN

SPECIES

Target is same species	±0
Target is of similar species (mentally)	±3 to 6 TN
Target is of radically different species (mentally)	±15 to 15 TN

* - Characters making opposed tests against targets with the same modifiers need not factor them into the test, except where relative modifiers favor one over another.

** - "±" indicates that the modifier is relative

*** - $X \geq 2$

Empathy

You are sensitive to the emotions emanating from those around you.

Attribute: Psi
Test Category: Psionic
Trained: Yes
Test: A successful test against the target's Willpower or Mind Shield allows you "read" the targets emotions, including their intensity. If you score an Extraordinary Success, you gain a +1 bonus to use in a subsequent Empathy test against the same target. If the test fails, the target's emotions are too muddled to interpret and you cannot draw any meaningful conclusion from them for *a number of hours equal to the difference between the two test results*.

If you intent is to impress an emotion onto your target, the result depends on the target's current state (see table below). *A Marginal or Complete Success will move the target's current state one step, a Superior Success will move the target's current state up to two levels, and an Extraordinary Success will move it up to three levels.* The direction of which the target's current state moves doesn't have to be all in a straight line (up, down, across).

In addition to changing the subject's mood, you can perform Influence tests as if interacting with the subject normally (all social test modifiers from interaction stance apply). If you have the Sense Motive ability, you can add your Perception bonus to your Inquire test.

Table 74: Emotions

<u>Joy</u>	<u>Love</u>	<u>Envy</u>	<u>Rage</u>	<u>Fear</u>
Depression	Hatred	Generosity	Tranquility	Courage
Sadness	Dislike	Kindness	Serenity	Stoutheartedness
Melancholy	Distaste	Openness	Calmness	Bravery
Contentedness	Fondness	Jealousy	Anger	Cowardice
Happiness	Affection	Greed	Wrath	Fear
Joy	Love	Envy	Fury	Terror

Affinity: Science: Social, Telepathy
Action Time: 1
Extended Test: Yes; maximum 3 actions.
Range: 10/100/250/500/+100

Mind Control

You are able to break the mental defenses of another and gain limited control of his body.

Attribute: Psi
Test Category: Psionic
Trained: Yes
Test: A successful test against a target's Willpower or Mind Shield allows you to gain control of its body. You can potentially make it do something it would not normally do or alter its perception of reality as you see fit.

Marginal or Complete Success: Perform some act or behavior that compliments its nature

Superior Success: Perform an action that would get it into trouble with friends, family, or authorities

Extraordinary Success: Perform an action that violates the target's morals and/or fight/flight impulse such as stepping off a cliff

Action Time: 1
Extended Test: Yes; maximum 3 actions.
Range: 2/5/10/20/+5

Mind Meld

With simple contact bond between you and another, you are able to share memories or probe his mind for information.

Attribute: Psi
Test Category: Psionic
Trained: Yes
Test: You and your target must be physically touching one another – this power does not work if gloves are worn or through barriers such as glass. A successful test against the target's Willpower or Mind Shield allows you to enter another's mind while they are also aware of your presence and most recent memories (*Level 1, unless they attempt their own Mind Meld*). *The success of the test will determine how deep into the target's mind that you are able to delve: 1 level for a Marginal or Complete Success, 2 levels for a Superior Success, and 3 levels for an Extraordinary Success. Once at a particular level of the mind, you have access to memories from the current level and higher.*

Table 75: Levels of the Mind

<u>Mind Level</u>	<u>Age of Memories</u>
1	Less than 1 day
2	1 day to 1 month
3	1 month to 1 year
4	1 year to 5 years
5	Complete access to target's mind

Since the penetration of one's mind and reliving of memories is quite exhausting and painful, you and the target (at -5 TN) must make a Weariness test for every minute +1 minute per level of success greater than Marginal while at a mind level (minimum 1 test required).

Table 76: Weariness due to Mind Meld

<u>Mind Level</u>	<u>Weariness TN</u>	<u>Failure Result</u>
1	5	Loss of 1 Weariness Level
2	10	Loss of 2 Weariness Levels
3	15	Loss of 3 Weariness Levels and (2 x difference between opposed test result) damage
4	20	Loss of 4 Weariness Levels and 1d6 damage/2 points difference between opposed test result
5	25	Loss of 5 Weariness Levels and 1d6 damage/1 point difference between opposed test result

Once you have established a link, another test is not required unless the subject attempts to resist, you attempt to dig deeper in the target's mind, or new physical and/or psionic test modifiers apply. To go from a higher level to a lower level, add +2 TN for every additional level lower you want to attempt. There is no test required to go from a lower level to a higher one.

Affinity: Mind Control
Action Time: 1
Extended Test: Yes; maximum 3 actions.
Range: Touch

Mind Shield

You are able to ward off mental intrusions and attacks.

Attribute:	Psi
Test Category:	Psionic
Trained:	Yes
Test:	This skill is used to counter psionic effects that target your mind (Empathy, Mind Control, Mind Meld, etc.). You may also add half your base Willpower score (rounded up) to the test result.
Affinity:	Psionic skill that you are resisting
Action Time:	Free
Extended Test:	Yes; only when fending off extended attack.
Range:	Self

Telepathy

You are able to read the thoughts and intentions of others, along with projecting your own into their minds.

Attribute:	Psi
Test Category:	Psionic
Trained:	Yes
Test:	<p>A successful test against the target's Willpower or Mind Shield allows you to read your target's thoughts, but not memories (this requires Mind Meld). A failed test causes the character to believe the target's thoughts are impenetrable and a Disastrous Failure causes the character to completely misread the target's thoughts. Once you have established a link, you do not have to make another test unless the subject attempts to resist or new psionic test modifiers apply. 1 action per round is required to maintain your concentration and you can only maintain contact with one target at a time (unless otherwise specified). With an active link, you may make Inquire and Influence tests as if you were interacting with the target normally.</p> <p>To project a thought into the mind of another, make a TN 10 (all psionic modifiers and physical modifiers for cover apply). A successful test transmits one thought as a free action. Your projected thought does not act like Mind Control.</p>
Affinity:	Science: Social, Empathy
Action Time:	1
Extended Test:	Yes; maximum 3 actions.
Range:	5/50/100/200/+50

Traits

Increased Range

Your exceptional mental acuity allows you to project your powers over greater distances.

Prerequisite:	Psionic skill 2+
Effect:	Increase the range of the selected Psionic skill by 25%.
Upgrade:	Yes; three times. Every time you pick this trait, increase the range of the selected Psionic skill by an additional 25% (max 100% total) or select a new Psionic skill.

Psionic Coverage

Through intense training and discipline, you are able to affect a number of targets within your range of influence.

Prerequisite: Psionic skill 3+

Effect: *Gain a +5 bonus to affect one additional person within your range of using this power.*

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this trait, *you are able to affect one additional person within your range* or select a new Psionic skill.

Psionic Focus

You have an incredibly focused mind, able to tune out the distractions around you.

Prerequisite: Psionic skill 1+

Effect: Ignore up to a total of -5 penalty due to distractions from your environment.

Upgrade: Yes. Every time you pick this trait, select a new Psionic skill.

Additional Rules for Consideration

Skills

Mind Blast

With a powerful release of psychic energy, you can harm your opponent.

Attribute:	<i>Psi</i>
Test Category:	<i>Psionic</i>
Trained:	<i>Yes</i>
Test:	<i>This skill is used to cause harm to your target's mind and body. A successful test against the target's Willpower or Mind Shield causes an amount of damage based upon the success of the test: 1/2-d6+2 for a Marginal Success, 1d6+4 for a Complete Success, 2d6+6 for a Superior Success, and 3d6+8 for an Extraordinary Success.</i>
Action Time:	<i>2 actions</i>
Extended Test:	<i>No</i>
Range:	<i>5/10/20/40/+10</i>

Psychokinesis

You have fine-tuned your mental abilities to be able to manipulate physical objects with a thought.

Attribute:	<i>Psi</i>
Test Category:	<i>Psionic</i>
Trained:	<i>Yes</i>
Test:	<i>You are able to "grab" an object and move or fling it. The object cannot weigh more than you could normally manipulate (lift, push, or pull) if your Strength were equal to your Psi score. You can move the object to a distance no greater than Extended +2. If you intend to fling the object as a ranged weapon, you must make a Psychokinesis test instead of Ranged Combat to hit the target modified by both the weapon's range increment to target and the object's current psionic range increment. Use the range increments of the object if it is a true ranged attack weapon or 2/5/10/15/+2 if not. Bonus damage is dealt based on if your Strength was equal to your Psi score.</i>
Action Time:	<i>2 actions</i>
Extended Test:	<i>No</i>
Range:	<i>5/10/20/40/+10</i>

Abilities

Psykinetic Warrior

You are able to use your mental powers to aid in your use of weapons or use weapons with the power of your mind.

Prerequisite:	Psychokinesis 6+
Effect:	You gain an affinity bonus to all Combat tests from Psychokinesis when you use them manually. Also, with a successful Psychokinesis test, use weapons at a distance to attack with using your Armed or Ranged Combat skill at your normal proficiency instead of Psychokinesis.
Upgrade:	No

Psychic Bomb

You are able to cause damage to an area using your mental powers as if a bomb went off.

Prerequisite: Mind Blast 6+

Effect: Make a Mind Blast test to deal damage to everything within a radius equal to your Psi score in yards. The center point of the effect cannot be further than the maximum range of the skill. Make a Weariness test after each use of this power, +2 TN (cumulative) for each use in the last minute.

Upgrade: No

Changing the Nature of the Use of Psionic Powers

Instead of having psionic powers used as skills, they could be acquired and used like spells. To do this, have one skill called Psionics and its related attribute be Psi. To use a psionic ability, a Psionics skill test could be made and its effects would be based off the character's Psi score (the score directly or attribute modifier).

Range for Projected Psionic Powers

Occasionally, depending on the power, a Ranged Combat test would be required to hit a target at a distance. The range increments for the effectiveness of a character's power would be a factor of his Psi score - Point Blank (+2) = 0 - Psi, Short (+0) = Psi - Psi x2, Medium (-2) = Psi x2 - Psi x4, Long (-4) = Psi x4 - Psi x8, Extended (-6) = Psi x8 - Psi x16, etc. These distances are in yards or meters. This range table could also be used to substitute the listed ranges for each psionic skill.

MAGIC

Spell

<Descriptive text>

Prerequisite:	Spells, abilities, traits, skills, etc. required before acquiring the spell
Restriction:	Spells, abilities, traits, skills, etc. you cannot have before acquiring the spell
Picks:	Number of picks (spell or advancement) required for purchasing the spell
Specialty:	The category or categories of spells that this spell falls under (if your spell system has them).
Components:	Items needed for successfully casting a spell
Activation TN:	This is the TN of the Spellcraft or other test you decide is the governing character attribute to use for determining whether or not the spell is cast. Success level achieved when making this test could augment the spell's range, duration, or effect.
Casting Time:	Amount of time required casting the spell and is measured in actions, rounds, minutes, etc.
Range:	How far from the caster the effect of a spell can occur.
Duration:	How long the effect of the spell lasts
Effect:	What happens in game terms when the spell is successfully cast.

Acquiring Spells

Spells are acquired by purchasing the appropriate profession ability: Channeling, Spellcaster, Greater Channeling, or Greater Spellcasting. Each spell has a spell pick cost and these abilities give a character 5 picks to spend on them. There are ways a Narrator could avoid the instant learning of spells such as he may require that a player decide beforehand what spells he wants to purchase and then have him study and/or train for awhile, *making Spellcraft tests*, so as to justify the character's acquisition of the spells he chose. Spells could also come from spellbooks or scrolls, *requiring Spellcraft tests to learn or copy (which would destroy a scroll as if it were use) to your own spellbook*.

Non-spellcasters could as well learn spells, too, but would require of them extensive study and practice. For a non-spellcaster to purchase spells, he would have to spend advancement picks instead of one of the profession abilities that grant spell picks.

Spell Specialties and Schemes

Spells could be divided in a number of different categories of related effects (conjuration, elemental, etc.). Spellcasters who specialize in certain categories of spells could learn and use those kinds of spells faster and conversely other spells of other categories slower or not at all. Refer to the Spell Specialty ability for inspiration or guidance.

A spell scheme, when devising your list of spells, could be done in a similar fashion as that for profession abilities (using tiers, prerequisites, etc.).

Casting Spells

Casting spells both requires careful manipulation of Magic's power and time. A Narrator could require that spells have material components in addition to the gestures, words of power, and activation test (Spellcraft or other).

Spellcasting Limits

Suggestions for setting limits on casting spells:

- Some Narrators could also add limits to the number of spells or different types, categories, or tiers of spells so as to limit a spellcaster from casting the same spell non-stop.
- Limit the number of spells per day to be attempted equal the character's total Stamina modifier for resisting Weariness. Any additional spell cast would require a Stamina test against Weariness with a TN equal to 5*spell's pick cost
- Use the total bonus for Stamina against Weariness as "spell points" and any number of spells can be attempted equal to the sum of the spell's pick cost and any other spell further cast would require a Stamina test against Weariness with a TN equal to 5*spell's pick cost. The "spell points" would be regained at a rate equal to his *Magic* or *Vitality* modifier per hour.

Innate Abilities

Innate abilities are spells that a spellcaster has learned to be able to perform with the assistance of tests, gestures, components, etc. The process for turning a spell into an innate ability is quite lengthy and difficult *and few more complexities have been added when using the Spellcraft skill*. First, the gestures must be eliminated. This has a cost of three spell picks and requires some practice. *While attempting to do this, make a Spellcraft check against the spell's activation TN once per week. When a Superior Success or better is achieved, this aspect of the spell is removed.*

Second, the words of power must be eliminated, costing four spell picks (or advancement picks for non-spellcasters) and requiring more extensive practice. *While attempting to do this, make a Spellcraft check against the spell's activation TN once per month. When a Superior Success or better is achieved, this aspect of the spell is removed.*

Finally, the activation test must be eliminated at the cost of five spell picks (or advancement picks for non-spellcasters) and requiring vastly more practice and study. *While attempting to do this, once per a number of weeks equal to the spell's activation TN make a Spellcraft check against the spell's activation TN. Once an Extraordinary Success is achieved, this aspect of the spell is removed.*

A character can stop an attempt to make a spell into an innate ability at any time, but if Advancement Picks have been spent, they cannot be regained though effects of any previous steps remain. Upon completion of all steps, the spell becomes an innate ability. The spell can then be cast without gestures, words, or chance of failure. *Innate abilities may be used a number of times daily equal to the character's Magic Modifier (minimum once) and only once per round as a free action. Spells cast as abilities are subject to the same countering and nullifying techniques and restrictions as the normal version of the spell.*

Creating Spells

Creating spells is fairly easy. First you decide what the spell's effects are going to be. Then you determine these spell's attributes based on your judgement and the relative power of the spell's effect. Some of the attributes listed in the template above are optional and would only be used if you think your game warrants their use.

Additional Rules for Consideration

Attribute

Magic (MAG)

Use this attribute for a skill-based magic system similar to official rules for Psionics. This attribute reflects the ability for a person to cast spells properly. This attribute is only available to those who have the Arcane Talent edge and the only way to get it is either through a racial ability or purchasing the edge during character creation; only through Narrator approval could it otherwise be acquired after character creation.

In the game, Magic reflects:

- **Access to Magic:** Your ability to learn and wield magic and determining how powerful your spells' effects are.
- **Skills:** Gain access to Spellcraft.

Skill

Spellcraft

You understand the intricacies and nuances of magic so that you may learn and identify spells and their effects.

Attribute:	Intellect
Restriction:	Must have the Arcane Talent edge (therefore having the Magic attribute) to gain access to this skill unless otherwise noted.
Test Category:	Academic
Trained:	Yes
Sample Specialties:	Types of spells
Test:	Make a Spellcraft test to cast, learn, identify, or create a spell.

Routine (TN 5): Identify a simple spell as it is being cast

Standard (TN 10): Identify an average spell as it is being cast; Identify a simple spell from its effects after it was cast

Challenging (TN 15): Identify a complex spell as it is being cast; Identify an average spell from its effects after it was cast.

Difficult (TN 20): Identify a highly complex spell as it is being cast; Identify a complex spell from its effects after it was cast

Virtually Impossible (TN 25): Identify a newly created spell; Identify a highly complex spell from its effects after it was cast

Additional Modifiers:	If the spell being identified has a duration, reduce the TN by -2. If the character has never encountered the spell, increase the TN by +2.
Action Time:	1 action to identify a spell being cast or a full round or longer to identify a spell by its effects.
Extended Test:	No (recall), Yes (research)

Spellcraft could also be a Skill Group where either types of spells are the skills and individual spells are specialties or individual spells are the skills and no specialties are conferred.

Traits

Arcane Talent

You have the ability to tap into and use the power of the magic.

Prerequisite: *Must be of a race that is not magically “mute”. Typically, this edge should only be available during character creation.*

Restriction:

Effect: *Grants access to the Magic attribute with a starting value of 4. For a variable starting value, roll $\frac{1}{2}$ d6 + 3 (if a ‘6’ is rolled, add 4 to the bonus for a total result of 7). This attribute also gives access to skills, traits, and abilities based on this attribute and cast spells. It is also a favored attribute for the purposes of advancement.*

Upgrade: *No*

EQUIPMENT

Weapons

Weapon

Price:	Determined by Narrator
Size:	Sizes used are the same as those listed in the Size categories table. A character may wield weapons that are \leq their Size+1. When using a weapon that is Size+1, they must use it two-handed regardless of its type.
Damage/Parry:	Damage dealt/Parry bonus by weapon; When giving these weapons in proportional size to creatures larger than Medium, add 1d6 to damage for every size larger the weapon is
Range:	Range increments in yards if weapon has the ability to be used at a distance; Point Blank/Short/Medium/Long/+ Extended increment, Bonus or Penalty added to result due to range, respectively, +2, +0, -2, -4, and an additional -2 for each increment past Long; Weapons that are thrown have their ranges modified by the thrower's Strength modifier
Charges/Rounds:	For energy weapons; Denotes the capacitance of a typical energy cell for that weapon/For conventional guns; Denotes the number of bullets held by the gun.
Description:	What the item is and does in game terms

Melee Weapons

Axes

Battle-Axe

Size:	Medium
Damage:	2d6+3 / +1
Description:	This is weapon with a sturdy handle and a crescent-shaped blade at one end. <i>When using this weapon two-handed, ignore 1 point of armor or deal an extra +2 damage to unarmored opponents on a Superior Success and 2 points of armor or deal an extra +4 damage to unarmored opponents on an Extraordinary Success against all armors except plate.</i>

Great Axe

Size:	Large
Damage:	3d6+3 / +1
Description:	This is weapon with a long, hefty handle and often with two large crescent-shaped blades at one end. <i>When using this weapon, ignore 2 points of armor or deal an extra +4 damage to unarmored opponents on a Superior Success and 3 points of armor or deal an extra +6 damage to unarmored opponents on an Extraordinary Success against all armors except plate. You are unable to perform the Precise Attack maneuver with this weapon.</i>

Hand or Throwing Axe

Size:	Small
Damage:	1d6+3 / -1
Range:	5/10/20/30/+5
Description:	This is weapon with a short, wooden handle with a small, curved blade at one end. It is light enough to use in one hand and throw with accuracy. <i>When using this weapon, deal +1 damage to unarmored opponents and ignore 1 point of armor or deal an extra +2 damage to unarmored opponents on an Extraordinary Success against all armors except plate.</i>

Blades

Dagger

Size: Small
Damage: $1d6+2 / -2$
Range: 5/10/20/30/+5
Description: Fairly common in use, it is a short double-edged blade of metal, typically steel. When all spells fail, a good blade at your side can be of great benefit. *If you make a surprise attack, triple your damage.*

Great Sword

Size: Large
Damage: $3d6+2 / +1$
Description: Used by trolls, giants, and large men, this sword is a symbol of strength and power. *When you perform the Charge, Power Attack, or Sweep maneuver, add 1d6 damage for a Superior Success and 2d6 for an Extraordinary Success. You are unable to perform the Precise Attack maneuver with this weapon.*

Longsword

Size: Medium
Damage: $2d6+4 / +1$
Description: Typical weapon in medieval times by soldiers and noblemen. *When you make Armed Combat tests with this weapon that have multiple action penalties, the penalty is -4 (cumulative) instead -5 (cumulative). You gain an additional +1 bonus to parries when you wield two longswords.*

Scimitar

Size: Medium
Damage: $2d6+3 / +1$
Description: A long, single-edged sword of various sizes and shapes. *When not using a shield, gain an additional +2 bonus to parry attempts. You gain an additional +1 bonus to parries when you wield two scimitars.*

Short Sword

Size: Small
Damage: $2d6+1 / +0$
Description: This weapon has a blade about twice the size of a dagger, but with a noticeably broader base at the handle. *When you make Armed Combat tests with this weapon that have multiple action penalties, the penalty is -4 (cumulative) instead -5 (cumulative). You gain an additional +2 bonus to parries when you wield two short swords.*

Clubs

Club

Size: Medium
Damage: $1d6+1 / +1$
Description: This simple weapon is usually a large wooden cudgel that can be found almost anywhere. *You can use this weapon to make stun attacks as if you had the Blunt Attack trait.*

Flail

Size: Medium
Damage: $2d6+1 / -2$
Description: Akin to the mace and morningstar, this weapon has a wooden or metal handle attached to a heavy ball of stone or metal (spiked or not) by a chain or rope. *Characters receive a +2 bonus if attempting to disarm an opponent. If the ball is spiked, it deals +2 damage. You can use this weapon to make stun attacks as if you had the Blunt Attack trait but with a -3 penalty.*

Hammer

Size: Medium
Damage: $2d6+1 / -1$
Description: This is a weapon made of shaped metal head with a piercing side and blunt side at the end of a wooden or metal shaft or handle. *The piercing side deals an extra +1 damage. When using this weapon's piercing side, ignore 1 point of armor or deal an extra +2 damage to unarmored opponents on a Superior Success and 2 points of armor or deal an extra +4 damage to unarmored opponents on an Extraordinary Success. When using this weapon's blunt side, you may perform stun attacks as if you had the Blunt Attack trait.*

Mace/Morningstar

Size: Medium
Damage: $2d6+1 / +0$
Description: Stronger than a club, a mace or morningstar uses a heavy end, usually consisting of metal, to smash an opponent with. *When using a mace, you may perform stun attacks as if you had the Blunt Attack trait. Morningstars deal an additional +2 damage due to their spikes and cannot make stun attacks.*

Staff

Size: Large
Damage: $1d6+1 / +2$
Description: This simple weapon is a pole made of wood, longer than a club, and found almost anywhere. Mind this warning: beware the elderly man who asks to keep his walking stick at his side. *Weariness tests made due to travel have a -2 TN. You can use this weapon to make stun attacks as if you had the Blunt Attack trait.*

Polearms

Mattock

Size: Large
Damage: $2d6+3 / -1$
Description: Typically used for mining, it has also been put to use as devastating weapon, including against those in armor. *When using this weapon, ignore 2 points of armor or deal an extra +2 damage to unarmored opponents on a Superior Success and 3 points of armor or deal an extra +3 damage to unarmored opponents on an Extraordinary Success against all armors except plate. You are unable to perform the Precise Attack maneuver with this weapon. You cannot perform a Precise Attack or Sweep maneuver with this weapon.*

Pikestaff

Size:	Large
Damage:	2d6+3 or 1d6+1 / +1
Description:	A weapon with a thick staff with a blade at the end similar to a spear. <i>If you delay your attack against an opponent that is charging you, you deal the weapon's damage a multiple of times equal to the your success level +1. If used in a similar way as a staff, you may make stun attacks as if you had the Blunt Attack trait. You cannot perform a Sweep maneuver with this weapon.</i>

Spear

Size:	Medium or Large
Damage:	2d6+2 or 1d6+1 / +1
Range:	5/10/20/40/+5
Description:	A weapon with a long staff usually made of oak or ash, with a long dagger-like point at the end. <i>Medium-sized spears can be thrown and they do not confer the Blunt Attack trait, and are not made to withstand a charge attack like its larger version. Large-sized spears cannot be thrown, but deals +1 damage normally for the bladed end, allows you to make stun attacks as if you had the Blunt Attack trait, and, when you delay your attack against a charging opponent, you deal double damage on a Superior Success and triple damage on an Extraordinary Success. You cannot perform a Sweep maneuver with this weapon.</i>

Unarmed

Size:	Creature's
Damage:	1d6 / +0
Description:	A kick or punch.

Ranged Weapons

Bows

Compound versions of the bows can withstand +1 damage, have +5 yards to all range increments except Point Blank, and cost 125% of the normal bow price.

Arrows

Size:	Small
Damage:	2d6
Description:	A quiver of 20 arrows (for a longbow or shortbow), projectiles made of long dowels of wood with a metal, stone, or sharpened head and feathers (called fletchings) to help guide the arrow. When spent, roll 1d6; if the result is 1 or 2, the arrow cannot be salvaged. <i>On a Superior attack, deal +1d6 damage per 4 ranks in Ranged Combat: Bows and +1d6 damage per 3 ranks in Ranged Combat: Bows. This bonus damage stacks with Called Shot damage.</i>

Longbow

Size:	Medium
Range:	5/30/60/150/+30
Description:	A long, flexible piece of wood connected at the ends with a taught piece of string, hair, cord, or sinew to shoot arrows at targets; a common weapon of all cultures.

Shortbow

Size:	Small
Range:	5/20/50/120/+20
Description:	Smaller than the longbow, but near as deadly, this weapon is used by mostly by woodland dwellers.

Crossbows

Bolts

Size: *Little*
Damage: *2d6+1*
Description: *A quiver of 20 bolts (for a small or large crossbow), projectiles shorter and thicker than arrows. On a successful attack, they deal +4 damage at Point Blank range, +2 damage at Short range, +0 damage at Medium range, -2 damage at Long range, and an additional -2 damage for each Extended range increment. On a Superior attack, deal +1d6 damage per 4 ranks in Ranged Combat: Bows and +1d6 damage per 3 ranks in Ranged Combat: Bows. This bonus damage stacks with Called Shot damage.*

Small Crossbow

Size: *Medium (requires two hands to reload though)*
Range: *10/30/60/90/+15*
Description: *An expansion of the bow, this weapon fires bolts similar arrows, but sturdier.*

Large Crossbow

Size: *Large*
Range: *10/35/70/100/+20*
Description: *The same as the small crossbow, but bigger and more powerful.*

Energy Weapons

Heavy versions of weapons deal an extra 1d6+1 damage, have +25 charges, and their range for all increments is -5 for pistols or -10 for rifles, except at Point Blank; phasers do not have heavy versions. Lasers and disruptors deal straight heat/energy damage to the target while phaser weapons can both stun or deal damage to a target. When energy weapons are set to a level high enough to explode substances, they also deal concussion damage equal to (Setting-10)-d6+Setting to everyone and everything within a radius equal to 0 to Setting/2 in yards and half damage to everyone and everything at a distance of Setting/2 to Setting in yards. Anyone within the blast radius can make a Swiftess test with a TN equal to the Setting of the beam fired to only suffer half the damage dealt. When using the Aim action with rifles, you gain a +5 bonus to attack at ranges further than Short. Reloading an energy cell requires 1 action.

Table 77: Energy Weapon Effects

<u>Setting</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Charges</u>	<u>Damage</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1	Light Stun	1	Stun	Stun a target for 5 minutes*
2	Medium Stun	2	Stun	Stun a target for 15 minutes
3	Heavy Stun	3	1+Stun	Stun a target for 1 hour
4	Light Thermal	5	1d6+3	Cut a 1 yd hole in 1 foot of wood in 3 minutes
5	Medium Thermal	8	2d6+6	Cut a 1 yd hole in 1 foot of steel in 3 minutes
6	Heavy Thermal	12	3d6+12	Cut a 1 yd hole in 1 foot of steel or rock in 30 seconds
7	Light Disrupt A	15	5d6+18	Kills humanoid or cut hole in 1 foot of dense alloy in 10 minutes
8	Light Disrupt B	20	10d6+36	Vaporize a human-sized (or smaller) creature
9	Light Disrupt C	30	Kill	Vaporize dense alloy
10	Medium Disrupt A	40	Kill	Vaporize any substance
11	Medium Disrupt B	50	Kill	Explode 10 cu yd of rock into rubble
12	Medium Disrupt C	60	Kill	Explode 50 cu yd of rock into rubble
13	Heavy Disrupt A	70	Kill	Explode 100 cu yd of rock into rubble
14	Heavy Disrupt B	80	Kill	Explode 200 cu yd of rock into rubble
15	Heavy Disrupt C	90	Kill	Explode 400 cu yd of rock into rubble
16	Heavy Disrupt D	100	Kill	Explode 800 cu yd of rock into rubble

* - Stamina test to resist the stun effect is TN 10 (Light), TN 12 (Medium), and TN 15 (Heavy). Reduce time unconscious by 25% on a Superior Success and 50% on an Extraordinary Success.

Disruptor Pistol

Size: Small
Damage: Settings 2, 5, 10, 16
Range: 5/20/50/100+20
Charges: 250
Description: More readily available to the common person than phasers and more powerful than laser weapons, disruptors are the staple energy weapons of the day. *Many available disruptors only have one setting: 10.*

Disruptor Rifle

Size: Medium
Damage: Settings 2, 5, 10, 16
Range: 5/50/100/200/+50
Charges: 1000
Description: More readily available to the common person than phaser rifles and more powerful than laser weapons, disruptor rifles are the staple energy weapons of the day. *Many available disruptor rifles only have one setting: 10.*

Laser Pistol

Size: Small
Damage: *Setting 6 only*
Range: 5/10/20/40/+10
Charges: 50
Description: Standard-issue weapon that replaced chemical-propelled projectile weapons. *This weapon uses 5 charges per shot instead 12.*

Laser Rifle

Size: Medium
Damage: *Setting 7 only*
Range: 5/40/80/160/+40
Charges: 150
Description: Standard-issue weapon that replaced chemical-propelled projectile weapons. *This weapon uses 10 charges per shot instead 15.*

Phaser Pistol

Size: Small
Damage: Settings 1-16
Range: 5/20/50/100+20
Charges: 250
Description: Along with the disruptor, standard-issue weapon that replaced laser weapons. Commonly used by law enforcement or explorers who wish to have a weapon with a wide variety of settings.

Phaser Rifle

Size: Medium
Damage: Settings 1-16
Range: 5/50/100/200/+50
Charges: 1000
Description: Along with the disruptor rifle, standard-issue weapon that replaced laser weapons. Commonly used by law enforcement or explorers who wish to have a weapon with a wide variety of settings.

Grenades

A miniature bomb the size of a fist. Blast radii do not deal damage past Long range.

Size: Tiny
Range: 5/10/20/30/+5

Concussion

Blast Radius: 2/5/10/-/-
Description: Upon detonation, it discharges a concussive force intended to knock people unconscious, but deals standard grenade damage to stone, crystalline, and similar substances. Anyone caught within it must make a Stamina test to resist: Heavy Stun at Point Blank range, Medium Stun at Short range, and Light Stun at Medium range.

Flash

Blast Radius: N/A
Description: Also called "flas-bangs," it emits a loud noise and bright light to cause blindness when it detonates. Everyone within 10 yards and looking in the direction of the explosion is blinded (see Crippled flaw for the effects of blindness). A TN 12 Swiftess test can be made to reduce the penalty: -10 on a Marginal or Complete Success, -5 on a Superior Success, and negate all effects on an Extraordinary Success.

Smoke

Blast Radius: N/A
Description: When it detonates, it begins to fill an area with smoke. One round after detonation, a volume of 5x5x5 yards is filled with smoke and after two rounds, 10x10x10 yards and no more. The smoke will persist until blown away or some other means. Nothing can be seen normally at a distance further than 2 yards in any direction.

Shrapnel

Blast Radius: 2/5/10/15
Description: Upon detonation, throws shrapnel in all directions. Its deals 6d6+18 damage at Point Blank range and reduce its damage by 1d6+3 for every subsequent range increment. A TN 10 dodge test can be made to reduce the damage by 1d6 damage (2d6 on an Extraordinary Success).

Standard

Blast Radius: 2/5/10/15
Description: Its deals 6d6+6 damage at Point Blank range and reduce its damage by 1d6+1 for every subsequent range increment. A TN 10 dodge test can be made to reduce the damage by 1d6 damage (2d6 on an Extraordinary Success).

Tear Gas

Blast Radius: N/A
Description: When it detonates, it begins to fill an area with a non-lethal chemical irritant. The effects are the same as a smoke grenade, but all living creatures that have eyes, noses, exposed mucus membranes, etc. within the smoke suffer a -10 to all tests that require sight and smell and must make a TN 12 Stamina test to be able to make any actions: 1 action per round or 2 actions on an Extraordinary Success (no full-round actions can be made). A failure causes the victim to be completely incapacitated until treated with a TN 12 Medicine: General or TN 7 Medicine: Toxicology test. A dodge test with a TN equal to the Ranged Combat: Grenades result can be made to evade being caught in the radius of effect.

Guns

When using the Aim action for rifles (except assault rifles firing more than a single shot), you gain a +5 bonus to attack at ranges further than Short. Reloading a magazine, bullet, or shell requires 1 action. Loading a magazine requires a full-round action per 10 rounds.

Assault Rifle

Size: Large
Damage: *Special*
Range: *Special*
Rounds: 50
Description: Rifle that can switch between three selections of Single shot, 3-shot burst, or full-automatic. *When fired using a single shot, the weapon uses one bullet per action, deals 3d6+2 damage, and has an range of 5/30/60/120/+30. When fired using a 3-shot burst, the weapon uses 3 bullets per action, deals 3d6+4 damage, and has a range of 5/20/40/80/+20. When fired at full-automatic, the weapon uses 6 bullets per action, deals 9d6+6 damage, and has a range of 5/10/20/40/+10.*

Grenade Launcher

Size: Small
Damage: *See specific grenade's description*
Range: 5/15/30/60/+15 (attachment) or 100/500/1000/1500/+500 (weapon or weapon system)
Rounds: 5 (attachment), 15 (weapon), 50 (weapon system)
Description: *This is an attachment to an assault rifle, independent weapon or weapon system and can launch grenades of any type listed above. When making an Aim action, you can make an Appraise (Distance) or Science: Physical (Mathematics) test of TN 7 + 2 per range increment to gain an additional +2 bonus to the Aim bonus for ranged attacks. Reloading an attachment or weapon requires a full-round action.*

Grenade launchers that are weapons or weapon systems can fire volleys of 3 grenades at a time costing a full-round action. Each grenade requires a Ranged Combat test with a cumulative -3 penalty for each grenade. Only the effects of standard and shrapnel grenades stack if a target is caught in the overlapping radii of multiple grenades.

Revolver

Size: Small
Damage: 2d6+5
Range: 5/15/25/50/+15
Rounds: 6
Description: This weapon came into popular use after the Civil War and continues into the 21st Century, though with much less notoriety. *When using this weapon, you gain a +2 bonus to attack tests with it.*

Semi-automatic Pistol

Size: Small
Damage: 2d6+3
Range: 5/10/20/40/+10
Rounds: 15
Description: This weapon is of wide-spread use since the mid- to late-20th Century in both the military and civilian use (where they could get them legally or illegally).

Rifle

Size: Large
Damage: 3d6+2
Range: 5/40/80/150/+40
Rounds: 10
Description: *When using the Aim action, you gain a +5 bonus to attack at ranges further than Short.*

Shotgun

Size:	Large
Damage:	Special
Range:	5/15/30/45/+15
Rounds:	2 or 5
Description:	Similar to a rifle as it has a long barrel, but has a very wide barrel with no rifling and uses shells that emit shot or large slugs when fired. <i>When using the single-barreled version, it holds 5 shells, uses one shell per shot, and deals 6d6+8 damage at Point Blank range and reduce damage by 1d6+1 every range increment after that. When using a double-barreled version, it holds 2 shells, and deals 9d6+12 at Point Blank range and reduce damage by 1d6+2 every range increment after that otherwise it has the same characteristics as a single-barreled version. When using a sawed-off version of either a single- or double-barreled shotgun, reduce the range to 2/5/10/15/+5. Shotguns do no effective damage past Extended +2. A shotgun slug deals 4d6+6 damage per shot and uses the standard range increments.</i>

Polearms

Javelin

Size:	Medium
Damage:	2d6+1
Range:	5/15/45/90/+15
Description:	Smaller than a spear, this weapon has the advantage of being fairly easy to make as well as having many on hand for use due to its lighter design. <i>Javelins can only be used in ranged combat and when you make Ranged Combat tests with this weapon that have multiple action penalties, the penalty is -4 (cumulative) instead -5 (cumulative).</i>

Whips

Sling

Size:	Tiny
Range:	5/15/45/90/+10
Description:	This weapon is nothing but a small leather pouch with long leather or cord straps on either side to hold on to.

Sling Ammo

Size:	Miniscule
Damage:	1d6 (stone) or 1d6+2 (metal)
Description:	Rocks or worked metal balls.

Cat-o-Nine-Tails

Size:	Medium
Damage:	1d6+2 + Grapple
Range:	5
Description:	<i>Same as the whip, but it has frayed leather tassels at the end for inflicting more damage to the target. It may even have barbs embedded into it as well. When using this weapon, you gain a +4 bonus to disarm. It also can be used as a rope swing that has a length of 10 feet when secured.</i>

Whip

Size:	Medium
Damage:	½-d6 + Grapple
Range:	5
Description:	This weapon is made of molded leather or intestines of animals made malleable to resemble rope. <i>This weapon can only be used against targets at the listed range. When using this weapon, you gain a +4 bonus to disarm. It also can be used as a rope swing that has a length of 10 feet when secured.</i>

Armor

The base prices are for corsets, except for plate armor. A hauberk of a particular armor has +1 AR and costs 125% of the corset price. A character wearing a hauberk of a particular armor, has a penalty to Swiftess tests equal to the armor's AR (except Leather and a -7 penalty for a full suit of Plate armor). All items below are based on being for Medium-sized creatures. Prices increase 25% per Size category greater or smaller from Medium unless made by a smith who is of that particular Size category.

Armor

Price:	Determined by Narrator, based on creation for Medium-sized creatures
AR:	Armor Rating
Bonus:	<i>Shields only.</i> Parry and Defense bonus; Parry bonus not applicable to tower shields
Damage:	<i>Shields only.</i> Damage dealt; When giving these weapons in proportional size to creatures larger than Medium, add 1d6 to damage for every size larger the weapon is
Description:	What the item is and does in game terms

Chain

AR:	4
Description:	More sturdy than the scale armor, this armor, made of interlocking rings of metal, protects the wearer from more damage and is harder to penetrate with hand weapons. <i>There is a -2 AR penalty when calculating damage from a bow, crossbow, mattock, spike from a hammer, spear, or javelin attack with an Extraordinary Success.</i>

Chain with Plate

AR:	5
Description:	Same as the standard chain armor, but has more protection to vital areas from plates of metal. <i>There is a -1 AR penalty when calculating damage from a bow, spear, or javelin attack and -2 AR penalty from a crossbow, mattock, or spike of a hammer with an Extraordinary Success. There is a +1 AR bonus against attacks by any club-type weapon.</i>

Dispersion Armor

AR:	2
Description:	<i>This armor of the future comes only as a suit (hauberk) and acts like leather armor against physical attacks but can absorb up to a total of 200 damage from hand-held energy weapons).</i>

Infantry Body Armor

AR:	3 AR (Light) or 7 AR (Heavy)
Description:	<i>This armor only comes in a suit (hauberk). It absorbs 25% of damage from grenades and 75% of damage from guns (30 for Light or 70 for Heavy total points of damage absorbed) and requires a Stamina test with a TN of 7 +2 per 5 points of leftover damage to resist a Medium Stun (Heavy Stun from a shotgun). An Extraordinary Success on a Ranged Attack from a gun bypasses the armor and the target receives full damage for the successful attack plus reduces the armor's total damage absorption by the attack's full damage.</i>

Leather

AR:	2
Description:	This simple jerkin of leather and some padding offers the simplest of protection from a stray rusty dagger in the night but not much more.

Plate

AR:	4 (breastplate) or 8 (full suit)
Description:	<i>The most impressive of all the armors, this armor is made from carefully articulated plates of metal, allowing the wearer to most of her normal range of movement. It can only be bought as a suit (hauberk). There is a -1 AR penalty when calculating damage from a spear or javelin attack and -2 AR penalty from a crossbow, mattock, or spike of a hammer with a Superior Success or better. There is a +2 AR bonus (breastplate) or +3 AR bonus (full suit) against attacks by any club-type weapon.</i>

Scale

AR:	3
Description:	Made of layers of beaten metal scales, this armor resembles the hide of dragons or fish scales, but is far less effective. <i>There is a -2 AR penalty when calculating damage from a bow, crossbow, mattock, spike of a hammer, spear or javelin attack with an Extraordinary Success.</i>

Shields

To use the Parry Bonus of a shield, make a Melee Combat roll plus the bonus from the shield and weapon together. To parry only with a shield, use Melee Combat: Clubs (Shield) plus the parry bonus. The shields below represent the basic wooden version. *Metal versions have +2 HR, +10 damage, +1 Parry Bonus, and deal +1 damage.*

Shield, small

Size:	Small
Bonus:	+2
Damage:	1d6
Description:	Small disks of metal or wood with straps and/or handles to hold to a bearer's arm to help provide protection from attack and can even be used as a weapon. If the shield has spikes, add +2 damage.

Shield, large

Size:	Medium
Bonus:	+2
Damage:	1d6+3
Description:	Larger than small shields, but have the same function (see Shield, Small).

Shield, tower

Size:	Medium
Bonus:	+5
Description:	<i>These shields are about twice the size of large shields, and cannot be wielded in combat as a weapon nor provide a parry bonus like the smaller shields. It solely provides a penalty to ranged attacks against the bearer.</i>

Money & Other Items

The Narrator will decide how much starting currency characters have to purchase items, but remember that if you are running a game where characters are in the military, they are usually outfitted with the required gear or you may assign specific gear for the unit (group of characters) to have. It may even serve the Narrator better, regardless of the type of game, if he just allows the characters to acquire the gear that their characters need and then just doling out a set amount of money.

Regardless of the money situation in the game, equipment is a vital part of helping characters achieve their goals. As the games a Narrator wants to run can vary widely, I won't go into a lengthy list of different equipment, their bonuses, and such for different eras of gaming as I wish to leave that up to the Narrator to decide upon for his own game. *One note that I will add to game mechanics is that **specialist's equipment** (thieves' picks, surgical equipment, etc.) confer a +2 bonus to skill tests stacking with other equipment modifiers.*

Table 78: Equipment Modifiers

<u>Equipment Available</u>	<u>Test Modifier</u>
Master-crafted or Current TL +1 equipment	+5
Above average equipment	+2
Average equipment	±0
Poorly maintained tools	-2
Lacking some equipment or Current TL -1 equipment	-5
Jury-rigged tools	-7
No equipment or Current TL -2 or less or Current TL +2 or greater	-10

Additional Rules for Consideration

Item Creation & Repair

Armor- and Weaponcraft

NOTE: A made-up character will be used in subsequent examples and use info based on Lord of the Rings RPG (race, currency, etc.) for simplicity: Frarin, a dwarven craftsman of the Lonely Mountain with Craft: Armor (Dwarf Chain) +5 and Craft: Weapons (Battle Axe, Great Axe) +5.

Terminology used in this section, as in the rest of this document, is defined in the glossary of Appendix A.

Price of Materials

To create Armor or weapons in a more realistic fashion, a craftsman should know how much the materials are going to cost him so he can determine what his profit will be. The price of materials for Armor is 25% selling price of a corset + 1 sp/1 AR and 50% selling price of a hauberk + 1 sp/1 AR. The price of materials for weapons is 25% of weapon's selling price + 1 sp/+1 damage bonus. In a game, use any mid to lower range coin or denomination of a currency.

Example:

Frarin wants to make a jerkin of leather (corset).

25% of 2 SP = 2 sp

2 sp + 2 sp = 1 SP

The price for his materials is 1 SP.

He also gets an order for a hauberk of dwarf chain.

125% of 7 SP = 8 SP, 3 sp (selling price of hauberk)

50% of 8 SP, 3 sp = 4 SP, 1 sp, 50 cp

4 SP, 1 sp, 50 cp + 8 sp = 6 SP, 1 sp, 50 cp

The price for his materials is 6 SP, 1 sp, 50 cp.

Example:

Frarin is going to create a battle-axe.

25% of 3 SP + 4 sp (1 SP) = 1 SP

The price for his materials is 1 SP.

Creating the Item

Make an extended Craft test with a number of stages equal to its Creation Difficulty +2 and stage length of 1 day for ammunition and weapons and 1 week per Creation Difficulty level for armor. The number of stages is a minimum amount of time to create the item and adding +1 day to the total time for each retry. The TN for each stage is 7+(5(Creation Difficulty level -1)). Add the results together for your item's Roll Total. Also note how many times you rolled a Complete Failure or worse and double 1's.*

Table 79: Creation Difficulty

<u>Creation Difficulty</u>	<u>Weapons</u>	<u>Armor</u>
1	Arrows (20), Bolts (20), Club, Dagger, Javelin, Shield (small or large), Shot (rock), Sling, Staff	Leather
2	Bow (short or long), Hand axe, Mace/Morningstar, Shot (metal), Whip	Scale
3	Battle-axe, Composite Bows (short or long), Crossbow (small), Flail, Spear, Throwing Axe, Tower Shield	Chain
4	Longsword, Mattock, Pikestaff, Scimitar	Chain with Plate
5	Crossbow (large), Great axe, Great sword	Plate

Increase the Creation Difficulty by +1 levels for every +1 TL the item is. Anything that has a Creation Difficulty that is greater than 5 cannot be made unless you have the Innovative edge and Craft tests are TN 28 +2 per Creation Difficulty level greater than 5.

To calculate your item's attributes other than those that are fixed per the type of item (AR, damage, etc.), use the listed equations. For armor:

$$TDA = (\text{Roll Total} \times AR) - 5 \text{ per Complete Failure or worse or double 1's}$$

$$AL = TDA / 5$$

For weapons (bows have 1/2 HP and HD):

$$HP = (\text{Roll Total} / 10) - \text{Size Modifier (5 for Small, 3 for Medium, 1 for Large)}$$

$$HD = \text{Average damage} * - \text{Size Modifier}$$

$$WL = \text{Roll Total}$$

* - Average damage means 3.5 per 1d6 (rounded up) plus damage bonus

Since it is possible for items to have flaws within them, consult the tables below when creating an item and there were rolls that resulted in Complete Failures or worse or double 1's. For each one of these occurrences, roll 2d6 on the appropriate table below.

Table 80: Armor Creation Failure

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Effect</u>
2	Reduce AR by 1
3	Reduce value of Armor 10% (rounded down)
4	Reduce final TDA by 3d6
5	Reduce final TDA by 2d6
6	Reduce final AL by 10
7	Reduce final AL by 5
8	Reduce final AL by 10
9	Reduce final TDA by 2d6
10	Reduce final TDA by 3d6
11	Reduce value of Armor 10% (rounded down)
12	No penalty

Table 81: Weapon Creation Failure

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Effect</u>
2	Reduce damage bonus by 1, minimum 0
3	Reduce value of weapon 10% (rounded down)
4	Reduce final HP by 1
5	Reduce final HD by 1
6	Reduce final WL by 10
7	Reduce final WL by 5
8	Reduce final WL by 10
9	Reduce final HD by 1
10	Reduce final HP by 1
11	Reduce value of weapon 10% (rounded down)
12	No penalty

Repairing or Reforging an Item

Armor

The TN for repairing Armor that you have created is $7 + (5 * (\text{Creation Difficulty level} - 1))$ and add +3 TN if you didn't create the armor yourself. Upon making a successful repair test, the level of success will determine the effectiveness of the repair.

Table 82: Armor Repair Effects

<u>Success Level</u>	<u>Repair Effect</u>
Marginal	+1 point of damage absorbed to TDA*
Complete	Recover 25% of damage absorbed (rounded down) to TDA
Superior	Recover 50% of damage absorbed (rounded down) to TDA
Extraordinary	Recover 75% of damage absorbed (rounded down) to TDA

* Damage absorbed since creation or last repair

Example:

Frarin is tasked with repairing a corset of chain armor that has 125 of 140 TDA. If Frarin repairs the Armor and get a superior success on TN 9, then the TDA is now 133.

If the character rolls a Failure, no damage absorbed is replenished. If a Complete Failure is rolled, no damage that was absorbed is replenished **and** roll 1d6 on the Complete Failure for Armor Repair table.

Table 83: Complete Failure for Armor Repair

<u>Result (1d6)</u>	<u>Failure Effect</u>
1-2	Reduce value of Armor by 10% (rounded down)
3-4	Reduce TDA by 1d6
5-6	Reduce AL by 3

If the character rolls a Disastrous Failure, no damage that was absorbed is replenished **and** roll 1d6 on the Disastrous Failure for Armor Repair table..

Table 84: Disastrous Failure for Armor Repair

<u>Result (1d6)</u>	<u>Failure Effect</u>
1	Reduce the AR by 1
2	Reduce AL by
3	Reduce TDA by 2d6
4	Reduce AL by 10
5	Reduce TDA by 3d6
6	Reduce value of Armor by 50% (rounded down)

If the AR is reduced to 0 or the AL or TDA is reduced to or below 0 due to repair failure or combat, the Armor has now become useless. If the armor's TDA is reduced to or below 0 in the middle of combat, all damage from subsequent attacks goes through to the character.

Weapons

The TN for repairing or reforging a weapon that you have created is $7 + (5 * (\text{Creation Difficulty level} - 1))$ and add +3 TN if you didn't create the weapon yourself. If the character was able to make a successful repair test, then the weapon regains all lost HP. If the character rolls a Failure, the weapon is useless. If it is used in combat in this state, it will do only half damage (rounded down) on a successful attack and then break on the first Disastrous Failure or parry.

Appraising Weapons and Armor

To appraise weapons or armor to correspond with creation steps above, roll Appraise: Weapon or Appraise: Armor three (3) times. The assessed value of the weapon is based on these percentages: AR or HP is 50% of selling price, TDA or Damage Bonus is 25% of selling price, and AL or WL is 25% of selling price. Consult the following tables concerning the results of the Appraise checks of the item to determine what the character assesses the value to be.

Table 85: Appraisal Results

<u>Success Level</u>	<u>Result</u>
Extraordinary Success	Exact value of attribute
Superior Success	± 1 for AR or HP or Damage Bonus; $\pm 10\%$ for others
Complete Success	± 2 for AR or HP or Damage Bonus; $\pm 20\%$ for others
Marginal Success	± 2 for AR or HP or Damage Bonus; $\pm 25\%$ for others
Failure	± 3 for AR or HP or Damage Bonus; $\pm 50\%$ for others
Complete Failure	± 3 for AR or HP or Damage Bonus; $\pm 75\%$ for others
Disastrous Failure	± 3 for AR or HP or Damage Bonus; $\pm 90\%$ for others

Prototypes

Items and equipment that are considered experimental or prototypes are typically considered as Current TL +1 to +2. These items or equipment confer a penalty to use the item only if untrained in its use (Narrator's discretion) or upon a successful TN 10 or 12 Intellect test for Current TL +1 and +2, respectively.

Investigating Advanced Equipment

The time needed to understand the purpose of items or equipment of Current TL +3 or higher requires an extended Inquire (Research) test of TN 20 +2 per TL greater than 3 with stage length counted in months or weeks for Extraordinary Successes (number of stages determined by the Narrator).

The time needed learning how to use items or equipment of Current TL +3 or higher requires 1) knowing the purpose of the item, and 2) an extended Inquire (Research) test of TN 25 +2 per TL greater than 3 with stage length counted in years, months for Superior Successes, and weeks for Extraordinary Successes (number of stages determined by the Narrator).

The time needed to reverse engineer items or equipment of Current TL +3 or higher requires 1) knowing the purpose of the item, 2) how to use the item and 3) an extended Engineering test of the related skill of TN 15 +2 per TL greater than Current TL with the stage length counted in years or months for Extraordinary Successes (number of stages determined by the Narrator).

The same processes are required for items and equipment of Current TL +1 and +2 and the associated tests have reduced TN's: Current TL +2 have -5 TN and Current TL +1 have -10 TN from the base.

TOXINS

During their adventures, heroes can come across some very dangerous and toxic substances or diseases. The effects, onset time, and lethality can vary greatly. Use the table below to create your toxin (radiation, disease, poison, or corrosive). *If characters wish to create poisons, an extended Craft: Brewing (Poison) test is required taking 5 stages, each at 10 minutes each unless otherwise dictated by the Narrator. Onset Time, Potency, Treatment, Effect, and Stages have individual TN's for achieving a specific attribute. If the nature of the poison is to be random in creation, the character rolls his Craft: Brewing (Poison) tests with a TN 7 + (5*(Attribute number-1)) and the results will determine the value of each attribute of the poison. Retries for poison creation are at the discretion of the Narrator.*

Table 86: Toxin Attributes

<u>Type</u>		<u>Onset Time</u>	
	Select one:		Select one:
1	Inhaled	1	1 day
2	Contact (use for Corrosives and Radiation)	2	1 hour
3	Injury	3	1 minute
4	Ingested	4	1 round
5	Combination of any two or more above	5	Immediately

<u>Potency</u>		<u>Treatment</u>	
	Select one:		Select one:
1	±0 TN	1	TN 5
2	+5 TN	2	TN 10
3	+10 TN	3	TN 15
4	+15 TN	4	TN 20
5	+20 TN	5	TN 25 or more

<u>Effect</u>		<u>Stages</u>	
	Select one (Primary/Secondary):		Select one:
1	Reduce Vitality* by 1/None	1	1
2	Reduce Vitality* by 1d6/½-d6	2	½-d6
3	Damage (1d6, 1 Wound Level, etc.)/Half damage	3	1d6
4	Paralysis (1d6 minutes or longer)/Half duration	4	2d6
5	Instant Death/Unconscious (1d6 days or longer)	5	Continuous**

* - Vitality or any other appropriate attribute

** - Suitable only for inhaled poisons, corrosives, and radiation.

Type

This refers to the method of exposure to the toxin that would cause harm.

Onset Time

This is the period of time that elapses from when the victim is exposed and the onset of the toxin's effects.

Potency

Upon the elapsing of the onset time, the affected character must make a Stamina test.

Treatment

This represents the difficulty for curing or neutralizing the toxin. If the effects are unknown, someone can attempt a Medicine: Toxicology test (TN defined by Narrator) to identify the poison, Medicine: Pathology for diseases, Science: Physical for radiation and corrosives, or Medicine: General with +3 TN. If the identification attempt was successful, a cure

may be applied by making a Medicine: General test with -2 TN to the treatment TN per level of success of the identification test.

Effects

This is what happens to the character depending upon the result of the Stamina test. If the test fails, apply the primary effect. If he succeeds the test, then apply the secondary effects (usually half the primary effect or no effect at all). Attribute reductions are temporary (see System Rules for more information on healing). *An Extraordinary Success on the Stamina test negates any effects of a poison.*

Stages

Toxins, for the most part, have an extended duration of effect. The Stages value tells you the number of onset periods the malady can affect its victim. With the passage of subsequent onset periods, apply the appropriate effect. Characters remaining within the range of effect of an inhaled poison, corrosive, or radiation continue to suffer effects until they are removed from the exposure. Damage dealt by continuous toxins remains in effect until treated medically; natural healing will only regain damage dealt by poisons.

Creation Example

Durham the Deadly wants to make a poison that is both effective in touch and injury, acts within 1 hour of exposure, very potent, difficult to treat, affects the victim's ability to move very well, and doesn't endure very long. Durham the Deadly has a Craft: Brewing (Poison) with a total bonus of +6 and 4 Courage.

- Stage 1: *Because he wants his poison to affect a victim in more than one way, he must make a TN 7+(5*1) or TN 12 test.*
Roll - (3+3)+6=12 MARGINAL SUCCESS, Time spent = 10 minutes
- Stage 2: *Because he wants his poison to affect the victim after 1 hour of exposure, he must make a TN 7+(5*1) or TN 12 test.*
Roll - (5+1)+6=12 MARGINAL SUCCESS, Time spent = 10 minutes
- Stage 3: *Because he wants his poison to be very potent, he must make a TN 7+10 or TN 17 test.*
Roll - (4+4)+6+3=17 MARGINAL SUCCESS (1 Courage spent), Time spent = 10 minutes
- Stage 4: *Because he wants his poison to be difficult to treat, he must make a TN 7+(5*2) or TN 17 test.*
Roll - (5+3)+6+3=17 MARGINAL SUCCESS (2 Courage spent), Time spent = 10 minutes
- Stage 5: *Because he wants his poison to affect the victims reaction and movement (Agility reduction of 1/6 / 1/2-d6), he must make a TN 7+(5*1) or TN 12 test.*
Roll - (3+1)+6+3=13 COMPLETE SUCCESS (3 Courage spent), Time spent = 8 minutes
- Stage 6: *Because he wants his poison to not endure very long, he must make a TN 7+(5*1) or TN 12 test.*
Roll - (5+2)+6=13 COMPLETE SUCCESS, Time spent = 8 minutes

After almost an hour, Durham the Deadly created a poison that:

- *Will affect its victims either through contact or injury*
- *Reduces the victim's Agility by 1d6 (primary effect) or 1/2-d6 (secondary effect)*
- *Begins to act after 1 hour and will continue to act for 1/2-d6 hours*
- *Has a TN 17 Stamina test to resist the primary effect, and*
- *Has a TN 15 Medicine: Toxicology test to treat the poison*

Sample Radiation

Berthold Rays

Deadly radiation found in certain nebulae and radioactive decay. It can be blocked by deflectors. **Onset:** 1d6 rounds, **Potency:** +10 TN, **Treatment:** +10 TN, **Effects:** 3d6 Wound Points and 1d6 Strength, Vitality, Agility

Celebium

Rare compound found in unstable planets, planetoids, and asteroids. **Onset:** 1d6+4 minutes, **Potency:** +5 TN, **Treatment:** +10 TN, **Effects:** 3d6 Wound Points

Delta

Radiation emitted from stars and quasars. **Onset:** 1 round, **Potency:** +5 TN, **Treatment:** +15 TN, **Effects:** 1d6 Strength and Vitality

Gamma

This radiation comes from things like damaged FTL engines, stellar objects, and fission reactions. **Onset:** 1 minute, **Potency:** +5 TN, **Treatment:** +5 TN, **Effects:** 1d6 Strength

Hyperonic

Though a resistance can built up against it, this radiation is often a rapid killer. **Onset:** $\frac{1}{2}$ -d6+10 minutes, **Potency:** +10 TN, **Treatment:** +10 TN, **Effects:** 2d6 Wound Points and Vitality; aside from its effects on propulsion systems, it randomizes the setting for energy weapons after each discharge (requiring 1 action to reset it) and requiring a TN 20 (minimum) System Operation test to use transporters and sensors

Nucleonic

Used for replicative technology and cause cellular mutation and degradation. **Onset:** 2d6 rounds, **Potency:** +5 TN, **Treatment:** +15 TN, **Effects:** 1d6 Vitality

Polaron

Incredibly hazardous radiation that can kill living organisms and force shape-shifting creatures back to their normal appearance. **Onset:** 1 round, **Potency:** +10 TN, **Treatment:** +15 TN, **Effects:** 2d6 Wound Points or shape-shifters must revert back to their normal form for 2d6 rounds and cannot change forms during this time

Thermionic

Rare radiation found only on Class Y planets. **Onset:** 1 round, **Potency:** +10 TN, **Treatment:** +20 TN, **Effects:** 4d6 Wound Points, 1d6 Strength, 2d6 Vitality

Additional Rules for Consideration

Randomly Generating Toxins

It is quite simple for a Narrator to randomly generate a toxin, poison, or disease.

1. Roll 1d6 for Type, re-roll 6's. If you roll a 5, roll 1/2-d6 to determine how many ways a person can be exposed to it and choose them.
2. Roll 1d6 for Onset Time, re-roll 6's.
3. Roll 1d6 for Potency. If you roll a 6, roll 1d6 again and add 20 to the result.
4. Roll 1d6 for Treatment. If you roll a 6, roll 1d6 again and add 25 to the result.
5. Roll 1d6 for Effect, re-roll 6's. If the result will affect an attribute score, roll 1d6 again to determine the attribute:
 - 1-2 for Vitality
 - 3-4 for Strength
 - 5 for Bearing (1), Perception (2), Agility (3), or Intellect (4) (roll 1d6 until an attribute is determined), and
 - 6 for Magic or Psi (roll 1d6, 1-3 for Magic and 4-6 for Psi)
6. Roll 1d6 for Stages, re-roll 6's.

WORLD & SPACE CREATION

These rules reflect the focused creation of individual realms or countries, a world, or a region of space. How detailed a Narrator's creation will be depends on how important it is to his game and the tools given will allow for creations that are generic, detailed, or random. The space section may sound a bit Trek-ish, but that is due to the fact that it attempts to be based on facts or theories supported by current scientific knowledge and a little imagination.

Galaxies and Sectors

The galaxy is typically thought of as the largest area of adventuring. It is at this scope where large organizations (political, entrepreneurial, military, etc.) can span hundreds, if not thousands, of light-years and encompass hundreds, if not thousands, of worlds. As there are galaxies of varying shapes and sizes (*roll 1d6; 1 globular cluster, 2 elliptical, 3-4 spiral, 5-6 barred spiral*), to simplify navigating through the stars, a basic coordinate system is used by breaking down the galaxy into sections called “quadrants”. These quadrants are further broken down into smaller parts call “Sectors.” Sectors can be of any size, but usually are quite small, ranging from 1000 – 125000 cubic light years. They are labeled numerically, but are probably best known to most by its prominent culture or feature or only inhabited star system within it. They are small enough to be dealt with in greater detail but also large enough that much diversity can exist within them.

Table 87: Sector's System Population

<u>Result (1d6)*</u>	<u>Sector Type</u>	<u>Number of Systems</u>
1	Sparse	1d6-2
2-3	Moderate	1d6+2
4-5	Average	1d6+4
6	Dense	2d6+4

Location

Location can be important as each section of space is unique and there are some concepts that can influence its structure. *To randomly determine the location type of the sector, roll 1d6 (1 Barrier, 2 Core-ward, 3 Deep Space, 4 Galactic Arm (Interior), 5 Galactic Arm (Edge) and 6 Star Desert).*

Barrier

This is a sector that is near the Galactic Barrier, the edge of the galaxy that is either at the furthest point from the core when looking down upon the galactic plane or “up” or “down” when looking along the edge of the galactic plane. Unusual things happen here all the time such unexplainable intergalactic events, phenomena that alter space and/or people physically and mentally, etc. *Due to the unpredictability of space in these regions, roll 1d6 again: 1-2 reduce the system population by half (rounded down, minimum of 0), 3-4 no change in system population, 5 double the system population, 6 triple the system population.*

Core-ward

A sector that is core-ward is one that is near the center of the galaxy, either in physical or astropolitical terms (usually they are the same). The space lanes here are well-traveled and there are few interstellar surprises to be discovered, but political intrigue, piracy, and war figure highly in these regions of space. *Re-roll 1's when determining the sector's system population.*

Deep Space

If a sector is in deep space, that means in is an area of space in the furthest reaches away from the galactic core where there has been little to no exploration, so anyone and anything could show up here.

Galactic Arm

A sector that is on the inner part of a galactic arm usually has many trade and travel routes through or near them and is typically in explored space. A sector that is on the edge of a galactic arm usually is considered frontier-land where there has been little settlement and exploration due to it being off the beaten track of most spacelanes.

Star Deserts

There are sometimes large expanses of space with few or no stars for many light years (spiral galaxies have these between their “arms”). A sector in or has a considerable portion of empty space won’t have many systems and even fewer with inhabited systems. Much travel would be required for excursions, but there is also the possibility of increased interstellar phenomena. *This location type is always considered Sparse for its system population.*

Dominant Races and Astropolitics

Astropolitics refers to the political map of the sector. Star systems could all or in part be allied with others within a sector or alliances that could span many sectors. They could also be apolitical and look out for their own interests, not caring about the struggles and conflicts between others.

Regardless of the astropolitics of the sector, there is usually a dominant race or culture within it. A sector could contain systems that are inhabited and controlled by one race, inhabited by many races but subjugated by one race, inhabited by many and allied through an intergalactic cooperative government, etc.

Unusual Phenomena

There’s more to sectors than just star systems and empty space. There are many astronomical phenomena that pervade the empty regions between and possibly encompassing star systems (plasma and ion storms, black holes, and nebulae, just to name a few). The tables below can be used to randomly insert phenomena into a game or sector upon its creation. *Roll once on Table 89 for Star Desert sectors, twice for Core-ward and Galactic Arm sectors, and three times for Barrier or Deep Space sectors.*

Table 88: Unusual Phenomena

<u>Result (1d6)*</u>	<u>Phenomenon</u>
1	Installation (roll 1d6; 1-2 unaligned starbase or space dock, 3-4 covert facility of enemy, 5-6 communications center or scientific research laboratory)
2	Ancient artifact (roll 1d6; 1-4 significant ruins on a planet(s), 5 space-going relic such as a Dyson’s Sphere, 6 cosmic string)
3	Mineral-rich lodes (roll 1d6; 1-3 asteroid belt in one system, 4-5 an extraordinarily metal-heavy planet, 6 Lazarus star). The lodes are considered Plentiful (roll 1d6, 1-3) or Very Plentiful (4-6), see Table 113.
4-7	Interstellar anomaly(s) (roll 1d6 for the number of anomalies, re-roll 6’s and add half). Roll on Table 90 for interstellar anomalies.

* - MODIFIERS: +1 for a Barrier or Core-ward sector

Table 89: Interstellar Anomalies

<u>Result (3d6)*</u>	<u>Phenomenon</u>
3	Cosmic String
4	Rogue Planet
5-6	Space-born Life
7-9	Nebula (roll 1d6; 1-2 planetary, 3-4 stellar nursery (see Stellar Cluster), 5-6 use Table 92)
10-12	Stellar Phenomena (roll on Table 91)
13-14	Roll 1d6; Ion Storm (1-3) or Plasma Field (4-6)
15	Subspace Phenomena (roll on Table 93)
16	Stellar Cluster (roll 3d6 again with no modifiers and add the anomaly to the cluster, re-roll 16’s)
17	<i>Roll 1d6; 1-4 Shockwave, 5-6 Nucleonic Wavefront</i>
18	Wormhole (roll 1d6; 1-3 one-shot, 4-5 decaying wormhole, 6 stable wormhole).
19+	Re-roll without modifiers

* - MODIFIERS: -3 for dark regions, +1 for edge of galactic arm (spiral, barred or variant), +2 for interior of galactic arm (spiral, barred, or variant), +4 for Barrier or Core-ward

Table 90: Stellar Phenomena

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Phenomenon</u>
2	Black hole
3-4	Protostar
5	T Tauri Star (roll 1d6, 4-6 phenomena causes subspace turbulence)
6-8	Cepheid Variable Star
9-10	Nebula (roll 1d6; 1-2 planetary, 3-4 stellar nursery (see Stellar Cluster), 5-6 roll on Table 92)
11	Roll 1d6; 1 Neutron Star, 2-5 Pulsar, 6 Graviton Ellipse
12	Lazarus Star

Table 91: Nebulae

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Nebula</u>
2	Mar Oscura-type
3	Gamma-Eridani-class
4	Dicromic-type
5	McAllister-class
6-8	Emission-type
9	Hugora-class
10	Idari-class
11	Mutara-class
12	Rolar-class

Table 92: Subspace Phenomena

<u>Result (3d6)*</u>	<u>Phenomenon</u>
3	Corridor
4	Interphase Packet
5-6	Rift or Rupture
9	Shockwave
10-12	Compression
13	Chaotic space (roll 1d6, this is the number of times to roll again on Table 90; re-roll further 13's on this table)
14-15	Eddy
16-17	Turbulence
18+	Vacuole

* - MODIFIERS: +1 for nearby cluster or supernova, +3 for nearby black hole, re-roll all 1's if Core-ward, re-roll all 6's if Barrier

Asteroid Belts

*Either an unfinished planet from a planetary nebula or the remnants of a destroyed planet due to a supernova, collision, straying too close to another, much larger planet, or a weapon. Every round the ship is within an asteroid belt, roll 1d6; on a 1 or 2 an asteroid of appreciable size is found hurtling towards the ship. Roll another 1d6 to determine the asteroid's size; on 6's, roll again and add result until a 6 isn't rolled. The navigator must make a System Operation (Nav Control) test with a TN of 5 + 3*asteroid's size. If there is a collision, the asteroid deals Size-d6 + Size damage ("Size" meaning asteroid's size). Extremely large and/or massive asteroids can have gravity of their own and so can cause gravimetric shear damage. If a ship makes a close approach or enters an asteroid, it suffers 1d3 gravimetric shear damage per minute. These phenomena are typically "gold mines" for minerals and metals, see Resources in the Realms, Countries, & Worlds section to determine the asteroid belt's resource type and level.*

Gravimetric Shear

A number of stellar phenomena create incredibly intense fields of stressed space that can damage or destroy ships, along with moons, planets, or even stars. These fields are so strong that they can affect ships even with their deflectors raised to

full strength. Damage from the table below is applied when the ship or whatever comes to Short range or less (the distance for range increments is determined by the Narrator). *Deflector shields can be modulated to lessen the effect of the gravimetric shear by making a TN 12 System Operation (Shields) test: ½-d6 for a Marginal Success, ½-d6+2 for a Complete Success, 1d6+3 for a Superior Success, and 2d6+2 for an Extraordinary Success.* The damage to the shields and ship is dealt with in the same manner as starship combat.

Table 93: Gravimetric Shear Damage

<u>Source</u>	<u>Damage Per Minute</u>
Black hole	1d6*
Cosmic String	10d6+20
Galactic Barrier	2d6+3*
Graviton Ellipse	1d6+3
Neutron Stars	8d6+10*
Subspace Rift	1d6+2
Star or Superjovian planet (Point Blank)	1d3*

* - These phenomena also emit high levels of dangerous radiation (see Toxins)

Black Holes

These phenomena are the result of a star after going supernova and its internal pressures causing all the matter to fall into itself, creating a hyper-dense quantum singularity that has a gravitational mass billions of times that of Earth – so strong is the pull that light can’t escape it. The black hole does emit X-rays, which results from the annihilation of matter as it is “sucked” in the black hole. Travelling near a black hole at the proper angle and speed can cause time dilation effects where the ship is sent an untold number of years into the future and if the black hole is spinning, the ship could go into the past! Relics have been found near black holes caught by the time dilation effects to confirm this. When encountering a black hole, its gravitational field causes intense gravimetric shear damage to a ship passing by and possible subspace turbulence. Roll 1d6+2; 4-6 black hole causes subspace turbulence.

Chaotic Space

This is a region of space where the universe’s laws of physics are distorted and do not necessarily apply. It’s thought that a number of subspace and temporal anomalies are the result of chaotic space. What causes chaotic space is unknown but a number of its effects are: disrupted or disabled ship systems, unpredictable weapon effects, etc. Complex calculations, TN 25 or higher *for either Science: Space (Astrogation) or Science: Physical (Mathematics)*, are required for navigating through areas of chaotic space. Additionally, the randomness of physics in the area can cause stress in the surrounding space, damaging anything by way of gravimetric shear. *Every minute within a region of chaotic space, roll 1d6 to determine how many dice to roll for damage.*

Cosmic Strings

Similar to black holes, these phenomena are light-years long with the width of a proton. They emit energy that can be detected in subspace frequencies, but their incredibly strong gravity fields can trap a starship long before it can be detected. Unfortunately their exact nature are still yet unknown and so surviving an encounter with one of them is quite perilous. Some scientists believe that they were created by ancient civilizations to create Dyson’s Spheres or rearrange whole solar systems or as weapons, as contact with one will literally slice a starship apart at the molecular level. Others still believe that they may constitute the bulk of the dark matter in the universe.

Dark Matter

Interstellar dust and some light elements with no ambient or radiant energy remains “dark,” meaning that it is undetectable by pretty much all means other than a gravimeter or other exotic means. Most of the universe is filled with this and the types could vary as much as normal matter. Even in futuristic games, the properties of dark matter and dark matter nebulae remain a mystery.

Ion Storms

Stars, nebulae, and other energetic bodies occasionally eject masses of highly-charged particles and radiation called ion storms and can pose dangers to both ships and planets alike (the latter less severely). They range in size from a few thousand to a few million miles in diameter, but even worse is that they are difficult to detect. Rated on a scale of 1 to 10, ion storms can wreak havoc on sensors, damage ships, and even kill those unprotected by deflectors. Very intense storms can hamper the use of transporters and even cause weaknesses in the fabric of space itself between separate universes!

Table 94: Ion Storm Effects

Storm Category	Transporters/ Communications	Flight Control/Sensors	Damage*
1	+1 TN	--	--
2	+2 TN	--	--
3	+3 TN	+1 TN	--
4	+4 TN	+2 TN	--
5	+5 TN	+3 TN	--
6	+6 TN	+4 TN	1d6
7	+7 TN	+5 TN	2d6
8	+8 TN	+6 TN	3d6
9	Malfunction**	Malfunction	Special***
10	Malfunction, -2 Reliability	Malfunction, -2 Reliability	Special

* - Damage is dealt every minute. Use the vehicle combat rules for applying damage.

** - Roll 1d6 to determine which system malfunctions; 1-3 for transporters (if found in the game) or flight control, 4-6 for communications or sensors. See Vehicles for examples of system malfunctions. The Reliability modifier applies to the same system that is malfunctioning.

*** - Apply special, story-related effects like manifestations of psionic or other powers, transported to alternate universe, etc.

Lazarus Stars

While most supernovae lead to the creation of neutron stars or black holes, some supergiant stars survive these massive explosions, then repeat the process numerous times. Known as Lazarus stars, they are surrounded by miniature nebulae consisting of layers of ionized gases. Any planets or asteroids that survive the explosions (however unlikely) are found to have rich deposits of heavy elements, radioactive materials, and exotic substances. *Everything out to a radius equal to double the radius to the outermost layer is affected by Berthold rays, delta, and gamma radiation. Planets or asteroids that are found near these stars are considered to have Very Plentiful resources. Roll 2d6-2 (minimum 1) to determine the number of layers of ionized gases around the star; the distance between them is determined by the Narrator. Roll 1d6; 1-3 layers are ion storms, 4-6 layers are plasma fields. The category of the storm effects increases traveling toward the Lazarus star. Roll 1d6, 4-6 Lazarus star causes subspace turbulence.*

Nebulae

Nebulae are gigantic clouds of gaseous material created from supernovae, failed star and/or planetary formation, or are extremely dense as they form a stellar nursery. Properties of nebulae vary widely as some emit dangerous radiation to house dark matter to blind sensors.

Dicromic-type

These nebulae have immense, yet irregular, masses that cause unstable gravimetric disturbances in the surrounding space. Every round a ship is within the nebula, it suffers 1d6+3 gravimetric shear damage every round for each range increment closer to the center (starting at Long). Also roll 2d6 and on a result of 12, a random system is dealt critical damage.

Emission-type

These nebulae emit powerful streams of electromagnetic (EM) radiation. A TN 10 reliability test is required to keep a cloaking device functional while inside the nebula. A test is required upon either activating or deactivating the system.

Gamma-Eridani-class

These nebulae disrupt and distort subspace communications. A TN 20 reliability test of the communications system is required for each message sent or received while inside the nebula. Radio and other forms of EM communications still function and probes can still be launched with pre-recorded messages.

Hugora-class

These nebulae severely impair or damage sensors. A TN 15 reliability test of sensors is required to keep sensors functioning. If the test fails, all sensor functionality is lost, requiring repair. If the test passes, the sensors take 1 point of system damage *and increases the difficulty of System Operation (Sensor) tests: +8 TN for a Marginal Success, +4 TN for a Complete Success, +2 TN for a Superior Success, and ± 0 TN for an Extraordinary Success.*

Idari-class

Common dark matter nebulae. *Roll 1d6 for phenomena within; 1 quantum singularity, 2 neutron star, 3 cosmic string, 4 actually a Mar Oscura-class nebula.*

Mar Oscura-class

Rare dark matter nebula that warps the fabric of space within it. Ships within these nebulae begin to be rearranged due to the distortions of space-time. For every round within one of these nebulae, roll 2d6; 2 warp core breach, 3-4 randomly damage a system, 12 a PC “phases” out for 2d6 rounds. While “phased out,” the PC can see and here everything going on around him, but cannot interact with anything. Once the duration elapses, he reappears unharmed. A TN 15 System Operation (Nav Control) test is required every round to guide the ship to avoid interspatial rifts. Success means that none of the above effects are suffered.

McAllister-class

These nebulae are protostellar clouds, but not as large as stellar nurseries. They limit sensor use due to intense particle flux that also the hulls of ships, even with deflectors up. A TN 15 reliability test for sensors is required to keep sensors functioning. A failed test gives a +5 TN to System Operation (Sensors) tests. Regardless of the test’s result, the ship takes 1 point of structure damage, bypassing the shields.

Mutara-class

These nebulae are large clouds of dust that have large amounts of ambient energy rendering sensors and shields useless. A TN 20 reliability test is required to keep the shields and sensors functioning. If the test fails, the system is inoperable. If the test passes, sensor tests have a +10 TN modifier or the shield effectiveness is reduced (-2 threshold, -2 protection, -1 strength).

Planetary Nebulae

These nebulae are the ejecta from red giant stars before they collapse into white dwarfs. The remaining asteroids, the remnants of rocky planets or planetoids, are deposited with many heavy elements and are considered to have Plentiful resources. A TN 20 reliability test is required to shields and sensors functioning. If the test fails, the system is inoperable. If the test passes, System Operation (Sensor) tests have a +5 TN modifier or shields are reduced in power (-1 threshold, -1 protection). They are also permeated by gamma radiation and could be filled with asteroids (roll 1d6, 1-2 asteroid belt resides within).

Rolar-class

These nebulae constantly emit a stream of hyperonic radiation that disrupts a starship’s faster-than-light (FTL) propulsion. A TN 10 reliability test of the propulsion systems is required to keep the ship’s propulsion functioning properly. A failed test temporarily reduces the propulsion system’s reliability by one grade (F to E, DD to CC, etc.). If a class A system fails the test, it goes offline and would require repair.

Neutron Stars

These are the remnants of stars that have died, collapsing into white dwarfs, then further into dense spheres made entirely of neutrons called neutronium. They are dark and give off powerful gravitational fields, causing gravimetric shear damage to anything nearby, making them very dangerous navigational hazards.

Pulsars

Most neutron stars turn into pulsars, rapidly spinning at rates from 0.001 seconds to 5 seconds. They emit all sorts of EM radiation, from X-rays to visible light to radio waves. These rates remain seemingly constant, but as they age, they begin to spin faster. Due to their predictability, they are often used as navigation aids for space-faring races. They are also sources of nucleonic radiation and can emit it at such high intensity making exploration and observation by nearby vessels quite dangerous, especially to living organisms. *Roll 1d6; 1-2 emits nucleonic radiation.*

Plasma Fields

These phenomena form in subspatially or temporally turbulent regions of space collect hydrogen into fields of highly volatile plasma that can potentially discharge across light-years. If a field becomes affected gravitationally, it can begin to move through space and is called a plasma “storm”. See Table 94 for damage and replace “Special” with 4d6 and 5d6, respectively. *Roll 1d6; 1 unstable wormhole appears, 2 subspace rift or rupture appears, 3 space around plasma field is chaotic.*

Protostars

These phenomena are clouds of gas and debris that are slowly forming stars and planets. They are typically very thin in density so that travel up to warp 1 can be achieved without damaging the ship, but when entering Short range of the center of the protostar, speeds are limited to 0.5 c. *Roll 1d6; 1 Space-borne life, 2-4 asteroid belt. Protostars also emit a very debilitating radiation that can disrupt sensors, navigation, and communication. A TN 15 reliability test for sensors and communications is required. If the sensors test fails, all System Operation (Sensor or Nav Control) and Science: Space (Astrogation) tests have a +10 TN; no further reliability tests are required. If the communications test fails, no messages can be sent or received; a communications test is required each time a message is to be sent or received until a failure occurs.*

Rogue Planets

Although quite rare, planets are occasionally discovered in deep space with no parent star. This could happen for several reasons such as it was constructed, ripped away from its home solar system by a black hole or supernova, etc. Constructed planets could support life within its interior or it could have some means of generating heat and an atmosphere to allow habitation above the surface. Even the most rare of possibilities is that a large Jovian-type planet could provide enough heat to support life on moon. *Roll 1d6; 1 inhabited by biological beings, 2 inhabited or run by artificial intelligences, 3 overseen by god-like superbeing(s), 4-6 devoid of life.*

Shockwaves and Nucleonic Wavefronts

Imploding or exploding stellar formations (stars, planets, moons, etc.) create massive ripples of force called shockwaves. These propagate from the source and can carry debris, ion storms, plasma storms, and other energetic objects as they move. Supernova shockwaves can travel many light-years before dissipating. Nucleonic wavefronts come from pulsars, subspace anomalies, or possibly alien artifacts. These wave fronts resemble shockwaves in their form and effect (see Toxins concerning nucleonic radiation effects).

Moving at warp 1 is enough to evade all shockwaves and wavefronts except those created in subspace or hyperwarp. A successful TN 12 System Operation (Shields) test can reduce the amount of damage done by a shockwave or wavefront: ½-d6 for a Marginal Success, ½-d6+2 for a Complete Success, 1d6+2 for a Superior Success, and 2d6 for an Extraordinary Success. Damage is applied as in starship combat. At sublight speeds, evading (no damage) or turning into (half damage) these waves requires a System Operation (Nav Control) test. An *extended* TN 15 Engineering: Propulsion (warp drive) *with 6 stages, each lasting one hour*, can create an inverse warp field to anchor against a shockwave (not nucleonic wavefront) to avoid damage. Additional damage to unsecured crew and cargo can occur as artificial gravity is overwhelmed.

Table 95: Shockwave Damage

Source	Damage	Nav Control TN
Exploding starship	1d6 + starship's size	5 + (½ starship's size)
Nucleonic wavefront (category 1-12)	2d6 + category number	5 + category number
Exploding moon	5d6 + (diameter/500)	15 + (diameter/1000)
Exploding planet or planet-sized moon	7d6 + (diameter/1000)	20 + (diameter/2000)
Nova	10d6	25
Supernova	Ship destroyed	30

Space-born Life

Creatures born and live in the vastness of outer space are quite rare, but also very powerful. They can pose a threat not only to starships but planets as well. The exigencies of space travel mean that most organisms possess at least as much power as a starship and often have extremely potent attacks and defenses. Less intelligent creatures behave fairly predictably, but those that are very intelligent should be regarded as dangerous, if not more than, an enemy starship. See Creature Creation for more information about creating a space-born creature.

Stellar Clusters

Clusters arise when a group of stars form near one another yet don't annihilate each other, remaining gravitationally influenced by one another. The Pleiades in the Orion constellation are a good example of this. Typically all of the stars in the cluster are of approximately the same solar age, but there are exceptions to the rule. Planets in various states of formation, gravitational fluctuations or anomalies, and deadly radiation can occur in or near the clusters. Since these phenomena often act as stellar "nurseries" containing protostars, T Tauri stars, and any number of other stellar formations can be found in them as well. With a veritable cornucopia of interstellar hazards to contend with, stellar clusters also make great hideouts for pirates or locations for covert installations.

Table 96: Stellar Cluster Modifiers

<u>Range*</u>	<u>Flight Control</u>	<u>Sensor</u>	<u>Damage**</u>	<u>Shield Strength</u>
Point Blank	+8 TN	+6 TN	4	-2
Short	+6 TN	+4 TN	2	-1
Medium	+4 TN	+2 TN	—	—
Long	+2 TN	—	—	—

* - Range increments are measured from the center of the cluster

** - Damage is from gravimetric shear (see above)

Subspace Anomalies

Subspace (or hyperspace) is a spatial continuum that is outside the realm of normal space with differing physical laws than our own. FTL propulsion and communications rely on the properties of this, but it can also be distorted due to our interactions with it. Disruptions in subspace cause anomalies that can interfere with technology operation, damage things in normal space, allow interaction by subspace aliens between our universe and subspace, etc. This aspect among all others can be the source from which many problems can occur, making it a very versatile plot device.

Subspace Compression

This phenomenon is characterized by regions of subspace twist and fold in upon themselves, causing intense strains on normal space. These strains are distinguished by gravitational distortions that produce gravimetric shear.

Subspace Corridor

This "groove" in subspace can propel objects moving at warp speeds faster than normal, up to speeds of 40 light-years per minute. A successful TN 15 System Operation (Shields) modulates the shields' field harmonics to force a ship from the corridor.

Subspace Eddy

This phenomenon resides in regions where the boundaries between subspace and normal space are weakened (such as near a black hole or interphase pockets. They store up energy over a period of time and then explode, releasing the energy in the form of plasma storms.

Subspace Field Distortion

These are created by FTL propulsion and can be a means to track ships traveling at warp. To track a ship moving at warp speed, a TN 15 System Operation (Sensors) test modified by range of the ship's long-range sensors. These distortions also can cause random effects to occur when a ship is moving at warp through chaotic space.

Subspace Interphase Pockets

These phenomena are gateways between normal space and subspace that emit subspace radiation and can allow access to anything from either side into the other.

Subspace Rifts

These “tears” in subspace that affect craft with FTL propulsion, pulling them in like a whirlpool to be crushed by the intense pressure from gravimetric shear.

Subspace Shockwaves

They resemble shockwaves in normal space but reside in subspace. They can damage systems on a starship (especially subspace radios), but their effects on larger bodies in normal space are much more negligible. Select the intensity of the shockwave from Table 96 and the test to evade has a +5 TN modifier. Damage bypasses shields and structure and is applied directly to a system.

Subspace Turbulence

These subspace disturbances are common around black holes, cosmic strings, and other disruptive anomalies. A very rare and exotic form of artificial matter called Omega particles can cause subspace turbulence. This phenomenon inhibits the formation and ability to sustain a warp field. A TN 20 System Operation (Flight Control) test is required to travel through subspace turbulence; failure means that a warp field cannot be generated or is suppressed.

Subspace Vacuoles

These phenomena resemble wormholes in normal space, *except that they either have no other side to them, immediately crushing and destroying anything that enters them, or transports the object to another universe. Roll 1d6, 1-2 transported to another universe, 3-6 destroyed.*

T Tauri Stars

These are main sequence stars that have reached a particular age where they eject most of their light metals from their core. These “T Tauri winds” are violent versions of a solar wind that can interfere with ship systems and harm organic life. *Roll 1d6 to determine which system requires a TN 10 reliability test. If the test fails, the system is offline.* Almost all are too young to have planets, but there are always exceptions to the rule. *Roll 1d6; 1-2 planets exist. Go to next section for star system’s profile.*

Variable Stars

Although most stars have constant characteristics, some do not, varying a characteristic over a period of time (brightness, rotation, etc.). Cepheid variable stars, known for their periodic nova-like explosions, are used for determining position in the galaxy as well as temporal positioning. Their explosions can damage ships or planets orbiting them. *Roll 1d6 to determine which ship system is damaged and roll another 1d6 to determine how badly by subtracting the result from the current reliability of the system (if the damage is more than the system’s reliability, the system is offline).*

Wormholes

Otherwise known as Einstein-Rosen bridges, these phenomena are tunnels in space that link two separate points in space-time (the same position but two different points in time, two different positions at the same point in time, or two different positions at two different points in time). Most are unstable and fluctuate wildly, usually destroying themselves anything that happens to enter them or instantly disappearing upon travel through them. *For reusable yet decaying wormholes, calculate their life using Table 100.* FTL propulsion systems can destabilize wormholes and unbalanced FTL propulsion systems can even create micro-wormholes. Some highly advanced races can create wormholes for travel.

Table 97: Wormhole Effects

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Effect</u>
2	No effect; transported to same point in space and time
3-4	Transported to same position in space, different point in time (3 future, 4 past)
5-9	Ship destroyed
10-11	Transported to different position in space, different point in time (10 past, 11 future)
12	Transported to different position in space, same point in time

Table 98: Random Position

<u>Result (1d6)</u>	<u>Effect</u>
1	Same system, 2d6 x 1000000 miles away
2	Same sector, 1d6 systems away
3	2d6 sectors away
4	6d6 sectors away
5	Different quadrant, roll ½-d6 to select
6	Different galaxy

Table 99: Random Time

<u>Result (2d6)*</u>	<u>Result</u>
1	Minutes
2	Hours
3	Days
4	Weeks
5	Months
6	Years
1	$\pm 1d6+1^{**}$
2	$\pm 1d6+3 \times 2$
3	$\pm 1d6+5 \times 5$
4	$\pm 1d6+7 \times 10$
5	$\pm 1d6+9 \times 20$
6	$\pm 1d6+10 \times 25$

* - For a precise random time, roll the first 1d6 to establish the major unit of time and then roll randomly for a value of each lesser unit of time.

** - “±” means the time differential is positive if going into the future and negative if going into the past

Star Systems

Now that the number of star systems and interstellar phenomenon has been determined, now it is time to populate individual systems. A star system's profile includes: System Type, Planets, Other Objects, and Affiliation.

System Type

Stars are classified by three criteria: spectral class, brightness, and size. Except for Type O, any star could have planets but white dwarfs would rarely have any Class-M planets as star would have incinerated any planet that had a distance from the star suitable for promoting life.

Table 100: System Type

Result (2d6)	Type
2-3	Trinary
4-7	Single star
8-11	Binary
12+	$4 + (\frac{1}{2}d6)$ stars, rounded up)

Spectral Class

Type A

White stars such as Altair and Deneb, Sirius A, and Vega. They often have metal-rich gaseous envelopes, providing a higher chance of their planets and moons have rich mineral deposits. Due to this, systems with stars of this spectral class attract miners and pirates. *Roll 1d6; 1-2 mining installation, 3 scientific installation.*

Type B

Blue-white stars, such as Rigel and Spica. Even the smallest of these stars possess a mass no less than 10 solar masses.

Type D

White dwarfs. Although they lack interior luminosity, they still have glowing hydrogen "atmospheres." They are not to be confused with the still-burning "dwarfs" on the main sequence.

Type F

Yellow-white stars, such as Canopus, Polaris, and Procyon. Because these stars at a minimum have twice the mass of Sol (our sun), their Class-M planets would have an orbit at twice the distance as ours.

Type G

Yellow stars, such as Alpha Centauri A, Capella, Sol, and Tau Ceti. Explorers generally seek these stars out because they emit heat, light, and radiation in a manner that is ideal for promoting life, especially humanoid life.

Type K

Orange stars, such as Aldebaran, Arcturus, 40 Eridani A, and Epsilon Indi. These stars emit less radiation than Type G's, humanoids need less radiation protection and Class-M planets have thinner atmospheres.

Type M

Red Stars, such as Antares and Betelgeuse. As they burn slower than others, they account for over 2/3's of all stars.

Type O

Blue stars. Because they consume their fuel rapidly, they burn out after just a few million years before planets could possibly form around them. They are generally found in galactic arms and core, existing in only the super-giant and dwarf sizes

Size

Table 101: Stellar Size

<u>Result (3d6)</u>	<u>Size</u>
3-16	V Dwarf; roll on Table 101a
17-18	Giant or Subdwarf; roll on Table 101b

Table 101a: Main-sequence Stars

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Classification</u>
2	Type A
3	Type F
4	Type G
5-9	Type M
10	Type K
11	Type G
12	Type B

Table 101b: Giant & Subdwarf Stars

<u>Result (3d6)</u>	<u>Type</u>
3-9	Type A subgiant
10	Type D white dwarf
11	Type F giant
12	Type A giant
13	Type B giant
14-15	Type M red giant
16	Type O giant
17	Type B supergiant
18	Type O dwarf

Brightness

Brightness is classified by values ranging from 0 (brightest) to 9 (dimpest). Blue stars are typically brighter than red stars, but there are always exceptions.

Table 102: Stellar Brightness

<u>Result (2d6)*</u>	<u>Brightness</u>
2 or less	0
3	1
4	2
5	3
6	4
7-8	5
9	6
10	7
11	8
12	9

* -3 for Type O and B stars, -1 for Type A and F stars, +3 for Type M and D stars

Planets

This part of the system profile lists the number and classification of each planet. Roll 2d6+2 to determine the number of planets in the system. The profile of an inhabited or significant planet, planetoid, or moon is discussed in the next section.

Table 103: Planetary Classification

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Size</u>
2	Roll 1d6; 1 Class-Y, 2-6 Class-D	*
3	Class-D	1
4-5	Class-F	3
6	Class-G	4
7-8	Roll 1d6; 1-4 Class-T, 5-6 Class-J	1d6+10
9	Class-H	5
10	Class-K	6
11	Class-L	6
12	Class-M	6

* - Roll 1d6 for size; result equals Class-Y size, 1-3 Size 1 for Class-D, 4-6 Size 2 for Class-D.

Class-D

Small, rocky planetoid or large asteroid like the moons of Mars. *These have no moons, but come in Size 1 or 2.*

Class-F

Rocky worlds similar to Class-D but larger like Earth's moon. They have no atmosphere or water, but are large or dense enough to have an appreciable gravity so that fully-enclosed facilities could be built to live in.

Class-G

These worlds have low gravity and thin atmospheres with ice or slushes of water, methane, ammonia, etc. Few have native life, but some possess liquid oceans under a deep layer of ice, like Saturn's moon, Titan. *Roll 2d6; 11-12 life-forms found here.*

Class-H

These worlds are extremely dry but are inhabitable by humanoids provided that they have water and environmental suits or other technology to provide a suitable living environment. *Roll 2d6; 11-12 life-forms found here.*

Class-J

These are probably the most common type of planets. They are large gaseous planets with solid metal cores, which include planets like Jupiter, Uranus, and Neptune. Some get so large that they are called brown dwarfs, a gas giant so large that it rivals some suns, but doesn't have enough critical mass to cause an internally sustainable fusion reaction. Due to unbreathable atmospheres, constant hurricane-force winds, and very strong gravity, humanoids nor even their equipment could survive on one of these planets, but due to the nature of their atmospheres and their size, they could harbor other types of life or support a Class-M or -L moon. *Roll 2d6; 12 life-forms found in planet's atmosphere.*

Class-K

Though these worlds have gravity comparable to an Earth-like world, they have conditions that require humanoids use technology to maintain a livable environment upon it. An example would be Mars. *Roll 2d6; 11-12 life-forms found here.*

Class-L

These worlds are very similar to Class-M worlds with oxygen-argon atmospheres and sometimes with high levels of carbon dioxide as well, but since they lack nitrogen, no animal life could evolve on such a world. They are typically rocky, terrestrial worlds, abundant with plant-life. *Roll 2d6; 10-12 life-forms found here.*

Class-M

These worlds are small, terrestrial worlds with nitrogen-oxygen atmospheres with liquid water usually covering a large portion of the surface. Both animal- and plant-life can be supported, including humanoid life. Earth is an example of this type of world. *Roll 2d6; 10-11 life-forms are found here, 12 humanoid life found here.*

Class-T

These worlds are a subset of Class-J's where they have major orbital ring systems. *Roll 2d6; 12 life-forms found in planet's atmosphere.*

Class-Y

These worlds are the absolute anomalies on the planetary scale. Also known as “demon” worlds, they have astronomically high surface pressures and/or temperatures and corrosive or irradiated atmospheres. An example of this is Venus. Some, amazingly, evolve simple to complex life-forms as well. *Roll 2d6; 12 life-forms found here.*

Other Objects

This part of the system profile lists what other significant objects might be located in the system (covert installations, ancient alien artifacts, etc.). Refer to the list of unusual phenomena that was generated when creating the sector this system resides in.

Affiliation

This part of the system profile lists what power, if any, controls or inhabits the system. Even if a power doesn't rule the system, it may come under the protection of one. The affiliation may be directly designated by the Narrator as a part of the storyline, but could be randomly selected as well (especially useful in exploration-oriented games).

Table 104: System Affiliation

<u>Result (1d6)</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
1-2	Major power
3-4	Minor power
5	Disputed (roll 1d6; 1-3 two major powers, 4-5 one major and minor power, 6 two minor powers)
6	Neutral, independent, or undiscovered/unexplored

Realms, Countries, Worlds

The difference in creating a profile for these is negligible. Low-tech fantasy or modern gaming worlds have distinct cultures, tech levels, sizes, etc. that make them “worlds” unto themselves and can be treated as such when creating them. Worlds created at the micro level (country by country) can always be used for sci-fi or futuristic games, but should be reserved for long-term focus or repeated appearances in a game as their creation can be quite time-consuming. A profile lists a realm, country, or world’s size (and density for worlds), moons (for worlds), environment, terrain, civilization, and resources.

Size and Density

Multiply diameter results by 2d6-2 x100 for Class-J and -T planets; interpolate gravity linearly. They are considered to be metal-rich due to their dense metal cores.

Table 105: Dimensions

SIZE

Result (2d6)*	Realm or Country		Gravity (G)
	Dimensions (sq. miles)	World Diameter (miles)	
1	City-state, up to 100	8000	0.4
2	101 – 500	9000	0.55
3	501 – 1000	10000	0.7
4	1001 – 5000	11000	0.8
5	5001 – 10000	12000	0.9
6	10001 – 50000	13000	1.0
7	50001 – 100000	14000	1.1
8	100001 – 250000	15000	1.2
9	250001 – 500000	16000	1.35
10	500001 – 1000000	17000	1.5
11	1000001 – 5000000	18000	1.65
12	5000001+	19000	1.8

* - MODIFIERS: -10 Class-D; -7 Class-F; -2 Class-Y

DENSITY (world creation only)

3 or less	Rock-ice (G x 0.5)
4-5	Silica-base and metal poor (G x 0.66)
6-8	Earth-like (no change)
9-10	Silica-base and metal poor (G x 0.66)
11 or more	Metal-rich (G x 1.5)

* - MODIFIERS: -3 Class-G; +1 Class-F or -D

Humans can survive in any gravity from 0-3 G, but typically would have long-term settlement on worlds of 1.0 ± 0.25 G. The range in gravity of ± 0.25 G is normal for other species as well. Gravity influences other environmental aspects as well, such as atmosphere and how much water covers the surface.

Moons

If a planet is to have moons, it can have any type and number of moons possible where their total size add up to the planet’s Size/2, rounded down. For example a Class-M planet can have 1 Class-F world; 1 Class-Y and 1 Class-D worlds; or up to 3 Class-D worlds as moons. If a moon is determined to be a Class-M world, this entire section would apply to it, minus this part about moons. This part isn’t required for realm or country creation. A moon’s diameter cannot be greater than the planet’s diameter divided by 4.

Table 106: Lunar Classification

<u>Result (2d6)*</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Size</u>
2	Roll 1d6; 1-2 Class-K, 3-6 Class-L	6
3	Class-G	4
4	Class-F	3
5	Class-D	2
6-8	Class-D	1
9	Class-D	2
10	Class-F	3
11	Class-H	5
12	Roll 1d6; 1-2 Class-Y, 3-6 Class-M	**

* - Re-roll any result that isn't allowed due to size restriction.

** - Size for Class-M is 6. For Class-Y, roll 1d6.

Environment

Climate

A world's atmosphere, hydrosphere, and temperature chaotically combine to produce a its climate. Planets that typically have life on them have at least 20% of their surface covered in water, otherwise they are Class-H instead of Class-K, -L or -M. Atmosphere and hydrosphere information is only necessary for world creation. Roll an additional 2d6-2 (2d6-4 for 9's) and add to base percentage (values <0 equal 0). *Class-J and -T planets have atmospheres composed of ammonia, methane, ethane, and other toxic gases.*

Table 107: Atmosphere

<u>Gravity (G)</u>	<u>Atmosphere*</u>
0.2 - 0.8	Roll 1d6; ≤4 thin, 5+ standard
0.81 - 1.2	Roll 1d6; ≤2 thin, 3-5 standard, 6+ thick
1.21 - 3.0	Roll 1d6; ≤1 thin, 2-3 standard, 4+ thick

* - MODIFIERS: -2 red giant star, -1 Type K star; +1 Type A star or Class-L planet

Table 108: Hydrosphere

<u>Result (2d6)*</u>	<u>Hydrosphere</u>
0 or less	No water
1-9	Multiply result by 10%
10-11	99% (covered in water with a few islands)
12+	100% (no bare land, possible polar ice caps)

* - MODIFIERS: -10 Class-H planet; -1 red giant star, thin atmosphere; +1 thick atmosphere

Table 109: Temperature

<u>Result (2d6)*</u>	<u>Temperature (°F)</u>
2 or less	Very cold, 0 (Alaska)
3-4	Cold, 32 (Wisconsin)
5-6	Cool, 65 (Pacific Northwest)
7-9	Warm, 80 (southern California)
10-11	Hot, 100 (Caribbean)
12+	Very Hot, 110 (Death Valley)

* - MODIFIERS: -9 rock-ice density, -2 Type A star, -1 thin atmosphere; +1 Type B or F star, thick atmosphere

Terrain

If no life is found on the world, all land is considered 100% Desert. This is not applicable to Class-J and -T planets.

Table 110: Terrain

Result (2d6)*	Feature
2	Arctic
3	Plains
4	Mountains
5-6	Forest
7-8	Lakes and rivers
9-10	Marsh-land
11	Jungle or Rainforest
12	Desert

* - Roll on this table 10 times to determine percentage of land's surface environment; skip if planet has 100% hydrosphere; MODIFIERS: -3 Very Cold; -2 thick atmosphere, Type B or F star, Cold; +2 thin atmosphere, Hot, hydrosphere 50% ≤ 80%; +3 Type A star, Very Hot, hydrosphere 81%+

Civilization

This comprises of the realm, country, or world's cultural attitudes, technology level, form of government, and population. All these are determined in *Race Creation* except for population (below). This is typically not applicable to Class-J and -T planets.

Table 111: Random Population

Result (2d6)*	Population (Examples)
3 or less	Thousands (new colonies, frontier or scientific or military installations)
4-7	Tens of thousands (self-sustaining colonies, major facilities)
8-9	Hundreds of thousands (major colonies)
10	Millions (primitive or harsh worlds, requires ≥50% hydrosphere and minimum TL 4)
11	Hundreds of millions (industrial homeworlds, minimum TL 2)
12	Billions (interstellar hubs, minimum TL 5)

* - MODIFIERS: -1 Very Cold or Very Hot, metal-rich density, thin atmosphere

Resources

This part refers to goods and/or services worthy of intergalactic trade or those needed to be imported to sustain the population. The following resource types might be present on the world or in the country or realm). The entry indicates requirements needed to be met for the abundance roll, but even special or unique materials could be present where the dice say they could not. The planet's abundance of a resource is determined below.

Table 112: Resource Abundance

Result (2d6)	Abundance
6 or less	Scarce, must be imported to obtain
7-8	Rare, more valued here than normal
9	Common, minimum required for rare materials
10-11	Plentiful, surplus for export if there is market abroad
12 or more	Very Plentiful, extreme surplus drawing prospectors and possible invaders

Agricultural

Most likely luxury or experimental crops, but also a great abundance of common foodstuffs. If no life found on the world or is a Class-J or -T planet, this is considered “N/A.”

MODIFIERS: -3 hydrosphere $\leq 30\%$ or $\geq 81\%$; -2 metal-rich or rock-ice density; -1 population of billions, Type B star, nearby high radiation stellar anomaly, Core-ward; +1 standard atmosphere, hydrosphere 60-80%, Cool or Hot temperature, TL 3+, Type F or G star; +2 Warm

Antimatter

Primary source of power and weapons for technologically advanced races (requires TL 8 without being prototype technology). If an intelligent life on the world has not achieved TL 8 or better for their energy technology, this is considered “N/A.” If they are TL 8 or , the best abundance level is Rare.

MODIFIERS: -2 Type K star, nearby subspace anomaly; +1 Barrier, Variable Star, Type B star, nearby nebula or plasma field, nearby Class-J planet; +2 nearby Lazarus or protostar

Industrial Goods

Goods and equipment that are worth exporting. If an intelligent life on the world has not achieved TL 5 for their materials technology, this is considered “N/A.”

MODIFIERS: +1 population of millions, TL 6-7, asteroid belt

Medicines

Rare herbs and substances found as crucial components for combating both common and rare diseases, but most can be synthesized by TL 8.

MODIFIERS: +1 has an atmosphere, has life; +2 TL ≥ 5

Minerals or Metals, Common

These are the bread-and-butter of advanced worlds by feeding the fires of industry. *No minerals are found on Class-T planets.*

MODIFIERS: -2 hydrosphere 91%+, metal-rich (for minerals), silica density (for metals); -1 Type M star, rock-ice density; +1 Type A star, nearby supernova, cluster, Galactic Arm (Interior), asteroid belt, hydrosphere $\leq 30\%$; +2 Variable star, Lazarus star, T Tauri star, metal-rich (for metals), silica-based (for minerals), Core-ward

Minerals or Metals, Rare

These metals and minerals are difficult to find, extract, or handle. *No minerals are found on Class-T planets.*

MODIFIERS: -6 not metal-rich (for metals), not silica-based (for minerals), hydrosphere 91%+; +1 Type A star, asteroid belt, nearby supernova, Core-ward, Barrier, hydrosphere $\leq 30\%$; +2 Lazarus, Variable star, T Tauri star, metal-rich (for metals), silica-based (for minerals)

RACE CREATION

A racial profile consists a few pertinent topics: personality, physical description, homeworld, culture, language, common names, favored profession, and racial specifications (gameplay mechanics for creating a character of this race). *These rules pertain to alien and monster races that are of the standard humanoid body type. Races that don't fit this profile should use a combination of these rules and creature creation rules.*

Personality

These are the general personality traits common to the average member of the race, country, or realm. Remember that each person is unique and what is described here is an oversimplification. The table below lists a number of evocatives that can be used in a personality description; take one from Column A and Column B and expand on them in detail. You can always use other words that are not listed in the table.

Table 113: Personality Traits

<u>Column A</u>	<u>Column B</u>
Aloof	Adventurous
Artistic	Aggressive
Audacious	Ambitious
Bold	Argumentative
Brave	Arrogant
Cold	Brash
Controlled	Cautious
Curious	Closed-Minded
Fanatic	Confident
Generous	Decisive
Greedy	Defensive
Impulsive	Egotistical
Innovative	Hard-Hearted
Intolerant	Ingenious
Methodical	Inquisitive
Nosy	Logical
Peaceful	Meticulous
Resolute	Open-Minded
Scientific	Passionate
Shrewd	Rebellious
Strong-willed	Reckless
Tireless	Risky
Intolerant	Steadfast
Zealous	Tactless

Physical Description

Describe the average member of the race here; you do not have to be confined to the typical humanoid form (head, torso, two arms, two legs). List the race's average height and weight along with normal ranges, build or body structure, hair color(s) (if they have any), eyes and color (if they have any), and any extra limbs or organ redundancy. Traits due to their evolution on their world (refer to their world's profile as created in *World & Space Creation*) would also be listed here: short and stocky on a world with high gravity, altered vision due to very dark or bright suns, etc.

Homeworld

Give a brief description of the world that the race comes from. Refer to the planet's profile as created in *World & Space Creation*. Typically, a race's homeworld is the most populous world that contains that race (if not the only place to find them), but a race could not have a homeworld at all and roam space in caravans or a race almost entirely decimated and far-flung across the galaxy for survival.

Culture

Information under this heading should serve as a repository of key facts about the race that would be notable for the game, including:

- What do they believe?
- What do they value?
- Define the social structure from a typical family to group interaction
- Religions
- What do they admire/despise in others?
- Typical skills and personalities
- What makes them unique from other races?

There are three basic elements that are important to guiding you in answering these questions about the culture: motives, technology, and government. Again, maybe an oversimplification, but they allow you to start with a rough framework from which you can be inspired to fill in as many of the holes as possible afterwards.

Motives

Either determine the level of importance of each motive pair and selecting which of the two is the culture's focus or randomly roll a couple times for a condensed description.

Table 114: Cultural Motivations

MOTIVES		
<u>Result</u>	<u>Motive</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Aggression/Peace	A willingness to resort to violence or threat of violence versus a dedication to peace
2	Art/Science	The importance of artistic endeavor versus a dedication to scientific discovery
3	Discipline/Independence	Conformity to rules and laws versus personal individuality
4	Expansion/Isolation	A desire to progress outward versus a drive to remain separate
5	Initiative/Conformity	Risk-taking and boldness versus living within the bounds of society
6	Openness/Inflexibility	A willingness to consider and accept new ideas versus a rejection of change
LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE		
1-2	Low	Motivation is considered unimportant to identity
3-4	Medium	Motivation is neither motivation very highly or equally
5-6	High	Motivation is central to cultural identity

Technology

Either select the race's base technology or level (TL) and use for all TL aspects or roll on Table 115 as some races could be more or less advanced in areas due to alien meddling, scientific breakthroughs, or gaps in knowledge. Roll on Table 116 to determine the divergence from the base TL for each aspect of technology.

Table 115: Technology Levels

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>TL</u>	<u>Energy</u>	<u>Information</u>	<u>Transport</u>	<u>Weapons</u>	<u>Materials</u>	<u>Environment</u>
2	0	Muscle-power or fire	Spoken language	On foot	Stone, bone, wood	Wood, stone, bone	Hunting, gathering
3	1	Animal power	Writing	Animal	Bronze, iron	Bronze, iron	Agriculture, settlements
4	2	Wind mills	Historical texts	Boat or cart	Steel, crossbows	Concrete, steel	Fertilization, cities
5	3	Mechanical	Printing press	Sailing ships	Gunpowder, cannons	Porcelain, asbestos	Scientific fortifications
6	4	Steam power	Telegraph	Railroads	Breach-loaded guns	Industrial chemistry	Advanced sanitation techniques
7	5	Electricity	Radio, telephone	Automobiles, airplanes	Tanks, machine guns	Alloys, plastics	Mass transit, skyscrapers
8	6	Fission power	Electronics, personal computers	Nuclear-powered vessels	Assault rifles, missiles, atomic bombs	Advanced metallurgy, composites	Advanced weather predictions
9	7	Fusion power	Quantum storage	Impulse, primitive FTL	Lasers, phased weapons	Advanced composites	Space stations, Self-contained habitats
10	8	Anti-matter	Linguistic programming	Transporters, improved FTL	Phasers, disruptors, deflector shields	Matter-energy replication	Terraforming, holodecks
11	9	Directed transmutation	Artificial intelligences	Post-warp travel (transwarp)	Quantum warheads, ablative armor	Mature nano-technology	Advanced orbital habitats
12	10	Total conversion	Sapient machines	Instantaneous travel	Unkown	Total energy conversion	Exist in all environments without aid

Table 116: Tech Level Modifiers

<u>Result (1d6)</u>	<u>Modifier</u>
1	Base TL -2
2	Base TL -1
3-4	Base TL
5	Base TL +1
6	Base TL +2

Government

Select or randomly roll for the type and size of government, how the leadership comes to power, and areas of power held by the government.

Table 117: Types of Government

RULE BY ONE

<u>Result (1d6)</u>	<u>Government</u>
1	Despotism
2	Monarchy
3	Hoplocracy
4	Plutocracy
5	Psocracy
6	Theocracy

RULE BY MANY (Roll 1d6, 1-3 top, 4-6 bottom)

1	Anarchy
2	Hive-mind
3	Colony
4	Feudalism
5	Aristocracy
6	Theocracy
1	Democracy
2	Hoplocracy
3	Plutocracy
4	Psocracy
5	Aristocracy
6	Theocracy

Table 117a: Size of Governing Body

<u>Result (1d6)</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Examples</u>
1	$\frac{1}{2}\text{-d6}+1$	Triumvirate of early Roman Empire
2	$1\text{d6}+4$	Small Group; committee, council
3	$1\text{d6}+4 \times 10$	Medium Group; Aristocrats, wealthy
4	$1\text{d6}+4 \times 100$	Large Group; Congress, bureaucracy
5	$1\text{d6}+4 \times 1000$	Sub-class; landowners, soldiers
6	Class	Scientists, merchants, general populace

Table 118: Leadership Selection

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>System</u>	<u>Method</u>
2	Anarchy	No one leads or everyone leads
3	Lottery	Random selection
4	Force	Chosen by force of arms or military coup
5	Merit	Chosen based on accomplishments (wealth, military victories, scientific knowledge)
6	Heredity	Chosen by bloodline or genetics
7	Election	Chosen by vote of general population or select groups
8	Faith	Chosen by religious tenet, omens, or prophecy
9	Appointment	Chosen by another section of government
10	Public Participation	Chosen by vote of all constituents
11	Purchase	Paid for right to lead
12	Other	Narrator's discretion

Table 119: Power

<u>Result (1d6)</u>	<u>Power</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Total	Complete control over all aspects of government and society.
2-3	Constrained (roll on Table 119a)	Leadership is constrained in some areas, but complete control in others.
4-5	Limited (roll on Table 119b)	Leadership is limited in power to one aspect and answerable to a powerful institution.
6	None	Leader has no power, just a figurehead

Table 119a: Constrained Power

<u>Result (1d6)</u>	<u>Area of Power</u>
1	Military
2	Diplomacy
3	Religion
4	Economics
5	Society
6	Information/Media

Table 119b: Limited Power

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Area of Power</u>
2	Media
3	Corporations
4	Traditions
5	Military
6	Political faction
7	Law
8	Populace
9	Religion
10	Bureaucracy
11	Unions or professional organizations
12	Other (alien beings, supercomputer, etc.)

Anarchy

There is no formalized government. It is commonly known as “mob rule” or “gang rule.”

Aristocracy

A hereditary oligarchy chosen by tradition, merit, “divine right,” etc.

Colony

A separate entity governed by remotely, but has usually has some form of local representative body to govern the colony and represent them to the remote rulership.

Democracy

This is rule by the populace where all who are citizens (or considered to be citizens) have an equal vote to direct actions of the state or elect representatives to act on behalf of a segment of the population.

Despotism

This is the rule by one person with absolute power.

Feudalism

This is the rule by local authorities, usually in combination with a monarchy or aristocracy.

Hive-mind

This is where all constituents' minds are linked and there is no individuality. Decisions are made collectively by all almost instantaneously.

Hoplocracy

Run by one overall commander or an oligarchy of military officials.

Monarchy

This is the rule by one person, restrained by tradition, advice, or ritual.

Plutocracy

Run by a single businessman or an oligarchy run in the fashion of a business with the “CEO” as the highest official.

Psionocracy

Ruled by the most powerful psionist or a oligarchy of adepts.

Technocracy

An oligarchy governed by a committee of scientists or complete control given over to an autonomous computer.

Theocracy

Rule by religious organization, either run by a supreme representative of a religion's faith or an oligarchy of religious officials.

Language

This is where you define the dominant language of a race. If you are trying to choose for a world, select the most widely used language as a world could have 10's, 100's, or 1000's of languages (Earth has at least 1500 documented languages alone), while the most dominant languages are probably English, Chinese, French, Spanish, and Arabic. If you are deciding for a country's language, it could have one or more, as here on Earth many countries have more than one official language and still have large populations that speak additional languages and dialects. Realms will typically have only one official language.

Common Names

This is a list of common names among the inhabitants of the realm, country, or world. They could be first names for male and female (and other genders) along with a list of common surnames, if any. This can come in handy when devising names for PC's and NPC's alike.

Favored Profession(s)

List the profession(s) most commonly (or famously) known for the race. Though each person is unique and may choose a different profession than that/those listed here, this/these profession(s) reflect what most likely the average member of the race or country is likely to be found doing.

Racial Specifications

These adjustments and abilities are important in discerning one race from another in terms of game mechanics and can also help translate into how a character of the species is role-played. *This section would typically be ignored if there is only one available race to play.*

Table 120: Advancement Pick Equivalents

<u>Cost</u>	<u>Advancement Items</u>
1	+1 bonus to a specific skill and specialty test
2	+1 bonus to a skill
2	+1 skill rank
2	Gain an Edge or upgrade
2	+1 Renown
2	+1 bonus to a specific reaction test
3	+1 Reaction
3	+1 Courage
3	+1 bonus to a skill group
5	+1 Attribute
5	+1 Health
-2	Gain a Flaw
-5	-1 Attribute
*	Species Ability
**	Innate Ability

* - This value is variable, see *Creature Creation* for more information on these abilities.

** - This value is equal to the pick cost of the spell plus what it costs to make the spell into an innate ability. All innate abilities for races are initially acquired at the lowest possible cost, translating into the weakest possible effect. *The Magic Talent edge is also required, if used in the game, as a bonus edge for those races that have an innate ability.*

As an example, here is the breakdown of the Human Racial Adjustments:

- +2 skill ranks = 4 picks
- +1 Courage = 3 picks
- +2 Reaction = 6 picks

This totals 13 picks spent.

There are two ways to go about creating new races: assign whatever abilities, adjustments, edges, and flaws as you see fit regardless of balance (some gaming worlds demand this like Lord of the Rings) or apply a balanced approach using Advancement Pick Equivalents to gauge the relative “strength” of a race. *I would only suggest a balanced approach if the world demands it or if you want to make an additional race that is roughly equivalent to the other races. I would have to say that the balanced approach wouldn’t be applicable when creating races that are never intended to be available for players to use.*

You can use the table above to establish play balance, as races possess a mixture of adjustments and abilities that reflect their physical nature and culture. For an average balance to character races, they total picks should range between 10 and 20, but for stricter balance either don’t spend above 15 picks or have all races have equivalent pick totals. Some abilities, if they do not correspond to those listed in *Creature Creation*, may be a little harder to classify, so use your best judgement to decide between the cost of an edge or ability. *I would suggest referring to Character Traits and Abilities for further information on creating them.* If a Racial Ability that you have created combines effects, like +1 Health and +1 Stamina, combine the cost of the individual effects (in this example, the ability would cost 8 picks).

Adjustments

A race's attribute adjustments are affected by three factors: biology, culture, and environment.

Biology

Attribute adjustments from this factor result from the race's unique physiology (body type, organs, biochemistry, etc.). For example, a race with a smaller stature than normal would have a relatively lower Strength and vice versa.

Culture

Attribute adjustments from this factor result from the race's social mores. A culture prizing education over other pursuits would have an Intellect bonus while a cold and emotionless culture would have a Bearing penalty.

Environment

Attribute adjustments from this factor result as the race being a product of the world they live on. Those that live on a world with a thin atmosphere and high density would be stronger than those in a standard environment.

Table 121: Homeworld Modifiers

ATMOSPHERE

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Attribute & Modifier*</u>
Thin atmosphere	Perception +1
Standard	±0
Thick atmosphere	Perception -1

GRAVITY

Low (≤ 0.6 G)	Strength -2
Light ($0.61 \leq 0.8$ G)	Strength -1
Standard ($0.81 \leq 1.2$ G)	±0
Heavy ($1.21 \leq 1.4$ G)	Strength +1
High ($1.41+$ G)	Strength +2

TEMPERATURE

Cool (≤ 65 °F)	Vitality +1
Earth-like	±0
Hot (≥ 110 °F)	Vitality -1

* - Remember, all bonuses are relative to standard or Earth-like conditions. If a person from a Hot world went to a Cold world, he would have an effective attribute bonus of Vitality -1 and vice versa.

Abilities

There are several ways to go about selecting abilities for a race and they are discussed below.

Use, Modify, or Create Your Own Abilities

Refer to *Creature Creation* for more information.

Bonus Edges

An edge could typically replace a weakened ability and could be used to reflect a race's physical and cultural aspects.

Racial Flaws

Sometimes a race has an overwhelming deficiency, either physically or culturally, and it can be reflected in the use of racial flaws.

CREATURE CREATION

Use a combination of these rules and the rules from race creation to create intelligent creatures or alien and monsters races that aren't of the standard body type for use as PC's.

Description

Write out a description of the creature, keeping in mind the same format that is used throughout this book; don't even start deciding specifics like "What is its Bearing?" and such. Develop its history, physical description, social habits, and special qualities as a player would for a PC.

Form and Role

Form describes the most general outlines of the creature's existence, whereas Role refers to a creature's behavior or nature more specifically. Select one of each that best describes the creature you wish to create.

Form

Name

Diet:	What the creature eats (meat, plants, energy, etc.).
Size:	Size or range of sizes creatures of this type are found in
Attributes Range:	Minimum attribute requirements of creatures with this form
Characteristics:	How characteristics generated, bonuses or penalties to secondary attributes, etc.
Skills:	Basic skills to all creatures of this form
Restricted Abilities:	Lists creature abilities this form cannot have

Animal

Diet:	Meat, plants, or both
Size:	Any
Attributes Range:	Strength 1+, Intellect 0+, Agility 1+, Vitality 1+, Bearing 0+, Perception 1+
Characteristics:	All derived normally
Skills:	Athletics: Any 1+, Stealth 1+, Survival 3+, Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons 1+
Restricted Abilities:	Energy Body, Gaseous Body, Incorporeal, Mineral Body, Mechanical Body

Construct

Diet:	Energy or fluids
Size:	Any
Attributes Range:	Depends on programming, function, and materials created from
Characteristics:	All derived normally
Skills:	All derived from programming
Restricted Abilities:	Energy Body, Gaseous Body, and Incorporeal

Energy

Diet:	Energy (electrical, psi, magic, etc.), fluids, gases, minerals
Size:	Any
Attributes Range:	Vitality 1+, all others "N/A" or 0
Characteristics:	All derived normally
Skills:	Stealth 0+, Survival 1+, Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons (Energy Attack) 1+
Restricted Abilities:	Gaseous Body, Incorporeal, Mineral Body, Mechanical Body

Gaseous

Diet:	Gases, fluids, minerals, energy
Size:	Any
Attributes Range:	Vitality 1+, all others “N/A” or 0
Characteristics:	All derived normally, but have no lifting or carrying capacity.
Skills:	Stealth 3+, Survival 1+, Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons 1+
Restricted Abilities:	Energy Body, Incorporeal, Mineral Body, and Mechanical Body

Mineral

Diet:	Minerals, fluids, energy
Size:	Any
Attributes Range:	Strength 2+, Intellect 0+, Agility 0+, Vitality 2+, Bearing 0+, Perception 0+
Characteristics:	All derived normally
Skills:	Stealth 2+, Survival 3+, Ranged or Unarmed Combat 1+
Restricted Abilities:	Energy Body, Gaseous Body, Incorporeal, and Mechanical Body

Plant

Diet:	Energy, fluids, minerals; possibly carnivorous
Size:	Any
Attributes Range:	Vitality 1+, all others “N/A” or 0
Characteristics:	All derived normally, except most plants are Immobile and have a Movement Rate = 0.
Skills:	N/A, except carnivorous plants may have Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons 1+
Restricted Abilities:	Energy Body, Gaseous Body, Incorporeal, Mineral Body, and Mechanical Body

Spirit/Undead

Diet:	None
Size:	Any
Attributes Range:	Strength N/A for spirit or 1+ for undead, Intellect 0+, Agility 0+, Vitality 1+, Bearing 1+, Perception 1+
Characteristics:	All derived normally
Restricted Abilities:	Energy Body, Gaseous Body, Mineral Body, and Mechanical Body

Role

Name

Attribute Adjustments:	Bonuses or penalties to attributes
Reaction Adjustments:	Bonuses or penalties to reactions
Skills:	Basic skills to all creatures of this role
Special Abilities:	Lists common creature abilities of this role

Chaser

Attribute Adjustments:	Strength +1, Intellect +1, Agility +4, Perception +3
Reaction Adjustments:	Stamina +3, Swiftiness +2, Willpower +1
Skills:	Athletics: Run +4, Survival +3, Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons +3
Special Abilities:	Camouflage, Cunning, Speed, Natural Weapons

Filter

Attribute Adjustments:	Vitality +1
Reaction Adjustments:	Stamina +1
Skills:	Athletics: Climb or Run or Swim +1
Special Abilities:	Absorption, Camouflage, Lure

Gatherer

Attribute Adjustments:	Intellect +1, Perception +2
Reaction Adjustments:	Willpower +1
Skills:	Athletics: Climb, Jump, Run, or Swim +1, Survival +4, Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons +1
Special Abilities:	Cunning, ESP

Grazer

Attribute Adjustments:	Perception +2
Reaction Adjustments:	Swiftiness +1
Skills:	Athletics: Climb, Jump, Run, or Swim +1, Survival +3, Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons +1
Special Abilities:	Armor, Camouflage, Deterrent, Evasion, Speed

Parasite

Attribute Adjustments:	Strength +1, Vitality +1
Reaction Adjustments:	Stamina +1
Skills:	Survival +3, Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons +1
Special Abilities:	Drain, Natural Weapons

Pouncer

Attribute Adjustments:	Strength +1, Intellect +1, Agility +4, Perception +3
Reaction Adjustments:	Swiftiness +3, Willpower -1
Skills:	Athletics: Climb, Jump, Run, or Swim +1, Stealth +4, Survival +4, Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons +1
Special Abilities:	Camouflage, Cunning, ESP, Lure, Natural Weapons

Scavenger

Attribute Adjustments:	Vitality +3, Perception +4
Reaction Adjustments:	Stamina +4
Skills:	Athletics: Climb, Jump, Run, or Swim +1, Stealth +3, Survival +4, Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons +1
Special Abilities:	Deterrent, ESP, Natural Weapons

Creature Profile

A creature's profile has two major sections: the stat block and description block. Points can be kept track of to determine the relative power of a creature.

Stat Block

Attributes

Just as for heroes, a creature's attributes reflect their innate physical and mental faculties. Not all creatures possess the full spectrum of man-like capabilities. A value of naught ('—') is given to those attributes which don't apply. Creatures with naught as their attribute score do not suffer game effects that target that attribute, nor can they have skills based on it. For anything based on an attribute with naught (Health, Defense, etc.), use 0 for the attribute score and/or modifier. A creature may also have an attribute score of 0, meaning that it is simply too negligible to even regard as noteworthy and all capabilities derived from the attribute function as normal.

Creature attributes start at 0 or N/A depending on the form and role of the creature. It costs 3 picks per +1 to each attribute, including going from N/A to 0. Lastly, two favored attributes are assigned.

Reactions

Reactions are derived in the same way as that for heroes, but the Narrator has the option to also choose either attribute modifier to base the reaction on and/or modify it according to her tastes. Values of 0 or less, including naught, are viable reaction scores. If a creature has naught for one attribute and a numerical score for the other attribute that creates a reaction, either use the attribute modifier from the existing attribute score or use N/A. After deriving the creature's reactions normally, additional increases can be purchased at a cost of 2 picks per +1 to a reaction, including going from N/A to 0.

Size

Size is one of the most definitive characteristics of a creature. A creature's size determines number of Wound Levels relative modifiers for physical tests, and its base movement. The number of Weariness Levels a creature has remains the same as that of characters with the same effects. A creature's size affects the its creation pick total; add together the Strength and Vitality modifiers due to Size (see Table 13) and multiply that total by 3 for the total picks (positive or negative). Add this value to the creature's creation pick total.

Health

Typically, this is defined as the creature's Vitality + Strength modifier. *Additional Health can be purchased for 3 picks per +1 Health.*

Defense

Defense is the creature's Agility modifier + 10.

Movement

Movement represents the speed per action the creature can make on the ground walking. If it normally flies or something else, that is reflected by special abilities.

Courage

Creatures only have Courage when the Narrator decides that they are especially noble, heroic, or noteworthy. A creature's Courage total starts at 0 *and additional points cost 2 picks per +1 Courage.*

Renown

The Narrator assigns Renown based on considerations of the gaming world.

TN

This is an arbitrary number representing the difficulty in overcoming the creature(s), whether the PC's do so in combat, by stealth, or through intimidating displays of might. These values correspond to standard target numbers similar to those assigned to tests with the addition of "Legendary", creatures that even the most powerful and/or resourceful characters would be unlikely to defeat successfully or survive an encounter with. *A simple way to determine the TN of a creature would be 1 TN/3 creature creation picks. If you are creating a monster race, add both the race creation points with the creature creation points for a total.*

Table 122: TN Equivalents

<u>TN</u>	<u>Description</u>
5 or less	Simple
10	Routine
15	Challenging
20	Difficult
25	Virtually Impossible
> 25	Legendary

TN's Equivalents are also used as how much experience creatures are worth upon defeating them. The table below supplies a number of possible modifiers appropriate to determining the final TN-XP amount. Unless otherwise noted, all modifiers are cumulative.

Table 123: Experience Modifiers for Creature Encounters

Condition	Modifier
Encountered in lair	+5 TN
Encountered in beneficial natural environment	+3 TN
Greater than normal quantity of creatures	+2 TN per doubling*
Defeated through turn of story**	-1 to -5 TN
Has advancements	+1 TN per 3 advancements

* Doubling means each time the number of creatures encountered doubles, the TN-XP increase by 2. For example, defeating two TN 5 creatures, the TN-XP would be 7 (5 base + 2 for doubling number of creatures).

** Turn of story refers to an element of the story and not through character virtue or innovation. For example if the characters were given a special item to help defeat the creature, they don't get as much XP as if they had devised a clever plot to gain some advantage.

Special Abilities

Special abilities that creatures have are similar to the abilities that heroes have - they augment a creature's capabilities both for the good and bad. There are really two kinds of special abilities: standard special abilities (listed below) and unique special abilities that are specific to that and a small few other creatures. Standard special abilities are suggested in the creature packages in the above section, *Form and Role*, while unique special abilities help a Narrator differentiate that creature from all other standard creatures.

Ability (Pick Cost)

Prerequisite:	Condition(s) required to be met before being able to acquire this ability.
Restriction:	Condition(s) that bar the acquisition of this ability.
Effect:	Mechanics that affect gameplay.
Upgrade:	Yes/No; number of times. Pick cost and effect of upgrading the ability.
Complements:	Other special abilities frequently possessed by creatures that have this ability.

Absorption (3)

Prerequisite:	Immunity (specific energy).
Restriction:	Resistance or Vulnerability (specific energy).
Effect:	Roll damage as normal and roll and absorption test (1d6 + Vitality modifier). Add the result of the absorption test, no greater than the amount of damage. This is a free action.
Upgrade:	<i>Yes; twice. Every time you pick this ability, double the amount of energy absorbed (max 4x absorption test result).</i>
Complements:	None

Amorphous (-1)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Agility 3 or less, Mechanical Body
Effect:	The creature's body lacks rigidity. Though it may form pseudopods, it doesn't have any permanent limbs. They cannot divide their mass and re-emerge at will; this requires Regenerate. An amorphous body takes half damage from falling. Not possessing rigid armor, an amorphous creature could have thick, blubbery skin to warrant the Armor ability, but Resistance and Invulnerable are more common.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	Immunity, Regenerate, Resistance

Anaerobic Respiration (3)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature doesn't breathe in an oxygenated atmosphere. Select the chemical compound or specific organ to which it uses for respiration; "none" is also acceptable, as space-borne creatures typically do not have breathing requirements. If a creature is not within its natural environment for breathing, it will begin to suffocate unless it has the proper equipment. If a race has this ability and must have constant interaction with others not of its normal environment, this ability is considered a flaw, granting -3 picks.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, select a new compound or organ by which the creature is able to sustain normal respiration.
Complements:	None

Antennae (3)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Incorporeal
Effect:	The creature gains a +3 bonus to Perception and Observe tests for detecting changes in the surrounding environment (air flow, temperature change, high or low frequency sounds, etc.). The radius of effectiveness is equal to the creature's Perception in yards. Loss of one antennae reduces the bonus to +1 and the loss of both cause the creature constant pain and disorientation (-2 penalty to Perception and Perception-based tests).
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Armor (3)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	None
Effect:	Armor absorbs damage equal to the numerical value listed. The armor value equals 3 + the creature's Strength and Vitality modifiers due to Size, minimum 1.
Upgrade:	Yes. <i>Every time you pick this ability, add half the creature's Vitality modifier to the total (minimum 1).</i>
Complements:	None

Bloodless (3)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Energy Body, Gaseous Body, Incorporeal
Effect:	The creature has no circulatory system and is immune to all toxins that would affect the bloodstream.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	Mineral Body

Burrow (3)

Prerequisite:	Natural Weapons (claws), Strength 0+, Agility 0+
Restriction:	Gaseous Form, Immobile, Incorporeal
Effect:	A creature with this ability is able to dig underground and move at a speed equal to 25% its base movement rate, rounded up.
Upgrade:	Yes; <i>three times. Every time you pick this ability, increase the creature's burrow movement by 25% of its base movement (max 100% total).</i>
Complements:	Corrosion, Trap-making

Camouflage (3)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Incorporeal, Invisible
Effect:	Confers a -3 penalty to Perception, Observe (Spot), or Search tests when visually searching for the creature in its natural environment.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Chameleon (4)

Prerequisite:	Stealth 1+
Restriction:	Invisible
Effect:	Creatures with this ability gain a +3 bonus to Stealth (Hide and Move Silently) tests. This bonus is not in effect if searchers use technological means of detection (sensors, etc.).
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains an additional +1 bonus, costing 2 picks.
Complements:	None

Constrict (3)

Prerequisite:	Prehensile Appendage
Restriction:	Gaseous Form, Incorporeal
Effect:	On a successful Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons test, this creature grapples its victim, dealing 1d6 per 2 size categories greater than Medium + Strength modifier damage and causing it to begin suffocating. If a victim is caught by surprise, an attack with a Superior Success or better gets the victim around its throat or analogous body part and it will suffocate in half the normal time and suffer double suffocation damage. An opposed Strength test is required to break free.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Cunning (3)

Prerequisite:	Intellect 1+
Restriction:	None
Effect:	In certain situations, such as when its lair is threatened or hunting, the creature gains a +3 bonus to Intellect and Wisdom tests.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Deterrent (3)

Prerequisite:	Bearing 0+
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature produces a deterrent (odors, growls, screeches, etc.) to ward off opponents. The opponent must make a Willpower test against the creature's deterrent TN to resist fleeing. The deterrent TN equals 10 + Bearing modifier; the cost and deterrent TN can be reduced by 3 per 1 pick (minimum ability cost 1).
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature's deterrent TN increases by +1 (costing 1 pick).
Complements:	None

Drain (5)

Prerequisite:	Vitality 1+ or Psi 1+ or <i>Magic</i> 1+
Restriction:	Gaseous Form, Incorporeal
Effect:	Choose a biological substance that the creature derives sustenance from and designate a game attribute (usually Strength or Vitality) affected by the drain. Upon making a successful Armed Combat: Natural Weapons test, the creature may begin to drain the victim of said attribute. The creature drains a number of points of the attribute per round equal to the creature's Vitality modifier +1 (minimum 1). To break free, the victim must make an opposed Strength test. If successfully freed, the attribute reduction is temporary, except for 1 point. The permanently reduced point still counts in the character's total in terms of calculating his maximum attribute value for that attribute.
	Creatures that feed off of psionic or <i>magical</i> energy or emotions must make a Psi or <i>Magic</i> attribute test against the opponent's Willpower to latch on. The damage is dealt, in the same manner above, to a creature's Vitality if it doesn't have the Psi or <i>Magic</i> attribute.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature can drain an additional +1 point (costing 3 picks).
Complements:	Ranged Attack

Energy Attack (3)

Prerequisite:	Vitality 1+
Restriction:	None
Effect:	Select an energy type (antimatter, electricity, psionics, magic, etc.) the creature emits. Upon making a successful Unarmed Combat attack against an opponent, the creature can discharge its energy to deal 1d6 + Vitality modifier damage as a free action, not including any damage from the physical attack itself. The attack can be done at a distance with Ranged Attack.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	Energy Body, Ranged Attack

Energy Body (0)

Prerequisite:	Energy Form, Amorphous, Resistance (physical damage), Invulnerability (creature's energy type)
Restriction:	Mineral Body, Mechanical Body
Effect:	Select a type of energy the creature is composed of (plasma, antimatter, radiation, etc.). Movement is reduced to 25% normal when moving through non-conductive, opaque materials (glass, stone, etc.). Energy barriers totally impede movement (deflector shields, etc.).
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Evasion (3)

Prerequisite:	Strength 1+, Agility 4+, Perception 4+
Restriction:	Amorphous, Immobile
Effect:	The creature gains a +1 bonus to dodge actions.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains an additional +1 bonus to dodge actions (costing 3 picks).
Complements:	Speed

ESP (3)

Prerequisite:	Perception 4+
Restriction:	No
Effect:	This creature is able to detect the listed feature (danger, living creatures, etc.). To determine if there the listed feature is sensed, roll a Perception test for normal creatures, Observe (Sense Power) test for magical creatures, or Telepathy/Empathy test for psionic creatures. Upon a successful test, the creature may react by either not being surprised if entering combat or allowing the creature to act first in combat regardless of initiative. This ability is active up to a 10-foot radius/point of Perception. Using this ability is a free action.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains an additional sensory mode.
Complements:	None

Table 124: ESP Modes

<u>Mode</u>	<u>Description</u>
Chemoreception	The creature can detect trace quantities of chemical compounds such as organic pheromones.
Infrared Vision	The creature can sense objects radiating energy in the infrared spectrum.
Magic Sensitivity	The creature can sense the presence of magic aptitude and the use of magical powers.
Psionic Sensitivity	The creature can sense the presence of psionics aptitude and the use of psionic powers.
Subsonic Hearing	The creature can hear sounds of ultra-low frequencies and pitch.
Ultraviolet Vision	The creature can sense objects radiating energy in the ultraviolet spectrum.
Ultrasonic Hearing	The creature can hear sounds of ultra-high frequencies and pitch.

Ferocious (3)

Prerequisite:	Willpower 1+
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature exhibits great ferocity when the situation warrants it. Choose a narrative aspect of when the creature would exhibit its ferociousness (defending territory, killing prey, etc.). When the aspect occurs, the creature gains a +3 bonus to all Combat and Willpower tests as applicable.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Fly (6)

Prerequisite:	Strength 0+, Agility 0+ OR Telekinesis
Restriction:	Immobile
Effect:	As a movement action, the creature can fly through the air at a speed equal to 1.5 times its base movement.
Upgrade:	Yes; once. The creature is now able to fly at double its base movement (costing 3 picks).
Complements:	Speed

Ganglia (5)

Prerequisite:	Amorphous
Restriction:	Gaseous Body, Mechanical Body
Effect:	The creature gains a +3 bonus to Swiftess tests and the Hardy edge.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Gaseous Body (0)

Prerequisite:	Gaseous Form, Amorphous, Resistance (physical damage)
Restriction:	Strength 3-, Incorporeal, Invisible
Effect:	The creature cannot physically manipulate objects, but may produce psionic effects. It cannot pass through solid objects, but it can slip into small holes and cracks, reducing its movement by 50%.
Upgrade:	Yes/No; number of times. Pick cost and effect of upgrading the ability.
Complements:	None

Heightened Senses (5)

Prerequisite:	Perception 4+
Restriction:	None
Effect:	Select a means of sensing (sound (air or water), vibration (ground), magnetic fields, bioelectric fields, etc.) and the creature is able to discern useful information by that means. This ability is 1 action.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains a new means of sensing its surroundings.
Complements:	Antennae, ESP

Table 125: Heightened Senses Results

<u>Success</u>	<u>Sample Effects</u>
Marginal	No appreciable effect
Complete	Rough numbers, speed, and direction of opponents
Superior	Precise number, speed, direction, and distance of opponents
Extraordinary	Information on individuals

Immobile (-6)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Burrowing, Evasion, Fly, Speed
Effect:	Reduce creature's movement rate to naught.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	Plant Form

Immunity (varies)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Resistance or Vulnerability to same effect.
Effect:	Select an effect. The creature is completely resistant to all forms of the effect and no reactions are required for full pick cost. The creature could be completely resistant to a specific form of an effect, reducing the cost to ¼ of the normal cost (rounded up).
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains an immunity to another effect or specific form an effect.
Complements:	None

Table 126: Immunity Effects

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Picks</u>	<u>Description</u>
Corrosion	24	All corrosives (acids, bases, etc.)
Disease	18	All biological diseases
Energy	24	Lasers, phasers, disruptors and all their damaging effects, plasma, temporal, etc.
Fire	24	Combustion, heat, and damage
Magic	18	All skills, special abilities, and game effects
Physical Damage	48	Physical weapons and objects, including falling, crushing, piercing, slashing, etc.
Poison	24	Artificial and biological poisons and toxins
Psionics	18	All skills, special abilities, and game effects
Radiation	24	Ion storms, plasma fields, gamma rays, solar flares, etc.

Incorporeal (0)

Prerequisite:	Flying, Vulnerability
Restriction:	Animal, Construct, Plant, and Mineral forms
Effect:	Incorporeal creatures lack a physical body, able to pass through solid matter unhindered. They are immune to physical and energy damage (unless specified by magical properties or certain energy weapons). They move at half their normal movement, augmented by the Flying ability.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	Invisible, Immunity, Trait (<i>Psi or Arcane Talent</i>)

Invisible (25)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature is almost entirely imperceptible by one or more methods of detection such as sight, hearing, smell, etc. A TN 25 Perception or Observe test is required to detect the creature using one of the specified senses or using equipment.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains another form of detection to be invisible to. It should be noted that a creature should never have total invisibility to everything.
Complements:	Incorporeal

Lure (3)

Prerequisite:	Bearing 1+
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature gains Influence +1; additional ranks can be purchased normally. Using this skill to entice prey is a free action. The range of Lure is Bearing/Bearing x2/Bearing x3/Bearing x4/+1½ Bearing. All life within the area that can perceive the lure must make a Willpower test to resist the lure. Creatures without means to perceive the lure or with Perception N/A are immune to the effect.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	Trap-making

Magic Armor (10)

Prerequisite:	Trait (<i>Arcane Talent</i>)
Restriction:	None
Effect:	Creatures with this ability are almost impossible to harm with magic. To resist being affected by spells, make a Willpower test against the spell's activation test result and add half the creature's Magic score (rounded up) as a modifier to the test result. A successful Willpower test would negate all spell effects while any failure would reduce the effects of the spell by 1 level of success (minimum Marginal) per level of failure. This ability only works when a spell either affects an area the creature is in or specifically against the creature. This ability doesn't extend to anything the creature could be wearing or attached to.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains a +1 bonus to the Willpower test (costing 2 picks).
Complements:	None

Mechanical Body (0)

Prerequisite:	Construct form
Restriction:	Gaseous Body
Effect:	The creature suffers half the physical penalties from physical damage and does not benefit from natural healing unless they possess the Regenerate ability. It also is immune to diseases, toxins, and most forms of radiation. Unless the toxin affects inorganic materials, treat it as if it has Immunity (biological substances).
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	Armor, Resistance

Mighty Charge (3)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature charges ferociously, receiving a +3 bonus to Melee Combat tests when charging. A successful charging attack deals twice the normal damage. All other effects remain the same.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Mimic (12)

Prerequisite:	Bearing 1+
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature can mimic another form at will. It must make an Intellect test, which what others will use as the TN for a Perception or Observe test. It can only mimic creatures or objects of similar size (mass isn't a factor if the change is done with psionics).
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the opponent's Perception or Observe test gains a -1 penalty (costing 1 pick).
Complements:	Amorphous, Lure

Mineral Body (0)

Prerequisite:	Mineral form
Restriction:	Incorporeal.
Effect:	The creature moves at half normal movement, purchases Strength at -1 picks, gains (select 1) Armor, Resistance, or Invulnerable at half pick cost (rounded up).
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Mount: Steady (3)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature is able to be ridden and is not easily spooked in combat. Its rider does not suffer the -1 to -4 penalty when entering combat.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Mount: War-trained (3)

Prerequisite:	Mount: Steady
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature can act in combat without causing problems for its rider. It gains 1 action per round to act without penalty as directed by its rider.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Multiple Attacks (5)

Prerequisite:	Natural Weapons or Energy Attack
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature gains +1 action per round that can only be used for combat actions.
Upgrade:	<i>Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains +1 action per round (costing 5+1 per upgrade).</i>
Complements:	Ganglia, Prehensile Appendage, Ranged Attack

Natural Weapons (3)

Prerequisite:	Strength 1+, Agility 1+
Restriction:	Gaseous Body, Incorporeal
Effect:	Select a form of natural weapon(s) that applies to the creature: Bite, Claw, Hoof, Horn, Stinger, or Tail. It can use these innate weapons to inflict damage. The creature gains Unarmed Combat: Natural Weapons (weapon form) +1; additional ranks can be purchased normally.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains a new natural weapon specialty depending on its available natural weapons.
Complements:	All

Table 127: Natural Weapon Damage

<u>Size</u>	<u>Damage</u>
<i>Microscopic</i>	1
<i>Fine</i>	1d6-5 + Strength modifier
<i>Miniscule</i>	1d6-4 + Strength modifier
<i>Tiny</i>	1d6-2 + Strength modifier
<i>Little</i>	1d6-1 + Strength modifier
<i>Small</i>	1d6 + Strength modifier
<i>Medium</i>	1d6 + Strength modifier
<i>Large</i>	1d6 + Strength modifier
<i>Mammoth</i>	2d6 + Strength modifier
<i>Huge</i>	3d6 + Strength modifier
<i>Gigantic</i>	4d6 + Strength modifier
<i>Titanic</i>	5d6 + Strength modifier
<i>Titanic +X</i>	(5+X)d6 + Strength modifier

Prehensile Appendage (5)

Prerequisite:	Agility 1+, Strength 1+
Restriction:	Gaseous Body, Incorporeal
Effect:	The creature has +1 appendages for which it can use for either locomotion or any other actions. For each extra appendage used for locomotion, the creature gains +1 movement action only (run, climb, etc.); otherwise the creature gains +1 standard actions.
Upgrade:	Yes. Each time you pick this ability, the creature gains +1 appendages (costing 5 picks).
Complements:	Multiple Attacks

Ranged Attack (3)

Prerequisite:	Strength 1+ or Vitality 1+, Natural Weapons or Toxin
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature can perform one type of attack – Corrosive, Natural Weapons, or Poison – at range.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Table 128: Creature Ranged Attacks

<u>Range</u>	<u>Increment (yards)</u>
Point Blank	1
Short	Creature's Strength
Medium	Creature's Strength x2
Long	Creature's Strength x3
Extended	+½ Creature's Strength

Redundant System (varies)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Amorphous
Effect:	The creature has an extra set of organs that back up those that support primary life functions.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains a new redundant system.
Complements:	None

Table 128: Redundant Systems

<u>System</u>	<u>Picks</u>	<u>Effect</u>
Circulatory	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select heat or cold. The creature ignores penalties due to selected environment and double the penalties when in the opposite environment. • The creature also is more susceptible to poisons, giving it a -1 penalty to Stamina tests vs. poison.
Endocrine	4	The creature gains a +4 bonus to Stamina tests vs. poison.
Neural	5	The creature is gains a +2 bonus to resist stun effects and halves the duration of effect.
Respiratory	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The creature gains a +2 bonus to Stamina tests vs. Weariness and recovers from Weariness in half the normal time. • The creature is able to hold its breath for a long period of time with the same effect as the Diver ability.

Regenerate (varies)

Prerequisite:	Stamina 1+
Effect:	The creature recovers Wound Points in a nonstandard time frame, either faster or slower than normal. Select a rate at which the creature recovers Wound Points. It recovers Wound Points per natural healing. <i>This ability would also allow severed limbs to be regrown; heads (i.e. location of brain) may only be regrown if the creature has the Ganglia ability. Recovering lost limbs requires Vitality - Vitality modifier units of the selected regeneration time increments.</i>
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	Amorphous, Ganglia, Gaseous Body

Table 129: Regeneration Periods

<u>Time Increment</u>	<u>Picks</u>
<i>Every decade</i>	-60
<i>Yearly</i>	-24
<i>Monthly</i>	-12
<i>Weekly</i>	-6
<i>Every 2 days</i>	-3
Hourly	3
Every 30 minutes	6
Every 15 minutes	12
Every minute	24
Every round	60

Resistance (varies)

Prerequisite:	Stamina 1+
Restriction:	Immunity or Vulnerability to same thing
Effect:	The creature can ignore some of the damage due to a particular source. Select a source of damage the creature is resistant to: falling, magic, weapons, poisons, etc. When damaged by the selected source, the creature makes a TN 10 Stamina test. If it succeeds, the creature takes half damage from the source, otherwise it takes $\frac{3}{4}$ damage. Select effect from Table 125 at half the listed cost in picks (rounded up).
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains a new effect to be resistant to.
Complements:	Energy Form, Gaseous Form

Shapeshifter (24)

Effect:	This creature is able to alter its form at will; doing so takes 1 action. What abilities the creature has when not in its standard form are individually described. This effect is similar to either a spell effect that changes a target's shape or a natural biological function. This ability can be disrupted either using counterspells or certain technologies.
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When the creature changes to a form of a different size (max +1 Size categories, min -3 Size categories), its Wound Levels change as well. If hurt as a bigger creature and it changes into a small creature or vice versa, the damage that it has taken will be proportionally transferred to the new form.

Speed (3)

Prerequisite:	Agility 4+, Strength 1+, Swiftiness +1
Restriction:	Immobile
Effect:	The creature is very fast when traveling in a certain manner (flying, burrowing, etc.). The creature moves at double its movement rate in one of its forms of movement.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature doubles its speed in a different form of locomotion.
Complements:	Burrow, Fly

Terror (5)

Effect:	The mere presence of a creature causes fear in those around it. The creature's Influence (Intimidate) skill operates continuously when it does not spend actions to cause fear in its opponents. Opponents who face the creature must make a Willpower test vs. Fear every round. In such cases when actions aren't spent on using the skill, add the creature's ranks to its Bearing modifier and divide by 2 before rolling the dice; all other effects remain the. Having this ability also does not preclude the creature from using the skill at full power (using the appropriate action cost as well).
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Tail Sweep (3)

Prerequisite:	Natural Weapons (tail)
Restriction:	Gaseous Body, Incorporeal
Effect:	Any creature that sustains damage from a tail attack and fails an opposed Strength or Agility test against the creature's Strength is knocked down (prone) and takes damage from the tail.

Toxin (varies)

Prerequisite:	Immunity (creature's toxin)
Restriction:	Incorporeal
Effect:	Refer to <i>Toxins</i> for developing a creature's toxin (corrosive, disease, poison, radiation). The Ranged Attack ability is required if the poison is "spit" or otherwise projected towards a target. The pick cost for each of the toxin's aspects equals the aspect's number -1. The sum of all the pick costs for the toxin's aspects is the pick cost for this ability.
Upgrade:	Corrosives can only affect one type of material at a time. The radius of effect for a radiation is equal to Vitality/2 in yards. Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains a new toxin, affects a new material, or different type of radiation.
Complements:	None

Trait (varies)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature gains an edge just like a PC. The cost is equal to the number of picks required to purchase the edge, including any upgrades to it. Increase the cost by 2 picks for ignoring prerequisites.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains a new edge.
Complements:	None

Trample (3)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Gaseous Body, Incorporeal
Effect:	As a full-round move action, a creature can use its bulk and speed to charge over the top of its opponents, doing grievous damage to them. Make a Strength-based Melee Combat: Natural Weapons test to hit the target. If successful, the target is knocked down and dealt either 2d6 or the creature's hoof/foot/etc. damage + (2*Strength).
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Trap-making (4)

Prerequisite:	Strength 1+, Intellect 1+, Agility 1+
Restriction:	None
Effect:	The creature gains Craft: Trap-making +1; additional ranks can be purchased normally. The time required to build a trap is 2d6 - Intellect modifier hours. The Craft test result is the TN for Perception, Observe, or Search tests to spot the trap or Swift tests to avoid the trap. Traps may confer damage upon activation (falling, suffocation, etc.) or, in the case of webs, require a Strength test to break free, requiring a full-round action.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	Burrow, Lure

Undead Stamina (10)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Cannot be a living creature
Effect:	This creature doesn't have to eat or drink and heals all injuries at five times the normal rate. They also don't have Weariness Levels and never need to make Stamina checks to resist Weariness for any reason.
Upgrade:	No
Complements:	None

Vulnerability (varies)

Prerequisite:	None
Restriction:	Immunity or Resistance to same thing
Effect:	Select an effect from which the creature is vulnerable to damage. If damaged from this source, the creature must make a TN 10 Stamina test. If successful, it is dealt normal damage; otherwise it is dealt double damage. Other effects may apply instead and are described in the individual entry. Select effect from Table 125 at half the listed cost in picks (rounded up) and is negative.
Upgrade:	Yes. Every time you pick this ability, the creature gains a new effect to be vulnerable to.
Complements:	None

Skills

A list of skills this creature is proficient with. These are based on the creature's form, role, and special abilities. Additional skill points cost 2 picks per +1 ranks and the same goes for each specialty (these should be used sparingly for creatures).

Description Block

Unique Special Abilities

The descriptive explanations in terms of game mechanics of abilities unique to this creature.

Description

The description of what the creature looks like and how it acts.

History

A narrative of the creature's background, if a notable aspect of the creature.

Habitat

The landform, climate, and types of lairs preferred by this creature.

Table 130: Creature Habitat

CLIMATE

Result (2d6)*	Climate
2 or less	Arctic
3-4	Subarctic
5-8	Temperate
9-10	Subtropical
11	Tropical
12 or	Desert

* - MODIFIERS: (homeworld's temperature) -4 Very Cold, -3 Cold, +3 Hot, +7 Very Hot

TERRAIN*

2	Aerial/Atmospheric
3	Aquatic/Oceanic
4	Desert/Waste
5	Forest/Jungle
6	Hill/Highlands
7	Mountains/Glacial
8	Plains/Flatland
9	Steppe/Plateau
10	Subterranean/Cave
11	Swamp/Wetlands
12	Space

* - Roll randomly or choose from homeworld's available terrain.

TERRITORY

2-3	None
4-6	Self*
7-8	1 sq. mile
9-10	5 sq. miles
11	25 sq. miles
12	Migratory**

* - Creature considers area around immediately around it (Perception x10 yards) its territory.

** - Migrates across a large area, but doesn't consider all land it crosses to be its territory.

LAIR

2-4	None
5-8	Natural formation*
9-11	Artificial structure**
12	Self-built lair***

* - Creature inhabits a naturally occurring formation like a cave, grotto, grove of trees, etc.

** - Creature inhabits an artificially constructed structure like a building, vehicle, etc.

*** - Creature creates its own lair like a nest, brush pile, dam, etc. Can be automatically selected if creature has certain abilities (Burrow, Cunning, etc.) or roles (Pouncer).

Society

The way this creature relates to its own kind, if a notable aspect of the creature.

Table 131: Creature Organization

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u># per Encounter</u>
2-3	Solitary	1
4	Mated Pair	2
5-6	Hunting Pack	2d6
7-8	Small herd/flock	2d6 x3
9-10	Herd/Flock	2d6 x5
11	Large herd/flock	2d6 x10
12	Colony/swarm/ infestation	2d6 x100

Modifying Creatures

Creature Advancements

Just as not all heroes are equal, neither are all creatures; some are just more powerful than others of their ilk. To represent this, give a creature advancements. Simply record the number of advancements and increase the creature's characteristics, following the same rules and costs as characters. Use Table 120 for advancement items and their cost; increase the creature's TN by 1 for every 5 picks spent (rounded up).

Giant Size

Sometimes creatures are affected by spells that run amok or grow to size much larger than normal. To represent this, select a new size and modify its Strength, Vitality, and Wound Levels; refer to the Size section in *Secondary Attributes*. The table below gives the modifiers to the giant-sized creature's TN.

Table 132: Giant-size Creature TN Modifiers

<u>Size Increase</u>	<u>TN Modifier</u>
1	—
2	—
3	+5
4	+5
5	+10
6	+15

Encountering Creatures

Creature Activity

Roll on the table below to determine the activity of the creature encountered.

Table 133: Creature Activity

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Activity</u>
2	<i>Playing</i>
3	<i>Nesting</i>
4	<i>Feeding</i>
5	<i>Traveling</i>
6-8	<i>Prowling</i>
9	<i>Hunting</i>
10	<i>Grooming</i>
11	<i>Resting</i>
12	<i>Reproducing</i>

Feeding

Modifiers: Swifttness (roll 1d6; 1-2 -1, 3-4 ± 0 , 5-6 +1), Willpower +2, Observe ± 0 , Stealth ± 0
Initial Demeanor: Roll 1d6; 1-2 Aggressive/Hostile, 3-4 Calm/Relaxed, 5-6 Uncertain/Skittish.
Actions: Feeding creatures are less likely to attack unless threatened or provoked. Some creatures may eat while prone, requiring them to rise before making most actions (except Athletics: Jump to pounce).

Grooming

Modifiers: Swifttness -1, Willpower -1, Observe -1, Stealth ± 0
Initial Demeanor: Roll 1d6; 1-2 Curious/Playful, 3-5 Calm/Relaxed, 6 Sick/Weak
Actions: Grooming creatures are unlikely to attack unless threatened or provoked. Most creatures groom while prone, requiring them to rise before making most actions (except Athletics: Jump to pounce).

Hunting

Modifiers: Swifttness +2, Willpower +3, Observe +3, Stealth +2
Initial Demeanor: Roll 1d6; 1-4 Aggressive/Hostile, 5-6 Uncertain/Skittish
Actions: Creatures are more likely to attack while hunting if they perceive the character(s) as food. Otherwise they will retreat, flee, or ignore them. Pouncers and filters are typically the only ones prone while hunting.

Nesting

Modifiers: Swifttness ± 0 , Willpower -2, Observe (roll 1d6; 1-2 -1, 3-4 ± 0 , 5-6 +1), Stealth (roll 1d6; 1-2 -3, 3-4 -2, 5 -1, 6 ± 0)
Initial Demeanor: Roll 1d6; 1-2 Curious/Playful, 3-5 Calm/Relaxed, 6 Uncertain/Skittish
Actions: No effect.

Playing

Modifiers: Swifttness +1, Willpower ± 0 , Observe (roll 1d6; 1-2 -1, 3-4 ± 0 , 5-6 +1), Stealth (roll 1d6; 1-2 -3, 3-4 -2, 5 -1, 6 ± 0)
Initial Demeanor: Roll 1d6; 1 Aggressive/Hostile, 2-5 Curious/Playful, 6 Calm/Relaxed
Actions: Creatures at play may act unpredictably, equally likely to run away or attack. Playing creatures are rarely prone.

Prowling

Modifiers: Swifttness +1, Willpower +1, Observe +2, Stealth +1
Initial Demeanor: Roll 1d6; 1-3 Aggressive/Hostile, 4-5 Uncertain/Skittish, 6 Injured/Fearful
Actions: Creatures prowling are likely to attack if hungry or are defending their territory. Otherwise they are likely to hide or flee. Prowling creatures, by definition, are on the move.

Resting

Modifiers: Swifttness (roll 1d6; 1-2 -3, 3-4 -2, 5-6 -1), Willpower -2, Observe (roll 1d6; 1-2 -3, 3-4 -2, 5 -1, 6 ±0), Stealth N/A
Initial Demeanor: Roll 1d6; 1 Curious/Playful, 2-3 Calm/Relaxed, 4-5 Uncertain/Skittish, 6 Aggressive/Hostile
Actions: Most creatures rest in the prone position, requiring them a full-round action to awaken, get up, and make an action.

Reproducing

Modifiers: Swifttness (roll 1d6; 1-2 -6, 3-4 -5, 5 -4, 6 -3), Willpower (roll 1d6; 1-2 -1, 3-4 ±0, 5-6 +1), Observe (roll 1d6; 1-2 -3, 3-4 -2, 5 -1, 6 ±0), Stealth -2
Initial Demeanor: Roll 1d6; 1-3 Aggressive/Hostile, 4 Uncertain/Skittish, 5-6 Injured/Weak
Actions: Regardless of biological necessities, regard the action to be done prone. A creature must spend 1d6+1 actions to stop the activity and be able to recover to perform any actions.

Traveling

Modifiers: Swifttness ±0, Willpower ±0, Observe +1, Stealth ±0
Initial Demeanor: Roll 1d6; 1-3 Calm/Relaxed, 4-6 Uncertain/Skittish
Actions: No effect

Creature Demeanor

Roll on the table below to randomly determine the creature's demeanor upon encountering it or instead of using the listed results in the creature's current activity.

Table 134: Creature Demeanor

<u>Result (2d6)</u>	<u>Demeanor</u>
2-3	Aggressive/Hostile
4-5	Curious/Playful
6-7	Calm/Relaxed
8-9	Uncertain/Skittish
10-11	Sick/Weak
12	Injured/Fearful

Aggressive/Hostile

Roll 1d6; 1-4 Aggressive action, 4-5 Neutral Action, 6 Defensive action

Calm/Relaxed

Roll 1d6; 1 Aggressive action, 2-5 Neutral action, 6 Defensive action

Curious/Playful

Roll 1d6; 1-2 Aggressive action, 3-5 Neutral action, 6 Defensive action

Injured/Fearful

Roll 1d6; 1-2 Aggressive action, 3-4 Neutral action, 5-6 Defensive action

Sick/Weak

Roll 1d6; 1 Aggressive action, 2-3 Neutral action, 4-6 Defensive action

Uncertain/Skittish

Roll 1d6; 1 Aggressive action, 2-4 Neutral action, 5-6 Defensive action

Creature Actions

Table 135: Creature Actions

<u>Action</u>	<u>Category*</u>	<u>Action Cost</u>	<u>Test</u>
Advance	A	1	None
Charge	A	2	Unarmed Combat
Chase	A	1	TN 10 Willpower**
Crawl	N	1	None
Crouch	N	1	None
Detect	D	Full-round	Observe
Deter	D	1	None
Ensnare/Trap	A	Varies**	Special**
Flee	D	0	None
Frenzy	A	0	None
Grapple/Constrict	A	Full-round	Unarmed Combat
Move	N	1	Varies**
Natural Attack	A	1	Unarmed Combat
Pounce	A	1	Athletics: Jump
Ranged Attack	A	1	Ranged Combat
Retreat	D	1	None
Special Attack	A	1	Varies**
Special Defense	D	1	Varies**
Stalk	A	1	Stealth
Trample	N	1	Unarmed Combat
Warning	D	0	None

* - A = Aggressive, D = Defensive, N = Neutral

** - See entry for more information.

Advance

Creature moves cautiously forward at half movement.

Charge

See the Combat section in *System Rules* for further information. Injured or enraged creatures often charge into combat.

Chase

Creature sprints (see Actions section in *System Rules*) after a fleeing opponent. If creature hasn't caught opponent after 2 full rounds, it must make a TN 10 Willpower test or give up the chase.

Crawl

Creature can crawl towards or away from opponent a distance equal to its height or length, whichever is greater. Once a creature reaches the Wounded Wound Level, it must crawl.

Crouch

Creature must have Stealth 1+. It crouches and hides (making a Stealth test to conceal itself), not having to rise to make a Crawl, Pounce, or Stalk action.

Detect

Creature must have Perception 1+. It stops all other action, gaining a +3 bonus to Observe tests while it uses all of its senses to determine the presence of an intruder.

Deter

Creature must have Deterrent ability. Conduct action per the ability.

Ensnare/Trap

Creature must have the Trap-making ability. Conduct action per the Trap-making ability. Opponents cannot dodge nor benefit from previous dodge actions unless they make a TN 10 Observe (Spot) test.

Flee

Creature runs away. Creature sprints in the opposite direction of the source of its fear. Once a creature flees, it cannot make any Observe tests to notice anything and must make a TN 10 Willpower test to perform any other actions.

Frenzy

Creature must have the Multiple Attacks ability. Roll ½-d6 to determine how many extra actions the creature performs. These actions may only be for attacks or moving towards an opponent.

Grapple/Constrict

Creature must have Natural Weapon or Constrict ability. Conduct per the action listed in the Combat section of *System Rules* or the ability description.

Move

Creature makes one movement action at one of the following paces: walk, jog, or run. If it climbs, jumps, or swims, it must make the appropriate skill test to do so.

Natural Attack

Creature makes a close-quarters combat attack against an opponent; resolve as an Unarmed Combat test.

Pounce

Creature jumps on opponent. It performs an Athletics: Jump test to land on its opponent against its Defense. If the creature scores an Extraordinary Success, the two make an opposed Strength test (doubling the creature's Strength modifier). If the creature win, the opponent falls to the ground with the creature on top of it. The creature then may make combat tests (with the normal action cost) with a +5 bonus against the opponent.

Ranged Attack

Creature makes a ranged attack against an opponent; resolve as a Ranged Combat test.

Special Attack

Creature uses one of its special abilities (spells, psionics, etc.) with an offensive capacity against an opponent. Conduct per the ability's description.

Special Defense

Creature uses one of its special abilities (spells, psionics, etc.) with an defensive capacity against an opponent. Conduct per the ability's description.

Stalk

Creature must have Stealth 1+. Creature moves a distance equal to its crawl distance quietly while hidden, making a Stealth (Move Silently) and Stealth (Hide) tests.

Trample

Creature must have the Trample ability. Conduct per the ability's description.

VEHICLES

Creation

Operation

Combat

MASS COMBAT

Unit

Vehicle

APPENDIX A: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- A -

Ability

A special talent or power a character derives from experience.

Academic Test

A test involving a character's knowledge, such as what are the twelve uses for dragon's blood, how to subdue a Cornish pixie, or the properties of mandrake root. Academic modifiers may affect these tests.

Action

When your character does something, that's an action. Every character can make a minimum of two actions per round.

Advancement

Characters develop and improve over time as they learn from their experiences – both good and bad. When a character earns a certain amount of experience points, he advances, gaining the opportunity to improve attributes and skills or acquire new skills and abilities.

Affinity Bonus

Affinity bonuses are modifiers to tests granted due to proficiency in other skills, certain situations, special equipment, or success from a previous test result.

Armor Life (AL)

This represents the number of years the armor lasts before becoming useless (barring spells, TDA is used up, etc.).

Armor Rating (AR)

Armor or similar items' ability to withstand damage. To cause damage to a person wearing the item, the amount of damage done must exceed the Armour Rating.

Attribute

One of the six innate character qualities: Strength (Str), Vitality (Vit), Agility (Nim), Perception (Per), Bearing (Brg), and Intellect (Int).

Attribute Test

A test made when your character's innate qualities play an important role, such as lifting a heavy object or jumping across slippery rocks. Only your attribute modifier applies to these tests.

- B -

Bonus

A positive modifier to a dice roll.

- C -

Casting TN

The Spellcraft TN that a character must achieve to cast a learned spell.

Chapter

One complete adventure, much like a chapter in a book. It may require several gaming sessions to complete.

Courage

This represents your character's bravery, heroic qualities, and ingenuity. A player uses Courage to improve test results by gaining a +3 bonus per Courage point used.

- D -

Dice Roll

A roll of the dice, made whenever there is a chance your character could fail at an action.

Difficulty

The level of the challenge associated with a test, established by a Target Number (TN). This ranges from 5 (easy) to 25 or more (nearly impossible).

- E -

Edge

A trait that gives your character an advantage.

Experience Points (XP)

A numerical measure of your character's achievement. You receive experience points at the end of each chapter based on your PC's actions and success.

Extended Action

An action requiring all of a character's attention for a lengthy period of time, such as walking on a rope bridge, brewing a potion, or researching a bit of lore.

- F -

Flaw

A trait that hinders your character.

Free Action

An action that requires little to no time or effort, such as calling for help, or dropping an item. It does not cost any actions to perform.

Full-Round Action

An action requiring a character's extended attention, such as healing an injured friend.

- G -

- H -

Hardness Rating (HR)

An item or structure's ability to withstand damage. Similar to Armour Rating, damage must exceed the Hardness Rating to do any damage to the item or structure.

Health

A measure of a character's health and fitness. A character's Health equals her Vitality plus his Strength modifier. This determines how many Wound Points he can sustain per Wound Level.

Hit Points (HP)

This is the amount of damage a weapon can take before it becomes broken and/or useless. It is at the Narrator's discretion to decide if the weapon can be reforged.

- I -

Improvement

Characters can improve some traits and abilities by spending advancement picks to acquire them more than once. Unless the description of a trait or ability specifically says it can be improved, your character may only acquire it once.

Initiative Test

A Swiftess reaction test that determines the order in which characters act in a combat encounter.

- J -

- K -

- L -

- M -

Modifier

A bonus or penalty applied to a test result.

Move Action

This action allows you to move a certain distance, depending on whether you run, walk, crawl, climb, or swim, etc.

- N -

Narrative

A relative collection of chapters (stories) featuring the same characters as protagonists.

Narrator

The player who portrays the NPC's, makes up the chapter for the game, and serves as referee.

Non-Player Character (NPC)

Any character portrayed by the Narrator.

- O -

- P -

Penalty

A negative modifier to a dice roll.

Physical Test

A test involving a physical action, such as climbing a rope, playing Quidditch, or looking for secret passages. Physical modifiers apply to these tests.

Player Character (PC)

A character that a player controls, usually one of the main protagonists of the chapter or narrative.

- Q -

- R -

Reaction

One of the four qualities used for reaction tests: Stamina (St), Swiftiness (Sw), Willpower (Wp), and Wisdom (Ws).

Reaction Test

A test made in reaction to something, such as to avoid Bludgers, block a spell, or resist poison. The appropriate reaction modifiers applies to these tests.

Renown

A measure of a character's fame or infamy. Used to determine whether or not other people recognize the character, Renown also can modify certain social tests.

Resistance Rating (RR)

An object's ability to withstand damage by a source other than weapons such as acid, fire/heat, cold, etc. To cause damage to the object or a person wearing an item with resistance, the amount of damage must exceed the Resistance Rating.

Round

A six-second measure of time during combat or other encounters in which timing is critical.

- S -

Scene

A single encounter between characters, or a single event. This is similar to a scene in a book or television show.

Skill

A character's learned abilities, aptitudes, and areas of knowledge.

Skill Test

A test influenced by a character's training. Attribute modifiers, test type modifiers, specialty modifiers, traits, and skill ranks affect skill tests.

Social Test

A test involving interaction between two characters, such as lying, bluffing, or impersonating someone. Social modifiers apply to these tests.

Specialty

A character's field of expertise within a skill, the aspect of the skill at which he is most trained or accomplished. Characters add a +2 bonus to skill test results when using their specialties.

Stamina

The reaction that represents your toughness and hardiness. Used to resist some forms of injury and to determine your ability to heal damage.

Structure

An object's toughness or resilience which includes either an Armour Rating, Resistance Rating, or Hardness Rating, and how much damage it can take before becoming useless and/or destroyed.

Swiftiness

The reaction that represents your reflexes. Used to determine initiative, to dodge attacks, and to avoid surprise.

- T -

Target Number (TN)

The number a player must meet or exceed to succeed in a test.

Test

A dice roll used to determine the results of an action for which the outcome is uncertain. Most tests involve rolling two six-sided dice and adding the numbers together, then applying any appropriate modifiers.

Test Result

The sum total of the dice result after you apply all modifiers.

Total Damage Absorbed (TDA)

This is the maximum amount of damage the Armor may absorb before it becomes totally useless based upon its Armor Rating.

Example:

When Frarin creates a corset of chain Armor, it has a TDA of 140. The character that wears the Armor enters combat and is hit 3 times for 5, 6, and 4 damage. The Armor absorbs 5 points of damage with each attack for a total of 14. This reduces the armor's TDA to 126.

Trait

An aspect of your character not measured by attributes, reactions, skills, or abilities, such as keen sight, greediness, or increased fortitude.

- U -

Untrained

A skill that a character has 0 ranks. When using a skill untrained, a -2 penalty plus any other modifiers modify the dice roll.

- V -

- W -

Weapon Life (WL)

This represents the number of years the weapon lasts before becoming useless (barring spells, HP is used up, etc.).

Weariness

A measure of how rested or tired a character is. There are six Weariness Levels: Hale, Winded, Tired, Weary, Spent, and Exhausted.

Willpower

The reaction that represents your mental fortitude. Used to resist mind control, torture, and some kinds of social tests.

Wisdom

The reaction that represents your common sense and shrewdness. Used to resist attempts to persuade or bluff you.

Wound Level

A measure of how wounded a character is. There are six Wound Levels: Healthy, Dazed, Injured, Wounded, Incapacitated, and Near Death. Within each level, a character can withstand an amount of damage equal to her Health.

Wound Points

These measure how much physical damage your character can withstand before dropping to the next lowest Wound Level. A character's Wound Points in each Wound Level are equal to her Health.

- X -

- Y -

- Z -

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