Creating a Character

Use the character creation rules as presented in the Player’s Handbook (PH), with the following notes. You begin play at 1st level.

Step 1: Choose a Race or Lineage. See the sidebar for available rules choices. Custom lineages found in Tasha’s Cauldron of Everything are available.

Step 2: Choose a Class. See the sidebar for available rules choices.

Step 3: Determine Ability Scores. Your ability scores are generated using one of the following methods.

- Standard set (15, 14, 13, 12, 10, 8).
- Variant: Customizing Ability Scores (PH).

Step 4: Describe Your Character. See the sidebar for available rules choices.

- Alignment: Choose a non-evil alignment.
- Deity: You may choose any deity to worship from official rulebooks that is unique to the Forgotten Realms or is not unique to another world. Clerics must choose a deity.
- Faction: You may choose one faction at character creation or anytime the opportunity arises during play. Benefits for faction membership are detailed within adventures where relevant. The starting factions are listed in appendix C in the Basic Rules. You may only have membership in one faction at a time and may switch whenever you’d like.

Step 5: Choosing Equipment. Your starting equipment and gold are determined by your class and background; you don’t roll for gold. You may start with a trinket of your choice from available rules choices. You can sell starting equipment using the rules in the PH and can buy equipment and spell components found in the PH or available rules choices.

Starting Play at 5th Level

You may choose to create a 5th level character instead of starting at 1st level. As a 5th level character, you may choose one of the following magic items to possess in addition to your standard gear from your class and background.

- +1 weapon
- +1 shield
- +1 rod of the pact keeper
- +1 wand of the war mage
- +1 all-purpose tool (TCE)
- +1 amulet of the devout (TCE)
- +1 arcane grimoire (TCE)
- +1 bloodwell vial (TCE)
- +1 moon sickle (TCE)
- +1 rhythm-maker’s drum (TCE)
- Bag of holding

What Rulebooks Should I Use?

You can use non-optional rules found in the Player’s Handbook, the Basic Rules, and all the books listed below. If a rule has been reprinted in a newer resource, you must always use the latest printing.

- Fizban’s Treasury of Dragons (FTD) (on October 19, 2021)
- Mordenkainen’s Tome of Foes (MTF)
- Sword Coast Adventurer’s Guide (SCAG)
- Tasha’s Cauldron of Everything (TCE)
- Volo’s Guide to Monsters (VGM)
- Xanathar’s Guide to Everything (XGE)
- Races or backgrounds published in select adventure product (see the FAQ)
- Backgrounds from premier organizer products (see the FAQ)

You may also use the rules found in the following digital publications:

- Elemental Evil Player’s Companion (EEPC)
- Locathah Rising (LR)
- The Tortle Package (TP)

Additionally, the following variant or optional rules are available:

- Blessed of Corellon (MTF)
- Chapter 6: Customization Options (PH)
- Customizing Your Origin (TCE)
- Half-Elf and Tiefling Variants (SCAG/MTF)
- Option: Human Languages (SCAG)
- Optional Class Features (TCE)
- Variant Human Traits (PH)
PLAYING ADVENTURES

You can play any adventures you’d like that are available as a part of the D&D Adventurers League Forgotten Realms campaign, provided you meet the level requirement for play. Each adventure has a tier associated with it, which tells you what level characters can participate in it.

**TIER BY CHARACTER LEVEL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character Level</th>
<th>Tier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 – 4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 – 10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 – 16</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 – 20</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PLAYING BOOK ADVENTURES**

Adventures such as *Icewind Dale: Rime of the Frostmaiden* and *The Wild Beyond the Witchlight* have different rules for leveling. You may “leave” those adventures at specified points to play other adventures but you may be ineligible to return if you level your character outside of the book adventure. Consult with your Dungeon Master if you’re going to play those adventures.

**LOGSHEETS**

You should use a logsheet to track rewards and note any other important information from play of an adventure. A logsheet is available on the official website.

**LEVELING UP**

You gain a level at the end of each adventure, at your discretion. If you’d like to continue playing at your current level, you can decline to gain a level. You still keep any rewards earned.

You gain hit points listed as the fixed value for your class (plus any modifiers) when you level up.

Whenever you could gain a level (even if you decline), you may rebuild any aspect of your character.

Once you achieve 5th level, you may choose a magic item as presented in “Starting Play at 5th Level” above.

**REWARDS**

At the end of an adventure, you’ll earn rewards. These may include the following:

- Magic items
- Coins and other treasure
- Story awards
- Event awards

**MAGIC ITEMS**

Whenever your party finds a magic item during play, the party determines who has it for the remainder of the adventure. At the end of the adventure, any number of characters may keep the magic item if it wasn’t consumed or destroyed during play. You may keep as many magic items as you are awarded but must limit the number of magic items you bring on an adventure based on the table below.

**CARRIED MAGIC ITEMS BY TIER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Uncommon+</th>
<th>Common</th>
<th>Consumable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Uncommon, rare, very rare, legendary, and unique permanent magic items are included in the “Uncommon+” column. Common permanent magic items are included in the “Common” column. Consumable items include any magic item that is consumed if used (potions, scrolls, ammunition, etc.). If an item is destroyed, consumed, or lost during play, it is removed from your character and cannot be reacquired unless rewarded again through play.

Legendary magic items may only be used in tier 4 adventures. Characters of lower tiers that encounter a legendary magic item as a reward may possess it, but it remains unavailable for use until 17th level.

Additional magic items may be available through events, such as a trading post or a special play opportunity. These items are subject to the magic item limits presented above.

**COINS AND OTHER TREASURE**

Whenever your party finds treasure of a monetary value, they can keep it with them to use during play. Any remaining treasure unused at the end of the adventure is converted to gold pieces and divided evenly between all of the characters. The Dungeon Master can assist in this process.

Mundane items, such as found equipment, are divided however the party chooses at the end of the adventure.

**STORY AWARDS**

Sometimes you and others in the party may earn a story award. This is a special award or item, sometimes presented as a certificate, that may have significance in future adventures in the same storyline.

Whenever applicable, the Dungeon Master may ask if any of the characters in the party possess a story award. In certain circumstances, such as the case of story items, the party may have to determine who has it for the purposes of that adventure.

**EVENT AWARDS**

You may attend an event and receive a certificate, such as a pet or interesting trinket, as a reward for participation or engaging in a specific activity. These rewards are attached to the player, not a specific character. At the beginning of each adventure, you may select one event award you possess to use. You may only have one event award active at any time.
DEATH, DISEASE, AND CURSES

During play of an adventure, if you die, are subject to a lingering effect such as a disease or curse, or removed from the adventure, you deal with the consequences for the duration of the adventure. At the adventure’s conclusion, you may choose the following fate:

- You return your character to life or remove the negative effect. If you were removed from the adventure, you gain rewards earned until removed. You may gain a level.
- You retire the character, succumbing to your fate.

If you are returned to the adventure before its conclusion, you may earn all the rewards offered to the party, including during your absence.

DUNGEON MASTERS AND REWARDS

Your Dungeon Master may have additional guidance through documentation on adjudicating specific rewards. If you have questions using a particular reward during play, ask your Dungeon Master.

BETWEEN ADVENTURES

BUYING AND TRADING GEAR

You can sell and buy equipment and spell components using the rules in the Player’s Handbook. Spell scrolls and potions can be purchased for prices listed under Appendix A: Shared Campaigns in Xanathar’s Guide to Everything in addition to any component costs.

- Equipment and consumable items can be lent to other characters during the adventure but must return at the end of the session (unless it’s been consumed or lost).
- Permanent magic items can be traded (see below). Unique magic items may not be traded.

Trading permanent magic items with other characters in the Forgotten Realms campaign is on a one-for-one basis of equivalent rarity. Certificates (if present) must also be traded or destroyed.

DOWNTIME

You earn 10 downtime days between each adventure. Your character can participate in downtime activities between adventures as listed under “Downtime Activities” in the Player’s Handbook. The following additional downtime activities are available; all others are unavailable unless offered in an adventure.

- **Catching Up.** Spend 10 downtime days to gain a level.
- **Copying Spells.** If you can copy spells, you may use the rules presented in the “Your Spellbook” sidebar in the Player’s Handbook to copy spells found in adventures, except it costs 1 downtime day for each spell up to 4th level and 2 downtime days for each spell 5th level and above. If you are copying spells from another character’s spellbook, you may do so immediately after an adventure in which both characters were present. You are always successful at copying spells from scrolls.
- **Brewing Potions.** You may brew potions of healing as presented under “Crafting an Item” in Xanathar’s Guide to Everything. A “workweek” is defined as 5 downtime days for the purposes of this campaign. You do not suffer a complication when engaging in this activity. Potions brewed count towards your consumable item limit.
- **Scribing Scrolls.** You may scribe spell scrolls as presented under “Scribing a Spell Scroll” in Xanathar’s Guide to Everything. A “workweek” is defined as 5 downtime days for the purposes of this campaign. You do not suffer a complication when engaging in this activity. Scrolls scribed count towards your consumable item limit.
- **Trading Magic Items.** Whenever you trade a magic item, you spend 5 downtime days.

QUESTIONS AND MORE INFO

The following resources are available to you to keep up with all the latest Adventurers League news and discussion!

- **Official D&D Adventurers League website.** Your source for general information, as well as all of the campaign documents for play. The FAQ is also found here, which gives more in-depth answers for specific questions.
- **Official D&D Adventurers League Discord.** Join in the lively discussion with channels devoted to all sorts of topics! All the latest news gets pushed here too.
- **Official D&D Adventurers League Blog.** The Yawning Portal is the home for our blog! Learn all about new adventure releases, dive into the whys and hows, and see what the staff is talking about.