

Demon Idol

"We go in the mental frame of adventure, aggressiveness, zeal. Thus does fear vanish and the ghosts become creatures of mind-weft; thus does our elan burst the under-earth terror." - Dying Earth

This is Demon Idol, a site dedicated to helping gamers learn, play, and master Advanced Dungeons & Dragons (AD&D), the legendary adventure game of swords & sorcery.

You might have heard that AD&D is impossible to understand, that it's a broken game, or that no one actually plays by the rules. In reality, anyone can learn AD&D and play some of the best Dungeons & Dragons of their life.

In the years since the renaissance of old-school D&D, and especially in recent years, focus has been on Basic D&D, "rules-lites", and "rulings before rules" gameplay. AD&D offers something different.



This is a brand new project just started in September 2023! Check back regularly as we translate our group's campaign doc and tools over to this site.

Features

- **Convention over configuration.** Digging through forums and blogs is fun but takes time and experience to work. We'll just tell you what works.¹⁾
- **By-the-book AD&D.** We use every rule [with two exceptions](#).
- **Rules extensions.** AD&D was always meant to be a living game which grows with your campaign.
- **Third-party insights.** We reference Judges Guild materials and other good stuff.
- **Visible improvements.** We play twice a week and are always learning. Changes will be easily visible thanks to Demon Idol's [page history](#).²⁾
- **Tools and resources.** Demon Idol will provide character sheets, calculators, generators, and show you how to set up tools to help you run a campaign.
- **Freedom.** Demon Idol is free-as-in-cost and free-as-in-freedom. Everything here is licensed [CC BY-SA](#), and Demon Idol runs on [free software](#).

What this is not

- **A retroclone.** We want you to play the original game, and we want you to enjoy the original books. There is magic in those tomes to last ten lifetimes.
- **"2nd edition".** This is original AD&D (or "1st edition").
- **The only way to play.** Just our way.

How to get started

Read the “Getting Started” links in the sidebar: [How to Use This](#), [What is BTB](#), [Getting Started](#), and [Own Your Data](#).

1)

If you want to dig deeper, you can via footnotes and references like this one.

2)

You can see the history of individual pages with one of the buttons over at the right. That's also where you can download a PDF of any page, see old versions of a page, and see what links to a page. Once we get the the site fully running, we will publish periodic change logs which will give you an overview of updates to the site without having to look through all the page changes.

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