



# THE SWORDMAGE



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# THE SWORDMAGE

*My mind is as sharp as my blade. Which one shall defeat you?*

Swordmages combine arcane magic and swordplay to make their presence felt on the battlefield. Although they are not as physically strong as other melee combatants, they make up for it with powerful spells that protect themselves and their allies.

Their combat role is defender. With their Sigil power, they can lock down a powerful enemy on the battlefield and give them a strategic choice. Either target the well-protected swordmage, or face the consequences for attacking his allies. At the same time, swordmages are mobile and zip back and forth across the battlefield to be where they are needed.

## PLAY STYLE

Even when swordmages are in the thick of things, they perceive battle through the lens of their sharpened intellect. They are always looking out to give their side a tactical edge through the well-timed use of a spell. Out of battle many prefer the role of an adviser, as they are well-educated but more rooted in reality than their ivory tower wizard brethren.

## ABILITY SCORES

Intelligence is the main ability score for swordmages. A good Constitution is important when you are expected to take the brunt of enemy attacks, even if you have tricks to avoid damage at your disposal. Some of your talents and spells also benefit from Strength.

## RACES

Elves, especially high elves are renowned for combining swordplay and magic, although the githyanki also have a claim to be the origin of this fighting style. Human and tiefling swordmages are also common in the realms. Dwarf-forged who learned to harness and channel arcane reserves from their initial enchantment are formidable foes. Dwarf swordmages are much rarer, as they are suspicious of the arcane and prefer hammers and axes over swords.

## BACKGROUNDS

A *cursed sword master* has a dark past; a *magic smith* has mastered crafting swords as well as using them; *Horizon guards* are an elite troop of the Archmage; a *runaway apprentice* has picked up a sword to defend himself against the lackeys of his abusive master; a *demon hunter* is determined to fight back against what's coming from the hell holes.

## SWORDMAGE STATS

ABILITY BONUS	+2 Intelligence or Constitution (different from racial bonus)
INITIATIVE	Dex mod + Level
ARMOR CLASS (NO ARMOR)	15 + middle mod of Con/Dex/Wis + Level (with free off-hand: 16+)
PHYSICAL DEFENSE	10 + middle mod of Str/Con/Dex + Level
MENTAL DEFENSE	12 + middle mod of Int/Wis/Cha + Level
HIT POINTS	(7 + Con mod) x Level modifier (see level progression chart)
RECOVERIES	(probably) 8
RECOVERY DICE	(1d8 x Level) + Con mod
BACKGROUNDS	8 points, max 5 in any one background
ICON RELATIONSHIPS	3 points (4 at 5th level, 5 at 8th)
TALENTS	3
FEATS	1 per Level

# THE SWORDMAGE

## ÍCONS

Depending on whether your swordmage's style is closer to a wizard or a sorcerer, he or she might feel closer to the Archmage, patron of the arcane arts, or the Three, source of innate arcane magic. Swordmages from a military background have often served the Emperor or the Crusader. The Priestess is closer to paladins, but you could be the guardian of a deity of magic. In areas where magic

is forbidden, the Shadow Prince is an ally that helps with guarding your identity.

The dual mastery of swordplay and magic is traditionally associated with elves, and a swordmage who has trained under elves is likely to have a relationship with the Elf Queen, even if they are of a different race.

## SWORDMAGE LEVEL PROGRESSION

SWORDMAGE LEVEL	TOTAL HIT POINTS	TOTAL FEATS	SIGILS	SPELLS BY LEVEL					LEVEL-UP ABILITY BONUSES	DAMAGE BONUS FROM ABILITY SCORE
				1	3	5	7	9		
Level 1	(7 + CON mod) x 3	1 adventurer	1	4	-	-	-	-		ability modifier
Level 2	(7 + CON mod) x 4	2 adventurer	1	5	-	-	-	-		ability modifier
Level 3	(7 + CON mod) x 5	3 adventurer	1	2	3	-	-	-		ability modifier
Level 4	(7 + CON mod) x 6	4 adventurer	1	-	6	-	-	-	+1 to 3 abilities	ability modifier
Level 5	(7 + CON mod) x 8	4 adventurer 1 champion	2	-	3	3	-	-		2 x ability modifier
Level 6	(7 + CON mod) x 10	4 adventurer 2 champion	2	-	1	6	-	-		2 x ability modifier
Level 7	(7 + CON mod) x 12	4 adventurer 3 champion	2	-	-	4	3	-	+1 to 3 abilities	2 x ability modifier
Level 8	(7 + CON mod) x 16	4 adventurer 3 champion 1 epic	3	-	-	2	6	-		3 x ability modifier
Level 9	(7 + CON mod) x 20	4 adventurer 3 champion 2 epic	3	-	-	-	5	3		3 x ability modifier
Level 10	(7 + CON mod) x 24	4 adventurer 3 champion 3 epic	3	-	-	-	3	6	+1 to 3 abilities	3 x ability modifier

## GEAR

Similar to wizards, swordmages prefer fine clothing adorned with arcane symbols to mark their status and education. However, a swordmage's clothing also has to allow the quick execution of combat maneuvers, so tight-fitting pants and vests are much more common than flowing robes. Their most prized possession is their sword, often a slender elven blade with intricate decorations and enchantments.

In your pockets, you start with 25 gp. You could also roll 1d6 x 10 gp, if you're a sell-sword to unreliable clients.

## ARMOR

Swordmages protect themselves via magic, represented through their Mage Armor class feature. They can still wear armor, and many swear that a suit of finely crafted elven chain has saved their lives multiple times, but even heavy metal plates don't protect them better than their magic does. It's purely a style choice.

Through your Mage Armor class feature, you gain a +1 bonus to AC when your off-hand is empty, that is when not wielding a shield, a two-handed weapon, or two weapons.

## SWORDMAGE ARMOR AND AC

TYPE	BASE AC	ATTACK PENALTY
None	15	—
Light	15	—
Heavy	16	-2
Shield	+1	—
Empty off-hand	+1	—

## WEAPONS

As the class name suggests, the signature weapon of a swordmage is a one-handed blade weapon, such as a longsword or scimitar. Rules-wise, nothing prevents you from using an axe or a flail instead.

## SWORDMAGE MELEE WEAPONS

SIZE	ONE-HANDED	TWO-HANDED
Small	1d4 knife	1d6 staff
Light or Simple	1d6 short sword, rapier	1d8 spear
Heavy or Martial	1d8 longsword, scimitar	1d10 greatsword

## SWORDMAGE RANGED WEAPONS

SIZE	THROWN	CROSSBOW	BOW
Small	1d4 dagger	1d4 hand crossbow	—
Light or Simple	1d6 javelin, axe	1d6 light crossbow	1d6 shortbow
Heavy	—	1d8 heavy crossbow	1d8 longbow

## BASIC ATTACKS

### MELEE ATTACK

#### At-Will

**Target:** One enemy

**Attack:** Strength OR Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Strength OR Intelligence damage

**Miss:** Damage equal to your level

### RANGED ATTACK

#### At-Will

**Target:** One enemy

**Attack:** Dexterity + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Dexterity damage

**Miss:** —

## CLASS FEATURES

### SIGILS

Your sigils are your main defensive tool. You place them on an enemy with the Mark with Sigil spell. This does not require an attack roll.

Once your mark is placed on an enemy, that enemy has to focus its attacks on you or suffer the consequences. If the target attacks an ally, you can trigger a sigil effect as an interrupt action. Each sigil effect is different — one reduces the damage, one has a chance of preventing a hit, one punishes the target for attacking, and the last one allows you to hit back.

You start with one sigil effect at first level, and learn more later in your career.

Remember that you are limited to one interrupt action between each of your turns, so you can only trigger your sigil once.



### MARK WITH SIGIL

**Close-quarters spell; At-will; Quick action**

**Special:** When you cast this spell, you end any other sigils you previously cast this battle.

**Target:** One nearby enemy

**Effect:** You mark the target with one sigil you know, until the end of combat. Triggering the sigil does not end it; your target remains marked.

**Champion Feat:** When you target a mook, the entire group is considered to be marked by your sigil.

**Epic Feat:** When the escalation die is 2+, you can target two non-mook enemies with this spell. You are still limited to one interrupt action between turns.

### SIGIL EFFECTS

Choose one of these sigils at first level to use with your Mark with Sigil spell.

#### BLURRING SIGIL

**Interrupt action; At-will**

**Trigger:** The marked enemy makes an attack against an ally, and that attack does not also target you.

**Effect:** The sigil target must roll twice on the attack and take the lower result.

**Adventurer Feat:** If either attack roll is a natural 1, you can force the target to attack its own ally with the higher roll.

**Champion Feat:** If the attack had more than one target or attack roll, the attacker must roll twice and take the lower result on all of them.

**Epic Feat:** While marked with this sigil, the target can't make opportunity attacks against your allies.

#### SIGIL OF BLOOD

**Interrupt action; At-will**

**Trigger:** The marked enemy makes an attack against an ally, and that attack does not also target you.

**Effect:** Deal negative energy damage equal to your Constitution modifier (x2 at 5th level; x3 at 8th) + Level to the attacker, and heal hit points equal to that amount.

**Adventurer Feat:** If you are at full hit points, you can grant the healing to any nearby ally.

**Champion Feat:** If the attacker is staggered, deal double damage.

**Epic Feat:** Once per battle, when this sigil is triggered, you can spend a recovery to heal.

### SIGIL OF SHIELDING

#### Interrupt action; At-will

**Trigger:** The marked enemy makes an attack against an ally, and that attack does not also target you.

**Effect:** Your ally takes half damage from the attack.

**Adventurer Feat:** The ally takes half damage from all attacks during the enemy's turn.

**Champion Feat:** You negate any non-damage effect from the attack.

**Epic Feat:** If the attack roll was a natural 10 or lower, you negate all damage from the attack.

### SIGIL OF VENGEANCE

#### Interrupt action; At-will

**Trigger:** The marked enemy makes an attack against an ally, and that attack does not also target you.

**Effect:** Teleport to engage the sigil target and make a basic melee attack against it.

**Adventurer Feat:** If the attack is a miss, deal additional fire damage equal to your Intelligence modifier (x2 at 5th level; x3 at 8th).

**Champion Feat:** You can choose to teleport the target to you instead, after its attack is resolved.

**Epic Feat:** You can use any single-target melee attack blade magic spell instead of a basic melee attack.

## BLADE MAGIC

Swordmages use arcane magic, similar to wizards and sorcerers. However, their magic is fused with their fighting style.

- \* All swordmage spells are arcane spells. A wizard or a blue dragon can counter them with their Counter-magic ability.
- \* You use melee weapons as arcane implements, which means you gain the attack and damage bonus of a true magic item weapon with your spells.
- \* Spells tagged as “melee attack” work like a melee attack. By default, the target is one enemy you are engaged with. The spell does not provoke opportunity attacks.
- \* For spell damage, the number of WEAPON damage dice you roll is always your swordmage level, regardless of the spell level. Some spells add additional damage that depends on the spell level.
- \* You can switch your known spells after each full heal-up, when you prepare your spells for the day. If you like, you can have your character carry a spellbook, but that's up to you and how swordmage magic is flavored in your campaign.

## MAGE ARMOR

You gain a +5 bonus to your unarmored base armor class, for a total of 15. This is already reflected in the swordmage stats tables.

When your off-hand is empty (i.e. when you are not using a shield, an off-hand weapon or a two-handed weapon) you gain a +1 bonus to AC by directing the magic of your mage armor like an invisible shield.

## ACCESS TO WIZARDRY

Starting at 3rd level, you can take a wizard spell in place of a swordmage spell. The wizard spell must be two levels lower than the spell it replaces.

## CLASS TALENTS

Swordmages gain 3 talents at first level. They do not gain additional talents as they level up.

### ACADEMY TRAINING

*You learned your magic at a genuine college of the arcane arts, in casting practice and matrix drills under the supervision of strict but competent teachers. You carry a proper spellbook, and use it to prepare your spells in the morning.*

You gain 3 points toward a background that represents this training.

You gain the wizard's Cantrips class feature. You can use any cantrip in the Core Book on the fly. Like a wizard, you can cast a number of cantrips equal to your Intelligence modifier each battle.

**Adventurer Feat:** You can swap one swordmage spell for a wizard spell through the Access to Wizardry class feature without the 2-level penalty.

**Champion Feat:** You gain a bonus spell slot, which works like the wizard's Utility Spell class feature.

**Epic Feat:** You have the Overworld Advantage as per the wizard class feature.

### DRACONIC GIFT

*Your arcane powers are a birthright given by the dragons, and you feel a kinship with sorcerers.*

Use Charisma instead of Intelligence to determine the attack and damage effects of your swordmage spells.

Choose sorcerer instead of wizard spells with your Access to Wizardry class feature.

Once per battle, you can Gather Power like a sorcerer. You gain the chaotic benefit like a sorcerer, and you can boost a swordmage spell with the gathered power to deal double damage.

**Adventurer Feat:** You can choose one sorcerer spell through your Access to Wizardry class feature without the 2-level penalty.

**Champion Feat:** When you Gather Power while staggered, you can also spend a recovery to heal.

### ENHANCED REFLEXES

The permanent infusion of arcane magic into your body gives you lightning fast movement. When you are not surprised, you can take a quick action at the start of battle, before initiative is resolved.

**Adventurer Feat:** Once per battle, you can take an additional interrupt action, above the limit of one between your turns.

**Champion Feat:** You gain a +1 bonus to PD.

**Epic Feat:** Roll twice on checks to disengage and take the better result.

### IMPROVED MAGE ARMOR

Increase the AC bonus when your off-hand is empty from +1 to +2.

**Adventurer Feat:** Also gain a +1 bonus to PD.

**Champion Feat:** Once per battle, when you would take damage from a missed attack against AC or PD, take no damage instead.

**Epic Feat:** Once per battle, turn a critical hit against your AC or PD into a normal hit.

### INFUSED BODY

*Your body has been destroyed and rebuilt by magic in the past. You can still appear natural, if you wish, but you have at least one unnatural feature, like crystalline eyes or sparkling hair.*

Whenever you cast a spell that is not an at-will spell, you heal hit points equal to your Constitution modifier (x2 at 5th level, x3 at 8th). You gain any hit points above your maximum as temporary hit points that stack.

**Adventurer Feat:** Heal extra hit points equal to the spell level.

**Champion Feat:** You can rally as a quick action after casting a daily spell.

**Epic Feat:** You can expend a daily spell to reroll a death save with a bonus equal to your Constitution modifier.

### SIGIL MASTERY

You learn one additional sigil (see class features), for a total of two at adventurer tier, three at champion tier and four at epic tier.

**Adventurer Feat:** Gain the adventurer feat benefit of any sigil you cast.

**Champion Feat:** Gain the champion feat benefit of any sigil you cast.

**Epic Feat:** Gain the epic feat benefit of any sigil you cast.

### SKULL BLADE

*The first time you see the shock in the eyes of your foe as your blade cuts the life from their body is an experience you never forget. For some, it leads to a vow to use their powers to protect the weak and save lives. For you, it started an unhealthy fascination with death and what lies beyond.*

You learn necromancer instead of wizard spells with your Wizard Training talent. Starting at first level, you can choose one necromancer spell at your level, without the 2-level penalty.

**Adventurer Feat:** You can use the necromancer's Deathknell talent once per battle.

**Champion Feat:** You gain a skeletal minion as per the necromancer talent, but at two levels lower than your current level.

### SPELL RECALL

*You fight with your spellbook ready, always prepared to open the right page and rain destruction.*

The first time you rally in a battle, regain one expended once per battle spell OR make a recharge roll for a spell.

**Adventurer Feat:** You gain a +2 bonus to the attack roll of the first spell you cast after rallying.

**Champion Feat:** When you rally, gain a +2 bonus to all defenses until the end of your next turn.

**Epic Feat:** Once per day, you can regain a daily spell instead.

### TWIN BLADE STYLE

When you wield two weapons, you gain the two-weapon fighting benefit (reroll natural 2) with swordmage spells that deal WEAPON damage.

**Adventurer Feat:** When wielding two weapons, and you roll a natural 2 on a spell attack, deal damage equal to your level to all enemies you are engaged with.

**Champion Feat:** Once per battle, when you are attacked in melee, you can use an interrupt action to make a melee basic attack against the attacker.

**Epic Feat:** You can use any single-target melee attack spell with the above interrupt.

### WANDERING SWORDMAGE

*You have been traveling the land, lending your sword to those in need for a bowl of soup and a place to rest.*

You gain a 3-point background to represent your knowledge of the land and you have the Linguist feat for free.

Once per day, when fighting a named enemy, you can make an Intelligence-based skill check to recall legends and stories about the creature against a DC of 15 + its level. If you succeed, increase the escalation die by 1.

**Adventurer Feat:** When making a skill check to identify a magic item, roll twice and take the better result.

**Champion Feat:** Reduce the enemy lore DC to 10 + level.

### ZWEIHÄNDER WIZARD

*Your raw physical strength allows you to wield a big, two-handed blade effectively — much more intimidating than the toothpicks of your colleagues.*

When wielding a two-handed weapon, add both your Strength and Intelligence modifier to damage with basic melee attacks and melee attack spells.

**Champion Feat:** When wielding a two-handed weapon, reroll all natural 1s on WEAPON damage dice.



# SWORDMAGE SPELLS

## 1ST LEVEL SPELLS

### BARRIER STRIKE

**Melee attack; Once per battle**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence damage. Until the end of your next turn, reduce all damage you take by your Constitution modifier.

**Miss:** Damage equal to your level

**3rd level spell:** Reduce damage by 4 + Con

**5th level spell:** Reduce damage by 6 + 2x Con

**7th level spell:** Reduce damage by 10 + 2x Con

**9th level spell:** Reduce damage by 20 + 3x Con

**Adventurer Feat:** You also gain the damage reduction effect on an even miss.

**Champion Feat:** You can grant the damage reduction to a nearby ally instead of yourself.

**Epic Feat:** Increase the damage reduction by 10.

### ELEMENTAL WARDING

**Close-quarters spell; Once per battle; Interrupt action**

**Trigger:** You take elemental damage (acid, cold, electricity, fire, lightning, poison, or thunder).

**Effect:** Reduce the damage by 5 times the spell's level. Until the end of battle, gain resistance against that damage type equal to 10 + the spell level.

**Champion Feat:** You can use this spell twice per battle, against different types of elemental damage.

### ENCHANT ITEM

**Close-quarters spell; Recharge 11+ after battle; Quick action**

**Target:** One nearby item

**Effect:** The item is considered an adventurer-level true magic item until the end of the battle. It grants the default bonus for an item of its chakra, such as +1 to attack and damage for a weapon.

**5th level spell:** Enchant as champion-level item

**9th level spell:** Enchant as epic-level item

**Adventurer Feat:** Prepare a list of item enchantments from the Core Book, the item chapter in this book, or another source, approved by the GM. Choose one per spell level. You can place one of these enchantments in addition to the default bonus with this spell.

**Champion Feat:** The spell is now Recharge 6+.

### FLYING BLADE

**Ranged Attack; Once per battle**

**Special:** Use your melee weapon for this spell.

**Target:** One nearby enemy, or a far away enemy at a -2 attack penalty

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence damage

*Natural even hit:* Deal 1d6 extra thunder damage.

**Miss:** —

**5th level spell:** 3d6 extra damage

**7th level spell:** 5d6 extra damage

**9th level spell:** 8d6 extra damage

**Champion Feat:** On a miss, make a second attack against a different nearby enemy (once).

### KEEN BLADE

**Melee attack; Once per battle**

**Special:** If the target has a swordmage sigil placed on it, roll twice to attack and choose the roll you prefer.

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence damage

*Natural even hit:* Deal extra force damage equal to twice the spell level.

**Miss:** Damage equal to your level

**Adventurer Feat:** You can use this spell as a basic melee attack (but still only once per battle).

**Champion Feat:** You gain a +2 bonus to your critical threat range with the attack.

## THUNDER BLADE

**Melee attack; Once per battle**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence damage. If the target attempts to disengage, pop free, or teleport away from you before the end of your next turn, it takes 1d8 + Constitution modifier (x2 at 5th level, x3 at 8th) thunder damage.

**Miss:** Damage equal to your level

**3rd level spell:** 2d8 thunder damage

**5th level spell:** 3d8 thunder damage

**7th level spell:** 4d8 thunder damage

**9th level spell:** 6d8 thunder damage

**Adventurer Feat:** If the target has your sigil placed on it, increase the thunder damage die to d12.

**Champion Feat:** If the thunder damage is not triggered by the start of your next turn, you regain this power.

**Epic Feat:** If the target triggers the thunder damage, it is also dazed until the end of its next turn.

## WHITE FLAME BLADE

**Melee attack; Once per battle**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence fire damage, and 1d6 fire damage to all enemies you are engaged with.

**Miss:** Your level + 1d6 fire damage

**3rd level spell:** 2d6 fire damage (hit and miss)

**5th level spell:** 3d6 fire damage (hit and miss)

**7th level spell:** 5d6 fire damage (hit and miss)

**9th level spell:** 8d6 fire damage (hit and miss)

**Adventurer Feat:** Increase the fire damage by your Strength modifier (2x at 5th level, x3 at 8th).

**Champion Feat:** Increase the fire damage dice to d8s.

**Epic Feat:** If the escalation die is 5+, you regain this spell at the start of your turn.

## 3RD LEVEL SPELLS

### BURNING LEASH

**Close-quarters spell; Once per battle**

**Target:** One nearby enemy

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. PD

**Hit:** 3d6 + Intelligence fire damage, and you engage the target. The target takes a -5 penalty to disengage from you, and it can't pop free or teleport. When the target attempts to disengage, it takes 2d6 fire damage.

**Miss:** Damage equal to your level

**5th level spell:** 5d6 damage, and 3d6 on disengage

**7th level spell:** 7d6 damage, and 5d6 on disengage

**9th level spell:** 10d6 damage, and 7d6 on disengage

**Champion Feat:** If the target has your sigil placed on it, roll twice on the attack and take the better result.

**Epic Feat:** You can cast this spell as a quick action.

### CLOUDED STEP

**Close-quarters spell; Once per battle; Move Action**

**Effect:** Teleport to a nearby location you can see. You can engage an enemy as part of the teleport. Until the end of your next turn, ranged attacks against you with a natural odd roll are an automatic miss.

**Champion Feat:** You can teleport to a far away location.

### FREEZING STRIKE

**Melee attack; Daily**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence + 3d6 cold damage, and the target is stuck (save ends).

**Miss:** Half damage, and the target is stuck until the end of your next turn

**5th level spell:** 5d6 cold damage

**7th level spell:** 8d6 cold damage

**9th level spell:** 1d6 x 15 cold damage

**Adventurer Feat:** On a natural even hit, increase the cold damage dice to d10s.

**Champion Feat:** The target is also hampered until the end of its next turn.

### GHOST STRIKE

**Melee attack; Once per battle**

**Target:** One nearby enemy; you can pop free to engage the enemy as part of the attack. You can pass through solid objects while moving.

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. PD

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence force damage

*Natural even hit:* Until the end of your next turn, you become insubstantial and gain resist physical damage equal to 10 + the spell level.

**Miss:** Damage equal to your level

**Adventurer Feat:** Deal half damage on a miss.

**Champion Feat:** When you hit with the attack, the target cannot reduce the damage (such as through resistance).

### LINGERING SHIELD

**Close-quarters spell; Recharge 16+ after battle; Interrupt action**

**Trigger:** You are hit by a melee attack.

**Effect:** Take half damage from the attack. Until the end of battle, you convert critical hits against you into normal hits.

**Adventurer Feat:** You can trigger the spell even if you already used your interrupt action for a sigil.

**Champion Feat:** The spell is Recharge 11+.

### VAMPIRIC BLADE

**Melee attack; Daily**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence damage. Spend a recovery to heal and deal extra negative energy damage equal to the healed amount.

**Miss:** Half damage

**7th level spell:** On a natural 16+, the recovery is free.

**Adventurer Feat:** On a miss, you don't expend the spell.

### VIPER BITE

**Melee attack; Daily**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence damage. The target is weakened and takes 10 ongoing poison damage (save ends both).

**Miss:** Damage equal to your level, and the spell is not expended

**5th level spell:** 15 ongoing damage

**7th level spell:** 25 ongoing damage

**9th level spell:** 40 ongoing damage

**Adventurer Feat:** If the target is engaged with an ally, you can roll twice on the attack and take the better result.

**Champion Feat:** On a natural 16+ attack roll, the save is a hard save (16+).

## 5TH LEVEL SPELLS

### BLADE GUARDIAN

**Close-quarters spell; Daily**

**Target:** One weapon

**Effect:** You enchant the weapon to stand guard until the next dusk or dawn. When the condition set by you is met, for example when a creature other than you or an ally steps within a marked area, the weapon will sound an alarm and rush to attack.

It has an initiative bonus equal to the spell level, an attack bonus vs. AC equal to the spell level + 5, and deals 5 times the spell level damage on a hit.

If it rolls a natural 1–5 on attack, the spell ends.

**Champion Feat:** The spell ends on a natural 1–3 attack roll.

### BURNING SIGIL

**Melee attack; Once per battle**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence damage. You mark the target with a sigil, without ending any active sigils on other enemies. The target is also vulnerable to fire while the sigil is active (no save).

**Miss:** Fire damage equal to your level

**Champion Feat:** While under the sigil effect, the target cannot use teleport or invisibility effects.

# THE SWORDMAGE

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## CORROSIVE BLADE

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**Melee attack; Daily**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence + 2d8 acid damage

**Miss:** Half damage

**Effect:** Until the end of the battle, when you hit or miss with a melee attack, deal 1d8 extra acid damage.

**7th level spell:** 3d12 acid damage; 1d12 until end of battle

**9th level spell:** 8d10 acid damage; 2d10 until end of battle

**Champion Feat:** Targets made of metal, or wearing metal armor, are vulnerable to this attack.

## COUNTER-FORCE SHIELD

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**Close-quarters spell; Once per battle; Interrupt action**

**Trigger:** An enemy attacks you with a melee attack.

**Effect:** Roll a d20 and add your Constitution modifier. If your roll equals or beats the natural attack roll, the attack is now a miss, and you make a melee basic attack against the attacker as a free action. Don't roll another die, use the number you just rolled.

**Epic Feat:** Roll two d20 and use the result you like.

## RAW ENERGY

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**Melee attack; Once per battle**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level - 4 vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence + 5d10 lightning damage

**Miss:** 1d6 per level lightning damage

**Effect:** All nearby creatures take 2d8 thunder damage.

**7th level spell:** 8d10 lightning damage on hit

**9th level spell:** 12d10 lightning damage on hit

**Champion Feat:** Attack the lower of the target's AC and PD.

**Epic Feat:** Increase miss damage to 1d10 per level.

## SHIMMERING WARD

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**Close-quarters spell; Daily; Quick action**

**Target:** You or a nearby ally

**Effect:** Until the end of the battle, the target gains a 1d4 bonus to each defense (rolled separately for AC, PD, and MD).

**Champion Feat:** The spell is Recharge 16+.

**Epic Feat:** You can grant a 1d4 bonus to one defense of your choice to three targets instead. For each 1 you roll, add an additional target.

## SPINNING CUT

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**Melee attack; Once per battle**

**Target:** All enemies you are engaged with

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. PD

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence force damage

**Miss:** Force damage equal to your level

**Champion Feat:** On a natural even hit, you can force the target to pop free from you.

**Epic Feat:** Deal half damage on a miss.

## 7TH LEVEL SPELLS

### ABJURANT REFLECTION

---

**Close-quarters spell; Daily; Interrupt action**

**Trigger:** An enemy attacks you with a ranged or close-quarters attack.

**Effect:** Roll a d20 and add your Constitution modifier. If your roll equals or beats the natural attack roll, you negate the attack and the attacker is hit with the full effect instead.

**Epic Feat:** If the attack had multiple targets, your successful roll negates the attack against all targets (the attacker only suffers the effect once).

### BLACK JELLY STRIKE

---

**Melee attack; Daily**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence damage and 50 acid damage

**Miss:** Summon a small black ooze that attacks a different nearby enemy with spell level + 5 vs. PD and then vanishes. It does 50 acid damage on a hit.

**9th level spell:** 80 acid damage (hit and ooze)

**Epic Feat:** Enemies hit by the attack or the ooze are hampered until the end of their next turn.

### CHAIN BREAKER

---

*You wreath yourself in magic and unleash a burst of energy that lets you overcome even the most paralyzing afflictions.*

**Close-quarters spell; Daily; No action** (you can use this spell even if stunned or otherwise unable to take actions)

**Effect:** End any effects on you that impose the following conditions: grabbed, stuck, stunned, or petrified. Until the end of the encounter, you gain a +5 power bonus to saving throws against any effects that include those conditions.

**Champion Feat:** The spell ends all conditions imposed by enemy attacks.

### DEATH'S SEAL

---

**Melee attack; Daily**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** The target loses any temporary hit points, and then takes WEAPON + Intelligence damage and 25 ongoing negative energy damage. While the target is taking ongoing damage, it cannot be healed, regain hit points, or gain temporary hit points.

**Miss:** 15 ongoing negative energy damage

**9th level spell:** 40 ongoing negative energy damage (25 on miss)

**Champion Feat:** Gain a +2 bonus to hit against staggered enemies.

### HASTENED LIGHTNING STRIKE

---

**Melee attack; Daily**

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence lightning damage

**Miss:** Your level in lightning damage

**Effect:** Teleport to engage a nearby enemy, and make a second attack.

**Epic Feat:** You can teleport to a far away enemy.

### PLANAR VORTEX

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**Close-quarters spell; Daily; Interrupt action**

**Trigger:** An enemy attacks a nearby ally with a melee attack.

**Target:** The attacker

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. MD

**Hit:** You teleport the attacker to a nearby location and specify a new target for the attack.

**Miss:** Force damage equal to your level

**Champion Feat:** On an even miss, teleport the target adjacent to you. You are the new target of the attack.

**Epic Feat:** On an odd miss, regain the spell at the end of the battle.

### ICE CROWN

---

**Close-quarters spell; Daily; Quick action**

**Target:** You or a nearby ally

**Effect:** Enemies engaged with the target at the start of the target's turn take 10 cold damage.

**9th level spell:** 20 cold damage

**Epic Feat:** Also deal the damage against enemies who make a melee attack against the target.

## 9TH LEVEL SPELLS

### ANIMATED CLONE

---

**Close-quarters spell; Daily**

**Effect:** You create a clone of yourself. Spend a recovery without healing, and make a recovery roll to determine your clone's hit point total. All other stats of the clone are the same as yours. Your clone acts after you on the same initiative. Both of you have a separate set of actions. However, the clone and you share the same power pool; if your clone uses a once per battle or daily power, that power is expended for you, too, and vice versa. If either you or the clone are reduced to zero hit points, the spell ends and the surviving body is the new you. The other body vanishes.

**Epic Feat:** Double the initial hit point total of your clone.

# THE SWORDMAGE

## BRAIN SLICER

**Close-quarters spell; Once per battle**

**Target:** One nearby enemy

**Attack:** Intelligence + Level vs. MD

**Hit:** WEAPON + Intelligence damage, and the target is dazed until the end of your next turn. If the target is already dazed, it is stunned instead.

*Any natural even roll:* Repeat the attack once against the same target.

**Miss:** Psychic damage equal to your level

**Epic Feat:** Deal half damage on a miss.

## PRISMATIC BLADE

*You raise your sword into the air, and a glow in all the colors of the rainbow engulfs it from tip to hilt.*

**Close-quarters spell; Daily; Quick action**

**Target:** One melee weapon you are holding

**Effect:** Until the end of the battle, whenever you hit with a basic melee attack, roll a d8 on the table below for an additional effect.

1. Red. The target takes 1d6 x 5 fire damage
2. Orange. The target takes 1d4 x 10 acid damage.
3. Yellow. The target takes 1d6 x 10 lightning damage.
4. Green. The target takes 15 ongoing poison damage.
5. Blue. The target takes 15 ongoing cold damage and it is stuck (save ends both).
6. Indigo. The target is weakened and starts making last gap saves (16+). On the fourth failed save, it is turned to stone.
7. Violet. At the end of its next turn, the target must succeed at a saving throw, or it is sent to another plane. (Typically, a creature that is on a plane that isn't its home plane is banished home, while other creatures are usually cast into the Astral or Ethereal planes.)
8. Ultraviolet. The target is confused and takes 10 ongoing psychic damage (save ends both). On its fourth failed save, it is rendered permanently insane.

**Epic Feat:** The weapon deals 1d4 fire, 1d6 acid, and 1d8 lightning extra damage on a miss.

## RISING PHOENIX

**Close-quarters spell; Daily**

**Special:** When you make a death save and the roll is a natural even, you can cast this spell as a free action.

**Effect:** Spend a recovery to heal and add one recovery die per point of escalation die. Until the end of the battle, you can fly with giant, fiery wings. Enemies who start their turn engaged with you take 20 fire damage.

## SWORD STORM

*Your sword splits into multiple copies that whirl across the battlefield, slashing everything in their wake.*

**Close-quarters spell; Daily**

**Target:** 2d4 nearby enemies OR 3 attacks against one enemy

**Attack:** Intelligence + level vs. AC

**Hit:** WEAPON damage.

**Miss:** Half damage.

**Epic Feat:** Roll twice to attack against enemies marked by your Sigil.

## ULTIMATE BLOCK

**Close-quarters spell; Daily; Interrupt action**

**Trigger:** An enemy attacks you with a melee attack.

**Effect:** Roll a d20 and add your Constitution modifier. If your roll equals or beats the natural attack roll, you negate the attack and the target is stunned until the end of its next turn.

**Epic Feat:** If the d20 roll fails, you don't expend this power.

# SWORDMAGE MULTICLASS

*Swordmages already combine sword fighting and spell slinging in one package. Multiclassing is an option to either strengthen the spellcaster or melee combatant side, or create a truly versatile character by adding a class that adds a third dimension.*

**Level Progression:** Multiclass swordmages are one level behind in the spellcasting and sigil columns of the level table. They start with two swordmage spells and one sigil at first level.

**Weapon Damage Penalty:** Swordmages count as skilled warriors, so you do not suffer a weapon damage penalty if your other class is also a skilled warrior class.

**Key Ability Modifier:** Swordmages use the wizard column in the key ability modifier table. A swordmage / wizard's key ability modifiers are Int/Con.

# RIFFS AND VARIATIONS

The combination of spellcasting and swordplay has a long tradition in fantasy RPGs, starting with the elf racial class in the earliest games. In its footsteps followed the fighter / wizard, the bladesinger, the gish, the eldritch knight, the hexblade, the duskblade, the swordmage, and the magus in various editions and derivations.

The swordmage in this book has a 4th edition style marking class feature that defines its defender role. If you like the style of this class but you'd rather play it as a striker than a defender, you can remove the sigils, tone down the AC and amp up the damage output a bit.

You could even create an arcane trickster, with a weaker variant of sneak attack.

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Character Name \_\_\_\_\_

Race \_\_\_\_\_

Height & Weight \_\_\_\_\_

**Swordmage**

Class & Level \_\_\_\_\_

Age & Sex \_\_\_\_\_

STR

INITIATIVE

INT

CON

Level + Dex

WIS

DEX

CHA



HIT POINTS

RECOVERIES

DEATH SAVES

AC

PD

MD

INCREMENTAL ADVANCES

Hit Points table with Maximum and Current columns.

Recovery rolls: / and d8 +



- Hit Points, Skills +1, Feat, Extra Magic Item, Spell, Ability Scores

15 + Level + Con/Dex/Wis    10 + Level + Str/Con/Dex    12 + Level + Int/Wis/Cha



ICON RELATIONSHIPS

BASIC ATTACKS

SPELLS

Icon Relationships table with three rows.

Basic Attacks table with Melee and Ranged categories.

Spells section with Level and description lines.

ONE UNIQUE THING

CLASS FEATURES

One Unique Thing text area.

Class Features: ACCESS TO WIZARDRY

RACIAL POWER

SIGILS

Racial Power text area.

Sigils section with Mark with Sigil and various sigil effects.

BACKGROUNDS

TALENTS

Backgrounds table with three rows.

Talents text area.

FEATS

ADVENTURER

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CHAMPION

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EPIC

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GEAR, EQUIPMENT & MONEY

gp

MAGIC ITEMS

ITEM

CHAKRA

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Notes

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