



PSYCHIC POWERS

INTRODUCTION:

The powers of the mind are incredible. In the early 22nd Century, an article was published in the New England Journal of Medicine, offering proof of the existence of latent psychic ability. The government immediately assigned the *Committee on Psychic Phenomenon* (CPP) the task of investigating these claims. The research undertaken by the CPP verified the existence of at least five different types of latent psychic phenomenon in a minority of the population. To prevent a major panic, the government took steps to regulate and monitor all those citizens who developed psychic ability.

The '*Metasensory Administration Agency*' (MAA), a quasi-governmental organisation formed out of the *Committee on Psychic Phenomenon*, was created to help these individuals harness and use their powers for the benefit of the United Earth Federation. The *Metasensory Registration Bill* was passed in 2115, requiring all citizens who show signs of latent psychic ability to be registered, by law, with the MAA.

Once an individual displays latent psychic ability (usually during childhood or in early adolescence), they are taken to an MAA testing centre, where their psychic potential is measured, and rated against a Psychic Ability scale from P1 to P12 depending on their power. They are then enrolled in the Metasensory Academy, where as well as receiving a normal education, they learn to harness and develop their powers. After graduation, psychics are required to perform Federal Service in one of the MAA's two main branches:

MetaPol:

Attached to the Federal Law Enforcement Authority, MetaPol, or the Metasensory Police, is mainly made up of telepaths and precogs, who use their powers to interrogate those who have committed crimes against the Federation, or to predict the outcome of certain events.

PsiCorps:

A quasi-military branch of the MAA, PsiCorps operatives are usually assigned as 'psychic security' to government officials, or attached to

UEAF units on missions that might benefit from the availability of psychic powers.

After completing Federal Service, many psychics continue to work for the MAA, but some go freelance, and find work for one of the many PSPs - Psychic Service Providers - private organisations licensed and regulated by the MAA who hire out their talents to block telepathic snooping and other paranormal dirty tricks. It has become common practice for executives of large corporations and government bodies to employ such agents as 'psychic security'.

THE PSYCHIC PLAYER CHARACTER:

Actual background skills are detailed in Character Generation. Psychic abilities are generated as follows:

Chance of Psychic Ability:

The base chance of an individual having psychic ability is to have a POW stat of at least 10, and to make a successful POWx1% check. A player can only make this check once.

Starting Talents and Levels:

Ever since the MAA began evaluation and registration of all known psychics in 2115, there has never been recorded a psychic possessing abilities in more than one of the four classified Psychic Talents.

A player creating an Investigator with psychic ability must immediately choose their particular Talent. They can alternatively roll on the following table:

01-50	Telepathy
51-75	Precognition
76-85	Adjustment
86-00	Animation

The Psychic Ability Scale:

An Investigator with a POW of 10 is rated P1 on the Psychic Ability Scale. For each point of POW over 10, this rating increases by 1. So for example a starting Investigator with psychic ability who has POW 16 is rated P7 by the MAA. The highest rating an Investigator can start with is P9 (POW 18).

Psychic Ability determines what kind of psychic effects the Investigator is capable of creating, as each Talent is broken down into Abilities, which require a certain Psychic Ability Level (P1-12) to perform.

Ability Scores:

Once an Investigator has established his/her starting Talent and Psychic Ability Level, they have a base chance of POWx1% in each ability.

Metasensory Academy training means an Investigator gets INTx10 to allocate as percentiles between the abilities associated with their chosen Talent. All the abilities do not have to have points given to them, but points undistributed are lost. No skill can start at higher than 75% (including stat bonuses).

Psi Points (PP):

Equal to POW stat. Psychic Abilities require the expenditure of Psi Points, with further points needed to perform Effects depending on the range.

Recovery:

Expended Psi Points are recovered at a rate of 1d6 per hour.

THE PSYCHIC TALENTS:

There are five recognised classifications of psychic ability:

TELEPATHY

The most frequently manifested Talent amongst Psychics, Telepathy is the ability to contact other minds directly. In rudimentary forms, it allows the communication of feelings and emotions; in advanced forms, it allows the transfer of information. There are several levels of telepathy, which depend on the psychic strength and experience of the user.

Shield:

All Telepaths learn how to create a mental shield, which protects the mind against unwanted telepathic interference. Such a shield is automatically active and requires no PP to maintain. Shield also gives the Telepath protection from any attempted Psychic Assault from a fellow Telepath. For full details of how this affects an attempted Psychic Assault by fellow Telepath, see 'Assault'.

Sense Life:

The most elementary form of telepathy is the ability to detect the presence of other minds.

The Psychic with this ability can sense the presence of other minds, the number of minds present, the general type of minds (animal, human etc.) and their approximate location.

Sense Life is a P1 Ability, requiring 1PP to perform (plus any additional for range). Activity may last for up to 60 seconds. Shielded minds are undetectable.

Telempathy:

The communication of basic feelings and emotions. This ability serves well in the handling of animals. Emotions of others can be read using Telempathy.

Telempathy is a P2 Ability and requires 1PP to perform (plus range costs). Activity may last for up to 60 seconds.

Read Surface Thoughts:

The most commonly known feature of Telepathy. Only active, current thoughts are read by this ability, with the subject (if themselves not a Telepath) unaware of the activity. Shielded individuals may not be read in this fashion.

This Ability is P4 and requires 2PP to perform (plus range costs). Activity may last for up to 60 seconds.

Project Thoughts:

Complementary to the above ability is the ability to send thoughts to others. Telepathic individuals are normally open to such transmissions, but may close their Shields against them if they become bothersome. A thought transmission may last up to 120 seconds. This is a P5 Ability, and requires 2PP to perform, plus normal costs for range.

Probe:

The application of great psychic strength will enable a telepath to delve deep into the mind of a subject and then to read their innermost thoughts. Questioning can be used in this procedure to force the subject to divulge specific information. Lies can be easily detected by the telepath. Probe cannot be used against a shielded mind. Probe is a P6 Ability, costing 4PP to perform. Probing takes 10 minutes.

If the Psychic succeeds in their Ability skill check, they must make a POW vs POW check against the victim of the Probe. See below for results:

POW vs POW Effect:

Result:

Critical success	Telepath retrieves all the required knowledge required. Victim is left injured (-1d4 HP and -1d3 POW) and unconscious for 1d6 hours.
Special success	Telepath gains 2d3 items of information. Victim is left unconscious for 1d3 hours.
Normal success	Telepath retrieves 1d3+1 items of related information. Victim is left stunned for 1d3 minutes.
Failure	Telepath fails to gain any information. Cannot Probe victim again for 8 hours.
Fumble	Telepath fails to retrieve any information and loses 1d6 extra PP. Cannot Probe victim again for 24 hours.

Assault:

Violence may be dealt by a Telepath. Against and unshielded mind, the result is often unconsciousness and possible death. If the Telepath succeeds in their Assault skill check, they must make a POW vs POW check against the victim of the Assault. See below for results:

POW vs POW Effect:

Result:

Critical success	Victim is rendered unconscious* immediately for a number of hours. -1d4 HP and -2d6 POW (regained at 1 point per hour). If this reduces the victim's POW to zero or below, they must make a POWx1% roll or die. Success means the victim is in a coma for 20-POW days.
Special success	Victim is stunned* immediately for a number of minutes. -1d3 HP and -1d6 POW (regained at 1 point per hour).
Normal success	Victim is stunned* immediately for a number of MR. -1 HP and -1d3 POW (regained at 1 point per hour).
Failure	No effect.
Fumble	Telepath receives psychic feedback and stuns* self.

*to calculate how many melee rounds, minutes, or hours a victim of a Psychic Assault is stunned or unconscious, deduct the victim's POW score from that of the Telepath.

Example:

Alexei the Telepath performs a psychic assault on a knife-wielding cultist who has been sent to kill him. Alexei has 62% in Assault. Rolling a 22, he sends a wave of psychic energy at his foe. Alexei has POW 17 and the cultist has POW 12. A bit of simple math shows that Alexei has a 75% chance to succeed the POW vs POW roll. He rolls a 42. A Normal success.

Because the difference between Alexei's POW and the cultist's POW is 5, the cultist is stunned for 5 melee rounds, as well as taking a hit point of damage and temporarily losing 1d3 POW.

The cultist is sent reeling, and Alexei uses the time to make good his escape...

Assault is a P8 Ability, and requires 5PP to perform (plus any range cost). The assault takes 1 MR to occur.

A Psychic Assault against a fellow Telepath is difficult, because all Telepaths learn early on how to create a mental shield. In game terms, the Shield gives a Telepath +1 POW per 2 points of POW they possess over 12.

Example:

Alexei the Telepath is attacked by Sebastian, a rogue Telepath, who attempts a Psychic Assault.

Sebastian has 68% in Assault, and rolls a 44 – a success. As the wave of psychic energy strikes Alexei's mind, Sebastian must now make a POW vs POW check to see if his Assault can penetrate Alexei's Shield.

Alexei has POW 17, and Sebastian has POW 15. Because Alexei is a Telepath, he gains +3 POW from his Shield when calculating the POW vs POW roll for the Assault. With this boosting his POW to 20, Sebastian has a 25% chance to succeed with his Assault. Sebastian rolls a 29. Alexei's Shield blocks the Assault.

Mass Assault:

Powerful Telepaths can project an Assault attack against more than one individual at a time. Mass Assault only works at Medium range or less, and affects up to a maximum of the Telepath's POW/2 of minds within a 3m radius (round down).

Mass Assault is a P10 Ability, and requires 10PP to perform (plus any range cost). The effect takes 1 MR to occur.

Read Psychic Imprint:

When a person dies, they leave a residual psychic imprint that can linger for several hours after death. Powerful Telepaths can detect this psychic imprint, and gain an impression of the last thoughts and feelings of the recently deceased. This impression usually comes in the form of cryptic flashes of words and images (the Keeper should decide as to what these images and words actually are).

A psychic imprint fades after a number of hours equal to the deceased's POW. To successfully gain any useful information, the Telepath must make a POWx5% roll, with their POW reduced by 1 for every hour it has been since the person died.

Read Psychic Imprint is a P12 Ability, and requires 12PP to perform. The effect takes 1d6 minutes to occur.

PRECOGNITION

Precognition is the direct knowledge or perception of the future, obtained through extrasensory means. Precognition occurs most often in dreams. It may also occur spontaneously in waking visions, auditory hallucinations, flashing thoughts entering the mind, and a sense of "knowing."

There are several levels of precognition, which depend on the psychic strength and experience of the user.

Sixth Sense:

Precogs sometimes get spontaneous flashes of events in the immediate future, allowing them to anticipate and react a split second earlier than a normal human. This split second can mean the difference between life and death.

In game terms, Sixth Sense allows the Precog to re-roll a skill check to get them out of danger. Only reactive, non-offensive Skills can be affected by Sixth Sense. Obvious ones are Dodge, Vehicle, Hide, Sneak. Other Skills may be affected at the Keeper's discretion.

Sixth Sense can be used a 1/day per 3 points of POW that the Precog has over POW 10. e.g. a POW 16 Precog can use his/her Sixth Sense ability twice in any 24 hour period. The Precog player can declare use of the skill before or after a skill roll.

Sixth Sense is a P1 Ability, and requires 1PP to perform.

Hint:

The basic ability to sense things at some point in the distance that the Precog will visit. The Precog will become aware of the most rudimentary characteristics of a location (e.g. beyond a sealed pressure door). The Keeper will give a basic description (e.g. "a room, containing 4 entities").

Hint is a P2 Ability, and requires 1PP to perform (plus any range cost).

Forsee Outcome:

This effect allows the Precog to actually see the outcome of an action before doing it, and then choose whether or not to perform this action.

The ability is limited to single, immediate physical actions, such as firing a pistol, jumping a pit, sneaking past a guard etc. This ability does not allow a Precog to see the results of more complicated actions, like what would happen if they entered a room, or read aloud from a mythos tome, for example.

If the Precog makes his Ability skill roll before performing an action, they can then choose whether or not to perform the said action dependent on the result of the action skill roll.

Example:

Serena the Precog is confronted with a deep, dark pit, which blocks her progress inside an alien temple. She isn't sure if she can jump across the pit, but it is the quickest way to escape the creatures pursuing her.

Serena has 54% in Forsee Outcome, and chooses to use her power to see if she would make it across the pit if she chose to jump. She rolls 41 – success.

Serena looks into the future, and makes her Jump roll. She has 58 in Jump, but alas rolls a 73. Seeing that attempting to jump across the pit would result in her plummeting to her death, Serena wisely decides to look for another way out of the temple before her pursuers find her...

Foresee Outcome is a P4 Ability, and requires 3PP to perform.

Prediction:

This ability allows the Precog to receive portents of the future, usually in the form of waking visions and auditory hallucinations. The portents received normally concern events up to a maximum of 24 hours into the future.

It is up to the Precog player to interpret them. If they are having trouble, a generous Keeper could allow a POWx5% roll for some hints. The Keeper should prepare the information that the Precog receives, as revealing too much can ruin the player's feeling of free-will and limit the Keeper's choices also. The information should be no more than a few words and images.

Prediction is a P6 Ability, and requires 5PP to perform.

Vision:

The ability to dream of possible future events. A Precog has no power over the exact nature of these dreams. Sometimes they can reveal portents of the near future, sometimes vague forshadowing of events months into the future. The further into the future these events, the vaguer they are.

As with Prediction, the Keeper should prepare the information that the Precog receives carefully. Dreams can be surreal, and Vision often provides information in the form of strange images and words.

Prediction is a P8 Ability, and requires 5PP to perform.

ADJUSTMENT:

Adjustment is the talent that allows control of one's own or another's body, through psychic manipulation on a cellular level.

Heal:

Wounds and injuries may be healed rapidly using this Ability. Hit Points may be restored by the application of this ability, exchanging 1PP to regenerate 1HP. Body parts that have been maimed or severed cannot be repaired using Heal.

Heal is a P1 Ability, and requires the Adjuster to be in close physical contact with the wounded person. Healing occurs at a rate of 1MR/HP healed.

Suspend Animation:

Personal body activity may be suspended for varying periods of time. An Adjuster with this Ability may enter a suspended animation state (similar to Cryosleep, but without the intrinsic danger of death) by willing themselves into it. Such a state continues for 7 days, without need for food or water, and with minimal air needs. Suspended animation may be stopped at any time by external stimulus.

Suspend Animation is a P2 Ability, and costs 3PP.

Enhance STR:

Psi Points may be converted into physical strength points on a temporary basis. 1 PP can be converted into 1d3 STR up to a maximum of the Adjuster's current level of Psychic Ability. Enhanced STR takes effect

immediately, and lasts for 1d20 minutes (determined in secret by the Keeper), then declines at the rate of 1 STR point per minute until normal levels are reached.

This is a P4 Ability, and requires the Adjuster to be in close physical contact with the recipient of the enhanced strength.

Enhance CON:

Psi Points may be converted into physical constitution points on a temporary basis. 1 PP can be converted into 1d3 CON up to a maximum of the Adjuster's current level of ability in Adjustment. Enhanced CON takes effect immediately, and lasts for 1d20 minutes (determined in secret by the Keeper), then declines at the rate of 1 CON point per minute until normal levels are reached.

This is a P5 ability, and requires the Adjuster to be in close physical contact with the recipient of the enhanced constitution.

Enhance DEX:

Psi Points may be converted into physical dexterity points on a temporary basis. 1 PP can be converted into 1d3 DEX up to a maximum of the Adjuster's current level of ability in Adjustment. Enhanced CON takes effect immediately, and lasts for 1d20 minutes (determined in secret by the Keeper), then declines at the rate of 1 DEX point per minute until normal levels are reached.

This is a P6 ability, and requires the Adjuster to be in close physical contact with the recipient of the enhanced dexterity.

Tap:

Adjusters with this Ability can actually drain Psi Points from anyone they come into close physical contact with. Once the skill check is made successfully, a POW vs POW roll is required for every MR that the Adjuster wishes to continue tapping a victim for Psi Points. If this roll is failed, the Adjuster can drain no more Psi Points from the individual for 24 hours. Each round the Adjuster makes his POW check allows 1d6 PP to be drained. If a victim reaches 0 PP, they fall unconscious.

Tap is a P7 Ability, and requires 3 PP to perform.

Cure Poisoning:

An Adjuster with this Ability can use their psychic power to neutralize poisons and toxins in their or someone that they are in close physical contact with's bloodstream.

If the Adjuster makes their skill roll, they must match their POW against the POT of the poison. If successful they purge the body, and restore 1d3 HP.

Cure Poisoning is a P8 Ability and costs 5PP to perform.

Cure Disease:

An Adjuster with this Ability can use their psychic power to cure themselves, or someone that they are in close physical contact with, of disease.

The Keeper must assign the disease a POT, and match this against the Adjuster's POW. If successful, after a time equal to the disease's POT in hours, the Adjuster can rid a body of disease.

Cure Disease is a P9 Ability, and requires a number of PP equal to the POT of the disease to perform.

Psychic Surgery:

Adjusters with this ability can reattach recently severed or maimed limbs. The Adjuster must perform this ability within 10 minutes of the limb being maimed or severed, and must expend enough PP equal to the amount required to bring the limb back into positive HP. Psychic Surgery is a P9 Ability.

Regenerate:

Powerful Adjusters are able to use their powers grow new limbs to replace lost ones. To perform this Ability takes a long time, requiring the Adjuster to perform this ability once per day for a number of days equal to the number of HP possessed by the missing limb. Regeneration is a P10 Ability, and costs 10PP per day to perform.

ANIMATION:

Animation, also known as Telekinesis, is the talent that allows objects to be manipulated without physical contact. Telekinetic power is rated by the number of grams weight the Animator can manipulate. Any manipulation is treated as if the person were physically handling the item, but physical danger, pain or other stimuli are not present. Animation includes a limited amount of sensory awareness, sufficient to allow intelligent manipulation. See the table for details on weight allowance. Any one telekinetic feat may last up to 60 seconds.

If an Animator wishes to move a person using his/her psychic ability, the Keeper may allow a relevant POW vs POW rolls.

Range Chart:

<i>Cost</i>	<i>Range</i>	<i>Description</i>
00	Close:	In physical contact; touching.
01	Short:	At sword or polearm point; approximately 1-5m.
02	Medium:	At pistol range; from 6-50m.
04	Long:	At rifle range; from 51-250m.
08	Very Long:	At extreme range; from 251-500m.
16	Distant:	Beyond normal contact; from 500-5000m.
20	Very Distant:	Out of sight; from 5-50km.
24	Regional:	From 50-500km.
28	Continental:	From 500-5000km.
32	Planetary:	From 5000-50,000km.

Psychic Skill Summary:

<i>Level:</i>	<i>Name/Description:</i>	<i>Time Required:</i>	<i>Cost:</i>
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Telepathy:

1	Shield	Constant	0
1	Sense Life	60 seconds	1+Range
2	Telempathy	60 seconds	1+Range
4	Read Surface Thoughts	60 seconds	2+Range
5	Project Thoughts	120 seconds	2+Range
8	Probe	600 seconds	4+Range
8	Assault	12 seconds (1MR)	5+Range
10	Mass Assault	12 seconds (1MR)	10+Range
12	Read Psychic Imprint	1d6 minutes	12

Precognition:

1	Sixth Sense	Instant	1
2	Hint	60 seconds	2+Range
4	Foresee Outcome	12 seconds (1MR)	3
6	Prediction	60 seconds	5
8	Vision	6 hours REM sleep	5

Adjustment:

1	Heal	12 seconds (1MR)/HP	1/HP
2	Suspended Animation	7 days	3
4	Enhance STR	1d20 minutes	1/1d3
5	Enhance CON	1d20 minutes	1/1d3
6	Enhance DEX	1d20 minutes	1/1d3
7	Tap	60 seconds	3+Range
8	Cure Poisoning	120 seconds	5
9	Cure Disease	POT in hours	POT in PP
9	Psychic Surgery	12 seconds (1MR)/HP	HP healed
10	Regenerate	Variable (see desc)	10

Animation:

1	Move 1 gram	60 seconds	1+Range
2	Move 10 grams	60 seconds	2+Range
3	Move 100 grams	60 seconds	3+Range
5	Move 1 kilogram	60 seconds	5+Range
8	Move 10 kilograms	60 seconds	8+Range
10	Move 100 kilograms	60 seconds	10+Range