

Raven's Brew

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I Introduction

In this book, you will find a collection of homebrew rules for the fifth edition of Dungeons and Dragons, based on and working with the rules found in the 2024 Players Handbook. The core of these homebrew rules is threefold: martial and casters receive fundamental changes to their playstyles, and dungeon masters gain access to a new toolset to challenge their players with.

The primary concern of these rules is combat, and the goal is to make combat more engaging, flavourful, and tactically enticing. For this, how defence works is reworked from the ground up, positioning is made more relevant, and new options are introduced for players to give in to risk to potentially reap more powerful effects for their spells or attacks.

This can bring a breath of fresh air to those for whom D&D combat has grown stale and that long for a novel experience within an otherwise well known system.

In implementing the rules and features above, this book orients itself around two cornerstones in the choice of which rules to change, how to design these changes, and when and how to introduce new rules. These big cornerstones are interactivity and narrative embedding.

I.1 Interactivity

Rules and features should consider how other players to interact with them. This can come in the shapes of synergy, counterplay and multiplicity, and primarily pursues the goal of improved agency and engagement.

- *Synergy*: When a player tries to achieve something, there should be options for other players to assist with that or enhance the effect. Additionally, there should be ways for players to protect one another in combat, as well as actions that are deliberately cooperative.
- *Counterplay*: It should be possible to avoid or mitigate harmful effects within reason, and it should be possible to undo them with adequate

- effort. Especially powerful effects may be an exception to this rule when it comes to being avoided or mitigated, but those should remain special.
- *Multiplicity*: There should be meaningfully distinct ways for players to interact with the challenges the dungeon master offers. The more choice the players can meaningfully exercise, the better, and the more tools the dungeon master has to challenge the players, the better.

1.2 Narrative Embedding

Rules and features should be explainable in narrative terms, and things that are possible should be represented by game mechanics. This, however, should not escalate into highly accurate simulation, and the rules and features should not be too concerned with realism.

What the players imagine to be possible or intuitive in fiction should be supported. This should naturally lead to the descriptions of what players do and how the world is to be both more expressive and more mechanically important. After all, we play this game to tell a story that is exciting to follow, coherent and enjoyable.

Ideally, this should mean that everyone at the table can know what a narrative description of an action or creature means mechanically, and that there is no rule and no feature without a narrative representation.

1.3 Notes on Simplicity and Balance

Rules should be simple. However, the core interests explained above do not yield easily to that demand, as they require increased complexity. It is thus necessary for simplicity to take a secondary role in this book. The game is not simplified by this book. Still, it should try to keep the new rules and features as easy to understand and as intuitive as possible.

Characters and challenges should be balanced. However, the complexity added through the rules and features in this book makes it more difficult to playtest and evaluate the balance properly. There is no guarantee that the contents of this book are well balanced. Still, the rules and features

should be balanced enough to not establish playstyles that render too many challenges trivial and are themselves too hard to challenge. Every character should have a chance to shine.

1.4 Notable Influences

These reworks have taken inspiration from Warhammer: Vermintide 2, Divinity: Original Sin 2, Das schwarze Auge (The Dark Eye), D&D 3.5, and the D&D 5e 2014 books.

They have been playtested and reviewed by some of my friends, and some features have been their suggestion. Special thanks to Magnus, Johannes, Chad, Paul, David, Noah, Lee and Lia.

2 Content Overview

In the spirit of interactivity, **Contests** are reintroduced from the 2014 rules. Armour Class is replaced by a new system that relies on reactive defence through contests, as described in the chapter on **AC-less defence** and implemented through **Blocking**, **Dodging**, and **Parrying**. This reactive defence is further supported by changes to the action economy that revolve around **Reactions**. **Surge Dice** are introduced to convert remaining reactions into bonuses for the following turn.

Passive defence is also reworked, featuring changes to **Cover** and the introduction of **Damage Reduction**. **Shields** now work through Cover and were separated into three kinds of shields to allow for more differentiated benefits, thus allowing for more flavourful and diverse characters.

Armour now works through **Damage Reduction**.

In response to attack rolls losing importance due to targets being generally easier to hit, **Aimed Strikes** bring new flavourful options and tactical complexities to the game by allowing creatures to target specific body parts with their attacks. This can **wound or disable** the body parts in question. To

work against the detrimental effects of these, **Surgery** and the **Rite of Regeneration** were added to allow their restoration. Distinct **armour pieces** are introduced to fill in defence against **Aimed Strikes**.

Vision & Focus are described in detail to encourage more strategic positioning and give attackers a way to bypass their targets reactive defense.

Martial Training is introduced to unify a multitude of features and benefits for martials, such as **Fighting Styles** and **Weapon Mastery**.

Aspects of Stealth are described to rework stealth in terms of various senses that can work against it and thus can be manipulated in favour of it.

Spell Manipulation is added in the same vein as reactive defence as a treat for spellcasters, because they are otherwise less affected in their action economy by the new reworks.

Finally, there are adjustments to **class features**, **feats**, and **spells**, mainly to bring them in line with the changes to defence, **Grappling and shoving** are reverted to their 2014 version, and last but not least, there is a section offering a short guide on how **monsters** are affected by the reworks offered here.

Part I

Playing the Game

This book focuses on changes to combat, including changes and additions to the fundamental combat rules. Most other fundamentals remain unchanged.

Firstly, the core change, **AC-less defence**, is introduced, featuring **Hit DC**, **Damage Reduction** and **Cover**. Then, **Aimed Strikes**, **Surge Dice** and changes to **Reactions** are added to supplement **AC-less defence**, and **Contests** are reintroduced. Finally, **Vision & Focus** in combat are changed.

3 AC-less defence

AC-less: Creatures do not have an Armor Class anymore. A combination of Hit DC and Damage Reduction takes its place.

3.1 Hit DC

Missing attacks: An attack automatically misses its target if the attack roll isn't at least as high as the Hit DC.

Base Hit DC: The base Hit DC of a target depends on its size, as shown in the table below. To determine the size of something that has no given size, you can use the Hit Area and height or length measures as guidelines.

Size	Hit DC	Hit Area	Height or Length
Minuscule	20	<25cm ²	<8cm
Fine	18	<100cm ²	<15cm
Diminutive	16	<400cm ²	<30cm
Tiny	14	<0.15m ²	<60cm
Small	12	<0.6m ²	<120cm
Medium	10	<2.5m ²	<240cm
Large	8	<10m ²	<5m
Huge	6	<40m ²	<10m
Gargantuan	4	>40m ²	>10m

The Hit Area refers to the area of a target that is facing the attacker. For example, a piece of paper is easier to hit from the front than from the side, because the papers thinness leads to a smaller Hit Area when looking at it sideways.

For the purposes of very small targets, a new set of sizes has been introduced. These will, for example, be used for [Aimed Strikes](#).

Even smaller sizes: If a target is significantly smaller than the sizes listed above, you can either find an extended table in the [tables chapter](#), or extrapolate the Hit DC from the measures in the table. Start with the measures and Hit DC for minuscule targets. Then add 2 to the Hit DC, quarter the Hit Area and halve the height or length. Repeat this until the measures fit the target you have in mind to get the appropriate Hit DC.

3.2 Cover

Cover: Instead of increasing the Armor Class of the target that is behind cover, the Hit DC for attacks against the target increases in correlation with the now reduced Hit Area. Thus, Half Cover and Three-Quarters Cover can now be disregarded for attack rolls.

For example, if the Hit Area of an otherwise Medium size target matches the Tiny size due to Cover, the targets Hit DC is that of a Tiny target for attacks that are affected by that Cover.

Cover size: Sometimes, the creatures or objects that are used for Cover have an associated size category. If the Cover is of a larger size category than the target, it gives Total Cover. If it has the same category, it only leaves a few openings at best, which usually manifests as an increase in Hit DC of +4. If it is one category smaller, it leaves a decent area open to attack, giving no more than a +2 to the Hit DC. Even smaller Cover is too small to effectively reduce the Hit Area. It can, however, still be used to give Cover to specific body parts and other smaller targets.

Cover Cone: In some cases, it is not clear against which attacks a target benefits from Cover. The Dungeon Masters Guide describes a method to determine Cover through occupied and blocked spaces on a battle map, but some cover is not represented by this because it is too small and thus too finicky to place and manage on a battle map. For example, this is usually the case with **Shields**.

In such cases where the cover is sufficiently small and close to the target, attacks originating from within a type of Cone, the Cover Cone, are affected by that cover. The Cover Cone originates from the target and is directed towards the cover, has no range limit and can't be interrupted.

To continue the Shield example, if you are holding a Shield directly towards an enemy, that enemy is within the Cover Cone originating from you and directed through the Shield, as they are directly on the opposite side of the Shield. Therefore, you benefit from the Cover your Shield provides you with, increasing your Hit DC against attacks by that enemy, usually by 2 or 4.

Crouching behind cover: Creatures may crouch, perch, sit down, or fall prone behind cover at will to increase the degree of cover they can obtain. When doing so, the following effects apply to the crouched creature:

- They decrease their effective size by one category for the purposes of determining the degree of cover they gain through the cover they crouch behind.
- They have the Prone condition.

For example, a Medium Humanoid receives three quarters cover from a Tower Shield when crouching behind it instead of the usual half cover, while a Small Humanoid can receive full cover from a Tower Shield when crouching behind it.

3.3 Damage Reduction

Damage Reduction: Creatures now have a Damage Reduction value. This value is subtracted from any damage the wearer takes through an attack.

This subtraction happens before resistances and vulnerabilities modify the damage.

Every bonus to Armor Class that is not the Dexterity bonus can be converted 1:1 into a bonus for Damage Reduction, unless otherwise noted. An armour that sets the Armor Class of the wearer to 13 + Dexterity modifier will, for example, be converted to 3 Damage Reduction, because it is an Armor Class bonus of +3 compared to the base Armor Class of 10, while the Dexterity modifier is discarded. The conversion for armours can also be seen in the [tables chapter](#).

Damage Reduction from multiple sources stacks. However, the prerequisites for each source must still be met. For example, the Damage Reduction now gained from the Barbarians Unarmoured Defence and a heavy armour will not stack, because the heavy armour still disables the Barbarians Unarmoured Defence.

3.4 Other changes

Reactive Defence: There are now options to reactively defend against incoming attacks and other effects. These include [Dodging](#), [Blocking](#) and [Parrying](#), as detailed within the Rules Glossary. For spellcasters, [Spell Manipulation](#) and some of the changed [Spells](#) provide options for reactive defence.

Defence Action: You can use your Action to take the Defence Action. Doing so gives you a number of Reactions equal to your Proficiency Bonus. You may only use these additional Reactions for defensive Reactions, including **Dodging**, **Blocking**, **Parrying**, or another Reaction that fulfills the following conditions:

- It does not deal damage, and it does not enhance something that deals damage.
- It does not apply a condition to an enemy, and does not enhance something that applies a condition to an enemy.
- It does not force an enemy to make a saving throw, and does not enhance something that forces an enemy to make a saving throw.

When gaining **Surge Dice** at the start of your next turn, no more than three of your unspent Reactions are converted into Surge Dice.

Misses? Any rule or feature that requires a missed attack to work also works if the attack does not deal damage because of Damage Reduction, Blocking, or Parrying. Those attacks count as both a hit and a miss in that regard. Note that Dodging explicitly causes dodged attacks to miss.

4 Aimed Strikes

During play, it became apparent that attack rolls lost a good deal of their charm. This was mainly because an uncontested attack roll was too likely to succeed, given that the Hit DC is significantly lower than Armor Class is in the base game. This also made having a good attack bonus or rolling with Advantage or Disadvantage less significant on attacks, especially against larger targets that have an even smaller Hit DC. In short, making an attack roll felt redundant as soon as it was uncontested.

Aimed Strikes are the response to this problem. They allow the attacker to trade their hit chance against other benefits, damage among them, increasing the risk of the attack roll. This also deepens strategic thinking, as some circumstances may still incentivize going for the easy hit. This ac-

tive choice should make the reliability feel better than before, where the reliability was imposed.

Aimed Strike: When attacking a target, you can choose to target a specific part of them instead of them in general. This changes the base Hit DC of the attack to the base Hit DC of the targeted part, depending on its size as noted in the chapter on **AC-less defence**. Parts can benefit from cover and usually have the same Damage Reduction as the creature or object they belong to. When an Aimed Strike hits a creature, they must make a Wound Save as described below.

The DM may decide to also tie other effects to specific parts, such as a Damage Reduction modifier, particular damage vulnerabilities, other conditions to save against and the like.

Wound Save: When you are struck by an Aimed Strike you must make a Constitution saving throw against half the attacks damage or 10, whichever is higher. If you succeed, nothing happens. Otherwise, the attack leaves the targeted body part **Wounded**.

If the damage equals at least half your maximum hit points, the targeted body part is Wounded on a successful save and **Disabled** on a failed save.

Weakspots: Some creatures may have regions on their body that are especially vulnerable to attacks. Targeting these regions should be more difficult, but also yield more devastating results for the target.

As a DM, you can make use of this when designing an encounter to make a fight more interesting. Maybe the Kobold tinkerer has a bomb in their pocket that just waits to be hit by fire damage to explode in their face, or maybe the dragon loses their breath weapon with a well placed strike through their lungs.

Some weakspots may not be apparent at first glance. In this case, a Study action may give the players just the information they need.

Covering Body Parts: Similar to how a creature can receive cover, body

parts can also become harder to hit when covered, as described in the chapter about [AC-less defence](#).

For example, when a tiny shield is held accordingly, it can give total cover to a diminutive body part, three-quarters cover to a tiny body part, and half-cover to a small or medium body part.

Body part sizes for Medium Humanoids: The table below shows the rough sizes of the body parts of a Medium Humanoid. This table is not definitive, as the size of a body part can vary from person to person and effectively also depends on the angle it is viewed at. A buff humans arms may be easier to hit than those of a lanky one, and a torso viewed from the side is effectively smaller than one viewed from the front.

Body Part	Size	Hit DC
Head	Diminutive	16
Eye	Minus 1	22
Neck	Diminutive	16
Arm	Tiny	14
Hand	Diminutive	16
Torso	Small	12
Crotch	Fine	18
Leg	Tiny	14
Foot	Diminutive	16

4.1 Example Scenario

The champion knows that a blinded cyclops is a harmless cyclops. Therefore, she decides to aim her shot at his eye. This increases the Hit DC for the attack from 6 to 18, given that the eye is a Fine target. The DM decides on the fly that the eye is vulnerable to piercing damage. She rolls her attack as usual and hits, dealing 38 piercing damage, so the cyclops must make a DC19 Wound Save. He fails this save, so his eye is now wounded, giving him Disadvantage on everything that relies on his sight. This is not enough for the champion though, so she fires a second arrow towards his

eye, dealing 46 piercing damage. The cyclops fails his DC23 Wound Save and his eye is now disabled, leaving him with the blinded condition.

5 Reactions

Free Reactions: In addition to a Reaction, every creature also has a Free Reaction they can use.

The free object interaction each character has once per turn may be used as a Free Reaction instead, if there is a trigger that plausibly allows for such a reaction, at the DMs mercy. For example, you can use your Free Reaction to shut a door as soon as someone has walked through it on their turn.

When you have the Incapacitated condition, you can no longer use your Free Reaction.

Every feature that uses a Free Reaction can also use a Reaction instead.

Reserving Actions: At the end of your turn, you gain 1 additional Reaction per Action you did not use. If you were unable to use these Actions because you were Incapacitated, this conversion does not happen.

Ready Action: When using the Ready Action, you also gain 1 additional Reaction.

Reserving Bonus Actions: At the end of your turn, you gain 1 additional Reaction per Bonus Action you did not use. If you were unable to use these Bonus Actions because you were Incapacitated, this conversion does not happen.

Reserving Reactions: At the start your turn, you gain 1 **Surge Die** per Reaction you did not use. If you were unable to use these Reactions because you were Incapacitated, this conversion does not happen.

Reactive Defence: There are now options to reactively defend against incoming attacks and other effects. These include **Dodging**, **Blocking** and

Parrying, as detailed within the Rules Glossary. For spellcasters, **Spell Manipulation** and some of the changed **Spells** provide options for reactive defence.

6 Surge Dice

A Surge Die is 1d6 that can be used for various effects that are described below. You can use one or more Surge Dice as part of any of your Actions, Bonus Actions, Free Actions, Reactions, or Free Reactions. You can use more than one Surge Die at once for the same effect. All unspent Surge Dice expire at the start of your next turn and at the end of combat.

When a Surge Die is used as a part of a contest, both parties may expend further Surge Dice at will to aid them in the contest, even after the other added one to their roll.

Obtaining Surge Dice: You can obtain Surge Dice through reserving Reactions as described in the **Reaction** rules. Some classes may also give features that relate to Surge Dice.

Surge Reaction: Instead of using Surge Dice as part of other actions, you can also use them by themselves. When you notice something happening, you can take a Free Reaction to use any number of your Surge Dice.

6.1 Surge Die Effects

You can use Surge Dice for the following effects:

Power: Add the roll to an attack roll, ability check, or the damage you deal to one creature. If the Surge Die is added to the damage of a critical hit, it is not doubled.

Force: Subtract the roll from one saving throw you require one creature to make. This can be part of an effect that requires multiple creatures to roll a saving throw, but it only applies to the one creature you choose.

Speed: You gain 10ft. of movement that you can immediately use.

Overtake: Add the roll to your Initiative, potentially changing your position in the Initiative Order. Before doing so, if you are first in the Initiative Order and act on Initiative 20 or before, move to either Initiative 0 or the Initiative one below that of the last spot, whichever is lowest.

You can only skip past a maximum of one entry per Surge Die spent. When the maximum is reached, your new Initiative cannot exceed the Initiative of the entry that is now ahead of you in the Initiative Order.

If your Initiative is tied with another entry after the roll, you act after the other entry.

If you are doing this during your turn, this does not lend creatures that acted before you another turn after you in case you skip past them, and it similarly does not trigger effects tied to Initiative again. If you are doing this outside of your turn and skip past the creature whose turn it currently is, you take your turn directly after them. After your turn, Initiative resumes as before.

Tenacity: You gain temporary hit points equal to the roll until the start of your next turn.

7 Contests

The 2024 rules saw the removal of contested rolls and moved towards the use of saving throws instead. That is the exact opposite direction that these rules want to go. To establish more interactivity, contests are thus reintroduced here. The actions that use those are described throughout the book, for example with the Grapple and Shove attacks described in [Other Combat Changes](#).

Sometimes one characters or monsters efforts are directly opposed to another. This can occur when both of them are trying to do the same thing and only one can succeed, such as attempting to snatch up a magic ring that has fallen on the floor. This situation also applies when one of them is trying to prevent the other one from accomplishing a goal, for example, when

a monster tries to force open a door that an adventurer is holding closed. In situations like these, the outcome is determined by a special form of ability check, called a contest.

Contest: Both participants in a contest make ability checks appropriate to their efforts. They apply all appropriate bonuses and penalties, but instead of comparing the total to a DC, they compare the totals of their two checks. The participant with the higher check total wins the contest. That character or monster either succeeds at the action or prevents the other one from succeeding.

If the contest results in a tie, the situation remains the same as it was before the contest. Thus, one contestant might win the contest by default. If two characters tie in a contest to snatch a ring off the floor, neither character grabs it. In a contest between a monster trying to open a door and an adventurer trying to keep the door closed, a tie means that the door remains shut.

8 Vision & Focus

8.1 Vision

Vision: Many features in these rules rely on seeing something happen. In combat, track and attend to the direction you look. Using miniatures on battlemaps works well for this, but any small thing that discernibly points any direction will do.

Field of View: There are four different fields of view that apply to creatures and objects that have vision:

- *Narrow:* Those with a narrow field of view only properly see what's happening within a Cone in front of them. This field of view is most common for objects such as mechanical or magical sensors, but some creatures may use it, too.
- *Wide:* Those with a wide view are just barely unable to properly see what's happening 90 degrees to their left and right, and don't see any-

thing further than that. This field of view is used for most creatures, including all Humanoids, creatures whose shape resembles that of Humanoids, and Beasts that are predators. When nothing is said about the field of view of a creature, it uses a wide one.

- *Extended*: Those with an extended field of view are only unable to properly see what's happening within a Cone behind them. This field of view is most common for Beasts that are prey and creatures that resemble prey.
- *Complete*: Those with a complete field of view are able to properly see what's happening in every direction. This field of view is rare and most of the time unnatural. Some Aberrations and Monstrosities use it, and some objects are equipped with it.

Backstab Advantage: Whenever you decide to attack a creature you can see that can't see you, you gain Advantage on that attack. This is usually the case when attacking from behind them.

8.2 Focus

Focus: You usually have something within your perception that you primarily attend to - this is what you focus on. You automatically switch focus to a creature or object when targeting them with a spell, attack, or other effect. You can only focus on one target at a time.

As long as you are focused on a target, you can rotate with the target's movement, if needed, to keep that target within your sight. This way, for example, a Humanoid can save their back from another creature's attacks, leading to the attacker not receiving Backstab Advantage.

Switch Focus: At the end of your turn, you can switch Focus to a creature that you perceive. Otherwise, you can use a Free Reaction or Reaction to Focus a creature that you notice moving towards you or doing something near you.

Losing Focus: You lose Focus if you receive the Incapacitated condition or when you lose the ability to perceive the target of your Focus.

A creature that you Focus may also make you lose Focus by applying the charmed or frightened condition to you, by successfully hiding behind full cover, or by spontaneously becoming unseen by you (for example through invisibility or teleportation).

Escape Focus: To escape a creature's Focus, you can take a Bonus Action, making a Dexterity (Acrobatics) check contested by the creature's passive perception, and use your movement to leave their vision. On a success, the creature loses Focus, on a failure, they can turn to keep their Focus and you in their vision.

This can, for example, be used to be able to attack the back of a Humanoid that previously focused their vision on you. This way, you can gain Backstab Advantage on your attacks against that Humanoid.

Draw Focus: You can force other creatures to Switch Focus by drawing their attention to yourself, another creature or something else. This may occur as a side-effect of anything you do that is sufficiently noticeable, at the mercy of the player controlling the respective creature whose Focus is to be drawn.

If a creature does take notice and the controlling player decides it would be plausible that their creatures Focus could be drawn, the creature may make a Concentration check to resist having to Switch Focus. The Difficulty Class of this check is determined by the controlling player and the drawing player in a way that should be plausible for whatever was done to attempt drawing attention.

8.3 Example Scenarios

A Halfling cutthroat is looking to take out a Human guard they lead into an alley. They are currently looking at another, and the guard charges forward to strike. To escape the guards focus, the nimble cutthroat swiftly maneuvers around the guard, using their bonus action to make a Dexterity (Acrobatics) check against 13, the guards passive perception. They succeed and stand behind the disoriented guards back, able to attack the guard

with Advantage.

A Bard attempts to draw the attention of a bloodthirsty Gnoll that prioritizes the weak. They attempt to do so by faking a scream of pain and acting hurt & vulnerable. The DM controlling the Gnoll may decide that the attempt is automatically successful and make the Gnoll Switch Focus to the Bard - they might also decide that the Gnoll might try to resist (for a reason) and roll a Concentration check contested by a Charisma (Performance) check by the Bard, only switching the Gnolls Focus if they lose the contest - they might also decide that the attempt automatically fails (for a reason).

9 Aspects of Stealth

When using stealth, there are multiple aspects that can lead to being detected. Most commonly, being seen or heard is key to being detected, but scent may also play a role at some points, especially when a creature that may detect you has a keen sense of smell, like a wolf.

Passive Stealth (Scent): You have a base passive Stealth (Scent) score of 15. You can mask your scent to gain a bonus of +5 to this score, but you can also receive -5 to this score when giving off a strong scent that is uncommon for the place you are traversing.

The bonus might be given after applying herbs or some magic to yourself or by being washed. The malus might be given after taking a tour through the sewers, after a tough battle that left you wounded or after strenuous activity that left you sweaty.

When you try hiding from a creature that is close to you, both your Dexterity (Stealth) check and your passive Stealth (Scent) must be below the creatures passive perception. If the Dexterity (Stealth) check fails, you are heard or seen, as usual. If the passive Stealth (Scent) fails, the creature smells you. This may only be a hint towards your presence (DMs choice) and may not lead to you being seen immediately, but it is reason for the

creature to make a Wisdom (Perception) check to try and locate you. For some creatures it may be reasonable to have them be able to locate you based on scent alone, at the DMs discretion.

9.1 Example Scenario

A thief tries to sneak past a guard dog. They rolled a 21 on their Dexterity (Stealth) check and have a passive Stealth (Scent) score of 15, because they took no measures to mask their scent (no bonus) and do not smell strongly (no malus).

The guard dog has a passive perception of 12, so the thief gets close to passing him with ease, without a sound, but the guard dog has a keen sense of smell, bumping up his passive Perception for scent to 17. The guard dog smells something unusual as soon as the thief gets too close, and, trying to investigate that unusual scent, the guard dog rolls a Wisdom (Perception) check, resulting in a 19. The guard dog did not see or hear the thief through that, so the thief is still unnoticed and can pass without further worries.

10 Other Combat Changes

Unarmed Strikes: The Grapple and Shove options of the Unarmed Strike are changed to use **Contests** again, as described below.

Grapple: Using at least one free hand, you try to seize the target by making a grapple check, a Strength (Athletics) check contested by the target's Strength (Athletics) or Dexterity (Acrobatics) check (their choice). If you succeed, you subject the target to the grappled condition. The condition specifies the things that end it, and you can release the target whenever you like (no action required). The target of your grapple must be no more than one size larger than you, and it must be within your reach.

Escaping a Grapple: A grappled creature can use its action to escape. To do so, it must succeed on a Strength (Athletics) or Dexterity (Acrobatics) check contested by your Strength (Athletics) check.

Moving a Grappled Creature: When you move, you can drag or carry the grappled creature with you, but your speed is halved, unless the creature is two or more sizes smaller than you.

Shove: You make a Strength (Athletics) check contested by the target's Strength (Athletics) or Dexterity (Acrobatics) check (their choice). If you win the contest, you either knock the target prone or push it 5 feet away from you. The target of your shove must be no more than one size larger than you, and it must be within your reach.

Part II

Character Creation

In light of **AC-less defence**, many **Classes** had their features reviewed and, in some cases, adjusted to make sure they are translated to the new system properly. Also, small player characters now derive new bonuses from their smaller size, so they were weakened accordingly, as described in the section on **Species** changes.

II Classes

II.1 Bard

College of Dance - Dazzling Footwork - Unarmoured Defence: When you aren't wearing armour or wielding a shield, you can roll Charisma (Performance) instead of Dexterity (Acrobatics) when **Dodging**, and you add both your Charisma modifier and your Dexterity modifier to the roll.

College of Valor - Combat Inspiration - Defence: When the creature is hit by an attack roll, that creature can use the Bardic Inspiration die instead of a Reaction to attempt to **block**, **parry** or **dodge** the attack. When doing so, the creature rolls the Bardic Inspiration die and adds the number rolled to the corresponding check, potentially causing the attack to miss or deal reduced damage.

II.2 Fighter

Tactical Master: When you attack with a weapon you are trained with, you can use one additional **Martial Training** feature on the attack that the weapon does not fulfill the requirements of.

Battle Master - Know Your Enemy: Additionally, you find out whether there are particular weak spots that are worth targeting and what to expect

when making an **Aimed Strike** against that weak spot.

Battle Master - Parry: When **Parrying**, you can expend one Superiority Die, rolling the die and adding the number rolled to the Parrying check. If the parry succeeds, you increase the Parrying Power by the maximum roll of your Superiority Die.

Battle Master - Evasive Footwork: As a Bonus Action, you can expend one Superiority Die and take the Disengage action. You also roll the die and add the number rolled to your Hit DC until the start of your next turn.

Battle Master - Riposte: When you successfully **block**, **dodge**, or **parry** a melee attack, you can expend one Superiority Die to make a melee weapon against the attacking creature. If you hit, you add the Superiority Die to the attacks damage roll.

11.3 Monk

Martial Arts - Dexterous Attacks: Instead of using the Dexterity modifier to determine the save DC when using the Grapple or Shove option of your Unarmed Strike, you can make a Dexterity (Athletics) check instead of a Strength (Athletics) check when attempting to Grapple or Shove, using the **Contest** rules.

Unarmoured Defence: Instead of being converted to **Damage Reduction**, your Wisdom modifier is added to your **Dodging** checks.

Patient Defence: May instead be used to take the **Defence Action**.

Deflect Missiles: May be used as part of the **Defence Action**.

Level 5: Serenity (new): When spending one or more Focus Points, you can instead spend the same amount of **Surge Dice**. You can also replace a part of the Focus Point cost with the same amount of **Surge Dice**.

For example, when spending 3 Focus Points, you may instead spend either 3 Surge Dice, 2 Surge Dice + 1 Focus Point, or 1 Surge Die + 2 Focus Points.

11.4 Paladin

Oath of Glory - Glorious Defence: Instead of increasing the targets AC, your Charisma modifier (minimum of 1) is subtracted from the attack roll, potentially causing the attack to miss.

11.5 Ranger

Beast Master: Instead of their AC value, the Beast Masters beast will have a Damage Reduction equal to 3 + the Rangers Wisdom modifier.

Gloomstalker - Shadowy Dodge: When trying to **dodge** an attack, you roll with Advantage. Afterwards, you can teleport up to 30 feet to an unoccupied space you can see, regardless of whether the **dodge** was successful or not.

Hunter - Multiattack Defence: When you use any Reaction to counter a creatures attack, you may counter all following attacks made by the same creature against you this turn without using another Reaction. Eligible Reactions include **Blocking**, **Dodging**, and **Parrying**.

11.6 Rogue

Uncanny Dodge: When your **Dodging** checks fail, you only take half damage instead of full damage. If you fail a Dodge & Roll or all spots within 10 feet of you are occupied when making a Dodge & Roll, you do not fall prone.

Level 5: Prepared Strike (new): When using Surge Dice to increase the damage of a Sneak Attack, the Surge Dice are d12 instead of d6.

11.7 Sorcerer

Sorcery Points: You now have Sorcery Points equal to twice your Sorcerer level instead, starting with 4 Sorcery Points at level 2. The cost of Metamagic Options is doubled accordingly.

Sorcery Points - Converting Spell Points to Sorcery Points: You can spend any number of Spell Points to convert them into Sorcery Points, no action required. When doing so, 3 Spell Points become 2 Sorcery Points.

Sorcery Points - Converting Sorcery Points to Spell Points: As a Bonus Action, you can transform any number of unspent Sorcery Points into Spell Points. When doing so, 1 Sorcery Point becomes 1 Spell Point.

Metamagic - Quickened Spell: You can now use this feature even if you have already spent Spell Points this round, and you can spend more Spell Points afterwards.

Draconic Sorcery - Draconic Resilience: Instead of adding your Charisma modifier to your AC when you are not wearing armour, your Charisma modifier is added to your Damage Reduction.

Wild Magic Sorcery - Wild Magic Surge - 49-52: Instead of increasing your AC by 2, the floating shield gives half cover. If you already benefit from half cover, you benefit from three quarters cover instead.

11.8 Warlock

Eldritch Invocations: When an Eldritch Invocation Option allows you to cast a spell without expending a spell slot, that spell has its Spell Point cost reduced to 0 through that Eldritch Invocation instead.

Pact Magic - Spell Slots: Similar to all other classes, you now also use **Spell Points**. However, as your patron is the source of your power, you have a potentially enormous supply that is only limited by your ability to be your patrons conduit and your patrons willingness or pact-bound duty to provide for you. As such, you are only limited by your Casting Limit and their Patronage.

Level	Caster Training	Casting Limit	Patronage
1	1	3	1
2	1	5	2
3	1	6	2
4	1	8	2
5	2	9	2
6	2	11	2
7	2	12	2
8	2	14	2
9	3	15	2
10	3	17	2
11	3	18	3
12	3	20	3
13	4	21	3
14	4	23	3
15	4	24	3
16	4	26	3
17	5	27	4
18	5	29	4
19	5	30	4
20	5	32	4
x	$(x+1)/4$	$3(x+1)/2$	

Patronage: The Patronage determines how often you can spend Spell Points before your patron temporarily cuts off your supply. This is the case after you've spent Spell Points a number of times as noted in the table above, with the count resetting after you finish a Short or Long Rest.

This may, for example, express your patrons limited willingness to offer their power to a weaker being, a lack of established trust between you and your patron, or terms of the pact agreed upon as such, with the Patronage resetting when you appeal to your patron or ask for more during a Rest, or, again, because the pact says so.

Patronage - Variant: You and your DM may find your own consensus about how your patron supplies you with Spell Points. For example, you may decide that your patron offers more of their supply when you fulfill their tasks or act following their ideals, and that they cut it off only when you break a promise or act in opposition to their ideals.

When finding and playing with a consensus like this, always consider how your power compares to that of your party members, so that you have neither too many Spell Points at your disposal nor too few. The narrative, however, may on occasion lead to one extreme or the other, and it can be fun and interesting to follow the narrative there from time to time. It is about the pact and relationship between you and your patron, after all. Whether you two are buddies, business partners, or one exploits or extorts the other, that is up to discussion and design.

12 Species

Too many goodies for small characters: In these rules, small creatures benefit through both a higher base Hit DC as well as more easily accessible cover, with no associated drawbacks. In play, this leads to a significantly increased presence of small characters. To counter this, the following two weaknesses are introduced:

- Small creatures have their movement speed reduced by 5 feet.
- Small creatures have their Constitution score reduced by 1.

Part III

Feats

Feats have received major changes, as **Martial Training** and **Caster Training** have been introduced as new systems for characters to receive new features, and many feats had their content moved there because of this. **Martial Training** features can be accessed through the new Combat Adept Feat and through class features, as described in the chapter on **Martial Training**. **Caster Training** features can be accessed through the new Spellcasting Adept Feat and through having Spellcaster levels, as described in the chapter on **Spellcasting**.

These Feats have been merged into **Martial Training**: Crossbow Expert, Crusher, Defensive Duelist, Dual Wielder, Great Weapon Master, Heavily Armored, Heavy Armor Master, Lightly Armored, Martial Weapon Training, Medium Armor Master, Moderately Armored, Piercer, Polearm Master, Sharpshooter, Shield Master, Slasher, Weapon Master, and all Fighting Style feats.

These Feats have been merged into **Caster Training**: Elemental Adept, Ritual Caster, Spell Sniper, and War Caster.

Outside of that, other changes to feats can be found here, with the full description of the new changed feat being shown here.

12.1 Origin Feats

Savage Attacker: Whenever you roll damage for an attack, add a d6 to the dice pool and ignore the lowest die result.

12.2 General Feats

Combat Adept: You gain the following benefits:

- *Ability Score Increase*: Increase your Strength, Dexterity or Constitution score by 1, to a maximum of 20.
- *Training*: You gain two **Martial Training** features of your choice.
- *Repeatable*: You can take this feat more than once.

Spellcasting Adept: You gain the following benefits:

- *Ability Score Increase*: Increase your Intelligence, Wisdom or Charisma score by 1, to a maximum of 20.
- *Training*: You gain two **Caster Training** features of your choice.
- *Repeatable*: You can take this feat more than once.

12.3 Fighting Style Feats

These feats are all now part of **Martial Training** and can be accessed through the Combat Adept Feat and through class features, as described in the chapter on **Martial Training**.

13 Martial Training

Martial Training is a new system that encompasses weapon Proficiency, weapon mastery, Fighting Styles, Armour Training, and some Feats that interface with weapons and armour. Proficiency and Expertise in **Parrying** and **Blocking** are also part of this system, as are other features relating to **AC-less defence** generally.

This rework is motivated by three reasons. Firstly, with the Hit DC being largely unchanging with level and being quite low especially with larger creatures, there's not as large of a benefit in adding the Proficiency Bonus to ones attack rolls. This opens up the possibility of allowing players to decide against adding this Proficiency Bonus in favor of other benefits for offence or defence. One of these benefits aptly allows players to bypass parts of an enemies Damage Reduction, scaling with the Proficiency Bonus, so that there are now options to ease hitting enemies and to ease damaging them through armour, mirroring the separation of Armor Class into Hit

DC and Damage Reduction.

Secondly, the new defensive reactions introduced in this ruleset should be something a character can specialize in. In previous versions of this ruleset, this was enabled through changes to general feats and through connections with Expertise class features. Both of those are limited in their accessibility, and especially fighters should be able to access special defensive features more than other classes, while not themselves having access to Expertise. Thus, by introducing these features here, martial classes actually have prioritized access to the new martial features.

Thirdly, the 2024 rules saw the introduction of weapon mastery properties. These were introduced as weapon-specific features that can be chosen by martials to increase their battlefield prowess, which can be assumed to be intended to lessen the infamous martial caster divide. Structurally, these mastery properties do not separate themselves from benefits that are obtainable through feats, while introducing a whole new feature list a martial can choose from. Next to Fighting Style feats and general feats, this is now the third feature list for martials. Through the rearrangement of those lists into one singular list, the flexibility and potential power of martials is further accentuated. Additionally, adding new features to this list is a new straightforward way to give feature options to martials specifically without having to restrict the features to Fighting Style feats, general feats or weapon mastery properties that martial classes tend to have quite limited access to.

13.1 Core Changes

Martial Training: When you receive Martial Training, choose one of the features listed in the following sections that you qualify for.

Fighting Styles: Fighting Style feats are now Martial Training features. Whenever you would gain a Fighting Style feat, you receive Martial Training instead.

Weapon Masteries: Weapon Masteries are now Martial Training features.

Whenever you would gain access to a mastery property, you receive Martial Training instead.

Feats: The benefits of a selection of general feats are now Martial Training features. There's now a new general feat that allows the player to receive Martial Training twice.

Opportunity Attacks: You now need the Opportunist feature to be able to make Opportunity Attacks.

13.2 Weapon Training

Instead of working primarily through Proficiency, weapons now also utilize Training, similar to how it is established for Armour. When using a weapon that you lack training with, you have Disadvantage on any D20 Test that relies on that weapon. The following features can give you training with weapons:

Starting Proficiency Conversion: You no longer start with Proficiency in weapon attacks with the weapons listed in your class descriptions. Instead, you are trained with the weapons that you would otherwise have Proficiency in.

When you receive Martial Training, you can choose the Accuracy feature described in the section on weapon features to add your Proficiency Bonus to certain attack rolls again.

Simple Melee Weapon Training: You gain training with Simple Melee weapons.

Simple Ranged Weapon Training: You gain training with Simple Ranged weapons.

Martial Melee Weapon Training: Requires training with Simple Melee weapons. You gain training with Martial Melee weapons.

Martial Ranged Weapon Training: Requires training with Simple Ranged weapons. You gain training with Martial Ranged weapons.

13.3 Weapon Features

Accuracy: Choose a weapon property. You add your Proficiency Bonus to attack rolls with weapons with that property. You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different weapon properties, and it does not stack with itself on weapons with multiple properties that you have this feature for.

Archery: You gain a bonus to attack rolls with Ranged weapons equal to your Wisdom modifier (at least 1).

Bypass Cover: Your ranged weapon attacks ignore half cover and three-quarters cover.

Cleave: Once per turn, when you hit a creature with a melee attack using a weapon that has the Heavy property and deals Slashing damage, you can make a melee attack roll with the weapon against a second creature within 5 feet of the first that is also within your reach. On a hit, the second creature takes the weapons damage, but you don't add your ability modifier to that damage unless that modifier is negative.

Dueling: When you are holding a Melee weapon in one hand and no other weapons, you gain a bonus to damage rolls with that weapon equal to your Dexterity modifier (at least 1).

Enhanced Critical - Bludgeoning: Choose either Bludgeoning, Piercing, or Slashing damage. When you score a Critical Hit that deals damage of that damage type, you ignore the targets Damage Reduction and gain the benefit associated with that damage type:

- *Bludgeoning:* Attack rolls against the target have Advantage until the start of your next turn.
- *Slashing:* The target has Disadvantage on attack rolls until the start of your next turn.
- *Piercing:* You can roll one additional damage die when determining the extra Piercing damage the target takes.

You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different damage types.

Enhanced Dual Wielding: When you take the Attack action on your turn and attack with a weapon that has the Light property, you can make one extra attack as a Bonus Action later on the same turn with a different weapon, which must be a Melee weapon that lacks the Two-Handed property. You don't add your ability modifier to the extra attack's damage unless that modifier is negative.

Firing in Melee: Being within 5 feet of an enemy doesn't impose Disadvantage on your attack rolls with Ranged weapons.

Graze: When you miss a creature with a melee attack using a weapon that has the Two-Handed property and deals Slashing damage, you can deal Slashing damage to that creature equal to the ability modifier you used to make the attack roll.

Great Weapon Fighting: When you roll damage for an attack you make with a Melee weapon that you are holding with two hands, you can treat any 1 or 2 on a damage die as a 3. The weapon must have the Two-Handed or Versatile property to gain this benefit.

Guardian: Requires *Opportunist - Melee*. Immediately after a creature within 5 feet of you takes the Disengage action or hits a target other than you with an attack, you can make a melee Opportunity Attack against that creature.

Halt: Requires *Opportunist*. When you hit a creature with an Opportunity Attack, the creature's Speed becomes 0 for the rest of the current turn.

Hamstring: Once per turn when you hit a creature with an attack using a Melee weapon that deals Slashing damage or using a Ranged weapon, you can reduce the Speed of that creature by 10 feet until the start of your next turn.

Heavy Weapon Master: When you hit a target with a weapon that has

the Heavy property as part of the Attack action on your turn, you deal additional damage equal to your Strength modifier (at least 1).

Hew: Immediately after you score a Critical Hit with a Melee weapon with the Heavy property or reduce a creature to 0 Hit Points with one, you can make one attack with the same weapon as a Bonus Action.

Ignore Loading: You ignore the Loading property and can load a piece of ammunition into weapons with that property even without a free hand.

Long Shots: Attacking at long range doesn't impose Disadvantage on your attack rolls with Ranged weapons.

Nick: When you make the extra attack of the Light property, you can make it as part of the Attack action instead of as a Bonus Action. You can make this extra attack only once per turn.

Opportunist: Pick one option:

- **Melee:** You can make Opportunity Attacks as described in the 2024 PHB Rules Glossary.
- **Ranged:** You can make a Ranged Opportunity Attack when a creature that you can see moves 15ft. in a straight line towards you or away from you. The creature has to be within your ranged or thrown weapons normal range for that movement and has to use its action, Bonus Action, Reaction, or one of its speeds. To make the Opportunity Attack, take a Reaction to make one ranged weapon attack with your ranged or thrown weapon against the provoking creature.

You can pick this feature again to pick the other option.

Overpower: When you hit a target with a weapon that deals Bludgeoning damage, you deal 1 extra damage for every size category the target is smaller than you.

Penetration: Choose a damage type. Your damage with weapons that deal that type of damage ignores an amount of Damage Reduction equal

to your Proficiency Bonus. You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different damage types.

Pole Strike: Immediately after you take the Attack action and attack with a Quarterstaff, a Spear, or a weapon that has the Heavy and Reach properties, you can use a Bonus Action to make a melee attack with the opposite end of the weapon. The attack deals Bludgeoning damage, and the damage die for this attack is a d4.

Push: When you hit a target with an attack using a weapon without the Light property that deals Bludgeoning damage, you can push the target up to 10 feet straight away from you to an unoccupied space if it is no more than one size larger than you.

Prey on the Vulnerable: If a creature that you can see and that is within your Melee range receives the Incapacitated condition, you can take a Reaction to make a Melee weapon attack against that creature.

Puncture: Once per turn, when you hit a creature with a weapon attack that deals Piercing damage, you can reroll one of the attacks damage dice, and you must use the new roll.

Quick Draw: You can draw or stow two weapons that lack the Two-Handed property when you would normally be able to draw or stow only one.

Reactive Strike: While you're holding a Quarterstaff, a Spear, or a weapon that has the Heavy and Reach properties, you can take a Reaction to make one attack with that weapon against a creature that enters the reach you have with it.

Sap: When you hit a creature with a melee attack using a weapon without the Heavy property that deals Bludgeoning or Piercing damage, that creature has Disadvantage on its next attack roll before the start of your next turn.

Thrown Weapon Fighting: When you hit with a ranged attack using a weapon that has the Thrown property, you gain a +2 bonus to the damage

roll.

Topple: When you hit a creature with a melee attack using a weapon with the Versatile or Two-Handed property, you can force the creature to make a Constitution saving throw (DC 8 plus the ability modifier used to make the attack roll and your Proficiency Bonus). On a failed save, the creature has the Prone condition.

Two Weapon Fighting: When you make an extra attack as a result of using a weapon that has the Light property, you add your ability modifier to the damage of that attack.

Vex: When you hit a creature with a Ranged weapon or a weapon that has the Light property, you have Advantage on your next attack roll against that creature before the end of your next turn.

13.4 Armour Features

Light Armour Training: You gain training with Light Armour.

Happy Feet: While wearing Light Armour or no Armour, your armour-based Dodging modifier is +5 instead of +2.

Medium Armour Training: Requires training with Light Armour. You gain training with Medium Armour.

Medium Armour Master: Requires training with Medium Armour. While wearing Medium Armour, your armour-based Dodging modifier is +2 instead of +0.

Heavy Armour Training: Requires training with Medium Armour. You gain training with Heavy Armour.

Heavy Armour Master: Requires training with Heavy Armour. You can use your Reaction to **block** an attack you can see and that targets you with one of your Heavy Armour pieces, using a Blocking Modifier of +6. When blocking this way successfully, the damage of the attack is not negated

completely, but the Damage Reduction of the used armour piece is doubled against it.

If you have Proficiency in Blocking, you also add your Proficiency Bonus to your Damage Reduction against this attack. If you have Expertise in Blocking, you add it twice instead.

Defence: You gain an additional +1 bonus to Damage Reduction on all body parts covered in armour you are trained with.

13.5 Dodging Features

Areal Awareness: You can now also use Dodge & Roll against areas of effect that target you, potentially moving you out of their area and avoiding a required saving throw. If your Dodging check is at least as high as the DC of the effect, it succeeds. If your movement makes you leave the area of the area effect, you are not affected. If you remain inside the area effect and it required a Dexterity saving throw, you automatically succeed on the saving throw. If you remain inside it and it required another saving throw, make the other saving throw as usual.

Dodging Adept: You gain Proficiency in Acrobatics.

Dodging Expert: Requires Proficiency in Acrobatics. You gain Expertise in Acrobatics.

Nimble Attack: Whenever you successfully dodge an attack with a Dodge & Roll, you can take a Free Reaction or Reaction mid-roll to make a ranged weapon attack with one of your weapons with the Finesse and Thrown properties against a creature of your choice within range that you can see.

Prediction: Once per round, when you use a Reaction to Dodge an attack and roll the Dodging check with Advantage, you can Dodge another attack you can see before the start of your turn without using a Reaction. You have to use the lower die of the previous roll as the roll for the Dodging check.

13.6 Shield & Blocking Features

Blocking Adept: Requires training with Shields. You gain Proficiency in Blocking.

Blocking Expert: Requires Proficiency in Blocking. You gain Expertise in Blocking.

Free Hand Enhancement: You ignore the Disadvantage imposed on D20 Tests by the Free Hand shield property.

Interpose Shield: Requires training with Shields and you to wield a Shield. If you're subjected to an effect that allows you to make a Dexterity saving throw to take only half damage, you can take a Reaction to take no damage if you succeed on the saving throw.

Protection: Requires Proficiency in Blocking. When a creature you can see attacks another creature within 5 feet of you, you can take a Reaction to block that attack, potentially reducing the damage the target creature takes and giving them the cover your shield provides instead of yourself.

Shield Bash: Requires training with Shields and you to wield a Shield. If you hit a creature within 5 feet of you as part of the Attack action, you can immediately bash the target with your Shield, making a **shove attack**. You can use this benefit only once on each of your turns.

Shield Training: You gain training with Shields.

13.7 Parrying Features

Arrow Splitting: Requires Expertise in Parrying and Proficiency in Perception. You can parry Ranged weapon attacks that you can see and that target you. If you have the Interception feature, you can also parry Ranged weapon attacks targeting other creatures within 5 feet of you.

Cross-parry: Requires Proficiency in Parrying. If you are wielding more than one melee weapon, you can parry using multiple of those weapons at

once. If the parry is successful, reduce the attacks damage by the sum of the Parrying Powers of all used weapons instead.

Elegant Parry: Requires Proficiency in Parrying. When you are using at least one Finesse weapon with which you are trained to parry, make the Parry Check with Advantage.

Interception: When a creature you can see attacks another creature within 5 feet of you with a Melee weapon, you can take a Reaction to parry that attack, potentially reducing the damage the target creature takes. You must be holding a Melee weapon to use this Reaction.

Parrying Adept: You gain Proficiency in Parrying. If you are not trained with the weapon you are using to parry, you also do not add your Proficiency Bonus to the Parrying check.

Parrying Expert: Requires Proficiency in Parrying. You gain Expertise in Parrying. If you are not trained with the weapon you are using to parry, you do not add this bonus.

Potent Parry: Requires Proficiency in Parrying. You add your Proficiency Bonus to the Parrying Power of your Finesse weapons. If you have Expertise in Parrying, you add it twice instead.

Vengeful Parry: Whenever you successfully parry an attack, you can take a Free Reaction or Reaction to make an attack against the attacker with one weapon you are wielding that was not part of your parry.

Weapon Locking: Requires Proficiency in Parrying. If you reduce a parried melee weapon attacks damage to 0, your parry weapon locks with the attackers weapon, giving the attacker Disadvantage on their attack rolls until either of you make an attack with their locked weapon or either of you moves out of the others range.

13.8 Other Features

Blind Fighting: You have Blindsight with a range of 10 feet.

Immaculate Aim: When making an Aimed Strike, add either half of the Hit DC increase or your Proficiency Bonus to the attack roll, whichever is lower.

Knowing the Spot: When you hit a target with an Aimed Strike, you deal extra damage equal to your Intelligence modifier (at least 1).

My Body is a Weapon: Your Unarmed Strikes now also count as Melee weapon attacks. While you are not holding anything in your hand, it counts as a Light Melee weapon.

Pattern Recognition: Requires Proficiency in Perception. When you successfully block, dodge or parry the attack of a creature, you gain Advantage on your next Blocking, Dodging or Parrying check against that same creature this combat.

Reliable Aim: When making an Aimed Strike with Advantage and missing the target part, you can still hit the larger target with a normal attack, if using the lower die roll for the attack roll instead of the higher one results in a hit against the larger target. This hit does not count as an Aimed Strike and thus will not trigger a Wound save.

Unarmed Fighting: You gain the following benefits:

- When you hit with your Unarmed Strike and deal damage, you can deal Bludgeoning damage equal to 1d6 plus your Strength modifier instead of the normal damage of an Unarmed Strike. If you aren't holding any weapons or a Shield when you make the attack roll, the d6 becomes a d8.
- At the start of each of your turns, you can deal 1d4 Bludgeoning damage to one creature Grappled by you.

Wounding Critical: When you score a Critical Hit on an attack that is not an Aimed Strike, you may choose a body part to wound regardless, forcing the target to roll a Wound save as if the attack had been an Aimed Strike.

Part IV

Equipment

Armour and **Shields** have been changed in accordance with **AC-less defence**. Additionally, **Armour Pieces** have been introduced to add more variance and to protect against **Aimed Strikes**, and new **Shields** have been introduced to provide distinct interactions with **Cover** and **Blocking**.

14 Shields

AC-less: When wielding a shield, you no longer gain Armor Class. Instead, your shield gives you **Cover** that is appropriate for your size and the size of shield you are wielding.

New Shields: There are now two additional types of shield and dedicated shield properties that are described below.

Type	Size	Blocking Bonus	Properties	Weight	Cost
Buckler	Tiny	+6	Free Hand, Light	3 lb.	8 GP
Wooden Shield	Tiny	+4		6 lb.	10 GP
Tower Shield	Small	+2	Heavy, Clunky	12 lb.	20 GP

14.1 Shield Properties

Clunky: When wielding a shield with the Clunky property, you roll Dexterity (Acrobatics) checks with Disadvantage.

Free Hand: When wielding a shield with the Free Hand property, you can

still use the hand of the arm you are wielding the shield with to grab and hold objects, for somatic components, and for sign language. D20 Tests to use an object or attack with a weapon held with this hand are rolled with Disadvantage.

Heavy: When wielding a shield with the Heavy property and your Strength score not being at least 13, you have Disadvantage on **Blocking** and your movement reduced by 5 ft.

Light: When **Blocking** with a shield with the Light property, the damage of the attack is not negated completely, but only reduced by your Dexterity score.

15 Armour

As explained in **AC-less defence**, the Armor Class of an armour will be converted to Damage Reduction. An armour that previously gave an Armor Class of 12, for example, will give +2 Damage Reduction instead of increasing the Armor Class of the wearer from the base Armor Class of 10 by +2.

Armours that allowed the wearer to add their whole or parts of their Dexterity modifier to their Armor Class do not give additional Damage Reduction based on that Dexterity modifier. Instead, **Dodging** is improved when wearing no Armour or Light Armour, and improved a bit when wearing Medium Armour, as listed below.

Name	Type	Damage Reduction	Dodging Modifier
Padded Armour	Light	1	+5
Leather Armour	Light	1	+5
Studded Leather Armour	Light	2	+5
Hide Armour	Medium	2	+2
Chain Shirt	Medium	3	+2
Scale Mail	Medium	4	+2
Breastplate	Medium	4	+2
Half Plate Armour	Medium	5	+2
Ring Mail	Heavy	4	0
Chain Mail	Heavy	6	0
Splint Armour	Heavy	7	0
Plate Armour	Heavy	8	0

15.1 Armour Pieces

The Damage Reduction of an armour will usually only work against attacks that aren't Aimed Strikes. This depends primarily on whether the armour covers the body part the Aimed Strike targets or not. As a default, wearing an armour means that at least the torso is covered by that armour, and every armour set will include coverage for all other body parts. You may choose whether you wear these other particular armour pieces or not.

Extending Damage Reduction: An armour piece extends the Damage Reduction of the armour set they belong to to the body part they cover. For example, with a Half Plate Armour giving a Damage Reduction of 5, the armour pieces of the same set would also give a Damage Reduction of 5.

Light Armour Pieces: These pieces require Light Armour Training to protect their body parts and count as Light Armour.

Medium Armour Pieces: These pieces require Medium Armour Training to protect their body parts and count as Medium Armour.

Heavy Armour Pieces: These pieces require Heavy Armour Training to protect their body parts and count as Heavy Armour. The following drawbacks also apply for particular pieces:

- *Helmet:* Needs a lowered visor to also protect the face. When such a visor is lowered, it gives Disadvantage on Wisdom (Perception) checks relying on sight.
- *Gloves:* Gives Disadvantage on Dexterity (Sleight of Hand) checks.

Combining Armour Types: It is possible to wear armour pieces of multiple different armour sets at once, with each armour piece giving the Damage Reduction value of its armour set. For example, you can wear a Plate Armour on your torso for 8 Damage Reduction there and Leather Gloves for 1 Damage Reduction on the hands at the same time. Conversely, you can have 1 Damage Reduction on your torso when wearing Leather Armour, and 8 Damage Reduction on your lower arm when wearing Plate Bracers.

Purchasing Specific Armour Pieces: Instead of receiving armour pieces together with its armour set, it is possible to buy them separately. Depending on how much material and complexity is involved in the making of the armour piece, the cost should be between 5 and 25 of the costs for the full armour set. It is left up to the DM to decide the exact price when the demand arises, and the sum of the parts may be more expensive than the full set depending on the merchant.

When purchasing an armour set to cover only the torso, without additional armour pieces, the costs should be roughly half of the full cost.

Wearing Armour Pieces without Training: When wearing an armour piece of an armour category you don't have the corresponding armour training for, you have Disadvantage on any D20 Test that relies on the body part covered by that armour piece.

16 Surgery

When a creature has a **disabled** or malfunctioning body part, Surgery is the go-to non-magical way to treat it.

Surgery Tools: Surgery Tools are a type of Artisan's Tools that are used in Surgery. Cost: 30 GP. Ability: Intelligence. Skill: Sleight of Hand or Medicine (your choice). Weight: 4 lb. Utilize: Treat disabled body part, as described here.

Performing a Surgery: A Surgery is performed on a singular target creature and led by one character, the surgeon, that rolls all the required rolls, and takes an hour. To successfully perform a Surgery, the surgeon must succeed on a DC 20 Surgery check three times, utilizing Surgery Tools.

When you have Proficiency or Expertise in both Surgery Tools and an associated skill, you roll with Advantage.

After three Surgery checks succeeded, the treated body part is no longer disabled. Instead, it is wounded until the target takes a long rest. Afterwards, the body part is healthy again.

Rolling a 20: When a 20 is rolled on the d20, the Surgery succeeds without the need for further Surgery checks.

Failing a Surgery check: A failed Surgery check does not make the Surgery fail. Instead, when a Surgery check fails, the target must succeed on a DC 15 Constitution saving throw to not take 1d4+1 piercing damage that can not be reduced.

Rolling a 1: When a 1 is rolled on the d20, the Surgery check automatically fails. Instead of the consequences above, the target must roll a DC 20 Constitution saving throw, taking 4d4+4 piercing damage on a failed save, half as much on a successful one. This damage can not be reduced.

Anaesthesia: The Surgery Tools include anaesthetics that can make the target creature unresponsive, giving them the Unconscious condition. The

following effects also apply:

- The surgeon rolls an additional 1d4 on each Surgery check and adds the number rolled to the result.
- The target makes the Constitution saving throw to avoid being damaged by failed Surgery checks with Advantage.
- The target can't be their own surgeon or assist on the surgery.
- The target wakes up 1d4 hours after the surgery is completed.

Assisting a Surgery: Creatures that are proficient with Surgery Tools or with one of the associated skills may take the Help Action on all of their turns during the Surgery to give Advantage on the Surgery checks.

Interrupting a Surgery: When a Surgery is interrupted, the disability remains fully untreated.

The Surgery is interrupted when the following conditions are not met:

- The surgeon must take the Utilize Action on each of their turns, utilizing Surgery Tools on the target body part.
- The surgeon must maintain Concentration on the Surgery.
- The target body part must be sufficiently still.
- The target must stay in the space they occupied at the start of the Surgery.

Part V

Spellcasting

Spellcasting is fundamentally reworked. Firstly, casting a spell now uses **#Spell Points** instead of Spell Slots, secondly, spells now always require the caster to roll a **Spell check** that influences Spell attack rolls and replaces the Spell Save DC to turn it into a contest, and thirdly, it is now possible to cast multiple spells a round and even upcast spells further than before through **Overcasting**, though the spellcaster takes damage and risks **Weavestrain** by doing so.

Additionally, Spellcasting has been supplemented with **Caster Training** to offer novel ways of interacting with spells and customize the character. The inner workings of **Spellcasting Foci** have been changed as well to give a bonus when casting spells of specific schools.

Some **Spells** have seen changes to fit with **AC-less defence**, and some spells have been changed to interact with **Wounds**, as caused by **Aimed Strikes**. Similarly, the **Rite of Regeneration** has been added as a method of removing **Disabilities**.

Spellcaster Level: There are three traits that scale with Spellcaster level now. These include the **#Spell Points** the caster has access to, their **#Casting Limit**, and their number of **Caster Training** features, as shown in the table below.

Level	Caster Training	Casting Limit	Spell Points	+1/3	+1/2	+2/3
1	1	3	6	8	9	10
2	1	5	12	14	15	16
3	1	6	18	20	21	22
4	1	8	24	26	27	28
5	2	9	30	32	33	34
6	2	11	36	38	39	40
7	2	12	42	44	45	46
8	2	14	48	50	51	52
9	3	15	54	56	57	58
10	3	17	60	62	63	64
11	3	18	66	68	69	70
12	3	20	72	74	75	76
13	4	21	78	80	81	82
14	4	23	84	86	87	88
15	4	24	90	92	93	94
16	4	26	96	98	99	100
17	5	27	102	104	105	106
18	5	29	108	110	111	112
19	5	30	114	116	117	118
20	5	32	120	122	123	124
x	$(x+1)/4$	$3(x+1)/2$	6x			

The columns to the right of the spell points column show how many Spell Points spellcasters with half levels and third levels have access to, for example when having Ranger or Arcane Trickster levels. Generally, you gain 6 Spell Points per Spellcaster level, 3 Spell Points per Halfcaster level, and 2 Spell Points per Thirdcaster level.

16.1 Spell Points

Spell Slots are replaced by Spell Points and a Casting Limit. These rules run roughly parallel to the variant rule in the 2014 DMG.

Spell Points: To cast a spell, you now spend Spell Points instead of a Spell Slot. The table below shows how a spells level is translated into its Spell Point cost.

Spell level	Spell Point cost
0 (cantrips)	0
1	3
2	6
3	9
4	12
5	15
6	18
7	21
8	24
9	27
x	3x

The Spell Point cost, as you might notice, is equal to three times its level. This is only the initial cost, as the final cost can be increased through up-casting. When these rules speak of a spells Spell Point cost, they refer to the initial cost, and they speak of casting costs when the final cost is intended.

Other Features using Spell Slots: Some features that are not spells make use of spell slots regardless. These features now also use Spell Points instead, with the Spell Point amounts that they can use being multiples of three, similar to the conversion of spell slots to Spell Points otherwise.

16.2 Upcasting

When upcasting a spell, you increase its Spell Point cost by 3 to get the heightened effect that would otherwise be achieved by spending a spell slot of one level higher. When increasing the cost by twice as many Spell Points, you get the effect of using a spell slot of two levels higher, and so on.

Unlimited Upcasting: With upcasting no longer being bound to available spell slots, you can now upcast as high as you like and can afford by

increasing the Spell Point cost further and further. The Casting Limit described below is the only other hindrance.

Upcasting Cantrips: Instead of scaling with your level, cantrips that previously scaled like this can now be upcast. Unless the cantrip was otherwise changed (see in the **Spells** chapter), its first upgrade can be used by upcasting the cantrip by 3 Spell Points, the second upgrade by upcasting by 6 Spell Points, and the third upgrade by upcasting by 9 Spell Points.

Unlimited Cantrip Upcasting: When the rules of a Cantrip Upgrade describe a steady increase of effect that could be repeated infinitely, you can upcast it by 3 Spell Points each to improve its effect by another step. For example, the damage of a Fire Bolt increases by 1d10 with each Cantrip Upgrade, so you can now increase its damage by 1d10 for each 3 Spell Points you upcast it by, potentially increasing its damage far beyond what was previously possible.

16.3 Casting Limit

The Casting Limit determines three things:

- Firstly, it is the maximum number of Spell Points a spell that you prepare can cost.
- Secondly, it is the maximum number of Spell Points you can spend on a singular spell or feature before having to **Overcast** when acting outside of turn order.
- Thirdly, it is the maximum number of Spell Points you can use each round before having to **Overcast**, refreshing at the start of your turn.

Casting Multiple Spells with Spell Point Costs: Instead of only being able to cast a single spell that costs Spell Points in a turn, you can now cast multiple such spells each turn in accordance with your Casting Limit, **Overcasting** when exceeding it.

Multiclassing and Spellcasting - Preparing Spells: When you have levels in more than one class that has the spellcasting feature, you can only

prepare spells with a Spell Point cost within the Casting Limit that correlates with the level of the class you're preparing that spell through. For casting spells, your Casting Limit still depends on your total spellcaster level. If you are a level 4 Ranger and level 3 Sorcerer, for example, you can only prepare Ranger spells with a cost of up to 5 Spell Points, and you can only prepare Sorcerer spells with a cost of up to 6 Spell Points, while you can spend up to 9 Spell Points each round before having to Overcast.

16.4 Sunken Spells & Depthcasting

Under some circumstances, it is possible that the Spell Point cost of a spell drops below 0. These rules in turn describe the circumstances that arise from there.

Sunken Spells: Sunken Spells are spells that have a Spell Point cost below 0.

Depth: Sunken Spell have a Depth equal to the number of Spell Points their cost is below 0 by.

Depthcasting: Depthcasting automatically happens when casting a Sunken Spell. When Depthcasting, the spell is upcast by a number of Spell Points equal to its Depth, bringing the casting cost to 0.

Upcasting Sunken Spells: When you decide to upcast a Sunken Spell further, the casting cost is increased by the upcasting as usual, adding to the upcast facilitated through Depthcasting.

Example: Through *Trash Becomes Treasure*, a level one Sorcerer has made their cantrips cost -2 Spell Points. This means that whenever they cast a cantrip, it is automatically upcast by 2 Spell Points through Depthcasting. For their Fire Bolt, this leads to no additional effect by itself, however, they can now upcast their Fire Bolt by 1 additional Spell Point to bring its casting cost to 1 Spell Point, being upcast by 3 Spell Points, increasing its damage from 1d10 to 2d10. Starting with level 5, *Trash Becomes Treasure* will reduce its cost by 3 instead, leading to this damage increase becoming automatic

and free.

17 Spell Check

When you cast a spell, you now always roll a Spell check that determines the forcefulness of the spell in question. The higher the roll, the more likely it is to be effective, and the harder it is to counterspell or dispel.

Spell Check: When you cast a spell, you roll a D20 Test and add your spell-casting ability modifier. If you use a **Spellcasting Focus** that enhances the school of the spell to cast the spell, you also add your Proficiency Bonus, as described there.

Determines Forcefulness: When a caster tries to **counterspell** or **dispel** a spell you cast, they have to beat the Spell check to succeed.

Influences Spell Attacks: When you cast a spell that requires you to make one or more attack rolls, roll the Spell check first. The spells attack rolls are modified depending on the Spell check result as follows:

Spell check result	Attack roll modifier
4 or lower	-5
5-9	-2
10-14	+0
15-19	+2
20 or higher	+5

Additionally, if you roll a natural 1 on the Spell check, you roll your attack rolls with Disadvantage, and if you roll a natural 20 on the Spell check, you roll your attack rolls with Advantage.

Replaces Spell Save DC: When you cast a spell that requires its targets to roll one or multiple saving throws, the DC is now equal to the Spell check minus 2 instead. If the spell affects more than one target, the DC is reduced by another 2.

18 Spellcasting Focus

A Spellcasting Focus is a very flavourful part of magical fantasy, and it's a bit underwhelming that it is only used to substitute material components, which also add a nice narrative and worldly touch to magic. Thus, it only feels proper to give a Spellcasting Focus a use outside of substituting material components.

Tying the Proficiency Bonus that was previously automatically given to spell attack rolls and spell save DC to a Spellcasting Focus makes mechanical sense, especially given the reduced importance of the Proficiency Bonus for spell attacks now that the Hit DC of enemies is largely unchanging throughout the levels.

Enhanced Schools: Every Spellcasting Focus has three associated spell schools, as shown below. When you cast a spell while using a Spellcasting Focus that is associated with its school, you add your Proficiency Bonus to the Spell check and to the Spell attack rolls.

No Automatic Spell Attack Roll Proficiency: Your Spell attack modifier is now only equal to your Spellcasting ability modifier. To add your Proficiency Bonus, you now require a Spellcasting Focus associated with the spells school.

Spellcasting Focus	Type	Associated Schools
Crystal	Arcane	Illusion, Necromancy, Transmutation
Orb	Arcane	Conjuration, Divination, Illusion
Rod	Arcane	Abjuration, Divination, Necromancy
Staff (also Quarterstaff)	Arcane	Abjuration, Conjuration, Evocation
Wand	Arcane	Enchantment, Evocation, Transmutation
Sprig of Mistletoe	Druidic	Abjuration, Divination, Transmutation
Staff (also Quarterstaff)	Druidic	Abjuration, Conjuration, Evocation
Yew wand	Druidic	Enchantment, Illusion, Necromancy
Amulet (worn or held)	Holy	Abjuration, Conjuration, Evocation
Emblem (borne on fabric or a Shield)	Holy	Abjuration, Enchantment, Transmutation
Reliquary (held)	Holy	Divination, Illusion, Necromancy
Percussion (drum)	Bardic	Abjuration, Conjuration, Evocation
Strings (dulcimer, lute, lyre, viol)	Bardic	Enchantment, Necromancy, Transmutation
Woodwind (bag pipes, flute, pan flute, shawm)	Bardic	Divination, Enchantment, Illusion
Brass Instrument (horn)	Bardic	Conjuration, Enchantment, Evocation

Other Spellcasting Foci: If a feature gives you something as a Spellcasting Focus that isn't listed above or lets you use something as a Spellcasting Focus without associating spell schools with it, choose two spell schools to associate with that Spellcasting Focus.

19 Overcasting

When you spend more **Spell Points** than your **Casting Limit** accounts for, you are Overcasting. This happens when a spell is **upcast** to cost more than your Casting Limit allows for, or when you use multiple spells or features that use Spell Points in one round and their combined cost exceeds your Casting Limit.

When Overcasting, you have to roll an Overcast Save and take Overcast Damage.

Excess: Your Excess is the number of Spell Points you've exceeded your Casting Limit by.

Overcast Damage: When Overcasting, you take a number of d6 of necrotic damage equal to half your Excess, rounded up. This damage occurs while you cast the spell or use the feature.

If the spell has a casting time of 1 minute or more, this also triggers a Concentration check that you have to succeed on to be able to continue the casting, in accordance with usual spell rules.

Overcast Save: An Overcast Save is a saving throw using your spellcasting ability. The Save DC equals 10 + your Excess. On a successful save, nothing happens. On a failed save, the spell or feature dissipates and you receive one stack of Weavestrain for every 3 you've failed the saving throw by.

When your spell or feature dissipates like this, it has no effect, and the Action, Bonus Action, or Reaction you've used to cast it is wasted. You regain the spent Spell Points.

Weavestrain: For every stack of Weavestrain you have, your Casting Limit

is reduced by 1. If your Casting Limit is below 0, you also have to Overcast when using cantrips, and **Depthcasting** only upcasts by as many Spell Points as are needed to reach the Casting Limit.

After finishing a short rest, you lose one stack of Weavestrain, and after finishing a long rest, you lose a number of stacks of Weavestrain equal to your Proficiency Bonus.

19.1 Examples

A fourth level Sorcerer would like to hurl a Scorching Ray at one particularly tough enemy, but their vision is blocked, so they use Misty Step to reach a better position beforehand. Misty Step costs 6 Spell Points, and so does Scorching Ray, but 8 Spell Points is their Casting Limit, so they are Overcasting with an Excess of 4 Spell Points. They thus take 2d6 necrotic damage and have to roll an Overcast Save, a DC 14 Charisma Saving Throw in this case. They succeed on the save, so nothing happens and they can proceed as planned.

A fifth level Wizard really wants to see the room cleared, and a Fireball for 9 Spell Points would not suffice in their estimation. So they upcast it using 21 Spell Points instead, exceeding their Casting Limit of 9 Spell Points by 12. They thus take 6d6 necrotic damage and have to roll an Overcast Save, a DC 22 Intelligence Saving Throw in this case. They roll a 12, so they fail by 10, taking three stacks of Weavestrain, and their spell dissipates, leaving the room as before. At least they keep their Spell Points, so they can try again next round, with a reduced Casting Limit of 6 due to the Weavestrain.

20 Caster Training

Caster Training is a new system that gives spellcasters new ways to differentiate themselves from each other. It works similar to **Martial Training**, and some **Feats** that interface with spellcasting have been merged into this system accordingly.

This new system is motivated by two reasons. Firstly, the translation of spell slots into Spell Points opened up a multitude of ways to interface with spellcasting through features that would remain unexplored without a system to access said features. With Martial Training already being in existence, creating a system parallel to it makes intuitive sense and removes the constraints that would come from implementing such features through Feats.

Secondly, through this system, another layer of difference is established that aims to increase spellcaster diversity through increasing the amount of feature options available to them.

20.1 Core Rules

Caster Training: When you receive Caster Training, choose one of the features listed in the following sections that you qualify for.

Feats: The benefits of a selection of general feats are now Martial Training features. There's now a new general feat that allows the player to receive Martial Training twice.

20.2 Spell Features

Arsenal of Tricks: Choose one cantrip from any class's spell list that you don't already have prepared. You have the chosen cantrip prepared, and it functions as a spell of a class of your choice. You can pick this feature multiple times.

Bypass Cover: Your ranged spell attacks ignore half cover and three-quarters cover.

Casting in Melee: Being within 5 feet of an enemy doesn't impose Disadvantage on your spell attack rolls.

Enhanced Critical: Choose one of the following damage types: Acid, Cold, Fire, Lightning, Necrotic, Poison, Psychic, Radiant, or Thunder. When you score a Critical Hit that deals damage of that damage type, you

ignore the targets Damage Reduction and gain the benefit associated with that damage type:

- *Acid*: The targets Damage Reduction is reduced by your Proficiency Bonus (not below 0) until the start of your next turn.
- *Cold*: The targets Speed is reduced to 0 until the start of your next turn and can't increase until then.
- *Fire*: You can roll one additional damage die when determining the extra Fire damage the target takes.
- *Lightning*: The target can't use Reactions until the start of your next turn.
- *Necrotic*: The target can't regain Hit Points until the start of your next turn.
- *Poison*: The target has the Poisoned condition until the start of your next turn.
- *Psychic*: The target has Disadvantage on Wisdom saving throws until the start of your next turn.
- *Radiant*: Attack rolls against the target have Advantage until the start of your next turn.
- *Thunder*: The target has Disadvantage on attack rolls until the start of your next turn and falls prone.

You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different damage types.

Force of Evil: Requires your alignment to be evil. When you deal necrotic damage, that damage is increased by the number of dice you roll to determine the damage.

Force of Good: Requires your alignment to be good. When you deal radiant damage, that damage is increased by the number of dice you roll to determine the damage.

Iron Will: You have Advantage on Constitution saving throws that you make to maintain Concentration.

Irresistible Element: Choose one of the following damage types: Acid, Cold, Fire, Lightning, or Thunder. Spells you cast ignore Resistance to damage of the chosen type. You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different damage types.

Opportunistic Caster: You can cast an Opportunity Spell when a creature that you can see leaves your touch range using its action, its Bonus Action, its Reaction, or one of its speeds. To cast the Opportunity Spell, take a Reaction to cast a spell with a casting time of one action that targets only the provoking creature. The spellcast occurs right before the creature leaves your touch range.

Penetrating Element: Choose one of the following damage types: Acid, Cold, Fire, Lightning, or Thunder. Your spell attacks that deal that type of damage ignore an amount of Damage Reduction equal to your Proficiency Bonus. You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different damage types.

Quick Ritual: Once per long rest, you can cast a Ritual spell that you have prepared using its regular casting time instead of the extended time for a Ritual without spending Spell Points.

Reliable Casting: Whenever you make a Spell check, you can treat a result of 9 or lower as a 10.

Reliable Element: Choose one of the following damage types: Acid, Cold, Fire, Lightning, or Thunder. When you roll damage for a spell you cast that deals damage of that type, you can treat any 1 or 2 on a damage die as a 3. You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different damage types.

Ritualist: Choose a number of level 1 spells equal to your Proficiency Bonus that have the Ritual tag. You always have those spells prepared, and you can cast them with any Spell Points you have. The spells' spellcasting ability is any of your choice you already have access to, or one of your choice from Intelligence, Wisdom or Charisma if you have none. Whenever your

Proficiency Bonus increases later, you can add an additional level 1 spell with the Ritual tag to the spells always prepared with this feature.

Spell Sniper: When you cast a spell that has a range of at least 10 feet and requires you to make an attack roll, you can increase the spell's range by 60 feet.

War Caster: You can perform the Somatic components of spells even when you have weapons or a Shield in one or both hands.

20.3 Spell Point Features

By Any Means: When you **Overcast**, you can choose to reroll the Overcast Save again as often as you wish, taking the Overcast Damage again each time you do so.

Cheat: Once per short rest when you spend Spell Points, you can increase your Casting Limit by twice your Proficiency Bonus until the start of your next turn.

Cheapskate: Choose two spells with a Spell Point cost below your Spell-caster level. Its cost is reduced by your Proficiency Bonus. If the cost is reduced to below 0 this way, the rules for **Sunken Spells & Depthcasting** apply. You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different spells.

If you reduce the cost of a spell that restores Hit Points to 1 or less, it only gives Temporary Hit Points when cast at reduced cost. Similarly, if you reduce the cost of a spell that permanently creates something to 1 or less, the creation becomes temporary, too. In both cases, the effects vanish as soon as you cast the spell for free again. If those spells are upcast to cost at least their initial cost, their effects return to normal.

For example, if you apply this feature to Cure Wounds with a Proficiency Bonus of +3, you can cast it for free to give the target $2d8 + \text{mod}$ Temporary Hit Points until you cast it for free again, or upcast it by 3 to spend the initial cost of 3 Spell Points to restore the $4d8 + \text{mod}$ Hit Points that would usually cost 6 Spell Points.

Defiance: When you **Overcast** and succeed on the Overcast Save, the Overcast Damage you take is halved.

Emphasis: When you roll a Spell check, you can spend any number of Spell Points to improve it by the number of Spell Points spent.

Expectation: When you **Overcast**, you roll Overcast Saves with Advantage.

Hoarder: You have additional Spell Points equal to twice your Proficiency Bonus. You can pick this feature multiple times.

Insistence: Requires *Emphasis*. When you roll a Spell check, you add a bonus to the checks total equal to half the number of Spell Points you've spent on the corresponding spellcast, rounded up.

Trash Becomes Treasure: The cost of your spells with a Spell Point cost of 0 or below is reduced by your Proficiency Bonus. The rules for **Sunken Spells & Depthcasting** apply.

Weave Vampirism: When an object or creature other than you spends or loses Spell Points within 5ft. of you, you can use a Reaction to gain a number of Temporary Hit Points equal to the number of Spell Points spent or lost.

20.4 Spell Manipulation Features

Thwart: You can use a Reaction to try to thwart a spell attack you can see that targets you or a creature you can see within 30 feet of you. Make a Spell check. If the result exceeds the attack roll by more than the spells cost, the spell attack misses its target.

When trying to thwart a critical hit, you roll with Disadvantage.

For Spellcasting Foci, this feature is considered to be an Abjuration spell.

Weaken: You can use a Reaction to try to weaken the effect of a spell that requires a saving throw. Choose one affected creature that is either you or

that you can see within 30 feet of you. They add your Spellcasting ability modifier to their saving throw.

You can spend any number of Spell Points to give them an additional bonus to their saving throw equal to that amount.

Amplify: You can use a Reaction to amplify a spell that wasn't cast by you within 30 feet of you. Make a Spell check. If the result exceeds 10 + the spells cost, the spell is upcast by 3 Spell Points with no additional cost.

Additionally, you can spend any number of Spell Points to upcast the spell with regardless of whether you succeed on the check above.

For Spellcasting Foci, this feature is considered a spell of the same school as the targeted spell.

20.5 Spellcasting Focus Features

Beyond Matter: Choose a spell school. When casting spells of that school that have material components that are neither consumed nor specify a cost, you can ignore the material components as if you were using a Spellcasting Focus. You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different spell schools.

Beyond The Medium: Choose one of your body parts and two spell schools. Your body part is now a Spellcasting Focus for spells of those schools. You can pick this feature multiple times, but not with the same combination of body part and spell schools.

Double Up: When you cast a spell while using two Spellcasting Foci that are associated with its school, you add your Proficiency Bonus to the Spell check twice instead of once.

Flexible Focus: Choose a kind of Spellcasting Focus (such as Wands or Staffs) and two spell schools that they are not already associated with. When you use this Spellcasting Focus, it is now also associated with those schools.

You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different kinds of Spellcasting Focus.

Universal Focus: Choose a kind of Spellcasting Focus (such as Wands or Staffs) that you have the *Flexible Focus* feature with. When you use this Spellcasting Focus, it is now associated with all spell schools. You can pick this feature multiple times, but only for different kinds of Spellcasting Focus.

21 Spells

These spell changes are meant to bring spells in line with the new mechanics, such as **Spell checks**, **AC-less defence** and **wounds**. They also work as examples for how Spell levels and Spell Slots are converted to Spell Points.

21.1 Barkskin

Transmutation (Druid, Ranger). Cost: 6 Spell Points. Casting Time: Bonus Action. Range: Touch. Component: V, S, M (a handful of bark). Duration: 1 hour.

You touch a willing creature. Until the spell ends, the targets skin assumes a bark-like appearance, and the target has a Damage Reduction of 4 if its Damage Reduction was lower before. Then, its Damage Reduction is increased by 3, for a minimum Damage Reduction of 7.

Upcasting: The Damage Reduction is increased by an additional 1 for every additional 3 Spell Points spent.

21.2 Blur

Illusion (Sorcerer, Wizard). Cost: 6 Spell Points. Casting Time: Action. Range: Self. Components: V. Duration: Concentration, up to 1 minute.

Your body becomes blurred. For the duration, any creature has Disadvantage on attack rolls against you and your Hit DC increases by 5 for those

attacks.

An attacker is unaffected by this spell if they have the Blinded condition, Blindsight, or Truesight.

21.3 Counterspell

Abjuration (Sorcerer, Warlock, Wizard) Cost: 9 Spell Points. Casting Time: Reaction, which you take when you see a creature within 60 feet of yourself casting a spell with Verbal, Somatic, or Material components. Range: 60 feet. Components: S. Duration: Instantaneous.

You attempt to interrupt a creature in the process of casting a spell. If their spell didn't cost more than casting this spell, it dissipates. Otherwise, compare your Spell check to theirs. If your Spell check exceeds theirs by more than the other spells additional cost, it also dissipates.

When their spell dissipates like this, it has no effect, and the Action, Bonus Action, or Reaction used to cast it is wasted. If it was cast with Spell Points, they regain the spent Spell Points.

Upcasting: Every additional Spell Point increases the range of spells that automatically dissipate and makes it easier to make more costly spells dissipate, as described above.

21.4 Cure Wounds

Abjuration (Bard, Cleric, Druid, Paladin, Ranger). Cost: 3 Spell Points. Casting Time: Action. Range: Touch. Components: V, S. Duration: Instantaneous.

A creature you touch regains a number of Hit Points equal to 2d8 plus your spellcasting ability modifier and has all their **wounds** removed.

Upcasting: The healing increases by 2d8 for every additional 3 Spell Points spent.

21.5 Dispel Magic

Abjuration (Bard, Cleric, Druid, Paladin, Ranger, Sorcerer, Warlock, Wizard). Cost: 9 Spell Points. Casting Time: Action. Range: 120 feet. Components: V, S. Duration: Instantaneous.

Choose one creature, object, or magical effect within range. Any ongoing spell on the target that didn't cost more than casting this spell ends. For each ongoing more costly spell on the target, compare your Spell check to its Spell check. If your Spell check exceeds the other by more than the other spells additional cost, the target spell ends.

Upcasting: Every additional Spell Point increases the range of spells that are automatically ended and makes it easier to end more costly spells, as described above.

21.6 Inflict Wounds

Necromancy (Cleric). Cost: 3 Spell Points. Casting Time: Action. Range: Touch. Components: V, S. Duration: Instantaneous.

A creature you touch makes a Constitution saving throw, taking 2d10 Necrotic damage on a failed save or half as much damage on a successful one.

On a failed save, you may choose to convert any number of the damage dice into **wounds**. For every converted die, pick a body part that is not already **Wounded**. The body part is now **Wounded**.

Upcasting: The damage increases by 1d10 for every additional 3 Spell Points spent.

21.7 Mage Armour

Abjuration (Sorcerer, Wizard). Cost: 3 Spell Points. Casting Time: Action. Range: Touch. Components: V, S, M (a piece of cured leather). Duration: 8 hours.

You touch a willing creature who isn't wearing armor. Until the spell ends, the target's Damage Reduction is increased by 3. The spell ends early if the target dons armor.

21.8 Shield

Abjuration (Sorcerer, Wizard). Cost: 3 Spell Points. Casting Time: Reaction, which you take when you are hit by an attack roll or targeted by the Magic Missile spell. Range: Self. Components: V, S. Duration: Instantaneous.

An imperceptible barrier of magical force protects you. You take no damage from the triggering attack or Magic Missile spell.

21.9 Shield of Faith

Abjuration (Cleric, Paladin). Cost: 3 Spell Points. Casting Time: Bonus Action. Range: 60 feet. Components: V, S, M (a prayer scroll). Duration: Concentration, up to 10 minutes.

A shimmering field surrounds a creature of your choice within range, diverting incoming attacks for the duration, granting the creature a +2 bonus to their Hit DC.

21.10 Weavestrike

New. Evocation (Bard, Sorcerer, Warlock, Wizard). Cost: 3 Spell Points. Casting Time: Bonus Action, which you take immediately after hitting a target that has Spell Points with a Melee attack. Range: Self. Component: V. Duration: Instantaneous.

As you hit the target, it loses 3 Spell Points. If the target has a Casting Limit, these lost Spell Points count against its Casting Limit and can thus force it to **Overcast**.

Upcasting: Every additional Spell Point spent increases the number of Spell Points the target loses by 1.

22 Rite of Regeneration

When a creature has a **disabled** or malfunctioning body part, the Rite of Regeneration is the go-to magical way to treat it.

Prerequisites: To be able to perform a Rite of Regeneration, a spellcaster has to be able to cast the Cure Wounds spell.

Performing a Rite of Regeneration: A Rite of Regeneration is performed on a singular target creature and led by one character, the conductor, that rolls all the required rolls, and takes 10 minutes. To successfully perform a Rite of Regeneration, the conductor must succeed on three DC 30 Regeneration checks, as described below.

After three Regeneration checks succeeded, the treated body part is no longer disabled. Instead, it is wounded until the target takes a long rest. Afterwards, the body part is healthy again.

Rolling a Regeneration check: To roll a Regeneration check, the conductor casts Cure Wounds on the target, upcasting if they choose to. The Spell check of this casting is the initial value of the Regeneration check. Any healing transmitted through this casting is also added to the result. If the result is at least 30, the check succeeds.

Rolling a 20: When a 20 is rolled on the d20 of the Spell check, the Rite of Regeneration succeeds without the need for further Regeneration checks.

Failing a Regeneration check: A failed Regeneration check does not make the Rite of Regeneration fail. Instead, when a Regeneration check fails, the target needs to succeed on a DC 15 Constitution saving throw to not receive one level of Exhaustion.

Rolling a 1: When a 1 is rolled on the d20 of the Spell check, the Regeneration check automatically fails and the target receives one level of Exhaustion in addition to taking the consequences above.

Assisting a Rite of Regeneration: Creatures that are also able to cast

Cure Wounds may take the Help Action on all of their turns during the Rite to give Advantage on the Regeneration checks. When doing so, they may cast the spell instead of the conductor, using a spell slot of their own.

Creatures that are able to heal the target creature can assist by using their healing abilities during the Rite and before a Regeneration check is rolled. Any healing transmitted to the target will be added to the next Regeneration check.

Interrupting a Rite of Regeneration: When a Rite of Regeneration is interrupted, the disability remains fully untreated and all resources used during the Rite remain spent.

The Rite is interrupted when the following conditions are not met:

- The conductor must stay within 10 feet of the target.
- The conductor must take the Magic Action on each of their turns on the Rite.
- The conductor must maintain Concentration on the Rite.
- The target body part must be sufficiently still.
- The target must stay in the space they occupied at the start of the Rite.

22.1 Example Scenario

A Thief Rogue flew a bit too close to the sun and had his left leg disabled by the nasty bite attack of a Guard Drake that was not ready to let him pass. Lucky as he is, one of his associates is a Life Domain Cleric that is willing to help, and they've met in an isolated place to minimize disruption. Only their Bard friend presents a significant threat in that regard, though they did offer some Bardic Inspiration to help. The Cleric starts the Rite as its conductor and rolls the first Regeneration check. She rolls the d20 for a 7, adds her spellcasting modifier of +5 for a 12, and casts Cure Wounds with a first level spell slot, for 12 (2d8+3) healing by the spell and 2 healing from the Life Domains Disciple of Life feature, for a total of 26. This is not enough, but with the use of the Bardic Inspiration die the Bard oh-so-graciously offered the check total is a 31, barely making the Regeneration

check succeed. Only two more successes to go, and the leg will be properly usable again!

Part VI

Rules Glossary

Here, you'll find definitions of some rules mentioned throughout the book, including the new defensive reactions, **Blocking**, **Dodging** and **Parrying**, as well as the newly added Wounded and Disabled **Conditions** as caused by **Aimed Strikes** and some **Spells**. Also, **Surgery** is described here as a means to get rid of Wounds and Disabilities.

23 Blocking

Shields are made to block attacks, and while the base rules only implement this passively, a reactive implementation is highly intuitive. This implementation is provided here.

Blocking: Blocking is a new skill that uses Strength or Dexterity, shield wielders choice, modified by the Blocking Modifier of the wielded Shield.

Blocking Modifier: A usual shield has a Blocking Modifier of +4, with other variants being described in the chapter on **Shields**. To use the Blocking Modifier of a Shield, you have to have training with Shields.

Prerequisites: To use the features below, you need to be trained with Shields and wield a Shield.

Block: You can use a Reaction to try to block an attack that you can see and that targets you.

Make a Blocking check contesting the attack roll. If the result is at least as high as the attack roll, you successfully block the attack. It deals no damage.

When trying to block a critical hit, you roll with Disadvantage.

24 Dodging

Dodging isn't really a thing, let's change that.

To be more elaborate, in the base game, in many cases, Armor Class includes the Dexterity Bonus of a creature. This reasonably reflects some sort of ability to dodge - what else would the Dexterity Bonus be good for when it comes to avoiding damage? This is completely lost on many tables, as AC is often perceived to be nothing more than a coherent mass of "all of this misses" or "all of this doesn't affect me". To add to that, defending against attacks is easily perceived as something passive due to the nature of AC, while dodging should imply activity on the defendant's side.

Implementing some sort of mechanic that allows for reactive dodging would be quite nice for multiple reasons. It (a) makes defending against attacks part of the action economy, giving more weight to proper defensive strategies, it (b) presents the swiftness of some characters in combat, giving more flavour to their character and differentiating it mechanically from other characters, and it (c) gives the player the ability to actively avoid especially dangerous attacks while permitting weaker ones. This, in turn, allows for more aggressive encounter design.

Also, adding an option to dodge & roll would be nice, especially because swiftly jumping away from the point of impact of an attack is something that feels like it should be possible.

Dodging check: A Dodging check is a Dexterity (Acrobatics) check that is modified by the armour you're wearing as follows:

- While wearing light armour or no armour, the modifier is +2 (+5 instead with Happy Feet).
- While wearing medium armour, the modifier is +0 (+2 instead with Medium Armour Master).
- While wearing heavy armour, you roll Dodging checks with Disadvantage.

Dodge: You can use your Reaction to try to dodge an attack that you can see and that targets you.

Make a Dodging check contesting the attack roll. If the result is at least as high as the attack roll, you successfully dodge the attack. It misses.

When trying to dodge a critical hit, you roll with Disadvantage.

Dodge & Roll: You can use your Reaction to try to dodge an attack that you can see and that targets you. Make a Dodging check and move to an unoccupied spot within 10 feet of you.

If you're trying to dodge an attack and the result is at least as high as the attack roll, you dodge successfully and the attack misses.

If the Dodging check succeeds, your movement does not provoke opportunity attacks.

If the Dodging check fails, you fall prone at your target location.

If all spots within 10 feet are occupied, you fall prone in place, even if the Dodging check succeeded.

When trying to dodge & roll in response to a critical hit, you roll with Disadvantage.

25 Parrying

Parrying has long played a relevant role in combat fiction, and these rules explicate how it can be done in this game.

Parrying: Parrying is a new skill that uses the ability that you use your weapon with.

Prerequisites: To use the features below, you need to wield a melee weapon that you are trained with.

Parry: You can use your Reaction to try to parry a melee attack that you can see and that targets you. Make a Parrying check contesting the attack

roll. If the result is at least as high as the attack roll, you successfully parry, reducing the attacks damage by your weapons Parrying Power.

When trying to parry a critical hit, you roll with Disadvantage.

When rolling a natural 20 on your Parrying Check, the Parrying Power is doubled.

Parrying Power: A weapons Parrying Power is equal to the maximum damage it can deal on a normal hit. This includes all temporary damage bonuses as well.

For example, a normal rapier deals damage equal to $1d8 +$ your Strength or Dexterity modifier, so its Parrying Power is equal to $8 +$ your Strength or Dexterity modifier. If it is also transmuted by the spell Elemental Weapon, which increases its damage by $1d4$, its Parrying Power is further increased by 4.

26 Conditions

26.1 Wounded

A Wounded body part is more difficult to use. D20 Tests that rely on that body part are rolled with Disadvantage. If a body part is Wounded and receives another wound, it becomes Disabled instead.

A wound can be treated through healing of any kind. One instance of healing removes one wound, while being restored to full hit points removes all wounds. A wound can also be treated through a DC10 Wisdom (Medicine) check, or through one use of a Healers Kit.

26.2 Disabled

A disabled body part is rendered unusable. D20 Tests that rely on that body part automatically fail. Depending on the body part, other conditions or consequences may be associated with that body part being disabled, at the DMs discretion.

A disability can only be treated through highly potent healing magic such as the Regenerate spell or a **Rite of Regeneration**, or through complicated medicinal procedures only specialists can provide, such as **Surgery**.

Part VII

DM Tools

27 Monsters

These rules bring many changes to how defence works that also affects all monsters.

27.1 General Adjustments

The following rules explain how monsters are affected by the changes in these rules.

AC and Hit DC: All monsters have their AC replaced by the **Hit DC** that befits their size.

Damage Reduction: All monsters also use Damage Reduction. To determine how high a monsters Damage Reduction is, consider their appearance and their Constitution modifier. Often, giving a monster a Damage Reduction equal to their Constitution modifier will be appropriate.

If their skin, fur, feathers, hide, scales or other outer features resemble an **Armour**, taking the Damage Reduction value of the Armour listed for player characters can also be appropriate. Some monsters will be even more resilient than that, but take the damage capabilities of your party into consideration before going for higher Damage Reduction values. Other tricks may also work, as described in a **section below**.

Attack Rolls: All monsters are trained with the weapons they wield and with their Unarmed Strikes. However, only monsters that rely on their precision or are somewhat experienced add their Proficiency Bonus to their attacks.

Damage Rolls: Monsters that are particularly aggressive or mighty may

add their Proficiency Bonus to their damage rolls.

Surge Dice: Monsters also get and can utilize **Surge Dice**.

Reactions: Monsters have access to all of the new Reactions that they fulfil the prerequisites for. However, some monsters may not be very concerned about being hit and either wait for an Opportunity attack or use the conversion into a Surge Die to strengthen their attacks.

Bonus Actions: Monsters that don't have any use for a Bonus Action will not convert it into an additional Reaction.

Parries: If the statblock of a creature features a parry reaction, it is replaced by the **Parry** Reaction described in these rules. Assume that the creature uses either its strongest wielded melee weapon or all its wielded melee weapons to parry, if possible.

Part VIII

Appendix

Here, you'll find miscellaneous stuff that was created in relation to the main body in some way. Some of the stuff may be more useful than others. This is not meant to be a place worth visiting in case you are looking for new content.

The appendix features a history of the changes made with the previous versions, starting with the [latest update](#) and going backwards in time, and a section containing the [tables](#) spread throughout this book.

28 Miscellaneous Notes

I am a big fan of calling [Martial Training](#) “Martian Training” and [Caster Training](#) “Minervan Training”, based on the roman gods of warfare, Mars and Minerva. This is only because I refused to call it “Martial Training” for a good while due to its possibly confusing association with Martial weapons, even if the Martial-Caster divide is well known, and “Martian” is close enough. The other half of the divide of course has to follow suit, so I consider it the Martian-Minervan divide from now on.

29 Tables

Here, you'll find all the tables spread throughout the book once more. These include:

- the [Armour Table](#) listing armour sets and their Damage Reduction values and Dodging modifiers.
- the [Shield Table](#) listing the different shield options and their properties.
- the [Extended Size Table](#) listing size categories with their fitting Hit DC and measures.

- the [Body Part Sizes for a Medium Humanoid](#) table listing size categories and Hit DC for the body parts of a Medium Humanoid character.
- the [Spellcasting Table](#) listing the Caster Training feature amount, Casting Limit, and Spell Point amount that spellcasters use.
- the [Spell Slot Translation Table](#) listing how each spell slot is translated into Spell Points.
- the [Spellcasting Focus Table](#) listing which spell schools each Spellcasting Focus is associated with.
- the [Pact Magic Table](#) showing the Warlocks equivalent of the Spellcasting Table.

30 Extended Size Table

Size	Hit DC	Hit Area	Height or Length
Minus 5	30	<2.5mm ²	<2.5mm
Minus 4	28	<10mm ²	<5mm
Minus 3	26	<40mm ²	<1cm
Minus 2	24	<1.5cm ²	<2cm
Minus 1	22	<6cm ²	<4cm
Minuscule	20	<25cm ²	<8cm
Fine	18	<100cm ²	<15cm
Diminutive	16	<400cm ²	<30cm
Tiny	14	<0.15m ²	<60cm
Small	12	<0.6m ²	<1.2m
Medium	10	<2.5m ²	<2.5m
Large	8	<10m ²	<5m
Huge	6	<40m ²	<10m
Gargantuan	4	<150m ²	<20m
Colossal	2	<600m ²	<40m
Unmissable	0	>600m ²	>40m

Related to [AC-less defence](#).

31 Body Part Sizes for a Medium Humanoid

Body Part	Size	Hit DC
Head	Diminutive	16
Eye	Minus 1	22
Neck	Diminutive	16
Arm	Tiny	14
Hand	Diminutive	16
Torso	Small	12
Crotch	Fine	18
Leg	Tiny	14
Foot	Diminutive	16

As used with [Aimed Strikes](#).

32 Armour Table

Name	Type	Damage Reduction	Dodging Modifier
Padded Armour	Light	1	+5
Leather Armour	Light	1	+5
Studded Leather Armour	Light	2	+5
Hide Armour	Medium	2	+2
Chain Shirt	Medium	3	+2
Scale Mail	Medium	4	+2
Breastplate	Medium	4	+2
Half Plate Armour	Medium	5	+2
Ring Mail	Heavy	4	0
Chain Mail	Heavy	6	0
Splint Armour	Heavy	7	0
Plate Armour	Heavy	8	0

Related to [AC-less defence](#).

33 Shield Table

Type	Size	Blocking Bonus	Properties	Weight	Cost
Buckler	Tiny	+6	Free Hand, Light	3 lb.	8 GP
Wooden Shield	Tiny	+4		6 lb.	10 GP
Tower Shield	Small	+2	Heavy, Clunky	12 lb.	20 GP

As used in the section on [Shields](#).

34 Pact Magic Table

Level	Caster Training	Casting Limit	Patronage
1	1	3	1
2	1	5	2
3	1	6	2
4	1	8	2
5	2	9	2
6	2	11	2
7	2	12	2
8	2	14	2
9	3	15	2
10	3	17	2
11	3	18	3
12	3	20	3
13	4	21	3
14	4	23	3
15	4	24	3
16	4	26	3
17	5	27	4
18	5	29	4
19	5	30	4
20	5	32	4
x	$(x+1)/4$	$3(x+1)/2$	

As used by the [Warlock](#).

35 Spell Slot Translation Table

Spell level	Spell Point cost
0 (cantrips)	0
1	3
2	6
3	9
4	12
5	15
6	18
7	21
8	24
9	27
x	3x

As used in the [Spellcasting](#) chapter.

36 Spellcasting Focus Table

Spellcasting Focus	Type	Associated Schools
Crystal	Arcane	Illusion, Necromancy, Transmutation
Orb	Arcane	Conjuration, Divination, Illusion
Rod	Arcane	Abjuration, Divination, Necromancy
Staff (also Quarterstaff)	Arcane	Abjuration, Conjuration, Evocation
Wand	Arcane	Enchantment, Evocation, Transmutation
Sprig of Mistletoe	Druidic	Abjuration, Divination, Transmutation
Staff (also Quarterstaff)	Druidic	Abjuration, Conjuration, Evocation
Yew wand	Druidic	Enchantment, Illusion, Necromancy
Amulet (worn or held)	Holy	Abjuration, Conjuration, Evocation
Emblem (borne on fabric or a Shield)	Holy	Abjuration, Enchantment, Transmutation
Reliquary (held)	Holy	Divination, Illusion, Necromancy
Percussion (drum)	Bardic	Abjuration, Conjuration, Evocation
Strings (dulcimer, lute, lyre, viol)	Bardic	Enchantment, Necromancy, Transmutation
Woodwind (bag pipes, flute, pan flute, shawm)	Bardic	Divination, Enchantment, Illusion
Brass Instrument (horn)	Bardic	Conjuration, Enchantment, Evocation

As used in the [Spellcasting Focus](#) chapter.

37 Spellcasting Table

Level	Caster Training	Casting Limit	Spell Points	+1/3	+1/2	+2/3
1	1	3	6	8	9	10
2	1	5	12	14	15	16
3	1	6	18	20	21	22
4	1	8	24	26	27	28
5	2	9	30	32	33	34
6	2	11	36	38	39	40
7	2	12	42	44	45	46
8	2	14	48	50	51	52
9	3	15	54	56	57	58
10	3	17	60	62	63	64
11	3	18	66	68	69	70
12	3	20	72	74	75	76
13	4	21	78	80	81	82
14	4	23	84	86	87	88
15	4	24	90	92	93	94
16	4	26	96	98	99	100
17	5	27	102	104	105	106
18	5	29	108	110	111	112
19	5	30	114	116	117	118
20	5	32	120	122	123	124
x	$(x+1)/4$	$3(x+1)/2$	$6x$			

As used in the [Spellcasting](#) chapter.

38 Changes for vo.9

This version introduces the Spellcasting Rework.

38.1 Changes for vo.9.a1

Spellcasting

- Reworked Spellcasting to work through **Spell Points** instead of Spell Slots.
- Spellcasting is now only limited by the **Casting Limit**.
- Added **Overcasting** to allow breaking the Casting Limit in exchange for damage and a debuff.
- You now roll a **Spell check** every time you cast a spell to determine how forceful it is, the first attack roll, and the save DC for the targets.

Caster Training

- Introduced Caster Training as a parallel to Martial Training for Spellcasters.
- Merged multiple spellcasting-related feats into Caster Training.
- Caster Training features can be acquired through Spellcaster levels, as described in **Spellcasting**, and through the new Spellcasting Adept **feat**.
- Spell Manipulation is now a part of Caster Training.

Spellcasting Focus

- A Spellcasting Focus now gives Proficiency in Spell checks for spells of three associated spell schools each. It is the primary way to be able to add the Proficiency Bonus to Spell checks, and thus spell attacks and spell save DC.

Rite of Regeneration

- Now uses the **Spell check** of the Cure Wounds casting as a base value.

Spells

- Changed **Counterspell** and **Dispel Magic** to work based on **Spell checks**.

Cover

- Changed cover to work through changes to Hit DC based on the target size instead of degrees of cover.
- Added cover cones to ease a visual derivation of when someone benefits from cover through shields or other small objects.

Shields

- Made the Buckler Tiny again.

Surge Dice

- Added a Free Reaction to allow the use of Surge Dice in response to any trigger without having to rely on another feature.
- The Speed option now properly gives movement instead of movement speed.

Vision & Focus

- Added descriptions for different fields of view.
- Changed the indefinite articles in Switch Focus to prevent confusion.

Martial Training

- Changed Interception to only work with Melee weapons and against Melee weapon attacks.
- Added the Arrow Splitting feature to allow parrying Ranged weapon attacks.

38.2 Changes for vo.9.a2

General

- Updated this file :)

Spellcasting

- Explicated that it is now possible to cast multiple spells with Spell Point costs in a turn.

Caster Training

- Added *Cantrip Upcasting* to upcast Cantrips.
- Added *Hoarder* to gain more Spell Points.
- Changed *Expectation* to give Advantage on the Overcast Saving Throw instead.
- Added *Insistence* feature, doubling the effect of *Emphasis*.
- Changed *Vampiric Weavestrike* to give twice as many Temporary Hit Points.
- Added a subsection with Spellcasting Focus related features.
- Changed *Beyond The Medium* to make a body part usable as a Spellcasting Focus associated with two spell schools.
- Added *Flexible Focus* to allow adding more associated spell schools to a Spellcasting Focus.
- Added *Universal Focus* to make a Spellcasting Focus be associated with all spell schools.

Sorcerer

- Changed Sorcery Points so that they interface with Spell Points more intuitively.
- Removed the Casting restriction from Quickened Spell.

Warlock

- Changed the inner workings of Pact Magic to make a connection to a patron more apparent and embed the narrative into the mechanics.
- Added a more narrative variant to allow customizing the Warlocks spellcasting alongside the state of their pact and relationship to their patron.

Spells

- Changed **Counterspell** to be harder against more costly spells.

38.3 Changes for vo.9.a3

Spellcasting

- Moved the **Spell Points** chapter into this chapter.
- Explicated that these rules refer to initial Spell Point cost when speaking of a Spell Point cost and that they explicitly reference final costs otherwise. Changed the rules to actually fulfill this standard.
- Explicated how features that aren't spells and use spell slots now also use Spell Points instead.
- Turned **Upcasting** into its own subsection.
- Clarified that Upcasting works through increasing the spells cost, and not through spending additional Spell Points separately.
- Removed automatic cantrip scaling.
- Cantrips can now be upcast.
- Added a paragraph about preparing spells when multiclassing that is in line with base rules, but translated to use the Casting Limit.
- Added a subsection on **Sunken Spells & Depthcasting**, describing what happens when a spells cost is below 0.

Spellcasting Focus

- When using an unlisted Spellcasting Focus, you now choose two spell schools to associate that Spellcasting Focus with.

Overcasting

- Named the number of Spell Points the Casting Limit was exceeded by Excess to simplify the descriptions of Overcast Damage and Overcast Saves.
- Moved the Overcast Damage into the spellcast or use of the feature.
- Failing the Overcast Save now makes the spell or feature fail, but no Spell Points are lost.
- Weavestrain now reduces the Casting Limit by 1 per stack instead.

Caster Training

- Added some introductory text.
- Moved some features to their proper subsection.
- *Ritualist* now allows a choice of spellcasting ability when the one who chooses the feature doesn't already have one.
- Added *By Any Means*, allowing rerolls of the Overcast Save in exchange for more Overcast Damage.
- Renamed *Spell Specialization* to *Cheapskate* and allows the choice of two spells instead of one.
- *Hoarder* can now be picked multiple times.
- Reworked *Cantrip Upcasting* into *Trash Becomes Treasure*, giving a limited amount of free upcasting to free spells.
- Reworked *Amplify* a little.
- *Beyond The Medium* now turns the chosen body part into a Spellcasting Focus instead of making it usable as if it was one, making it clear that it can be used for *Double Up*.
- Renamed *Dual Spellcasting Focus* to *Double Up*.

Warlock

- Explicated that Eldritch Invocation Options that allow free spellcasts practically set the cost of those spells to 0.
- The Patronage now depends on uses of Spell Points instead of cast spells.

AC-less defence

- Critical Hits no longer automatically ignore Damage Reduction.

Martial Training

- Renamed Combat Training to Martial Training.
- Merged the three Enhanced Critical features into one and added the benefit that Critical Hits of the chosen damage type ignore Damage Reduction.

38.4 Changes for vo.9.a4

Caster Training

- Turned *Weavestrike* into a spell.
- Added *Arsenal of Tricks* as an option to get more cantrips.
- Added *Enhanced Critical* to mirror the Martial version with non-physical damage types.
- Added *Force of Evil* to increase necrotic damage and *Force of Good* to increase radiant damage.
- Added *Penetrating Element* to allow bypassing Damage Reduction with a chosen element.
- Changed *Reactive Spell* to *Opportunistic Caster* and changed its wording to make it independent from Opportunity Attacks. It now uses Opportunity Spells instead.
- Added *Reliable Casting* to make a Spell check always result in at least a 10.
- Doubled the Casting Limit increase of *Cheat*.
- Reworked *Vampiric Weavestrike* into *Weave Vampirism*, now giving you Temporary Hit Points when Spell Points are spent or lost within 5ft. of you and not by you.
- Changed *Cheapskate* to allow picking 0-cost spells again.
- Changed *Cheapskate* so that when it reduces the cost of a healing or permanent creation spell to 0 the effects become temporary.
- Changed *Insistence* to now automatically improve your Spell checks based on the cost of the corresponding spellcast.
- Added an associated spell school to two of the Spell Manipulation features to clarify when a Spellcasting Focus allows the wielder to add their Proficiency Bonus to the Spell check.

Spell Check

- Made Spell attack rolls a separate thing again.
- The Spell check now influences Spell attack rolls, giving a bonus when good and a malus when bad.
- Reduced the saving throw DC by another 2 when the spell affects more than one target.

AC-less defence

- Changed the *Defence Action* so that when you had more than three unspent Reactions at the start of your next turn, only three of them are converted into **Surge Dice**.

Dodging

- Turned dodging an AoE into a Martial Training feature.
- Reduced the armour-based dodging modifier.
 - When wearing light or no armour, it's now +2 instead of +5.
 - When wearing medium armour, it's now +0 instead of +2.
 - When wearing heavy armour, you now roll with Disadvantage instead of with +0.

Martial Training

- Turned Opportunity Attacks into the *Opportunist - Melee* feature.
- Added *Opportunist - Ranged* to allow for ranged Opportunity Attacks.
- Turned **Dodging** an AoE with Dodge & Roll into the *Areal Awareness* feature.
- Added *Dodging Adept* to give Proficiency in Acrobatics.
- Added *Dodging Expert* to give Expertise in Acrobatics.
- Added *Happy Feet* to increase the unarmoured and lightly armoured Dodging bonus back to +5.
- Added *Nimble Attack* to allow throwing a Finesse weapon as a part of a Dodge & Roll.
- Added *Prediction* to allow for an additional free dodge after dodging with Advantage.
- Renamed *Blocking Proficiency* to *Blocking Adept* and *Blocking Expertise* to *Blocking Expert* and simplified their wording.
- Changed *Protection* to require Proficiency in Blocking instead of training with Shields.
- Renamed *Parrying Proficiency* to *Parrying Adept* and *Parrying Expertise* to *Parrying Expert* and simplified their wording.
- Changed *Arrow Splitting* to also require Proficiency in Perception.
- Turned Weapon Locking from **Parrying** into the *Weapon Locking* fea-

ture.

- Turned multi-weapon Parrying into the *Cross-parry* feature.
- Added *Pattern Recognition* to give Advantage on the next block, dodge or parry after a successful block, dodge or parry.

General

- Turned all occurrences of Proficiency, Expertise, Advantage and Disadvantage uppercase.
- Now consistently uses “Proficiency in ...” and “Expertise in ...” instead of “Proficiency with ...” and “Expertise with ...”.
- Changed .md italics to use `_` instead of `.`

39 Changes for vo.8

Introduction was rewritten.

AC-less defence

- renamed Missing Threshold to Hit DC.
- explicated that Damage Reduction applies before resistance and vulnerabilities.
- added a passage explicating the relation between sizes and cover.

Aimed Strikes

- added a paragraph describing how Aimed Strikes interact with cover.
- added **Surgery** and the **Rite of Regeneration** to get rid of body part disabilities.
- moved Wounded and Disabled to a new chapter on **Conditions**.
- added a table offering example body part sizes for a Medium Humanoid.

Armour

- added two new shields and rephrased how they work in terms of size. Moved them to the **Shields** chapter.

- explicated that Damage Reduction from armour usually only works against attacks that aren't Aimed Strikes, unless the armour includes coverage of the targeted body part.
- added some rudimentary rules for armour pieces to cover other body parts.

Classes

- added some Bard subclass changes. The College of Dance Bard can now **dodge** with Performance, and the College of Valor Bard can allow the use of a Bardic Inspiration die instead of a Reaction to react to an attack.
- revisited Battle Master changes.
- rephrased the Monks Dexterous Attacks to use Grapple and Shove contests again.
- the Oath of Glory Paladins Glorious Defence now decreases the attack roll instead of giving AC.
- explicated how the Beast Masters beast AC is converted into Damage Reduction.
- the Gloomstalker Rangers Shadowy Dodge now utilizes **Dodging**.
- removed the paragraph about the Hunters Uncanny Dodge, as the Hunter no longer has that feature.
- the Hunters Multiattack Defence is now cheaper.
- the Rogue no longer gains Advantage on **Dodging** checks.
- explicated how the Draconic Sorcerers AC is converted into Damage Reduction.

Blocking

- moved acquisition of blocking Proficiency and Expertise to **Martial Training**.
- updated wording to require shield training instead of shield Proficiency, as the latter no longer exists as such.

Other Combat Changes

- updated the Grapple and Shove attacks to appropriately relate to Un-

armed Strikes.

Martial Training

- is new.
- reworks how Proficiency and training with weapons, shields and armour works.
- moved Fighting Styles here.
- moved combat-oriented Feats here.
- moved weapon mastery properties here.

Monsters

- added some more guidance on how monsters are affected by the changes in these rules.

Parrying

- moved acquisition of parrying Proficiency and Expertise to [Martial Training](#).
- updated wording to require weapon training instead of Proficiency.

Reactions

- merged Evasive Stance, Defensive Stance, Protective Stance, and Parrying Stance into one singular Defence Action.
- moved Prey on the Vulnerable to [Martial Training](#).
- removed Trip, as it is already possible through an Opportunity Attack with an Unarmed Strike.

Spells

- added Shield of Faith changes.
- made Cure Wounds and Inflict Wounds work with wounds.
- Blur now no longer affects attackers that are blinded.

39.I vo.8.I

General

- Fixed some spelling mistakes.

Rite of Regeneration

- gave more options to assist with the Rite.
- clarified when the Rite is interrupted and what happens in that case.
- added an example.

Surgery

- changed the primary attribute to Intelligence.
- added two skills, Sleight of Hand and Medicine, to Surgery.
- explicated that when Proficiency in both the tools and one of the associated skills are present, the surgeon rolls with Advantage, in line with existing tool rules.
- explicated how to assist and interrupt Surgery.
- clarified what happens when Surgery is interrupted.

Species

- added two drawbacks to being Small.

Classes

- the Monks Patient Defence now references the Defence Action.

Blocking & Parrying

- added a short introductory paragraph.

AC-less defence

- made cover its own subsection.
- added a paragraph about crouching behind cover.
- moved the Defence Action here and reworked it to be more like before.

Martial Training

- moved the paragraph about starting weapon Proficiencies and starting weapon Training into the subsection on weapon Training to remove

some confusion.

- reworted Accuracy to make it clear that it cannot stack with itself.
- added Immaculate Aim, Knowing the Spot, Overpower, and My Body is a Weapon.
- reworted Heavy Armour Master, so that it now mentions its Blocking Modifier and is further improved by Blocking Expertise.
- reworted Free Hand Enhancement so that it is more concise and clear about only negating Disadvantage imposed through the Free Hand property.

Reactions

- moved the Defence Action to AC-less Defence.
- removed the paragraph about Reaction timing, as it was functionally equivalent to the existing base rule.

39.2 VO.8.2

General

- rearranged the chapters to roughly align with the structure of the PHB.

Introduction

- merged the section on values into the introduction.
- reworted the introduction accordingly.
- merged the previous chapter introductions into a [Content Overview](#).

Surge Dice

- renamed Speed to Overtake, because it does not give movement speed, but it does make you overtake others in the Initiative order.
- renamed Swifttness to Speed, because it gives movement speed.
- changed Overtake to make it weaker in encounters with fewer creatures and to make it a bit more legible.

Species

- renamed from Character Creation.
- Small creatures now only get -1 to their Constitution score instead of -2 to their Strength score.

Martial Training

- changed Archery to depend on the Wisdom modifier.
- changed Duelling to depend on the Dexterity modifier.
- changed Heavy Weapon Master to depend on the Strength modifier.
- changed Knowing the Spot to depend on the Intelligence modifier.
- added Wounding Critical.
- moved some Aimed Strike features to general features due to their lack of weapon dependence.
- turned the **Aimed Strikes** option for Reliable Hits into a Martial Training feature.
- some minor linking and wording changes.

Shields

- the Buckler is now Diminutive.

39.3 vo.8.3

General

- added new chapter introductions.
- renamed the Combat section to **Other Combat Changes**.
- renamed the Magic chapter to **Spellcasting**.
- added **Miscellaneous Notes** to the Appendix.
- moved changelogs into their own folder.
- fixed some spelling mistakes and changed some wordings.

Contests

- slightly reformulated **Dodging**, **Blocking** and **Parrying** to mention in passing that they resemble contests.

40 Changes for vo.7

40.1 New

Aimed Strikes: Introduced to make attack rolls more meaningful.

Contests: Added a chapter about them, as they were removed from the 2024 rules.

Rogue: now gains a new Surge Die feature on level 5: Prepared Strike.

Spells: Added adjustments to Blur.

Feats: Added adjustments to Weapon Master.

40.2 Removed

from Surge Dice: Dying Struggle, Elation and Kill Rush.

40.3 Adjusted

General

- Committed to 2024 rules. All changes are now in reference to 2024 rules.
- Put the context and rationale for the rules at the start of each section again.
- Moved Reflections to the Introduction.
- Added a chapter for tables.
- Added an appendix with past changelogs.

AC-less defence

- Added an example for Armor Class to Damage Reduction conversion.
- Damage Reduction now applies to attacks instead, including spell attacks. This is meant to be a buff to Damage Reduction and meant to make it more intuitive when it applies and when it doesn't. This also restores the classic connection between attacks and armour.

- Removed Dodging from the list of reactions that can reduce attack damage to 0 and thus make the attack count as a miss, because Dodging explicitly states that a dodged attack misses.
- Added a new set of smaller sizes and changed multiple base Missing Thresholds.
- Added a table as a reference for the sizes.

Reactions

- Free Reactions no longer reference Free Actions, as those are not part of the 2024 rules. They now refer to the free object interaction instead.
- Using the Ready action now gives an additional Reaction.
- Limited Prey on the Vulnerable to melee weapon attacks and tied it exclusively to the Incapacitated condition.

Vision & Focus

- Focus can now be switched once at the end of your turn for free, instead of as a Free Action, because those no longer exist as of the 2024 rules.
- Losing Focus now depends on the Incapacitated condition or loss of perception.

Spell Manipulation

- Limited range to 60ft.

Parrying

- Named the value by which a parried attacks damage is reduced Parrying Power and added a separate paragraph about it.
- Explicated that temporary damage increases also increase Parrying Power.
- Critical Parries now have increased Parrying Power.

Armour

- Now features a table with armour stats.

Feats

- Now offers the entire feat description.
- Moved Fighting Styles to this chapter.
- Rephrased and buffed Defensive Duellist.
- Made the changed Dual Wielder a variant instead of a replacement.
- Heavy Armour Master now uses the Proficiency Bonus, similar to the 2024 rules.
- Shield Master now forces an Athletics contest instead of a saving throw.

Classes

- Moved all class changes into their own chapter.
- Moved the monk Surge Die feature to level 5.

Spells

- Now offers the entire spell description.

4I Changes for vo.6

General

- extracted Adjustments to their own chapter, featuring changes for Equipment, Class Features, Feats, Fighting Styles, Spells, and Monsters.
 - Shields no longer give damage reduction.
 - Buffed the Hunter's Multiattack Defence.
 - Changed Dual Wielder, Savage Attacker and Shield Master.
 - Added spell changes for Shield, Mage Armour, and Barkskin.
- Renamed the Backstab Advantage & Focus chapter to **Vision & Focus**. Added two paragraphs about Vision and rephrased a few things.

Reactions

- Added a paragraph on general reaction timing and cleaned up other descriptions throughout the rules accordingly.

AC-less defence

- Removed the Constitution Modifier from the base Damage Reduction.

- Defensive Reactions are now rolled with Disadvantage against critical hits.
- Size now impacts Missing Threshold.

Dodging

- Dodging Bonus is reduced when wearing medium armour or heavy armour.
- Added passage that allows the use of the Evasive Stance as a Bonus Action for some characters.
- Made much of the wording more concise.
- Dodge & Roll can now also be used against area effects.

Blocking

- Blocking is now a skill that depends on shields.
- Moved the flat Blocking Bonus to shields themselves.

Parrying

- a bit cleaner now and also skill-ish.
- Now features a weapon lock mechanic.

Monk changes are new.

Spell Manipulation

- Spell Manipulation is now a skill and thus no longer starts with a flat bonus.
- Extracted reaction timing and line of sight to the caster to be prerequisites for all manipulation options. This is the same as before, but the options are now more quickly read.
- Thwart can now be buffed by spending a spell slot.
- Amplify can now fail, unless a spell slot is spent.
- Weaken can now turn the saving throw into a success when a spell slot is spent.

Surge Dice

- Added an option to improve Initiative.
- Restricted Power to Attack Rolls and Damage.
- Renamed Speed to Swiftess. You can now use the gained movement immediately.

42 Changes for v0.5

General

- slightly better wording
- a few more links
- a bit more elaboration

Reactions

- Tripping up (new)
 - You can now make a shove attack as a Reaction to trip up a moving creature

AC-less defence

- Clarified intentions
- adjusted the Battle Masters' Evasive Footwork and Riposte
- adjusted the Hunters' Multiattack Defence
- adjusted the Dual Wielder Feat

Dodging - Dodging Bonus

- Now only takes Acrobatics (to buff DEX a bit)
- adjusted the Rogues' and Hunters' Uncanny Dodge

Parrying

- made multi-weapon-parrying possible
- adjusted the Defensive Duelist Feat

43 Changes for vo.4

Spell Manipulation (new)

- possibility to do stuff with and against spells
- Thwart
 - make a spell attack miss
- Weaken
 - improve the saving throw for a creature affected by a spell
- Amplify
 - improve the spell of an ally

44 Changes for vo.3

General

- reordered the chapters to make more sense

Reactions - Reserving Actions

- now only gives one Reaction per Action

Dodging

- added elaboration on the idea
- Dodging Bonus (new)
 - Value to add to a dodging ability check
 - = 5 + either Athletics or Acrobatics
- Dodge & Roll
 - increased distance to 10 feet

Parrying (new)

- you can now use a reaction to parry, nice
- Parrying Bonus
 - value to add to a parrying ability check
 - = 5 + attack bonus of the parry weapon

- Parry
allows you to parry a melee attack, potentially reducing it's damage to 0
- Parrying Stance
 - allows you to parry more
- Battle Master - Parry
 - reworked to fit
- Monster Parries
 - adjusted existing parries accordingly

Surge Dice

- usage needn't be announced at the start of an action anymore
- removed Regeneration
- Tenacity reintroduced
 - now only gives temporary HP until the start of your next turn
- Speed
 - no longer scales with the roll
 - gives 10ft. of movement speed per die spent on this option
- Skill (new)
 - add the roll to any one roll you make
 - replaces multiple other previous options
- Last Stand -> Dying Struggle
 - now only triggers once when dropping below 25 maxHP
- Elation
 - now triggers after applying the effects of the attack

45 Changes for vo.2

Reactions - Free Reactions (new)

- every turn, in addition to a Reaction, you also have one Free Reaction that can be used for some stuff.

Vision & Focus

- More precise wording

- Switch Focus now takes a Free Reaction instead of a Reaction
- Switch Focus can also be used as a Free Action
- Draw Focus (new)
 - You can draw the focus of a creature somewhere else through various means.
- Losing Focus (new)
 - You now lose focus under certain circumstances.

AC-less defence

- Damage Reduction
 - now only reduces non-spell damage
 - cleaned up wording
- Shields
 - cleaned up wording

Blocking

- Blocking Bonus (new)
 - value to add to a blocking ability check
 - = 8 + either Strength mod or Dexmod + Proficiency (if proficient with shields)
- Defensive Stance & Protective Stance
 - limited the uses to the Proficiency Bonus

Dodging - Evasive Stance

- limited the uses to the Proficiency Bonus

Variable attack actions

- tried to add it, but the PHB was faster

46 Changes for vo.1

Vision & Focus - Escape Focus

- only against larger creatures

- only Acrobatics, not Stealth

AC-less defence - Damage Reduction

- only reduces non-magical damage

Surge Dice

- specified that their use has to be announced at the start of the action they are used with to clean up intent
- removed Tenacity (temp HP)