

HEROES & TREASURE™

For 2-5 players ages 4+, including at least one adult

Average game time: 30-40 minutes for one map level

Heroes & Treasure™ is a fantasy role-playing game system that can be used with a number of different scenarios, or “campaigns”, that players move through by overcoming enemies and obstacles to reach their goals. One person acts as the Quest Master (QM), who controls the action, and the other people take on the roles of characters in the world.

Tonight you sit quietly in a dark corner of the Inn’s large common room, with a cup of ale and a piece of hard, brown bread in front of you.

You choose the characters you play and move your pieces through the tiles that form the game map. On the way you’ll encounter monsters, locked doors, special items, magic weapons, and much more. You’ll wince as your party’s cleric takes a powerful hit from an animated skeleton, and you’ll cheer as your wizard freezes a goblin in his tracks.

You glance around the room and see the faces of some old friends, people you’ve had adventures with before.

As you meet your goals on map after map of the campaign, your characters will improve. They’ll gain new abilities, magic items, and more. But as you grow stronger, the challenges you face become ever more dangerous. Can your group survive long enough to save the kingdom?

You take a few minutes to check your gear.

Are you ready?

You look at your companions and allow yourself a small smile.

It’s time for the adventures to begin.

Contents

Player Information	3
Characters	3
Classes	3
Weapons	3
Starting Out	4
Quest Master Information	4
Laying Out the Map	4
Difficulty Levels	4
Ending a Level	4
Monsters	5
Wandering Monsters	5
Combat Mechanics	6
Combat Order	6
Combat Actions	6
Special Combat States	6
Spells and Abilities	6
Wizard:	6
Cleric:	7
Warrior:	7
Rogue:	7
Items	7
Dungeon Features	8
Appendix: Dice	8

Player Information

Characters

Characters are the people inside the game who are controlled by the players. The campaign included with this base set is made for adventures with 2-4 characters. If desired, a player can control more than one character, so one player could play 2, or two players could play 4. Each character has a different class (see below), and the best parties of adventurers have a variety of classes to help them handle different kinds of danger.

Classes

A *class* here is like your job. It describes what you're good at and what you're not. What you spend your time practicing and what things you hate doing. Here are the four basic classes of the Heroes and Treasure world:

Fighters love to fight. They're very good at using big weapons like swords and axes to attack, as well as shields and strong, heavy armor to protect their bodies. Because of this, they're usually the first ones to rush towards a dangerous enemy, trying to keep the rest of their group safe. They're terrible at any kind of magic spells.

Starting fighters use a sword, and they roll the grey "S" die to attack. Fighters can also use shields if they find them. Fighters start with 10 health points.

Wizards spend long nights learning how to control magic. Their spells can help a lot in a hard fight against monsters, but the thin magic wands they use, plus their loose robes, mean they're bad at fighting with their hands and they get hurt easily. The good news is that they can cast spells far away from the danger.

Starting wizards use a dagger, and they roll the orange "D" die to attack. Wizards start with the Frost Bolt spell, which does damage and can freeze its target. Later they can cast Invisibility and Fireball. Wizards start with 6 health points.

Clerics are another kind of magic user, but instead of studying books and scrolls, they pray in churches or temples to have magic powers. Usually the powers they get are magics of healing and protection, to keep their group healthy and safe. They also have extra power against the *undead*, like walking skeletons or zombies.

Starting clerics use a mace, which is like a metal club, and they roll the blue "M" die to attack. Clerics start with the Heal spell. Later they can cast Turn Undead and Protect. Clerics start with 8 health points.

Rogues don't use magic, but they are very sneaky, and they fight best by quietly getting close to whoever they want to hit. Some are pirates, some are thieves, and some are more like ninjas who hide in dark corners where you can't see them. Not everyone trusts Rogues to be honest, but they're very good friends once you know them.

Starting rogues use a pair of daggers, and they roll two orange "D" dice to attack. More experienced rogues can use additional weapons, and they can switch between weapons whenever they want. Experienced rogues can also learn to sneak into rooms without being seen by monsters. All rogues are good at finding secrets that other characters might completely miss. Rogues start with 6 health points.

Weapons

Weapons (and attack spells) in the world of Heroes & Treasure are represented with dice. Usually one die represents one weapon. Some characters can use two weapons at once, and some characters have weapons or spells that use more than one die, usually where one does normal damage and one does a special effect. Each class has a starting weapon, described above, and each class can gain other weapons as they gain experience in the world.

The dice themselves are described both by color and by an identifying letter (for example, an orange “D” die or grey “S” die). They typically have sides with one, two, or more pips, and some sides that are blank. A blank side represents a miss, and the sides with pips represent a damage amount equal to the number of pips.

Starting Out

At the beginning of a level, each player should find the reference card for their character and collect red life counters equal to their starting health value. A player’s “level” is said to be the same as the number of the campaign level they are playing. Players should also locate the die (or dice) used for their weapon (or weapons). Players who have characters who cast spells should consult the reference card for the type and number of spells they have access to at their level, and then should then gather spell tokens for their available spells. Some spells may also use dice, much like weapons do.

Quest Master Information

Laying Out the Map

There are two sets of map tiles included with this set, on opposite sides of the same physical tile pieces, labeled with letters. Each dungeon level description will indicate which set of tiles it uses, and the maps mark the letter for each room and corridor. The base set includes an underground cavern set marked with white letters, and a stone wall set marked with red letters. NOTE: Not all sets contain one of each letter. For example, the “Cavern” set has no room C, and the “Stone” set has both an A₁ and an A₂. The letters are consistent across sets for how many exits the room has and where they are.

Keep the map tiles on hand, and lay them out as the players enter the corresponding rooms. We recommend that you stack them ahead of time in the same order they appear in the campaign module list, which makes them easy to find as the party progresses. When each new tile is placed, add stand-up doors and monsters according to the map image and room description, plus extra features such as fountains as needed, and place the party at the entrance they used. The group can decide ahead of time the order in which they will always enter new rooms; the doorways are wide enough for two characters to stand together in front and, if the party is larger, another two to stand immediately behind them.

Difficulty Levels

Monsters come in three different difficulty levels: Easy, Medium, and Hard. If there are two characters in the party, start with Easy, if three, Medium, and if four, Hard. If players are particularly good or bad at combat tactics, you may adjust up or down slightly as needed. You can also shift difficulty based on player luck. For example, if the players roll all hits and breeze through a level, you might consider upgrading the boss. The reverse is also true. The goal is to make the campaign fun, challenging, and exciting, but not frustrating or a death trap.

Some room descriptions may also have variations based on the difficulty level, such as including an extra monster at higher difficulties, or yielding an extra reward at lower difficulties.

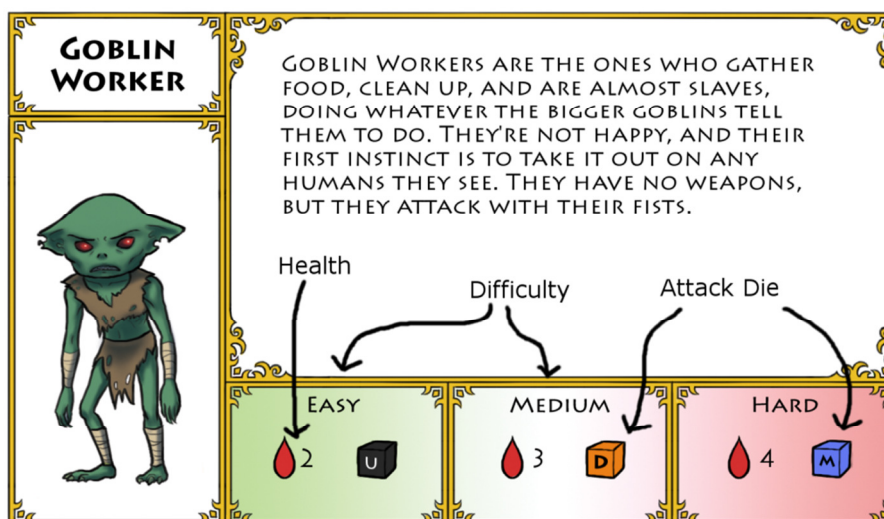
Ending a Level

Campaign levels typically end with the party going through a gate, or using a trap door, or at another point specified in the level description. At the end of a level, even if the next level is a continuation (such as the second half of a deep dungeon), the party has time for a long rest, and everything resets. In particular:

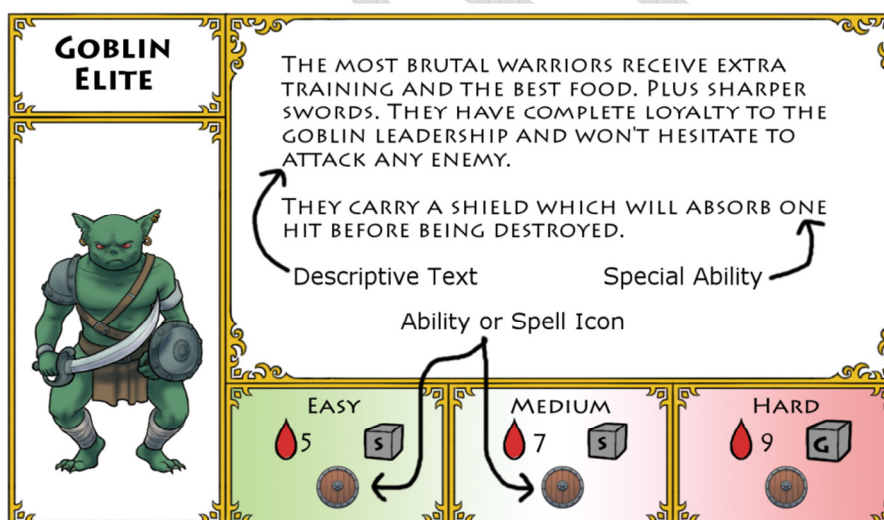
- All health points are restored.
- All spells are restored.
- Any potions, scrolls, shields, special items, etc. are lost.
- Characters all “level up”, and may gain new abilities as specified in their character definitions. A character is considered to have an “experience level” equal to the map number that they are starting. So a new character is said to be “level 1.”

Monsters

Monster descriptions are found on the cards in the included deck. The cards can also serve as an organizing method for holding life counters during combat. For easy access, collect the cards you'll need before starting the level. The cards look like this:



The cards give the monster's name, image, and description on the left and top. At the bottom, the card has the monster's health and attack die (or dice). The text description can also indicate some specific skills or specials for the monster, and at the very bottom, there can be additional icons detailing the spells or shields available at each difficulty level, as in this example:



Wandering Monsters

Most campaign levels include a line indicating what monsters can be found wandering around the rooms. If the party enters an empty room, including a room that's empty because they killed the monsters there, left, and then returned, the QM rolls the indicated die to see if there is now a new monster in the room. Some dice have multiple possible outcomes, for example a Giant Rat on a roll of 1, or a Spider on a roll of 2. A blank outcome means no monster is there right now. Corridors – the narrow connecting hallways between rooms – do not have wandering monsters in them. The QM can also choose to make a wandering monster roll any time the party takes an unanticipated action that takes a long time.

Combat Mechanics

Combat in this world is very simple. Each character has a color-coded die that represents the weapon they are using. Roll the die once to attack. Blank sides are misses, sides with pips are hits. The amount of damage done (health points lost by the target) is the number of pips on the die. Some attacks may be specified to roll more than one die at once. If a weapon (or set of weapons used by a single character) does more than one point of damage, that is called a “critical” hit.

If a character or monster reaches 0 health points, they are defeated and are removed from the board. If a character is defeated, the party can choose to continue and try to complete the mission without that character, or everyone can restart the level together from the beginning.

Combat Order

The characters in the party always act in this order, according to their class: Rogue, Warrior, Wizard, Cleric. If there is more than one character of a given class, the group can decide ahead of time which of the two will act first. Monsters with higher starting health will attack before the ones with lower health. Unless otherwise noted, the party “gets initiative” and attacks before the monster group does. Exception: if the players are making a lot of noise nearby, for example knocking on the door to the room or casting spells at the door, the monsters in the room are on high alert and will attack first, and you should tell the players the reason that this happened. Normal combat actions nearby do not cause this alertness.

Combat Actions

During a round of combat, a character or monster can do ONE of the following:

- Attack the nearest enemy (if there are two at roughly the same distance, either can be chosen). Some weapons and spells can attack any enemy, regardless of location in the room.
- Spend a spell token to cast a spell.
- Move up to 3 squares in the room, using adjacent non-diagonal moves.
- Use a potion.
- Equip a shield (fighters only)
- Use another item that may be available.

Special Combat States



If a character is **Invisible**, they cannot be targeted by any spells or be attacked. The character can move or drink a potion or take a non-offensive action such as equipping a shield without losing invisibility. If an invisible character attacks or casts a spell, they lose their invisibility. However, if they roll a complete miss, they can immediately reroll the attack once for free (but they still become visible no matter what). Some monsters may be able to see invisible characters. They are not caught by surprise like this, and they can also attack the invisible character.


If a character is **Stunned** or **Frozen**, they cannot take any action on their next combat turn. These two states have the same effect.

If a character has a **Shield** equipped, the next attack or spell that hits that character instead does 0 damage and has no other effects, and the shield is destroyed. Misses have no effect on the shield. Attacks that involve more than one die roll (such as the Rogue’s twin dagger attack) are completely absorbed even if both dice hit.




Spells and Abilities

Wizard:

- Level 1:  **Frost Bolt:** Target any enemy in the room using a pair of dice: The grey “S” die is rolled for damage, and the white “H” die is rolled to see if the target is *frozen*. Can cast 4 times per dungeon level.
- Level 3:  **Invisibility:** Target becomes invisible. Can cast 3 times per dungeon level.

- Level 6:  **Fireball:** Target any enemy in the room using the red “F” die. Target is automatically *stunned* (unless it’s immune to *stun*), even if a Shield or Protect spell is active. Can cast 2 times per dungeon level.

Cleric:

- Level 1:  **Heal:** Target gains 2 health points, limited by their starting health total. Can cast 2 spells per dungeon level.
- Level 3:  **Turn Undead:** All undead in the room take 2 damage. If used by a monster, all undead in the room gain 2 health. Can cast 3 spells per dungeon level, in any combination of Heals and Turn Undeads.
- Level 6:  **Protect:** Target gains a shield, as if they equipped a shield item. If Protect and a shield item are both active at once, the Protect works first. Two Protect spells can’t be active on the same character at the same time. Can cast 4 spells per dungeon level, in any combination of Heals, Turn Undeads, and Protects.

Warrior:




- Level 3:  Can use shields.

Rogue:






- Level 1: In certain rooms, may be able to find hidden items that other players miss.
- Level 3: Whenever the rogue enters a new room with monsters in it, they sneak in and become *invisible* to those monsters. Does not work against wandering monsters.
- Level 5: Can switch between any available weapons at will.
- Level 6: Sneaking also works against wandering monsters.

Items

There are a number of different items that can be found in the campaign. Players should generally not be told how to use them or what they do; they should think of uses themselves. Campaigns may introduce other items than those basic ones described here. When not in combat, items can be traded freely between characters, but otherwise each item is held by one character.

-  **Health Potion:** Can be used in or out of combat to recover 2 health points for the drinker, limited by their starting health total. Destroyed when used.
-  **Mana Potion:** Can be used in or out of combat to recover 1 spell token of the drinker’s choice (for spells that drinker has access to). Destroyed when used.
-  **Empty Bottle:** At a fountain, the bottle can be filled with fountain water, at which point it becomes a potion that matches the type of the fountain. A bottle can only be filled once.
- **Rock:** A good-sized rock can be thrown at an enemy as a combat action. It automatically hits for no damage, but stuns the target for one combat round. Can target any enemy in the room regardless of location.
- **Lumber:** A long wooden plank. Can be used to cross a pit safely (see the section on pits)

Dungeon Features

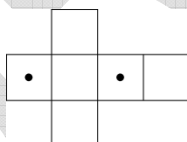
- 
Door: Doors and Gates are placed upright in stands on the map, at the edge between two map tiles. They can be opened as long as there are no active enemies in the room and if they are not locked.
- 
Key: Opens a specific locked door or chest, as given in the dungeon description.
- 
Chest: Small or large chests have tokens that are placed flat in the room as described. They cannot be moved, but they can be opened if they are not locked.
- 
Fountain: This icon is placed flat in the room. Drinking from the fountain has a magical effect as specified in the room description, and can typically only be used once per player. Empty bottles can be filled at a fountain to become the matching type of potion.
- 
Trap door: This icon is placed flat in the room and functions as a gateway that ends the level and/or starts the next level. Can be traversed just like a normal door.
- 
Pit: This icon is placed flat in the room. Players cannot walk directly across it. Players should figure out on their own how to cross it. If they carry a piece of lumber to the pit, they can cross it directly. If a character jumps into the pit, they lose 1 health and can climb out on the other side. If a character climbs carefully to the bottom of the pit, they take no damage and can climb out on the other side, but roll for a wandering monster each time a character takes the time to do this.

Appendix: Dice

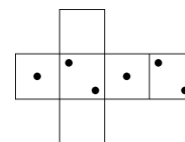
In case of color blindness issues, or B&W reprints, or missing dice, here is the configuration of each standard weapon die:



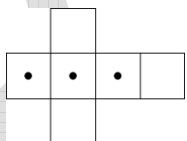
Black "U" Die



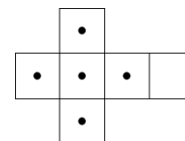
Grey "S" Die



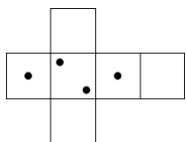
Orange "D" Die



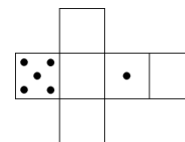
White "H" Die



Blue "M" Die

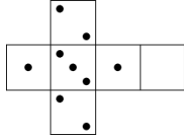


Green "B" Die

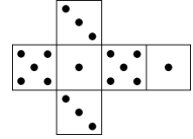




Large Grey "G" Die



Red "F" Die



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