

Phbr3 Complete Priest Advanced Dungeons And Dragon Reference

phbr3 complete priest advanced dungeons and dragon is a comprehensive resource for enthusiasts and players of the classic tabletop role-playing game, Dungeons & Dragons (D&D). As one of the most enduring and popular role-playing games in history, D&D offers players an immersive experience in fantasy worlds filled with magic, monsters, and heroism. The "phbr3" refers to the third edition of the Player's Handbook Rules, which provides detailed guidelines for character creation, gameplay mechanics, and class development, specifically focusing on the priest or cleric class.

This article delves into the nuances of the **Complete Priest** supplement within the context of D&D's third edition, offering insights into how to optimize priest characters, understanding their role in adventuring parties, and exploring advanced strategies for high-level play. Whether you're a new player or a seasoned Dungeon Master, understanding the intricacies of the priest class as detailed in the *phbr3* resource is essential for crafting compelling stories and effective characters.

Understanding the Role of the Priest in D&D 3.5 (phbr3)

What Is a Priest or Cleric in D&D?

The priest, often called a cleric in D&D, is a divine spellcaster who draws power from a deity or divine force. Their primary role is to serve as a healer, protector, and supporter within the party, wielding divine magic to aid allies and smite evil foes. Clerics are versatile characters capable of filling multiple roles, including:

- Healing and restoring health
- Turning or controlling undead
- Casting powerful divine spells
- Serving as moral or spiritual leaders within the party

In the *phbr3* context, the priest class is expanded with detailed options for customization, advanced spell choices, and strategic feats.

Core Features of the Complete Priest

The Complete Priest supplement in D&D's third edition introduces several features that enhance the

traditional priest class:

- Domain Spells and Powers: Access to domains grants special abilities and spells aligned with specific aspects of deity worship.
- Enhanced Spellcasting: More spell slots and spell options at higher levels, allowing for greater versatility.
- Prestige Classes: Opportunities to advance into specialized priestly roles, such as the Hierophant or the Sacred Exorcist.
- Feats and Abilities: New feats tailored for divine casters, such as improved turning undead or increased healing powers.
- Equipment and Magic Items: Recommendations for gear that complements priestly abilities.

Building a Strong Priest Character in D&D 3.5 (phbr3)

Choosing a Deity and Domain Alignment

Your choice of deity significantly influences your priest's abilities, spells, and role-playing opportunities. Domains are thematic categories associated with deities that grant specific powers and spell lists, such as:

- Healing Domain: Focused on restoration and support
- War Domain: Emphasizes combat prowess
- Knowledge Domain: Grants wisdom and utility spells
- Protection Domain: Provides defensive enhancements

Selecting the right domain aligns your character's strengths with your party's needs and your role-playing style.

Attribute Priorities for Priests

Optimal attribute distribution is key to maximizing a priest's effectiveness:

- Wisdom (Primary): Boosts spellcasting ability, spell save DCs, and special abilities.
- Charisma: Enhances turning undead, divine bond, and social interactions.
- Constitution: Increases hit points and survivability.
- Strength/Dexterity: Important for melee combat and defense.
- Intelligence: Useful for knowledge skills and spell preparation.

Skills and Feats for Advanced Priests

Key skills for priests include:

- Heal: Essential for supporting the party
- Concentration: To maintain spells under duress
- Knowledge (Religion): To understand divine lore
- Spellcraft: To identify magic and craft spells

Feats to consider include:

- Combat Casting: To cast spells in combat without interruption
- Extra Turning: To increase undead control
- Augment Healing: To improve healing spells
- Divine Interference: For divine intervention in critical moments

Advanced Strategies for Priest Play in D&D 3.5

Optimizing Spell Selection and Usage

Priests have access to a broad array of spells. Strategic selection involves balancing offensive, defensive, and utility spells based on party composition and campaign setting. Key considerations:

- Prepare a mix of healing spells (e.g., Cure Wounds, Heal)
- Include protective spells (e.g., Shield of Faith, Protection from Evil)
- Use utility spells (e.g., Remove Curse, Identify)
- Save powerful domain spells for critical moments

Regularly updating spell lists at each level ensures adaptability and maximum impact.

Effective Party Support

Priests shine when they support their allies effectively. Techniques include:

- Maintaining buffs on the party (e.g., Bless, Prayer)
- Managing resources to ensure healing and protection over long encounters
- Using turning or rebuking undead strategically

- Coordinating with spellcasters and melee fighters for synergistic effects

Leveraging Prestige Classes and Special Abilities

Prestige classes offered in the *Complete Priest* supplement can significantly enhance your character:

- Hierophant: Specializes in divine magic and leadership
- Exorcist: Focuses on combating planar and undead threats
- Cleric of the Great Mother: Emphasizes fertility, nature, and healing

Choosing a prestige class depends on your character concept and campaign needs.

Magic Item and Equipment Optimization

Magic items tailored for priests can amplify their effectiveness:

- Headbands of Wisdom: Increase spellcasting ability
- Periapt of Health: Prevent disease and poison
- Holy Symbols: Enhance spellcasting and divine focus
- Cloaks of Resistance: Provide protection against spell resistance and damage

Strategic use of such items can turn the tide of difficult encounters.

Role-Playing a Priest in D&D Campaigns

Developing a Priestly Backstory

A compelling backstory for your priest character can involve:

- Devotion to a specific deity or divine principle
- Personal quest or mission aligned with divine goals
- Past experiences with divine intervention or miracles
- Cultural and societal influences shaping their spiritual beliefs

Such depth enhances role-playing and party dynamics.

Implementing Divine Powers in Gameplay

Divine powers are not limited to spells. Priests can:

- Perform miracles and blessings
- Conduct rites and ceremonies
- Engage in moral dilemmas based on their faith
- Use divine intervention at critical moments (with DM approval)

Balancing these elements creates a rich role-playing experience.

Party Dynamics and Leadership

Priests often serve as moral compass and leaders within adventuring parties. Effective leadership involves:

- Coordinating strategies based on divine strengths
- Supporting and healing allies
- Making ethical decisions aligned with their faith
- Navigating conflicts with other characters or factions based on religious beliefs

Conclusion: Mastering the Complete Priest in D&D 3.5

The **phbr3 complete priest advanced dungeons and dragon** resource offers a detailed blueprint for building powerful, versatile, and thematically rich priest characters. From selecting the right deity and domains to mastering spellcasting and leveraging prestige classes, players can craft priests who are both effective in gameplay and compelling in role-playing.

By understanding the core mechanics, strategic options, and advanced tactics outlined above, players can maximize their priest's potential in any campaign setting. Whether supporting allies with divine blessings, smiting evil with divine wrath, or leading with spiritual authority, a well-crafted priest can be the linchpin of any adventuring party.

Embrace the divine power within and become a legendary priest in your D&D adventures!

PHBR3 Complete Priest Advanced Dungeons and Dragons: An In-Depth Guide

In the expansive world of Advanced Dungeons & Dragons (AD&D), the PHBR3 Complete Priest stands out as a comprehensive resource for players and Dungeon Masters alike. As a pivotal supplement in the series, PHBR3 offers detailed insights into the priest class, providing a rich foundation for character development, spellcasting strategies, and divine role-playing. Whether

you're a seasoned veteran or new to the game, understanding the nuances of the PHBR3 Complete Priest can elevate your gameplay experience and deepen your engagement with the divine aspects of AD&D.

Introduction to PHBR3 Complete Priest

The PHBR3 Complete Priest was published as part of the "Player's Handbook Reference" series in the late 1980s, aiming to provide an expanded, detailed look into the priest class beyond the core rules. It serves as an essential guidebook, offering new options for character customization, divine domains, spells, and role-playing tips that help players embody their priest characters more convincingly and effectively.

This supplement is particularly valued for its thorough exploration of divine magic mechanics, alignment considerations, and the broad array of priestly subclasses—each with unique powers, limitations, and flavor. For Dungeon Masters, it offers a treasure trove of ideas for incorporating divine characters into campaigns, designing divine conflicts, and creating compelling religious factions.

The Role of the Priest in AD&D

Before delving into the specifics of PHBR3, it's important to understand the foundational role of the priest in AD&D:

- Divine Magic Users: Priests wield divine magic granted by deities or divine forces. Their spellcasting relies heavily on their faith, alignment, and relationship with their deity.
- Support and Healing: They are often the backbone of any adventuring party, providing healing, buffs, and protective spells.
- Divine Intermediaries: Priests serve as mediators between mortals and the divine, often undertaking quests, rituals, or acts of faith to fulfill their divine mandate.
- Role-Playing Opportunities: Priests embody their faith in every action, making them rich characters for storytelling and moral dilemmas.

Key Features of PHBR3 Complete Priest

The supplement expands on these core concepts, adding layers of complexity and customization:

- New Divine Domains: Introducing additional domains that reflect various aspects of divine power—such as war, healing, knowledge, and nature—each with unique spells and abilities.
- Expanded Spell Lists: Offering new spells and variant spellcasting rules that enhance the

priest's versatility.

- Class Variants and Subclasses: Including specialized priest types like the "Cleric of the Forge" or "Priest of Nature," each with unique abilities and thematic flavor.
- Alignment and Deity Relations: Deepening the importance of alignment, deity selection, and religious practices in character creation and development.
- Role-Playing Tips: Providing guidance on embodying your priest's faith, handling religious conflicts, and integrating divine themes into campaigns.

Divinity and Domains in PHBR3

One of the most critical aspects of the PHBR3 Complete Priest is its detailed treatment of divine domains, which serve as thematic and mechanical pillars for priest characters. Domains influence spell access, special abilities, and role-playing flavor.

Common Domains and Their Features

- Healing Domain: Focused on restorative magic, healing domain priests gain enhanced healing spells and abilities that bolster allies' vitality.
- War Domain: Emphasizing martial prowess, war domain priests have combat-oriented spells and may gain special combat bonuses.
- Knowledge Domain: Dedicated to insight and information, these priests excel at divination and gaining knowledge.
- Nature Domain: Tied to the natural world, these priests can invoke spells related to animals, plants, and environmental control.

Creating Your Own Domains

The supplement encourages creativity by allowing players and Dungeon Masters to craft custom domains, tailoring divine powers to fit specific campaign themes or deity portfolios. This flexibility ensures that priests can be uniquely aligned with their divine patron's ethos.

Spellcasting and Magic in PHBR3

The PHBR3 Complete Priest provides an expanded spell list, introducing new spells that enhance both role-playing and combat capabilities. It also discusses the mechanics of spell preparation, memorization, and the importance of faith.

Notable Spells and Their Uses

- Divine Intervention: A powerful spell that can turn the tide of battle or resolve critical situations when faith is strong.
- Resurrection and Resurrection Variants: Offering options for bringing fallen allies back to life, with specific conditions and limitations.
- Protection Spells: Including new protective enchantments that shield against evil, curses, or specific enemies.

Spellcasting Tips

- Prioritize spells based on your priest's divine domain and campaign needs.
- Balance healing, utility, and offensive spells for versatility.
- Use role-playing to determine how faith influences spell success and casting frequency.

Priest Subclasses and Specializations

PHBR3 introduces a variety of priest subclasses, each emphasizing different aspects of divine service. Some notable examples include:

- Cleric of the Forge: Focused on craftsmanship, smithing, and fire magic, this subclass is ideal for campaigns centered around industry or technology.
- Priest of Nature: Embodying the wild, these priests excel at summoning animals and controlling natural elements.
- Healing Specialist: Dedicated entirely to restorative magic, with powerful healing spells and abilities that can revive multiple allies.

Each subclass provides unique abilities, spell lists, and role-playing hooks, allowing for highly customized characters.

Alignment and Deity Selection

Alignment plays a crucial role in defining a priest's relationship with their deity and their role within the game world. The PHBR3 emphasizes the importance of:

- Choosing a Deity: Reflecting a priest's beliefs, goals, and moral outlook.
- Alignment Compatibility: Ensuring that the priest's alignment aligns with their deity's ethos to avoid divine disfavor.
- Religious Practices: Rituals, offerings, and rites that reinforce the priest's faith and influence divine favor.

This focus on alignment and deity relationships adds depth to character creation and campaign storytelling.

Role-Playing a Priest: Tips and Strategies

The PHBR3 Complete Priest offers invaluable advice for role-playing a divine character:

- Embody Faith: Make your character's belief system central to their actions and decisions.
- Handle Religious Conflicts: Use divine conflicts or moral dilemmas to create compelling storylines.
- Develop Rituals and Worship: Incorporate rituals, prayers, and offerings into gameplay to deepen immersion.
- Engage with the Campaign World: Interact with religious factions, temples, and divine artifacts to enrich your experience.

Incorporating PHBR3 into Your Campaign

Dungeon Masters can leverage the tools in PHBR3 to craft engaging stories around divine characters:

- Design Religious Factions: Create churches, temples, and cults with distinct beliefs and agendas.
- Develop Divine Quests: Incorporate quests that involve divine intervention, artifact retrieval, or moral tests.
- Foster Divine Conflict: Use divine rivalries or conflicts to drive campaign plots.

By integrating PHBR3's content, campaigns can gain a richer, more immersive divine element that resonates with players.

Final Thoughts

The PHBR3 Complete Priest remains a treasured resource for AD&D enthusiasts who want to deepen their understanding of divine magic, priestly roles, and religious storytelling. Its detailed approach to domains, spells, and role-playing tips offers a comprehensive toolkit for bringing divine characters to life. Whether used to create a devout healer, a martial priest, or a mystical divine agent, PHBR3 empowers players and DMs to explore the divine side of AD&D with nuance and creativity.

Embracing the guidelines and options provided by PHBR3 can transform standard priest characters

into memorable, impactful figures who shape the course of your campaign's story and leave a lasting impression on your gaming table.

Ready to explore the divine? Dive into PHBR3 Complete Priest and unlock the full potential of your priestly characters today.

QuestionAnswer What is PHBR3 Complete Priest in Advanced Dungeons & Dragons? PHBR3 Complete Priest is a supplement that provides detailed rules, character options, and guidance specifically tailored for priest-type characters in Advanced Dungeons & Dragons, expanding on their abilities, spells, and role-playing opportunities. How does PHBR3 enhance priest character customization? It introduces new domains, spells, and class features, allowing players to tailor their priest characters more closely to their chosen deity or concept, and offers new options for divine magic and role-playing depth. Are there new spells included in PHBR3 for priests? Yes, PHBR3 includes a variety of new spells and spell variants designed specifically for priests, expanding their magical repertoire and strategic options during gameplay. Does PHBR3 provide guidance on building a priest character for advanced campaigns? Absolutely. It offers detailed advice on creating and developing priest characters suitable for high-level, complex campaigns, including tips on choosing domains, deities, and aligning character backstory with divine powers. What are the key features of the 'Complete Priest' in PHBR3? Key features include new subclasses, domains, spells, divine abilities, and role-playing suggestions that help players deepen their priest characters' abilities and their connection to their deities. Is PHBR3 compatible with other AD&D supplements? Yes, PHBR3 is designed to integrate smoothly with other Advanced Dungeons & Dragons supplements, allowing for expanded character options and cohesive game mechanics across different sourcebooks. How does PHBR3 support role-playing for priest characters? It offers extensive role-playing guidance, including deity descriptions, moral alignments, and divine mission suggestions, to help players create more immersive and meaningful priest characters. Can players use PHBR3 to create unique divine powers for their priests? Yes, the supplement provides rules and guidelines for customizing divine powers and spells, enabling players to craft unique abilities aligned with their deity's portfolio and their character's story. Is PHBR3 suitable for new players or more experienced Dungeon Masters? PHBR3 is primarily aimed at experienced players and Dungeon Masters who want to deepen their priest characters and divine magic options, but it can also serve as a valuable resource for new players seeking comprehensive character development guidance.

Related keywords: phb, dnd 5e, priest class, cleric skills, divine magic, spellcasting, character build, dungeon crawling, adventure, tabletop role-playing