



ALTERNATE BARBARIAN



HOMEBREW

Become the Unstoppable Destructive Force You Were Meant to Be!

THE BARBARIAN

The massive half-orc let out a blood-curdling battle cry as he leaped from the roof onto the back of the gargantuan blue dragon. As the great foe flew into the sky, he gripped the dragon's spines with a near-supernatural level of strength. No matter how much it twisted and turned, the dragon could not shake the warrior from his back. As the monster tired, the half-orc drew his greatsword and plunged it into the neck of the beast. After the dust cleared, the warrior emerged victorious from the crumpled heap of blue scales that had once terrorized the kingdom.

As the goblins began to come over the ramparts, the young warrior emptied her mind and gave herself over to the bloodlust of battle. Her massive axe severed the head of the first goblin to climb the wall, and before its head hit the ground she had another goblin by the throat. As her foe begged for his puny life she let out a guttural roar and threw him from the top of the walls. Minutes later, she would come to her senses surrounded by the fallen bodies of those who had dared to assault the citadel of her ancestors.

A rag-tag group of adventurers fled the collapsing tomb, a hulking white dragonborn leading the way. He could see the exit ahead, but his instincts told him that he was the only one fast enough to make it out before the roof caved in. Drawing upon the ancestral draconic fury in his blood, he shouldered the stone mantle of the doorway. When his final companion made it safely through, he let out a roar of triumph and the weight of the entire front wall of the temple fell behind him.

The three characters described above are examples of the primal warriors known as barbarians. Drawing upon primal instinct and the fury of their Rage, they become unstoppable forces of destruction when they take to the battlefield.

PRIMAL INSTINCTS

Not all warriors learn to fight from expert soldiers or formal schools of war. Those known as barbarians are born with a lust for battle in their blood. They are able to wield weapons of war with deadly force based on pure instinct. What they lack in technique, these wild warriors make up for with pure brute force. Like an animal backed into a corner, a barbarian will fight with near-supernatural strength and ferocity.

UNBRIDLED RAGE

The source of every barbarian's prowess in battle is the white hot Rage deep within their soul. How this Rage manifests is different for each primal warrior. For some barbarians, it is an irresistible lust for blood that only subsides when each of their foes lays slain at their feet. For others, their Rage is an emotionless trance that allows them to ignore any emotions, loyalties, or injuries that would interfere with their fight.

No matter how this primal Rage manifests itself, it grants all barbarians near-supernatural levels of might and allows them to shrug off blows that would fell a lesser warrior. The wild fury of Rage drives a barbarian to be the first to engage their foe, no matter how deadly. Many barbarians spend their lives seeking ever-greater foes to test the limits of their Rage, only satisfied when facing one who can match their strength.

CREATING YOUR BARBARIAN

When creating a barbarian, the most important thing for you to consider is how they first awakened their Rage. Did a lust for blood overtake you when your farm village was raided by bandits? Is your Rage fueled by a burning desire for revenge against a monster that killed someone you loved? Or, is your Rage a desire for someone who can match your strength?

Also, consider how your barbarian's Rage manifests itself in battle. Is it a frothing bestial fury that causes you to lose your sense of self? Is it an ancient trance passed down from the elders of your tribe so that you may defend your people? Or, does it manifest as a supernatural instinct in battle that allows you to predict the weak points of your enemies and shrug off deadly blows that would slay any other mortal?

MULTICLASSING AND THE BARBARIAN

If your group uses the optional multiclassing rule, here's what you need to know when you choose to take your first level in the barbarian class.

Ability Score Minimum. As a multiclass character, you must have a minimum of 13 Strength to take your first level in the barbarian class, or to take a level in another class if you're already a barbarian.

Proficiencies. If barbarian isn't your initial class, here are the proficiencies you gain when you take your first level in the barbarian class: all simple weapons, all martial weapons, and shields

Exploits. If you have another feature that allows you to learn and perform Exploits, add all of your Exploit Dice together into one pool, and they all become the size of your largest Exploit Die. You can then use any of these Exploit Dice to perform any Exploits you know from either source.



THE BARBARIAN

Level	PB	Features	Rages	Exploits Known	Exploit Die	Exploit Dice
1st	+2	Rage, Unarmored Defense	1	—	—	—
2nd	+2	Savage Exploits	1	2	d4	2
3rd	+2	Primal Path	1	2	d4	2
4th	+2	Ability Score Improvement	1	3	d4	2
5th	+3	Extra Attack, Reckless Attack	2	3	d6	3
6th	+3	Primal Path Feature	2	4	d6	3
7th	+3	Feral Instincts	2	4	d6	3
8th	+3	Ability Score Improvement	2	5	d6	3
9th	+4	Improved Critical (19)	2	5	d6	3
10th	+4	Primal Path Feature	2	6	d6	3
11th	+4	Critical Strike, Relentless Rage	2	6	d8	4
12th	+4	Ability Score Improvement	2	6	d8	4
13th	+5	Improved Critical (18)	2	7	d8	4
14th	+5	Primal Path Feature	2	7	d8	4
15th	+5	Persistent Rage	2	7	d8	4
16th	+5	Ability Score Improvement	2	7	d8	4
17th	+6	Improved Critical (17)	3	8	d10	5
18th	+6	Indomitable Might	3	8	d10	5
19th	+6	Ability Score Improvement	3	8	d10	5
20th	+6	Primal Champion	Unlimited	8	d10	5

CLASS FEATURES

HIT POINTS

Hit Dice: 1d12 per barbarian level

Hit Points at 1st Level: 12 + your Constitution modifier.

Hit Points at Higher Levels: 1d12 (or 7) + your Constitution modifier per barbarian level after 1st

PROFICIENCIES

Armor: Light armor, medium armor, shields

Weapons: Simple weapons, martial weapons

Tools: None

Saving Throws: Strength, Constitution

Skills: Choose two of the following: Animal Handling, Athletics, Intimidation, Nature, Perception, and Survival

EQUIPMENT

You start with the following equipment.

- (a) a greataxe, (b) greatsword, or a (c) maul
- (a) two handaxes or (b) any simple weapon
- hide armor, an explorer's pack, and four javelins

Alternately if your group uses the starting wealth rule to purchase equipment, a barbarian starts with 2d4 x 10 gp.

QUICK BUILD

You can make a barbarian quickly by using these suggestions. First, make Strength your highest ability score, followed by your Constitution. Second, choose the outlander background.

RAGE

In combat, you can fight with an unparalleled primal ferocity. Starting at 1st level, you can use a bonus action on your turn to enter a Rage. While your Rage lasts, you gain the benefits listed below, so long as you aren't wearing heavy armor:

- You have advantage on any Constitution checks, Strength checks, and Strength saving throws that you make.
- When you hit with a melee or thrown weapon attack that uses Strength, you deal a bonus 1d4 damage on hit. As you gain levels in this class, this damage bonus increases to match the Exploit Die column on the Barbarian table.
- You resist all bludgeoning, piercing, and slashing damage.
- You cannot cast spells or concentrate on spells or effects.

Your Rage lasts for 1 minute. Your Rage ends early if you are incapacitated, or if you end your turn and have not done one of the following since your last turn: attacked a creature, taken damage, used the Dash action to move as close as you can toward a hostile creature, or made a Strength check.

Once you enter a Rage, you must finish a short or long rest before you can do so again. As you gain barbarian levels, you can Rage additional times between each short or long rest, as shown in the Rages column on the Barbarian table above.

UNARMORED DEFENSE

Also at 1st level, so long as you aren't wearing armor, your Armor Class is equal to 10 + your Dexterity modifier + your Constitution modifier. You can use a shield with this feature.



SAVAGE EXPLOITS

Also at 2nd level, your lust for battle unlocks savage abilities that enhance your martial skill, both on and off the battlefield.

EXPLOIT DICE

The Barbarian table shows how many Exploit Dice you have to perform any Savage Exploits you know. To use one of these Exploits, you must expend one of your Exploit Dice. You can only use one Exploit per attack, ability check, or saving throw you make. You regain all of your expended Exploit Dice each time you finish a short or long rest.

Your Exploit Dice begin as d4s and increase in size as you gain levels in this class, as indicated in the Barbarian table.

EXPLOITS KNOWN

At 2nd level, you learn two Savage Exploits of your choice from the list at the end of this class. The Exploits Known column of the Barbarian table shows when you learn more Exploits of your choice. To learn an Exploit you must meet any prerequisites it may have, such as a minimum Ability Score or a certain barbarian level.

Each time you gain a barbarian level, you can replace one Exploit you know with another Exploit of your choice, for which you also meet any level or ability score prerequisites.

SAVING THROWS

If one of your Exploits requires a creature to make a saving throw, the Exploit saving throw DC is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Exploit save DC} = 8 + \text{your proficiency bonus} + \text{your Strength or Dexterity modifier (your choice)}$$

PRIMAL PATH

At 3rd level, you choose the Primal Path that best represents how your Rage manifests: Path of the Berserker, Path of the Brute, Path of the Champion, or Path of the Totem Warrior.

Your Primal Path grants you features at 3rd level, and again when you reach 6th, 10th, and 14th level in this class.

PRIMAL EXPLOITS

Each Primal Path includes a list of Exploits that each warrior of that Path learns at the levels noted in its description. They don't count against your total number of Exploits Known, and they can't be replaced when you gain a level in this class. If you don't meet their prerequisites, you learn them regardless.

ABILITY SCORE IMPROVEMENT

When you reach 4th level, and again at 8th, 12th, 16th, and 19th level, you can increase one ability score of your choice by 2, or two ability scores by 1. As normal, you can't increase one of your ability scores above 20 using this feature.

RECKLESS ATTACK

You can throw aside concern for defense to attack with fierce desperation. Starting at 5th level, when you make an attack on your turn, you can choose to attack recklessly. Doing so gives you advantage on melee or thrown weapon attack rolls that use Strength for the rest of the turn, but until the start of your next turn, all attack rolls targeting you have advantage.

EXTRA ATTACK

Beginning at 5th level, you can attack twice, instead of once, whenever you take the Attack action on your turn.

FERAL INSTINCTS

The primal power that fuels your Rage in combat has honed your senses as well. At 7th level, you gain the benefits below:

- Your Rage lasts for 10 minutes, and it only ends early if you are incapacitated or you choose to end it.
- You have advantage on your initiative rolls, and if you are surprised when you roll initiative you can act normally so long as you Rage as part of your first turn in combat.
- You have advantage on Dexterity saving throws against effects that you can see (such as traps and spells) so long as you are not, blinded, deafened, or incapacitated.

IMPROVED CRITICAL

Your unchecked anger increases the ferocity of your attacks. Beginning at 9th level, both your melee and thrown weapon attacks score a critical hit on a roll of 19 or 20 on the d20.

At certain levels this range increases: at 13th level you score a critical hit on a roll of 18-20, and at 17th level you score a critical hit on a roll of 17-20 on the d20.



A Raging half-orc barbarian recklessly attacks his foe!





CRITICAL STRIKE

Your ferocity in battle drives you to exploit every weakness of your foes. Starting at 11th level, when you score a critical hit while Raging, you can immediately use one Exploit you know without expending an Exploit Die as part of that attack.

RELENTLESS RAGE

The white hot fury of your Rage burns ever brighter. At 11th level you gain the following benefits while you are Raging:

- If you drop to 0 hit points, but you do not die outright, you can choose to end your Rage to drop to 1 hit point instead.
- When you are forced to make an Intelligence, Wisdom, or Charisma saving throw you gain a bonus to your roll equal to your Constitution modifier (minimum of +1).

PERSISTENT RAGE

You have mastered your Rage, becoming one with the anger within. Starting at 15th level, your Rage lasts for 1 hour and it only ends if you fall unconscious or you choose to end it.

INDOMITABLE MIGHT

Your physical power and stamina rival the heroes of legend. Starting at 18th level, if you make a Strength or Constitution check and the result of your roll is lower than your Strength score, you can use your Strength score in place of result.

PRIMAL CHAMPION

You embody the raw power of the primal wilderness, and have exceeded the physical limits of normal mortals. At 20th level, both your Strength and Constitution scores increase by 4, and your maximum for both of those scores is now 24.

PRIMAL PATHS

Choose the Primal Path that best represents the ferocity and skills of your barbarian: the Path of the Berserker, Path of the Brute, Path of the Champion, or Path of the Totem Warrior.

PATH OF THE BERSERKER

The savage warriors known as berserkers live for the chaos of battle. For these barbarians, their Rage is a manifestation of their lust for violence and destruction. Often found on the front lines of battle, berserkers only feel fully alive when they are risking life and limb to test their might against their foes.

BERSERKER EXPLOITS

You learn certain Exploits at the barbarian levels noted in the table below. These don't count against your number of Exploits Known and can't be switched upon gaining a level.

Barbarian Level	Exploit
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3rd	<i>feral senses, menacing shout</i>
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5th	<i>bloodthirsty critical, savage rebuke</i>
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9th	<i>roar of triumph</i>
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FRENZIED RAGE

When you choose this Primal Path at 3rd level, can unleash wild fury. When you Rage, you can enter a Frenzied Rage. For the duration of a Frenzied Rage you can make a melee weapon attack as a bonus action on each turn, including the bonus action you used to enter your Frenzied Rage.

You can use this feature once with no negative effects, but for each additional time you do so before you finish a long rest, you suffer 1 level of exhaustion at the end of the Rage.





A dragonborn berserker works to collect some outstanding debts

MINDLESS RAGE

You give yourself over completely to your Rage. Beginning at 6th level, you cannot be charmed or frightened while you are Raging. If you are charmed or frightened when you enter a Rage, the effect is suspended for the duration of that Rage.

Moreover, while you are in a Frenzied Rage, you can ignore the effects of any levels of exhaustion you currently have.

INTIMIDATING PRESENCE

Your imposing presence strikes fear into the hearts of your enemies. Starting at 10th level, you can use *menacing shout* without expending an Exploit Die a number of times equal to your Constitution modifier (minimum of once). You regain all expended uses of this feature when you finish a long rest.

PRIMAL RESTORATION

You can draw on the spark of fury within you to restore your body. Also at 10th level, when you finish a short rest, you can choose to reduce your current level of exhaustion by 1.

Once you use this feature to reduce your exhaustion level you must finish a long rest before you can do so again.

FURIOUS RETALIATION

Starting at 14th level, when you take damage from a creature that is within your reach, you can use your reaction to make a single melee weapon attack against that creature.

PATH OF THE BRUTE

While most barbarians hail from the wild places of the world, brutes discovered their Rage in the underbelly of civilization. Their abilities stem from a combination of street smarts and pure grit. All those who follow this Path share one thing in common, they prefer to solve their problems with their fists.

BRUTISH EXPLOITS

You learn certain Exploits at the barbarian levels noted in the table below. These don't count against your number of Exploits Known and can't be switched upon gaining a level.

Barbarian Level	Exploit
3rd	<i>imposing presence, take down</i>
5th	<i>concussive blow, greater hurl</i>
9th	<i>disorienting blow</i>

THE WRONG CROWD

Beginning when you choose this Primal Path at 3rd level, if you spend a night carousing in a settlement of any size, you have advantage on ability checks to gather information on that settlement, its culture, factions, and important figures.

UNARMED & DANGEROUS

You have honed your body into a deadly weapon. Beginning at 3rd level, your unarmed strikes deal bludgeoning damage equal to 1d4 + your Strength modifier on hit. If you have two free hands, the d4 damage die becomes a d6.

Moreover, you gain the following benefits while Raging:

- When you take the Attack action on your turn and make only unarmed strike attacks, you can make an additional unarmed strike as part of that same Attack action.
- Once per turn, when you hit with an unarmed strike, you can attempt to grapple the target as part of that same attack, so long you have a free hand to grapple the target.

FISTS OF FURY

The force of your strikes sends your foes reeling. Starting at 6th level, when you hit a creature with an unarmed strike, you can use *concussive blow* without expending an Exploit Die.

You can use *concussive blow* in this way number of times equal to your Constitution modifier (minimum of once), and you regain all expended uses when you finish a long rest.

Additionally, while you are Raging, your unarmed strikes count as magical for the purpose of overcoming resistances and immunities to nonmagical attacks and damage.

IRON GRIP

Once you have a hold of something it is nearly impossible for it to escape. At 10th level, you gain the following benefits:

- The size of creatures that you can grapple increases by one size. When you grapple a creature more than one size larger than you, it can move as normal, but you move with it so long as there is an unoccupied space adjacent to it.
- While you are dragging a grappled creature that is one size larger than you or smaller, your speed isn't reduced.
- While Raging, the damage die for your unarmed strikes becomes 1d6, or 1d8 if you have two free hands.
- You gain a climbing speed equal to your walking speed.

BRUTISH DETERMINATION

You can shrug off physical blows that would devastate others. Beginning at 14th level, when you make a Strength, Dexterity, Constitution, or death saving throw, you add 1d4 to your roll.

Should you roll a 20 or higher on a death saving throw, you instantly regain consciousness and stand up with 1 hit point.

Finally, the damage die for your unarmed strikes becomes 1d8, or 1d10 if you have two free hands.



PATH OF THE CHAMPION

At the front of every great fighting force stands a Champion. These elite warriors are masters of battle who stand as paragons of honorable combat and fair play. Often, they seek out the most powerful of their foes and look to swiftly end conflicts with honorable duels or athletic competitions.

CHAMPION EXPLOITS

You learn certain Exploits at the barbarian levels noted in the table below. They don't count against your number of Exploits Known and can't be switched upon gaining a level.

Barbarian Level Exploit

3rd	<i>feat of strength, mighty leap</i>
5th	<i>thunderous blow, warrior's challenge</i>
9th	<i>resilient body</i>

FIGHTING STYLE

When you choose this Primal Path at 3rd level, you enhance your Rage with martial technique. You learn a Fighting Style of your choice from the list below. You can't learn a Fighting Style more than once, even if you gain this feature again.

Whenever you gain a level in this class, you can switch your Fighting Style for another option from the list below.

DUAL WIELDING

When you take the Attack action while two-weapon fighting, you can make a single additional attack with your off-hand weapon as part of your action instead of your bonus action, adding your ability modifier to the damage of this attack.

GREAT WEAPON FIGHTING

When you roll a 1 or 2 on the damage die for an attack you make with a two-handed or versatile melee weapon that you are wielding with two hands, you can reroll the damage die. You must use your new roll, even if it is a 1 or a 2.

IMPROVISED FIGHTING

You gain proficiency with improvised weapons. Once per turn, when you hit with a non-magical improvised weapon attack, you can roll the damage die twice and take the higher roll. When you do so, the improvised weapon is destroyed and cannot be used for further attacks.

STRONGBOW

You can use your Strength modifier, in place of Dexterity, for your attack and damage rolls with longbows and shortbows.

MARTIAL TRAINING

Also at 3rd level, your training grants you increased combat skills. Your total number of Exploit Dice increases by one.

In addition, when you use an Exploit while Raging, the size of that Exploit Die increases by 1, to a maximum of a d12.

MIGHTY BLOW

Starting at 6th level, you can draw upon your Rage to fuel a single mighty blow. When you hit a creature with a melee or thrown weapon attack while Raging, you can instantly end your Rage and turn that attack into an automatic critical hit.

Once you use this feature you must finish a short or long rest before you can do so again.



A human champion takes to the battlefield!

REMARKABLE ATHLETE

You can regularly perform feats of athleticism that would be impossible for most mortals. Starting at 6th level, whenever you use either *feat of strength* or *mighty leap*, you can roll a d6 and use it instead of expending an Exploit Die.

When you reach 14th level, this d6 becomes a d8.

INVIGORATING CRITICAL

A solid strike renews your fighting spirit. Starting at 10th level, when you score a critical hit with a melee or thrown weapon attack, you regain hit points equal to your Exploit Die + your Constitution modifier (minimum of 1 hit point).

SURVIVOR

You are a nearly perfect specimen of physical vigor and have become exceedingly hard to kill. Beginning at 14th level, you gain temporary hit points equal to your Constitution modifier (minimum of 1) at the beginning of each of your turns.

PATH OF THE TOTEM WARRIOR

Barbarians who follow the Path of the Totem warrior seek to align themselves with powerful spirits of nature. Taking the forms of wild animals, these spirits bestow barbarians with primal totems that enhance their Rage with spiritual magic. In turn, totem warriors decorate their bodies, weapons, and armor with symbols reminiscent of their bestial totem spirit.

TOTEMIC EXPLOITS

You learn certain Exploits at the barbarian levels noted in the table below. These don't count against your number of Exploits Known and can't be switched upon gaining a level.

Barbarian Level Exploit

3rd	<i>mighty leap, primal intuition</i>
5th	<i>cripling critical, trampling rush</i>
9th	<i>savage defiance</i>





SPIRIT GUIDE

Your Totem Spirit teaches you to communicate with beasts. When you adopt this Primal Path at 3rd level, you learn to cast *beast sense* and *speak with animals* as ritual spells.

TOTEMIC SPIRIT

You have forged a bond with a Totemic Spirit of the natural world. At 3rd level, you choose a Totemic Spirit animal from the options listed below, gaining its accompanying feature:

Bear. The spirit of the bear increases your endurance and allows you to take significant punishment. While Raging, you are resistant to all damage except force and psychic damage.

Eagle. The spirit of the eagle grants you the ability to move swift as the wind. While Raging, so long as you aren't wearing heavy armor, you can take the Dash action as a bonus action, and opportunity attacks against you have disadvantage.

Wolf. The spirit of the wolf enhances your ability to lead your allies. While Raging, allied creatures have advantage on attack rolls against hostile creatures within 5 feet of you.

TOTEMIC ASPECT

Upon reaching 6th level, you gain a primal benefit based on your Totem Spirit animal. You can choose the same Totem Spirit animal you selected at 3rd level, or a different one.

Bear. The spirit of the bear grants you wondrous strength. You count as one size larger for the purposes of your carrying capacity and for the size of creatures you can grapple.

Eagle. The spirit of the eagle grants you superior eyesight. You have advantage on Wisdom (Perception) checks based on your sense of sight, and you can see up to 1 mile away with no difficulty, able to discern even fine details as though looking at something no more than 100 feet away from you.

Wolf. The spirit of the wolf grants you exceptional hunting abilities. You have advantage on Wisdom (Survival) checks to track creatures that are below their hit point maximum, and you can move stealthily while traveling at a normal pace.

SPIRIT WALKER

You have learned to call upon your Totem Spirit for guidance. Starting at 10th level, you can cast *commune with nature* as a ritual spell, beseeching your Totem Spirit for information.

TOTEMIC ATTUNEMENT

At 14th level, you gain a final supernatural ability based on your Totem Spirit animal. You can choose the same Totem Spirit animal you selected previously or a different one.

Bear. The spirit of the bear impels your enemies to attack you. While Raging, any creature you hit with a melee weapon attack has disadvantage on any attack roll it makes against creatures other than you until the start of your next turn.

Eagle. The spirit of the eagle empowers you with bursts of flight. While Raging, you have a flying speed equal to your walking speed. This flight works only in short bursts; you fall if you end your turn if nothing else is holding you aloft.

Wolf. The spirit of the wolf allows you to disable your foes. While Raging, you can use a bonus action to knock a creature that is one size larger than you, or smaller, prone, so long as you hit that creature with a melee attack on that same turn.

SAVAGE EXPLOITS

Below are the Exploits available to barbarians. If an Exploit has a prerequisite, like a minimum Ability Score or level, you can learn it at the same time you meet the prerequisites.

1ST-DEGREE EXPLOITS

Exploits of the 1st-degree are minor techniques slightly more complicated than swinging a weapon. They can be learned by warriors with modest training and have no level prerequisite.

BONEBREAKER CRITICAL

Prerequisites: Strength of 11

When you score a critical hit, you can expend an Exploit Die to cripple your target. For the next minute, the creature deals only half damage with weapon attacks that use Strength.

The creature can make a Constitution saving throw at the start of each of its turns, ending this effect on a success.

BRACE UP

Prerequisites: Constitution of 11

As a bonus action, you can expend an Exploit Die to instantly gain temporary hit points equal to your Exploit Die + your Constitution modifier (minimum of 1 temporary hit point).



CRUSHING GRIP

Prerequisites: Strength of 11

When you grapple a creature, you can expend an Exploit Die to enhance your grip. When you initiate this grapple, and at the start of each of the grappled creature's turns, the target takes bludgeoning damage equal to your Exploit Die.

DESTRUCTIVE STRIKE

Prerequisites: Strength of 11

When you hit a nonmagical object with an attack, you can expend an Exploit Die, adding it to the damage roll of that attack, and causing that attack to deal maximum damage.

FEAT OF STRENGTH

Prerequisites: Strength or Constitution of 11

Whenever you make a Strength or Constitution-based ability check or saving throw, you can expend an Exploit Die and add it to the result of your roll. You can use this Exploit after you roll, but before you know whether you succeed or fail.

FERAL SENSES

Prerequisites: Wisdom of 11

Whenever you make a Wisdom (Perception) or Wisdom (Survival) check, you can expend an Exploit Die and add it to the result of your roll. You can use this Exploit after you roll, but before you know whether you succeed or fail.

HEROIC FORTITUDE

Whenever you are forced to make a Strength, Dexterity, or Constitution saving throw, you can expend an Exploit Die and add it to the result of your roll. You can use this Exploit after you roll, but before you know whether you succeed or fail.

HURL

Prerequisites: Strength of 11

In place of an attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to throw an object you are holding at a target you can see within 60 feet, forcing it to make a Dexterity saving throw. On a failed save, both the target and the object take bludgeoning damage equal to your Exploit Die + your Strength modifier.

IMPOSING PRESENCE

Prerequisites: Strength or Charisma of 11

Whenever you make a Strength (Intimidation) or Charisma (Intimidation) check, you can expend an Exploit Die and add it to the result of your roll. You can use this Exploit after you roll, but before you know whether you succeed or fail.

MENACING SHOUT

As a bonus action, you can expend an Exploit Die and force a creature within 30 feet that can see or hear you to make a Wisdom saving throw. On a failed save, it is frightened of you for one minute. The creature can repeat the saving throw at the end of each of its turns, ending the effect on a success.

The fear effect ends early for the target if the frightened creature sees you take damage of any kind.

MIGHTY LEAP

Prerequisites: Strength of 11

When you make a running or standing jump, you can expend an Exploit Die to increase your jump distance by a number of feet equal to your Exploit Die roll + your Strength modifier, even if the distance exceeds your remaining speed.

MIGHTY THRUST

Prerequisites: Strength of 11

In place of an attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to force a creature within reach to make a Strength saving throw. On a failure, it is pushed away from you a number of feet equal to 5 times your Strength modifier. Creatures more than one size larger than you have advantage on their saving throw.

PRIMAL INTUITION

Prerequisites: Wisdom of 11

Whenever you make a Wisdom (Animal Handling), Wisdom (Medicine), or Intelligence (Nature) check, you can expend an Exploit Die and add it to your roll. You can use this Exploit after you roll, but before you know if you succeed or fail.

RUTHLESS STRIKE

Prerequisites: Strength of 11

When you hit a creature with a melee weapon attack, you can expend an Exploit Die and add it to the damage of the attack. You can use this Exploit after you know if your attack hits.

TAKE DOWN

Prerequisites: Strength of 11

As a bonus action, you can expend an Exploit Die to make a Shove or Grapple attack against a creature in your reach, adding your Exploit Die to your Strength (Athletics) check.

2ND-DEGREE EXPLOITS

Exploits of this degree represent the absolute peak of savage skill that is achievable without dedicated training. 2nd-degree Exploits can be learned by barbarians of 5th level or higher.

AGGRESSIVE STRIKE

Prerequisites: 5th level

As a bonus action, you can expend an Exploit Die and move up to your speed toward a hostile creature you can see and make one melee weapon attack against that hostile creature.

BLOODTHIRSTY CRITICAL

Prerequisites: 5th level, Strength of 13

When you score a critical hit, you can expend an Exploit Die to immediately make one additional weapon attack.

If you score a critical hit with the attack granted by this Exploit, you can't use this Exploit to make another attack.

CONCUSSIVE BLOW

Prerequisites: 5th level, Strength of 13

When you hit a creature with a melee attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to empower your attack, and force it to make a Constitution saving throw. On a failed save, the target suffers the following effects until the beginning of your next turn:

- Its speed becomes 0
- It can speak only falteringly.
- It cannot take actions, bonus actions, or reactions.
- It has disadvantage on Dexterity saving throws.

CRIPPLING CRITICAL

Prerequisites: 5th level, Strength of 13

When you score a critical hit, you can expend an Exploit Die to disable your foe. For 1 minute, its speed is reduced to 0.

The creature can make a Constitution saving throw at the start of each of its turns, ending this effect on a success.



EXECUTE

Prerequisites: 5th level, Strength of 13

In place of an attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to try to execute an incapacitated or prone creature within 5 feet of you. Make an attack roll with a melee weapon and add your Exploit die to the attack roll. If your attack roll exceeds the target's remaining hit points, its hit points are reduced to 0.

GREATER HURL

Prerequisites: 5th level, Strength of 13

As an action, you can expend an Exploit Die and attempt to throw a creature that is within your reach and at least one size smaller than you. It must succeed on a Strength saving throw or be thrown at a space of your choice within 30 feet.

If the target lands in an unoccupied space that cannot support it, it falls, takes falling damage, and lands prone.

If the target hits another creature, the other creature must succeed on a Dexterity saving throw or take bludgeoning damage equal to your Exploit Die + your Strength modifier.

If a feature causes you to count as one size larger for the purposes of carrying capacity, or the size of creatures you can grapple, you also count as one size larger for this Exploit.

IMMOVABLE STANCE

Prerequisites: 5th level, Strength or Constitution of 13

As a bonus action, you can expend an Exploit Die and plant your feet in an immovable stance. Until you move from that space, a creature that would move you, or move through your space, must succeed on a Strength saving throw to do so.

SAVAGE REBUKE

Prerequisite: 5th level

When a creature you can see hits you with a melee attack, you can use your reaction to expend an Exploit Die and make a single melee weapon attack against that creature.

SHATTERING SLAM

Prerequisites: 5th level, Strength of 13

In place of an attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to strike the ground at your feet, forcing creatures within 5 feet of you to make a Dexterity saving throw. On a failed save, creatures take bludgeoning damage equal to your Exploit Die + your Strength modifier and are knocked prone. On a successful save, creatures take half damage and do not fall prone.

If the area you strike is loose earth or stone, it becomes difficult terrain until a creature uses its action to clear it.

THUNDEROUS BLOW

Prerequisites: 5th level, Strength of 13

When you hit a creature with a melee weapon attack, you can expend an Exploit Die and force it to make a Strength saving throw. On a failure, it takes additional bludgeoning damage equal to your Exploit Die and is pushed away from you a number of feet equal to 5 times your Strength modifier. A creature larger than you has advantage on its saving throw.

TRAMPLING RUSH

Prerequisites: 5th level, Strength of 13

When you move at least 20 feet toward a creature and hit it with a melee weapon attack, you can expend an Exploit Die and attempt to trample the creature, forcing it to make a Strength saving throw. On a failed save, it is knocked prone and takes bludgeoning damage equal to your Exploit Die.

WARRIOR'S CHALLENGE

Prerequisites: 5th level

As a bonus action, you can expend an Exploit Die and force a creature within 30 feet that can see or hear you to make a Wisdom saving throw. On a failed save, it has disadvantage on any attack roll it makes against targets other than you for one minute. The creature can repeat the saving throw at the end of each of its turns, ending the effect on a success. This effect ends early if you attack a creature other than the target.

3RD-DEGREE EXPLOITS

These Exploits are masterful feats of savagery, and can only be learned by barbarians of 9th level or higher. Each Exploit of 3rd-degree can only be used once per short or long rest.

DESTRUCTIVE SLAM

Prerequisites: 9th level, Strength of 15

In place of an attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to strike the ground at your feet, forcing creatures in an adjacent 20-foot cube to make a Dexterity saving throw. On a failed save, creatures take bludgeoning damage equal to your Exploit Die + your Strength modifier and fall prone. On a successful save, they take half damage and don't fall prone. Any objects within this area take the maximum amount of damage.

The area of the 20-foot cube becomes difficult terrain until a creature takes 1 minute to clear it.

DISORIENTING BLOW

Prerequisites: 9th level, Strength of 15

When you hit a creature with a melee weapon attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to strike with overwhelming force. The creature takes additional damage equal to twice your Exploit Die and it suffers the effects listed below for 1 minute:

- Its speed is halved and it cannot take reactions.
- Its Armor Class is reduced by 2.
- Its Dexterity saving throw bonus is reduced by 2.
- On its turn it can only take an action or a bonus action.
- It cannot make more than one attack during its turn.

The creature can make a Wisdom saving throw at the end of each of its turns, ending these effects on a success.

RESILIENT BODY

Prerequisites: 9th level, Constitution of 15

When you take damage from a source you can see, you can expend an Exploit Die to reduce the damage by twice your Exploit Die + your Constitution modifier. Any hit points not consumed by the attack become temporary hit points.

ROAR OF TRIUMPH

Prerequisites: 9th level

When you score a critical hit, you can expend an Exploit Die to let out a cry that can be heard up to 300 feet away. You and a number of creatures of your choice that can hear you equal to your Constitution modifier (minimum of 1) gain temporary hit points equal to your level + your Constitution modifier.

SAVAGE DEFIANCE

Prerequisites: 9th level

As an action you can expend an Exploit Die to issue a savage challenge. Creatures of your choice within 60 feet that can hear you have disadvantage on any attack they make against creatures other than you until they target you with an attack.



WAR CRY

Prerequisites: 9th level

As an action, you can expend an Exploit Die and issue a mighty cry, forcing any hostile creature in an adjacent 30-foot cone that can hear you to make a Wisdom saving throw. On a failed save, creatures drop whatever they are holding and are frightened of you for one minute. If a creature ends its turn in a location where it doesn't have line of sight to you, it can repeat the saving throw, ending the effect on a success.

4TH-DEGREE EXPLOITS

Exploits of this degree can only be learned by barbarians of 13th level or higher, and each 4th-degree Exploit that you know can only be used once per short or long rest.

DEVASTATING CRITICAL

Prerequisites: 13th level, Strength of 17

When you score a critical hit, you can expend an Exploit Die to shatter the creature's focus. If it was concentrating on a spell or another effect, it automatically loses concentration.

For the next minute, the creature has disadvantage on Intelligence, Wisdom, and Charisma saving throws, and Constitution saving throws to maintain concentration.

The creature can make a Constitution saving throw at the start of each of its turns, ending this effect on a success.

STAGGERING BLOW

Prerequisites: 13th level, Strength of 17

When you hit a creature with a melee weapon attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to strike with near-supernatural force. The creature takes additional bludgeoning damage equal to three times your Exploit Die, and it has disadvantage attack rolls and ability checks, and can't take reactions for 1 minute.

The creature can make a Wisdom saving throw at the end of each of its turns, ending these effects on a success.

STRENGTH OF THE COLOSSUS

Prerequisites: 13th level, Strength of 17

As an action you can expend an Exploit Die to attempt a feat of godlike strength. For this action, the amount of weight you can push, drag, pull, or lift is equal to 50 times your Strength score.

Moreover, when you use this Exploit, you can expend Hit Dice to increase your strength even further. You can expend a total number of your Hit Dice, up to your Strength modifier, multiplying the amount you can push, drag, pull, or lift by 10 for each Hit Die you expend.

For each size category you are above Medium, the amount of weight you can move as part of this Exploit doubles.

For example, a Medium sized barbarian with 20 Strength could expend 1 Hit Die as part of this Exploit, multiplying their 20 Strength by 60, to lift up to 1,200 pounds. If they were Large, they would double this to 2,400 pounds.

UNBREAKABLE

Prerequisites: 13th level, Constitution of 17

When you take damage that would reduce you to 0 hit points, even if that damage would kill you outright, you can use your reaction to expend an Exploit Die to fall to 1 hit point.

5TH-DEGREE EXPLOITS

Exploits of the fifth degree are feats of savage skill that rival those of great monsters. These Exploits can only be learned by barbarians of 17th level or higher, and each 5th-degree Exploit can only be used once per short or long rest.

CATAclysmic SLAM

Prerequisites: 17th level, Strength of 19

In place of an attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to strike the ground at your feet with legendary power. A shockwave of earth and thunderous force erupts from you, forcing any creatures within 30 feet to make a Constitution saving throw. On a failed save, creatures take bludgeoning damage equal to three rolls of your Exploit Die + your Strength modifier and are knocked prone. On a successful save, creatures take half as much damage and don't fall prone. Any objects within this area take the maximum amount of damage.

The area becomes difficult terrain, and a creature can use its action to clear one 5-foot square of this difficult terrain.

VORPAL CRITICAL

Prerequisites: 17th level, Strength or Dexterity of 19

When you score a critical hit with a melee weapon attack, you can expend an Exploit Die to attempt to behead the target. If the creature's remaining hit points are equal to your level + your Strength (or Dexterity) score, or lower, you instantly cut off one of the creature's remaining heads.

The creature instantly dies if it cannot survive without the lost head. A creature is immune to this effect if it is immune to slashing damage, or it doesn't need a head.

A dragonborn totem warrior sports his greataxe and a bear-skin cloak



ALTERNATE PRIMAL PATHS

Below are changes to the official Primal Paths so they work with the Alternate Barbarian. Detailed here are Paths of the Ancestral Guardian, Battlerager, Storm Herald, and Zealot.

ALTERNATE ANCESTRAL GUARDIAN

Draw upon the power of mighty spirits to defend your allies! The full subclass is found in *Xanathar's Guide to Everything*.

ANCESTRAL EXPLOITS

New 3rd-level Ancestral Guardian feature

You learn certain Exploits at the barbarian levels noted in the table below. These don't count against your number of Exploits Known and can't be switched upon gaining a level.

Barbarian Level	Exploit
3rd	<i>heroic fortitude, primal intuition</i>
5th	<i>crippling critical, immovable stance</i>
9th	<i>resilient body</i>

SPIRIT SHIELD

Updated 6th-level Ancestral Guardian feature

Beginning at 6th level, you can call upon your guardian spirits to protect your allies. As a reaction, when a creature you can see within 30 feet takes damage, you can reduce that damage by an amount equal to one roll of your Exploit Die.

If you use this reaction while Raging, you can reduce the damage by an amount equal to two rolls of your Exploit Die.

The deadly weaponized boots of a dwarven battlerager



ALTERNATE BATTLERAGER

Charge into battle adorned with your signature spiked armor! Full subclass found in the *Sword Coast Adventurer's Guide*.

BATTLERAGER EXPLOITS

New 3rd-level Battlerager feature

You learn certain Exploits at the barbarian levels noted in the table below. These don't count against your number of Exploits Known and can't be switched upon gaining a level.

Barbarian Level	Exploit
3rd	<i>crushing grip, imposing presence</i>
5th	<i>aggressive strike, bloodthirsty critical</i>
9th	<i>savage defiance</i>

SAVAGE SMITH

New 3rd-level Battlerager feature

When you choose this Primal Path at 3rd level, you are taught the smithing skills necessary to maintain your unique armor. You gain proficiency with both smith's tools and heavy armor.

You can also Rage in heavy armor without any drawbacks.

SPIKED ARMOR

Updated 3rd-level Battlerager feature

Also at 3rd level, you learn to modify your armor so you can use it as a weapon. Over the course of an hour, which can be during a short or long rest, you can use smith's tools to affix spikes to a set of armor, turning it into Spiked Armor. Spiked Armor has the following properties when worn by you:

- It is as a martial melee weapon with a reach of 5 feet, and on hit, the Spiked Armor deals piercing damage equal to your Exploit Die + your Strength modifier.
- While you are Raging, you can use a bonus action on your turn to make a single Spiked Armor attack.
- When you successfully initiate a grapple, the grappled creature takes damage equal to your Exploit Die.

RECKLESS ABANDON

Updated 6th-level Battlerager feature

Beginning at 6th level, the thrill and danger of battle ignite your fighting spirit. When you Reckless Attack while Raging, you also gain temporary hit points equal to your Exploit Die. These temporary hit points vanish when your Rage ends.

In addition, you can turn magic armor into Spiked Armor.

SPIKED RETRIBUTION

Updated 14th-level Battlerager feature

Starting at 14th level, when a creature hits you with a melee attack while you are Raging and wearing your Spiked Armor, it takes piercing damage equal to your Strength modifier.

If you are conscious, you can use your reaction to replace this damage with the damage from a Spiked Armor attack.

OPTIONAL RULE: DWARVES ONLY

In some settings, only dwarves can train to become Battleragers - known as *Kuldjarghs* in Dwarvish. The GM can elect to use this restriction depending on the setting and various cultures in your game.



ALTERNATE STORM HERALD

Empower your Rage with the primal power of the elements! The full subclass is found in *Xanathar's Guide to Everything*.

HERALDIC EXPLOITS

New 3rd-level Storm Herald feature

You learn certain Exploits at the barbarian levels noted in the table below. These don't count against your number of Exploits Known and can't be switched upon gaining a level.

Barbarian Level	Exploit
3rd	<i>destructive strike, feral senses</i>
5th	<i>shattering slam, thunderous blow</i>
9th	<i>destructive slam</i>

STORM AURA

Updated 3rd-level Storm Herald feature

When you choose this Primal Path at 3rd level, you emanate an elemental aura in a 10-foot radius while you Rage. Choose one of the following elemental effects for your aura: Desert, Sea, or Tundra. When you enter a Rage, the corresponding elemental effect below takes place. While Raging, you can use a bonus action to activate the elemental effect again.

You can change the elemental effect of the aura each time you gain a level in this class. If your aura forces a creature to make a saving throw, it uses your Exploit save DC.

Desert. When activated, creatures, other than yourself, within your aura take fire damage equal to your Exploit Die.

Sea. When activated, you force a creature of your choice within your aura that you can see to make a Dexterity saving throw. It takes lightning damage equal to your Exploit Die + your Constitution modifier (minimum of 1) on a failed save, and half as much lightning damage on a successful save.

Tundra. When activated, creatures of your choice within the aura gain temporary hit points equal to your Exploit Die.

ELEMENTAL STRIKES

New 6th-level Storm Herald feature

The elemental power that fuels your Rage empowers your strikes. Beginning at 6th level, when you use an Exploit that deals damage while Raging, it deals elemental damage that reflects your Storm Aura, instead of the normal damage of that Exploit: Desert (fire), Sea (lightning), or Tundra (cold).

RAGING STORM

Updated 14th-level Storm Herald feature

Upon reaching 14th level, the power of the elemental storm you channel grows mightier, rebuking your foes. The effect is based on the element you chose for your Storm Aura.

Desert. As a reaction when a creature within your aura hits you with an attack, you can force it to make a Dexterity saving throw. On a failure, it takes fire damage equal to your Exploit Die + your Constitution modifier (minimum of 1).

Sea. Once per turn, when you hit a creature within your aura with an attack, you can force that creature to make a Strength saving throw. On a failed save, it is knocked prone.

Tundra. Whenever the effect of your Storm Aura is activated, you can force one creature you can see within your aura to make a Strength saving throw. On a failed save, its speed is reduced to 0 until the beginning of your next turn.



ALTERNATE ZEALOT

Fuel your Rage with the undying divine fury of your deity! The full subclass is found in *Xanathar's Guide to Everything*.

ZEALOUS EXPLOITS

New 3rd-level Zealot feature

You learn certain Exploits at the barbarian levels noted in the table below. These don't count against your number of Exploits Known and can't be switched upon gaining a level.

Barbarian Level	Exploit
3rd	<i>feat of strength, menacing shout</i>
5th	<i>savage rebuke, thunderous blow</i>
9th	<i>war cry</i>

DIVINE FURY

Updated 3rd-level Zealot feature

Starting when you choose this Primal Path at 3rd level, you can channel divine fury into your weapon strikes. The first creature you hit with a weapon attack on each turn while you are Raging takes bonus damage equal to your Exploit Die + your Constitution modifier (minimum of 1).

The type of this bonus damage changes depending on your alignment: Good (radiant), Neutral (thunder), Evil (necrotic).

RAGE BEYOND DEATH

Updated 14th-level Zealot feature

Beginning at 14th level, having 0 hit points doesn't knock you unconscious so long as you are Raging. While in this state, you still make death saving throws as normal, and you suffer the normal effects of taking damage while at 0 hit points.

If you fail three death saving throws, you must succeed on a Constitution saving throw at the start of each of your turns to maintain your Rage. The DC of this saving throw is 10 for the first turn, and it increases by 5 for each additional turn.

If your Rage ends, and you still have 0 hit points, you die.





THE ALTERNATE BARBARIAN

Become the unstoppable destructive force you were meant to be with this alternate take on the Barbarian for 5e! Includes Forty Savage Exploits and Eight New and Revised Primal Paths.

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