**The Barbarians Are Coming!**

He slays, he plunders. Nothing can stop him. He looks great in chainmail and fur. He’s the idol of every munchkin. And now, through some unspeakable cosmic accident, you – yes, YOU – are adventuring with the mighty Conan himself!

This is going to be very, very messy.

**Munchkin Conan** is based on the original **Munchkin** and uses the same card backs. It can also be combined with any or all of the other **Munchkin** card games (see p. 6), though things will get really strange.

This game includes 168 cards, one six-sided die, and these rules.

**Setup**

Three to six can play. To keep track of Level, you will need 10 tokens – or a gadget that counts to 10 – for each player.

Divide the cards into the Door deck and the Treasure deck. Shuffle both decks. Deal four cards from each deck to each player.

**Card Management**

Keep separate face-up discard piles for the two decks. You may not look through the discards unless you play a card that allows you to!

When a deck runs out, reshuffle its discards. If a deck runs out and there are no discards, nobody can draw any of that kind of card!

**In Play:** These are the cards on the table in front of you, showing your Race, Class, and Birthright (if any) and the Items you are carrying. Continuing Curses and some other cards also stay on the table after you play them.

**Your Hand:** Cards in your hand are not in play. They don’t help you, but they can’t be taken away except by cards that specifically affect “your hand.” At the end of your turn, you may have no more than five cards in your hand.

**When Cards Can Be Played:** Each type of card can be played at a specified time (see p. 5).

Cards in play may not be returned to your hand – they must be discarded or traded if you want to get rid of them.

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**Conflicts Between Cards and Rules**

This rulesheet gives the general rules. Cards may add special rules, so in most cases when the rulesheet disagrees with a card, follow the card. However, ignore any card effect that might seem to contradict one of the rules listed below unless the card explicitly says it supersedes that rule!

1. Nothing can reduce a player below Level 1, although card effects might reduce a player’s or a monster’s combat strength (p. 2) below 1.
2. You go up a level after combat only if you kill a monster.
3. You cannot collect rewards for defeating a monster (e.g., Treasure, levels) in the middle of a combat. You must finish the fight before gaining any rewards.
4. You must kill a monster to reach Level 10.

Any other disputes should be settled by loud arguments, with the owner of the game having the last word. You could also read the **Munchkin** FAQ and errata pages at [www.worldofmunchkin.com](http://www.worldofmunchkin.com), or start a discussion at [forums.sjgames.com](http://forums.sjgames.com) . . . unless it’s more fun to argue.

**Character Creation**

Everyone starts as a Level 1 character.

Look at your initial eight cards. If you have any Race, Class, or Birthright cards, you may (if you like) play one of each type by placing it in front of you. If you have any usable Items (p. 5), you may play them by placing them in front of you. If you have any doubt about whether you should play a card, you could read below, or you could just charge ahead and do it.
STARTING AND FINISHING THE GAME

Decide who goes first in any way that you agree on. Do not slay the other players. Save it for the monsters.

Play proceeds in turns, each with several phases (see below). When the first player finishes his turn, the player to his left takes a turn, and so on.

The first player to reach 10th level wins . . . but you must reach 10th level by killing a monster, unless a card specifically allows you to win another way.

TURN PHASES

At the start of your turn, you may play cards, switch items from “in use” to “carried” or vice versa, trade items with other players, and sell items for levels. When your cards are arranged the way you want, go to phase 1.

(1) Kick Open The Door: Draw one card from the Door deck and turn it face up.

If it’s a monster, you must fight it. See Combat. Resolve the combat completely before you go on. If you kill it, go up a level (or two, for some especially nasty monsters!) and take the appropriate number of Treasures.

If the card is a curse – see Curses, p. 6 – it applies to you immediately (if it can) and is discarded.

If you draw any other card, you may either put it in your hand or play it immediately.

(2) Look For Trouble: If you did NOT draw a monster when you first opened the door, you now have the option of playing a monster (if you have one) from your hand and fighting it, just as if you had found it when you kicked open the door. Don’t play a monster you can’t handle, unless you’re sure you can count on getting help!

(3) Loot The Room: If you did not find a monster by kicking open the door and you did not Look For Trouble, you loot the room . . . draw a second card from the Door deck, face down, and place it in your hand.

If you met a monster but ran away, you don’t get to loot the room.

(4) Charity: If you have more than five cards in your hand, you must play enough of them to get down to five, or give the excess to the player with the lowest Level. If players are tied for lowest, divide the cards as evenly as possible, but it’s up to you who gets the bigger set(s) of leftovers. If YOU are the lowest or tied for lowest, just discard the excess.

It is now the next player’s turn.

COMBAT

To fight a monster, compare its combat strength to yours. Combat strength is the total of Level plus all modifiers – positive or negative – given by items and other cards. If the monster’s combat strength is equal to yours, or greater, you lose the combat and must Run Away – see below. If your combat strength totals more than the monster’s, you kill it and go up a level (two levels for some big monsters). You’ll also get the number of Treasures shown on its card.

Sometimes a card, or a Class or Race power, will let you get rid of the monster without killing it. This is still “winning,” but you don’t get a level. Sometimes, depending on the card, you might not get the treasure, either.

Some monster cards have special powers that affect combat – a bonus against one Race or Class, for instance. Be sure to check these.

One-shot items, such as Lotus Powder, may be played directly from your hand during combat. You can also use one-shot items that you already had in play. One-shot items say “Usable once only.” Discard these cards after the combat, whether you win or lose.

Some Door cards may also be played into a combat, such as monster enhancers (see p. 5).

While you are in combat, you cannot sell, steal, equip, unequip, or trade items, or play items (except for one-shots) from your hand. Once you expose a monster card, you must resolve the fight with your equipment as it stands, plus any one-shot items you choose to play.

Discard the monster card, including any enhancers and one-shot items played, and draw a treausre (see p. 3). But note: someone may play a hostile card on you, or use a special power, just as you think you have won. When you kill a monster, you must wait a reasonable time, defined as about 2.6 seconds, for anyone else to speak up. After that, you have really killed the monster, and you really get the level(s) and treasure, though they can still whine and argue.

Fighting Multiple Monsters

Some cards (notably Wandering Monster) allow your rivals to send other monsters to join the fight. You must defeat their combined combat strengths. Any special monster abilities, such as forcing you to fight with your Level only, apply to the entire fight.

If you have the right cards, you can eliminate one monster from the combat and fight the other(s) normally, but you cannot choose to fight one and run from the other(s). If you eliminate one with a card or your Race or Class power, but then run from the other(s), you don’t get any Treasure!

Interfering With Combat

You can interfere with others’ combats in several ways:

Use a one-shot item. You could help another player by playing a “Usable once only” card against his foe. Of course, you can “accidentally” hit your friend with the card, and it will count against him.

Play a card to modify a monster. These cards (usually) make a monster stronger . . . and give it more treasure. You can play these either during your own combats or during someone else’s combat.

Play a Wandering Monster along with a monster from your hand to join any combat.

Backstab a player in combat, if you’re a thief.

Curse them, if you have a Curse card.
Asking For Help

If you cannot win a combat on your own, you may ask any other player to help you. If he refuses, you may ask another player, and so on, until they all turn you down or someone helps. Only one player can help you, adding his combat strength to yours. Anyone can play cards to affect your combat, however!

You can bribe someone to help. In fact, you'll probably have to. You may offer your helper any Item(s) you are currently carrying, or any number of the Treasure cards the monster has. If you offer him part of the monster's treasure, you must agree whether he picks first, or you pick first, or whatever.

The special abilities or vulnerabilities of the monster also apply to your helper, and vice versa. For instance, if a Warrior helps you, you will win if your combined total ties that of the monster, and he can Berserk and discard cards to add to his combat strength (but only once per combat, not once per monster). But if you are facing the mighty Thaug and a Cimmerian helps you, the monster’s combat strength is increased by 4 (unless you, too, are a Cimmerian and the monster’s combat strength has already been increased).

If someone successfully helps you, the monster is slain. Discard it, draw treasure (see below), and follow any special instructions on the monster card. You go up a level for each slain monster. Your helper does not get a level. You draw the Treasure cards, even if it was your helper's special ability that defeated the monster.

Running Away

If nobody will help you . . . or if somebody tries to help, and your fellow party members interfere so the two of you still cannot defeat it . . . you must run away.

If you run away, you don’t get any levels or treasure. You don’t even get to Loot the Room. And you don’t always escape unharmed!

Roll the die. You only escape on a 5 or better. Some items can help you run away. And some monsters are fast, and give you a penalty to your roll . . . or slow, like The God in the Bowl.

If you escape, discard the monster. You get no treasure.

If the monster catches you, it does Bad Stuff to you, as described on its card. This may vary from losing an item, to losing one or more levels, to Death.

If two players are cooperating and still can’t defeat the monster(s), they must both flee. They roll separately. The monster(s) CAN catch them both.

If you are fleeing from multiple monsters, you roll separately to escape each one, in any order you choose, and suffer Bad Stuff from each one that catches you as soon as it catches you.

Discard the monster(s).

Death

If you die, you lose all your stuff. You keep your Class(es), Race(s), Birthright(s), and Level (and any Curses that were affecting you when you died) – your new character will look just like your old one. If you have Half-Breed or Super Munchkin, keep those as well.

Looting The Body: Lay out your hand beside the cards you had in play. Starting with the one with the highest Level, each other player chooses one card . . . in case of ties in Level, roll a die. If your corpse runs out of cards, tough. After everyone gets one card, the rest are discarded.

Dead characters cannot receive cards for any reason, not even Charity, and cannot level up.

When the next player begins his turn, your new character appears and can help others in combat . . . but you have no cards.

On your next turn, start by drawing four cards from each deck, face-down, and playing any legal Race, Class, Birthright, or Item cards you want to, just as when you started the game. Then take your turn normally.

Treasure

When you defeat a monster, either by killing it or using a card to eliminate it, you get its Treasure. Each monster has a Treasure number on the bottom of its card. Draw that many treasures. Draw face-down if you killed the monster alone. Draw face-up, so the whole party can see what you got, if someone helped you.

Treasure cards can be played as soon as you get them. Item cards can be placed in front of you. “Go Up a Level” cards can be used when you get them, or used on any player at any time.

Example of Combat, With Numbers and Everything

Jay is a 4th-Level Barbarian Warrior wielding the Maul of the Titans (which gives him a +5 to his combat strength). He kicks open the door and finds Baal-Pteor the Strangler, a Level 12 monster. Jay’s at a 9 and his foe is at a 12, so Jay is losing.

Jay: Time for my faithful comrade Pelias to show up.

He plays Pelias, who gives a +4 bonus. Even better, Pelias is a Wizard, and Baal-Pteor has a -3 penalty against Wizards! Now Jay’s combat strength is 13, beating the enemy’s 9.

Jay: Jay the Barbarian triumphs again!

Sonja: Yeah, well, you hear a hissing noise.

Sonja plays . . . That Turns Into A Giant Snake, adding 5 to the monster’s combat strength. Now Jay is losing, 14 to 13.

Jay: By Crome! I will go berserk!

Jay uses his Warrior power and discards two cards: Thief from his hand, and the Yuetsi Knife from his carried items (it gave him no bonus, because the Maul takes two hands to use). Each discard gives him +1 to his combat strength. Now it’s 15 to 14.

Fredric: Too easy. I think Pelias turns on you.

Fredric plays Curse! Betrayed! on Jay.

Jay: Mmm . . . betrayal. Tastes like chicken!

Jay plays Tastes Like Chicken!, which cancels the Curse.

Jay: Anybody else?

Everybody else: Demons take you! No.

Jay wins! He goes up a level and claims the foe’s treasures – three from the Baal-Pteor card, and one extra because it turned into a giant snake. And the game goes on . . .
**Level Counters: It's Not Cheating. It's Using the Rules!**

If you have an iPhone, iPod touch, iPad, or Android phone, you’ll like our Level Counter smartphone app. Just search for “Munchkin level counter” or click the link at levelcounter.sgames.com. Even better, it gives you personal in-game advantages to make your friends jealous . . . which is what being a munchkin is all about!

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**Character Stats**

Each character is basically a collection of weapons, armor, and magic items, with four stats: Level, Race, Class, and Birthright. For instance, your character might be “an 8th-level Noble Stygian wizard with the Cobra Crown, the Staff of Mithra, the Jeweled Breastplate, and Vandal Sandals.”

Your character’s sex starts off the same as your own.

**Level**: This is a measure of how generally buff and studly you are. When the rules or cards refer to your Level, capitalized, they mean this number.

You gain a level when you kill a monster, or when a card says that you do. You can also sell items to buy levels (see **Items**).

You lose a level when a card says you do. Your level can never go below 1. However, your combat strength can be negative, if you get hit by a Curse, are backstabbed, or suffer some other kind of penalty.

**Race**: Players may belong to four of the great races of the Conan saga: Cimmerians, Stygians, Kushites, or Zamorans. If you have no Race card in front of you, you don’t belong to any particular race. (Note that in original Munchkin, you can belong to a nonhuman Race. All Munchkin Conan characters are human unless you are combining sets that include non-human Races.)

Each Race has special abilities (see the cards). You gain the abilities of a Race the moment you play its card in front of you, and lose them as soon as you discard that card.

Some Race abilities are powered by discards. You may discard any of your cards, in play or in your hand, to power a special ability.

You can discard a Race card at any time, even in combat: “I don’t wanna be a Stygian anymore.” When you discard a Race card, you instantly lose all its abilities, but if a monster had a bonus against that Race, it no longer applies.

You may not belong to more than one race at once unless you play the Half-Breed card. You may not have two copies of the same Race card in play.

**Class**: Characters may be Warriors, Wizards, Thieves, or Clerics. If you have no Class card in front of you, you have no class. If you have not heard that joke before, you are new to Munchkin.

Each Class has special abilities, shown on the cards. You gain the abilities of a Class the moment you play its card in front of you, and lose them as soon as you discard that card. Some Class abilities are powered by discards. You may discard any card, in play or in your hand, to power a special ability.

**Items**

Each Item card has a name, a power, a size, and a value in Gold Pieces.

An Item card in your hand does not count until you play it; at that point, it is “carried.” You may carry any number of small items, but only one Big item. (Any item not marked Big is considered Small.) You may not simply discard one Big item to play another; you must sell it, trade it, lose it to a Curse or Bad Stuff, or discard it to power a Class or Race ability.

If a card (for instance, a Comrade) lets you have more than one Big item and you lose that card, you must either correct the problem immediately or get rid of all but one Big item. If it’s your turn and you’re not in combat, you can sell the excess Big items (as long as you have at least 1,000 Gold Pieces of Items to sell). Otherwise, you must give them to the lowest-Level player(s) who can carry them! If any Big items are still left over, discard them.

Anyone can carry any item, but some items have use restrictions: for instance, the Stygian Staff can only be wielded by a Cleric. Its bonus only counts for someone who is, at the moment, a Cleric.

Likewise, you may also use only one headgear, one suit of armor, one pair of footgear, and two “1 Hand” items (or one “2 Hands” item) . . . unless you have a card that lets you ignore these limits. If you are carrying two Headgear cards, for instance, only one of them can help you.

You should indicate items that can’t help you, or extras not being worn, by turning the cards sideways. You may NOT change your used and carried items during a combat or while running away. You cannot discard Item cards “just because.” You may sell items for a level, or give an item to another player who wants it. You may discard to power certain Class abilities. And a Curse may force you to get rid of something!

**Trading**: You may trade Items (but not other cards) with other players. You may only trade Items from the table – not from your hand. You may trade at any time except when you’re in combat – in fact, the best time to trade is when it’s not your turn. Any Item you receive in a trade must go into play; you can’t sell it until it’s your turn.

You may also give Items away without a trade, to bribe other players – “I’ll give you my Stygian Girdle if you won’t help Bob fight Xaltotun!”

You may show your hand to others. Like we could stop you.
When To Play Cards
A quick reference guide . . .

Monsters
If drawn face-up during the “Kick Open The Door” phase, they immediately attack the person who drew them.
If acquired any other way, they go into your hand and may be played during “Looking For Trouble,” or played on another player with the Wandering Monster card.
Each Monster card is a single monster, even if the name on the card is plural.

Undead Monsters
Several monsters in this set are tagged Undead. You may play any Undead monster from your hand into combat to help any other Undead, without using a Wandering Monster card. If you have a card that can be used to make a monster Undead, you may play it with a non-Undead monster to use this rule.

Monster Enhancers
Certain cards, called monster enhancers, raise or lower the combat strength of individual monsters. (Yes, you can have a negative enhancement.) Monster enhancers may be played by any player during any combat.
All enhancers on a single monster add together. If there are multiple monsters in a combat, the person who plays each enhancer must choose which monster it applies to.

Items – Playing Them
Any Item card may be played to the table as soon as you get it, or at any time on your own turn other than in combat (unless the card itself says otherwise).

Items – Using Them
Any one-shot Item can be played during any combat, whether you have it in your hand or on the table. (Some one-shot Items may also be used outside of combat.)
Other Items stay on the table in front of you once they are played. You may keep Items in front of you that you cannot currently use (because of your Class or Race, or because you’re already using other Items of that type). Turn these Items sideways. These Items are “carried” but not “in use.” Exception: You may have only one Big item in play at a time unless you have a card that will let you use more.

Selling Items for Levels: During your turn, you may discard items worth at least 1,000 Gold Pieces and immediately go up one level. If you discard (for instance) 1,100 Gold Pieces worth, you don’t get change. But if you can manage 2,000 worth, you can go up two levels at once, and so on. You may sell items from your hand as well as those you are carrying.
You may not sell items to go to Level 10.

Other Treasures
Other Treasure cards (like Go Up a Level cards) are “specials.” You may play these at any time, unless the card itself says otherwise. Follow the card’s instructions, then discard it, unless it has a persistent bonus like an Item.

Comrades
Conan had many companions in the various epics. Occasionally, they even survived! These are your Comrades.
You may play a Comrade at any time, even in combat, as long as you have only one Comrade at a time (a Cheat! card can be used to give you an extra). If you draw a face-up Comrade, you may put it in your hand rather than putting it in play. You may discard a Comrade at any time.
Comrades are not Items (they don’t have prices).
Each Comrade also has a Class or a Birthright (Prospero has both). These can help you in some combats. If a Comrade’s Class or Birthright would hurt you in a combat, you can leave that Comrade out of the fight.
A Comrade can sacrifice himself for you. If you lose a fight, then instead of rolling to run away, you may discard one Comrade. You automatically escape from all monsters in the fight, even if a card says escape is impossible. If someone was helping you in the fight, YOU decide whether that person automatically escapes as well, or must roll to escape.
Each Comrade can carry and use one Item for you, even a Big one. His Class or Birthright might let him have an Item you cannot use yourself! These Items count for you in combat, and are affected by Traps and Bad Stuff as though you were carrying them himself. If a Comrade has an item:
• If he sacrifices himself for you, everything he had is lost.
• If it is lost to a Curse or a change in loyalty, the Items go with him!
• If he is killed in some other way, you loot the body yourself and keep it all.

Comrades and Monster Bonuses: The illustrations make it clear whether Comrades are male or female. No arguing. If (for instance) you have Zelata the Witch and you face a monster that gets a bonus against females, it gets the bonus against you unless you leave Zelata out of the combat. However, Bad Stuff does not affect Comrades unless it specifically mentions them, so ignore your Comrade’s sex in determining what a monster does to you. Any card that can change a player’s sex will work on a Comrade if someone chooses to use it that way.

Curses
There are a lot of Curse cards in the game, including the ominous You Annoyed Conan! If drawn face-up, during the “Kick Open The Door” phase, Curse cards apply to the person who drew them.
If drawn face-down or acquired some other way, Curse cards may be played on any player at any time. ANY time, do you hear me? Reducing someone’s abilities just as he thinks he has killed a monster is a lot of fun.
Usually, a Curse affects its victim immediately (if it can) and is discarded. However, some Curses give a penalty later in the game or have a continuing effect. Keep these cards until you get rid of the Curse or the penalty takes effect. If someone plays a "your
next combat” Curse on you while you are in combat, it counts in that combat! (Curse cards you keep as a reminder may not be discarded to power Class abilities. Nice try!)

If a Curse can apply to more than one Item, the victim decides which Item is lost or Cursed.

If a Curse applies to something you don’t have, ignore it. For instance, if you draw Lose Your Armor and you have no armor, nothing happens; discard the card.

There will be times when it will help you to play a Curse or Monster on yourself, or to “help” another player in a way that costs him treasure. This is very munchkinly. Do it.

Classes, Races, and Birthrights

These cards may be played to the table as soon as you get them, or at any time during your own turn. The same is true for Super Munchkin and Half-Breed, but you must already have a Class to play Super Munchkin or a Race to play Half-Breed.

Crossovers

This set crosses over seamlessly with basic Munchkin – the card backs are the same! The four Races in this set are all “human” in Munchkin terms, but with a Half-Breed card, you can be an elf Stygian or a halfling Zamoran or whatever . . .

More Munchkin!

Visit www.worldofmunchkin.com for news, errata, updates, Q&A, and much more. To discuss Munchkin with our staff and your fellow munchkins, join our Web forums at forums.sjgames.com. Or head over to www.worldofmunchkin.com/resources.html for reference cards, play mats, and dozens of links.

Other ways to connect to the Munchkin social network:

Twitter. Our Twitter feed often has Munchkin news (or bonus rules!): twitter.com/SJGames.

Facebook. Connect with other fans on our pages for Munchkin (www.facebook.com/sjgames.munchkin) and Steve Jackson Games (www.facebook.com/sjgames).

If you combine Munchkin Conan with other sets:

Cards that affect Hirelings, Sidekicks, etc., also affect Comrades, and vice versa.

Traps and Curses are the same thing. Birthrights are not the same as anything else.

Super-Sized Munchkin

Studies have shown that 8.4 out of 9.7 Munchkin players just can’t get enough of the game. Here are some ideas to take your Munchkin games to new heights – or lows:

Combining different Munchkin sets. You can mix two (or more) base sets and expansions together for a genre-crossing mega-Munchkin adventure! Space plus Old West? Kung fu vampires? No problem!

Expansions. These add still more monsters to kill, new Treasure to loot, and sometimes entirely new kinds of cards.

Ask for all the Munchkin sets and expansions at your local game or comic store – find it using our Store Finder, gamerfinder.sjgames.com – but if you don’t have a local store, we’ll be happy to sell them directly to you at www.warehouse23.com.

Turn it up to EPIC! Playing to Level 10 just isn’t enough for some people. To satisfy their insane cravings, we’ve created Epic Munchkin, a new set of rules that gives all your Munchkin sets that high-octane boost you need to make it up to Level 20! Look for it on our online PDF store, e23.sjgames.com – it’s completely, absolutely FREE!

All of the above!!!

Faster Play Rules

For a faster game, you can add a “phase 0” called Listen At The Door. At the start of your turn, draw a face-down Door card, which you may play or not. Then arrange cards and Kick Open The Door normally. If you Loot The Room, draw a face-down Treasure, not a Door.

You can also allow shared victories – if a player reaches Level 10 in a fight where he had a helper, the helper also wins the game, no matter what Level he is.

Game Design by Steve Jackson • Illustrated by John Kovalic

Munchkin Czar: Andrew Hackard • Munchkin Hireling: Leonard Balsera
Conanificator: Joakim Zetterberg • Chief Operating Officer/Print Buyer: Philip Reed
Production Manager: Samuel Mitschke • Production Artists: Alex Fernandez, Gabby Ruenes, and Ben Williams
Prepress Checker: Monica Stephens • Marketing Director: Monica Valentinelli • Director of Sales: Ross Jepson


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