# **INSTANT CHARACTERS**

This quick reference sheet will allow fast creation of characters by players who are already familiar with the system. For details, refer back to Chapters 1-9. See also the diagram on p. 12.

## Starting Point Total

The starting character points depend on your campaign. 100 points is the usual starting amount for a heroic character. A "normal" would be about 25.

## Selection of Attributes

An attribute score of 10 represents the general adult human average. For children under 16, see p. 14.

	Point		Point		Point
Level	Cost	Level	Cost	Level	Cost
1	-80	8	-15	15	60
2	-70	9	-10	16	80
3	-60	10	0	17	100
4	-50	11	10	18	125
5	-40	12	20	19	150
6	-30	13	30	20	175
7	-20 **	14	45	then 25 pts	./level

## Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Your Speed score is equal to  $(HT + DX) \div 4$ .

## Advantages \_\_\_\_

All advantages from the Basic Set are listed on p. 3 of this reference.

## Disadvantages \_\_\_\_

All disadvantages from the Basic Set are listed on p. 3 of this reference. Unless the GM rules otherwise, you are limited to disadvantages totalling 40 bonus points or less, or a single disadvantage of any point value. An attribute level of 7 or less counts as a disadvantage here.

## Quirks 💳

You may take five "quirks" (see p. 41) at -1 point each. These do not count against your 40 points of disadvantages, but you must roleplay them.

## Skills =

All skills from the Basic Set are listed on pp. 2 and 3 of this reference. Unless the GM rules otherwise, the maximum number of points a beginning PC can spend on skills is equal to twice his age. Point costs for skills levels are figured as follows:

## **Physical Skills**

Difficulty of Skill						
Your Final						
Skill Level	Easy	Average	Hard			
DX-3	-	-	1⁄2 point			
DX-2	-	1/2 point	1 point			
DX-1	1/2 point	1 point	2 points			
DX	1 point	2 points	4 points			
DX+1	2 points	4 points	8 points			
DX+2	4 points	8 points	16 points			
DX+3	8 points	16 points	24 points			
DX+4	16 points	24 points	32 points			
DX+5	24 points	32 points	40 points			

## Physical Appearance

You may set this as you please. Outstanding good looks are an advantage; outstanding bad looks are a disadvantage ( see p. 15). Anything else is up to you. Use the tables below only if you want a randomly generated appearance.

## Height and Weight

You are free to choose any height and weight for your characters, within reason (whatever you think that is). Or you can roll the dice. The tables below can be used to determine "average" height and weight, and to provide a slight random variation if desired. Average height is based on your ST score, as follows:

ST	Height	Weight	ST	Height	Weight
	≤ 5'2 <sup>ï</sup> '	120 lbs.	10	5'9''	150 lbs.
	5'3''	130 lbs.	11	5'10''	155 lbs.
≤ 5	5'4''	130 lbs.	12	5'11''	160 lbs.
6	5'5''	135 lbs.	13	6 feet	165 lbs.
7	5'6''	135 lbs.	14	6'1''	170 lbs.
8	5'7''	140 lbs.	15	6'2''	180 lbs.
9	5'8''	145 lbs.	≥16	6'3''	190 lbs.

For each inch over 6'3", add 10 lbs. to average weight.

## Modifications

If you don't want a character of exactly average height or weight, roll 3 dice and consult the following table. Determine modified (i.e., true) height before determining weight – then determine weight based on your true height, and use the modification table again to determine true weight.

Die roll of 3:	-6''	or -40	lbs.	12:	+1"	or	+5 lbs.
4:	-5"	or -30	) lbs.	13:	+2"	or	+5 lbs.
5:	-4"	or -20	) lbs.	14:	+3''	or	+10 lbs.
6:	-3"	or -10	) lbs.	15:	+4"	or	+20 lbs.
7:	-2''	or -5	lbs.	16:	+5''	or	+30 lbs.
8:	-1"	or -5	lbs.	17:	+6"	or	+40 lbs.
9,	. 10,	11: no	modifications	18:	+6''	OĽ	+50 lbs.

These tables assume the character is a 20th-century male. For a female, subtract 2'' from average height and 10 lbs. from average weight. For a historically accurate pre-19th-century character, subtract 3'' from average height. Weight is determined *after* height.

To determine skin, hair and eye color, refer to pp. 84-85.

# Mental Skills

		Difficulty of S	kill	
Your Final Skill Level		Average	Hard	Very Hard
IQ-4	-	-	-	1/2 point
IQ-3	-	-	1/2 point	1 point
IQ-2	-	1⁄2 point	1 point-	2 points
IQ-1	1/2 point	1 point	2 points	4 points
IQ	1 point	2 points	4 points	8 points
IQ+1	2 points	4 points	6 points	12 points
IQ+2	4 points	6 points	8 points	16 points
IQ+3	6 points	8 points	10 points	20 points
IQ+4	8 points	10 points	12 points	24 points
IQ+5	10 points	12 points	14 points	28 points

# Advantages \_\_\_\_\_

Advantage Cost Page
Absolute Direction
Absolute Timing519
Acute Hearing2 per +119
Acute Taste & Smell2 per +119
Acute Vision2 per +119
Alertness
Alliesvariable23
Ally Groupvariable232
Alternate
Identity15 or 5/identity233
Ambidexterity1019
Animal Empathy519
Appearance: Attractive (+1)515
Handsome/Beautiful
(+2/+4)15
Very Handsome/Very Beautiful
(+2/+6)25
Blessedvariable233
Charisma5 per +119

Advantage	Cost Page
Clerical Investment	5 or more19
Combat Reflexes	
Common Sense	
Contacts	variable234
Danger Sense	
Dark Vision	25235
Destiny	variable235
Double-Jointed	520
Eidetic Memory	
Empathy	
Extra Fatigue3	per point236
Extra Hit Points5	per point236
Favor	.variable236
Fearlessness2	per level236
Hard to Kill5	per level236
Healing	.25/20/15237
High Pain Threshold	
Immunity to Disease	
Infravision	15237

Advantage	Cost Page
Intuition	
Language Talent	2 per +120
Legal Enforcement	-
Powers	
Legal Immunity	5/10/15/20237
Lightning Calculat	
Literacy	10 (TL4-)21
Longevity	
Luck	
Magical Aptitude	
(Magery)	15/25/3521
Magical Resistance	
Mathematical Abil	ity1022
Military Rank	5 per rank22
-	(max. 40)
Musical Ability	$1 \text{ per } \pm 1  22$

Musical Ability......1 per +1....22 Night Vision......10....22 Patrons.....variable....24 Perfect Balance......25...237

Advantage Cost Page
Peripheral Vision1522
Psionic Resistance2 per level22
Rapid Healing522
Reputation5 per $+1$ (max. 20)17
Status5 per level (max. 40)18
Strong Will
Toughness10 (DR1)/25 (DR2)23
Unfazeable15 or more237
Unusual
Background10 or more23
Voice
Wealth: Comfortable (×2)1016
Wealthy (×5)20
Very Wealthy (×20)30
Filthy Rich (×100)50
Multimillionaire25/level237
Zeroed
201000011011207

# Disadvantages \_\_\_\_\_

0
Disadvantage Cost Page
Absent-Mindedness
Addictionvariable30
Age3 per year over 5027
Albinism1027
Alcoholism15/-2030
Amnesia10/-25239
Appearance:15
Unattractive (-1)5
Ugly (-2)10
Hideous (-4)20
Bad Sight10/-2527
Bad Temper10
Berserk15
Blindness5027
Bloodlust
Bully
Code of Honor
Color Blindness1028
Combat Paralysis1532
Compulsive Behavior5 to -1532
Generosity5239
Spendthrift
Compulsive
Carousing
Compulsive Lying1532
Cowardice1032
Curious5/-10/-15240

Disadvantage Cost Page Cursed.....-75...240 Deafness.....-20....28 Delusions.....-1/-5/-10/-15.....32 Dependents......variable.....38 Destiny.....variable...238 Duties.........variable.....39 Duty (Involuntary) .....extra -5 Dwarfism.....-15.....28 Dyslexia......5/-15.....33 Enemies......variable.....39 Epilepsy......30.....28 Eunuch.....-5....28 Fanaticism.....-15.....33 Fat.....-10/-20....28 Flashbacks.....variable...240 Gigantism.....-10.....28 Glory Hound.....-15...240 Gluttony......5.....33 Greed.....-15.....33 Gullibility......-10.....33 Hard of Hearing......10.....28 Hemophilia......-30.....28 Honesty.....-10.....33 Illiteracy.....-10 (TL5+).....33 Impulsiveness......-10.....33 Incompetence.....-1...240 

Disadvantage Cost Page
Jealousy
Jinxed20/-40/-60240
Kleptomania1534
Lame: Crippled Leg1529
One leg25
Legless35
Laziness10
Lecherousness1534
Low Pain Threshold
Megalomania1034
Manic-Depressive20241
Miserliness1034
Mute2529
No Sense of Humor10241
No Sense of Smell/Taste529
Obsession5 to -15241
Odious Personal
Habits
On the Edge15241
One Arm2029
One Eye1529
One Hand1529
Overconfidence1034
Overweight529
Pacifism
Paranoia
Paranoia

Phobias.....variable.....35

Diandunutary	
	Cost Page
Poverty: Struggling (×1/2)	
Poor (×1/5)	
Dead Broke (×0)	25
Primitive5 per TL l	evel26
Pyromania	
Quirk	141
Reputation5/-1 (max.	
Sadism	
Secretvari	
Sense of Duty5/-10/-15	
Shyness	
Skinny	
Social Stigma5/-10/-15	/ 20 27
Social Sugma5/-10/-15	/-2027
Split Personality10	
Status5 per level (max.	
Stubbornness	
Stuttering	1029
Terminally Ill50/-75/-	100239
Trademarkvari	
Truthfulness	537
Unluckiness	
Vow1, -5, -10,	
Weak Will8 pe	
Weirdness Magnet	
Youth2 per year (max	
i outii2 per year (illax	0)29

# Skills =

Skill	Type/Level	Default	Page	Skill	Type/Level	Default	Page
Accounting	M/H	IQ-10, Merchant-5 or Mathematics-5; Prereq.	58	Blackjack Black Powder	P/E P/E	DX-4 DX-4	49 49
Acting	M/A	IQ-5, Bard-5 or Performance-2	62	Weapons/TL (type)			
Acrobatics	P/H	DX-6	48	Blacksmith/TL	M/A	IQ-5 or Jeweler-4	53
Administration	M/A	IQ-6 or Merchant-3	62	Blowpipe	P/H	DX-6	49
Agronomy/TL	M/A	IQ-5	59	Boating	P/A	IQ-5, DX-5 or Powerboat-3	68
Alchemy/TL	M/VH	None	59	Body Sense	P/H	DX-6 or Acrobatics-3	242
Animal Handling	M/H	IQ-6	46	Bolas	P/A	None	49
Anthropology	M/H	IQ-6	59	Botany/TL	M/H	IQ-6 or Agronomy-5	60
Area Knowledge (type	e) M/E	IQ-4	62	Bow	P/H	DX-6	50
Archaeology	M/H	IQ-6	59	Boxing	P/A	None	242
Architecture/TL	M/A	IQ-5	59	Brawling	P/E	None	50
Armoury/TL (type)	M/A	IQ-5, Weapon skill-6 (for	53	Breath Control	M/VH	None	48
		that weapon only) or Black- smith-3 at TL4 and below		Broadsword	P/A	DX-5, Shortsword-2 or Force Sword-3	50
Artist	M/H	IQ-6	47	Buckler	P/E	DX-4 or Shield-2	50
Astrogation	M/A	Navigation-5, Astronomy-4	59	Calligraphy	P/A	Artist-2 or DX-5; Prereq.	47
		or Mathematics-4		Camouflage	M/E	IQ-4 or Survival-2	65
Astronomy/TL	M/H	IQ-6	60	Carousing	P/A	HT-2; based on HT	63 53
Axe/Mace	P/A	DX-5	49	Carpentry	M/E	IQ-4 or DX-4	
Axe Throwing	P/E	DX-4	49	Chemistry/TL	M/H	IQ-6	60
Bard	M/A	IQ-5 or Performance-2	47	Climbing	P/A	DX-5 or ST-5	57
Battlesuit/TL	P/A	IQ-5, DX-5 or Vacc Suit-3	49	Cloak	P/A	DX-5, Buckler-4 or Shield-4	242
Beam Weapons/TL (ty Bicycling	ype) P/E P/E	DX-4 or (other Beam Weapon)-4 DX-4 or Motorcycle	49 68	Computer Hacking	M/VH	Computer Operation-8 or Computer Programming-4	245
Biochemistry/TL Biology	M/VH	Chemistry-5; <i>Prereq.</i> <i>This is not an individual skill.</i> See p. 60	60	Computer Operation/TL	M/E	IQ-4 (TL7+ only)	58

<i>Skill</i> Computer Programming/TL	<i>Type/Level</i> M/H	<i>Default</i> None; <i>Prereq</i>
Cooking	M/E	IQ-4
Criminology/TL	M/A	IQ-4
Crossbow	P/E	DX-4
Cryptanalysis	M/H	special
Dancing	P/A	DX-5
Demolition/TL	M/A	IQ-5 or Engin
Detect Lies	M/H	IQ-6 or Psych
Diagnosis/TL	M/H	IQ-6, First Ai
Diplomacy	M/H	or Physician IQ-6
Disguise	M/A	IQ-5
Driving/TL	P/A	IQ-5 or DX-5
Ecology/TL	M/H	IQ-6 or Natur
Economics	M/H	IQ-6 or Merch
Electronics/TL (type)	M/H	Other Electron
Electronics	M/A	IQ-5 or Electron
Operation/TL (type) Engineer/TL (type)	M/H	Mechanic-6; I
Escape	P/H	DX-6
Exoskeleton	P/A	IQ-6, DX-6 or
Falconry	M/A	IQ-5
Fast-Draw (type)	P/E	None
Fast-Talk	M/A	IQ-5 or Actin
Fencing	P/A	DX-5
First Aid/TL	M/E	Physician, IQ or Physiolog
Fishing	M/E	IQ-4
Flail	P/H	DX-6
Flight	P/A	DX-4
Force Shield	P/E	DX-4
Force Sword	P/A	DX-5 or (othe
Forensics/TL	M/H	Criminology-
Forgery/TL	M/H	IQ-6, DX-8 of
Forward Observer/TL	M/A	IQ-5
Free Fall	P/A	DX-5 or HT-5
Freight Handling	M/A	IQ-5
Gambling	M/A	IQ-5 or Mathe
Games (type)	M/E	IQ-5
Genetics/TL	M/VH	Biochemistry
Geology/TL	M/H	IQ-6 or Prosp
Gesture	M/E	IQ-4 or Sign I
Gunner/TL (type)	P/A	DX-5 or (othe
Guns/TL (type)	P/E	DX-4 or (othe
Hard-Hat Diving	M/A	Scuba-2
Heraldry	M/A	IQ-5 or Savoi
Hiking	P/A	None
History	M/H	IQ-6 or Archa
Holdout	M/A	IQ-5 or Sleigh
Hunting Hypnotism	M/H	See Tracking, None
Intelligence Analysis	M/H	IQ-6
Interrogation	M/A	IQ-5 or Intimi
Intimidation	M/A	ST-5 or Actin
Jeweler/TL	M/H	IQ-6 or Black
Judo	P/H	None
Jumping	P/E	None
Karate	P/H	None
Knife	P/E	DX-4
Knife Throwing	P/E	DX-4
Lance	P/A	Spear-3 (with
Languages	M/varies	DX-6 for ot IQ for native
Lasso	P/A	None
Law	M/H	IQ-6
Leadership	M/A	ST-5
Leatherworking	M/E	IQ-4 or DX-5
Linguistics	M/VH	None
Lip Reading	M/A	Vision-10
Literacy Literature	M/H	This is not co IQ-6
Lockpicking/TL	M/A	IQ-5
Mathematics	M/H	IQ-6
Mechanic/TL (type)	M/A	IQ-5, Enginee
Merchant	M/A	IQ-5
Metallurgy/TL	M/H	Blacksmith-8, Armoury-8 or
Meteorology/TL	M/A	IQ-5
Mind Block	M/A	Will-4
Motorcycle	P/E	DX-5, IQ-5 or
Musical Instrument	M/H	Any similar in
Naturalist	M/H	IQ-6
Navigation/TL	M/H	Astronomy-5
Net	P/H	None
No-Land Extraction	IQ-6	243
Nuclear Physics/TL	M/VH	None; Prereq
Nuclear-Biological-	M/A	IQ-5
Chemical Warfare/T Occultism	M/A	IQ-6
Orienteering	M/A	IQ-5
Packing	M/H	Animal Hand
		IQ-6; Prere

Default	Page
None; Prereq.	60
IQ-4	53
IQ-4	60
DX-4	50
special	245
DX-5	47
IQ-5 or Engineer-3	65
IQ-6 or Psychology-4	65
IQ-6, First Aid-8, Vet-5	56
or Physician-4 IQ-6	63
IQ-5	65
IQ-5 or DX-5	68
IQ-6 or Naturalist-3	60
IQ-6 or Merchant-6	60
Other Electronics-4; <i>Prereq</i> .	60
IQ-5 or Electronics-3	58
Mechanic-6; <i>Prereq</i> .	60
DX-6	65
IQ-6, DX-6 or Battlesuit-2	247
IQ-5	46
None	50
IQ-5 or Acting-5	63
DX-5	50
Physician, IQ-5, Vet-5	56
or Physiology-5 IQ-4	57
DX-6	50
DX-4	242
DX-4	50
DX-5 or (other Sword skill)-3	50
Criminology-4	61 65
IQ-6, DX-8 or Artist-5 IQ-5	243
DX-5 or HT-5	48
IQ-5	46
IQ-5 or Mathematics-5	63
IQ-5	243
Biochemistry-5 or Physiology-5	61
IQ-6 or Prospecting-4	61
IQ-4 or Sign Language	55
DX-5 or (other Gunner skill)-4	50
DX-4 or (other Gun skill)-4	51
Scuba-2	244
IQ-5 or Savoir-Faire-3	58
None	244
IQ-6 or Archaeology-6	61
IQ-5 or Sleight of Hand-3	66
See <i>Tracking</i> , p. 57 None	56
IQ-6	66 66
IQ-5 or Intimidation-3 ST-5 or Acting-3	246
IQ-6 or Blacksmith-4	53
None	51
None	48 51
DX-4	51
DX-4	51
Spear-3 (with Riding 12+) or DX-6 for others; <i>Prereq</i> .	51
IQ for native language	54
None	51
IQ-6	58
ST-5	63
IQ-4 or DX-5	53
None	61
Vision-10 This is not considered a skill. See pp. 17,	66
IQ-6	61
IQ-5	67
IQ-6	61
IQ-5, Engineer-4, others	54
IQ-5	64
Blacksmith-8, Jeweler-8, Armoury-8 or Chemistry-5	61
IQ-5	61
Will-4	244
DX-5, IQ-5 or Bicycling-5	69
Any <i>similar</i> instrument-3	47
IQ-6	57
Astronomy-5 or Seamanship-5	57
None 243	51
None; Prereq.	61
IQ-5	243
IQ-6	61
IQ-5	244
Animal Handling-6 or	46
IQ-6; Prereq.	

Skill	Type/Layel	Default
Parachuting	Type/Level P/E	DX-4 or IQ-6
Performance	M/A	IQ-5, Acting-2 or Bard-2
Philosophy	M/H	IQ-6
Photography/TL Physician/TL	M/A M/H	IQ-5 Vet-5, First Aid-11 or IQ-7
Physics/TL	M/H	IQ-6
Physiology/TL (race)	M/VH	IQ-7 or any Medical skill-5
Pickpocket Biloting/TI	P/H P/A	DX-6 or Sleight of Hand-4
Piloting/TL Planetology	M/A	IQ-6 IQ-5, Geology-4, Meteorology-4 or other Planetology-3
Poetry	M/A	IQ-5 or Language-5
Poisons	M/H	IQ-6, Chemistry-5, Physician-3, others
Polearm	P/A	DX-5
Politics	M/A	IQ-5 or Diplomacy-5
Pottery	M/A D/A	IQ-5
Powerboat Prospecting	P/A M/A	IQ-5, DX-5 or Boating-3 IQ-5 or Geology-4
Psionics		See pp. 165-176
Psychology	M/H	IQ-6 See Band a 26
Public Speaking Research	M/A	See <i>Bard</i> , p. 36 IQ-5 or Writing-3
Riding (type)	P/A	Animal Handling-3 or DX-5
Running	P/H	None; based on HT
Savoir-Faire Scrounging	M/E M/E	IQ-4 IQ-4
Scuba	M/A	IQ-5 or Swimming-5
Sculpting	P/A	DX-5 or IQ-5
Seamanship/TL	M/E	IQ-4
Sex Appeal Shadowing	M/A M/A	HT-3; based on <i>HT</i> IQ-6 or Stealth-4 (on foot)
Shield	P/E	DX-4 or Buckler-2
Shipbuilding/TL	M/H	IQ-6
Shortsword	P/A	DX-5, Broadsword-2
Sign Language (type)	M/A	or Force Sword-3 None
Singing	P/E	HT-4
Skiing	P/H	DX-6
Sleight of Hand Sling	P/H P/H	None DX-6
Spear	P/A	DX-5 or Staff-2
Spear Thrower	P/A	DX-4 or Spear Throwing-4
Spear Throwing	P/E P/E	DX-4 or Spear Thrower-4 None
Speed-Load (type) Spell Throwing	P/E P/E	DX-3, Throwing or
		Spell Throwing (other spell)-2
Spells	D/A	See pp. 155-164
Sports (type)	P/A	DX-5; very rough sports also default to ST-5
Staff	P/H	DX-5 or Spear-2
Stealth	P/A	IQ-5 or DX-5
Strategy (type)	M/H	IQ-6, Tactics-6 or (other Strategy)-4
Streetwise	M/A	IQ-5
Surgery/TL	M/VH	Vet-5, Physician-5, Physiology-8
Survival (by type)	M/A	or First Aid-12. <i>Prereq</i> .
Survival (by type)	IVI/A	IQ-5, Naturalist-3 or Survival (other area type)-3
Swimming	P/E	ST-5 or DX-4
Tactics	M/H M/A	IQ-6 or Strategy-6
Teaching Teamster (type)	M/A M/A	IQ-5 Animal Handling-4 or
		Riding-2; Prereq.
Telegraphy	M/E	None
Theology Throwing	M/H P/H	IQ-6 None
Throwing Stick	P/E	DX-4
Thrown Weapon (type		DX-4
Tracking Traps/TL	M/A M/A	IQ-5 or Naturalist-5 IQ-5, DX-5 or Lockpicking-3
Two-Handed	P/A	DX-5
Axe/Mace		
Two-Handed Sword	P/A	DX-5 or Force Sword-3
Underwater Demolition/TL	M/A	Demolition-2; Prereq.
Vacc Suit/TL	M/A	IQ-6 (TL7+ only); Prereq.
Ventriloquism	M/H	None
Veterinary/TL	M/H	Any appropriate Medical skill-5, or Animal Handling-5
Video Production	M/A	IQ-6, or Performance-4
Whip	P/A	None DX 5 or Comparison 2
Woodworking Wrestling	P/A P/A	DX-5 or Carpentry-3 DX-5
Writing	M/A	IQ-5 or Language-5
Xenobiology	M/A	None
Xenology Zoology	M/H M/H	IQ-6 IQ-6 or any Animal skill-6
LUUIUSY	141/11	1Q-0 01 any Annilai Skill-0

245

67

68 56

52

68

68 47

## Equipment\_

Before buying equipment, determine how much *money* you have. This is \$1,000 unless (a) the GM or scenario says otherwise, or (b) you chose some level of Wealth as an advantage or Poverty as a disadvantage. This is the total value of your savings and belongings.

#### **Choosing Weapons**

Refer to the *Weapon Table* appropriate for the scenario or time period in which you are playing.

To determine the damage that *you* do with any low-tech weapon, take the appropriate type of Basic Weapon Damage (swinging or thrusting) for your own ST. Add or subtract the damage modifier given on the Weapon Table for that weapon.

The basic damage you do with each type of atttack is determined by your ST.

Basic Weapon Damage							
ST	Thrust	Swing	ST	Thrust	Swing		
4	0	0	13	1d	2d-1		
5	1d-5	1d-5	14	1d	2d		
6	1d-4	1d-4	15	1d+1	2d+1		
7	1d-3	1d-3	16	1d+1	2d+2		
8	1d-3	1d-2	17	1d+2	3d-1		
9	1d-2	1d-1	18	1d+2	3d		
10	1d-2	1d	19	2d-1	3d+1		
11	1d-1	1d+1	20	2d-1	3d+2		
12	1d-1	1d+2					

For strengths over 20, follow the same progression.

#### Choosing a Shield

In a fantasy, medieval or other low-tech game (TL4 and below) you may want a shield. In a higher-tech situation, don't bother . . . unless you are at TL11+, when you can get a Force Shield!

Type	Passive Defense	Cost	Weight	Hits
Improvise	d 1 or 2	-	varies	varies
Buckler	1	\$25	2 lbs.	5/20
Small	2	\$40	8 lbs.	5/30
Medium	3	\$60	15 lbs.	7/40
Large	4	\$90	25 lbs.	9/60
Force (T	L11+) 4	\$1,500	1⁄2 lb.	-

Remember that your effective weapon skill is at -2 if you have a large shield.

## **Choosing Armor**

In a low-tech game (TL4 and below) you will want armor if

## Encumbrance ===

Total the weight of everything you are carrying.

Weight up to *twice* ST: no encumbrance. You have no penalty.

Weight up to *four times* ST: light encumbrance. Movement penalty of 1.

Weight up to six times ST: medium encumbrance. Movement penalty of 2.

Weight up to 12 times ST: heavy encumbrance. Movement penalty of 3.

Weight up to 20 times ST: extra-heavy encumbrance. Movement penalty of 4.

Weight up to 30 times ST: absolute most you can carry! Move only 1 hex per turn, and take one point of *fatigue* each turn.

you expect to be in combat. In some high-tech situations, armor is also appropriate. If you are using the Advanced Combat System and selecting armor part by part, refer to the separate Armor Table. Otherwise, choose armor from the table below. "TL" indicates the tech level at which that type of armor is usual. Each set of armor includes light clothing to wear underneath.

Туре	TL	PD	DR	Cost	Weight
Summer clothing	any	0	0	\$20	2
Winter clothing	any	0	1	\$60	5
Padded cloth armor	1-4	1	1	\$180	14
Light leather armor	1-4	1	1	\$210	10
Heavy leather armor	1-4	2	2	\$350	20
Chainmail	3-4	31	42	\$550	45
Scale armor	2-4	3	4	\$750	50
Half plate <sup>3</sup>	2-4	4	5	\$2000	70
Light plate <sup>3</sup>	3-4	4	6	\$4000	90
Heavy plate <sup>3</sup>	3-4	4	7	\$6000	110
Flak jacket <sup>4</sup>	6	2	3	\$220	17
Kevlar (light) <sup>4</sup>	7	2 <sup>1</sup>	4 <sup>2</sup>	\$220	5
Kevlar (heavy) <sup>4</sup>	7	2 <sup>1</sup>	122	\$420	9
Light body armor	7+	4	15	\$270	22
Reflec <sup>5</sup>	8-9	6	2	\$320	4
Medium body armor	8+	6	25	\$1,520	32
Heavy combat armor	9+	6	50	\$2,520	52

<sup>1</sup>1 vs. impaling <sup>2</sup>2 vs. impaling <sup>3</sup>all combat skills at -1 <sup>4</sup>protects torso only <sup>5</sup>against lasers only. PD3, DR 0 against sonics. No protection vs. other weapons.

#### Defenses =

Passive Defenses: total PD from armor, shield, etc. Dodge: equal to your Move score.

Block: 1/2 your Shield skill, rounded down.

*Parry:*  $\frac{1}{2}$  your skill for the hand weapon you are using, rounded down.

Damage Resistance: total DR from armor, Toughness, etc.

### Your "Move" Score =

Subtract the "movement penalty" for your encumbrance level (below) from your Basic Speed. Round fractions down. The result is your Move score.

#### Completing Your Character

Double-check point totals and fill in the character sketch. Your character is now complete.

Encumbrance Levels							
ST	None (0)	Light (1)	Medium (2)	Heavy (3)	Extra-Heavy (4)		
6	12 lbs.	24 lbs.	36 lbs.	72 lbs.	120 lbs.		
7	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	42 lbs.	84 lbs.	140 lbs.		
8	16 lbs.	32 lbs.	48 lbs.	96 lbs.	160 lbs.		
9	18 lbs.	36 lbs.	54 lbs.	108 lbs.	180 lbs.		
10	20 lbs.	40 lbs.	60 lbs.	120 lbs.	200 lbs.		
11	22 lbs.	44 lbs.	66 lbs.	132 lbs.	220 lbs.		
12	24 lbs.	48 lbs.	72 lbs.	144 lbs.	240 lbs.		
13	26 lbs.	52 lbs.	78 lbs.	156 lbs.	260 lbs.		
14	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	84 lbs.	168 lbs.	280 lbs.		
15	30 lbs.	60 lbs.	90 lbs.	180 lbs.	300 lbs.		
16	32 lbs.	64 lbs.	96 lbs.	192 lbs.	320 lbs.		
17	34 lbs.	68 lbs.	102 lbs.	204 lbs.	340 lbs.		
18	36 lbs.	72 lbs.	108 lbs.	216 lbs.	360 lbs.		
19	38 lbs.	76 lbs.	114 lbs.	228 lbs.	380 lbs.		
20	40 lbs.	80 lbs.	120 lbs.	240 lbs.	400 lbs.		