

GAMEMASTER'S COUPON BOOK



AN ACCESSORY FOR GAMEMASTERS ONLY!



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GAMEMASTER'S COUPON BOOK

A HACKMASTER CAMPAIGN RESOURCE

GAMEMASTER'S EYES ONLY

Welcome esteemed GameMasters to the latest tool designed for the enhancement of your HackMaster game. Make no mistake about it, the table is your domain and as a benevolent dictator you are obligated to assert your authority. The proliferation of Player coupons has been seen by some of questionable intellect to be an affront to that authority - a veritable tool to chip away at the hallowed walls separating you from the common rabble. Not so say I. The brilliant minds of Hard Eight have permitted the player militia to draw strength from their measly little coupons before releasing the true fury you now hold in your hands.

While you are bound by the same rules as players in that only one coupon may be played upon them per session, do not feel fettered by these constraints. While the players may take some small measure of solace in their limited vulnerability to direct coupon effects, there are no restrictions placed upon you using coupons on your cast of monsters and NPCs. Should your players escalate the coupon arms race, make sure you allow them the pleasure of witnessing a bold demonstration of your first strike capability and huge arsenal!

Included in this product are 107 coupons scientifically designed by the best minds in the Hard Eight research and development laboratory. For ease of use, they have been categorized into sections devoted to particular uses of these powerful armaments.

Sheet One

"Level Playing Field": How often has some snot nosed punk come to your table with an elf fighter maxed out to 20 Strength who then proceeds to hack through your intricately balanced dungeon? Or how about that female pixie fairy with excessive comeliness who fascinates your chief NPC villain? Sure, you can go back to the drawing board and spend countless hours rewriting your adventures to ensure that they challenge your group. But why allow your players to put the onus on you, the already overworked GM, to remedy a situation of their own making? Slapping a handy coupon on such egregiously min/maxed characters is by far the simpler solution.

Sheet Two

"The Too Talented Mr. Ripley": Some more clever players forgo the excessive attributes in favor of other benefits, but nonetheless may pose a problem

for your campaign. These coupons serve as some "extra baggage" for those characters that are simply too smart and talented for their own good. Of course, nothing prevents you from using these aids on any player (or protégé, henchman or hireling as the case may be). Have fun with these, but be sure to enforce the role-playing!

Sheets Three through Five

"Just plain 'ol fun": This selection of coupons is on the whole more of an annoyance to players than a real threat. Use them to tweak the noses of your players. Several of the coupons will inflict EP penalties so keep these handy when characters threaten to advance more quickly than you had planned.

Sheets Six through Eight

"Covert Aid": There are times when your best laid plans go awry. Critical hits are the bane of monsters and a lucky streak on the part of your players may threaten to disrupt the overarching plans of your carefully crafted scenario. These coupons serve to either strengthen your allies (monsters and NPCs) or to disrupt the combat potential of you adversaries (the players). Feel free to play them liberally as the situation warrants, especially if your players are playing coupons of their own in a pathetic attempt to extricate themselves from a situation of their own creation!

Sheet Nine

"Smackdown": While you ALWAYS have the option of resorting to the Smartass Smackdown table, certain players raised in an atmosphere of coddling may interpret this action as arbitrary and capricious. While they are of course utterly wrong, the chastened player may resort to pouting and become a disruptive element. An enlightened approach is to issue one of these coupons as "plea bargain" instead of resorting to the maximum punishment of the HSST. This is especially effective if the player is a conspicuous user of coupons himself - after all, turnabout is fair play.

There are, naturally, other valuable campaign saving coupons on this sheet. If you have allowed a powerful magic item into the game that the players have found an unintended way to exploit, here's you chance to eliminate any such item (even an artifact!).

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