



# TALISMAN<sup>®</sup>

THE MAGICAL QUEST GAME

REVISED 4TH EDITION



THE DRAGON<sup>™</sup>  
EXPANSION





## LEGEND OF THE DRAGON KING

*Hundreds of years ago, a mighty wizard dared to assail the Dragon Tower in the Firelands. Once there, he used powerful spells to banish the Dragon King into a horrible black void and then drove the remaining Draconic Lords into hiding far away. Only then was the wizard free to enter the Valley of Fire, a scorched land where arcane fires burn continuously. For the dragons, this was the source of heat that kept the eggs in their hatchery warm, but the wizard had other plans.*

*The wizard cruelly enslaved spirits who could harness the Valley of Fire's mystical flames and forged the mighty Crown of Command. With this powerful artefact, he ruled over the land for the rest of his life. When at last the wizard passed away, he hid the Crown of Command within the shattered ruins of the Dragon Tower, waiting for a champion strong enough, brave enough, and clever enough to claim the powerful artefact and become the new ruler of the realm.*

*But the dragons have not forgotten that the Firelands were once their domain. And there are legends that the dragons will return.*

*Hidden away in shadowy temples, diabolical Dragon Cults teach that the Draconic Lords will return and that one of them will claim the Crown of Command for himself to become the new Dragon King. When the new Dragon King is crowned, it shall herald an era of terror and flame in which only the most devoted servants will be spared.*

*Recent dark omens lead some to believe that dreadful time may now be at hand. For travellers have seen wyverns and drakes closer to towns, and the silhouettes of larger creatures have been spotted overhead flying to and from the Firelands. There, the dragons toil ceaselessly to rebuild the Dragon Tower, making it an impenetrable fortress.*

*Now, for those brave adventurers who seek the Crown of Command, the quest is more than just a bid to gain power and influence. It is a race to save the land from the Dragon King's tyrannical rule!*

## EXPANSION OVERVIEW

Three Draconic Lords, beings of near infinite power and malevolence, have returned to the Firelands to claim the fabled Crown of Command. With them come legions of evil dragons, harnessing the awesome powers of their dark masters. Now the land quakes beneath their oppressive rule, and the quest for the Crown is more terrifying and dangerous than ever before!

**The Dragon** is an epic level expansion, forcing the characters to confront fearsome dragons and deadly challenges throughout the game. A player must draw a dragon token once per round which commonly results in placing a dragon scale on one of the Draconic Lords. When a Draconic Lord accumulates three dragon scales, he becomes the new Dragon King and one of his dragon scales is placed on the game board. Characters encountering a dragon scale on a space on the board must draw a Dragon Card instead of drawing from the regular Adventure deck. Characters may claim the dragon scale on their space if they kill an Enemy from a Dragon Card. Each dragon scale a character claims increases his fighting prowess against the Draconic Lords and their minions. When a character builds up enough power and courage, he must reach the Crown of Command in the Inner Region and vanquish the Dragon King to win the game!

## OBJECT OF THE GAME

The object of the game is to reach the Crown of Command in the centre of the board and vanquish the Dragon King (see "Confronting the Dragon King" on page 14).





# COMPONENTS

*The Dragon* expansion includes the following components:

- This Rulebook
- 1 Double-sided Board Overlay
- 168 Dragon Cards, consisting of:
  - » 56 Varthrax Cards
  - » 56 Cadorus Cards
  - » 56 Grilipus Cards
- 3 Alternative Ending Cards
- 3 Draconic Lord Cards, consisting of:
  - » 1 Varthrax Draconic Lord Card
  - » 1 Cadorus Draconic Lord Card
  - » 1 Grilipus Draconic Lord Card
- 140 Dragon Tokens, consisting of:
  - » 40 Varthrax Dragon Scales
  - » 40 Cadorus Dragon Scales
  - » 40 Grilipus Dragon Scales
  - » 6 Dragon Strikes
  - » 6 Dragon Rages
  - » 8 Dragon Slumbers
- 1 Crown Token
- 19 Sleep Tokens
- 6 Character Cards
- 6 Plastic Character Figures

## THE DRAGON SYMBOL

Cards in *The Dragon* expansion are marked with an expansion symbol to differentiate them from the cards in the base game.



# COMPONENT OVERVIEW

Below is a brief description of each game component.

## BOARD OVERLAY

The board overlay is placed on the main game board and replaces the Inner Region with new encounters and victory objectives. The Dragon Realm is featured on one side and the Dragon Tower is featured on the other side. Before starting the game, players must decide which side to use.



*Dragon Realm*



*Dragon Tower*

## DRAGON CARDS

The 168 Dragon Cards are separated into Varthrax, Cadorus, and Grilipus decks. Each deck of 56 cards features new Events, Enemies, Strangers, Objects, Followers, and Places. Dragon Cards are similar to Adventure Cards, but are encountered by characters exploring spaces occupied by one of the Draconic Lords' dragon scales.



*Varthrax deck*



*Cadorus deck*



*Grilipus deck*

## ALTERNATIVE ENDING CARDS

The use of the three new Alternative Ending Cards is optional, and players must agree whether or not to use them before starting the game (see "Alternative Ending Cards" on page 15).



## DRACONIC LORD CARDS

The three Draconic Lords (Varthrax, Cadorus, and Grilipus) represent the contenders for the Crown of Command. When a Draconic Lord seizes control of the Crown, he becomes the Dragon King for a time, until another Draconic Lord usurps him and becomes the next Dragon King.





## DRAGON TOKENS

The 140 dragon tokens represent the Draconic Lords' dominance over the land. When a Draconic Lord has accumulated three dragon scales on his card, he becomes the next Dragon King!



## CROWN TOKEN

The Crown token is placed on one of the Draconic Lords to indicate the current Dragon King. When another Draconic Lord accumulates three dragon scales, he seizes the Crown and becomes the current Dragon King.



## SLEEP TOKENS

The 19 Sleep tokens may be placed on Dragons during the course of the game by certain encounters and effects. A sleeping Dragon has its fighting capabilities reduced but will wake up at the end of an attack if a character does not defeat it.



## CHARACTER CARDS

The six new character cards work exactly like those in the base game, and offer players an even larger selection of heroes to play.



## CHARACTER FIGURES

Each of the new characters has a plastic figure used to represent that hero on the game board.



## USING ONLY PORTIONS OF THIS EXPANSION

Overcoming the dangers and perils of the board overlay and vanquishing the Dragon King is the greatest challenge for even the mightiest hero. While *The Dragon* expansion is intended to be used in its entirety as an epic quest for the Crown of Command, players are welcome to play *Talisman* using only some of the elements of the expansion in order to speed the game up or reduce the difficulty of the victory condition. The new characters and Alternative Ending Cards may be used without including the new tokens, cards, or board overlay. Players may also use the new Dragon Cards and Draconic Lord Cards without the additional challenge of the board overlay. See the "Optional Rules" section on page 16 for more details.

## USING THE DRAGON WITH OTHER EXPANSIONS

*The Dragon* expansion can be used with any *Talisman* expansion, including boards that offer new Regions to explore such as the Dungeon and Highland. Characters may enter these Regions regardless of what tokens or cards from *The Dragon* expansion are placed on their entrance spaces.



# SETUP

When playing with *The Dragon* expansion, add the following steps after the base game's setup is completed:

1. **Place Board Overlay:** Players must agree which side of the board overlay to use. If players are using *The Dragon* expansion for the first time, we recommend using the Dragon Realm side until they are more experienced with the game. The board overlay must be placed over the Inner Region on the main game board so the doorways of the Portal of Power on both boards line up correctly.
2. **Set Up Draconic Lord Cards:** Shuffle the three Draconic Lord Cards and place them *face down* next to the game board. Reveal one Draconic Lord at random by flipping the card faceup and place the Crown token on the card. Flip the other two Draconic Lord Cards faceup. Then place five life counters on each of the Draconic Lord Cards.
3. **Set Up Dragon Decks:** Separate the Dragon Cards by colour into three decks (the Varthrax deck is red, the Cadorus deck is gold, and the Grilipus deck is green). Shuffle each deck individually and place it *face down* beside its matching Draconic Lord Card.
4. **Set Up Dragon Tokens:** Place all of the dragon tokens *face down* next to the game board and randomize them. Players may prefer to place them in a bowl or dice bag instead. This forms a **pool** of dragon tokens.
5. **Place Sleep Tokens:** Place all of the sleep tokens next to the game board. This forms a **pool** of sleep tokens.

After these steps have been carried out, the game is ready to begin!

## SETUP EXAMPLE





## MATCHING TOKENS AND CARDS

Each dragon scale and Dragon Card **MATCHES** one of the three Draconic Lords:



Varthrax dragon scales and Varthrax Cards match the Draconic Lord Varthrax.



Cadorus dragon scales and Cadorus Cards match the Draconic Lord Cadorus.



Grilipus dragon scales and Grilipus Cards match the Draconic Lord Grilipus.

## DRACONIC LORD TRAITS

Varthrax has 14 Strength, 10 Craft, and 5 lives. His Dragon Rage effect forces characters to discard a Follower.

Cadorus has 12 Strength, 12 Craft, and 5 Lives. His Dragon Rage effect forces characters to discard an Object.

Grilipus has 10 Strength, 14 Craft, and 5 Lives. His Dragon Rage effect forces characters to discard a Spell.

## EXPANSION RULES

Three Draconic Lords are vying for control of the Crown of Command. When a dragon seizes control of the Crown, he becomes the Dragon King and claims dominance over areas on the board, represented by one of his dragon scales being placed on a space. The reign of the Dragon King is short-lived, however, and only lasts until one of the rival Draconic Lords gathers enough power to usurp the Crown and become the new Dragon King. Characters exploring spaces with dragon scales may face challenges from Dragon Cards instead of encountering the space normally.

These rules are used in addition to those in the main *Talisman* game when playing with *The Dragon* expansion.

## DRAWING DRAGON TOKENS

Whenever a character draws one or more Enemies during his turn, before he encounters any cards, he must draw one dragon token at random from the pool and resolve its effect. The effects of the various dragon tokens fall into two different types: **SPECIAL EFFECTS** and **DRAGON SCALES**.

### SPECIAL EFFECTS

These tokens are always discarded after their effects have been resolved.

#### DRAGON STRIKE

The character who drew the token immediately draws two additional dragon tokens from the pool and resolves them in the order in which they were drawn. If additional Dragon Strikes are drawn, the character must continue to draw additional dragon tokens. After the Dragon Strike is resolved, it is discarded.



*Dragon Strike*

#### DRAGON RAGE

The character who drew the token suffers the Dragon Rage of the current Dragon King (see "Draconic Lord Traits" opposite). After the Dragon Rage is resolved, it is discarded.



*Dragon Rage*

#### DRAGON SLUMBER

The character who drew the token places a sleep token on one Dragon of his choice in any Region. If there are no Dragons on the board, he may place the token on any Enemy of his choice. If there are no Enemies on the board, the Dragon Slumber has no effect. After the Dragon Slumber is resolved, it is discarded.



*Dragon Slumber*

When a character encounters an Enemy with a sleep token on it, the Enemy's Strength and Craft are both reduced by 3 points, to a minimum of 1 (see "Sleep Tokens" on page 15).



## DRAGON SCALES

The effects of dragon scales vary depending on whether they are placed on a Draconic Lord, the game board, or a character's play area.



Varthrax  
Dragon Scale



Cadorus  
Dragon Scale



Grilipus  
Dragon Scale

When a dragon scale is first drawn, it is placed on the matching Draconic Lord Card. The number of dragon scales on a Draconic Lord indicates how close he is to becoming the next Dragon King (see "Crowning the Dragon King" on page 8).

When a dragon scale is placed on the game board, characters may have to draw Dragon Cards when they encounter it on the space (see "Encountering Dragon Scales" on page 10).

When a dragon scale is placed in a character's play area, the character gains a bonus to his attack score for each dragon scale that matches his opponent (see "Claiming Dragon Scales" on page 11).

## DRAGON LORE

*From storm-darkened skies, three Draconic Lords have descended upon the Firelands, their ancestral home, in an attempt to claim the Crown of Command. While all three dragons are mighty and fearsome, each is unique in his abilities and temperaments. The legends of these mythic creatures paint a terrifying picture.*

### VARTHRAX

*An enormous dragon who possesses unthinkable strength and a keen tactical mind. Those who serve Varthrax thrive on physical combat and typically wield powerful weaponry. This Draconic Lord uses his influence to pit dishonoured knights and power-hungry warlords against those who would oppose his rule, particularly the noble knights who dwell within the Castle. Varthrax usually favours honourable victory in fair combat, but when given over to fits of rage, he lashes out violently, destroying anything and everything around him.*

### CADORUS

*A cunning and calculating dragon with a vast hoard of gold that he uses to enact his complex schemes. Those who serve Cadorus excel in amassing great wealth and exerting political and economic influence. He holds especially strong sway among merchants and nobles who use their fortunes to starve and oppress the simple country folk of the land. Cadorus particularly despises the humble farmers who dwell within the Village, whose simple rural lives and agricultural strength defy the dragon's ability to bribe or starve them. Cadorus usually favours guile and subterfuge, but when given over to fits of rage, his boundless greed drives him to claim as much wealth as he can with no regard to subtlety.*

### GRILIPUS

*A mysterious dragon who has mastered the magical art of leeching power from all living things around him. Those who serve Grilipus use spells and rituals to bend the forces of nature to serve their master's will. He is particularly adept at manipulating druids, rangers, and others who are tied to the natural elements. Grilipus finds the priests who dwell within the Temple intolerable and seeks to wipe them out for their worship of spirits that dwell within the sky, not the land. Grilipus is usually protective of the environment from which he draws his power, but when given over to fits of rage, his corrupt nature reaches out and poisons everything around him with death and decay.*





## CHARACTER LORE

### DRAGON HUNTER

*A fierce fortune-seeker who has perfected the dangerous art of tracking and slaying dragons to claim their hoards and collect rewards from terrified villagers.*



### FIRE WIZARD

*A volatile and frightening master of pyromancy who is torn by the constant struggle between his rational pursuits and the all-consuming rage that burns inside of him.*



### DRAGON RIDER

*A fearless and insightful traveller who, through discipline and bravery, has uncovered the mysteries of taming dragons, turning them from ferocious enemies to loyal companions.*



### CONJURER

*A deft and nimble practitioner of the magical arts who uses her miraculous sleight-of-hand to entertain and delight those she encounters.*



### DRAGON PRIESTESS

*A domineering and power-hungry matriarch of the Dragon Cults who can perform ancient rituals and sacrifices to gain boons from the dragons she worships.*



### MINOTAUR

*A brutish creature of unrestrained violence who charges forward to crush anything in his path with no regard to the devastation that he brings.*



## CROWNING THE DRAGON KING

When a character draws a dragon scale, it is placed on the matching Draconic Lord Card. When the third dragon scale is placed on a Draconic Lord, he is immediately crowned the new Dragon King and the Crown token is placed on his card as a reminder of his status.

The character then takes one dragon scale from the Dragon King's card and places it on the character's space. If the space already has a dragon scale, it is placed in the next space counterclockwise that does not already have a dragon scale. If every space in the Region already has a dragon scale, the dragon scale is discarded and the character must suffer the Dragon Rage of the Dragon King instead (see "Dragon Rage" on page 15). The two remaining dragon scales on the Dragon King's card are discarded, and the character continues his turn as normal.

In this manner, the Dragon King changes throughout the game and spawns Varthrax, Cadorus, and Grilipus dragon scales on board spaces.

**Important: Characters in the Inner Region do not place a dragon scale on their space; all three dragon scales on the Dragon King's card must be discarded instead.**

## ENEMY DRAGONS

Some cards and special abilities only affect Dragons.



The term "Dragon" refers to any Enemy with the word "Dragon" in the card type box. Cards and special abilities that only affect Dragons do not affect Draconic Lords or creatures in the Inner Region.



## EXAMPLE OF CROWNING THE DRAGON KING

The Dragon Rider draws a Varthrax dragon scale during her turn. The dragon scale is placed on the Draconic Lord Varthrax, which brings his total to three dragon scales. This results in Varthrax being



crowned the new Dragon King! The Crown token is placed on Varthrax and the Dragon Rider takes one dragon scale from Varthrax and places it on the Tavern, which is the next space counterclockwise without a dragon scale. The remaining scales are discarded and the Dragon Rider continues her turn.





## ENCOUNTERING DRAGON SCALES

During the course of the game, dragon scales are placed on the board when Draconic Lords are crowned the Dragon King and as a result of various cards. If a character lands in a space that has a dragon scale, he may *either* encounter the space, a character in that space, or the dragon scale in that space.

**Exception:** When a character lands on any space with a dragon scale that matches the current Dragon King, he must encounter the dragon scale there.

If a character encounters the dragon scale, he must draw one card from the deck that matches the dragon scale, even if there are already one or more cards in the space. The character must resolve *all of the cards* in the space following the normal rules (cards must be resolved in order of their encounter number, Enemies with the same encounter number add their Strength and Craft together, etc.). This may result in a

character resolving an Adventure Card from the main game before he resolves the newly drawn card, if the Dragon Card has a higher encounter number.

When a character encounters a dragon scale, all of the instructions on the space are ignored. In other words, the text on the space has no effect on the character or cards whatsoever. This can dramatically change the Regions, as dragon scales can potentially prevent characters from purchasing items in the Village, praying at the Temple, or healing at the Chapel.

If the Sentinel has a dragon scale that matches the current Dragon King, characters may *not* use the space to cross to the Middle Region, but they may freely cross from the Middle Region to the Outer Region.

If the Portal of Power has a dragon scale that matches the current Dragon King, characters may *not* use the space to cross to the Inner Region, but they may freely cross from the Inner Region to the Middle Region.

## EXAMPLE OF ENCOUNTERING A DRAGON SCALE

The Fire Wizard lands on the Ruins, which contains a Grilipus dragon scale. Grilipus is not the Dragon King, so the Fire Wizard may choose to encounter the space or the dragon scale.

The Fire Wizard decides to encounter the dragon scale and draws one Grilipus Card from the top of the deck and places it on the space.

Even though the Ruins has instructions to draw two cards, the Fire Wizard must ignore all of the instructions on the space when he encounters the dragon scale.

The Fire Wizard attacks the Carrion Drake and resolves the psychic combat normally.





## CLAIMING DRAGON SCALES

If a character kills an Enemy from one of the Dragon decks, in addition to taking the Enemy as a trophy, he may **CLAIM** the dragon scale on his space and place it in his play area. Dragon scales have two powerful effects:

- If a character attacks an Enemy from one of the Dragon decks or a Draconic Lord, each dragon scale that matches his opponent adds one point to his attack score.
- If a character is about to suffer a Draconic Lord's Dragon Rage (see "Dragon Rage" on page 15), he may discard one of his dragon scales that matches the Draconic Lord to cancel the Dragon Rage and not suffer any of the effects.

Dragon scales are not considered Objects. Therefore, they cannot be ditched, discarded, stolen, sold, or traded.

**Important:** Characters may only have a maximum of three dragon scales per Draconic Lord at any time.

## DRAGON SCALES AND MULTIPLE ENEMIES

If a character resolves a battle or psychic combat with more than one Enemy from a Dragon deck at the same time, each dragon scale that matches an Enemy adds one point to his attack score.

*Example:* A character attacks two Enemies from the Varthrax deck with the same encounter number. The character has three dragon scales that match Varthrax, so he adds a total of six points to his attack score.

*Example:* A character attacks two Enemies with the same encounter number. One Enemy is from the Grilipus deck and the other Enemy is from the Cadorus deck. The character has one dragon scale that matches Grilipus and two dragon scales that match Cadorus, so he adds a total of three points to his attack score.

## EXAMPLE OF CLAIMING A DRAGON SCALE

The Minotaur lands on the Tavern with the Conjurer and a Varthrax dragon scale. Varthrax is the Dragon King, so the Minotaur must encounter the dragon scale; he may not encounter the Tavern or Conjurer instead. The Minotaur draws one Varthrax Card from the top of the deck and places it on the Tavern.

The Minotaur is attacked by a Fire Drake and defeats it in battle. The Minotaur takes the Fire Drake as a trophy. The Minotaur also claims the dragon scale because he killed an Enemy from one of the Dragon decks. The dragon scale is removed from the Tavern and placed in the Minotaur's play area. His turn then ends.





## EXAMPLE OF USING DRAGON SCALES

The Conjurer lands on the Ruins, which contains a Carrion Drake and a Grilipus dragon scale. Grilipus is not the Dragon King, so the Conjurer may choose to encounter the space or the dragon scale. The Conjurer decides to encounter the space, and the Ruins instructs her to draw two cards. Since there is already a card on the space, the Conjurer only draws one Adventure Card to bring the total to two cards.



The card is another Enemy with the same encounter number, so the Carrion Drake and Shadow will fight as one during the psychic combat. The Conjurer has two dragon scales that match the Carrion Drake, so she adds 2 to her attack score. The Conjurer kills the Carrion Drake, so she takes it as a trophy and claims the dragon scale and places it in her play area.

## BOARD OVERLAY

The board overlay features the Dragon Realm on one side and the Dragon Tower on the other. Before starting the game, players must agree which side is to be used. The board overlay forms a new Inner Region and replaces the encounters and victory objectives from the main game board.

The Dragon Realm has a similar layout to the Inner Region from the main game board, but the challenges on each space grow even more dangerous as the number of dragon scales on the Draconic Lord Cards increases.



*Dragon Realm*

The Dragon Tower has a single path that leads to the Crown of Command. Characters move along the spiralling staircase and then draw cards from the Dragon King's deck.



*Dragon Tower*

## ENTERING THE INNER REGION

The Dragon Realm and Dragon Tower are both entered by passing through the Portal of Power, which must be opened before it can be traversed. The instructions on the Plain of Peril describe the rules for movement in the Inner Region.

**Important:** A character cannot enter the Dragon Tower unless he has a Talisman!





## TURNING BACK

A character in the Inner Region may decide at any time to *turn back* and move back towards the Plain of Peril. A character who has turned back still only moves one space per turn, but ignores the instructions on all of the spaces on his return to the Plain of Peril.

Once a character has declared his intention to turn back, he cannot change his mind, and he must go all the way back to the Plain of Peril. Once there, however, the character may move toward the Crown of Command or leave the Inner Region through the Portal of Power. A character wishing to pass through the Portal of Power from the Inner Region to the Middle Region does not need to open it. The character simply moves from the Plain of Peril to the Portal of Power.

## ENCOUNTERS IN THE INNER REGION

None of the creatures, Enemies, or Draconic Lords in the Inner Region can be affected by any Spell, nor may they be evaded.

A character may only encounter another character on the Plain of Peril and Valley of Fire. Characters in the Inner Region may be targeted by Spells and other effects unless the card specifically states otherwise.

If a card effect requires a character in the Inner Region to place a dragon scale in his Region, the scale is discarded instead.

## CONQUERING THE DRAGON REALM

The die is not rolled for movement in the Dragon Realm. Instead, a character moves one space forward in the direction indicated by the arrow on the space. The instructions on each space in the Inner Region must be completed before a character can move on toward the Crown of Command. Conquering the Dragon Realm follows the same rules for traversing the Inner Region from the main game board, except some space instructions are changed and the challenges grow even more dangerous as the number of dragon scales on the Draconic Lord Cards increases.

Any effects or special abilities that refer to the Mines or the Crypt, also applies to the Dragonstone Mines or the Dragonbone Crypt.

When a character reaches the Crown of Command, he must confront the Dragon King (see “Confronting the Dragon King” on page 14).

## ASCENDING THE DRAGON TOWER

The die is not rolled for movement in the Dragon Tower. Instead, a character moves one space forward in the direction indicated by the arrow on the space. A character draws the number of cards from the Dragon King’s deck instructed by his space and encounters them.

**Important:** A character must draw a Dragon Card when he first enters the Dragon Tower.

Encountering Dragon Cards in the Dragon Tower follows all of the normal rules (cards must be resolved in order of their encounter number, Enemies with the same encounter number add their Strength and Craft together, etc.), except creatures cannot be affected by any Spell, nor may they be evaded. Characters may use dragon scales as normal. If a character is defeated or is instructed to miss his turn, he may *not* encounter any of the remaining cards on the space.

After a character has finished resolving the Dragon Cards he encounters, his turn immediately ends. On his next turn, he moves one space forward towards the Crown of Command, plus one additional space for each Enemy he killed during his previous turn. If a character is defeated on a stairway, he must move one space back towards the Plain of Peril.

**Important:** After a character ends his turn, all cards and tokens in the Dragon Tower are discarded.

When a character reaches the Crown of Command, he must confront the Dragon King (see “Confronting the Dragon King” on page 14).

## DRAGON TOWER CLARIFICATIONS

If a character on a stairway kills an Enemy but is defeated by another card during his turn, he must still move one space back towards the Plain of Peril instead of moving forward.

If a character on a stairway has a stand-off, he moves one space forward towards the Crown of Command as normal.

If a character ditches Followers or Objects onto a space in the Dragon Tower or a Spell card is faceup on a space when a character lands there, he still draws the number of cards indicated on the Dragon Tower’s space. Characters must always draw the number of cards indicated on the Dragon Tower’s space, regardless of how many cards are already faceup on the space.

If a character is forced to move clockwise, he moves following the direction indicated by the arrows on each space.

If a character is forced to move counterclockwise, he moves against the direction indicated by the arrows on each space.





## EXAMPLE OF MOVING IN THE DRAGON TOWER

The Dragon Hunter ends his move on the Plain of Peril. The space instructs him to draw 1 card which will determine whether he moves any additional spaces next turn. Varthrax is the Dragon King, so the Dragon Hunter must draw 1 Varthrax Card from the top of the deck and encounter it.

The Dragon Hunter encounters a Fire Drake and kills it, so he takes the Fire Drake as a trophy and he will move an additional space next turn.

If the Dragon Hunter had not defeated the Fire Drake, it would have been discarded at the end of the turn and the Dragon Hunter would only move one space next turn.



## CONFRONTING THE DRAGON KING

In order to confront the Dragon King, characters must overcome the dangers of the Inner Region and travel to the Crown of Command in the centre of the board overlay. When a character enters the Crown of Command, he immediately attacks the Dragon King. The character must choose whether to attack the Dragon King using Strength or Craft. Each time he defeats the Dragon King, he must remove one of the Dragon King's lives and immediately attack him again.

**Important: The character who removes the last life from the Dragon King wins the game.**

If a character confronting the Dragon King has a stand-off or is defeated, his turn ends and he must attack the Dragon King on his next turn. If a character is defeated, in addition to losing a life, he suffers the effects of the Dragon Rage

listed on the Dragon King's card. If a character is killed and there are no other characters on the Crown of Command, the Dragon King heals all of his lives.

When a character is on the Crown of Command, he does not move and must continue to attack the Dragon King; he may not turn back and move towards the Plain of Peril.

If three dragon scales are placed on a Draconic Lord while any characters are on the Crown of Command, one dragon scale from the Draconic Lord's card is placed on a space and the two remaining dragon scales on the card are discarded as normal. However, the Crown token is *not* moved to the Draconic Lord. In other words, the Dragon King does *not* change while a character is on the Crown of Command.

Once any character has reached the Crown of Command and confronted the Dragon King, any character that gets killed is out of the game. Note that this rule stays in effect for the rest of the game.



## ALTERNATIVE ENDING CARDS

The use of Alternative Ending Cards is optional, and players should agree whether or not to use them before starting the game. The Alternative Ending Cards allow players to use the cards and tokens from *The Dragon* expansion in new ways. However, players cannot play with *The Dragon* expansion in its entirety and Alternative Ending Cards at the same time.

### SETUP

The Alternative Ending Cards should be shuffled at the start of the game and one card, drawn at random, is placed faceup on the Crown of Command at the centre of the game board.

## ENCOUNTERING ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

Alternative Ending Cards replace the base game's victory conditions, offering players new ways to win the game. When using the Alternative Ending Cards, characters on the Crown of Command must encounter the Alternative Ending Card and follow the rules printed on the card – they cannot cast the Command Spell or encounter other characters on the Crown of Command.

All other rules regarding the Inner Region still apply when playing with Alternative Ending Cards:

- None of the creatures in the Inner Region (nor any of the Alternative Ending Cards) can be affected by any Spell. They also cannot be evaded.
- Characters on the Crown of Command cannot move and must remain on that space unless the Alternative Ending Card specifically states otherwise.
- Once any character has reached the Crown of Command, any character who is killed automatically loses the game.

Alternative Ending Cards generally only affect characters on the Crown of Command. However, instructions that have a **STAR ICON** at the start of their text affect all characters, no matter what Region they are in, including characters on the Crown of Command.



Star Icon

## DOMAIN OF DRAGONS

Whenever the Domain of Dragons Alternative Ending Card mentions the words “Enemy”, “Object”, or “dragon token”, it means when a character kills, draws, or is instructed to draw *one or more* of these cards or tokens.

## OTHER RULES

This section clarifies rules regarding the new components for *The Dragon* expansion.

### DRAGON RAGE

Each Draconic Lord features a Dragon Rage effect: Varthrax forces characters to discard a Follower, Cadorus forces characters to discard an Object, and Grilipus forces characters to discard a Spell.



If a character does not have the required card to discard, he loses one life instead. If a character has a dragon scale that matches the Draconic Lord, he may discard the dragon scale to cancel the Dragon Rage and not suffer any of the effects (see “Claiming Dragon Scales” on page 11).

### SLEEP TOKENS

Characters may have the opportunity to place sleep tokens on Enemies during the course of the game. When a character encounters an Enemy with a sleep token on it, the Enemy's Strength and Craft are both reduced by 3 points, to a minimum of 1.



Sleep Token

An Enemy can only have one sleep token placed on it at a time. For example, two sleep tokens cannot be placed on an Enemy to reduce its Strength by 6 points.

If a character encounters a sleeping Enemy, its sleep token is returned to the pool at the end of the turn, regardless of whether the Enemy was killed or the character was defeated. Killing a sleeping Enemy does not reduce its points as a trophy – the Enemy is worth the full value printed on its card.

## DRAWING FROM THE DRAGON KING'S DECK

When characters are instructed to draw cards from the Dragon King's deck, the cards must be drawn from the deck that matches the Draconic Lord who is the current Dragon King.





## BREATH ATTACKS

Some Dragons make a **BREATH ATTACK** before the character's attack is resolved. If a character suffers the effects of a breath attack, he must still resolve the battle or psychic combat unless specifically stated otherwise.

If a character has a Spell or ability that is used when he is about to engage in battle or psychic combat, it is implemented before the breath attack is resolved.

If a character evades the Dragon, he does not resolve the Dragon's breath attack.

## DRAWING CARDS IN THE DRAGON TOWER

When characters in the Dragon Tower are instructed to draw cards, they always draw Dragon Cards rather than Adventure Cards. This requirement is true even when, for example, cards and special abilities specifically instruct the player to draw one or more "Adventure Cards".

When a card is encountered in the Dragon Tower and has instructions or effects that refers to Adventure Cards, it affects Dragon Cards instead.

*Example: The Sacrificial Stone instructs a character to draw 1 Adventure Card. If the Sacrificial Stone is encountered in the Outer or Middle Region, the character must draw from the base game's Adventure deck. However, if the Sacrificial Stone is encountered in the Dragon Tower, the character must draw from the Dragon King's deck instead of the Adventure deck.*

## SPECIAL ABILITIES INVOLVING DRAGON CARDS

Special abilities and effects that apply to Adventure Cards behave differently when characters are in the Dragon Tower rather than the Outer or Middle Regions. When used within the Dragon Tower, these special abilities and effects apply to cards from the Dragon King's deck instead.

*Example: The Prophetess's special ability states that whenever she draws Adventure Cards, she may discard one card of her choice and draw one more card to replace it. While the Prophetess is in the Outer or Middle Region, her ability applies to cards from the Adventure deck. However, while she is in the Dragon Tower, her ability applies to cards from the Dragon King's deck instead.*

## DISCARDING CARDS

If an effect such as suffering the Dragon Rage of the Dragon King forces a character to discard Objects, Followers, or Spells, the character chooses which card to discard unless the effect specifically states otherwise.

## RUNNING OUT OF CARDS

If a deck of Dragon Cards is exhausted, all of the discarded cards from the deck are shuffled and placed facedown beside its matching Draconic Lord Card to form a new deck.

## DISCARDING DRAGON TOKENS

When dragon tokens are discarded, they are removed from the game and returned to the box. If every dragon token is taken from the pool, return all of the dragon tokens that were removed from the game (including any discarded dragon scales) back to the pool facedown and randomise them to form a new pool.

## KILLED CHARACTERS

If any character is killed during the game, all of his dragon scales are discarded and removed from play.

## OPTIONAL RULES

These are rules that players can include to add new experiences to the game. If players want to use any of the rules discussed here, they should make sure that everyone understands and agrees to the rules before the game begins.

## WRATH OF THE DRAGON KING

This variant makes dragon scales on certain spaces even more dangerous to encounter.

If a Draconic Lord is crowned when he is *already* the current Dragon King, the following effects are applied to every space that has a dragon scale that matches the Dragon King:

- All characters on the space suffer the Dragon Rage of the Dragon King.
- All cards on the space are discarded, including any Adventure, Dragon, Spell, and Purchase Cards as well as cards from any other decks. Any dragon scales on the board remain there.

The wrath of the Dragon King is implemented after the Draconic Lord has been crowned, but before the character places a dragon scale on his space.

## DRACONIC RETRIBUTION

This variant replaces the way that dragon tokens are drawn. Whenever a character defeats one or more Enemies during his turn, before he encounters anything else that turn, he must draw one dragon token at random from the pool and resolve its effect. This reduces the amount of dragon scales drawn!



## DRAGON SPAWN

This variant gives characters the opportunity to encounter dragon scales earlier in the game.

After the game setup is complete, the character who begins the game reveals a random dragon token from the pool until a dragon scale is drawn; any Dragon Strike, Dragon Rage, or Dragon Slumber tokens that are drawn are kept faceup next to the pool. The character rolls a die and places the dragon scale that many spaces away *counterclockwise* from his start space following the normal rules for placing a dragon scale.

Each character continues the process of drawing a dragon token and placing the dragon scale counterclockwise from his start space until six dragon scales have been placed on the board; if any space already has a dragon scale, it is placed in the next space counterclockwise that does not already have a dragon scale. Any Dragon Strike, Dragon Rage, or Dragon Slumber tokens that were drawn are then returned to the pool facedown and randomised. After these steps have been resolved, the game is ready to begin.



## HELPFUL HINTS

Each deck of Dragon Cards features different challenges and rewards. As players discover the themes of each deck, they will learn which encounters are best suited for their character.

When a dragon scale that matches the Dragon King is on a space, all of the instructions on the space are ignored. Characters can use this to their advantage and have encounters on spaces that they would normally avoid, such as the Desert or Chasm in the Middle Region. Characters should also be aware when dragon scales nullify vital spaces on the board, such as the Chapel, Graveyard, or Temple.

If a space has a dragon scale and an Adventure Card has already been placed there, courageous characters may choose to encounter the dragon scale instead of the space. The character then draws a Dragon Card as well as encountering the Adventure Card that is already on the space. Encountering multiple cards during a turn is a powerful advantage which is similar to having an additional turn.

If a space has a dragon scale and an Enemy has already been placed there, cautious characters may choose to encounter the space instead of the dragon scale (as long as the dragon scale does not match the Dragon King). Avoiding the dragon scale prevents unexpected dangers from being placed on the space, such as having to fight another Enemy.

Collecting dragon scales from each of the three Draconic Lords will protect against unexpected Dragon Rage attacks.

The effects of some Dragon Cards become more powerful depending upon which Draconic Lord is the Dragon King. Encountering dragon scales that match the Dragon King may become even more dangerous than normal.

## DRAGON BOLSTER

This variant increases the Dragon King's Strength and Craft. Whenever a character attacks the Dragon King, each dragon scale on every Draconic Lord Card increases the Dragon King's Strength and Craft by 1 point.



## DRAGON TOWER LORE

*At the very heart of the realm lies a volcanic wasteland known as the Firelands. Long ago, a great tower stood in the centre of the Firelands from which the Dragon King ruled. The Dragon King was both strong and wise, and while none dared trespass within his domain, dragonkind never presumed to expand their borders beyond the Firelands.*

*But one day a mighty wizard challenged the Dragon King for the right to enter the sacred Valley of Fire, the birthplace of dragonkind. The Dragon King burned with rage at the wizard's insolence and attacked him with the ferocity of flame and fang. An epic battle ensued, and while the wizard was a master of the arcane arts, he was no match for the Dragon King. The wizard realised that no spell in his arsenal could kill the Dragon King, but there was magic powerful enough to banish him. The wizard performed his ritual and opened a portal between the realm of dragons and a horrible black void. The tower was pulled apart as stone after stone disappeared into the void, and although he struggled fiercely, the Dragon King ultimately disappeared into the void as well. With their king gone, the remaining Draconic Lords fled to the extreme corners of the world, fearful of the wizard's wrath should they ever return.*

*Seeing that the Dragon Tower had been reduced to a shattered husk, the wizard travelled to the Valley of Fire, where he used its searing eldritch heat to craft the Crown of Command, the most powerful artefact ever created. Empowered by the Crown, he ruled over the land for many, many years until the end of his life.*

*Since then, secret Dragon Cults have formed, praying that the Draconic Lords will someday return and grant the cultists power and influence in exchange for their worship. These cults tell of a prophecy in which one day a new Dragon King will arise, ruling the entire realm from a new Dragon Tower and adorned with the Crown of their enemy. After years of labouring in secret, the Dragon Cults' patience was finally rewarded. They found three of the Draconic Lords – Varthrax, Cadorus, and Grilipus – who had gone into hiding many years ago. The cultists told the Draconic Lords that the wizard who drove them off was dead and that the Firelands were ready to be reclaimed.*

*To each of the Draconic Lords, this was at last an opportunity to not just return to their ancestral home, but to claim the Crown of Command. With the awesome power of the Crown, a Draconic Lord could establish himself as the undisputed new Dragon King, ruling over his brethren and subjugating all other living things to his will. Believing no other dragon to be worthy of the title, each Draconic Lord now struggles to establish dominance by rebuilding the Dragon Tower.*

*Once the tower is complete and one of the Draconic Lords acquires the Crown of Command, the Dragon Cults' prophecy may well come to pass. A new era of dragons will begin, and all living things will bow to the sovereign rule of the new Dragon King!*







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# RULES SUMMARY

The rules summary contains the basic rules that players need to play *The Dragon* expansion.

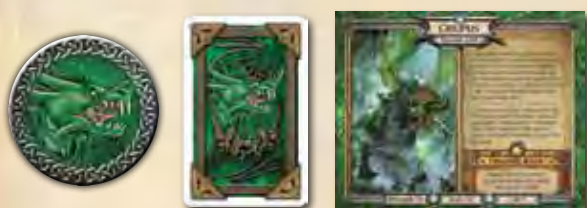
## MATCHING TOKENS AND CARDS



Varthrax dragon scales and Varthrax Dragon Cards match the Draconic Lord Varthrax.



Cadurus dragon scales and Cadurus Dragon Cards match the Draconic Lord Cadorus.



Grilipus dragon scales and Grilipus Dragon Cards match the Draconic Lord Grilipus.

## DRAGON SCALES

The effects of dragon scales vary depending on whether they are placed on a Draconic Lord, the game board, or a character's play area.

When a dragon scale is first drawn, it is placed on the matching Draconic Lord Card. The number of dragon scales on a Draconic Lord indicates how close he is to becoming the next Dragon King (see "Crowning the Dragon King" on page 8).

When a dragon scale is placed on the game board, characters may have to draw Dragon Cards when they encounter it on the space (see "Encountering Dragon Scales" on page 10).

When a dragon scale is placed in a character's play area, the character gains a bonus to his attack score for each dragon scale that matches his opponent (see "Claiming Dragon Scales" on page 11).

## DRAWING DRAGON TOKENS

Whenever a character draws one or more Enemies during his turn, before he encounters any cards, he must draw one dragon token from the pool at random and resolve its effect (see "Drawing Dragon Tokens" on page 6).

## DRAGON TOKEN DESCRIPTIONS

### VARTHRAK DRAGON SCALE

Place the token faceup on the Draconic Lord Varthrax. This may result in Varthrax becoming the Dragon King.

### CADORUS DRAGON SCALE

Place the token faceup on the Draconic Lord Cadorus. This may result in Cadorus becoming the Dragon King.

### GRILIPUS DRAGON SCALE

Place the token faceup on the Draconic Lord Grilipus. This may result in Grilipus becoming the Dragon King.

### DRAGON STRIKE

The character who drew the token immediately draws 2 additional dragon tokens from the pool and resolves them in the order in which they were drawn. If additional Dragon Strikes are drawn, the character must continue to draw additional dragon tokens. After the Dragon Strike is resolved, it is discarded.

### DRAGON RAGE

The character who drew the token suffers the Dragon Rage of the current Dragon King (see "Dragon Rage" on page 15). After the Dragon Rage is resolved, it is discarded.

### DRAGON SLUMBER

The character who drew the token places a sleep token on one Dragon of his choice in any Region. If there are no Dragons on the board, he may place the token on any Enemy of his choice. If there are no Enemies on the board, the Dragon Slumber has no effect. After the Dragon Slumber is resolved, it is discarded.

When a character encounters an Enemy with a sleep token on it, the Enemy's Strength and Craft are both reduced by 3 points, to a minimum of 1 (see "Sleep Tokens" on page 15).

