HOBGOBLINS



ar horns sound, stones fly from catapults, and the thunder of a thousand booted feet echoes across the land as hobgoblins march to battle. Across the borderlands of civilization, settlements and settlers must contend with these aggressive humanoids for conquest is never satisfied.

Hobgoblins have dark orange or red-orange skin, and hair ranging from dark red-brown to dark gray. Yellow or dark brown eyes peer out beneath their beetling brows, and their wide mouths sport sharp and yellowed teeth. A male hobgoblin might have a large blue or red nose, which symbolizes virility and power among goblinkin. Hobgoblins can live as long as humans, though their love of warfare and battle means that few do.

SCALABLE MONSTER

The hobgoblin listed here is a scalable monster. To scale the hobgoblin, simply follow these instructions:

- Find the starting statistics for the (basic) hobgoblin on page 186 of the *Monster Manual*.
- Choose your target Challenge Rating.
- Adjust the adept's statistics based on the information provided on the Hobgoblin table below.

STARTING STATISTICS

The hobgoblin's starting statistics are identified on page 186 of the *Monster Manual*.

SPECIAL TRAITS

As the hobgoblin's CR increases, it gains the following special traits.

MARTIAL ADVANTAGE

Starting at CR 1/2, once per turn, the hobgoblin can deal an extra 7 (2d6) damage to a creature it hits with a weapon attack if that creature is within 5 feet of an ally of the hobgoblin that isn't incapacitated. The amount of damage that the hobgoblin deals with this trait increases as it gains CRs as shown on the Hobgoblin Scalable Monster table.

MULTIATTACK

At CR 1, when the hobgoblin takes the Attack action it can make two melee attacks. At CR 6, the hobgoblin can make one additional melee attack, or it can make two ranged attacks in place of its three melee attacks.

MARK OF NOMAG-GAEYA

At CR 2, the hobgoblin is marked by the hobgoblin war god, Nomag-Gaeya, as a prototypical example of the species. The hobgoblin's Strength score increases by 2, its Dexterity score increases by 2, and its Charisma score increases by 2.

HOBGOBLIN TITLES

When the hobgoblin reaches CR 3, and again at CR 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18, it gains a new title as noted on the Hobgoblin table. When the hobgoblin gains a new title, its Constitution score increases by 2, its Intelligence score increases by 2, and its Charisma score increases by 2.

LEADERSHIP

At CR 3, the hobgoblin can use its action to inspire its companions. For 1 minute, the hobgoblin can utter a special command or warning whenever a nonhostile creature that it can see within 30 feet of it makes an attack roll or a saving throw. The creature can add a d4 to its roll provided it can hear and understand the hobgoblin. A creature can benefit from only one Leadership die at a time. This effect ends if the hobgoblin is incapacitated. Once the hobgoblin uses this feature, it can't use it again until it completes a short or long rest.

At CR 7, the range that the hobgoblin can affect nonhostile creatures with this trait increases by 30 feet (60 feet), and again at CR 14 (90 feet), and CR 20 (120 feet).

ABILITY SCORE IMPROVEMENT

When the hobgoblin reaches CR 4, and again at CR 8, 12, 16, and 19 it increases one ability score by 2, or two ability scores by 1 as follows:

- **CR 4:** Strength +1 (16), Wis +1 (11)
- **CR 8:** Strength +2 (18)
- CR 12: Strength +1 (17), Wis +1 (12)
- **CR 16:** Strength +2 (19)
- **CR 19:** Strength +1 (20), Wis +1 (13)

FIGHTING MASTER

At CR 4, the hobgoblin's proficiency bonus is doubled for its attack rolls.

STRATEGIC

Starting at CR 5, the hobgoblin has proficiency in Intelligence, Wisdom, and Charisma saving throws.

SHIELD BASH

At CR 6, if the hobgoblin is wielding a shield, it can use its action to make a melee weapon attack with its shield once per turn. On a hit, the shield deals bludgeoning damage equal to 1d4 + the hobgoblin's Strength modifier. If the target is Large or smaller, it must succeed on a Strength saving throw with a DC equal to 8 + the hobgoblin's Strength modifier + its proficiency bonus or be knocked prone.

PARRY

Also at CR 6, the hobgoblin can use its reaction to add its proficiency bonus to its AC against one melee attack that would hit it. To do so, the hobgoblin must see the attacker and be wielding a melee weapon.

Hobgoblin						
CR	Prof. Bonus	AC	hp (HD)	Attack Bonus	Martial Advantage	Traits
1/2	+2	18	11 (2d8 + 2)	+3	2 d6	Martial Advantage
1	+2	18	16 (3d8 + 3)	+3	2 d6	Multiattack (2 melee attacks)
2	+3	18	22 (5d8 + 5)	+3	2 d6	Mark of Nomog-Gaeya
3	+2	17	39 (6d8 + 12)	+4	3d6	Hobgoblin Title (Captain), Leadership
4	+2	17	52 (8d8 + 16)	+7	3d6	Ability Score Improvement (+1 Str, +1 Wis), Fighting Master
5	+3	17	82 (11d8 + 13)	+9	3d6	Strategic
6	+3	20	97 (13d8 + 39)	+9	4d6	Hobgoblin Title (Warlord), Multiattack (3 melee, or 2 ranged), Shield Bash, Parry
7	+3	20	112 (15d8 +45)	+9	4d6	Improved Leadership (60 feet)
8	+3	20	135 (18d8 + 54)	+10	4d6	Ability Score Improvement (+2 Str)
9	+4	20	170 (20d8 + 80)	+12	5 d 6	Hobgoblin Title (Conquerer)
10	+4	20	187 (22d8 + 88)	+12	5d6	Heightened Reflexes
11	+4	20	212 (25d8 + 100)	+12	5 d 6	Innate Spellcasting (aid, compelled duel, detect evil and good)
12	+4	20	247 (26d8 + 130)	+12	6d6	Ability Score Improvement (+1 Str, +1 Wis), Hobgoblin Title (Chosen of Maglubiyet), Maglubiyet's Blessing, Legendary Actions (Move, Attack, Shield Bash)
13	+5	20	256 (27d8 + 135)	+14	6d6	Improved Leadership (90 feet), Magic Weapons
14	+5	20	275 (29d8 + 145)	+14	6d6	Improved Innate Spellcasting (branding smite)
15	+5	20	315 (30d8 + 180)	+14	7d6	Hobgoblin Title (Avatar of Nomog-Gaeya), Elemental Adaptation
16	+5	20	336 (32d8 + 192)	+15	7d6	Ability Score Improvement (+2 Str)
17	+6	20	346 (33d8 + 198)	+17	7d6	Improved Legendary Actions, Improved Innate Spellcasting (aura of vitality)
18	+6	20	346 (33d8 + 1 98)	+17	8d6	Hobgoblin Title (Spirit of Acheron), Magic Resistance
19	+6	20	346 (33d8 + 1 98)	+18	8d6	Ability Score Improvement (+1 Str, +1 Wis), Legendary Resistance
20	+6	20	402 (35d8 + 245)	+18	8d6	Improved Leadership (120 feet), Improved Innate Spellcasting (banishment)
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HEIGHTENED REFLEXES

Starting at CR 10, the hobgoblin has proficiency with Dexterity saving throws and it gains proficiency in the Strength (Athletics) skill.

INNATE SPELLCASTING

At CR 11, the hobgoblin's connection to Maglubiyet allows it to innately cast spells as noted below. Charisma is its spellcasting ability for these spells.

- At will: compelled duel, detect evil and good
- 1/day: aid At CR 14, the hobgoblin can also cast branding smite once per day, at CR 17, the hobgoblin can cast aura of vitality once per day, and at CR 20, the hobgoblin can cast banishment once per day.

MAGLUBIYET'S BLESSING

Beginning at CR 12, the hobgoblin's type changes to fiend (goblinoid) and it gains resistance to bludgeoning, piercing, and slashing damage from nonmagical weapons. Also, it learns to speak Abyssal and Infernal.

LEGENDARY ACTIONS

At CR 12, the hobgoblin can take 3 legendary actions, choosing from the options below. Only one legendary action option can be used at a time and only at the end of another creature's turn. The hobgoblin regains spent legendary actions at the start of its turn.

- **Move.** The hobgoblin can move up to half its movement speed without provoking opportunity attacks.
- Attack (Costs 2 actions). The hobgoblin makes one melee weapon attack as long as the attack is made with a sword.

 Shield Bash (Costs 3 actions). The hobgoblin makes one shield bash attack.

At CR 17, the cost for Attack decreases by 1 (1), and the cost for Shield Bash decreases by 1 (2).

MAGIC WEAPONS

At CR 13, the hobgoblin's weapon attacks are magical.

ELEMENTAL ADAPTATION

At CR 15, the hobgoblin gains resistance to cold, fire, and lightning damage.

MAGIC RESISTANCE

Starting at CR 18, the hobgoblin has advantage on saving throws against spells and other magical effects.

LEGENDARY RESISTANCE

At CR 19, when the hobgoblin fails a saving throw it can choose to succeed instead. The hobgoblin can use this feature three times; it regains all expended uses at the end of a long rest.

NOTE: HOBGOBLIN ARMS AND ARMOR

The hobgoblin depicted here uses the arms and armors standard for their title: basic hobgoblins use longswords and longbows and wear chainmail while wielding a shield. Meanwhile, captains wear half-plate and carry a greatsword. For warlords and beyond, the Hobgoblin Scalable Monster table assumes all hobgoblins are equipped like warlords with plate armor, shields, longswords, and javelins. Feel free to equip your hobgoblin however you like.

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