AN ABSTRACT RANDOM GENERATOR FOR WORLD OF DUNGEONS AND OTHER FANTASY RPGS

To generate a random artifact, simply roll a D12 and a D6 for each category: Origin, Power, and Drawback.

Use your results to inspire you when fleshing out the artifact's details. For games such as *Dungeons & Dragons* or *Dungeon World*, the randomly generated entries can be a guide for creating stats and abilities. For games such as *Fate Core*, entries can be turned directly into aspects with only some minor tweaking. The most important part of each entry is the **bolded** word or phrase; pronouns and other text are there for flavour and may be changed or ignored at your leisure.

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ORIGIN (ROLL D12 + D6 TO DETERMINE AN ASPECT OF THE ARTIFACT'S ORIGIN)

1. ALCHEMICAL

- 1. It bubbles.
- 2. You **rub** it into your skin.
- 3. It **tastes** awful.
- 4. It **splashes** when you throw it.
- 5. You only have the **recipe**.
- 6. It's inherently unstable.

2. ANCIENT

- I. It's been **lost** for centuries.
- 2. It belongs to a **museum**.
- 3. It's **corroded** and rusted.
- 4. It was passed down through your **family**.
- 5. It's been told of in **song** and story.
- 6. Its creators have gone **extinct**.

3. ELEMENTAL

- I. It's made of solid ice.
- 2. It's glows like **magma**.
- 3. This **wood** only comes from one place.
- 4. It cackles with **lightning**.
- 5. It is light and wispy.
- 6. It's basically just a **rock**.

4. HOLY

- I. It radiates divine energy.
- 2. It was the weapon of a **god**.
- 3. Only the **good** can wield it.
- 4. It's **faithful** to you and your cause.
- 5. It's emblazoned with a **holy symbol**.
- 6. They want it back.

5. MAGIC

- I. It's covered in mysterious **runes**.
- 2. It **attunes** itself to you.
- 3. You must speak the proper **words**.
- 4. It **emanates** power.
- 5. It's a **piece** of something bigger.
- 6. The focus **crystal** needs replacing.

6. MASTERWORK

- I. It was forged by **dwarven** blacksmiths.
- 2. **Elven** weavers put years into its making.
- 3. No **demon** lord fights without one.
- 4. It's infused with a drop of **dragon** blood.
- 5. It's in **mint condition**.
- 6. It's the best a **human** could do.

7. Natural

- I. It **pulses** in your hand.
- 2. It **grows** in the wild.
- 3. It **bonds** to your flesh.
- 4. It's starting its **metamorphosis**.
- 5. It **glows** in the dark.
- 6. It **followed** you home.

8. Otherworldly

- I. It's decidedly **non-euclidean**.
- 2. It's a **silicon-based** lifeform.
- 3. It **hurts** to look at it.
- 4. It's **goopy**.
- 5. It's bigger on the inside.
- 6. It's made from **meteoric** ore.

9. PURPOSE

- I. It is a **key**.
- 2. It was meant to **defeat** a great evil.
- 3. It's a **map** to something greater.
- 4. It **contains** a powerful force.
- 5. It was used in religious ceremonies.
- 6. It denotes royalty.

10. Shadow

- I. It's easily concealed.
- 2. It exists in **two places** at once.
- 3. It feels malevolent.
- 4. It is almost translucent.
- 5. It **whispers** to you.
- 6. It's inhabited by an tortured **soul**.

11. SIMPLE

- I. It belonged to your parents.
- 2. It's nothing if not **reliable**.
- 3. It was made by a **local** craftsman.
- 4. It's literally a child's **toy**.
- 5. It was **cobbled together** quickly.
- 6. It's quaint.

12. TECHNOLOGICAL

- I. Its **gears** click and whiz.
- 2. It blasts **steam**.
- 3. They were once **mass-produced**.
- 4. It's a one-of-a-kind **prototype**.
- 5. The **gunpowder** stinks.
- 6. It is from the **future**.

POWER (ROLL D12 + D6 TO DETERMINE THE ARTIFACT'S PRIMARY POWER OR EFFECT)

1. AUTONOMY

- 1. It **fights** at your side.
- 2. It **scouts** ahead for you.
- 3. It guards your camp.
- 4. It **delivers** your messages.
- 5. It **carries** your burdens.
- 6. It **stores** your knowledge.

2. Blessing

- I. You are **shielded** by divine force.
- 2. You shed an inspiring aura.
- 3. You've had fantastic **luck** lately.
- 4. You **sense** lies and deception.
- 5. You are filled with **heroic** vigour.
- 6. Dark entities **fear** you.

3. Control

- I. You can **command** simple beasts.
- 2. Your enemies are **hypnotized**.
- 3. They must tell the **truth**.
- 4. You **paralyze** your foe.
- 5. He follows your **suggestion**.
- 6. You **dominate** their mind.

4 DIVINATION

- 1. You see and hear over vast **distances**.
- 2. You understand foreign languages.
- 3. You get glimpses of another time.
- 4. Illusions uncovered.
- 5. You read their **thoughts**.
- 6. The gods grant you guidance.

5. ENHANCEMENT

- I. You have the **might** of the giants.
- 2. You're as **agile** as a bird.
- 3. You feel **healthier** than ever.
- 4. Your mind is filled with **knowledge**.
- 5. Your **senses** are heightened.
- 6. Your **charm** is irresistible.

6. ELEMENTAL

- I. It shoots gouts of **flame**.
- 2. You **shock** your foes.
- 3. The **wind** obeys your call.
- 4. **Thunderous** sound staggers your enemies.
- 5. The **ground** rumbles beneath your feet.
- 6. You freeze your target in place.

7. HEALING

- I. It closes your **wounds**.
- 2. The **poison** is leeched from your veins.
- 3. Your **energy** is restored.
- 4. The **curse** is lifted.
- 5. It **resurrects** the dead.
- 6. It mends broken items.

8. ILLUSION

- I. You move unseen.
- 2. It puts on a **light** show.
- 3. **Smoke** fills the room.
- 4. You control illusory **phantasms**.
- 5. You are **disguised** as someone else.
- 6. The illusion has **physical** form.

9. METAMORPHOSIS

- 1. You breathe underwater with gills.
- 2. You fly with leathery wings.
- 3. Your skin is as hard as **stone**.
- 4. You become **mist** for a short time.
- 5. You **grow** to crush your enemies.
- 6. You take the form of a beast.

10. MOVEMENT

- 1. You teleport short distances.
- 2. You **float** gently to the ground.
- 3. You **phase** through walls.
- 4. You run as **fast** as the wind.
- 5. You **leap** to great heights.
- 6. You are **returned** to town.

11. PROTECTION

- I. You are immune to the **elements**.
- 2. Weapons **bounce** right off you.
- 3. It cloaks you in **shadow**.
- 4. Harmful magics are **dispelled**.
- 5. You're as **steady** as a mountain.
- 6. It warns you of danger.

12. Summon

- I. A familiar does your bidding.
- 2. You entrap an **elemental**.
- 3. There's a monster in your **pocket**.
- 4. Summoned, but uncontrollable.
- 5. The **undead** serve you.
- 6. A **spirit** guides you.

DRAWBACK (ROLL D12 + D6 TO DETERMINE THE ARTIFACT'S MOST PROMINENT DRAWBACK)

1. CORRUPTION

- 1. Your **thoughts** are not your own.
- 2. Your emotions become unstable.
- 3. Nothing can sate your **appetite**.
- 4. You're plagued by terrible **nightmares**.
- 5. You are being **drawn** somewhere.
- 6. Your **conscience** has gone quiet.

2. Cost

- I. You'll have to pay for it.
- 2. They want to **barter**.
- 3. They'll come to **collect** someday.
- 4. You must reveal a **secret**.
- 5. You'll have to **fetch** something.
- 6. An arm and a leg, literally.

3. Curse

- 1. Your **memory** is not what it used to be.
- 2. You've been **polymorphed**!
- 3. You are plagued by **insomnia**.
- 4. You've lost your **voice**.
- 5. You're **aging** rapidly.
- 6. The **stink** just won't wash off.

4. FLAW

- 1. You're missing an important part.
- 2. It's objectively ugly.
- 3. It's magic is unravelling.
- 4. You need a **mechanic** to fix it.
- 5. It needs constant **adjustment**.
- 6. It's **cracked** and dented.

5. GEAS

- I. It cannot leave your **possession**.
- 2. You must join its quest.
- 3. It's only on **loan**.
- 4. You must **prove yourself** to it.
- 5. It won't work without the **ritual**.
- 6. You are **compelled** to use it.

6. HINDRANCE

- I. It draws plenty of **attention**.
- 2. You must endure the **pain**.
- 3. The **instructions** are complex.
- 4. Your mind is **foggy**.
- 5. Your **senses** are dimmed.
- 6. It's large and **unwieldy**.

7. LIMITATION

- I. It must be recharged.
- 2. You're low on **ammunition**.
- 3. It activates on a cycle.
- 4. It will only work **once**.
- 5. **Batteries** not included.
- 6. It is **bound** to this place.

8. MALFUNCTION

- 1. It spews random magical effects.
- 2. It **jams** at the worst times.
- 3. It leaks all over you.
- 4. **Sparks** fly in all directions.
- 5. It misfires.
- 6. It **overheats** easily.

9. METAMORPHOSIS

- I. Your flesh becomes **scarred**.
- 2. The **scales** are spreading.
- 3. Your **eyes** look strange.
- 4. You begin to **resemble** the previous owner.
- 5. That **third arm** is vestigial.
- 6. Are those... horns? Is that... a tail?

10. Personality

- I. It talks. Loudly. All the time.
- 2. It's in **love**.
- 3. It **balks** at your commands.
- 4. It's **curiosity** will get you killed.
- 5. **Flattery** will get you everywhere.
- 6. It seeks nothing but **revenge**.

11. SIDE-EFFECT

- 1. Your **allies** are affected, too.
- 2. There's an equal and opposite **reaction**.
- 3. Using it leaves you **exhausted**.
- 4. It leeches energy from its surroundings.
- 5. You feel **nauseous**.
- 6. It causes collateral damage.

12. WEAKNESS

- I. Don't expose it to sunlight.
- 2. It's very **fragile**.
- 3. Some creatures are **immune** to its effects.
- 4. It can be **countered**.
- 5. It's useless when **wet**.
- 6. It's mostly harmless.

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To generate a random monster, simply roll a D12 and a D6 for each category: Nature, Habitat, and Role.

Use your results to inspire you when fleshing out the monster's details. For games such as *Dungeons & Dragons* or *Dungeon World*, the randomly generated entries can be a guide for creating stats and abilities. For games such as *Fate Core*, entries can be turned directly into aspects with only some minor tweaking. The most important part of each entry is the **bolded** word or phrase; pronouns and other text are there for flavour and may be changed or ignored at your leisure.

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NATURE (ROLL D12 + D6 TO DETERMINE AN ASPECT OF THE MONSTER'S NATURE)

1. ABERRATION

- I. They **phase** in and out of reality.
- 2. It **floats** unnaturally.
- 3. It disobeys the **laws of physics and magic**.
- 4. **Ichor** drips from its wounds.
- 5. You find its gibbering speech disturbing.
- 6. **Tentacles** everywhere.

2. Animal and Plant

- I. Its **barbs** are filled with poison.
- 2. You're **entangled** in its web
- 3. They travel in **packs**.
- 4. It's **hunting** you.
- 5. **Teeth and claws** rend and tear.
- 6. The place is **swarming** with them.

3. Construct

- 1. They fight with **mindless** perseverance.
- 2. They **repair** their own injuries.
- 3. It's **disguised** as a mundane object.
- 4. You're walking through it's hallways.
- 5. It's **immune** to your usual tricks.
- 6. Its **patterns** are predictable.

4. ELEMENTAL

- I. Fire burns your flesh.
- 2. You're blown away by air.
- 3. The **earth** shakes, rocks fall.
- 4. **Water** freezes and drowns you.
- 5. You're seared by blinding **light**.
- 6. Your world is plunged into **darkness**.

5. FEY

- 1. They are **frustratingly** elusive.
- 2. Her magics are subtle and mysterious.
- 3. It hides its true nature.
- 4. He's tricked you with **misdirection**.
- 5. You hear **eerie music** in the distance.
- 6. She can **sense** your intentions.

6. GIANT

- I. He's as **slow** as he is large.
- 2. **Two heads** are better than one.
- 3. Her form is **bent and twisted**.
- 4. It's **smarter** than it looks.
- 5. They command the **elements**.
- 6. Her **patience** is legendary.

7. Humanoid

- I. Humanoid, but **not mammalian**.
- 2. Their **primitive spells** are surprisingly effective.
- 3. They're simply **misunderstood**.
- 4. You've **offended** them.
- 5. They wield **strange devices**.
- 6. They're a **motley** crew.

8. Monstrosity

- 1. The **experiment** has escaped its cage.
- 2. Its gaze will turn you to stone.
- 3. They were born in the most **extreme conditions**.
- 4. It's larger than anything you've ever seen.
- 5. It's **hybrid** form is misshapen.
- 6. She's only protecting her offspring.

9. MYTHICAL BEAST

- 1. Its **breath** is worse than its bite.
- 2. It's **older** than civilization.
- 3. You've encroached on its lair.
- 4. Its **hide** is worth a fortune.
- 5. Its appearance is an **ill omen**.
- 6. Its **magics** are beyond your ken.

10. Ooze

- 1. It dissolves organic matter.
- 2. It **slips** between cracks in the walls.
- 3. When you hit them, they **split in two**.
- 4. It **shifts** its form with frightening speed.
- 5. Eww. You're **stepping** in it.
- 6. It **corrodes** your weapons and armour.

11. OUTSIDER

- 1. His motives are **inscrutable**.
- 2. Its wingspan is imposing.
- 3. Their **army** is readying for battle.
- 4. It smells of **fire and brimstone**.
- 5. She is surrounded by a powerful **aura**.
- 6. They **serve** a mysterious master.

12. Undead

- I. Their **howls** make you tremble in fear.
- 2. They remember their **former lives**.
- 3. Their touch **drains** your life force.
- 4. They just won't stay down.
- 5. They carry terrible **disease**.
- 6. They **pass through** solid objects.

HABITAT (ROLL D12 + D6 TO DETERMINE AN ASPECT OF THE MONSTER'S HABITAT)

1. CITY

- I. It's been **domesticated**.
- 2. These **vermin** are everywhere.
- 3. They come in many different **breeds**.
- 4. She's **lost**.
- 5. It's a mage's familiar.
- 6. It was **summoned** here.

2. Coast

- I. They fight with hooks and nets.
- 2. Their **carapaces** are hard and chitinous.
- 3. It came up from the **deep**.
- 4. He revels in the **storm**.
- 5. Their **eggs** are a delicacy.
- 6. They've made a **colony** here.

3. Desert

- I. It drinks the **blood** of its prey.
- 2. They **burrow** beneath the sands.
- 3. Skinny and gaunt, it hasn't fed in days.
- 4. It rests during the day, and **hunts at night**.
- 5. They travel in caravans.
- 6. It **scavenges** from the dead.

4. DUNGEON

- I. It was put here for a **purpose**.
- 2. They **died** here, long ago.
- 3. It broke free of its **chains**.
- 4. He'll guard this place with his life.
- 5. It wanders the halls, aimlessly.
- 6. Their **banter** echoes through the halls.

5. FEY REALM

- 1. He shines with a **rainbow** of colours.
- 2. Her weapons are made of **opal**.
- 3. **Verdant flora** sprouts wherever she steps.
- 4. They **flicker** in and out of existence.
- 5. They're **laughing** at you.
- 6. It's **ethereal** and translucent.

6. FOREST

- I. They **hide** in the trees.
- 2. It moves more **silently** than its size suggests.
- 3. This **hermit** is well known in town.
- 4. It **blends** into the environment.
- 5. They **scurry** into the underbrush.
- 6. They make excellent **game** animals.

7. Grassland

- 1. It **slithers** among the grass.
- 2. The **herd** is migrating to greener pastures.
- 3. It charges you at full speed.
- 4. They **chirp** at night.
- 5. You've stumbled upon their **mating ritual**.
- 6. There's **safety** in numbers.

8. Mountain

- 1. It **climbs** the rocks effortlessly.
- 2. They make their **nests** among the crags.
- 3. She hurls **rocks** with surprising force.
- 4. He just wants to be left **alone**.
- 5. They're as **ancient** as these stones.
- 6. It has naturally **stone-like** skin.

9. SHADOW REALM

- I. Its presence fills you with **despair**.
- 2. You are **chilled** to the bone.
- 3. They're **thralls** to a darker power.
- 4. Her eyes are soulless.
- 5. It is caught **between worlds**.
- 6. He speaks in barely audible whispers.

10. SWAMP

- I. It lives on both land and water.
- 2. It tries to **pull you under**.
- 3. They come here to **spawn**.
- 4. Even the plants **eat meat**.
- 5. They strike quickly, without warning
- 6. It's slimy.

11. TUNDRA

- I. It's covered in thick fur.
- 2. Its **tusks** will tear you apart.
- 3. These ones were **hibernating**.
- 4. Steam billows from its internal **furnace**.
- 5. A layer of **blubber** keeps it warm..
- 6. It **stalks** you in the mists.

12. Underground

- I. It **glows** in the dark.
- 2. They're **digging** for something.
- 3. They see via **echolocation**.
- 4. He is one with the **fungus**.
- 5. It leaves **tunnels** in its wake.
- 6. They're controlled by a **hive mind**.

ROLE (ROLL D12 + D6 TO DETERMINE AN ASPECT OF THE MONSTER'S ROLE IN COMBAT)

1. ARTILLERY

- I. They shoot at you from **cover**.
- 2. You're caught in the **blast** radius.
- 3. They're **aware** of your approach.
- 4. They **fall back** when threatened.
- 5. You're trapped by suppressing fire.
- 6. They use unusual **ammunition**.

2. Boss

- I. It has mastery over its **environment**.
- 2. First, you'll have to deal with his **henchmen**.
- 3. She's **toying** with you.
- 4. It rises again in its **final form**.
- 5. You'll have to try an **unconventional** approach.
- 6. He has only one weakness.

3. Brute

- I. It **knocks** you down.
- 2. It gets in your way.
- 3. It goes berserk.
- 4. It tramples you.
- 5. It **wrecks** the place.
- 6. It cuts a wide swath.

4. CONTROLLER

- I. Their **charms** confuse you.
- 2. The **terrain** turns treacherous.
- 3. It **counters** your magic.
- 4. It's all an **illusion**.
- 5. Their **nets and traps** ensnare you.
- 6. It disarms you.

5. HORDE

- I. There's **too many** of them.
- 2. They **swarm** your position.
- 3. For every one you kill, **two more** take its place.
- 4. Kill their **leader** and they will break.
- 5. They come in all **shapes and sizes**.
- 6. You've **awoken** them.

6. LEADER

- I. He **heals** his allies.
- 2. She **inspires** her minions to fight.
- 3. His extended **monologues** are tedious.
- 4. It has a **master plan**.
- 5. There is method to his **madness**.
- 6. She leads the **charge**.

7. Lurker

- 1. You don't see the **sneak attack** coming.
- 2. It **blends in** with the surroundings.
- 3. They **dart** just out of reach.
- 4. It's literally invisible.
- 5. They're actually **enjoying** this.
- 6. It waits for just the right moment.

8. Manipulator

- 1. She speaks in a sing-song voice.
- 2. His **charming smile** is disarming.
- 3. He wants something from you.
- 4. Their **loyalties** are shifting.
- 5. Plans within plans within **plans**.
- 6. It offers you a **choice**.

9. MINION

- 1. They attack in **packs**.
- 2. They're **not paid enough** for this shit.
- 3. They **follow orders** blindly.
- 4. This one has **fled** its master.
- 5. They **cower** and flee.
- 6. They have a **rich society** and culture.

10. SCOUT

- I. She has incredible **endurance**.
- 2. They've warned their companions.
- 3. There's one **behind** you.
- 4. He's laden with supplies.
- 5. She's carrying a **missive** of great importance.
- 6. You won't catch him when he **runs**.

11. SKIRMISHER

- I. They **surround** you from all sides.
- 2. She **slips** in and out of combat.
- 3. He's carrying a hidden blade.
- 4. Your attacks are **parried** with ease.
- 5. She wields **two weapons** at once.
- 6. He fights in tandem with his **animal companion**.

12. SOLDIER

- I. They're **careful** in their approach.
- 2. They're well-armed and well-armoured.
- 3. Their **teamwork** puts yours to shame.
- 4. They've been **forced** to fight.
- 5. They **defend** their weaker allies.
- 6. They **outnumber** you.