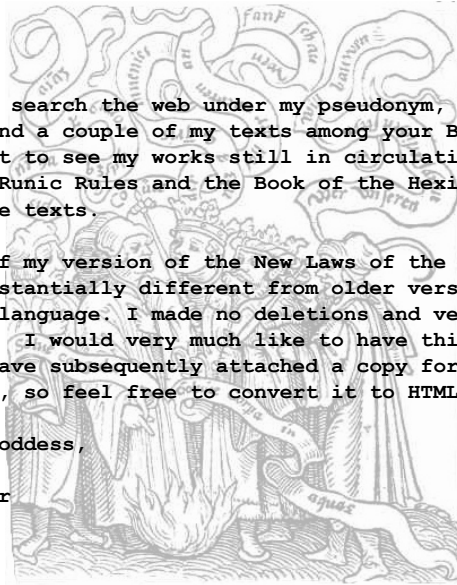


I had some cause to search the web under my pseudonym, A. Random Runecaster, and found a couple of my texts among your Book of Shadows. While it is pleasant to see my works still in circulation, my Commentaries on the Abbreviated Runic Rules and the Book of the Hexidecimal Runes are among my more obtuse texts.

I am much prouder of my version of the New Laws of the Hex-i-decimal Craft, which is substantially different from older versions because one can comprehend the language. I made no deletions and very few additions to the original texts. I would very much like to have this text added to your files, and I have subsequently attached a copy for your review. This work is in DOS text, so feel free to convert it to HTML.

In Service to the Goddess,

A. Random Runecaster



Internet Mage

Late, late at night. The street outside your dirty, rented apartment was as quiet and mysterious as the foggy graveyard playing on the late, late movie on the TV set. Cola, left-over pizza, and an Internet connection, it was all you really needed to sate your geeky soul. Surfin' the web for who knows what.

But, then, you dabbled in something that, maybe, you shouldn't have even looked at. Still, you were curious. Perhaps you were even more than a bit skeptical, but you decided to try it. After all, the materials were right there in plain view on the good ol' World Wide Web. What did you have to lose?

You are an "Internet Mage," a practitioner of magic which you learned while cruising the net.

You are good with computers, yes, but you also know how to do some spells. The "Internet Book of Shadows" is your primary source. This so-called "book" is a collection of new-age, neo-pagan spells and procedures collected online since the bad old days of bulletin boards. Such is merely a curiosity for Internet and new-age historians, but, you tried it, and it works! Who knew?

Internet Mage: Playbook

A self-taught mystic of the "Internet Book of Shadows." Your character's recommended highest characteristics are:

Endurance, Intelligence, Education
(End, Int, Edu)



Step 1: Qualifications or Draft

Make the Qualifications check by rolling 2D6 and adding (or subtracting) the modifier for your character's Intelligence. You must roll the indicated number or higher:

Qualifications 5+ (Int)

If you succeed, go to **Step 2: Begin at Rank-0** for Internet Mage, next column.

If you fail, roll on the Draft table:

Draft

Roll	Career / School
1	Soldier
2	Chaos Mage
3	Drifter
4	Technician
5	Neo-Pagan
6	Vampire

and then go to **Step 2: Begin at Rank-0** of the playbook for the career or school you were drafted into.



Step 2: Begin at Rank-0

At starting Rank-0 you have the following skills:

- Wheeled Vehicle-0
- Linguistics-0 (your native language and English)
- Computer-0
- Magic: Air-1

Note these on your character sheet under "Skills."

Step 3: School Term

Proceed through a) Survival, b) Advancement, c) Risky Castings, and d) Aging to complete one school term.

a) Survival

Make the Survival check by rolling 2D6 and adding (or subtracting) the modifier for your character's Education. You must roll the indicated number or higher:

Survival 6+ (Edu)

If you succeed the Survival check, choose one of the Skills Tables on the next page. You may only choose the Advanced Skills table if your character's Education is 8+. Then, roll 1D6 to gain one skill from the table you chose. Note your new skill on your character sheet.

Gaining Skills
 Unless the skill indicates [Skill Name]-0 you receive a new skill at level 1: [Skill Name]-1. If your character already possesses a skill and you roll that skill again, increment that skill higher by one. For example, if you character has Recon-1 and you roll Recon again, your skill is now Recon-2. Gun Combat-0 becomes Gun Combat-1, etc.

If you fail the Survival check, you do not gain a skill, and you may not go to b) Advancement. Instead, proceed directly to c) Risky Castings.



b) Advancement

Make the Advancement check by rolling 2D6 and adding (or subtracting) the modifier for your character's Intelligence. You must roll the indicated number or higher:

Advancement 6+ (Int)

If you succeed the Advancement check, choose one of the Skills Tables (Advanced Skills requires Edu 8+). Then, you may choose the new skill rather than rolling for it. Note your new skill. You also proceed one rank higher on the Rank & Skills table, below. Also note any new skill you receive if you reach Rank-3.

Rank & Skills

Rank	Rank Name & Skills
0	Surfer Wheeled Vehicle-0 Linguistics-0 Computer-0 Magic: Air-1
1	Basement Troll
2	Dabbler
3	"OMG it works" Magic: Light-1
4	Practitioner
5	Cellar Dweller
6	Vlogger

Regardless of whether you succeed the Advancement check, proceed to c) Risky Castings.

c) Risky Castings

Make the Risky Castings check by rolling 2D6. You must roll the indicated number or higher:

Risky Castings 5+

If you succeed, choose one of the Skills Tables (Advanced Skills requires Edu 8+). Then, roll 1D6 to gain one skill from the table you chose. Note your new skill.

Skills Tables

Personal Skills

Roll	Skill / Characteristic
1	+1 Int
2	+1 Edu
3	+1 End
4	Melee Combat
5	Gun Combat
6	Athletics

Service Skills

Roll	Skill
1	Magic: Air
2	Magic: Artisan
3	Computer
4	Wheeled Vehicle
5	Gambling
6	Magic: Ritual

Specialist Skills

Roll	Skill
1	Esoteric Lore
2	Streetwise
3	Carousing
4	Magic: Light
5	Broker
6	Magic: Calligraphy

Advanced Skills (requires Edu 8+)

Roll	Skill
1	Linguistics
2	Jack of all Trades
3	Investigation
4	Bureaucracy
5	Sciences
6	Magic: Mind

Cascade skills are shown in **bold**. Cascade skills are made up of two or more component skills. When your character receives a cascade skill, you must select one component skill of the cascade skill from the "Skills List."

d) Aging

Note your character's age. The character begins at age 18, but each school term lasts 4 years, so upon first completing this step your character is age 22.



You may either go to Step 4: Graduate or enter a new school term by repeating a) Survival, b) Advancement, c) Risky Castings, and d) Aging.

The maximum number of school terms you may attend without penalty is four. For the fifth term you may subtract your Strength score by 1 or lose 1 level in a skill. For the sixth term you may subtract your Dexterity score by 1 or lose 1 level in a skill. For the seventh term you may subtract your Strength and Dexterity scores each by 1 or lose 2 levels in any two skills. The absolute maximum number of school terms is seven.

Step 4: Graduate

For each term attended, you receive one roll of 1D6 on the Cash Benefits table. If your character is rank 4 or higher, add +1 to the roll. These credits may then be spent to purchase equipment for your character.

Cash Benefits

Roll	Credits
1	500
2	1,000
3	2,000
4	5,000
5	10,000
6	20,000
7	50,000

Also, for each term attended, you may choose one benefit from the Material Benefits table. It helps to choose something for which your character has the correct skill. For instance, a Calligraphy Kit may only be used if the character has the Magic: Calligraphy skill. Choosing a weapon makes the most sense if the character possesses a skill in Melee or Gun Combat.

Material Benefits

Fortextron Model-2 Laptop
Esoteric Lore Database-1
Calligraphy Kit
Melee Weapon
Shieldbreaker-6
Ritual Trappings-1
Ranged Weapon (full ammo)

Material benefits shown in **bold** are a category in "Equipment." Choose one item from that category in the "Equipment" chapter.

Step 5: Equipment & Encumbrance

Purchase any items you think your character might need for the adventure from "Equipment."

Calculate your character's Encumbrance Limit. This is 10+ your character's Strength DM. For instance, a character with a Strength of 9 has a Str DM of +1, for an Encumbrance Limit of 11. A character with a Strength of 5 has a Str DM of -1, for an Encumbrance Limit of 9. Note the Encumbrance Limit on the character sheet.

On the character sheet jot down the equipment's name, its encumbrance, and any notes about its use. If you have an Encumbrance Limit of 10, and your equipment totals up to an Encumbrance of 11 or higher, your character must take a -2 DM to all skill rolls.

Step 6: Combat Power

Calculate your character's Combat Power. Combat Power is an indication of how lethal your character is in combat. To calculate it, add up the following values:

- Characteristic DM's for: Str + Dex + End + Int
- +
- Skill Level/DM's for: Athletics + Gun Combat + Melee Combat + all Magic Domains
- +
- # of dice of the single weapon possessed by the character which does the most damage + armor

Note your character's Combat Power on the character sheet.

Step 7: Magic

Go to "Magic" and learn how to create some preliminary magic spells.

Multiple Careers & Schools

After you Graduate, you may make a Qualifications check for another career or school. But, there is a -2 DM to the roll. Also, aging effects and term limit rules as stated above apply to the new terms gained in the new career or school.

