

Mastering the Cavalier in Cresthaven RPG: A Strategic Guide For New Players

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Welcome to the ultimate guide for mastering the Cavalier class in Cresthaven RPG. This guide will help you navigate the early levels (1-4) of your Cavalier journey, focusing on how to use your unique skills and attributes effectively. From maintaining your code of chivalry to excelling in combat, this guide covers strategies for character development, party synergy, and maximizing your bonuses and abilities.

Choose a Cavalier if You Like to Play...

- A character who embodies honor, bravery, and chivalry.
- A frontline fighter who protects the innocent and defends their realm.
- A role that combines combat prowess with leadership and support.

Early Game Strategies (Levels 1-2)

1. **Uphold the Code of Chivalry:** Always act with honor and respect. This not only aligns with your character's ethos but can also enhance your reputation and open up new quest opportunities.
2. **Maximize Your Strength:** Focus on increasing your Strength attribute to improve your combat effectiveness. Engage in training exercises and quests that challenge your physical abilities.
3. **Defensive Combat:** Utilize a shield for protection and focus on defending your allies. Your high hit points and strength make you an excellent frontline defender.
4. **Extend Your Reach:** Consider choosing a spear instead of a sword to start. You get 5' Range, plus a spear can be used to probe unstable ground, or even be thrown at enemies.
5. **Acquire Better Gear:** Focus on obtaining superior weapons, horses, armor, and magical items. These will significantly enhance your combat effectiveness and overall capability.
6. **Tactical Retreats:** Know when to fall back and regroup. Live to fight another day.
7. **Use of Terrain:** Take advantage of the terrain or cover to gain defensive bonuses.

Reputation: Starting Strong

Cavaliers start with a +1 reputation, reflecting their honorable and respected nature. This initial good reputation provides several game advantages, making the Cavalier class an excellent choice for players who want to influence the game world positively.

1. **Quest Availability:** High reputations gain favor with noble houses and good-aligned factions, unlocking unique and prestigious quests.
2. **Cost Modifiers:** Shops offer discounts (up to 15%) to those with a good reputation, making it easier to acquire better weapons, horses, armor, and magical items.
3. **Event Consequences:** A high reputation can lead to better initial reactions from NPCs and peaceful solutions to conflicts.

Mid Game Strategies (Levels 3-4)

1. **Prepare for Dual Wielding:** As you approach level 4, start considering weapon combinations for dual wielding. A long sword and a dagger can provide a balanced approach to damage and versatility.
2. **Squire Training:** Mentally prepare for gaining a squire at level 4. Plan how to use this companion effectively in combat and support roles. Your squire can assist with minor combat and tasks, allowing you to focus on more significant threats.
3. **Bonus Attack Utilization:** Plan your combat strategy to take full advantage of your bonus attack. Coordinate with your party to maximize damage output and control the battlefield.

Synergy with Party Members

The Cavalier is a frontline fighter and should typically lead the fight in toe-to-toe combat.

- **With Mages:** Protect your spellcasters by positioning yourself between them and the enemy. Use your high hit points and combat skills to absorb damage and keep threats at bay.
- **With Rogues:** Work with rogues to create opportunities for sneak attacks. Your presence on the battlefield can distract and occupy enemies, giving rogues the chance to strike.
- **With Healers:** Coordinate with healers to ensure you remain in top fighting condition. Your role as a frontline defender means you'll need regular healing and support.

Hirelings and Henchmen

- **Hiring NPCs:** As your reputation and resources grow, consider hiring mercenaries and specialists to assist with your missions.
- **Utilizing Squires and Followers:** Your squire can be more than just a combat assistant. Train them in various tasks and roles, ensuring they provide maximum support both in and out of battle. Even if that is holding the light while you fight.

Conclusion

Mastering the Cavalier class in Cresthaven RPG involves balancing honor, combat prowess, and leadership. Focus on building your strength, upholding your code of chivalry, and developing your skills to become a revered and respected defender of the realm. With these strategies, you'll become a true hero, admired and celebrated across Cresthaven.