

# dnd 5e multiclass guide

## DND 5E Multiclass Guide

Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition (DND 5E) offers players a wide range of customization options for their characters, and one of the most exciting ways to diversify your play style and enhance your character's abilities is through multiclassing. Multiclassing allows players to combine different classes, gaining access to the unique features and spells of each. This guide will break down the multiclassing rules, provide tips and strategies for effective multiclassing, and outline popular multiclass combinations to inspire your next character creation.

## Understanding Multiclassing in DND 5E

Before diving into the intricacies of multiclassing, it is essential to understand the basic rules and mechanics involved. Here are some key points to consider:

### Requirements for Multiclassing

To multiclass, a character must meet the following criteria:

1. Minimum Ability Scores: Each class has a specified ability score prerequisite. For instance, to multiclass into a wizard, a character must have at least 13 Intelligence.
2. Experience Points: Characters must have enough experience points to reach the new class level. This is not usually a restriction, as players typically level up before multiclassing.

### Multiclassing Benefits

Multiclassing can provide various advantages, including:

- Access to New Class Features: Gain abilities and features not available in your primary class.
- Spellcasting Versatility: Access to a broader range of spells by combining spellcasting classes.
- Increased Skill Proficiency: Choose additional skills from your secondary class, enhancing your character's versatility.

## How to Multiclass: A Step-by-Step Guide

Multiclassing involves several steps, which can be broken down as follows:

## Step 1: Choose Your Base Class

When you start your character, select a base class. Your choice will significantly influence your character's playstyle and foundational abilities. Think about your desired role within the party, such as damage dealer, support, or tank.

## Step 2: Define Your Secondary Class

After reaching at least level 1 in your base class, you can choose a secondary class. Consider the following when making your decision:

- Synergy: Look for classes that complement each other. For example, combining a rogue with a fighter can result in a highly effective melee combatant.
- Ability Score Requirements: Ensure you meet the ability score prerequisites for your chosen secondary class.

## Step 3: Leveling Up in Your Classes

When you gain a level, you can choose to level up in either your primary or secondary class. This decision will affect your hit points, proficiencies, and abilities. Keep these points in mind:

- Hit Points: When you gain a level in a new class, you gain hit points according to that class's hit die.
- Proficiencies: You gain proficiency in saving throws and skills as per your new class. However, you retain the proficiencies of your base class.
- Spells: If you multiclass into a spellcasting class, you will have to track spells known and spell slots based on your combined levels across those classes.

## Multiclassing Strategies

While the potential for multiclassing is enormous, some strategies can help you make the most of your character's abilities.

### Focus on Primary Abilities

Choose classes that share primary abilities. For example, if your primary class is a Paladin (Charisma), consider multiclassing with Sorcerer or Bard, as they utilize the same ability score.

### Consider Role Diversity

Multiclassing allows you to fill multiple roles within the party. For instance, if your party lacks a healer,

consider multiclassing into Cleric or Druid for healing spells and support abilities.

## **Limit Multiclassing for Optimization**

While multiclassing can provide many benefits, it may also hinder you if not done carefully. Avoid spreading your ability scores too thin by diversifying too much. Focus on two or three classes that synergize well and build your character around those.

## **Popular Multiclass Combinations**

Here are some popular multiclass combinations that can enhance your gameplay experience:

### **1. Fighter/Rogue**

- Overview: Combining the martial prowess of a Fighter with the cunning abilities of a Rogue creates a highly effective melee combatant.
- Key Features:
  - Action Surge from Fighter provides additional actions.
  - Sneak Attack from Rogue adds significant damage potential.

### **2. Paladin/Sorcerer**

- Overview: This combination creates a powerful caster with solid melee capabilities. The Paladin's Divine Smite can be enhanced with Sorcerer spell slots.
- Key Features:
  - Spells like Shield and Mirror Image enhance survivability.
  - Use of Charisma for both spellcasting and melee attacks.

### **3. Bard/Cleric**

- Overview: A Bard/Cleric offers versatility in spellcasting and support. This combination excels in buffing allies and controlling the battlefield.
- Key Features:
  - Access to a wide range of spells from both classes.
  - Bardic Inspiration can be combined with Cleric healing spells.

### **4. Warlock/Rogue**

- Overview: The Warlock/Rogue combination allows for high burst damage and stealth capabilities.

The Warlock's spellcasting can be enhanced by the Rogue's sneak attack.

- Key Features:
- Eldritch Blast can be used effectively with sneak attack damage.
- High mobility and stealth options.

## **Common Multiclassing Pitfalls**

While multiclassing can be rewarding, it's essential to be aware of common pitfalls to avoid:

### **1. Losing Class Identity**

Multiclassing can dilute your character's identity. Make sure to keep a clear vision of your character's role and backstory, allowing for both classes to shine.

### **2. Ability Score Dilution**

Focusing on multiple ability scores can leave you weaker overall. Aim to boost your primary abilities that define your character's effectiveness in combat and skills.

### **3. Delayed Class Features**

Each class has unique features that can be delayed if you switch classes too frequently. Plan your leveling progression to ensure you gain critical abilities in a timely manner.

## **Conclusion**

Multiclassing in DND 5E can be an exhilarating way to expand your character's abilities and versatility. With a thoughtful approach to class selection and leveling, you can create a unique character capable of fulfilling multiple roles within your party. Whether you aim to create a powerful melee combatant, a versatile spellcaster, or a cunning rogue, multiclassing offers endless possibilities for character development. Embrace the creativity of DND, and enjoy the journey of exploring the depths of multiclassing!

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is multiclassing in D&D 5E?**

Multiclassing in D&D 5E allows a character to gain levels in more than one class, combining abilities and features from each class to create a unique character build.

## **How do I decide which classes to multiclass into?**

Consider your character's backstory, role in the party, and desired abilities. Classes that complement each other, such as Fighter and Rogue for combat versatility or Wizard and Sorcerer for spellcasting, often work well together.

## **What are the prerequisites for multiclassing?**

To multiclass, your character must meet the ability score prerequisites for the new class. For example, to multiclass into a Wizard, you need an Intelligence score of 13 or higher.

## **Can I multiclass at any level?**

Yes, you can choose to multiclass whenever you gain a level, but you must meet the ability score prerequisites for the new class.

## **What happens to my hit points when I multiclass?**

When you multiclass, you gain hit points based on the new class's hit die. You roll the hit die for your new class when you gain levels in it, adding your Constitution modifier as usual.

## **Does multiclassing affect my proficiency bonus?**

No, your proficiency bonus is determined by your total character level, not by the number of classes you have. It increases at levels 5, 9, 13, and 17.

## **Can I multiclass into a class that has spellcasting features?**

Yes, you can multiclass into a spellcasting class, but you must manage spell slots and known spells according to each class's rules. Your spellcasting ability will also depend on the main class you choose.

## **What is the best multiclass combination for a melee-focused character?**

A popular combination for melee-focused characters is Fighter and Barbarian, which allows for high damage output and survivability. Another strong option is Paladin and Sorcerer for spell-enhanced melee attacks.

## **Are there any disadvantages to multiclassing?**

Yes, multiclassing can dilute your character's abilities, as you may not reach higher-level features of a single class. Additionally, you may lag behind in key class abilities or spells.

## **How does multiclassing impact my character's role in the party?**

Multiclassing can enhance your character's versatility, allowing you to fill multiple roles in the party.

However, it may also require you to balance your contributions between different aspects, such as combat and spellcasting.

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