

elden ring level 1 run guide

Elden Ring Level 1 Run Guide

Elden Ring, the highly acclaimed action RPG developed by FromSoftware, has captivated players with its intricate open world and deep lore. For those seeking a unique challenge, a Level 1 run offers a thrilling way to experience the game. This guide will walk you through the essentials of completing Elden Ring at Level 1, covering everything from character creation to boss strategies, gear optimization, and tips for navigating the treacherous environments of the Lands Between.

Understanding Level 1 Runs

A Level 1 run in Elden Ring means completing the game without leveling up your character beyond the starting level. This drastically alters the experience, as players must rely on skill, strategy, and resource management rather than character stats. The following sections will detail how to prepare for and execute a successful Level 1 run.

Character Creation

Selecting the right character class is crucial for a Level 1 run. Here are some recommended classes:

- Wretch: Starting at Level 1 with no equipment makes this class a clean slate, allowing for a tailored build as you progress.
- Confessor: Offers a balanced mix of strength and faith, beneficial for both melee and spell-based combat.
- Astrologer: Ideal for magic users, this class starts with strong intelligence and mind stats.

When creating your character, consider the following:

1. Appearance: Customize your character's look; this is purely aesthetic.
2. Starting Keepsake: Choose a keepsake that will aid your journey, such as:
 - Golden Seed (increases healing flasks)
 - Crimson Seed (boosts health recovery)
 - Lands Between Rune (starts with extra runes)

Choosing the right keepsake can provide a slight advantage early in the game.

Essential Strategies for a Level 1 Run

A Level 1 run requires a strategic approach to combat, exploration, and resource management. Here are some core strategies to adopt:

Combat Techniques

1. Dodge and Roll: Mastering the timing of dodges is vital. Since your character will be less tanky, rolling away from attacks is often better than blocking.
2. Backstabs and Parries: Learn to backstab and parry enemies, as these techniques can deal significant damage and often allow for instant kills.
3. Use of Environment: Utilize the environment to your advantage; lure enemies into traps or use high ground for ranged attacks when possible.

Resource Management

- Healing Flasks: Prioritize collecting Golden Seeds to increase your healing capacity.
- Runes: Gather runes from defeated enemies and explore to acquire items that can aid in combat without leveling up.
- Crafting: Use items collected during your journey to craft consumables that can give you an edge in difficult encounters.

Exploration Tips

- Stealth: Use stealth to avoid unnecessary confrontations. Sneak up on enemies to gain the advantage of surprise.
- Map Awareness: Keep an eye on the map. Familiarize yourself with key locations to minimize backtracking and find shortcuts.
- Checkpoints: Activate Sites of Grace as you progress; they serve as checkpoints and can help you manage your resources effectively.

Boss Strategies

Boss encounters in Elden Ring can be particularly challenging at Level 1. Here are strategies for some of the key bosses:

Margit, the Fell Omen

- Study Attack Patterns: Margit has a range of attacks; learning these patterns will help you dodge effectively.
- Use Summons: If you're struggling, consider using Spirit Ashes to summon allies. The additional distraction can make the fight easier.
- Stay Patient: Focus on dodging and only attack when you see clear openings.

Godrick the Grafted

- Avoid Clumped Areas: Godrick's area-of-effect attacks can deal heavy damage. Keep your distance and move to the edges of the arena.
- Target the Hands: His hands are vulnerable and can be damaged to stagger him, giving you opportunities to attack.
- Use the Environment: The pillars in the arena can provide cover from his attacks.

Renalla, Queen of the Full Moon

- Phase One: Focus on dodging her projectiles and targeting the minions she summons to break her shield.
- Phase Two: Once staggered, exploit her vulnerabilities, but remain cautious of her powerful spells.

Gear Optimization

At Level 1, gear becomes incredibly important. Here's how to optimize your gear:

Weapons

- Early Game Weapons: Start with weapons that scale well with minimal stats. Some recommended weapons include:
 - Uchigatana: Offers great damage and bleed effects.
 - Estoc: A solid thrusting weapon that can hit enemies from a safe distance.
- Upgrade Paths: Invest in upgrading your weapons rather than leveling up your character. Look for Smithing Stones in dungeons and caves.

Armor Sets

- Light Armor: Prioritize light armor for better mobility. Look for pieces that offer decent protection without hindering your dodging ability.
- Rings and Talismans: Equip talismans that boost your damage or provide

passive bonuses. The Crimson Seed Talisman can increase health regen, which is beneficial in long fights.

Recommended Locations for Farming Runes

Farming runes will be essential for upgrading your gear and purchasing items. Here are some recommended locations:

1. Limgrave: The initial area has numerous low-level enemies that yield runes.
2. Cave of Knowledge: Located near the starting area, this cave provides a controlled environment for farming.
3. Weeping Peninsula: Explore this area for stronger enemies that drop more valuable runes.

Final Thoughts

Completing Elden Ring at Level 1 is a remarkable challenge that tests your skills and knowledge of the game. With meticulous planning, strategic combat, and careful resource management, you can conquer the Lands Between without leveling up. Remember, patience and practice are key. Embrace the thrill of the challenge, and good luck on your journey through Elden Ring!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a level 1 run in Elden Ring?

A level 1 run in Elden Ring is a challenge where players attempt to complete the game without leveling up their character, starting from level 1.

What are the best starting classes for a level 1 run?

The best starting classes for a level 1 run are typically the 'Naked' class or 'Wretch' due to their balanced stats and starting equipment.

What weapons are recommended for a level 1 run?

Recommended weapons for a level 1 run include the Short Sword, Longsword, and the Uchiha, as they are versatile and effective for early-game encounters.

How can I defeat Margit, the Fell Omen at level 1?

To defeat Margit at level 1, focus on dodging his attacks, using summons for distraction, and exploiting openings to deal damage.

What strategies should I use for boss fights in a level 1 run?

Utilize hit-and-run tactics, summon NPC allies, learn boss attack patterns, and use the environment to your advantage.

Are there any essential items to collect during a level 1 run?

Essential items include healing flasks, buffs like rune arcs, and weapons that scale well with your current stats.

What are the key areas to focus on during a level 1 run?

Key areas include Limgrave, Stormveil Castle, and the Weeping Peninsula, as they provide necessary resources and upgrades.

Can I use Spirit Ashes in a level 1 run?

Yes, using Spirit Ashes is allowed in a level 1 run and can significantly help during tough encounters.

What are common mistakes to avoid in a level 1 run?

Common mistakes include overcommitting to attacks, neglecting dodging, and failing to learn boss patterns before engaging.

Are there any community resources or guides for level 1 runs?

Yes, many players share their experiences on forums, YouTube, and Twitch, providing tips, strategies, and walkthroughs for level 1 runs.

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