

Dragon Wars™

REFERENCE CARD

Commodore 64/128

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

You must play with a backup of Side 1 – not your original disk – and we recommend you play only with backups of all disk sides. Back up all sides of *Dragon Wars* onto blank disks with any copy program, or use the backup program in the “*Utilities*” section. (See below).

LOADING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Insert *Dragon Wars* disk Side 1 (label facing up) into your disk drive.
2. Turn on your disk drive, then turn on your computer.
3. Commodore 64: Type **LOAD “*”, 8,1** and press the <RETURN> Key
Commodore 128: The program will load automatically.

After it finishes loading, the title page will appear. Press “U” to go to the Utilities screen, or any other key to stop the music and continue. (See “*Starting the Game*” on page 2 of this Reference Card).

DRAGON WARS UTILITIES

From the Utilities screen, you may back up your *Dragon Wars* disks, or transfer characters from *Bard’s Tale I, II or III* (disk version only) into the *Dragon Wars* world. To back up your disks, press “1”. From this point the copy program will prompt you to insert disks when needed.

To transfer characters from *Bard’s Tale I, II, or III*, press “3” from the Utilities screen and then follow the prompts to copy the characters into the *Dragon Wars* world. Note that transferring characters will destroy any existing characters and saved game on your *Dragon Wars* disk. Your characters will not be transferred perfectly, either; expect them to lose all of their magic items and most of their power and spells. Transferred characters get 12 character points. Once your party has started the game, press “X” to distribute the points.

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STARTING THE GAME

If you are playing for the first time, the computer will list the four starting characters, and ask if you want to begin. You may press "B" to begin a game of *Dragon Wars* with this party, or you may delete some or all of the characters and create your own. (See "Creating Characters"). To delete a character, press the character's number and then press "D" to delete. From this list, you can also rename and view characters with the "R" and "V" keys. (A quick note: throughout *Dragon Wars* whenever you're prompted to hit ←, you may also press the space bar).

If you have a game in progress that you have saved before, the computer will ask if you want to **Begin** a new game or **Continue** your old game. Pressing "C" will resume the game where you left off; pressing "B" will destroy your saved game and start you characters from scratch with a new game. Any accumulated experience will be retained, but all items will be lost.

CREATING CHARACTERS

You can create a character if there are 3 or fewer characters in your current party. (You can make room by deleting some characters). Press "C" from the character list at the start of the game to create a character. New characters cannot be created in a continued game.

After deciding on a name and sex for your character, you'll be presented with a list of skills, as shown to the right. Use the keys "A" through to "E" to select an ability, and then use the "+/" keys or left and right <CRSR> keys to spend points to increase your skills. The number under **Amount** shows your current level of that skill, and the number under **Cost** shows how many points it will cost to increase that skill by one level. The other skills are shown on the other two skill screens, which

Bonehead has 50 left.

	Skill	Amount	Cost
+ A)	Strength	:10	:1
B)	Dexterity	:10	:2
C)	Intell	:10	:1
D)	Spirit	:10	:2
E)	Health	:10	:2
+	add 1		
-	subtract 1		
z	next Menu		
	Stun	:10	
	Power	:10	

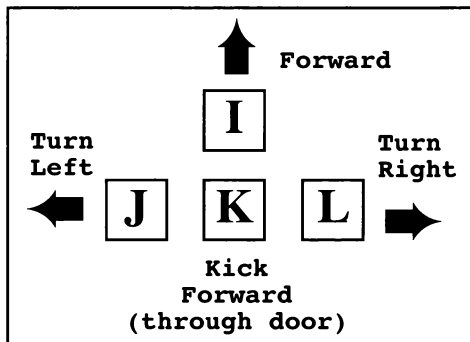
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you can reach by pressing the "Z" key. (The same keys are used to select your skills on the other two skill screens, too). If you wish, you may spend all 50 points on skills at the start of the game, or you may save some points to increase your skills in the future. For explanations of the skills and attributes, see the "Creating Characters", "Character Profile", and "Skills" sections of the manual.

When you have adjusted your character to your satisfaction, press ← or the space bar to return to the initial character menu.

PLAYING DRAGON WARS

The movement keys shown to the right will take you where you want to go when travelling around the Dragon Wars world. If there is a door in front of you, the "K" key will make your party try to open it. If there is a secret or concealed door in the wall in front of you, "K" will try to smash it in.



COMMAND KEYS

The number keys and keys in this table correspond to these actions:

Key	Effect	Key	Effect
C	Cast Spell	S	Save game
D	Dismiss character	U	Use item or skill
O	Order	X	Experience Screen
P	Pictures on/off	?	Automap
Q	Quit game		

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Cast spell

The program will prompt you for who should cast the spell, what class of magic you wish to cast, what type of spell (Combat, Heal, or Miscellaneous), and finally the spell name. Type the first letter of the selection you wish to use. If the spell lets you invest variable amounts of power in its casting, you'll also be prompted for a number of power points. Dragon Wars will then tell you how it went – whether you successfully cast the spell, or if the casting failed.

Dismiss Character

If you want to get rid of a character from your party, pick this option. It will work on both player characters (those you create) and NPCs (those you recruit in your journeys). **Warning:** If you dismiss a character, that character is gone *forever*, along with all it's items, spells, and abilities!

Order

This option lets you pick a new marching order for your characters. You'll want to put the characters with the best AV, DV, and AC in the first four character slots, because only the first four slots can hit opponents with weapons or be hit by opponents. Magic and missile weapons can be used from any slot.

Pictures on/off

Turns the combat pictures on and off. Turning the pictures off will speed up encounters by reducing disk access.

Quit

Exits Dragon Wars, abandoning the present game, and exiting to BASIC. Be sure to pick **Save Game** before quitting if you want to save your progress!

Save Game

Saves your current characters and position so you can resume later. Only one game can be saved on the *Dragon Wars* disk.

Use

This multi-purpose command lets you use an item, skill or attribute. After pressing "U" for **Use**, you will be prompted for which character (type a number) and whether an item, skill or attribute is being used (press "I", "S"

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or "A"). If you pick "S" for **Skill**, you'll further be asked whether the skill is a Lore skill, a Knowledge skill, (including Magic skills and Bureaucracy), or an Ability (most other skills). Then you'll be asked what you want to do from a final list of skills or items. After picking what you want to do, you may be asked for a target; for instance, with Bandage skill, you'll be asked which character you want to bandage. When you find a spell scroll, **Use** the scroll to read it. If you have the appropriate magic skill, you will then remember that spell forever.

Experience

This command brings up the character point allocation screens (see Creating Characters on page 2). If you're notified that a character gains a level, you may wish to go to the Experience screen so you can use the newly gained character points to learn some skills immediately.

Automap

This brings up the overhead view that shows where you have travelled on the present map. In Automap, you may use the "I-J-K-L" keys to move up, left, down, and right on the overhead view. Black areas are places you have not entered, you must walk through an area to place it on the automap.

Number keys and arrow keys

You may press any number key to bring up the View screens for a character. The left and right <CRSR> keys adjust the speed of message display during combat.

VIEWING CHARACTERS

Typing the number of a character will let you view the character, giving you the choices on the right.

Choosing **Abilities** will give you a list of the character's skills and levels, choosing one of the magic classes will give you a list of the known spells in that magic class. Picking **General Overview** will bring up a list of most of the character's attributes and equipment, and it's on this screen that your character can equip items for use.

View. . .
General overview
Abilities
Low magic
High magic
Druid magic
Sun magic
Misc magic

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The screen to the right is an example of a **General Overview** for Kreeplowe. At the top of the screen are his attributes. "Attack" shows his AV and "Defence" shows DV. Note that a "12/14" Health means that Kreeplowe has been hurt for 2 points of Health. If he's hit for 12 more points of damage, he will die. You may press any letter that's next to a

Kreeplowe's statistics

Str:14 Dex:24 Int:10 Spr:10

Attack:6 Defense:6 Level:1 AC:2

Health: 12/14 Stun: 6/14

Power: 0/0 Exp: 573

Carried items

A) Gold	\$1271
B) -Battle Axe	—
C) Bolts	#10
D) +Gauntlets	—

carried item if you want to **Trade** the item to another character, **Drop** the item for good, or **Equip** the item so you have it ready for use instead of just toting it around.

If you press "A" for your gold when looking at the **General Overview**, you'll get a screen where you can:

Pool Gold: All party members give all their gold to one character

Share Gold: That character's gold is divvied up equally to all party members

Trade Gold: Give any amount of gold to one other character

The minus sign next to Kreeplowe's battle axe means that he cannot equip the item – in this case, it's because you need a 17 Strength or higher to use a battle axe. The plus sign next to the gauntlets means that Kreeplowe has successfully equipped the gauntlets – he's wearing them so they protect him in combat.

The "#10" next to the "Bolts" means that Kreeplowe is carrying 10 bolts.

Note that you can equip one each of armour, shield, gauntlets, boots, weapon, and helm, and you can equip as many miscellaneous items as you want. To equip a weapon that launches missiles, like a bow and arrows or a crossbow

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and bolts, you must first equip the weapon, then the missile.

One final note about viewing characters: At almost any time, you can press another character's number to jump to that character, even when you're looking at spells or items or your gold.

THE MAIN SCREEN

Under each character's name will be two or three coloured bars. The first (red) indicates the character's current health, the second (green) indicates stun, and the third (blue) indicates power and will only be listed if the character has a magic skill. If the bar is all the way to the right, that statistic is at 100% of its maximum value.

Be sure to watch your health bar because your health may drop without warning. For example, a character without Swim skill will take drowning damage if he tries to swim.

Commodore 64 art conversion by Troy Miles
Special Thanks to Thomas R. Decker

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Technical Support

If you have any queries about this product, Electronic Arts' Technical Support Department can help. Call (0753) 46465 or 49442 Monday to Friday between 9:00am and 6:00pm. Please have the product and the following information to hand when you call. This will help us answer your query in the shortest possible time:

- Type of computer you own
- Any additional system information (like type and make of disk drive, cartridge, modem, etc.)
- Description of the problem you are having



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