

The Dark Crystal Cortex Build

To play **THE DARK CRYSTAL**, you need:

- ◇ [CORTEX PRIME GAME HANDBOOK](#)
- ◇ printed or on-screen [Character Files](#)
- ◇ friends to play with
- ◇ dice to roll (can be a [dice-bot](#))

CORTEX MODS

- ◇ **DOOM POOL** (p32) — renamed **THE DARKENING**

CHARACTER TRAITS

Prime Trait Sets:

- ◇ **DISTINCTIONS** (p50)
three basic **D8** phrases, each with the *Hinder* SFX — written through leading questions
- ◇ **ROLES** (p58) — renamed **SONGS**
CONFLICT **INFLUENCE** **LORE**
NATURE **TECHNOLOGY**
- ◇ **VALUES** (p60) with **STATEMENTS** (p65)
AMBITION **COMMUNITY** **DISCOVERY**
PROPHECY **TRADITION**

Secondary Trait Sets:

- ◇ **TALENTS** (p66)
- ◇ **SPECIALTIES** (p59)
attached to **SONGS**
- ◇ **RESOURCES** (p56)

Attrition:

- ◇ **STRESS** (p39) and **PUSHING STRESS** (p40)
AFRAID **ANGRY** **EXHAUSTED**
INJURED **INSECURE**

Advancement:

- ◇ **GROWTH** (p83)
from challenging **STATEMENTS**
and recovering **STRESS**

CHARACTER CREATION

[Example character](#)

In (almost) any order:

- ◇ **NAME** your character
- ◇ choose your **GELFLING CLAN**
(in a more complete build, this would highlight **SONGS** and **VALUES**)
- ◇ write your **DISTINCTIONS**, prompted:
 - ◆ describe your relationship with the World of Thra
 - ◆ describe your relationship with the Crystal Masters
 - ◆ how do you want the tales and legends to remember you?
- ◇ rate your **SONGS** as such:
1X **D10**, 1X **D8**, 2X **D6**, 1X **D4**
- ◇ rate your **VALUES** as such:
1X **D10**, 1X **D8**, 2X **D6**, 1X **D4**
- ◇ write one **D6 SPECIALTY** for your **D10 SONG** and one for any **SONG** rated at **D6** or higher
- ◇ write one **TALENT** related to your highest-rated **SONG**
- ◇ write one **TALENT** related to your highest-rated **VALUE**
- ◇ choose one **RESOURCE** rated at **2D8**, and one rated at **2D6**

When writing **TALENTS**, take a look at the ones in **TRACE 2.0** (p166) — they're strongly related to **ROLES**, **STRESS**, and **RESOURCES** so similar ones will fit in with **THE DARK CRYSTAL**. Don't forget **THE DARKENING**.

This is a build that would benefit from a more integrated character creation process, with a library of suggested **TALENTS** and **RESOURCES**.