

#### Latest Post: Poliwag

There are a lot of Pokemon, and making a tier list about them isn't something new. Everyone has their own thoughts and opinions about which of these pocket monsters are better than others - but now that the number is approaching a thousand (and likely passing it in Generation 9, if leaks are to be believed), there are problems with simply posting a tier list with thousands of entries - it means that each Pokemon isn't going to get the attention and discussion that they all personally deserve.

This series is about subverting that. Every day for the next few years will be dedicated to sharing my thoughts, in detail, about a specific Pokemon. I'll be going in order of national dex number, assigning each Pokemon a letter grade, and placing them within a corresponding ordered tier below. I hope this way each Pokemon will have their own time to shine, and that we can talk and reflect on each of Game Freak's phenomenal designs.

There's a few things to note before we jump into it though. I'm by no means an impartial critic, and this is an opinionated subject. I'm completely ignoring competitive viability, for one, as I'm not a pro player, and I have my subjective preferences on designs. I like birds, bipedal Pokemon, the colors blue and purple, Psychic types and Ice Types... the list goes on. I'm not here to start arguments or say any Pokemon is ever objectively bad - if you love one that I don't, then I'm happy that Pokemon has a fan.

So why should you care what I think? Well, you don't have to. I'm here to share my reasoning if you enjoy that, but even if you don't, I hope to create a walk down memory lane that will create daily discussion and share any facts about the Pokemon that may or may not be missed. I'm going to be here for a few years, so get comfy, and I hope you'll join me on the ride~

One last thing! This project is being done in conjunction with another parallel list, run by my good friend Toad. If you're enjoying this type of content and want more, or if you want someone with less controversial hot takes, you can check out her project over here:

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## S

Pokemon in S-Tier are my personal favorite Pokemon, and the criteria for qualifying has less to do with my opinion on their quality, but rather catering to my specific subjective preferences. They're the Pokemon I'd always want on my team, regardless of the game, and it's a very exclusive club.

- 1. Raichu (Link)
- 2. Alolan Raichu (Link)
- 3. Alolan Ninetales (Link)

## A+

A+ tier Pokemon differentiate themselves from A tier on account of my subjective preference, but come just shy of qualifying for my favorites due to the massive number of Pokemon there are to rank.

- 1. Pikachu (<u>Link</u>)
- 2. Alolan Vulpix (Link)
- 3. Meowth (<u>Link</u>)

## A

Any Pokemon that qualifies for A tier means that I wholeheartedly love and support them, and consider them a top quality design without any drawbacks or caveats. These designs are the ones I'd consider perfect at what they tried to evoke, and wouldn't ever touch or change.

- 1. Dynamax Charizard (Link)
- 2. Ninetales (Link)
- 3. Hisuian Growlithe (Link)

#### **A-**

A- Tier Pokemon are Pokemon that I love for one aspect or another, be it their aesthetics, implications or creativity, but hold caveats left to criticize that bring them shy of the A-tier. They're still utterly fantastic pokemon and cherished.

1. Charizard (Link)

## B+

Any Pokemon in either B tier is a Pokemon that I have positive regard for and consider a high quality 'good' design, but lack much personal affection toward. B+ tier Pokemon are simply a little closer to the A tiers, due to being all around well designed, but don't quite grab my attention the same way.

- 1. Gigantamax Butterfree (Link)
- 2. Mega Pidgeot (Link)
- 3. Vulpix (Link)
- 4. Wigglytuff (Link)
- 5. Oddish (Link)

## B

Any Pokemon in either B tier is a Pokemon that I have positive regard for and consider a high quality 'good' design, but lack much personal affection toward. There is no B- tier for this reason, as B marks the cutoff for Pokemon that I consider good overall.

- 1. Mega Charizard Y (Link)
- 2. Mega Charizard X (Link)
- 3. Wartortle (Link)
- 4. Butterfree (Link)
- 5. Rattata (Link)

- 6. Pidgeot (Link)
- 7. Sandslash (Link)
- 8. Nidoran F (Link)
- 9. Nidoran M (Link)
- 10. Clefairy (Link)
- 11. Jigglypuff (Link)
- 12. Vileplume (Link)
- 13. Gigantamax Meowth (Link)
- 14. Psyduck (Link)
- 15. Growlithe (Link)
- 16. Arcanine (Link)

## $\mathbb{C}+$

C+ tier Pokemon are better than average, differentiating themselves in some way within the C tier, but still evoke enough mixed feelings within me that I don't feel like I'm ready to declare them good within the context of Pokemon's high standards.

- 1. Charmander (Link)
- 2. Dynamax Blastoise (Link)
- 3. Caterpie (Link)
- 4. Alolan Rattata (Link)
- 5. Ekans (Link)
- 6. Arbok (Link)
- 7. Sandshrew (Link)
- 8. Nidoking (Link)
- 9. Clefable (Link)
- 10. Venonat (Link)
- 11. Galarian Meowth (Link)
- 12. Poliwag (Link)

C

C tier, like akin to a grading scale, is meant to be the true average - which, spoilers, it will end up being. It should be noted the average Pokemon is still well designed and aesthetically pleasing. Nothing in this tier is bad by any stretch of the imagination, but fail to stand out in a crowd of quality creatures.

- 1. Bulbasaur (Link)
- 2. Ivysaur (<u>Link</u>)
- 3. Squirtle (Link)
- 4. Weedle (Link)
- 5. Kakuna (Link)
- 6. Mega Beedrill (Link)
- 7. Pidgeotto (Link)
- 8. Nidorina (Link)
- 9. Nidorino (Link)
- 10.Diglett (Link)
- 11. Hisuian Arcanine (Link)



Pokemon in C- Tier are generally on the lower end of average. These are the Pokemon I find myself holding the least opinions towards, either bad or good, and lack the memorability of those in C.

- 1. Mega Venusaur (Link)
- 2. Blastoise (Link)
- 3. Metapod (Link)
- 4. Zubat (Link)
- 5. Paras (Link)
- 6. Parasect (Link)
- 7. Alolan Diglett (Link)
- 8. Alolan Meowth (Link)
- 9. Mankey (Link)

## D

Just like B is the cut off of Pokemon I believe are fully good, D is the first tier where I think the negatives outweigh the positives for each of these Pokemon in my mind. Most D Tier Pokemon run into the same mistakes of being too generic and tied to their inspiration or overly designed till they look out of place in the franchise.

- 1. Venusaur (Link)
- 2. Gigantamax Venusaur (Link)
- 3. Charmeleon (Link)
- 4. Mega Blastoise (Link)
- 5. Beedrill (Link)
- 6. Pidgey (Link)
- 7. Raticate (Link)
- 8. Alolan Raticate (Link)
- 9. Spearow (Link)
- 10. Nidoqueen (Link)
- 11. Golbat (Link)
- 12.Gloom (Link)
- 13. Venomoth (Link)
- 14. Persian (Link)
- 15. Golduck (Link)
- 16.Primape (Link)

F

F Tier Pokemon go a step beyond being bad to the point where I actively dislike looking at them. This is primarily reserved for designs that are needlessly ugly, unintentionally creepy, or wasting so much potential that I take genuine offense.

1. Fearow (Link)

- 2. Dugtrio (Link)
- 3. Alolan Dugtrio (Link)
- 4. Alolan Persian (Link)

# Unranked

This rank is for Pokemon. I don't feel comfortable ranking for one reason or another. Maybe I'm far too biased; Maybe there's a Pokemon that's too deeply rooted in a memory that I can't really rank properly. There's over 900 pokemon at this point (more to come). There is definitely a chance that there's a pokemon out there I can't fairly rank for one reason or another.

I will say that this does not mean I hate this pokemon. This is why this rank is far different than Toad's. If I hate a pokemon it'll go in its proper space in the F tier. This is my own biased tier list and rankings so if I hate a pokemon for any reason whether it be design, memory, etc etc it'll be placed accordingly. Most likely this rank will *only* be used for Pokemon I don't feel comfortable talking about for an extended time. And 9/10 I won't explain why if it happens! I hope you can respect that!

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