

Barbarian Berserker (5e 2024)

Tier 1 - One Page Guide

Playstyle Summary

Unleash primal fury as a Berserker Barbarian, a frontline juggernaut who dominates combat. Soak hits, deal massive damage, and control the battlefield. Stay aggressive but pace yourself to avoid burning out.

Tier 1 Identity

- **Role:** Frontline bruiser and damage sponge
 - **Core Mechanics:**
 - **Rage** (Level 1): Boosts damage and durability
 - **Reckless Attack** (Level 2): Trade defense for devastating strikes
 - **Frenzy** (Level 3): Unleash extra attacks at a cost
 - **Party Synergy:** Pair with allies who have bonus action heals (e.g., *Healing Word*, *Lay on Hands*)
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General Strategy

- Embrace taking hits—your durability is your strength.
 - Combine **Rage**, **Reckless Attack**, and smart positioning to dominate.
 - Protect fragile allies by blocking enemy paths.
 - **Reckless Attack** boosts Opportunity Attacks (adds Rage damage, not Frenzy's bonus).
 - Switch weapons (free to sheathe, draw as part of attack) to use **Weapon Masteries** like *Cleave* or *Topple*.
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Action Economy

- **Action:** Attack (almost always).
 - **Bonus Action:**
 - Enter **Rage** if not active.
 - Maintain Rage if you didn't attack.
 - **Reaction:** Opportunity Attacks or species-specific abilities (e.g., Infernal Tiefling's *Hellish Rebuke*).
 - **Movement:** Close gaps to engage in melee. Position for Weapon Masteries:
 - *Cleave*: Near multiple enemies
 - *Topple*: Against priority targets
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Sample Turn

1. **Bonus Action:** Enter **Rage** (if not raging).
 2. Declare **Reckless Attack** (no action cost) to enable Frenzy's bonus damage. Use unless near 0 HP.
 3. **Action:** Attack with Rage and Frenzy damage.
 - *Don't forget weapon mastery features*
 - *Cleave*: If near multiple foes
 - *Topple*: If knocking prone helps allies
 4. **Movement:** Block enemies or shield allies.
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Pro Tips

- Carry 2–3 weapons with different **Weapon Masteries** (e.g., *Cleave*, *Topple*) for flexibility.
 - Sheathe weapons for free; draw as part of attack.
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