

Crystalites

The Lost People

A playable race with strange abilities and nebulous hearts.

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Crystalite

"At dawn, we entered the tomb. What creature was interred here that necessitated such a lavish burial? In the darkness, we saw it. A sarcophagus of pure, clear glass. A rough glass figurine, faceted as a gem would be, stood erect and expressionless; indeed, it had no face.

My associate marveled and placed his hand against the glass. Instantly it clouded like ink introduced to water. As he fled in fear, I watched the sarcophagus crack open. The figure emerged slowly.

The light of my torch flickered and bounced through the creature's prismatic body illuminating the walls behind him. Within his crystalline form, the cloudy substance swirled and changed colors before settling on a verdant green.

While he had no eyes, I could feel his gaze shift to me. He looked me over, assessed me. Saw through me as I saw through him. The air crackled and he spoke thus: 'May I borrow a pair of pants?' This requires further study."

*—Lorrelaine Matrea,
Origins of the Crystalite Species*

Crystalites are magical constructs created by ancient peoples who extracted gemstones from the ground and used magic to give them greater physical forms.

While those ancient people are long gone, abandoned crystalites are numerous and are usually found inactive in clusters of 100 or more. Crystalites vary wildly in personality, but they are always set in their convictions.

One Race, Many Facets

Crystalites vary in size, coloration, and even personality according to their subtypes, but all crystalites possess a core anatomy that is very different from that of other races.

To begin with, crystalites are a faceless, asexual species that resemble living statues made of pure gemstone. This is not to say that they are expressionless. Within their bodies, an astute observer can see an inky, always moving cloud. This cloud shifts, twists, and turns in accordance to the desires of the crystalite to express any emotion just as well as muscle and bone. In any case, this

quirk of their anatomy results in crystalites having difficulties communicating with other races.

Aging through a Different Lens

Crystalites age very slowly if they age at all. However, any crystalite of significant experience will bear markings that betray its age to a knowledgeable bystander. Smoothing along hard edges of the body, discoloration, dullness, gouges, or even cracks.

Some crystalites see age as a sign of weakness or 'brittleness', but most wear their markings proudly as proof of their capability, reliability, or work ethic.

Home Away From Home

Crystalites are usually activated in groups of several dozen at a time. Because crystalites emerge as adults, these first memories have a profound effect on their lifestyle. Most crystalites choose to live in communities with other crystalites who awakened in the same event as them. Often, these towns spring into existence around the ruins they sprang from. These communities are sometimes called 'Geodes'.

Searching for the Truth

Crystalites sometimes begin adventuring to make ends meet, but most communities take care of their own, even in times of hardship. Some crystalites set out to connect with others of their kind, while others desire for power.

Overwhelmingly, however, they leave in search of answers. Their creators are gone and the crystalites have no deep-seated culture of their own. Many take it upon themselves to learn their true purpose.

Crystalite Names

Crystalites originate from many different places and have no names passed to them from parents or relatives. Because of this, most crystalites allow themselves to be named for gemstone from which they are derived.

Names like Diamond, Quartz, and Peridot (as well as abbreviations of these names) are most common. In cases where one has awakened alone, they either go unnamed or are named by

whomever they interact with. For some reason (probably related to their original purpose), crystalites are unable to name themselves.

Crystalite Traits

Your crystalite character has certain characteristics in common with all other crystalites. Do not forget to choose a subrace. Unlike other races, crystalites require a subrace.

Ability Score Increase. Your Constitution score increases by 1.

Ability Score Decrease. Your Charisma score decreases by 2.

Size. Crystalites are medium creatures unless otherwise noted.

Speed. Crystalites have a speed of 30 unless otherwise noted.

Age. Crystalites do not age as other races do. However, their bodies do experience wear and tear to some extent. The younger a crystalite is, the harder its edges will be.

Languages. You can speak, read, and write Common and Crystalite. The Crystalite language is composed of a series of complex ringing tones that can be taken together to form complete thoughts.

Never Stop. Crystalites cannot be put to sleep or lose consciousness. Instead, crystalites must meditate for 3 hours for a short rest or 6 hours for a long rest. During this time, the crystalite's body enters an autopilot state in which they can still perform menial tasks such as traveling, tree-cutting, mining stone, or copying scripts.

The crystalite may choose to exit this state at any time and will retain recollection of this time. If a crystalite would lose consciousness, their body shuts down for the duration, but they retain memories of things that happen around them.

Subraces

Despite the fact that all crystalites are composed of the same material and animated with the same magic, each one tends toward a certain type of personality focus. Additionally, all crystalites are tinted in the color of the gemstones used to create them. This applies to their emotive clouds as well.

Quartz

Ability Score Increase. Your Intelligence score increases by 2.

Intellect. Quartz crystalites may take proficiency in one intelligence-based skill.

Personality. Quartz crystalites are highly intelligent, but often conceited and condescending. Being bested strategically is insufferable for a Quartz crystalite. They will go to great lengths to win, even if that victory does not leave them better off.

Amethyst

Ability Score Increase. Your Constitution score increases by 2 additional points.

Hard Body. Amethyst crystalites have +1 to AC at all times and may take proficiency in one type of saving throw.

Personality. Amethyst crystalites take great pride in their hardness and enjoy flaunting it. They find amusement in childish playground games such as taking turns slapping each other until one asks for mercy. Most crystalites have little patience for this.

Pearl

Ability Score Increase. Your Wisdom score increases by 2.

Foresight. Pearl crystalites may take proficiency in one wisdom-based skill.

Personality. Pearl crystalites enjoy simple things such as riddles and stumping other people with riddles. They also enjoy trivia. Outside of these activities, they are calm and reserved.

Diamond

Ability Score Increase. Your Strength score increases by 2.

Size. Diamond crystalites tend toward the higher end of the crystalite size spectrum. They are large creatures.

Speed. Diamond crystalites have a reduced speed of 20.

Brawn. Diamond crystalites may take proficiency in one strength-based skill.

Personality. Diamond crystalites possess a strong protective instinct. They use their size as a deterrent to protect anything they care about. They typically have dominant personalities and like to take charge in stressful situations.

Peridot

Ability Score Increase. Your Dexterity score increases by 2.

Size. Peridot crystalites tend toward the shorter end of the crystalite size spectrum. They are small creatures.

Speed. Peridot crystalites have an increased speed of 40.

Deft Hands. Peridot crystalites may take proficiency in one dexterity-based skill.

Personality. Peridot crystalites are small and fast. They talk fast, they run fast, and anger faster. Peridot crystalites have a short temper and an unmatched neuroticism. In spite of this, they are fiercely loyal.