OTHERWORLDLY PATRONS

The beings that serve as patrons for warlocks are mighty inhabitants of other planes of existence—not gods, but almost godlike in their power. Various patrons give their warlocks access to different powers and invocations, and expect significant favors in return. Some patrons collect warlocks, doling out mystic knowledge relatively freely or boasting of their ability to bind mortals to their will. Other patrons bestow their power only grudgingly, and might make a pact with only one warlock. Warlocks who serve the same patron might view each other as allies, siblings, or rivals.

Serpent Gods

Few warlocks hear the hissing voice of the ancient Serpent Gods. These gods, long-imprisoned beyond the borders of the multiverse, can no longer make clerics, and choose instead to bewitch and seduce individuals with their power. To the uninitiated, their warlocks seem to be pledged into a pact with a Great Old One, but these warlocks are not ashamed to bare the fangs of their masters and unleash their venom upon the world. The Serpent Gods willing to forge such a pact with mortals include: Apophis, the Hooded Lord of Chaos; Karkitak, the Serpent King; Leviathan, the Sea Scourge; Naga, the Divine Serpent; Nahash, the First Cursed; Nidhoggr, the World-Eater; and Vasuki, the Trickster.

EXPANDED SPELL LIST

The Serpent Gods let you choose from an expanded list of spells when you learn a warlock spell. The following spells are added to the warlock spell list for you.

SERPENT GODS BONUS SPELLS

| Spell Level | Spells |
|-------------|--|
| 1st | animal friendship, dissonant whispers |
| 2nd | acid arrow, alter self |
| 3rd | bestow curse, conjure animals |
| 4th | freedom of movement, phantasmal killer |
| 5th | geas, mislead |
| | |

Emissary of the Serpent

Starting at 1st level, as a bonus action on your turn you can invoke your patron, causing scales to grow all over your body. While your scales cover you, your AC equals 13 + your Dexterity modifier. These scales last until you use your action to dismiss them.

You also know the cantrip *snakebite*. It does not count against your number of cantrips known. Lastly, you can speak to snakes as if you shared a language.



Venom of the Serpent Gods

Starting at 6th level, when you hit a creature with the *snakebite* cantrip you can force the target to make a Constitution saving throw against your warlock spell save DC. On a failed save, the target is poisoned for 1 minute. It repeats this saving throw at the end of each of its turns, ending the effect on a success.

Once you use this feature you can't use it again until you complete a short or long rest.

Serpent Cunning

Starting at 10th level, you are slippery as a snake, and extremely hard to pin down. You have advantage on saving throws made against being restrained and ability checks you make to escape grapple.

Additionally, when you are restrained or grappled, you can use an action on your turn to end the condition, loosing you from your bonds.

Skin of the Scaled Ones

Starting at 14th level, as a bonus action, you can shift your form into that of a **giant constrictor snake**. You retain your personality, and Intelligence, Wisdom, and Charisma scores. You assume the hit points of the giant constrictor

snake, and add your Charisma modifier to your AC in this form. When you use the bite attack of the giant constrictor snake, the target also takes 2d6 poison damage. You also gain the Multiattack trait, allowing you to make one constrict attack, and two bite attacks.

> Your gear merges with this form and cannot be used. You can remain in this form for a number of hours equal to half your warlock level. You retain the ability to cast *eldritch blast*, and maintain concentration on any spells that you were concentrating on before your transformation.

You cannot cast any other spells in this form. You revert to your normal form when this form drops to 0 hit points, or when you end it early as an action. Any excess damage carries over to your normal form.

You can use this ability twice and regain all expended uses when you finish a long rest.

NEW SPELL

This cantrip is available to warlocks that make their pact with the Serpent Gods.

SNAKEBITE *Evocation cantrip*

Casting Time: 1 action Range: 90 feet Components: V, S, M (a snake fang and a vial of snake venom)

Duration: 1 round

Pointing with two fingers, you let loose spectral set of snake fangs in a bright green flash, which lunge at the spell's target. Make a ranged spell attack roll. On a successful a hit, the target takes 1d8 poison damage and has disadvantage for the duration on their next Constitution saving throw against being poisoned.

This spell's damage increases when you reach 5th level (2d8), 11th level (3d8), and 17th level (4d8).