# MONSTROUS LAIR #42 DERRO OUTPOST





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# Monstrous Lair #42: Derro Outpost

Monstrous Lair #42: Derro Outpost provides you—the busy, time crunched GM—with the details to effortlessly bring to life the derro outposts in your campaign.

Are you a busy GM? Does session prep take too long? Do you never have time to work on the cool little details that can bring your adventures, dungeons and campaign to life? This short, focused compilation gives you, the time-crunched GM, the tools to effortlessly add verisimilitude and detail to your dungeons. Use the material herein either before or during play and bask in your players' adulation.

# CREDITS

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# CONTENTS

Credits	1
Contents	1
Using This Product	1
Derro Outpost	2
1: Outside the Lair	2
2: What's Going On?	2
3: Major Lair Features	2
4: Minor Lair Features	
5: Derro Appearance	3
6: Treasures	
7: Trash	3
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# USING THIS PRODUCT

Designed specifically for you, the busy GM, these tables can be used before or during the game to help breathe life into a monster's lair and are compatible with published modules or your own adventures. Adding depth and verisimilitude to your game helps the players' (hopefully willing) suspension of disbelief.

The tables appear in the order you'll likely need them. Roll on the relevant table and use the result to spark your creativity. Re-roll or modify any inappropriate results.

- Outside the Lair: Determine features outside the lair, using this table.
- What's Going On? The derro probably aren't just sitting around waiting for intruders. Use this table, to determine what they are doing when the PCs arrive. Remember, the PCs' actions may render some of the entries moot–particularly if the derro are aware of intruders.
- Major Features: Use this table, to determine the lair's major feature(s). This feature is so obvious, the PCs automatically notice it. Only reveal information in brackets if a PC discovers it in some way.
- Minor Features: Use this table, to determine the lair's minor feature(s). The feature might be so obvious the PCs automatically spot it; alternatively, the PCs may have to make an easy skill check to notice the feature. Only reveal information in brackets if a PC discovers it in some way.
- **Derro's Appearance**: Use this table, to generate the derro's appearance and other characteristics.
- Treasures & Trash: Use these tables, to add interesting items
  to the derros' hoard. Assign a value to each treasure
  appropriate to your campaign. The tables assume you will
  place magic items, coins and other notable items and do not
  contain such entries.

The tables herein make two assumptions:

- 1. You have a map of the area, or will design one "on the fly".
- 2. You know what lurks in the area and have all their stat blocks.



# DERRO OUTPOST

The cruel and depraved derro scour the Ebon Realms for slaves to experiment on or victims to participate in their insane plans. Many travellers realise too late these small, weak-looking creatures are not to be underestimated.

### 1: OUTSIDE THE LAIR

# **D10**

- Rough cave paintings depict dancing figures bursting into flames under the bright sun.
- 2 Maddening giggles and tearful wails echo down tunnels.
- A small grey stone in the centre of the passage is surrounded by a spiral of hundreds of dried toes.
- 4 A line of polished pebbles stretches from wall to wall.
- 5 Hollows dug into the tops of stalagmites hold odd gifts.
- 6 Small footprints follow the silvery trail of a large slug.
- A patch of soft, sandy ground is splattered with tracks of small dancing feet clad in rags.
- Piles of rib-bones are neatly stacked at the tunnel's mouth while other bones are randomly scattered about.
- 9 Stripes of grey, black and white sandy paint decorate an archway in a natural tunnel.
- 10 Green candles illuminate area that serve no purpose.

# 2: WHAT'S GOING ON?

# D10

- A small group of derro move flat stones to one side of a chamber whilst stack rounded stones in a tall pile.
- 2 Hopping from one foot to the other a group of derro listen to the babbling of their sorcerous master.
- The derro guards dip their spear-tips into a small pot before moving off on patrol.
- 4 Two derro hurl spears at a wall before running away.
- Two bloody derro fighting each other suddenly start wildly singing and dancing.
- A derro savant draws non-sensical plans on a wall in thick red paint before lying down and falling asleep.
- A wandering patrol suddenly sit down and remove their armour and weapons before starting to repair them.
- 8 Three derro play catch with an agitated spider.
- A warrior points and gestures towards a tunnel before slapping his own face and heading the other way.
- 10 A solitary derro lies in the corridor humming happily.

# 3: MAJOR LAIR FEATURES

# D10

- Large amounts of pebbles are sorted into piles of grey, black and white. Other coloured stones are discarded.
- A mound of tough fungal sticks lies ready to be adorned with sharp hooks and spikes.
- Bowls bubbling over a dung fire contains venom, rotting meat and fungus beer.
- Tall blue mushrooms crawling with tiny black insects grow from cracks in the ground.
- A huge stone bowl, its sides polished to a mirror finish, contains hundreds of struggling insects.
- Hanging chimes of metal shards, hooks and bits of shell decorate the walls and ceilings.
- A low, fragile barricade of painted stones and fungal stalks divides the room in two.
- A deep water-filled shaft looks like any of the other 8 shallow pools in the room. Investigation reveals it is choked with decomposing corpses.
- 9 Sharpened stakes and bones fill a large crack in the walls and ceiling.
- 10 A cracked giant's skull tops this three-sided pyramid.

# 4: MINOR LAIR FEATURES

#### **D10**

- 1 A broken pot leaks watery red clay over the floor.
- 2 A half-made thread of shiny insect shells lies discarded beside a broken stone jar.
- 3 Long threads of fungus are stretched on a rack to dry.
- A long, flat rock has a strangely shaped hollow on top of it where it has been used to sharpen spears.
- A stinking mash of fungus, insects and urine fills a low dip in the floor.
- A long copper hook from an aklys is embedded deeply in a crack in the wall.
- Several skulls are stacked on top of each other and stuck together with a foul smelling orange paste.
- 8 A thick, hooded coat of weaved fungus strips and lizard hide is hooked on a wall.
- 9 A stack of rocks forms a shrine to a three-eyed god.
- 10 Footprints are painted climbing a tunnel wall.

# 5: DERRO APPEARANCE

## **D10**

- With a huge bushy moustache and a shock of spiked white hair this derro looks comically terrifying.
- Wearing a weaved coat of leather and fungus over leather armour and holding a spiked club in each hand this babbling derro directs his minions.
- 3 The hair of this derro is slicked back with slimy red clay.
- 4 Many derro in the group have meaningless symbols and writing tattooed onto their faces and arms.
- Wearing a scavenged silk shirt covered in blood and bright feathers this savant hurls spells at enemies.
- This derro has green, spiked hair and roars like a beast when he attacks with his sharp spear.
- 7 This babbling one-eyed derro breaks away from combat and attacks his companions for no apparent reason.
- 8 Clad in several large sacks topped with a cloak of blue velvet this derro throws poison darts at his enemies.
- This derro peers intently through a polished glass lens before running away screaming.
- With his hair streaked with black and grey this derro attacks with gauntlets made from insects claws.



# 6: TREASURES

### **D10**

- Made of three spiralling stones of white, grey and black 1 entwined around each other this holy symbol forms an elongated cone.
- This intricate bone and steel repeating crossbow comes
  with a magazine filled with poisoned bolts. Upon command the crossbow releases all remaining ammunition in an inaccurate yet deadly spray.
- Forged from a strange black metal this thin narrow-bladed filleting knife is for removing flesh from bone.
- This spiked aklys has a surprisingly long cord of treated spider's silk which is as strong as steel.
- This collection of fossilised insects grants minor powers when eaten.
- This thick cream protects the wearer from the burning effects of sunlight but dyes the skin bright blue.
- Fungal strips weaved into hide and leather comprise this
  grey armour. It stinks so much it dissuades most creatures from biting or eating the wearer.
- A cloak of polished drow skin embroidered with silver threads and teeth of creatures from the Ebon Realm.
- This wand of polished elf bone shoots magical missiles, but detonates when its final charge is expended.
- These shrunken skulls fill the air with madness-inducing fumes, when hurled at enemies.

# 7: TRASH

### **D10**

- This pot of rock salt is dusted with flakes of quartz. Possibly lethal if ingested (but great against slugs).
- 2 Four small bags contain different coloured sand.
- A flat box contains polished and painted spheres of rock and glass. A note inside says, "Do Not Lose".
- 4 This small chunk of cheese is made from grubs' milk.
- 5 A broken bird's feather quill is stuck into a leather strap.
- Pictures of imaginary creatures cover these scraps of 6 pages from a book. Some of the creatures have been drawn on the nearby walls with a charcoal stick.
- This dead, unrecognisable invertebrate has tentacles. It 7 might be the offspring of a foul creature from the Ebon Realm or it could just be a strange snail out of its shell.
- 8 An alchemist's shop sign complete with hooks.
- 9 This spoon is carved from a thigh bone.
- 10 Holes and rips pierce this pair of ragged hose.

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