

Epic Chaos

How to play the forces of Chaos in your games of Epic By Jervis Johnson

The armies of Chaos have always been an important part of Epic. Indeed, in early versions of the game you could only fight battles between the Imperium and the followers of the Chaos Gods. Although since then we've added armies for many of the other races that inhabit the Warhammer 40,000 galaxy, the forces of Chaos remain one of the greatest threats to the Imperium of Man.

CHAOS ARMY LISTS

Which is why I'm so pleased to be able (at last!) to announce the online publication of official Epic army lists for Chaos armies. There are two army lists: the Black Legion, which focuses on Chaos Space Marine armies, and The Lost and the Damned which deals with armies of Chaos Cultists. You can download the army lists for free for the Specialist Games website.

Much as I would like to be able to take all of the credit for the lists, the truth is that they are pretty much exclusively the work of a team of dedicated Epic gamers, who agreed to take on the task of developing up the army lists purely out of a love of the game (and possibly a desire to be able to field a Chaos army in the games they played!) We have credited the names of the writers and developers on the army lists themselves, so I will spare their blushes and not repeat them all here. Suffice to say that these guys worked (very) long and (very) hard on these army lists, and if you meet any of them at a show or Epic tournament, you should consider it your solemn duty to thank them profusely and then buy them a large beverage of their choice. I know that's what I will do!

A Banelord Chaos Titan





Khorne Beserkers



Noise Marines

EPIC CHAOS RANGE

As well as the army lists we'll be re-releasing the Epic Chaos Horde plastic set. This provides all of the rank and file troops a Chaos army will need, allowing the followers of the Dark Gods to command a suitably large and impressive horde of troops. In addition we're re-releasing a limited range of metal models for unique units found in the Chaos army lists.

TRAITOR UNITS

Chaos armies are made up in large part by human warriors that have been seduced into following the Chaos Gods. Many of these warriors still fight in the uniforms and use the equipment they had when they served the Imperium, so you can simply use the models from the 'loyal' ranges of miniatures to represent them. For example, a Chaos Space Marine Land Raider or Chaos Rhino can be represented by using the Land Raider and Rhino models for the Space Marine range, while Traitor Leman Russ or Basilisks can be represented by Imperial Guard Leman Russ and Basilisks, and so on. Here is a list of suggestions below.

Loyal	Traitor
Warlord Titan	Banelord Titan
Reaver Titan	Ravager Titan
Warhound Titan	Feral Titan
Space Marines	Chaos Space Marines
Space Marine Bikes	Chaos Space Marine Bikes
Terminators	Chosen
Assault Marines	Raptors
Dreadnought	Chaos Dreadnought
Rhino	Chaos Rhino
Land Raider	Chaos Land Raider
Predator	Chaos Predator
Imperial Guard	Cultists & Traitor Fire Support
Rough Riders	Traitor Rough Riders
Chimera	Traitor Chimera
Hellhound	Traitor Hellhound
Sentinel	Traitor Sentinel
Leman Russ	Traitor Leman Russ
Leman Russ Demolisher	Traitor Leman Russ Demolisher
Griffon	Traitor Griffon
Basilisk	Traitor Basilisk
Hydra	Traitor Hydra
Thunderbolt	Traitor Thunderbolt
Marauder	Traitor Marauder



Chaos Space Marines

Dedicated players may wish to 'corrupt' the traitor units in their army by adding spikes or tentacles or other mutations in green stuff. However, while this adds a lot of the character of the army it is by no means strictly necessary, and a suitably Chaotic paint job and a selection of Chaos banners will often work just as well.

CONVERSIONS & STAND-INS

Models from the Epic Chaos range supplemented by 'traitor' models will allow you to field a very realistic and effective Black Legion or Lost and the Damned army. However, both army lists include a number of units that cannot be represented by models in either of these ways. These represent new types of units we have not had a chance to make Epic scale models of yet, and older troop types that are not in the range any longer but which we would like to resculpt. We've decided to release the army lists now, even though there are no models for these units, rather than delay the release of the army lists until the models are available. We hope to make these models available at some time in the future, either as part of the Epic Chaos range or as part of the Forge World range of resin models.

Until that time you will either have to convert models to represent these units, or track down second-hand versions of discontinued versions of the models, or use the 'counts as' rule to use stand-in models to represent the units. Don't worry, this isn't as hard as it sounds, and can actually be rather a lot of fun! For example, Imperial Guard infantry can quickly be converted



into mutants by adding mutations in Green Stuff, and secondhand versions of most of the Daemon Engines can easily be tracked down on the internet. It's also worth checking out the Chaos Warmaster range in our online store; although nominally of a larger scale than Epic models, many of the Warmaster models can easily be used to represent Epic units. Last but not least, you can always ask for advice and tips on the Specialist Games Epic forum. Many of the people that helped develop and playtest the new Chaos army lists are regular contributors to the forums, and they can give practical advice based on firsthand experience to help you out.

CONCLUSION

And that's quite enough from me. I'm assured the new official army lists will be available to download from the Specialist Games website within the next week few weeks of this article being published (article publish date 18th Jan 07) keep an eye on the Specialist Games home page for details. In the meantime you can test out the existing playtest lists found in the Epic Vault if you want to 'Chaos it up' this weekend. Enough babble! The False Emperor won't overthrow himself you know...

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Jervis Johnson is a GW stalwart. He is the Author or co-author on all the editions of Epic as well as Blood Bowl and Codexes and Army Books too numerous to mention. Jervis spent the last six years in charge of Fanatic in its various guises.