Hi-Lo Heroes Cheat Sheet v1.0 by hbCyber • https://hbcyber.site

1) Core Notions & Glossary

- All rolls are made with two 6-sided dice, i.e. 2d6. When rolled:
 - High implies that the highest value of the 2 dice is selected. Low means the lowest value is picked instead.
 - Doubles (same number on both dice) are added together and can yield experience for character upgrades.

1.1) Types of Damage

- Mundane vs. Fantastic: Damage that could/could not realistically exist outside of comic books.
 - Mundane damage examples: Guns, knives, exposure to cold, fire or electricity, poison or acid, etc.
 - Fantastic damage examples: Optic blasts, cosmic energy, magic or supernatural forces, psychic blasts, etc.

1.2) Character/Hero Notions

- · Life: Represents a character's health/energy.
- Aspects: Define the hero's strengths and weaknesses as per 3 values.
 - Build: Hero's body type. Quick or Powerful. More agile than strong or vice-versa.
 - Mentality: Hero's mindset. Logical or Intuitive. Guided more by reason than instinct or vice-versa.
 - Temperament: Hero's personality type. Bold or Cautious. More impulsive than careful or vice-versa.
- Action dice define how the 2d6 rolls are used/affected for a specific type of action. See matrix below.
 - By default, the Low value is picked for these actions. Some Aspects allow picking High instead.
 - Powers apply a +1 bonus to Action dice based on their Power category.
 - Weaknesses apply a -1 penalty to Action dice of a specific type. Note: Roll can never go below 1.
 - Careers specify which Action dice to use for skill checks outside of combat based on their Career type.

2) Character Creation

1) Roll/choose a value for each of the 3 Aspects.

Build: Quick (High Move) or Powerful (High Damage)
Mentality: Logical (High Block mundane) or Intuitive (High Block fantastic)

• Temperament: Bold (High To hit) or Cautious (High Evade)

- 2) Set initial Life points based on Build. Powerful → 15 Life. Otherwise → 10 Life.
- 3) Mark your Action dice as High/Low based on your Aspects. See matrix below.
 - Default is Low unless Aspect specifies otherwise.
- 4) Choose/define/roll 2 Powers, each from a different Power category. The 6 categories are:

• Movement (Move) • Targeting (To hit) • Evasion (Evade)

- Mundane attack (Damage) Fantastic attack (Damage) Barrier defense (Block both types)
- 5) Choose 1 Power upgrade type which will be triggered once enough Doubles have been earned. See Training.
- 6) Choose/roll 1 type of Action dice for which a -1 Weakness penalty will apply.
- 7) Choose/define/roll 2 Careers (1 professional, 1 hobby), each from a different Career type. The 6 types are:

• Quick (Move) • Bold (To hit) • Cautious (Evade)

Powerful (Damage)
Logical (Block mundane)
Intuitive (Block fantastic)

- 8) Choose/roll 1 Charge, a person that the hero feels responsible for.
- 9) Choose 1 civilian name and/or 1 hero name (both if they are different).

1.2.1) Action/Aspect/Power/Career Matrix

Action dice	Pick High value if	Linked Power category (+1 to roll)	Linked Career type	Action type description			
Move	Build = Quick	Movement	Quick careers	Speed and reflexes. How fast and far a hero can move and act in a round of combat.			
To hit	Temperament = Bold	Targeting	Bold careers	Accuracy and precision. How well a hero can aim to hit a target.			
Evade	Temperament = Cautious	Evasion	Cautious careers	Agility and perception. How well a hero can avoid being hit by an attack.			
Damage	Build = Powerful	Mundane attack Damage type set to Mundane.	Powerful careers	Power and strength. Determines the level of injury that a successful attack can inflict.			
		Fantastic attack Damage type set to Fantastic.	Fowerful careers	rower and strength. Determines the level of injury that a successful attack carrindict.			
Block mundane	Mentality = Logical	Barrier defense Regardless of damage type.	Logical careers	How resistant the hero is to Mundane injury.			
Block fantastic	Mentality = Intuitive	Category applies for both Mundane and Fantastic damage.	Intuitive careers	How resistant the hero is to Fantastic injury.			

1.2.2) Example Powers 1.2.3) Example Careers 1.2.4) Charges

Movement	Targeting	Evasion	Mundane attack	Fantastic attack	Barrier defense	Quick	Cautious	Bold	Aunt/uncle/parent
Teleportation	Martial Attack	Acrobatics	Gun/Bow	Optic Blast	Armor/Shield	Driver	Doctor	Actor	Brother/sister
Flight/Wings	Trick Shot	Danger Sense	Blade/Claws	Energy Blast	Metal/Stone Form	Pilot	Reporter	Rock Star	Girlfriend/boyfriend
Swing Line	Rapid Fire	Invisibility	Super Strength	Life Drain	Energy Form/Sheath	Acrobat	Teacher	Politician	Spouse/child
Super Leap	Sneak Attack	Ghost Form	Lightning Attack	Psychic Bolt	Force Bubble/Field	Powerful	Logical	Intuitive	Teacher/student
Super Speed	Precognition	Tiny Form	Heat/Cold Attack	Mystic Bolt	Stretching	Laborer	Programmer	Animal Trainer	Boss/friend/co-worker
Wall Walking	Super Agility	Martial Dodge	Poison/Radiation	Phantasmal Attack	Invulnerability	Scuba Diver	Scientist	Artist	
						Athlete	Mechanic	Writer	

3) Mechanics

3.1) Doubles

- If both dice show the same value, they are both High and Low. Add their values together and use the total.
- If player rolls any **Double** during an **Attack** (attacking or defending) → Add **1 Double** as experience.
- If GM rolls any Double during an Attack (attacking or defending) → Add 1 Double as experience for target player.
- Doubles rolled outside of Attack actions are not added as experience.

3.3) Combat

- Combat is divided into **rounds**. Each participant has **1 turn** during each round.
- At the start of each round, Initiative is rolled to see who goes first and how many actions they can do.
- During their turn, each character can choose to move, Attack a foe or Assist an ally.

3.3.2) Turn Movement & Actions

How a character can spend their turn.

- \bullet First action : The player chooses 1 of the options below:
 - A) Move the hero up to 5 squares, then Attack.
- B) Attack, then move the hero up to 5 squares.
- C) Move the hero up to 10 squares without attacking.
- D) Spend turn to Assist, i.e. try to help restore Life to an ally. Each side/party can only try this once per round.
- Subsequent actions: The player chooses 1 of the options below for each action remaining after the 1st one:
 - A) Attack. B) Move the hero up to 5 additional squares.
- Reminder: Once per session, a hero can use Heroic Effort to apply a future upgrade immediately for 1 action.

3.3.2.1) Attack Action

- 1) The attacker rolls 2d6 for Attack, which will dictate Chance to hit and Potential damage.
 - If the attacker is not adjacent to the target, a -1 penalty is applied to the Attack roll.
 - · Chance to hit: Apply To hit (High/Low/Power/Weakness) to Attack roll.
 - Potential damage: Apply Damage (High/Low/Power/Weakness) to Attack roll.
 - Power modifier to apply depends on damage type. Default damage type is Mundane.
 - Add a +1 bonus if the character is a hero or villain. Normals and thugs do not get that bonus.
- 2) The defender rolls 2d6 for Defense, which will dictate Chance to evade and Damage blocked.
 - If the target is adjacent to more than 1 opponent, a -1 penalty is applied to the Defense roll.
 - Chance to evade: Apply Evade (High/Low/Power/Weakness) to Defense roll.
 - Damage blocked: Apply Block mundane/fantastic (High/Low/Power/Weakness) to Defense roll.
 - Action type depends on incoming damage type. Default damage type is Mundane.
- 3) The attack hits if attacker's **Chance to hit** ≥ defender's **Chance to evade**. No damage applies if attack missed.
- 4) Calculate damage to apply: Potential damage Damage blocked. Remainder is deducted from Life.
 - Unconscious at **0 Life**. Dead at **-20 Life** for heroes/villains, or **-10 Life** for normals/non-heroes.
 - Knock-Back: For every point of damage after the first 4, defender moves 2 squares away from attacker.
 - The defender is then dazed for 1 full round (skips their upcoming turn), but can still defend.

3.2) Career Skill Tests

Task rolls performed outside of combat.

- 1) Player chooses a Career for the task and rolls the corresponding Action dice.
- 2) The GM rolls and picks Low if the hero's Career is applicable/relevant to the task, or High otherwise.
- 3) The player succeeds if their roll is equal or greater than the GM's roll.
 - Success = [Player Career Action roll] ≥ [GM Low/High roll based on Career (applicable or not)]

3.3.1) Initiative

Rolled at the start of each combat round.

- 1) Each participant rolls 2d6 for Initiative, which will dictate Turn order and Number of actions.
 - If the character lost Life during the previous round, a -1 penalty is applied to the Initiative roll.
- 2) Turn order: Participant applies Move (High/Low/Power/Weakness) to Initiative roll.
 - The resulting value is the character's turn order. Turns go from highest to lowest.
 - Player vs. player ties: Player characters go in any order they agree to.
 - Player vs. GM ties: Player characters go before GM characters.
- 3) Number of actions: Participant applies Move (High/Low/Power/Weakness) to Initiative roll.
 - Divide the resulting value by 5, rounded up. This is the character's number of actions in their turn.

Result	Num. Actions	Result	Num. Actions
1-5	1 action during turn.	6-10	2 actions durning turn.
11-15	3 actions durning turn.	16+	4 actions durning turn.

3.3.2.2) Assist Action

When a hero aides another to speed their natural recovery in battle.

- This action spends the helper's entire turn (all actions) in one go. Each side/party can only do it once per round.
- 1) The recipient, if not incapacitated, chooses if they will also spend their own turn to increase recovery.
- 2) The helper (player taking the Assist action) rolls 2d6.
 - The helper picks the **High** value if the recipient also spent their own action to increase the recovery.
 - Otherwise (if only the helper is spending their turn on the Assist), the helper picks the Low value.
- 3) The GM rolls 2d6, then picks Low.
- 4) Subtract the GM's roll from the player's roll to determine Life points restored for the recipient.



4) Recovery

• Heroes recover 1 Life point per hour outside combat.

5) Training/Character Advancement

- Heroes are improved by spending **Doubles** they have recorded as experience.
- Before/in-between sessions, the player chooses in advance what type of upgrade their hero is training for.
 - The upgrade is applied immediately when enough **Doubles** have been earned, even during combat.
 - When the upgrade is applied, maximum Life increases by 1, and all Life points are restored.
- Upgrades are priced as per the following list:
 - Add a 3rd Power ← Spend 30 Doubles.
 - Add a 4th Power ← Spend 40 Doubles.
 - Improve existing Power bonus from +1 to +2 ← Spend 20 Doubles.
 - Improve existing **Power** bonus from +2 to +3 ← Spend 30 **Doubles**.
 - Improve existing **Power** bonus from +3 to +4 ← Spend 40 **Doubles**.
- Heroic effort: Once per session, for 1 action, a hero can apply the upgrade they chose as if they already had it.

6) Normals & Thugs

- Non-heroes always roll 2d6 and pick Low for all actions.
- Non-combat normals can't use Potential damage blocked (Block mundane / Block fantastic). No reduction.
 - Thugs/roughians/police/athletic normals might still be allowed to have Potential damage blocked.
- Normals/thugs will often have less than 5 Life points.
 - Outside of combat, they recover 1 Life point per day.
 - They are considered dead if they reach -10 Life points.
- Normals/thugs do not get the free +1 bonus to Damage rolls.

7) GM Tips

- Create encounters with an equal balance of **Mundane** and **Fantastic** attacks.
- Assign relatively low Life totals (e.g. 5 or 10) for your villains, as Doubles can make encounters lethal for players.
- GM can make use of dice rolls prepared ahead of time to speed things up during encounters.

2d6 ≥ 2d6 roll probability table.

	vs.		Low						High				
Roller ↓		-1		+1	+2	+3	+4	-1		+1	+2	+3	+4
	-1	67%	48%	26%	16%	10%	8%	27%	16%	11%	8%	6%	5%
Low		74%	60%	40%	26%	16%	10%	38%	25%	16%	11%	8%	6%
	+1	84%	74%	60%	40%	26%	16%	54%	38%	25%	16%	11%	8%
	+2	90%	84%	74%	60%	40%	26%	70%	54%	38%	25%	16%	11%
	+3	92%	90%	84%	74%	60%	40%	85%	70%	54%	38%	25%	16%
	+4	94%	92%	90%	84%	74%	60%	94%	85%	70%	54%	38%	25%
	-1	84%	75%	62%	46%	30%	15%	60%	40%	26%	15%	9%	5%
High		89%	84%	75%	62%	46%	30%	74%	60%	40%	26%	15%	9%
	+1	92%	89%	84%	75%	62%	46%	85%	74%	60%	40%	26%	15%
	+2	94%	92%	89%	84%	75%	62%	91%	85%	74%	60%	40%	26%
	+3	95%	94%	92%	89%	84%	75%	95%	91%	85%	74%	60%	40%
	+4	96%	95%	94%	92%	89%	84%	96%	95%	91%	85%	74%	60%



