

Advanced Swords & Sorcery Bestiary

Void Elemental

Frequency: Very rare

Number: 1

Size: Large

Move: 120 ft

Armour Class: 2

Hit Dice: 8, 12 or 16

Attacks: 1

Damage: 3d8

Special Abilities: See below

Magic Resistance: Standard

Lair Probability: Nil

Intelligence: Low

Alignment: Neutral

Level/EP: 2/2,850+15/hp

A powerful supernatural creature that manifests as a being of blue-black flame; exuding an unnatural aura of cold, it represents not only an absence of life energy, but its palpable opposite. In shape it can take a roughly manlike appearance, should it deign to do so, but more commonly it manifests as a raging inferno of unlife, consuming heat and leaving an icy trail of destruction and death in its wake. Its composition makes for a volatile servant, suited to little more than malign purposes and direct tasks, whilst a low intelligence means that, though easily controlled, it is also easily angered.

Void elementals are fierce opponents that strike powerfully with icy tendrils of flame, freezing any liquids that they come into contact with and delivering numbing blows through even strong armour to living flesh beneath. They can be struck only by magical weapons with a +2 or better enchantment, though monsters with magical ability or four or more hit dice (such as an ogre) can harm them. Against cold-using opponents, void elementals suffer a -1 penalty on their damage rolls, and they are unwilling to cross large bodies of water in which they may become trapped.

Whilst many sages hold that there are only four primary elements, and speculate as to the existence of entire planes constituted of each, others suggest that the existence of what they term 'void elementals' suggests the existence of a fifth elemental plane comprised of negative-energy. They further argue that elemental fire itself may be a manifestation of life or positive energy, and not have a plane of its own. An extreme line of thought within the sect argues that elemental planes are the fancy of madmen, and that planes of existence are all composites. Whatever the philosophical truth, void elementals are an unpleasant certainty.

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