What To Buy - PvP

Ashes 1.0 vs Ashes Reborn 1.5

Ashes: Rise of the Phoenixborn was the original game developed by Isaac Vega in 2015. This game has been supplanted by Ashes **Reborn**: Rise of the Phoenixborn, developed by Nick Conley and released in 2021.

Differences

Ashes (2015) is common referred to in the community as **"1.0"**. All products (master set and expansion) are **sold in white boxes**

Ashes Reborn (2021) is commonly referred to in the community as **"1.5"** or simply "**Reborn"**. All products are **sold in orange-red boxes.** The ruleset was completely revamped, and a large portion of the original card base were replaced, therefore 1.0 and 1.5 are **incompatible with each other.** For details on what changed, see the Plaid Hat Games "Ashes Reborn Primer" document on https://www.plaidhatgames.com/board-games/ashes-rise-phoenixborn/.

The upgrade kit will replace cards from the Master Set through all the original expansions to make them playable for 1.5. The only exception to this is the Jericho 1.0 deck which was completely retired and eventually replaced by The Breaker of Fate expansion.

A marked-up copy of the upgrade kit card list is also available that highlights which cards are usable out-of-the-box, and which require the associated expansion due to linked cards not being included. It can be found here: changed_cards_list.pdf. At minimum, the document assumes you own the 2015 white-box Master set.

In general, 1.0 is no longer played in any form.

If you own (or buy on the secondary market) the 1.0 collection (and any number of expansions), you should buy the 1.5 Upgrade Kit. This will update the cards in your collection to be 1.5 compatible, and is often cheaper than re-purchasing all 1.5 products from scratch.

If you do not own any original products, you can jump straight in with the Ashes Reborn Master Set.

Which expansions

Once you've purchased the Master Set the common advice is to pick whichever expansions appeal, either art style or card-wise. Most expansions require either Divine, Sympathy, or Time** dice and therefore it is strongly recommended that the Deluxe Expansions (which introduce those dice) are

purchased earlier.

**The Time magic (introduced in Jericho, Breaker of Fate) doesn't begin to "shine" until the later expansions (Hope, Dimona, Tristan, Rowan) when status tokens have more uses and impact.

Visual Buying Guide

ASHES: RISE OF THE PHOENIXBORN BUYING GUIDE 2022

FIRST PURCHASE: CORE SET

Retails for $50 USD



The white box is from the original release of Ashes

Ashes: Rise of the Phoenixborn is an expandable card game sold in packs with fixed contents, similar to the model used by FFGs Living Card Games, produced by Plaid Hat Games.

The game requires each player come to the table with a deck, token set, and 10 of the custom dice. The dice a deck requires and which boxes include those dice is explained below. Notably, all of the current products are playable out of the box as preconstructed decks. The included cards can also be used for constructed or draft play.

Previously out-of-print, it was revived in August 2020 through a cooperative effort with Team Covenant, who will sell new expansions through a subscription model. The original line has also been re-released as a "Ashes Reborn" which includes an updated rulebook and 30% +/- of the existing card pool reprinted due to errata/balance changes. The original products (recognizable by the white background on their box art) are still usable, with the exception of the reprinted cards. Plaid Hat has released an Upgrade Kit to bring existing collections in line with the reprints.

Core Set Contents: 6 Phoenixborn Decks, Token Set, and 10 each of Dice for Nature, Ceremonial, Illusion and Charm



The Core Set works well as a limited boardgame-style experience. Two players can get a ton of replay out of this set, so don't feel forced to expand.

If you have the original white Ashes box, the "no-brainer" second purchase is the Reborn Upgrade Kit (scroll way down). However, you don't need that if you are planning to purchase only Reborn boxes. The upgrade is there to make old stuff compatible with 1.5 and future releases.



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