

0.1 Leadership v1.0

In older editions of D&D, it was taken as a given that PCs would gain followers when they became high level. Since 3.x however, this has caused angsty GMs, because the Leadership feat gives one player a powerful boost.

Under this house rule, the following applies:

1. Every PC gains Leadership as a bonus feat at level 7.
2. Only one cohort can go on an adventure with the PCs at any time, although they can take turns. It's up to the players to decide which cohort would be most appropriate. Since cohorts gain XP based on their masters' XP, even the ones that don't come along increase in experience.
3. Cohorts use the elite stat array (15, 14, 12, 11, 10, 8). A cohort's build is mostly up to the player, although it should remain within reason.
4. Cohorts may be recruited from friendly NPCs already in the campaign, or introduced afresh. In that case however the player must come up with a good story of how this cohort was gained.
5. Cohorts start with NPC-level-appropriate gear. Thereafter they expect a (junior) share of adventuring spoils.
6. If a PC dies/is retired, and a cohort is promoted to full PC status, some stat rebuilding is in order to move the new PC to actual PC power levels, including possible inheritance of some equipment.
7. Followers use the standard ability score array (13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8), and racial modifiers, applied in a way that makes sense for their chosen class. They tend to have the most obvious build imaginable for their class.
8. If a follower is promoted to Cohort status, some rebuilding may be in order.
9. If a PC gains Leadership as a bonus feat from another source (such as for example the Nobility domain), he gains it again; another cohort, more followers and so forth. All cohorts except the first one suffer from the "Has a familiar, special mount, or animal companion" modifier however, because one cohort is clearly the favorite. (If the character also has a familiar or suchlike, even the first cohort is influenced by that modifier.) Any bonus (such as from the Nobility domain) to Leadership score applies to all of those leadership scores.