

Blood Masons

The Blood Masons

“Stone remembers the hands that shaped it.”

The **Blood Masons** are master builders, stonecutters, and architects known for traveling across Hallowmere wherever their craft is needed.

They raise keeps, halls, bridges, fortifications, monuments, and other structures built to withstand both time and hardship. Their work is recognized for its strength, precision, and the subtle marks they leave carved into the stone.

Masters of Stone and Timber

The Blood Masons possess knowledge gathered through generations of building across different lands and environments. They understand how to work with stone, timber, iron, mortar, and the natural foundations beneath a structure.

Their craft extends far beyond the laying of walls. They are responsible for planning foundations, measuring weight and balance, designing defensive positions, reinforcing aging structures, and ensuring that every completed work can endure the conditions surrounding it.

“A wall is only as strong as the ground upon which it stands.”

Builders Across Hallowmere

Blood Masons rarely remain in one place for long. They travel between settlements, strongholds, remote outposts, and growing communities, bringing their tools and expertise wherever construction or restoration is required.

Some journeys lead them to established cities in need of expansion. Others carry them into unsettled lands where the first foundations of a new hall, bridge, watchpost, or fortification must be laid.

Their work may include:

- Constructing keeps, fortified halls, and defensive walls.
 - Building bridges, roads, gates, and watchposts.
 - Raising homes, workshops, storehouses, and gathering halls.
 - Repairing structures damaged by war, weather, or neglect.
 - Reinforcing foundations and aging fortifications.
 - Carving monuments, memorials, and lasting works of stone.
 - Surveying land before new construction begins.
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The Mason's Mark

Blood Mason structures often bear subtle marks carved into foundations, cornerstones, archways, or hidden supporting stones.

Some marks identify the hands responsible for the work. Others record the date of construction, the materials used, or warnings intended for those who may repair the structure generations later.

These markings are rarely obvious to the untrained eye, but another Blood Mason can often read the history of a structure by examining the symbols left behind.

“The builder may depart, but the mark remains.”

Strength Through Precision

The Blood Masons believe that lasting strength begins with careful preparation. Every measurement, cut, joint, and supporting stone must serve a purpose.

Speed may be necessary, especially during war or disaster, but haste is never permitted to replace sound craftsmanship. A poorly placed stone may weaken an entire wall, while a well-planned

foundation may hold for centuries.

Their reputation is built not upon decoration alone, but upon the knowledge that their structures remain standing when hardship comes.

Passing Down the Craft

The knowledge of the Blood Masons is preserved through direct teaching. Experienced builders take apprentices beneath their guidance, instructing them in measurement, stone selection, carving, structural planning, repair, and the proper care of tools.

An apprentice begins with simple labor and observation before being trusted with foundations or load-bearing stone. Advancement comes through patience, practical experience, and the ability to produce work that can be trusted.

To become a master is to demonstrate not only skill, but judgment—the ability to understand what should be built, how it should be built, and whether it will endure.

An Enduring Legacy

The Blood Masons leave their history behind in stone. Long after a traveling company has moved onward, the halls, bridges, walls, and monuments they raised continue to shape the lands around them.

Their greatest works are not always the largest or most ornate. Sometimes their legacy is a bridge that keeps a road open, a repaired wall that saves a settlement, or a simple hall that becomes the heart of a growing community.

“Build not only for those who stand here today, but for those who will inherit the stone.”

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