

HOW TO BE A GREAT GAME MASTER **GM NOTES**

Two Ultimate GM Hacks You Should Know

Full video link: <u>https://youtu.be/qGOwvrAB2cc</u>

Today we are looking at how to make your world feel as if it's a living breathing space without having to track a thousand different things at the same time.

There are 2 things that can happen that are useful for this:

- Foreground events
- Background events

These are things that happen in your world that are either major or minor.

Foreground events are things that should only occur once every 6 – 8 gaming sessions. The reason for this is that they will fundamentally change your world space. But they do have to happen!

Why? Because although the PCs will be running their adventures and having an impact on your world space, they are just one entity within a greater space. So, if you want to make this greater space feel like it's alive – other stuff needs to happen that the players are not responsible for but that the players will feel the consequences for.

Background events are events that can happen on a more regular basis but are also there to let the players know that things change in the world space. We add these in as we need to, to spice things up a little, but also to keep the game feeling as if its alive. These events won't have world shattering effect but will just have a small impact on the world and the players.

Important to remember! No impact = no value! If it doesn't impact the PCs at all – it's a waste of time! The PCs must learn about these events in some way.

Foreground events:

- Revolution
 - Rebellion, change of government, coup, liberation, uprising etc.
- Birth of a new nation
 - Political ramifications, trade opportunities, new laws, new ways of doing things.
- Natural disasters
 - Floods, volcanoes, droughts, tsunamis, banana milk shortages.
- Magical calamity
 - Something happens that is caused by magic: no magic, more magic, broken magic, dimensional rifts etc.



Background events:

- Tax changes, legislation changes, new items for sale, old items no longer for sale, discoveries etc.
- New guild is formed, new form of entertainment.

Notes:

