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Learn Character Progression through the Secret World Leveling Guide by [Boyd](#)

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There's a lot about The Secret World that helps it stand out in the crowded genre of MMORPGs. The contemporary setting is the most obvious of course, but close examination reveals that it differs just as wildly in terms of how your own avatar improves. The Secret World guide to character progression will show you precisely how it does this.

The most important thing to know about The Secret World character progression is that there are no character levels whatsoever. That is not to say that there is no experience to gain, though; filling up your experience bar doesn't increase your level, it rewards you with a skill point. Skill points are used to purchase special abilities that come in two major categories: passive and active. The former grants bonuses to your character when equipped, while the latter gives you new actions that can be performed with the press of a hotkey.

Furthermore, all abilities are linked to the three fundamental methods of combat: melee weapons, ranged weapons and magic. All of these in turn have three subcategories; melee weapons include fists, hammers and swords, ranged weapons include pistols, shotguns and assault rifles, and magic encompasses the schools of Blood Magic, Chaos and Elementalism. Between all of these skills, there are over 500 abilities in total!

This leads to another important aspect to The Secret World guide to progression. There are no character classes. Any character can use any weapon, spell or ability he or she acquires. The only limitation is that you can only have 14 abilities equipped at a time, with seven passives and actives apiece. In general, character progression in The Secret World is akin to building a deck of cards; you may not necessarily grow more powerful, but you become more versatile.

That's not to say that you don't become more powerful at all. Over the course of your travels, you'll acquire a number of weapons which can become progressively stronger the further you go in while leveling in the Secret World. Like in any good MMORPG, weapons can be looted, purchased from vendors, or traded between players. They can also be crafted. The game boasts a revolutionary new crafting system that, like the progression system, has no associated skills or levels. It lets you put together and customize any weapon of your choosing and to your liking, provided you have the parts to spare. Weapons can also be further upgraded simply by adding newer and/or better parts to them.

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