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The Beta will soon be over, and that means it is time for a Guild Wars 2 Necromancer leveling guide. As with the original game, the Guild Wars 2 Necromancer is an offensive, magical, class specializing in inflicting conditions and summoning undead to fight their battles for them. As a scholar based profession, Necromancers will wear light armor.

Refer to <http://www.guildwars2levelingguide.net/>, necromancer skills are divided into three categories: marks, ground based AoEs which deal damage, inflict conditions, or buff allies, depending on which spell was cast. Marks will activate after a set period of time, but can be activated again by pressing the hotkey for the ability again. Wells are Area of Effect spells centered on the necromancer, also called point blank area of effect or PB AoE, that last until deactivated. Minions are the third, and final, type of Necromancer skill, and will be the primary focus of this guide. Unlike in the original, the Guild Wars 2 Necromancer does not need to use a corpse in order to summon one of his minions. It is worth noting, that while not technically a minion skill, the Mark of Horror spell, in the mark skill type, will summon Jagged Horror minions when activated.

For the purposes of this Guild Wars 2 Necromancer guide, Mark of Horror is going to be largely ignored. This guide is meant to focus on minions you can summon and control, not on strategic placement of marks. There are six different kinds of minions that can be summoned, each one with its own secondary skill in sequence. With the exception of the bone fiend, you can only have one of each kind of minion active at once. The Summon Bone Minion spell will summon two bone minions at once; these are the only type of minion a player can have more than one of. Once summoned, the minion's ability is replaced by another skill in sequence; these skills will either destroy the minion, or command it to use a special ability. For example, summoning the Blood Fiend will call it to fight at your side, and grant access to the Taste of Death Spell, which sacrifices the Blood Fiend to heal you.

No good guild wars 2 guide such as <http://www.guildwars2guide.net/category/guild-wars-2-guide/> would skip over a profession's traits; however, the Necromancer is a tricky profession to build. Necromancer traits can be highly situational, depending on whether you want your minions alive or being sacrificed. In this Guild Wars 2 Necromancer Guide, the traits will be done with the intent of keeping your armies alive. For this style of play, focus on the Training of the Master trait in the Spite tree; it boosts minion damage by 30%. Death Magic is where you will find most of your points; increased minion health, reduced recharge time, and even abilities which cause your minions to leave poison behind when they are killed all can be found here. The last trait worth noting is Vampiric Master under the Blood Magic tree. This causes you to be healed by a portion of your minion's damage.

Necromancers who focus on their minions will be able to enjoy combat from afar, allowing their armies of undead to swarm their opponents. This style of Guild Wars 2 Necromancer (<http://www.guildwars2necromancer.net/>) does have some weaknesses; focusing your efforts on your minions can leave you weak against players who quickly eliminate them. In addition, since some minions are strongest in being destroyed, the traits which increase their health and damage are less useful.

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