

# New Players' Guide □

Welcome to Star Army! This article has the basic steps and info you'll need to participate.

## Roleplaying Overview

In Star Army, you and other members create characters who live in the high-tech fictional universe of Star Army and then use your imagination to write your character's actions and dialogue to create collaborative stories. You can create and play characters forged by this unique universe and their actions will affect the [setting](#) for future players.

**Star Army** is a play-by-post roleplaying community, which means we operate by posting text on the forum. Unlike tabletop roleplaying games, Star Army is mostly just writing and does not use complex game mechanics (math). Most story plots have a **Game Master** (GM) assigned whose job is to guide the story, describe the setting, and write the actions of background characters (NPCs). In the Open Roleplay forum, the creator of the RP thread may act as a GM.

Most RP occurs in ongoing RP plots. After their second RP thread starts, they can get their own subforum. A *plot* in this case refers to an ongoing role playing story and its group of players. In the Star Army RP, these are often based on starships. Before you make your character, if possible, do a little background reading on the role-play and get an idea of which plot you want to join.

**In Star Army RPs, we usually write in third-person past tense**, the way most novels do. For example: *A scowl of disgust appeared on Sayuri's face as she watched the lizard creatures eagerly gnawing on the abandoned corpses.*

For the full guide to roleplaying on Star Army, see [Roleplaying](#).

## Account Setup

Star Army is an “account per player” (APP) site, which means each member should only have one account for the forums. The same login will be used for all of your characters. You must be **16 or older** to join Star Army. There is no cost to join or participate. Before joining, you should probably read the [Site Rules](#).

Register an account on [the forums](#) by clicking “Log in or Sign up” on the upper right corner of the page. You're invited to then introduce yourself in the [Introductions & New Players Forum](#).

Optional: Create a wiki account. **The wiki login system is separate from the forum one, so you will need to register for both.** You'll need a wiki account to create and edit wiki articles (such as if you want to make a page for your character). [Register an account for the wiki](#).



If you have trouble registering, contact the admin. See the **Questions and Assistance** section below. Star Army uses advanced anti-spam methods that may occasionally flag a legitimate user for further review based on IP address, email, username, or other characteristics.

## Creating Characters

When you're ready, start making characters using the guides found on the **Creating A Character** wiki page. Once your character is approved you're free to start **Roleplaying** by joining a **plot** group or by joining or creating a roleplay thread.

- **Open Roleplaying** threads are a great place to start.
- Got an idea for a roleplay thread? Start an interest check thread in the **OOC and Plot Planning** forum.
- Find other players to RP with in the **Introductions and New Players** forum.

## Questions and Assistance

Getting into Star Army is easiest when you ask someone to mentor you through it, and we're happy to do that! If we haven't volunteered yet, just ask! You've got questions: there are many ways to get answers or help:

- Post on the forums (Ask questions in the **Introduction forum** or **Setting Discussion**).
- Talk to people in the **Discord chat**
- You can also contact **Wes**, the admin: **Start a Conversation with Wes**
  - if you can't log in, email [stararmy@gmail.com](mailto:stararmy@gmail.com) or text to 1-209-782-7276

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