

# BACKGROUND ACTIONS

Keep your characters moving and doing things. Here is a quickly brainstormed list to get your mind thinking about the things your characters are *doing* while talking to the player characters.

## ACOLYTE

1. Play with holy symbol necklace
2. Rifle through pages or scrolls of scripture
3. Light candles or incense
4. Touch a sacred item
5. Make a holy hand gesture (prayer, protection, guidance, blessing)
6. Straighten religious vestments

## CHARLATAN

1. Fidget with gambling implements (cards, dice)
2. Play with signet ring
3. Proffer a business card
4. Present a bottle of snake oil
5. Roll a coin across the back of you knuckles
6. Clean glittery dust from their fingers
7. (Alternatively, a good charlatan might put on the affectations of another background.)

## CRIMINAL

1. Tap or flourish your cudgel
2. Constantly look out the window or down the hall
3. Pick through a pile of pilfered jewelry
4. Flourish gambling elements (cards, tiles, or dice)
5. Pick a pocket
6. Observe those around you (identify targets or enemies)

## ENTERTAINER

1. Tune instrument
2. Shuffle through music sheets
3. Jot down notes
4. Holding and constantly reading a rejection or acceptance letter
5. Watching people and taking notes
6. Humming a new tune

## FOLK HERO/GUILD ARTISAN

1. Maintaining equipment
2. Putting finishing touches on an object
3. Looking over a ledger
4. Checking bills
5. Scrutinizing the work of others
6. Sketching out ideas for the next project

## HERMIT

1. Sitting peacefully on the ground
2. Reading scripture or other notes
3. Sewing their clothing or blankets
4. Picking herbs
5. Asking riddles
6. Petting a docile animal

## NOBLE

1. Sending a message
2. Managing the estate
3. Preparing for an evening out
4. Critiquing/analyzing an item or setting
5. Hunting or horseback riding
6. Shopping

## OUTLANDER

1. Repairing equipment
2. Playing an instrument
3. Preparing a hide or bone implement
4. Reading a document in another language
5. Consulting a map
6. Double-checking supplies

## SAGE

1. Writing notes in a fieldbook
2. Organizing notes or papers
3. Looking through old tomes and documents
4. Sharpening a quill
5. Working with measuring tools
6. Searching for a document or other item under piles of papers and books

## SAILOR/SOLDIER

1. Maintain equipment
2. Look at a map
3. Put on bag or backpack
4. Get in line
5. Tie a knot

## URCHIN

1. Stare at the PC's food
2. Looking out for trouble
3. Feed the birds or stray dogs
4. Walk the curb
5. Climb on a statue
6. Steal a small item of food

## GENERIC ACTIONS

1. Eating
2. Drinking
3. Buying from a street vendor
4. Writing in a ledger or book
5. Reading
6. Cleaning (wiping, sweeping, scrubbing, washing)