

Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition

dark angels codex 10th edition marks a significant evolution for one of Warhammer 40,000's most storied Space Marine chapters. With each new edition, the Dark Angels receive updated rules, stratagems, units, and lore that reflect both the chapter's unique history and the broader developments within the game. As the 10th edition approaches or arrives, players and hobbyists eagerly anticipate how the Dark Angels will adapt to the shifting meta, what new models or rules will be introduced, and how they will maintain their distinct identity on the tabletop. This article provides an in-depth exploration of the Dark Angels Codex in 10th edition, covering background lore, key units, strategic considerations, and what players can expect from this pivotal update.

Background and Lore of the Dark Angels

Origins and History

The Dark Angels are one of the original Space Marine Legions created during the First Founding, known for their secrecy, resilience, and fierce loyalty to the Emperor. They are led by their Chapter Master, typically a powerful and revered figure, and are distinguished by their obsession with redemption and the hunt for the Fallen—the traitorous Dark Angels who turned against the Imperium during the Horus Heresy. The chapter's lore is deeply intertwined with themes of redemption and secrecy. Their secretive nature stems from their long-standing internal conflict—struggling to recover and redeem the Fallen members of their Legion while maintaining their honor and fighting the enemies of mankind.

Organization and Beliefs

The Dark Angels are organized into various companies, each with specific roles and traditions. Their hierarchy emphasizes discipline, secrecy, and a relentless pursuit of their enemies. They believe that the greatest sin is failure to protect humanity, and they often undertake covert operations to root out threats that could jeopardize the Imperium. Their cloaked existence is reflected in their tactics and battlefield presence, favoring stealth, precision strikes, and attrition warfare. These themes are deeply embedded in their gameplay style and thematic identity.

What's New in the Dark Angels Codex for 10th Edition

Overall Design Philosophy

The 10th edition codex aims to streamline and balance gameplay while preserving the

unique flavor of the Dark Angels. Expect an emphasis on tactical flexibility, narrative-driven stratagems, and new units that reflect their lore. The design philosophy centers around making Dark Angels a versatile, resilient force capable of both aggressive assaults and defensive hold-the-line strategies. The codex introduces new keywords, faction abilities, and updated datasheets to enhance their battlefield presence.

Key Changes and Highlights

1. **New Stratagems:** The codex introduces several powerful stratagems that enable thematic plays, such as hunting the Fallen or executing precise strikes.
2. **Updated Units:** Existing units have received points adjustments and new abilities; new units with unique roles have been added to diversify options.
3. **Relics and Warlord Traits:** A fresh set of relics and traits tailored to enhance the chapter's narrative and tactical options.
4. **Special Rules:** The introduction of chapter-specific rules that synergize with the chapter's themes of secrecy, redemption, and resilience.

Core Units and Their Roles in 10th Edition

Dark Angels Veterans and Intercessors

Veterans and Intercessors remain the backbone of the chapter's infantry force. In 10th edition, they benefit from improved tactical flexibility, with new stratagems enhancing their survivability and damage output. Key features:

- Enhanced durability through new cover and defensive stratagems.
- Increased firepower options, including specialized bolt rifles.
- Their role is versatile: holding objectives, engaging enemy units, or supporting more specialized forces.

Terminators and Deathwing

The Deathwing, comprising Terminators, continues to be a focal point for elite assaults and deep strikes. Key features:

- New stratagems allow for more effective deep strikes and survivability.
- The addition of new terminator weapons and wargear options increases their lethality.
- They excel at breaking enemy lines and holding critical objectives.

Flyers and Vehicles

Dark Angels have access to a variety of vehicles, including Land Speeders, Razorbacks, and the iconic Ravenwing bikes. Key features:

- New rules for aerial mobility and rapid deployment.
- Vehicles now benefit from improved stratagems to enhance firepower and defense.
- The chapter's fast attack units are more capable of rapid response and flanking maneuvers.

Specialized Units

- The Ravenwing: Fast attack elements that excel at quick strikes, reconnaissance, and flank attacks. - The Librarius Conclave: Psykers providing powerful psychic support, now with increased potency and new psychic powers.

Strategic and Tactical Considerations

Building a Competitive Dark Angels Army

To maximize the potential of Dark Angels in 10th edition, players should consider the following strategic elements:

1. **Mobility and Flexibility:** Leverage the chapter's fast units like Ravenwing bikes and landspeeders to position effectively and control key objectives.
2. **Synergy and Stratagems:** Use new stratagems to enhance unit survivability, such as cover boosts or extra attacks during combat.
3. **Balancing Core and Elite Units:** Combine durable infantry with high-impact elites like Deathwing Terminators for a balanced force.
4. **Psychic Support:** Employ the Librarius Conclave's new psychic powers to manipulate the battlefield and disrupt enemy plans.

Key Tactics in 10th Edition

- Deep Strike and Ambush: Use stratagems to deploy Deathwing and Ravenwing units behind enemy lines for surprise assaults. - Objective Securing: Employ resilient units to hold critical points, supported by fast-moving units to contest or threaten enemy positions. - Targeted Elimination: Focus fire with specialized units to eliminate high-value enemy targets, utilizing new rules and weapon options. - Resilience and Recovery: Use stratagems and abilities to repair or reinforce damaged units, capitalizing on the chapter's theme of resilience.

Relics, Warlord Traits, and Special Rules in 10th Edition

Relics

The new relics are designed to reinforce the Dark Angels' themes of secrecy, redemption, and combat prowess. Examples include: - The Sword of Secrets: Grants bonuses against traitors or fallen enemies. - The Mantle of the Redeemed: Provides defensive benefits to units led by a Warlord with this relic. - The Ravenwing's Mark: Enhances fast attack units' speed and damage output.

Warlord Traits

Traits are tailored to enhance the chapter's core strengths: - Master of the Hunt: Increases the effectiveness of Deep Strike units. - Redeemer's Will: Boosts resilience and combat capabilities of the Warlord. - Seeker of Secrets: Improves psychic power casting and denial.

Chapter-Specific Rules

- Angels of Redemption: A keyword or rule that allows units to recover or gain bonuses when near certain objectives or characters. - Secrecy and Shadow: Rules that grant units defensive advantages when they remain unseen or in cover.

Model Range and Painting Tips

New Models and Kits

While the core units continue to be supported, the 10th edition often introduces new models or updates existing kits: - Updated Terminator and Intercessor kits with new weapon options. - Specialized characters emphasizing lore aspects like the Chapter Master or unique librarians. - Vehicles and Bikes with improved detailing and options.

Painting and Thematic Tips

- Emphasize the chapter's iconic black armor with contrasting gold or silver details. - Incorporate symbols of secrecy, such as cloaks or hoods, into character models. - Use dark, muted tones for vehicles, with striking highlights to draw attention to key features.

Conclusion: The Future of Dark Angels in 10th Edition

The Dark Angels Codex in 10th edition promises to reinforce the chapter's identity while providing fresh gameplay options. Their focus on resilience, secrecy, and redemption makes them a compelling choice for players who enjoy tactical depth and thematic storytelling. With new stratagems, units, and rules, the chapter is poised to adapt to the evolving meta and remain a formidable force on the battlefield. As the edition unfolds, players should stay attuned to updates, FAQs, and competitive trends to optimize their armies. Whether engaging in narrative campaigns or competitive play, the Dark Angels continue to embody the mystery and resilience of one of the most iconic chapters in Warhammer 40,000. Embracing their lore and tactical versatility will ensure they remain a chapter to be feared and admired for years to come.

Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition: An In-Depth Review of the Iconic Space Marine Chapter's Newest Ruleset The release of the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition marks a significant milestone for fans and players of Warhammer 40,000. As one of the most storied and

enigmatic chapters in the Space Marines, Dark Angels have long captivated hobbyists and competitive players alike. The 10th Edition codex introduces new rules, stratagems, units, and lore updates that both challenge longstanding tactics and open fresh avenues for strategic play. In this comprehensive review, we will explore each aspect of the codex, analyze its impact on gameplay, and offer insights into how players can best leverage its contents.

Overview of the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition

The Dark Angels codex for 10th Edition continues the tradition of blending rich lore with balanced, competitive rules. As a chapter known for secrecy, a focus on elite units, and a penchant for swift, devastating strikes, the new codex emphasizes these themes through refined mechanics and updated units. The overarching goal appears to be to enhance the chapter's identity while ensuring its playstyle remains versatile across different game formats. This edition introduces a host of new units and revisions, streamlining some older strategies while bolstering others. The codex also aligns with the broader 10th Edition ruleset, which focuses on more dynamic gameplay, refined stratagems, and improved clarity in rules interactions.

Lore and Background Enhancements

Before delving into rules, it's important to appreciate how the lore influences the gameplay design. The Dark Angels, known as the First Legion, are shrouded in secrecy and haunted by their past. Their obsession with hunting down the Fallen, traitorous members who defected during the Horus Heresy, shapes their tactical doctrines and unit compositions. The 10th Edition codex expands on these themes, emphasizing:

- The Hunt for the Fallen: Units and stratagems that reflect their relentless pursuit.
- The Inner Circle: Elite units representing the highest echelons of the chapter's leadership.
- Secrets and Shadows: Rules that allow for more covert playstyles and ambush tactics.

This rich background provides a thematic foundation for the rules, encouraging players to craft narratives that mirror the chapter's mysterious and aggressive ethos.

Core Rules and Faction Updates

The core of the Dark Angels codex follows the standard 10th Edition format but introduces chapter-specific traits, relics, and psychic abilities that define their unique playstyle.

Chapter Traits

The primary trait, "The Unforgiven," grants several benefits that reinforce their hunting and combat prowess:

- Relentless Pursuit: Units gain bonuses when targeting Fallen units or units associated with their secretive lore.
- Dark Angel Resilience: Improved durability

against certain damage types, emphasizing their elite armor and resilience. - Shadow Tactics: Enhanced abilities to reposition and execute ambush tactics.

Faction-Specific Stratagems

The chapter-specific stratagems are designed to promote aggressive, targeted strikes, and thematic play: - "Hunt the Traitors": Allows units to reroll charges or gain bonus attacks when fighting traitors or Fallen. - "Dark Angel Ambush": Enables units to set up as reserves or deep strike, simulating their stealthy, sudden attacks. - "Angel's Wrath": A powerful attack buff for melee units, emphasizing their elite close-combat capabilities.

Units and Detachments: A Breakdown

The heart of any codex is its units. The Dark Angels 10th Edition codex introduces new choices, updates existing ones, and refines detachment options to suit different playstyles.

Key Units and Their Roles

1. Intercessor Squads: The backbone of most Dark Angels armies, now benefiting from increased resilience and new firepower options. They can be equipped with specialized heavy weapons, making them versatile on the battlefield. 2. Assault Intercessors: Enhanced with new melee options, they excel at rapid assaults and securing objectives. 3. Aggressor Squads: Reinforced with new heavy weapons and stratagem synergy, these units provide fire support and battlefield control. 4. Veteran Intercessors: Newly introduced, these seasoned fighters come with unique gear and abilities that allow for increased durability and tactical flexibility. 5. Deathwing Terminators: A classic unit, now with new weapon options and stratagem support that emphasize their role as shock troops. 6. Ravenwing Bikes and Land Speeders: The Ravenwing remains a swift, hit-and-run force, with new stratagems that allow for more tactical flexibility and increased survivability. 7. New Units: - Dark Talon Gunship: An elite transport aircraft with potent firepower, capable of delivering units deep into enemy territory. - Dark Angels Librarius: Psychic units with new abilities to manipulate battlefield conditions and bolster units.

Detachment Options and Battalion Builds

The codex introduces flexible detachment options designed to maximize synergy: - Ravenwing Attack Squadron: Emphasizes speed and hit-and-run tactics. - Deathwing Company: Focuses on durable, hard-hitting units for holding key objectives. - Mixed Detachment: Combines elements of both to adapt to various scenarios. Strategically, players are encouraged to curate their detachments based on the mission, leveraging stratagems to enhance resilience or offensive power at critical moments.

Psychic Powers and Relics

Psychic abilities remain a vital part of Dark Angels tactics, especially with the new codex's improved psychic discipline: - "Rites of the Fallen": A new psychic discipline that allows units to gain bonuses for hunting traitors. - Power Synergy: Psychic powers now synergize more effectively with specific units, such as Ravenwing or Deathwing. Relics are also expanded, offering potent options: - The Sword of Secrets: Enhances melee damage against traitors and Fallen. - The Shield of Sanctity: Grants additional invulnerable saves to key units. - Relic of the Unforgiven: An artifact that improves resilience and attack capabilities when fighting traitors.

Strategic and Tactical Playstyles

The Dark Angels codex encourages a variety of playstyles, from aggressive assault to covert ambushes: Aggressive Strike: Utilize stratagems like "Angel's Wrath" and units like Aggressors and Assault Intercessors to press the attack early and maintain pressure. Deep Strike and Ambush: Leverage Deep Strike stratagems and the Dark Talon Gunship to surprise enemies and seize vital objectives. Resilience and Hold Ground: Deploy Deathwing Terminators and Ravenwing units in defensive positions, supported by stratagems that boost durability. Thematic Play: Build armies centered around hunting traitors or emphasizing stealth, fitting the Dark Angels' lore.

Competitive Viability and Tactics

The 10th Edition codex elevates Dark Angels' standing in competitive play by balancing their potent units with strategic flexibility. Key considerations include: - Synergy Maximization: Combining Ravenwing's mobility with Deathwing's durability allows for versatile battlefield control. - Stratagem Utilization: Making full use of chapter-specific stratagems to turn the tide of battle. - Unit Composition: Emphasizing elite units for maximum impact, especially in small, well-curated armies. - Target Prioritization: Using their enhanced psychic powers and stratagems to focus fire on enemy key units, especially traitors and Fallen.

Conclusion: Is the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition a Game-Changer?

The Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition is undoubtedly a compelling update that respects the chapter's storied history while integrating modern gameplay principles. Its emphasis on elite units, tactical flexibility, and thematic consistency makes it a formidable choice for both narrative enthusiasts and competitive players. For hobbyists, the new units and relics provide fresh modeling and painting opportunities. For gamers, the refined rules and stratagems offer a nuanced, strategic experience that rewards careful planning and

thematic play. Overall, the 10th Edition Dark Angels codex successfully balances lore with gameplay, ensuring that the First Legion remains a force to be reckoned with on the tabletop. Whether you're building a competitive list or crafting a narrative army, this codex offers a wealth of options to explore and master. In summary, the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition stands as a testament to Games Workshop's ongoing commitment to evolving Warhammer 40,000's universe. Its depth and flexibility make it a must-have for any Dark Angels enthusiast eager to dominate the battlefield with style, secrecy, and devastating effectiveness.

Questions & Answers About dark angels codex 10th edition

No	Question	Answer
1	What are the key changes in the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition?	The 10th Edition of the Dark Angels Codex introduces new stratagems, updated unit profiles, and enhanced rules for Ravenwing and Deathwing, emphasizing their synergy and updated lore to reflect recent developments.
2	Are there new units introduced in the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition?	Yes, the 10th Edition features new units such as the Interrogator-Chaplain on a Bike and updated datasheets for existing units, providing more tactical options on the battlefield.
3	How does the 10th Edition impact the Ravenwing and Deathwing formations?	The edition enhances both formations with new stratagems and abilities, allowing for more aggressive and resilient playstyles, with clearer synergies between the two wings.
4	What are the most competitive units in the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition?	Key competitive units include the Deathwing Terminators, Ravenwing Bikers, and the new Interrogator-Chaplain, all benefiting from updated rules that boost their effectiveness.
5	Does the 10th Edition introduce any new psychic powers or abilities for Dark Angels?	Yes, the Codex introduces new psychic powers for Librarians and Chaplains, offering more strategic options for psychic support and combat enhancement.
6	Are there any significant points cost changes in the Dark Angels units in 10th Edition?	Several units have received points adjustments to balance competitiveness, with some becoming more affordable and others slightly increased to maintain game balance.
7	How does the 10th Edition enhance the lore of the Dark Angels?	The updated Codex expands on Dark Angels' lore, highlighting their ongoing crusade, internal schisms, and legendary heroes, enriching narrative gameplay.

8	What are the new stratagems introduced in the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition?	New stratagems include options for rapid redeployment, enhanced defensive capabilities for Deathwing, and unique tactical maneuvers for Ravenwing units.
9	Is the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition suitable for competitive play?	Yes, the Codex provides a balanced and versatile set of rules that support both casual and competitive gameplay, with options for optimized lists and thematic builds.
10	Where can I find the official rules and updates for the Dark Angels Codex 10th Edition?	Official rules and updates can be found on Games Workshop's website, in the published Codex: Dark Angels 10th Edition, and through authorized tournament organizers and publishers.

Dark Angels, Warhammer 40K, 10th Edition, Space Marines, Deathwing, Ravenwing, Codex Supplement, Imperium, Marine Tactics, Miniatures