

Command Dragon



Enchantment/Charm

Level: 5
Range: 10 mi./level
Components: V, S, M
Casting Time: 3 turns
Duration: 4 hrs./level
Area of Effect: 1 dragon
Saving Throw: None

This very rare spell requires the caster to have collected the shards of the egg from which the dragon to be commanded was hatched. When the spell is cast, the dragon affected is forced come to the caster and obey his commands, provided these are along the guidelines of suggestion spell: they must sound reasonable and not be obviously harmful to the dragon. A demand for the dragon to plunge into a pit of acid is clearly unreasonable, while the suggestion that a freshly encountered pool of acid is actually water and that a fresh dip would be refreshing is another matter.

The caster and the dragon can communicate by way of a telepathic link as long as they stay within the spell's range. The wizard need not know the dragon's language to be understood. The mind-link does not allow him to see, hear, or smell what the dragon can, but he can ask the dragon to describe what it senses, and it is compelled to answer his questions truthfully.

The dragon cannot knowingly cause harm to the caster while the spell is in effect, nor is it likely to knowingly let the caster come to harm. Acts or suggestions by the caster that violate the guidelines of the spell allow the dragon to make a saving throw vs. spell in order to throw off the spell entirely. it need not obey the offending command in any event.

Should the dragon be released from the spell because of the caster's commands, it is free to teach the caster a brief and fatal lesson about the consequences of controlling dragons. If the spell has elapsed normally and the wizard has used it fairly. the dragon will depart.

This spell was created by an elf mage too near the close of the Second Dragon War to be used to major effect in that conflict.

The material component of the spell is a complete and set of shards of the egg from which the particular dragon was hatched; if even one shard is missing, the spell has no effect. The egg's shards are destroyed in the casting, so that the spell can be used only once per dragon.

Notes: Very rare. (Updated from DRAGON Magazine)