

Iron Root



The Rootfather

Influences: Survival, Endurance, Resilience, Preparation, Sacrifice, Self-Reliance, Community Duty, Perseverance

The faithful depict the Rootfather as a weathered traveler carrying the tools of labor, standing unbowed against storm and hardship, his scarred face and worn clothing serving as reminders that endurance is earned rather than given.

The one who endured.

The faithful teach that the Rootfather was the first mortal to truly understand hardship. While stories disagree on who he was, they all share one detail: when others broke, he endured.

Unlike many religious figures, the Rootfather is not remembered for acts of mercy, wisdom, or heroism. He is remembered because he survived.

Followers rarely pray for his protection. Instead, they pray for the strength to withstand what cannot be avoided.

Many shrines contain no statue or image. Instead, worshippers place stones worn smooth by weather, twisted roots recovered from storms, or tools passed down through generations. The faith teaches that survival leaves marks, and those marks are sacred.

Some theologians argue that the Rootfather was merely a man whose teachings became legend. Others insist he was something older—a spirit of endurance that has existed since the world's first winter.

The Iron Root has never declared either view heretical.

Personality and Tone

- * Practical and grounded.
- * Values preparation over optimism.
- * Respects hard work and perseverance.
- * Patient, steady, and dependable.

Core Beliefs

- * Survival is the foundation upon which all other virtues are built.
- * Hardship is inevitable; preparation is a responsibility.
- * Strength is earned through adversity, not granted through comfort.
- * Communities endure when individuals accept sacrifice for the whole.
- * Dependence creates weakness; resilience creates freedom.
- * Nature, fate, and circumstance are indifferent to suffering.
- * Those who endure become stronger.

Religious Practices

- * The First Store: A portion of every harvest is set aside before any feast or sale.
- * Rootbinding: Followers wear simple cords or bands representing duties and responsibilities they have accepted.
- * Winter Vigil: Communities gather before winter to inspect supplies, repair tools, and prepare for hardship.
- * The Trial Path: Young followers undertake a difficult journey or challenge to prove their resilience.

Prayers and Rituals

- * Cleric—All Base Lists
- * Druid —All Base Lists
- * Paladin—All Base Lists
- * Ranger—All Base Lists
- * Closed
 - * Calm Spirits
 - * Creations
 - * Locating Ways
 - * Lore
- * Open
 - * Barrier Law
 - * Detection Mastery
 - * Purifications
 - * Spell Defense

