

Runesmith 81

[Chapter 81 Tier 2 class](#)

The sounds of vomiting filled a closed-off room. In it, there were many smithing tools along with scribbles of runic patterns on the walls. This was Roland's workshop that he had hidden away in while going through his tier 2 ascension ritual. After it was over he found himself affected by the strain of going through those tests.

In the regular world, the use of a class-changing crystal was almost instantaneous. It didn't seem like more than a few seconds had passed. Reality was different though, the moment he was out his brain was jolted with new information.

It was like every stressful emotion from all that fighting and then skill learning was condensed into one moment. This caused Roland not only to chuck up his dinner into the bucket that he had previously gotten but also to pass out.

"Ughh..."

He woke up to a characteristic stench that he recalled from some of the parties he was in his previous life. The bucket he used had spilled and the whole place was a mess. His workshop was lit up thanks to his mana generator but he wasn't sure for how long he was out. The first thing that had to be done was to get a new change of clothes and then to clean this mess.

Roland decided to move upstairs, for now, he grasped the door and was surprised by how much lighter it felt. It was a reinforced steel door that he made to resist heavy impacts, it was also very heavy so that normal people wouldn't be able to open it alone. This already signaled him that he had made it through into the second tier.

Before checking his new status a change of clothes was in order but then he was quick to take a peek. To his surprise, there was quite the change in his stats.

Name :

Roland Arden L 76

Classes:

T2 Runesmith Lord L1 [Primary]

T1 Mage L25 [Secondary]

T1 Runic Mana Scribe L 25 [X]

T1 Runic Blacksmith L 25 [Tertiary]

HP

2405/2405

MP

7259/7259

SP

3276/3276

Strength

64

Agility

45

Dexterity

92

Vitality

64

Endurance

73

Intelligence

123

Willpower

112

Charisma

17

Luck

10

The Runesmith Lord class was now at the first level after he went through the trial. He remembered his old stat allocation and noticed that each of his stats went up by five points. This was with the exclusion of luck and charisma as those two acted on different rules.

Another interesting thing was that he was able to have two subclasses active instead of just one. His Blacksmith and Mage class passives were still working and boosting his mana and stamina reserves. Even with this, it didn't account for the massive increase in his MP,HP, and SP that he was seeing. After going through a few other status screens he figured why this was the case.

Runesmith Lord

Class

This class gives a 40% bonus to HP,MP,SP. Mana costs of using runes and rune related skills is lowered by 30%.

Tier 2 (Lord)

Trait

Adds a multiplier of 2 to all of the basic stats with the exception of luck and charisma.

First was his new class, it immensely increased all of his stat points like health, mana and stamina. He was also getting something similar to his rune mastery skill that lowered the mana cost for runes and rune related skills as well. So not only would he be able to cast more runic spells but the cost for runecrafting would be lowered.

The other thing was his tier 2 multiplier trait. It was also not a regular trait multiplier as normal classes had it all at a 1,5 times. This meant that he would outperform regular tier 2 class holders even with lower numbers on his side.

The points he got after reaching the first level of his Runesmith Lord class were also quite high. In previous cases something like this wasn't the case, did this mean that he would be getting that high of a number of stat points at each level?

Roland wasn't sure about that, from what he knew tier 2 classes did gain more of those points but not by this much. It could have just been some kind of bonus for reaching this tier, only when he reached the second level he would know for sure. There was also a change to most of his regular skills.

Identify L 9 -> Analyze L1 Basic Mana Shaping L 9 -> Mana Shaping L1 Basic Mana Regulation L 9 -> Mana Regulation L1 Basic Rune Mastery L 9 -> Rune Mastery L1 Basic Runecraft L 9 -> Runecraft L 1 Basic Runic Blacksmith's Eyes L 9 -> Runesmith Lord's Eyes L1...

'Most of them turned into more advanced skills...'

All of the skills that were at the ninth level had gone through a change. Each and every one of them was now at the first level of a more advanced version. Most of them just lost the 'basic' prefix but some turned into other skills. Like his identify skill was now the Analyze skill, his blacksmithing eyes made a change too. After going through that library of books in the trial he knew why.

Roland removed his dirty shirt and started to fill up his tub made from iron. He did finally manage to make himself that hot tub that he dreamed about. The mess downstairs would have to wait, taking a bath was the first thing he needed to do. While at it he grasped one of his old runic wands to test one of his new and improved skills.

His eyes started glowing in a deep purple color as he looked at the runic structures. With a bit of concentration, he was somehow able to zoom in on one of the components. Then he saw it, there was some strange code in there. It reminded him of the programming language from his old college days.

"Heh..."

A smirk appeared on his face as he tossed the piece of metal to the side. In that library, the focal point was this 'code'. In reality, it was something akin to a magic language that could be changed and turned to fit the user's preference. During the trial he learned some basics of it, with it he would now be able to change the insides of the runic components.

In the past, he had to be creative with the placement of the 'hardware' but now he would be able to change the 'software' to produce more unique effects. He might even be able to create more 'smart' kind of weapons or more universal ones while being able to reduce the size of the runic components. This might reduce the strain on the metallic components and give him some room to innovate.

Besides the improvement to his 'Runic Blacksmith Eyes', he had gained another useful skill.

Basic Rune Mending

Skill

Allows instantaneous repair of damaged runes

This skill might have seemed like it was just regular runecrafting and not much different than regular repairs that he was already able to do. But in reality, it was different, it would allow him to mend used up runes from his gear on the fly and without the use of a hammer.

The mana usage was quite high but with all his passives lowering it and his own large mana pool it would be quite handy. If any of his weapons ran out of runic charges he would be able to repair them in an instant. Thus one of his biggest weak points of running out of charges would be fixed with this one skill.

There was also another skill that he received which was heat resistance. This was a lesser form of the fire resistance skill and allowed him to somewhat cope with high temperatures. From what he knew, it would level up the longer he stayed in areas with high temperature and this skill could transform to the proper fire resistance later on. This would come in handy for the dungeon that was heating up at the lower levels.

It was time to not look at the system screens. He found himself dozing off in the hot tub that was heated by his runic generator. Now with his new skills and increased knowledge, he would have to go over the whole thing again. This was a challenge for another day as he found himself falling asleep in the tub and waking up a few hours later while almost drowning.

After a cleaning drive and sleeping, he was good to go. With this, he was now a proper member of society. In this world, before you reached the second tier you weren't considered a respected adult. He would also be able to get a silver adventurer grade now, of course after passing a little test and paying a 'small' fee.

The guild was laxer on the bronze and steel adventurers but from silver, they got involved more. This was the first larger bump in the road of an adventurer. When he advanced to steel grade he didn't really need to do much, it went up just by him continuing to kill monsters and doing missions. With the advancement to silver grade, the guild would now get involved.

'Wonder what kind of mission they will give me...'

Roland was now down in his workshop, he was still getting used to his increased strength and agility. His stats didn't look like they went up by much but with the two-time multiplier, he was twice as strong and fast. He was thinking about going to the guild, getting a better adventurer grade brought some advantages besides prestige. The biggest one being better prices when selling or buying items from the guild directly.

There was also another thing that he would like to do now. After being done with his advancement he needed fitting weapons and armor to go with it. His armor and weapons were made from good quality steel but that was it. It was time to move on from this and try something from the top shelf, he was going to produce his own deep steel weapon and armor.

He had procured some raw materials for this cause but there wasn't quite enough. It was time to go back to town, the new adventurer rank could wait. It wouldn't really lower the prices on the market for crafting materials. It would mostly aid him in selling mana stones and monster parts, or when buying items like health potions for the dungeon expeditions.

Roland grabbed his things and after locking up was on his way towards town while riding his runic bicycle. When he was close enough he just hopped off and placed it back into his spatial backpack. He needed something with an increased width to get the whole thing in. At the gate he saw some familiar faces, the guards knew him as someone that lived here so they didn't even look at his identification anymore.

A lot of things had changed in this town, for one thing, it was now called a city and the number of people had more than doubled. The houses that were being built and renovated when he arrived the first time were now all finished. The constructions stretched out further now as new people were coming and new buildings to house them were needed.

Roland was rarely seen in this city and now with a lot of people living here, he was just someone that blended into the crowd. There wasn't anyone that he had made a deeper connection with here. The ones that interacted with him were mostly merchants and vendors. The only thing resembling social interaction that he got here was bartering.

'Should I check out the usual store or go to the auction house...'

A big chunk of his money came from selling mana stones or rare monster parts but the most he made was from reselling runic items. Those were either all handcrafted by him or just premade items from other craftsmen or ones he found in dungeons. Roland mostly attached a mana stone to go with it as that was an easy way to boost the item's price immensely.

What type of mana stone came with the weapon and piece of equipment was also important. Putting a stone that boosted a person's intelligence on a heavy hammer that was meant for a warrior wouldn't go over well.

Roland mostly went with weapons, it was easy to attach one of the mana stones to the hilt. There were also no return policies here, so he wouldn't need to worry if he did a sloppy job. He was someone that understood how good branding brought the long term profits later on. With that in mind, his wares had a new logo that wouldn't associate him with his old scroll making days. This time around it was a blacksmith's hammer inserted into a sun. Which gave a similar feeling to the old logo but was different enough for others to not connect the two.

The fees and costs for the materials were higher than what they were at Edelgard. He could sell them at a higher price here though. With all the dungeon monsters parts selling well the adventurers had a lot of buying power. This caused everything to somewhat equal itself out and he was able to make a good living.

The brand name he was hoping to embed into the minds of his sellers wasn't quite there yet. Due to doing a lot of adventurer work along with the creation of his mana generator, there wasn't enough time to build other things. Even the armor that he was using for his own protection was just a high grade steel product that he bought instead of making it.

"Good day, did you bring some new enchanted items today?"

An older man called out to him, he was now at the auction house. He had been selling things on it since it opened on a semi-regular basis. Thanks to the items always having high or highest grade runes, they sold at a high price and the auction house could make quite the profit.

"Yes, today the master enchanted a couple of things..."

He took out a couple of daggers and steel swords from his spatial bag. He gave it to this man's assistant that started placing them in an orderly fashion on the table. This old man was this auction house's appraiser, they worked similar to the workers in Edalguard. He already made a name for himself so he didn't have to wait in line.

Even without him having to hide it, they took him for an apprentice blacksmith. No one would believe that a sixteen-year-old like him was a tier 2 Runesmith. This worked in his favor for multiple reasons and it also let him explain all the runic traps placed around his house to the masses.

"Here you go, the earnings for this month."

Roland nodded as he was handed a hefty sack of coins. He didn't need to look inside of it, with his mathematical skills he was able to tell how much gold and silver there was in there. It was quite the hefty sum but he was going to go buy some raw deep steel so this would probably not be enough to cover it all.

"Thank you, I'll see you next time. Anything, in particular, I should tell my master?"

Sometimes the auction house people would give him tips on what was selling well. Daggers and swords were one of the weapons that sold the most around here. Everyone liked to be either a rogue-like agility based class or a sword-wielding warrior.

"Nothing in particular but deep iron or mithril weapons are selling well since some gold adventurers came to town."

"We should be having some skill books related to runes, maybe the good master would be interested in that?"

He perked up at the mention of runic books. He still needed to gain some insider knowledge for smelting the magical metals that had mana stones as ingredients. It looked nice to have armor laced with shiny gems but if someone bashed them in then they would lose their effect.

There was a certain time where he tried to smelt some mana stones with small amounts of deep iron but the product didn't pan out. He would probably need a corresponding skill or some kind of golden ratio to get this working.

After a little chat about the city market he left. The auction employee always pestered him about making better items made from rarer quality materials. Now after classing up to a tier 2 Runesmith Lord he might actually be able to create such things.

The next stop would be another large store. This one was created for all the craftsmen in the city and held all of the resources that one might want. There were even shipments of mithril that could be gotten at a really high price that was still a bit above his pay grade.

Roland was now standing outside this building, in his head he was doing some math. He needed to consider how much money it would be necessary to spend. Even if he went over his budget a bit he could probably salvage the excess material in one way or another.

While walking past the door he found himself not paying attention. Due to this, he didn't notice a person walking out, the two bumped into each other. With these increased stats he didn't feel much of an impact but that wasn't the case for the person he walked into as he tumbled backward after giving out a rather silly yelp.

"Oh, sorry about that..."

He snapped out of it and looked down. He saw a youth that was about his age, maybe slightly older but it was hard to tell due to his unique facial features. From the first look the young man looked to be similar to a dwarf but after looking at his body you'd think otherwise. He was obviously larger and also slimmer than a dwarf which made him look like a mix between two races.

The other characteristic thing that he noticed was the comedically large backpack that he was wearing. It looked to be one of those enchanted ones where you could fit in many items in but there were even some tools hanging out from the many side pockets to boot.

"I'm sorry..."

The young man started apologizing while squirming on the ground. It looked like he had trouble standing up due to the weight of the backpack. Roland stood there without doing much for a moment before leaning down and grasping the young man by the shoulders and lifting him up. With his now increased strength, this was quite easy, it felt like he was lifting up a child even though his target was close to 170 cm of height.

After more apologizing, he was gone and out of the store. Roland just scratched his head and moved inside, it was time to spend quite a big sum of money on his new gear.

[Chapter 82 Runic Gauntlet](#)

A certain runic craftsman was speeding back home with a large backpack strapped to his back. He was sitting on his runic bicycle to which people that were going back from the Dungeon farming still weren't used to.

He had just gone through some of his savings to buy up crafting resources, most of them being from the top shelf and meant for people at the tier 2 classes. It wasn't that easy to procure everything he wanted in just one day. After going back and forth several times and waiting a few days he was finally ready to give his new crafting skills a try.

Roland didn't just sit on his hands through this time, while everything was being sorted out at the stores he was busy with his research. There was his new mending skill, he had tested its applications in combat.

It sounded really good at first, being able to repair runes on the fly was probably everyone's wet dream that owned a limited use runic weapon. There was one big drawback, it just used up a massive amount of mana. Even with all the skills that allowed him to lower the requirements for any runic skills it took out quite a chunk.

It would certainly not be possible to just continually use this skill. There was also another problem, the runic structure degraded with each time it was mended. Roland attributed this to the skills low level. He gave it a test and after two uses a rune that was rated at 'highest' degraded to 'high'.

There were some drawbacks but it would extend the uses of these runes during prolonged combat. While being a somewhat hybrid class like this Roland also intended to purchase any mana related skills that would boost his regeneration even further. The constant headaches he got when his mana ran low was something that he didn't want to have to put up with anymore.

Then there was the upgraded version of his Runic Blacksmith's Eyes that was the Runesmith Lord's Eyes. The previous version only let him see some imperfections during crafting thus allowing him to be able to avoid or fix them during the crafting process. Now on the other hand this skill had more features while also retaining all of the previous benefits.

The most interesting characteristic of this skill was allowing him to peek at the inside workings of the runes. To someone new, it would look like some chicken scratch of strange symbols and numbers but he could tell that it was very similar to a programming language. Previously he was only able to work on the 'hardware' now on the other hand he was able to fiddle around with the 'software'.

The strange symbols with time started making sense as they looked similar to computer code. With this skill active his runecrafting also evolved as he was able to alter this language. The biggest problem now was figuring out more of the commands that he would be able to use. His class change gave him some basics but most of it still remained to be checked.

For now, he was able to segregate this code into two sections. One was different and quite familiar to him as it was just magical language that a regular mana scribe would use for making magic scrolls. It looked like the runes also used this universal magic language in their structures but it was buried deep inside their software.

These spell structures were just regular basic spells. It wasn't hard to figure out which parts he could copy and paste to get an effect. For instance, he was able to replace a spell structure that was for an easy light spell with one with a different color. The rest of the runic components were the same so it activated without a problem.

Previously he would need to find a corresponding rune and exchange the whole large component. Now on the other hand, he would be able to fiddle around with the code and alter it. This was possible on an already created magical item.

He had a good idea how to use such a thing in combat. If he placed a flame sword rune on his sword he might be able to change its elemental characteristic to something else. Through some changes in the

coded spell, a flame sword could change into an ice sword. This would help him out tremendously against enemies with specific weaknesses.

If he ran into a monster that was resistant to fire he could just switch it to something else. It also didn't require that much hammering and mana force to change the code, which made this plausible yet not that probable. There were certain aspects during combat that would make concentrating on changing runes quite hard. Exchanging runic code could potentially ruin the whole item if it was done in an unfocused state.

There was an option to get around that though. This would be by including more code in the rune from the start. He would need to just give a jolt into the runic system of which code he wanted to use. It would be similar to old programs from his world with pre-programmed commands. If he learned the ins and outs of this magical programming language he might even be able to make a multi spell structure. Maybe he could switch between a massive array of spells while not having to cover his crafted items with so many runes.

While Roland's head was filled with future research and innovations he finally arrived at his house. The backpack he was wearing was a spatial item and he needed it to be larger to insert more crafting materials into it.

After getting inside he placed his bike into his shed that he then closed up. While being here himself he wasn't that worried if someone would try breaking in and stealing his stuff. Even less now after he crossed the tier 2 threshold. With the tier 2 boost that was above regular classes, he was already stronger than most adults in this world.

He made his way down into his workshop and started unpacking. Today he would be making a specific part of his armor, mainly the gauntlets. They would be made from a special monster leather glove that he would cover in deep steel. It wouldn't quite reach up to his elbow as the part that covered the arms was separate.

Roland considered just purchasing a set of completed deep steel armor but the costs were quite high. This material was mostly sold with completed generic enchantments or runic ones that increased the price even more. He tried asking around but all the smithies were busy with their own work.

He would need to wait months even up to half a year to get a fresh suit of armor with no enchantments on it. Then also contend with erasing all the old enchantments which would cause loss of materials.

By making his own stuff he would also increase the levels of his skills. It was also good to train skills, with them maxed out there was a possibility for other class options being unlocked to him. Sometimes even some hidden skills required a certain skill to be at a given level before it became available.

This was also what he would be doing for a week or two. A person without any smithing skills would need a lot longer but with skills and eyes that told him where to strike it would be much easier. Though they were just fresh level 1 skills at the moment, Roland didn't set his expectations too high.

This would be his very first combat armor that he would make and it would also probably be the worst one that he produced. The only good part about this was that he could fiddle around with the runic programming later without much damage to the prepared armor.

After pushing his reinforced door open with one hand he was now in his workshop. To the side was a board with a diagram of his new armor. It wasn't anything special just regular looking plate mail armor that would need an arming jacket to go with it.

This type of armor would require a lot of belts and straps to attach to his legs. It would also have some unarmored spots behind him but he was mostly looking to protect his front side. He already dreaded the thought of putting it on and off by himself but he didn't really have a working design for anything else. Maybe in the future, he could use some kind of magnet design where the armor parts would connect to each other by magical means.

It was finally time to get to work. Roland started taking out all the parts that he would need for his gauntlet design. Most of it consisted of thinner blocks of metal akin to sheet metal but slightly thicker. With the correct design in place, he would just need to cut it into the correct shapes and then attach it to the monster leather glove.

Something like this could be bought for cheap. There were many armor designs in this world that already had gone through a lot of changes. Each blacksmith always gave their own a slightly different design but in the end, it was mostly the same type of armor. Roland was planning to go with a flame design for his, it would go well with the crimson color that he liked to use.

After placing all the raw resources on the table he started grabbing the tools that he would be requiring. Some heating up in his runic forge would be required even with the thinner metal pieces. Deep steel was a lot harder to work with than regular steel and a lot more resistant. Without heating it up in magical flames to soften it up, it would be quite a difficult task.

The mana added a few strange qualities to the metals in this world, thus some old crafting methods went out of the window. Luckily he had a few modernized tools already prepared, punching holes was now a thing of the past as he built himself a nice drill.

Making the drill bits was a bit tedious and he also had to make some from deep iron and steel. The old slave collars helped with that part as he had melted them down to recycle them as some of his current tools. His new crafting hammer was also made from them.

Crafting the runes on this piece of armor would come last. It was slightly easier as the metal could be heated up without it being damaged even after it was hammered into shape.

After having prepared everything it was time to get to work. He put on his blacksmithing apron that he got cheaply off the market along with his protective goggles. Thanks to his smithing eyes he wouldn't need to draw out the shapes on the metal during the cutting process. This skill somehow allowed him to see the diagram that he was currently working on and be able to follow it.

This time around he wouldn't need any heavy-duty scissors or chisels to cut up the metal. He had a somewhat modern saw already prepared. It didn't look like much at first glance as it was a thicker piece of metal with a side circular saw connected to it. It had a wire at the end that connected to his generator room.

After giving it a little jolt with his own mana the runic circular saw activated without a problem. This model looked similar to its modern counterpart but it lacked any buttons. It also had a blade guard made from metal that protected his fingers from being sliced off.

The piece of thinner metal that was heated up in the forge was placed in a vice. Following this Roland started cutting into it to get the proper shape that was needed for the gauntlet finger parts. Soon many small pieces of cut deep steel were being placed on a side workbench.

Before working on them more they would need polishing. Even with the modern saw, there were sharp edges left here and there that needed to be smoothed out. For this, he could use his grindstone that had also been connected to his generator. He was already ahead with his work by not needing mana on these runic power tools.

The next step was bending the pieces that would be later fitted onto the fingers of his gauntlet. For this he needed a metal bending jig, this consisted of a pipe that was cut in half and another one that would be pushed down into it. Roland needed to place the metal cutouts into this bending jig and press them down with the other pipe to bend.

Before doing this he also needed to heat them up as deep steel wouldn't be that easy to get into shape. If something was out of shape, he would use his ball-peen hammer. The round side of the hammer could also make spherical shapes and could be used instead of the bending jig.

This was quite a lengthy process as there were ten fingers that he needed to fill. With now being independent there was no rush though, he could spend as much time as he needed. Without having to rush to level up now he could take it slow. The next class change could be taken in another 24 levels when he hit level 100. There was also an option to max out this class to level 50 before that, which he would probably be doing as it was some kind of rarity.

With more time passing he was finally done with all the small pieces, now came the drilling part. Previously he would have to punch holes through the pieces via his hammer but now he had a working drill. With it, the holes were more even and they wouldn't bend the smaller metal pieces during a badly placed hit.

Now came the riveting part of the construction. He took out one of the prepared leather strips from the side and placed one of the metal pieces on it. What he needed to do here is connect all the parts that would be the fingers together on this leather strip. This was done by punching holes through the leather strip and the previously cut out holes. When finished the gauntlet would have a somewhat scale patten.

What he now had was something that looked like an armored finger. This he would then place on the leather glove and attach it by rivets as well. He just had to connect it by the holes that were on the fingertip and the end of it. After connecting all of those he would have something that already started resembling a metal gauntlet.

Once the finger and thumb pieces were done, it was time for the last phase, the hand. With his diagram, he still had to shape seven plates of metal for the hand part and also for the vambrace. This would also require a lot of bending and riveting.

On the end of the vambrace, he would rivet in a flame design. On it, there would be premade sockets for his mana stones to go in. They would be both wedged in by force and also glued in by the special alchemist glue that would keep them in place.

This took quite a bit of time and was also a good learning experience for someone that mostly made weapons instead of armor. In the end, he had one of the gauntlets ready for some runecrafting. His

whole armor set would have fire resistance put on it as a priority. He knew that below the 10th floor there was a somewhat volcanic section. This with some chilling runes on some parts would help him last through the heat. Even though he had heat resistance now, having more wouldn't hurt.

Roland placed the half-finished gauntlet to the side. It had taken him a whole day to get here and there was still some work left. He was certain that the left gauntlet would take him a lot less time. The lack of skill progress during this proved that it was a lot harder to level up those tier 2 skills.

After pushing the door open he headed over to the kitchen. There, a pot with water was waiting for heating up. His stove was also running on heating runes so he was saving a lot of money on resources like coal and wood.

While resting he looked outside his window, the moons were already up in the sky. It was one of those times where old memories flooded back. He had been living in this world for over ten years now. The cult that could potentially be after him still lingered in the back of his mind, this along with the strange events concerning the soldier that almost killed him when he was ten.

'I wonder what those three are doing...'

He thought back to his first adventurer party that were the first people that were actually nice to him. About five years had passed since then. Their time together was quite short all things considered, so he wasn't sure if they even remembered him.

'I wonder if they really think that I died...'

Now he thought back to the old Arden estate. He didn't really feel like a member of that family, the child's body that he was inhabiting had some sentiments towards it though. These had slowly been going away with time though now it felt like a dream that had long past.

"Think I should take a bath and go to bed, I'll work on the armor tomorrow."

He tossed all these old thoughts back where they were before. It wasn't the time to think about old things that had already passed. It was time to move forward, getting this tier 2 class was only the beginning...