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Readme:
Animal Companions -
for all Ranger (and Druid) Characters
for ToB, BGT, TuTu, BG1EE, SoD, BG2EE, EET

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1. Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the Animal Companions Mod.
This mod aims to give Rangers (and possibly Druids, should you choose so) some unique flavor by allowing them to befriend a permanent animal companion.

2. Overview

With this mod, all ranger/druid characters will gain the 'Find Animal Companion' ability at level 1. (Note: Even though your character will gain the ability at level 1, you still need to get to level 3 in order to actually have success in finding an animal companion.)

Upon using your 'Find Animal Companion' ability, you will be able to pick an animal companion from a list of available animals in your current area. (If there is no animal to your liking in a given area, you can of course try it again in another area.)

Once you've picked your new animal friend, it will follow you around on your adventures and even increase in power as you do.

3. Animal Companions.

3.1 General:

In total, there are nine different animal companions to choose from.

While each of them has their own stats and unique abilities, all of them share a few common characteristics.

From a technical point of view, all animal companions are familiars (just like the familiars available to mages, sorcerers and beastmasters). However, there are also some major differences between those familiars and animal companions.

3.1.1 Power-Ups:

Animal companions don't gain experience like normal characters do and therefore do not gain levels either. They do however gain certain stat boosts which are directly linked to their master's (the main character's) experience.

The downside of this is that each time the animal companion gains a power-up your main character will lose a little bit of his/her experience. The lost experience symbolizes the animal companion's 'share' which it would get if it was a 'normal' non-player character.

This is also the only penalty your character has to take in return for an otherwise 'free' animal companion.

All animal companions will gain a stat boost once your character reaches these experience values:

Experience	50.000	450.000	1.350.000	2.250.000	3.150.000	4.050.000	4.950.000	7.650.000
Player Level*	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	33
Exp. lost**	5.000	45.000	135.000	150.000	150.000	150.000	150.000	150.000

(***Please note:** The stated player levels are only accurate for ranger characters, druid levels may differ.)

(****Important! Please note:** You will never have to take more than one experience penalty at once. E.g.: If you start a new ToB game, your animal companion will get four power-ups in a row but your character would only lose 150.000 experience (for the last power-up) in total.)

3.1.2 Death:

Just like most other creatures on Faerûn animal companions can die.

However, not all is lost if your animal companion gets slain in combat. Like a non-player character a slain animal companion may get resurrected, even though it doesn't work exactly the same as for other characters.

To Resurrect your animal companion, an appropriate spell (Raise Dead, Resurrection, Mass Raise Dead, Bhaalpower-Resurrection) or item (Scroll of Raise Dead, Rod of Resurrection, ...) needs to be used on the dead animal companion's corpse.

(This means, you can not have your animal companion resurrected at a temple or resurrect it yourself in another area than the one it died in.)

3.1.3 Animal Companion AI:

All animal companions come with a very basic A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) which you can turn on and off via dialogue options.

You can choose between three options:

(**Note:** Obviously, the in-game dialogue options look different than this, but shouldn't be too hard to figure out.)

1. Full A.I. (Combat and none combat behavior.)
2. Only Combat A.I. (Animal won't do anything on it's own while out of combat.)
3. No A.I. (Animal won't do anything on it's own.)

In none combat situations all animal companions will try to stay within a certain range of the player character. Stealth focused pets (*panther, groundhog, rabbit*) will also try to hide themselves.

In combat situations combat based animals (*all but groundhog and rabbit*) will attack the nearest enemy as long as the player's health stays above 30%.

If the main character's health drops below 30% the animal companion will try to aid the player by attacking the player's last attacker.

None combat oriented animals (*groundhog, rabbit*) will simply try to run away from any enemy and hide themselves.

3.2 Details:

(Animal companion stat charts:)

Note: All animal companions regenerate 2hp/round [1 round = 6 sec].

Animal:	 Bear	 Wolf	 Panther
STR:	18	16	16
DEX:	10	14	14
CON:	18	15	14
HP:	60	41	38
AC:	8	8	8
THACO:	18	18	18
SAVE (vs. All):	18	18	18
Attacks p. Round:	0,5	1,5	1,5
Damage:	2d6 Crushing	1d4 Piercing	1d4 Slashing
Special Damage:	none	none	none
Special Ability:	Phys. Resist 20%	Defensive Howl**	Backstab x3
Stealth:	none	none	60
Natural Habitat:	Wilderness	Wilderness	Wilderness
Per Power-Up:	+24 HP	+ 21 HP	+ 18 HP
Per Power-Up:	+1 AC	+1 AC	+1 AC
Per Power-Up:	+2 THACO	+2 THACO	+2 THACO
Per Power-Up::	+1 Save v. All	+1 Save v. All	+1 Save v. All
Per Power-Up:	none	none	+ 10 Stealth

Animal:		Leopard		Dog		Spider
STR:		16		12		12
DEX:		14		13		14
CON:		14		13		12
HP:		38		38		38
AC:		8		8		8
THACO:		18		16		18
SAVE (vs. All):		18		18		18
Attacks p. Round:		2		1,5		1,5
Damage:		1d4 Slashing		1d3 Piercing		1d3 Piercing
Special Damage:		none		none		none
Special Ability:		Backstab x2		Hamstring Biting*		Web*****
Stealth:		40		none		none
Natural Habitat:		Wilderness		Wilderness / City		Wilderness / Dungeon
Per Power-Up:		+ 18 HP		+ 18 HP		+ 18 HP
Per Power-Up:		+1 AC		+1 AC		+1 AC
Per Power-Up:		+2 THACO		+2 THACO		+2 THACO
Per Power-Up::		+1 Save v. All		+1 Save v. All		+1 Save v. All
Per Power-Up:		+ 10 Stealth		none		none
Animal:		Wyvern		Groundhog		Rabbit
STR:		10		6		6
DEX:		14		17		17
CON:		12		10		10
HP:		38		26		26
AC:		8		5		5
THACO:		18		20		20
SAVE (vs. All):		18		16		16
Attacks p. Round:		1		1		1
Damage:		1d3 Piercing		1 None-Lethal		1 None-Lethal
Special Damage:		6 Poison over 6s (S.vs.P)		none		none
Special Ability:		Poison Resist 100%		Alertness***		Zigzag****
Stealth:		none		60		60
Natural Habitat:		Wilderness		Wilderness		Wilderness
Per Power-Up:		+ 18 HP		+ 12 HP		+ 12 HP
Per Power-Up:		+1 AC		+1 AC		+1 AC
Per Power-Up:		+2 THACO		+2 THACO		+2 THACO
Per Power-Up::		+1 Save v. All		+1 Save v. All		+1 Save v. All
Per Power-Up:		none		+ 10 Stealth		+ 10 Stealth

Special Abilities:

*Hamstring Biting (Dog):

Once activated the dog will try to bit its opponent's hamstring.
For the next two rounds, every successful melee hit will reduce the opponent's movement speed by 50% for two rounds. (No save allowed.)

**Defensive Howl (Wolf):

The wolf howls to rally up the defense and awareness of all party members.
Every party member within 10 yards will gain +2 AC for 5 rounds.

***Alertness (Groundhog):

Once activated the groundhog will focus all of its attention on watching out for surprise attacks and utter warning sounds whenever a party member is about to get attacked.
During the one round watch all party members are immune to backstabbing.

****Zigzag (Rabbit):

Once activated the rabbit will circle around a target in a very fast zigzag course. If the target fails a save vs. breath weapons it will be confused for two rounds.

*****Web (Spider):

On use the spider will try to trap a target in its web. If the target fails a -2 save vs. paralyze it will be trapped in the spider's web, rendered completely helpless for one round.

4. Installation

4.1 Requirements:

- **BG2** including **ToB** with the **latest official patch** (SoA only install might work, but has not been tested yet.) **OR BG1EE, SoD, BG2EE, EET**

4.2 Compatibility:

The 'Animal Companions' main component *should be* (as in: *I really hope it is ☺*) compatible with pretty much all other WeiDU mods out there.
(If you run into any compatibility issues, please contact me via the [Spellhold Studios](#).)

The optional component to allow animal companions to be resurrected by the Rod of Resurrection, will override any changes other mods might previously have made to the Rod of Resurrection.

4.3 Installation:

- I. Extract the 'AnimalCompanions_v1.5.7z' file into your main folder and make sure that both, the 'Setup-AnimalCompanions.exe' and the 'AnimalCompanions' folder, are indeed in your main folder.
- II. Run (double click on) "Setup-AnimalCompanions.exe".
- III. Choose whether you want druid characters to get animal companions too, or not.
- IV. Enter a name for your future animal companion. (**Note:** Case sensitivity!)

5. Many Thanks to:

(In no particular order)

- Alessandro Nosenzo for the Italian translation
- [Aedan](#) for proofreading the Italian translation
- [Cahir](#) for the Polish translation.
- [Gwendolyne](#) for the French translation.
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- [CamDawg](#) for all the inspiration I've gotten from looking at the [Divine Remix](#) code.
- [The Spellhold Studios](#), it's forum community and the people that keep it up and running.
- [Fauxpress](#) of [freesound.org](#) for a whistling sound. (Which I took from Kwiat W's Pack Mule Mod.)
- [Atari](#) for their Panther and Leopard NWN portraits, which I used in this mod.
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 - [Wincey](#) (wolf)
 - [Easydreams](#) (rabbit)
 - [Melyssah6-Stock](#) (groundhog)
 - [slime-stock](#) (dog)
- The makers and maintainers of:
 - [WeiDU](#): Westley Weimer & [Valerio Bigiani \(The Bigg\)](#)
 - [NearInfinity](#): Jon Olav Hauglid
 - [Infinity Animations](#): [Erephine](#) & [Miloch](#)
 - [TobEx](#): [Ascension64](#)
 - all the other awesome BG2 mods

6. **Known Bugs:**

None so far.

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A.: No, once you've chosen your animal companion, there is no way to swap it for another one in the same game.

A.: You could simply send your animal companion away (via the dialogue option) and not call it back again, ever.

A.: Sadly, no. If you want to change the name of your animal companion you will have to re-install the whole mod.

v0.1

Initial alpha release.

(The Rod doesn't get overwritten anymore, but is patched instead.)

Thanks to Argent77.

Fixed a terrible bug that would cause any priest spell (cast by the player) to resurrect the animal companion. (Sorry for that, everything should work now, expect that animal companions can no longer be resurrected via the 'Wish' spell's resurrection.

Fixed an issue that would cause the animal companion's corpse to have a moving shadow.

Notes

Added support for TuTu.

Added support for the Enhanced Editions.

Fixed a bug that caused animals to “appear busy” when initiation a dialogue.

v1.1

Updated WeiDu to latest version.
Added French translation by Gwendolyne

v1.2

Added Polish translation by Cahir

v1.3

Added passive life regeneration to animal companions
Buffed various animal companions' stats:
Increased base HP by 20 (40 bear)
Increased base stealth to 60 (40 leopard)

v1.4

Added Italian translation by Alessandro Nosenzo & Aedan

v1.5

Fixed a bug that would not grant 'Find Animal Companion' ability to multiclass characters.