

# total war three kingdoms guide

**Total War Three Kingdoms Guide** offers a comprehensive overview of one of the most engaging strategy games available in the Total War franchise. Set in the tumultuous period of ancient China, this game combines real-time tactics with turn-based strategy, allowing players to engage in epic battles and deep diplomatic maneuvers. Whether you are a new player seeking to understand the basics or a seasoned strategist aiming to refine your skills, this guide will provide you with essential tips, strategies, and insights to conquer your foes and unite the Three Kingdoms.

## Understanding the Basics of Total War: Three Kingdoms

Before diving into advanced strategies, it's important to grasp the fundamentals of Total War: Three Kingdoms. The game features two main components: the campaign map and real-time battles.

### The Campaign Map

The campaign map is where players manage their empire. Here, you will:

- Recruit and manage armies: Establish a strong military presence.
- Build and upgrade settlements: Enhance your cities for better resources and defense.
- Engage in diplomacy: Form alliances or wage wars against other factions.
- Manage resources: Ensure your economy supports your military and other endeavors.

### Real-Time Battles

When engaging in battles, players command their troops in real-time. Key elements to remember include:

- Flanking and positioning: Use terrain to your advantage and surround your enemies.
- Unit types: Different units have strengths and weaknesses; understanding these will help you deploy them effectively.
- Morale: Keep your troops' morale high to ensure they fight effectively.

### Choosing Your Faction Wisely

One of the first critical decisions you'll make in Total War: Three Kingdoms is selecting your faction. Each faction has unique abilities, units, and playstyles.

## Popular Factions to Consider

1. Cao Cao: Known for his balanced approach, Cao Cao excels in both diplomacy and military might.
2. Sun Jian: Focused on swift military campaigns, Sun Jian is perfect for aggressive players.
3. Liu Bei: A character-driven faction with strong morale bonuses, appealing to players who value hero units.
4. Dong Zhuo: Offers a more tyrannical playstyle, effective for those who prefer brute force.

## Understanding Faction Mechanics

Each faction has unique mechanics that can greatly influence your strategy. For example:

- Cao Cao's "Ambush" ability: This allows you to strike enemies unexpectedly, gaining a tactical advantage in battles.
- Liu Bei's "Heroism": Boosts the morale and effectiveness of your troops, making them more resilient in combat.

## Mastering Diplomacy

In Total War: Three Kingdoms, diplomacy can be as powerful as military might. Understanding how to navigate relationships with other factions can lead to alliances, trade agreements, or even betrayals.

## Diplomatic Options

- Trade Agreements: Boost your economy by trading resources.
- Military Alliances: Strengthen your position against common enemies.
- Non-Aggression Pacts: Secure temporary peace while you consolidate your power.

## Strategies for Successful Diplomacy

- Manage Relationships: Regularly check your diplomatic standing with other factions to avoid surprises.
- Use Gifts: Offering gifts can improve relations and open up new diplomatic possibilities.
- Pay Attention to the Bigger Picture: Sometimes, siding with a weaker faction can lead to advantageous positions later.

## Building Your Army

Army composition is crucial in Total War: Three Kingdoms. A well-balanced army can make the difference between victory and defeat.

## Unit Types and Their Roles

- Infantry: The backbone of your army, used for frontline engagements.
- Cavalry: Effective for flanking maneuvers and quick strikes.
- Archers: Provide ranged support and can target enemy units from a distance.
- Siege Weapons: Essential for taking down fortified positions.

## Army Composition Tips

- Balance Your Forces: A good mix of unit types will help you adapt to various situations.
- Specialize for Your Faction: Some factions have unique units; leverage these to create a powerful army.
- Consider the Terrain: Tailor your army composition to the terrain you will be fighting in.

## Effective Strategies for Battle

Once you've built your army, the next step is to engage in battle. Here are some strategies to help you dominate the battlefield.

### Pre-Battle Preparation

- Scout the Enemy: Knowing your opponent's composition allows you to plan accordingly.
- Positioning: Set your troops up strategically before the battle begins.

### Battle Tactics

- Use Terrain to Your Advantage: High ground offers a significant advantage.
- Flanking Maneuvers: Surrounding the enemy can break their morale and lead to a quick victory.
- Focus Fire: Concentrate your ranged units on key enemy targets to weaken their forces.

## Managing Your Economy

A strong economy is vital for funding your military campaigns. Here are some tips for economic management in Total War: Three Kingdoms.

### Resource Management

- Gathering Resources: Focus on capturing resource-rich areas early in the game.
- Trading: Establish trade routes with other factions to increase your

income.

## **Building Infrastructure**

- Upgrade Settlements: Invest in buildings that boost your economy and military capabilities.
- Research Technologies: Prioritize technologies that enhance your economic output.

## **Tips for Long-Term Success**

To ensure you remain dominant throughout your campaign in Total War: Three Kingdoms, consider the following long-term strategies:

- Adapt Your Strategy: As the game progresses, be willing to change your tactics based on the evolving political landscape.
- Monitor Your Reputation: Your actions will affect how other factions view you. Maintain a good reputation to foster alliances.
- Plan for the Endgame: As you approach the end of your campaign, start planning for the final conflicts and how to secure your victory.

## **Conclusion**

With the right strategies and an understanding of the game mechanics, Total War: Three Kingdoms can provide an enriching and immersive experience. This guide serves as a starting point for both new and experienced players. Embrace the complexities of diplomacy, master the art of battle, and build a powerful empire that will stand the test of time in the annals of Chinese history. By following these tips and strategies, you will be well on your way to unifying the Three Kingdoms and securing your place in history.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the best factions to play in Total War: Three Kingdoms for beginners?**

For beginners, the best factions to play are Liu Bei and Cao Cao. Liu Bei offers a more straightforward gameplay experience with strong diplomatic options, while Cao Cao provides a balanced approach with powerful cavalry units.

### **How do I manage public order effectively in Total War: Three Kingdoms?**

To manage public order effectively, ensure that you maintain a balance between taxation and happiness. Build structures that increase public order, and assign governors to provinces to help stabilize regions. Pay attention to food supply as well, as shortages can negatively impact public order.

## **What are the key differences between the Romance and Records modes in Total War: Three Kingdoms?**

In Romance mode, characters possess superhuman abilities and can perform incredible feats in battle, while Records mode emphasizes a more realistic approach where characters have standard stats and abilities. Choose Romance for epic battles and Records for a more grounded experience.

## **What strategies can I use to win battles in Total War: Three Kingdoms?**

Use terrain to your advantage by positioning your units on high ground and flanking enemy forces. Make use of ranged units to weaken enemies before engaging in melee. Additionally, coordinating your generals' abilities and using formations can significantly enhance your battle effectiveness.

## **How can I effectively recruit and manage generals in Total War: Three Kingdoms?**

To recruit and manage generals effectively, prioritize characters with high loyalty and attributes that complement your playstyle. Develop their skills through battles and assign them to armies that match their strengths. Keep an eye on their relationships with other generals to prevent betrayal.

## **What are the most effective ways to expand my territory in Total War: Three Kingdoms?**

To expand your territory, focus on securing key settlements that provide resources and strategic advantages. Use diplomacy to form alliances and non-aggression pacts, but be prepared for betrayals. Additionally, consider using espionage to weaken rival factions before attacking.

## **How do I utilize trade effectively in Total War: Three Kingdoms?**

To utilize trade effectively, establish trade agreements with multiple factions to create a steady flow of income. Focus on trading valuable resources and maintaining good diplomatic relations to ensure trade routes remain open. Monitor your trade partners for potential conflicts.

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