

dragon age inquisition dialogue choices guide

Dragon Age: Inquisition Dialogue Choices Guide: Mastering Your Story

Navigating the intricate narrative of Dragon Age: Inquisition hinges on the crucial dialogue choices you make. Your decisions shape your relationships with companions, influence the political landscape of Thedas, and ultimately determine the fate of the Inquisition. This comprehensive Dragon Age: Inquisition dialogue choices guide will delve into the mechanics of making impactful choices, understanding their consequences, and maximizing your influence. We'll explore how to build rapport with your companions, navigate complex political situations, and unlock unique story paths. Whether you're a seasoned Dragon Age veteran or a newcomer to the series, mastering the dialogue system is key to experiencing the full depth of this epic RPG. Prepare to make your mark on Thedas, one conversation at a time.

- Understanding Dialogue Mechanics
- Companion Approval and Romance
- Political Influence and War Table Decisions
- Key Story Branching Dialogue Choices
- The Impact of Tone and Intent
- Maximizing Replayability

Understanding Dragon Age: Inquisition Dialogue Mechanics

The dialogue system in Dragon Age: Inquisition is a cornerstone of its immersive storytelling. Unlike previous entries where choices might be presented as discrete paragraphs, Inquisition refines this with a radial menu, offering distinct tones and intentions behind your character's words.

Understanding how these choices are presented and what they signify is the first step to mastering your interactions.

The Radial Dialogue Wheel Explained

The iconic radial dialogue wheel allows players to quickly select their character's response. Each segment of the wheel typically represents a different approach: diplomatic, aggressive, sarcastic, or inquisitive. However, the visual representation is often more about the intent rather than the exact

wording. A benevolent-looking icon might lead to a surprisingly stern statement if that's what the situation demands, and vice-versa. Paying attention to the subtle cues within the dialogue itself, as well as the character portraits and current context, is crucial.

Recognizing Tone Indicators

While the radial menu offers a streamlined experience, it can sometimes obscure the precise nuance of a choice. Fortunately, the game provides subtle visual and auditory cues. A character's facial expression during a dialogue option, the tone of their voiceover, and even the accompanying music can hint at the potential outcome. Learning to read these indicators will help you avoid unintended consequences and ensure your Inquisitor's personality remains consistent, or intentionally shifts, as you desire.

The Importance of "No Dialogue Option"

Occasionally, you'll encounter situations where no dialogue option is presented. This is often a deliberate design choice by BioWare, indicating that your character is expected to remain silent, observe, or that the current situation doesn't require verbal intervention. In these instances, absorbing the unfolding events and character reactions is your primary interaction. Forcing a dialogue option where none exists is not possible and can detract from the immersion.

Companion Approval and Romance in Dragon Age: Inquisition

Your companions are more than just combat allies; they are individuals with their own beliefs, desires, and histories. The dialogue choices you make directly impact their approval of you, which in turn affects their loyalty, combat effectiveness, and the availability of personal quests and romance options. Building strong relationships requires careful consideration of their personalities and values.

How Dialogue Affects Companion Approval

Every conversation presents an opportunity to gain or lose approval with your companions. Generally, agreeing with a companion's worldview, supporting their personal quests, and demonstrating empathy will increase their approval. Conversely, contradicting their core beliefs, dismissing their concerns, or acting against their moral compass will lead to disapproval. Pay attention to their reactions: a warm smile or a nod indicates positive sentiment, while a frown or a curt dismissal signifies displeasure.

Romance Options and Dialogue

Romancing a companion in Dragon Age: Inquisition is a significant undertaking that requires consistent positive interactions and specific dialogue choices. Each potential romantic interest has a unique set of triggers and preferences. Generally, showing interest, being supportive, and engaging in flirtatious dialogue (when available) are key. However, it's important to remember that these characters have their own boundaries and personal histories, so genuine connection is often more important than simply selecting the "flirt" option repeatedly.

Specific Companion Romance Dialogue Tips

- **Cassandra Pentaghast:** Often responds well to earnestness, chivalry, and a strong sense of justice. Avoid overly cynical or dismissive remarks.
- **Cullen Rutherford:** Appreciates sincerity, dedication to the Inquisition, and understanding of his burdens. He can be hesitant, so patience is key.
- **Josephine Montilyet:** Values diplomacy, tact, and a genuine interest in her work. She appreciates a partner who can navigate the complexities of courtly life.
- **Iron Bull:** Responds to boldness, confidence, and a willingness to embrace pleasure and passion. He's straightforward, so directness is often best.
- **Dorian Pavus:** Appreciates wit, intelligence, and a healthy dose of skepticism. He also values loyalty and can be sensitive about his family history.
- **Sera:** Prefers actions over words, and often responds positively to playful banter, mischief, and a disregard for authority or tradition.
- **Solas:** Values intellectual curiosity, a deep understanding of elven history and culture, and a respect for nature. He is enigmatic, so patient observation is crucial.
- **Blackwall:** Responds to honesty, integrity, and a strong sense of duty. He can be guarded, so building trust is paramount.

Remember that even with the best intentions, some companions may not be romancable, or may have their own strict moral codes that you cannot compromise. Always check their approval levels and their reactions to your choices to gauge your progress.

The Consequences of Disapproval

Low approval ratings can have tangible in-game consequences. Disapproved companions may refuse to accompany you on certain missions, offer less useful advice, and in extreme cases, can even leave the Inquisition altogether. High approval, on the other hand, can unlock powerful companion abilities,

provide valuable story insights, and lead to more favorable outcomes in personal quests.

Political Influence and War Table Decisions

Your dialogue choices extend beyond personal relationships and directly impact your ability to lead the Inquisition and navigate the treacherous political landscape of Thedas. The War Table is a central hub for strategic decisions, and the way you converse with advisors and faction representatives can significantly influence these outcomes.

Advisors and Their Agendas

Leliana, Cullen, and Josephine are your key advisors, each with their own expertise and priorities. Your conversations with them are crucial for understanding the ramifications of various political and military decisions. When making choices that involve their advice, consider their individual perspectives. For instance, a choice that Lyra might see as a strategic victory could be viewed as morally questionable by Cullen, and vice versa. Understanding their motivations allows you to make more informed decisions.

War Table Mission Dialogue

When initiating or completing War Table missions, you'll often have opportunities to influence the outcome through dialogue with your advisors or by making specific choices that align with certain factions. For example, deciding whether to send spies or soldiers for a particular operation, or how to handle a diplomatic envoy, can have ripple effects on your standing with different groups like the Mages, the Templars, or even the Orlesian court.

The Impact of Inquisitor's Tone on Factions

Your Inquisitor's overall demeanor can also affect how various factions perceive the Inquisition. Being consistently diplomatic might earn you allies, while being overly aggressive could alienate potential supporters. Dialogue choices made during negotiations with leaders of the Mages' Circle or the various Templar orders are particularly impactful in shaping the ongoing war effort and the future of these organizations.

Key Story Branching Dialogue Choices

Dragon Age: Inquisition features several pivotal moments where your dialogue choices lead to significant story branches, altering the narrative path and the ultimate fate of the world. Recognizing and understanding these critical junctures is vital for experiencing the full scope of the game's

narrative possibilities.

The Fate of the Mages and Templars

One of the most impactful early story decisions involves how you choose to deal with the conflict between the Mages and the Templars. Your dialogue during negotiations, your alliances, and your actions in specific quests will determine which faction, if any, becomes a primary ally or enemy of the Inquisition. These choices have far-reaching consequences for the political stability of Thedas and unlock different questlines and companion interactions.

The Orlesian Civil War and Empress Celene

Your involvement in the Orlesian civil war presents another major branching point. Dialogue choices made during diplomatic meetings, while interacting with key Orlesian figures like Briala, Gaspard, and seemingly benevolent advisors, can shift the balance of power and influence who ultimately sits on the Orlesian throne. These decisions can have significant repercussions for the Inquisition's resources and political standing.

The Elven Lore and Solas's Secrets

As you delve deeper into the lore of the ancient elves and uncover Solas's true motivations, your dialogue choices become even more critical. Certain conversations, particularly those with Solas himself or when discussing ancient elven artifacts, can reveal hidden truths or further alienate him, leading to vastly different endgame scenarios. These choices are often tied to your understanding and interpretation of elven history.

Major Questline Decisions

Beyond these overarching branches, numerous smaller questlines also feature dialogue choices with significant consequences. For example, how you handle the internal politics of Ferelden or the Free Marches, the fate of specific towns or individuals you encounter, or your approach to rogue apostates and templars can all shape the narrative in unique ways. Always consider the immediate and potential long-term impacts of your words.

The Impact of Tone and Intent

It's not just what you say in Dragon Age: Inquisition, but how you say it that matters. The underlying tone and intent behind your dialogue choices can subtly, or not so subtly, alter how characters perceive you and how situations unfold.

Benevolent vs. Pragmatic Choices

Many dialogue options fall along a spectrum from purely benevolent to strictly pragmatic. Choosing the benevolent path often involves empathy, mercy, and a desire to do what is right, even if it's difficult. Pragmatic choices, on the other hand, prioritize efficiency, results, and what is best for the Inquisition's immediate goals, even if it means making morally ambiguous decisions. Your Inquisitor's consistent alignment with one of these tones can foster specific relationships and unlock unique narrative opportunities.

Sarcasm and Aggression

The game also allows for more aggressive or sarcastic dialogue options. While these can sometimes be amusing or provide a cathartic release, they often come with a cost to companion approval or can escalate tensions with certain NPCs. Using these options sparingly and strategically can add personality to your Inquisitor, but overuse can lead to alienation and negative consequences.

The "Hard Answer" Option

A particularly impactful type of dialogue choice is the "hard answer" option, often represented by a stern or decisive-looking icon. These choices typically involve taking a firm stance, making a difficult declaration, or delivering an unpleasant truth. While they can sometimes lead to disapproval, they are often necessary for asserting leadership and making significant progress in challenging situations.

Maximizing Replayability with Dialogue Choices

Dragon Age: Inquisition is designed for replayability, and your dialogue choices are a primary driver of this. By experimenting with different approaches and decision-making pathways, you can experience vastly different versions of the story and uncover content you may have missed on previous playthroughs.

Exploring Different Companion Relationships

The most obvious way to increase replayability is to focus on building different relationships with your companions. Trying to romance a different character, or even actively working to increase or decrease approval with specific individuals, will unlock new dialogue, personal quests, and unique insights into their backstories. Some companions have unique interactions or opinions on major plot points depending on your relationship with them.

Aligning with Different Factions

The choices you make regarding the Mages, Templars, and even Orlesian politics can lead to entirely different war strategies, available quests, and ultimately, different outcomes for the world of Thedas. Replaying the game with a focus on siding with the Mages instead of the Templars, for example, will drastically alter the narrative and the allies you gain.

Experimenting with Inquisitor Personalities

Don't be afraid to play a drastically different Inquisitor on subsequent playthroughs. If your first Inquisitor was noble and benevolent, try playing a cunning and pragmatic one, or even a genuinely cruel and self-serving character. Witnessing how these different personalities shape interactions and lead to new dialogue options is a core part of the game's replay value.

Unlocking Different War Table Operations

Certain dialogue choices and faction allegiances can unlock entirely new War Table operations. By exploring different paths, you can gain access to strategic advantages or uncover hidden information that might not be available in other playthroughs. This adds another layer of depth to the consequence-driven nature of the game.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the most important dialogue choices in Dragon Age: Inquisition for shaping your Inquisitor's personality and relationships?

Dialogue choices that influence your approval with companions, choices that lead to significant narrative branches (like deciding the fate of nations or key characters), and options that align with your chosen specialization or belief system are generally considered the most impactful for shaping your Inquisitor and their relationships. Specific examples include how you handle the mage-templar conflict, your interactions with Cassandra about faith, and your approach to ruling the Inquisition.

How do dialogue choices affect companion approval and romance in Dragon Age: Inquisition?

Most dialogue options have a direct impact on companion approval, earning you either positive or negative points. High approval can unlock companion quests, personal dialogue, and ultimately, romance. Certain dialogue choices are specifically flagged as romance-compatible, but consistent positive interactions across the board are crucial for deepening bonds.

Are there specific dialogue choices that unlock different story outcomes or endings in Dragon Age: Inquisition?

Yes, several key dialogue choices significantly alter the main quest and can lead to different endings. These often involve major decisions at critical junctures, such as how you resolve the Avvar threat, your alliance with the elves or Qunari, and your final confrontation with Corypheus. The fate of certain characters and regions can also hinge on these choices.

What is the 'tone' system in Dragon Age: Inquisition's dialogue, and how should I use it?

Dragon Age: Inquisition uses a 'tone' system represented by icons (e.g., empathetic, diplomatic, aggressive, sarcastic) to indicate the general intent or feeling behind a dialogue option. Understanding these tones helps you express your Inquisitor's personality consistently and can influence how companions and NPCs react to you. It's useful for roleplaying and for maximizing positive approval with certain companions.

How do dialogue choices influence the Inquisition's political decisions and the power of different factions?

Your dialogue choices during War Table operations, council meetings, and negotiations directly impact the Inquisition's political standing and influence. These choices can bolster or weaken factions like the Mages or Templars, affect trade agreements, and shape the Inquisition's reputation across Thedas. For example, how you handle the rift in the sky and who you ally with early on sets a precedent.

Is there a way to 'game' the dialogue system to get the best outcomes or maximum approval?

While you can't 'game' the system in the sense of completely avoiding consequences, players often refer to dialogue guides or wikis to understand the potential outcomes of choices. Focusing on dialogue options that align with a specific companion's personality or your Inquisitor's chosen alignment can lead to more predictable positive results. However, true immersion often comes from making choices that feel right for your character, even if they have minor negative consequences.

What are some common dialogue choices players regret or wish they could change in Dragon Age: Inquisition?

Many players regret not being more supportive of certain companions during their personal quests, missing out on romance opportunities due to misinterpreting dialogue options, or making choices that led to the exile or death of favored characters. Some also regret being too aggressive or dismissive early on, which can make it harder to gain approval later.

How do dialogue choices affect the strength and availability of Inquisition perks?

While dialogue choices don't directly grant Inquisition Perks, they can influence the narrative events

that might lead to specific perks becoming available or their impact being more significant. For instance, building strong relationships and making certain decisions might unlock unique advisor requests or influence operations that indirectly affect perk availability or effectiveness.

Where can I find comprehensive guides or resources for Dragon Age: Inquisition dialogue choices?

Several excellent resources are available online. Gaming wikis like Fandom (often referred to as 'Dragon Age Wiki'), IGN, and GameFAQs host detailed guides that cover dialogue options, companion approval, romance, and story outcomes. Many YouTube creators also provide comprehensive walkthroughs and dialogue choice analyses for Dragon Age: Inquisition.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles, each beginning with "" and related to "Dragon Age: Inquisition dialogue choices guide," with short descriptions:

1. *Inquisitor's Whispers: The Art of Persuasion*

This guide delves into the nuanced art of dialogue in Dragon Age: Inquisition. It explores how subtle word choices can shape relationships with companions and influence the fate of nations. Readers will uncover strategies for maximizing approval, minimizing disapproval, and navigating complex moral quandaries presented through conversation. The book offers practical examples and analysis of key dialogue trees to help players achieve their desired outcomes.

2. *The Herald's Handbook: Navigating the Inquisition's Words*

Designed for both new and veteran Inquisitors, this handbook provides essential insights into the game's dialogue system. It breaks down the impact of different conversational stances – from diplomatic to aggressive – on companion loyalty and quest progression. Players will find tips on building specific character archetypes through dialogue, ensuring their Inquisitor's voice is heard and respected throughout Thedas.

3. *Subtle Influence: Mastering Inquisition Conversations*

This title focuses on the power of subtle dialogue choices in shaping the Dragon Age: Inquisition narrative. It examines how seemingly minor responses can have cascading effects on character arcs and world events. The book offers a deep dive into the game's intricate branching dialogue, revealing how to unlock hidden conversations and achieve specific narrative branches. It's an indispensable resource for those seeking to fully explore every facet of the game's storytelling.

4. *The Advisor's Lexicon: Words that Shape Nations*

Focusing on the broader impact of dialogue choices, this book explores how the Inquisitor's words influence political factions and the fate of Thedas itself. It analyzes key dialogue moments that led to significant political shifts and provided a framework for understanding these consequences. Players will learn how to wield their words effectively to forge alliances, quell rebellions, and ultimately determine the future of the continent.

5. *Companion Chronicles: The Dialogue of Loyalty and Betrayal*

This guide centers on the critical role of dialogue in forging bonds with Dragon Age: Inquisition's companions. It meticulously details how specific conversation choices affect approval ratings, unlock personal quests, and influence companion loyalty. Readers will discover the secrets to earning the

trust of even the most stoic individuals and understand how to avoid irreparable rifts.

6. The Champion's Cadence: Speaking for the Inquisitor

This book offers a comprehensive look at developing a distinct voice for the player's Inquisitor through dialogue choices. It categorizes different conversational tones and their likely impact on various characters and situations. The guide provides a framework for building a consistently portrayed Inquisitor, whether they are a benevolent leader or a pragmatic strategist, through the power of their spoken words.

7. Orlaisian Oratory: The Diplomacy of the Inquisition

Examining the diplomatic intricacies within Dragon Age: Inquisition, this title focuses on how dialogue choices impact negotiations and relationships with other nations. It explores the art of persuasion and negotiation in the context of Orlesian politics and other foreign powers. Players will gain an understanding of how to navigate sensitive discussions and secure favorable outcomes for the Inquisition.

8. The Fade's Echo: Dialogue and the Spirit Realm

This unique guide delves into how dialogue choices in Dragon Age: Inquisition can influence interactions with spirits and the Fade itself. It examines how the Inquisitor's words can affect encounters with entities from the Fade, potentially leading to unique boons or dire consequences. The book provides insights into the spiritual implications of certain dialogue paths.

9. The Inquisitor's Quill: Crafting Your Narrative Through Dialogue

This book empowers players to actively shape their Inquisitor's personal story through deliberate dialogue choices. It provides tools and frameworks for understanding the long-term narrative arcs that can be influenced by conversation. Readers will learn how to imbue their playthrough with a unique personal narrative, ensuring their Inquisitor's journey is as rich and meaningful as possible.

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