

# Royal Rat Vanguard

## Lore

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*Soul of the Rat King's Vanguard,  
of the underground realm.  
The Rat King's loyal servant judges the  
worthiness of those who seek royal audience.*  
— Description of the Royal Rat Vanguard Soul

## Location

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### Grave of Saints

By the Grave Entrance bonfire.

Bonfire Intensity	Health	Souls
1 (NG)	1,410	11,000
2 (NG+)	2,679	22,000
8 (NG+7)	5,091	44,000

Bonfire Ascetic respawn: Grave Entrance bonfire.

## Summons

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None.

## Drops

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- Royal Rat Vanguard Soul
- Rat Tail

## Moveset

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**Bite**

# Strategies

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The boss is a Rat that enters the arena after killing ten regular rats. You can distinguish him from the rest of the rats by the mohawk-like fur he has on the top of his body.

At the beginning, only rats appear to attack. After ten rats die, the Royal Rat Vanguard will spawn. He spawns close to the entrance a couple seconds after the boss health bar appears. Identify him by the "mohawk" running down his back and his slightly larger ears. Also when locking on to him, he does not show a health bar like the other rats.

When the boss dies, any remaining rats scurries away back into the walls.

Note: the regular rats' attacks builds up Petrification, and the Vanguard's builds up Poison.

## **Melee:**

Go in for a few hits, no more than two or three, then jump back and avoid his counter. Repeat this process while trying to avoid the other rats and he should fall quickly.

## **Magic Strategy:**

Go into the middle of the room and whenever the rats are closing in cast Soul Appease. This spell will kill the regular rats in one or two hits and deals heavy damage to Vanguard himself.

For hex users, the use of Lifedrain Patch, Scraps of Life, and Darkstorm is recommended. For maximum effectiveness, run around until you have all of the rats gathered in a tight group.

## **Ranged Strategy:**

Strafe along the outside of the crowd. This minimizes your chance of taking damage and allows you to target the Vanguard specifically. The statues make things a bit tricky.

# Notes

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- After killing 100 rats in the arena, they stop spawning, so then you are only left with the boss. Though the fight can be ended sooner just by fighting the boss.

# Comments

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