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legend of zelda a link between worlds walkthrough

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Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds Walkthrough

Embarking on a new adventure in **Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds** can feel both exciting and daunting. Whether you're a seasoned Link who has already mastered the classic Zelda formula or a newcomer to the series, this comprehensive walkthrough will guide you through every twist and turn of the game's sprawling world, intricate dungeons, and challenging puzzles. From the moment you step into the light world to the final showdown with the Dark Lord, we'll cover all the key steps, secrets, and strategies you need to become a true hero of Hyrule.

Game Overview

A Link Between Worlds is a 2013 action adventure title developed by Nintendo for the Nintendo 3DS. The game blends traditional Zelda gameplay with a unique "mirror" mechanic that allows Link to transform into a 2D sprite, enabling him to glide across walls and traverse otherwise inaccessible areas. The story is set in the kingdom of Hyrule, where the once peaceful realm is split into the Light World and the Dark World, each with its own challenges and enemies.

Key Features

- Dual world system (Light and Dark)
- Mirror transformation and wall gliding mechanic
- Classic Zelda weapons and items (boomerang, bow, shield)
- Over 20 dungeons with unique puzzles
- Dynamic world map with optional side quests
- Collectible items and upgrades

Controls & Gameplay Basics

Before diving into the walkthrough, let's review the core controls and gameplay mechanics that will be essential throughout your journey.

1. Movement: Use the left analog stick or D pad to move Link. The right analog stick is used for camera control.
2. Attack: Press the X button to swing your sword. Holding X for a charged attack will unleash a powerful strike.
3. Jump & Climb: Press Y to jump. Link can also climb ledges by pressing Y near walls.
4. Mirror Mode: Activate by pressing the B button. In this mode, Link turns into a 2D sprite that can glide across walls and slide under obstacles.
5. Use Item: Press the R button to select an item from your inventory, then press the A button to use it.
6. Interact: Press the A button when near NPCs or objects.

Starting Your Journey

The game begins in the serene village of Kakariko. After meeting Princess Zelda, you receive the first quest: find the **Mirror Shield** to unlock the ability to traverse walls. The initial tutorial area, **Lake Hylia**, introduces the core mechanics and sets the tone for the adventure.

First Steps

1. Collect the Wooden Sword from the chest in the village.
2. Talk to the elder to receive the Mirror Shield and the Sheikah Mask.
3. Use the Mirror Shield to glide across the lake and reach the Lake Hylia Shrine.
4. Defeat the Lake Guardian to obtain the first dungeon key.

Exploring the Light World

The Light World is a vibrant, lush region filled with forests, rivers, and bustling towns. As you progress, you'll discover hidden paths, secret items, and powerful upgrades that will aid you in tackling the more challenging dungeons.

Key Locations

- Hyrule Castle Town – The central hub where you can buy items, talk to NPCs, and access the Hyrule Castle Dungeon.
- Great Bay – A coastal area with a hidden underwater dungeon.
- Rito Village – Home of the bird folk; offers a unique side quest involving a stolen feather.
- Hyrule Forest – Dense woods that house the Forest Temple and numerous collectible items.

Mastering the Mirror Mechanic

The Mirror Mechanic is one of the defining features of A Link Between Worlds. It allows Link to glide along walls and ceilings, opening up new paths and solutions to puzzles. Mastering this mechanic is essential for both exploration and combat.

Tips for Using the Mirror

- Practice gliding across small gaps to improve timing.
- Use the Mirror Shield to protect yourself from falling debris.
- Remember that enemies can still attack you while you're gliding; stay on the move.
- Some puzzles require you to switch between 3 D and 2 D perspectives to access hidden switches.

Key Items & Upgrades

Throughout the game, you'll find a variety of items that enhance Link's abilities. These include weapons, shields, and special items that unlock new gameplay mechanics.

Weapons

- Wooden Sword – Basic melee weapon.
- Sheikah Sword – A faster, more powerful sword that can be upgraded.
- Boar Bow – A bow that can fire arrows in a wide arc.
- Great Boar Bow – An upgraded version that can fire multiple arrows at once.
- Boomerang – Useful for hitting distant switches.

Shields

- Mirror Shield – Enables wall gliding and protects against environmental hazards.
- Wooden Shield – Basic shield with limited durability.
- Sheikah Shield – Stronger shield that can block powerful attacks.

Special Items

- Sheikah Mask – Provides protection against fire and cold.
- Rupee Collection – Used for purchases and trading.

- Triforce Pieces – Collecting these unlocks special rewards.

Dungeon Guide

Dungeons are the heart of A Link Between Worlds, offering a mix of combat, puzzles, and exploration. Below is a detailed walkthrough for each major dungeon, including key items, puzzles, and boss strategies.

1. Lake Hylia Shrine

Location: Near the starting area.

1. Use the Mirror Shield to glide across the lake.
2. Defeat the Lake Guardian using the boomerang to hit its weak spot.
3. Collect the Lake Key and return to the village to unlock the next dungeon.

2. Great Bay Dungeon

Location: Underwater area in Great Bay.

1. Equip the Sheikah Mask to breathe underwater.
2. Navigate the maze of currents; use the Mirror Shield to glide over submerged platforms.
3. Find the Great Bay Key behind a hidden switch triggered by a fish.

3. Forest Temple

Location: Hyrule Forest.

1. Collect the Forest Key by solving the tree puzzle.
2. Use the Mirror Shield to climb the towering tree and reach the hidden switch.
3. Defeat the Forest Guardian by dodging its leaf attacks.

4. Dark World Dungeons

These dungeons are accessible after you acquire the Mirror Shield and the Sheikah Mask. They are more challenging due to the presence of the Dark World's unique enemies and traps.

1. Navigate the maze of shifting walls.
2. Use the Mirror Shield to glide over lava pits.
3. Collect the Dark Key by solving the mirror puzzle.
4. Defeat the boss by exploiting its weak spot revealed by the mirror reflection.

Boss Strategies

Each dungeon culminates in a boss fight that tests your skills and understanding of the game's mechanics. Here are some essential tips for defeating each boss.

Lake Guardian

- Use the boomerang to hit its weak spot on the back.
- Keep moving to avoid its splash attacks.

Great Bay Guardian

- Use the Sheikah Mask to breathe underwater.
- Attack when the guardian surfaces for a short time.

Forest Guardian

- Use the Mirror Shield to glide over its leaf attacks.

- Attack when its leaf shield drops.

Dark World Boss

- Use the Mirror Mechanic to reveal its weak spot.
- Attack when the boss is reflected in the mirror.

Side Quests & Collectibles

Beyond the main storyline, A Link Between Worlds offers a wealth of side quests that enrich the game world and reward you with powerful items.

Popular Side Quests

- Lost Rito Feather – Find the feather hidden in the Rito Village to unlock a new bow.
- Sheikah Artifact Hunt – Search for ancient artifacts that grant you new abilities.
- Hyrule Castle Library – Retrieve lost books that reveal hidden dungeon locations.

Collectibles

- Rupees – Collect them to trade for upgrades.
- Triforce Pieces – There are 12 pieces scattered across the world; collecting them all unlocks a special reward.
- Key Items – Each dungeon has a unique key item that can be used in other areas.

Final Battle & Ending

After gathering all the necessary keys and defeating the Dark World bosses, you'll confront the ultimate threat: the Dark Lord. This final battle requires mastery of all the skills you've learned throughout the game.

1. Use the Mirror Shield to dodge the Dark Lord's powerful attacks.
2. Attack the weak spot exposed when the Dark Lord's reflection is visible.
3. Once defeated, the Dark Lord's curse is lifted, restoring peace to Hyrule.

Tips for a Smooth Experience

- Save Frequently: Use the in-game save feature to avoid losing progress.
- Explore Thoroughly: Many dungeons hide secret passages that can be found by exploring every corner.

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