Street Fighter Alpha 3 Grade Match/Ism Plus FAQ

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Street Fighter Alpha 3 / Street Fighter Zero 3:Saikyo Dojo for Dreamcast

Grade Match and Ism Plus FAQ

Version 1.1 1/4/01

Update History:

Version 1.1 1/4/01 - I fixed some things and added that the Custom Combo Charger ism plus also allows you to do custom combos in A or X-ism.

Version 1.0 12/30/00 - First release

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1. Intro

You should be familiar with the information in CJayC's indepth World Tour FAQ. This FAQ only briefly covers Ism pluses in World Tour mode and mostly focuses on the grade matches and ism pluses outside of World Tour mode. The Japanese names for some World Tour ism pluses were used when I didn't know the English names and I don't know if the Japanese names of some other ism pluses are completely accurate.

For each different grade match you beat in the Saikyo Dojo in network mode, your GD rank is raised by 1. Master characters can be downloaded from http://www.booyaka.com

2. Localization

US - Japan

 Balrog
 - M. Bison

 Vega
 - Balrog

 M. Bison
 - Vega

 Charlie
 - Nash

 Akuma
 - Gouki

 A-ism
 - Z-ism

 Alpha
 - Zero

custom combo - original combo (oricom)

 Super Combo Guage Plus - Guage Plus

SC Guage Recover - Mach Guage

Status Plus - Guts
Super Guard Smash - GPG Super
Supreme Alpha Power - Super Attack
Alpha Power - Technical Attack
Super Alpha Power - Technical Mania
Custom Combo Charger - Oricom Master

3. Grade Match List

ism-Opponent(s) - type of fight and/or opponent's ism pluses

Student Matches:

1 A-Dan2 A-Ryu

3 A-Sakura and Karin

Master Characters:

4 A-Balroq - quage plus

5 X-Rolento

6 X-Zangief - combo attack, stun attack

7 X-Dhalsim

13 A-Guile

8 X-T.Hawk - combo attack
9 X-E.Honda - guage max
10 X-Sodom - guage plus
11 A-Blanka - guage plus
12 A-R.Mika target and Zangief - guage plus

14 A-Ken - time attack 60, guage plus

15 X-100 Dans - 1 round, less life

16 A-Guy and Cody - guage plus, stun attack

17 A-Chun Li - best of 5

18 A-Guile and Charlie

19 A-Maskless Vega - guage max, stun attack

20 S-Juli and Juni - guage max 21 With Chun Li vs A-Birdie - guage max

22 V-Fei Long - infinite custom combo

23 A-Gen and Akuma

24 V-2 Dee Jays - guage plus, triple custom combo, recovery

- best of 5

25 X-10 Dans - 1 round

26 S-Shin M. Bison and Cammy - guage max, recovery

27 S-Balrog, Vega, Sagat - team battle

28 X-Adon and Sagat - guage max, recovery

29 A-Evil Ryu and Rose - guage plus

30 A-Shin Akuma - guage max, stun attack

In addition to what I listed, many master characters have Alpha Combo, Infinite Guard, Super Guard, Instant Charge Moves, Multiple Taunt, and/or other ism pluses. Also the priority and comboability of many moves seems to have been improved and some taunts that didn't hit before now do.

Types of fights/enemy ism pluses not in World Tour mode:
Best of 5 - self-explanatory
Infinite Custom Combo - CC never runs out
Triple Custom Combo - All three shadows hit

4. World Tour Ism Plus quick reference and suggestions

Asia

A0-B1-B2-B4 - Alpha Counter Plus A0-A1-A3-A4 - Resist Dizziness Resist Dizziness helps greatly against some master characters.

USSR

A0-B1-B2-B4 - Super Guard

A0-A1-A3-A5 - Air Guard

A0-B1-A4-A6 - Damage Plus

A0-C1-C2-C4 - Auto Guard

Super Guard should help against double Shin Bison and many master characters who do nasty chip damage. Air Guard should help an X-ism character. Auto Guard should make some grade matches more fair but can actually make many matches harder by locking you in a guard while you have a different plan.

Europe

A0-A1-A3 - Super Alpha Cancel

A0-B1-B2 - Alpha Cancel

A0-A1-A2 - Alpha Combo

A0-B1-B3 - Guard Destroy

Make a good choice depending on which character you're using.

Africa

A0-A1-A3-A6-A8 - Custom Combo

A0-A1-A2-A4-A7 - Infinite Guard

A0-B1-B4-B6-B7 - Guard Power Plus

Custom Combo is good for any A or X-ism character. The ism plus for beating arcade survival makes Infinite Guard obsolete and Guard Power Plus is obsolete compared to that.

America

A0-C1-C2-C4 - Supreme Guard Smash

A0-B1-B2-B4 - Super Combo Guage Plus

A0-A1-A2-A4 - Limit Off

Pick whatever you want, but make sure you know the consequences of Limit Off. Super Combo Guage Plus might be made obsolete by another ism plus but that's only after you beat all 30 grade matches. Supreme Guard Smash might be made obsolete by the ism plus from arcade survival.

There is a bug where you don't get to keep any experience or level up from the final match (Double Shin M.Bison) of Goukuentou Island even if you win. Make sure your character is already at level 32 before that fight.

5. Ism Pluses outside of World Tour mode

Beat Arcade mode without losing a fight - Status Plus

Beat Arcade Survival - Super Guard Smash

To get Status Plus or Super Guard Smash your character must have a star next to their name for finishing the World Tour.

GD10 - Supreme Alpha Power or Infinite Auto Guard

GD20 - Alpha Power or Super Alpha Power

GD30 - Custom Combo Charger or SC Guage Recover

If match #15 raises you to GD15 or #25 raises you to GD25 - Multiple Taunt

When you reach a certain GD rank it seems to randomly give you one ism plus or the other. I currently don't know if anything determines which one you get so it may be a good idea to back up your save data in case you don't get the one you want. There's 25 ism pluses in the game and the most a single character can get is 11, unless there's more ism pluses. I doubt there's anymore though.

Descriptions from the game:

Status Plus - Your overall statistics will be increased.

Super Guard Smash - You will never lose your GP Guage and you will do more GP Guage damage.

Supreme Alpha Power - You can use the Alpha Cancel and the Super Alpha Cancel techniques.

Infinite Auto Guard - You will never lose your GP Guage and you will guard automatically.

Alpha Power - You can use the Alpha Combo and the Alpha Cancel techniques.

Super Alpha Power - You can use the Alpha Combo and the Super Alpha Cancel techniques.

SC Gauge Recover - Your SC Guage will gradually recover in large amounts automatically. (Like Super Combo Guage Plus but faster)

Custom Combo Charger - After you use the Custom Combo, your Super Guage will recharge. (Like Super Combo Guage Plus and you can do custom combos in A or X-ism)

Multiple Taunt - You can use the Taunt technique several times.

6. Credits and Legal Crap

Thanks to Jeff "CJayC" Veasey for his informative World Tour FAQ. The paths for Ism Pluses in WT mode were deduced from the info his FAQ provided.

Thanks to Sigma for getting some info about the Japanese ism plus names from Capcom of Japan's Fax page and submitting it to Gouki's Page of Whatever and thanks to GPOW for hosting the info.

The GameFAQs message board member that goes by Ryu Hayabusa for informing me of the master characters available at http://www.booyaka.com

Thanks to www.booyaka.com for hosting the master characters and thanks to the quy who submitted them.

Lots of thanks to Capcom of Japan for obvious reasons.

Very little thanks to Capcom USA for a poor translation, the delays, and barely any support for the one game out of six that they didn't strip of internet features. (Internet features were completely ripped out of the US versions of Jojo, MvC2, SF3DI, SF3:TS, and CvS.)

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