## **Falinks**

Falinks (#870)

Sex Ratio: 100% hermaphrodites

Egg Group: Fairy, Mineral

Fighting

Falinks africanus (Falinks)

**Abilities:** 

Battle Armor, Defiant

Holy fuck, the average height of a fully grown adult Falinks is 9'10ft!

(Okay, I as the author of this realize that

the canon probably refers to their <u>length</u>, but the official source material doesn't actually <u>say</u> that, and I think my interpretation is more fun. So, holy fuck the average height of a fully grown adult Falinks is 9'10 feet tall!!!! Holy fuck!)

Base Stats						
HP	90					
Attack	60					
Defense	80					
Sp. Attack	90					
Sp. Defense	110					
Speed	60					

Despite their size, each Falink is surprisingly light, with each individual being around 300 pounds at full adult size. They do not have bones, they have exoskeletons. These exoskeletons produce armor-like tissue that Falinks are famous for. With that said, the brass of each group is usually ~1.2x bigger in all capacities than the rest of its squad, even developing additional exoskeleton-armor.

**Habitat:** Falinks are native to the Old World, with populations endemic to and found throughout Africa, Asia, and Europe. They strongly prefer to live in montane ecosystems and steppes, and they do not live north of the Arctic circle. Too cold! This is almost certainly why there are no native Falinks to the New World, since they'd have had to cross over on the Bering Strait — though ancient fossils of other *Falinks* species have been discovered in the New World. Falinks love to travel long distances. For as long as *Falinks spp.* have existed, they have always had a strong presence in the lands that would become Africa.

**Life Cycles:** Falinks are born in a single, rather large egg (think like, 2 feet in diameter) that the parent Falinks tend to for about 6 months. Uniquely, inside this egg are exactly 6 Falinks babies that are all sextuplets of each other – in the same way that certain species of armadillos in our world give birth to exactly 4 monozygotic babies (identical quadruplets). For this reason, sometimes eggs have 8 babies in them instead of 6, but it is extremely rare for an odd-numbered set to be born from any egg. Yes, the 6 Falinks babies share 1 egg together. They are born together, raised together, live together, and travel together. All Falinks are hermaphrodites, but must reproduce sexually. In each set of Falinks, all 6 of them are identical for the first year of their life while they live with their parents (parenting is a 2 year commitment for adult Falinks), but during that time one of them is eventually singled out as the leader of the group. This individual Falink becomes the "brass" of the set, the technical term for the bigger leader in each Falinks set. When the brass is determined, special hormones are released that cause the brass to grow much bigger than the other Falinks in the set, and eventually allows for it to reproduce. Yes, this means that only the brass in a set can reproduce, but since they're all identical clones of each other, it doesn't matter. In the event that the brass is unable to reproduce and it's because of battle damage then the second most dominant of the set will start producing brass hormones, and the set will now have 2 brass, but the original remains as the leader while the new one is the one who reproduces. If infertility is due to genetic problems, then there are no environmental cues triggering

Or	on guru	Normal	Davohio	
	anguru		Psychic	
Learnset: Level Up		Level	Category	
Psychic	Confusion	1	Special	
Normal	After You	1	Status	
Dark	Taunt	5	Status	
Psychic	Calm Mind	10	Status	
Psychic	Stored Power	15	Special	
Normal	Psych Up	20	Status	
Dark	Feint Attack	25	Physical	
Dark	Quash	30	Status	
Dark	Nasty Plot	35	Status	
Psychic	Zen Headbutt	40	Physical	
Psychic	Trick Room	45	Status	
Psychic	Psychic	50	Special	
Psychic	Instruct	55	Status	
Dark	Foul Play	60	Physical	
Psychic	Future Sight	65	Special	

hormonal changes in the other Falinks, and almost certainly the others in the set would have the same problem anyways.

**Behavior:** Falinks are lovers of journeying, a good fight, and hugely loyal to their squad (the group name for each set of 6-8 Falinks). If a member of a squad is killed or goes missing, the others become incurably and extremely depressed. Every so often, orphaned Falinks will band together to form new sets, which mutually help each other feel better, but they forever long for their missing family.

When another Falink joins a squad, it is the brass who makes this decision, and the new individual is permitted to join but will not be allowed to become brass, not even upon the current brass's death. If the orphaned Falink is already a brass, then it cannot join a squad with an established brass. However, this only applies to an orphan joining a sibling group. Should multiple orphans band together, as does happen, then the dynamics are established more normally (so, it's beneficial for orphans to band with other orphans, rather than try to squeeze into an established sibling group) with whoever is the most dominant developing into the squad's brass.

Note: Falinks are **not friendly toward humans**. They have a shared evolutionary history with us, meaning they are just as intolerant of us as rhinoceroses, zebras, hippos, and other African megafauna because we are literally their natural predators. They are not to be trifled with, but will leave you alone if you leave them alone. While they can make for truly excellent battlers, attempting to tame a Falinks is not for the faint of heart, and should this endeavor be undertaken, it is recommended that you start from an egg.

**Diet:** Generalist herbivores, this means that they will eat most plant matter such as fruits, nuts, berries, leaves, roots, shoots, and tubers. They do not eat bark unless there are no other options, and they cannot eat bamboo.

Conservation: Near Threatened

Relationship with Humans: DNA and fossil evidence suggests that Falinks originate in Africa, just like humans, but their love of long journeys compelled them to travel outside of Africa and spread to Eurasia. This is a huge reason why scientists speculate on why Falinks can be so big (when humans are megafauna specialists), and that's because of our coevolutionary relationship with Falinks and other megafauna endemic to Africa. On that note, this is also why Falinks are not particularly susceptible to domestication. Humans have a long history of hunting Falinks as do we with all other megafauna throughout history. In many



older cultures, the hunting of Falinks was/is often a Rite of Passage for men, warriors, etc. (it varies).

During the Roman Empire, the Roman military was inspired by the Falinks that journeyed through the Alps and the Carpathians, which is why there is an aesthetic similarity between the two, and is ultimately what the "phalanx" military formation is based upon.

Modern Pokéballs are specifically designed to catch the entire set of Falinks, much like Exeggcutes.

Classification: *Falinks africanus* are a distant relative to the Arthropods, and is itself within the clade Panarthropoda (Insects, Velvet Worms, and Tardigrades) as their own equally distinct branch: Oplismosoma (armor body). Based on the fossil evidence available, it seems that *Falinks* have existed for the past ~100 million years, meaning they existed during the age of dinosaurs and once spanned the entirety of the globe long ago, when the continents were still in Pangaea. Other *Falinks* species certainly existed throughout time, but only one remains today.

	Learnset: Tutoring/TMs										
Normal	After You	Status	Dark	Fling	Physical	Normal	Protect	Status	Normal	Substitute	Status
Psychic	Ally Switch	Status	Fighting	Focus Blast	Special	Psychic	Psybeam	Special	Fire	Sunny Day	Status
Normal	Block	Status	Dark	Foul Play	Physical	Normal	Psych Up	Status	Normal	Swagger	Status
Normal	Body Slam	Physical	Normal	Frustration	Physical	Psychic	Psychic	Special	Normal	Swift	Special
Fighting	Brick Break	Physical	Psychic	Future Sight	Special	Psychic	Psychic Terrain	Status	Normal	Take Down	Physical
Dark	Brutal Swing	Physical	Normal	Giga Impact	Physical	Psychic	Psyshock	Special	Dark	Taunt	Status
Ground	Bulldoze	Physical	Psychic	Gravity	Status	Dark	Quash	Status	Psychic	Telekinesis	Status
Psychic	Calm Mind	Status	Normal	Hidden Power	Special	Water	Rain Dance	Status	Normal	Tera Blast	???
Electric	Charge Beam	Special	Normal	Hyper Beam	Special	Psychic	Reflect	Status	Normal	Terrain Pulse	Special
Water	Chilling Water	Special	Normal	Hyper Voice	Special	Psychic	Rest	Status	Electric	Thunderbolt	Special
Normal	Confide	Status	Psychic	Imprison	Status	Normal	Return	Physical	Poison	Toxic	Status
Normal	Covet	Physical	Dark	Knock Off	Physical	Rock	Rock Slide	Physical	Grass	Trailblaze	Physical
Normal	Double Team	Status	Psychic	Light Screen	Status	Normal	Round	Special	Psychic	Trick	Status
Psychic	Dream Eater	Special	Psychic	Magic Coat	Status	Normal	Safeguard	Status	Psychic	Trick Room	Status
Ground	Earthquake	Physical	Psychic	Magic Room	Status	Normal	Scary Face	Status	Psychic	Wonder Room	Status
Dark	Embargo	Status	Normal	Mega Kick	Physical	Ghost	Shadow Ball	Special	Normal	Work Up	Status
Normal	Encore	Status	Normal	Mega Punch	Physical	Normal	Sleep Talk	Status	Psychic	Zen Headbutt	Physical
Normal	Endure	Status	Dark	Nasty Plot	Status	Dark	Snatch	Status			
Grass	Energy Ball	Special	Normal	Nature Power	Status	Normal	Snore	Special			
Psychic	Expanding Force	Special	Normal	Pain Split	Status	Ghost	Spite	Status			
Normal	Façade	Physical	Dark	Payback	Status	Psychic	Stored Power	Special			