## Hero of the Viking Age SVEN FORKBEARD

Sven Forkbeard was the king of Denmark during the very early years of the 11th century. Legend says that he grew up amongst the Jomsvikings in their Jomsborg stronghold.

Following the St Brice's Day Massacre that saw the Danes of England slaughtered under Æthelred's command, Sven planned an invasion of England and started by launching multiple raids on the coast. The invasion culminated with his crowning as king in 1013.

Some says he was the first Viking king to convert to Christianity, but many doubt that he sincere in his new found beliefs.

His son Cnut succeeded him on the throne and formalized many Norse customs and practices into the English social and military traditions.



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## SVEN FORKBEARD

Hero of the Viking Age: Sven Forkbeard is a Hero of the Viking Age (see Saga page 45.) He always fights with a Dane axe, which counts as a heavy weapon (see Saga page 43.) He generates 2 Saga Dice like standard Warlords.

Christian or Pagan: Some doubts exist about the possible conversion of Sven to Christianity. If you decide that Sven is Christian, he will lead an Anglo-Danish warband (consider your Huscarls to be Christianised Hirdmen). If you decide that Sven is pagan, he will lead a Viking warband that may not include Berserkers.

*Terrifying:* If a unit of Levies or Warriors engage in melee with Sven or is engaged in melee by him, it takes a FATIGUE during step 1) of the melee.

**Vengeful:** Sven is haunted by the St Brice's Day Massacre. During Step 3) of any melee in which he is engaged, he gains an additional Attack Die for every enemy model within **VS** of him.

**Conqueror of England:** Though determined and hateful of his enemies, Sven knew that he could not afford to lose too many troops during the conquest of England.

Any friendly unit within **S** of Sven (including Sven himself) may, during Step 3) of the melee, discard 3 Attack Dice to increase its Armour by +1. A unit may only increase his Armour once in this way in each melee.