

Luke vs Palpatine: Stock, Test, Upgrade

A repeatable six-game test for choosing the more forgiving Luke shell or the more demanding Palpatine sequencing lesson.

UNOFFICIAL FAN-MADE REFERENCE · Compiled by Puzzlewick · Not affiliated with, endorsed by, or produced by Fantasy Flight Games. Always defer to the official rulebook.

Choose the decision style

DECK	CORE LESSON	BEGINNER TRAP
Luke Skywalker	Attack, heal, and preserve useful units	Healing a unit with no future job
Emperor Palpatine	Build wide and spend temporary Advantage	Letting borrowed value expire

Six-game upgrade laboratory

1. Two open-hand games
Narrate attack order and leader value.
2. Two closed-hand games
Record stranded cards, weak arenas, and missed triggers.
3. Two timed stock games
Use the unchanged list and normal event pace.
4. Change one role package
State the opening, turn, or matchup the change should improve.

Diagnose before buying

OBSERVED FAILURE	TEST FIRST	DO NOT ASSUME
Units trade too early	Attack order and target choice	More healing automatically fixes it
Expensive cards strand	Resource discipline and curve	A premium booster contains the answer
One arena collapses	Role balance across arenas	A famous card is the missing role
Advantage expires	Sequence the conversion first	More temporary value solves timing

Smallest useful field kit

- ☐ One complete opaque sleeve set — Plus matching spares.
- ☐ One fitted rigid deck box — Capacity checked after sleeving.
- ☐ Tokens and damage tracker — Separated from card backs during travel.
- ☐ One test ledger — Write the exact role each proposed swap is meant to repair.

Sources. Fantasy Flight Games Spotlight Deck deep dive, Ashes product materials, current rules, SWUDB list reference, and current player discussions.

Accuracy. Every figure on this sheet was read from the sources above on August 26, 2026. Prices and availability change; rules do not. Where this sheet and the rulebook disagree, the rulebook is right.

Free to print and share. puzzlewick.com · puzzlewick.com/guides/star-wars-unlimited-luke-vs-palpatine-spotlight-upgrade-guide-2026/