

# Palutena Smash Ultimate Guide



## Palutena Smash Ultimate Guide

Palutena, the goddess from the Kid Icarus series, is a unique character in Super Smash Bros. Ultimate who combines powerful projectiles, versatile aerial moves, and a solid mix-up game. This guide will provide an in-depth look at Palutena's moveset, strategies, matchups, and tips for mastering her gameplay. Whether you're a beginner looking to learn the basics or an experienced player wanting to refine your skills, this guide will equip you with the knowledge you need to dominate your opponents.

## Understanding Palutena's Moveset

Palutena boasts a diverse moveset that allows her to excel in both zoning and close combat. Here's a breakdown of her main attacks and special moves.

### Standard Attacks

1. Jab: Palutena performs a quick punch followed by a kick. This move is fast and can be used to interrupt opponents.
2. F-tilt: A forward kick that has decent range and can be used as a spacing tool.
3. Up-tilt: An upward kick that hits multiple times, great for juggling opponents.
4. Down-tilt: A low kick that can trip opponents and set up for combos.

### Aerial Attacks

1. Neutral Aerial: Palutena spins in the air, dealing damage to nearby opponents. It's a great tool for spacing and can lead to combos.

2. Forward Aerial: A diagonal slash that can be used to edge guard or combo into other moves.
3. Back Aerial: A strong kick that can KO at higher percentages, making it a key tool for finishing stocks.
4. Up Aerial: A powerful upward thrust that is effective for juggling.
5. Down Aerial: A quick dive attack that can spike opponents off the stage.

## Smash Attacks

1. F-Smash: A powerful forward slash that can be charged for extra damage. It's great for punishing landing options.
2. Up-Smash: A divine light attack that strikes above Palutena, effective for catching opponents who are above her.
3. Down-Smash: A sweep attack that hits both sides, making it useful for catching rolls and ledge options.

## Special Moves

1. Neutral Special - Autorecticle: Palutena fires a projectile that homes in on the nearest opponent. This move is excellent for zoning and forcing the opponent to approach.
2. Side Special - Warp: Palutena teleports a short distance, allowing her to evade attacks or reposition herself. This can also be used as a quick recovery option.
3. Up Special - Heavenly Light: A recovery move that sends Palutena upward and creates a barrier that damages nearby opponents.
4. Down Special - Reflect Barrier: A shield that reflects projectiles and can damage opponents if they hit it. This move is vital for countering projectile-heavy characters.

## Combos and Techniques

Combos are essential for maximizing Palutena's damage output. Here are some effective combos and techniques to incorporate into your gameplay.

### Basic Combos

1. Jab to F-tilt: Use her jab to initiate a combo and then follow up with a F-tilt for spacing.
2. Down-tilt to Up-air: A reliable combo for juggling opponents. Start with a down-tilt and immediately follow up with an up-air.
3. Neutral aerial to Back aerial: After hitting with a neutral aerial, fast-fall and quickly follow up with a back aerial for a kill option.

### Advanced Techniques

1. Zoning with Autorecticle: Use the neutral special to zone out opponents, forcing them to approach while you keep your distance.
2. Teleport Mix-ups: Use the side special to teleport unpredictably during matches, creating opportunities to punish opponents who overcommit.
3. Edge-guarding: Utilize back aerials and Heavenly Light to edge guard opponents effectively. Keep an eye on their recovery options and punish accordingly.

## Playing Defensive and Offensive

Palutena excels at both playstyles, and understanding when to switch between them is crucial.

### Defensive Playstyle

- Utilize Projectiles: Use Autorecticle to control the stage and force your opponent into unfavorable positions.
- Spacing: Use F-tilt and down-smash to maintain distance and punish overzealous approaches.
- Defensive Teleports: When under pressure, use Warp to escape and reset the situation.

### Offensive Playstyle

- Aggressive Combos: Use the aforementioned combos to rack up damage quickly. Keep the pressure on your opponent.
- Pressure with Aerials: Stay in the air and apply pressure with neutral aerials and back aerials.
- Edge-guard relentlessly: Once you've knocked your opponent off-stage, follow them with back aerials or Heavenly Light.

## Matchups

Understanding the strengths and weaknesses of Palutena against various characters can significantly impact your success.

### Strong Against

1. Projectile Users: Palutena's Reflect Barrier can turn the tide against characters that rely heavily on projectiles.
2. Heavyweights: Characters like Donkey Kong or Bowser struggle against her zoning and faster aerials.

## Weak Against

1. Fast Characters: Characters like Fox and Sonic can overwhelm Palutena with speed, making it difficult for her to set up her game.
2. Strong Punishers: Characters with powerful punishers, such as Mario, can capitalize on her unsafe moves.

## Tips for Mastering Palutena

1. Practice Zoning: Spend time in training mode perfecting your use of Autorecticle and Reflect Barrier.
2. Learn to Mix-up Teleports: Make your teleport usage unpredictable to keep your opponents guessing.
3. Master Aerial Combat: Palutena's aerals are crucial; practice her aerial combos and edge-guarding techniques.
4. Understand Stage Control: Use platforms and stage layout to your advantage, controlling space with her projectiles.

## Conclusion

Palutena is a versatile and powerful character in Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, capable of adapting to various playstyles. By mastering her moveset, practicing effective combos, and understanding matchups, you can elevate your gameplay to new heights. Remember to remain patient and practice consistently; with dedication, you will unlock the full potential of this celestial fighter. Whether you're playing casually or competitively, Palutena can be a formidable choice in any match-up, making her a fantastic addition to your roster.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What are Palutena's best attributes in Super Smash Bros. Ultimate?

Palutena has great aerial mobility, a strong neutral game with her projectiles, and a versatile toolkit that includes powerful counter moves and healing abilities.

### What are the best moves to use for spacing with Palutena?

Palutena's Neutral Air and Forward Air are excellent for spacing. Her Back Air is also powerful and can be used to control space effectively.

### How should I utilize Palutena's special moves in battle?

Palutena's specials are crucial for her playstyle. Use Explosive Flame to zone and control space, and

the Reflector for countering projectiles. Her Warp is great for recovery and repositioning.

## What are some effective combo setups for Palutena?

Some effective combos include starting with a grab followed by up throw into an Up Air, or using a down tilt into Up Air. Utilize her aerials to extend combos offstage.

## How can I improve my Palutena's recovery?

To improve your recovery with Palutena, practice using her Warp to mix up your landing positions and remember to use her Up Special, which provides vertical distance and can be used to escape pressure.

## What are the best stages for Palutena in competitive play?

Palutena thrives on stages with platforms like Battlefield and Smashville, where she can utilize her aerial mobility and combo potential effectively. Avoid stages with low ceilings that can hinder her aerial game.

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