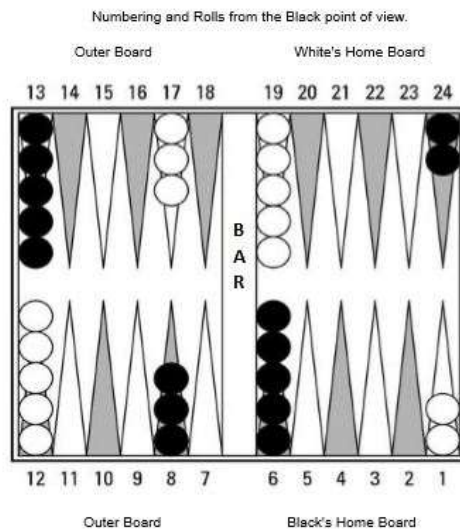


Backgammon strategy PDF

In this Deluxe Backgammon (www.deluxebackgammon.co.uk) article, we provide a summary of the five main strategies in backgammon in PDF format. It is condensed to fit on a single double-sided A4 page.

Backgammon strategy

Backgammon strategy involves making calculated moves to maximise the chances of winning by either advancing your checkers quickly, blocking your opponent, or a combination of both. Key strategies include running, blitzing, priming, holding, and back games, each is adaptable to the game's evolving situation. The key to mastering backgammon is understanding these five strategies and having the flexibility to switch between them as the game progresses.



Backgammon setup.

The running game

The running game strategy in backgammon focuses on moving your checkers towards your home board as quickly as possible, aiming to bear them off before your opponent. This approach is most effective when you roll high numbers early in the game, allowing you to advance your checkers rapidly. The primary goal is to avoid getting into complex battles or blockades, instead prioritising speed and efficiency. This strategy is straightforward and favoured by beginners. However, it requires careful calculation to ensure your checkers remain safe from being hit by your opponent. It's a race to the finish line, emphasizing swift, decisive moves and high dice rolls.

The blitz strategy

The blitz strategy in backgammon is an aggressive approach where the primary goal is to hit and send your opponent's checkers to the bar as often as possible. By doing this, you disrupt their progress and force them to re-enter from the bar, which can significantly slow their progress. This

strategy works best when you have a strong position and can maintain control of key points on the board, creating a blockade that makes it difficult for your opponent to re-enter and advance. The blitz requires a balance of offense and defence, as you need to protect your own checkers while attacking your opponent's. It's a high-risk, high-reward strategy that can quickly turn the tide of the game in your favour.

The priming game

The priming strategy in backgammon involves creating a series of consecutive secure points, known as a "prime," to act as a blockade to prevent your opponent's checkers from passing. This strategy aims to trap your opponent's checkers behind the prime, limiting their movement and forcing them to roll specific numbers to escape. By maintaining a strong prime, you can control the pace of the game and increase the chances of your opponent being unable to re-enter their checkers if they are hit. Priming requires careful planning and positioning, as well as the ability to adapt to your opponent's moves while maintaining the integrity of your blockade. It's a strategic approach that emphasizes control and patience.

The holding game

The holding strategy in backgammon is a defensive approach where you maintain one or more anchor points in your opponent's home board. These anchors serve as safe spots for your checkers, allowing you to re-enter the board safely if one of your checkers is hit. This strategy is particularly useful for slowing down your opponent's progress and creating opportunities to hit their checkers as they advance. By holding these positions, you can also wait for favourable rolls to make a strong counter-attack. The holding game requires patience and careful calculation, as it focuses on defence and positioning rather than rapid advancement.

The back game strategy

The back game strategy in backgammon is a defensive tactic used when a player falls significantly behind. It involves maintaining two or more anchor points in the opponent's home board, creating a blockade that can trap the opponent's checkers. The goal is to wait for an opportunity to hit the opponent's checkers late in the game, potentially turning the tide. This strategy requires precise timing and a strong home board to capitalize on any hitting opportunities. While risky and often a last resort, a successful back game can lead to a surprising comeback.

Further information

For further information on backgammon strategy and tactics visits www.deluxebackgammon.co.uk