BACKGAMMON.LEARNTOPLAY.IM

Hit, gammon and backgammon

Three official accounts agree that a gammon counts double. They do not quite agree on a backgammon.

The wordings are kept on their own lines. This sheet is not a betting card.

The official ending	Official wording
A hit	Hoyle, 1909: if the adversary "has got all his men into his own home table, and has begun to bear off, the game of the winner is known as a 'hit.'" 1911: a single game (a "hit") if the adversary has begun bearing. Britannica, captured 16 November 2026: if the loser has borne off at least one stone, the game is a single.
A gammon	All three official accounts treat this as a double game, when the loser has not begun to bear off (Hoyle; 1911: "has not borne a man"; captured Britannica: "borne off none").
A backgammon	1911: a "triple game," if the loser, not having borne a man, has one in the winner's inner table, or has a man up. Captured Britannica: "triple," if in addition the loser has a stone left in the winner's inner table. Hoyle, 1909: the loser pays "either thrice or four times (as may have been agreed)," and includes a man still "up" on the bar.

A short quiz

1. Do all three official accounts treat a gammon as a double game?
2. Does Hoyle say a backgammon is always triple?
3. Does the captured Britannica sentence used here mention a man on the bar?

Answers. Yes. No — "thrice or four times, as may have been agreed." No — that captured sentence mentions a stone left in the winner's inner table.

Wording from Hoyle's Games Modernized (1909), the 1911 Encyclopaedia Britannica, and Encyclopaedia Britannica wording captured on 16 November 2026 (the live page was blocked on 18 November 2026). backgammon.learntoplay.im is independent of those sources. Typographic sheet: no photographs inside.