

[Download] Backgammon for Blood

Backgammon for Blood

Bruce Becker

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#4475389 in Books 1974-06Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 #File Name: 086002072X124 pages | File size: 59.Mb

Bruce Becker : Backgammon for Blood before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Backgammon for Blood:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Provided instant success and a seemingly unfair advantage.By CustomerI used to constantly lose at backgammon and couldn't understand why. Then I read this book during a couple of plane flights and immediately started winning. It almost seemed like I had an unfair advantage.He recommends a very aggressive approach to building your inner board early in the game. Since this can get you in to trouble on occasion, he spends a lot of time explaining how to play an effective back game. I have modified his approach somewhat, but I am still more aggressive than most of my competitors. His back game teaching has come in very handy and I get a kick out of playing and winning in this fashion.I read this book in 1972 and just gave it to my son as a gift.5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Backgammon EnthusiastBy BSXXEDIT (11/29/11):If you are new to backgammon, or your enthusiasm for backgammon is beginning to fadeREAD THIS BOOK! It's like a poker player watching "Rounders", you can't wait to deal the cards! This book, in all its audacity, lit the backgammon torch for me. I was 14 or 15 when I read it and wanted to fly to Vegas or New York and start playing. Yes, I've had to re-learn a lot since then (as with any author before the 1990's), but his approach and enthusiasm for backgammon got me hooked. Whereas, many of the modern authors that would criticize Becker, put me to sleep.Keep a few things in mind: 1) Becker wrote this in 1974, at a time when, believe it or not, backgammon was wildly popular and there was no Snowie or eXtreme Gammon to set us straight. 2) Becker played backgammon against an opponent that many of us, including me, rarely face anymore.....a person! 3) Becker was a money player, not a tournament player. The

difference in strategy can be more dramatic than you think, and different again based on the strength of your opponent. The point is: Do I think that in the 1970's some of his strategy may have worked against a guy with more money than skill? Heck yes. Would I try it today? No. Today's players are "chess" players, they gauge success by their error rate. Becker gauged success by how much of your money he put in his pocket! Two entirely different goals with oftentimes different strategies. It's poker vs chess. Since BG for Blood is about money play, which is rare today, it has more gamesmanship than modern theory allows and this rubs some of the "modern", computer-assisted authors the wrong way. Some authors just give you a problem and the equities for each play. The best authors are those that discuss the position and strategy first, and then the underlying probabilities (I recommend Robertie and Trice). Becker's strategy might have been wrong in some instances, but he had a strategy and could elaborate it without the computer doing it for him. There is no certainty in backgammon....none. The dice can be incredibly malicious or kind. The dice can snatch defeat from the jaws of victory for extended periods. Barclay Cooke is another author of the past that is heavily critiqued, but he and Bradshaw had one thing right.....their title. Backgammon has elements of poker and chess, but in reality it's in a world by itself. The dice and design of the game just leave open too many possibilities to try to put backgammon in a mathematical "box". You can have a zero error rate and still get beat badly. That doesn't happen in chess. That said, I am not recommending all of Becker's strategies, but his approach and enthusiasm are fantastic. Some form of backgammon has been played for thousands of years, long before computers, and Becker shows you why. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Best Backgammon Book ever! By Tommy TI bought this for my son-in-law. I bought it over 3 decades ago and it's excellent, but I'm not giving mine up! I haven't read it in a long time, but have been wanting to reread as a refresher. Great strategies and simple to understand!

Book has tight binding and sharp edges. No sign of shelf wear. Dustcover worn on edges. Fast ship.