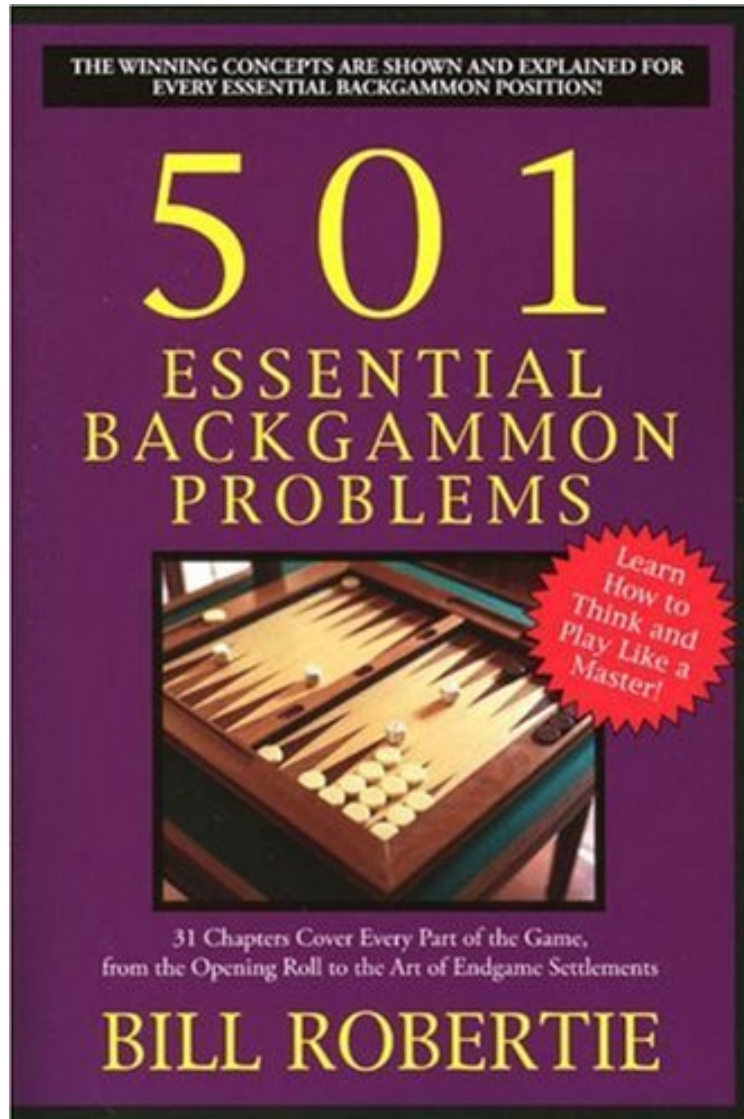


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501 Essential Backgammon Problems: 2nd Edition

Bill Robertie

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Bill Robertie : 501 Essential Backgammon Problems: 2nd Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 501 Essential Backgammon Problems: 2nd Edition:

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Expect to Improve / Highly RecommendedBy BSXXEdit - 11/29/11I can't say enough about this book, I have read A LOT of backgammon books, but this one had the most immediate impact on my game. I really like Robertie's books. Robertie teaches and explains, he doesn't pontificate.I have heard the neural nets (and let us not anger them) have found some "errors" in Robertie's analysis, but I have used

eXtreme Gammon on many problems, and have never found an error, and only a few cases where there were equal plays. Keep in mind Robertie's examples are chosen to illustrate the particular concept in question. In a few instances there may be other acceptable plays, but his purpose is to teach the pertinent concept, and he succeeds impressively. Your game will improve dramatically by understanding what Robertie is teaching. Robertie's method in 501 allows you to learn the concepts quicker and it is much more fun and interesting than slogging through page after page of some author's wearisome written "analysis". After you work through a few examples, you begin to see the concept in the remaining examples. This makes this book fun to read and review. This is the one backgammon book that I go back to occasionally when I get a little rusty. I had the same experience when I studied chess years ago. Pages of theory and analysis put me to sleep, while plenty of good examples of the same concept were like turning the light on for me, and I began to see it in my own games. Very few of us have the computer-like brains to perform complex calculations in our head, but we can analyze the position strategically for its strengths and weaknesses, what we need to accomplish, what potential dangers may exist, etc. and 501 excels in that area. Robertie teaches you how to play and how to think DURING the game, when it counts. With this information, you will outplay 95% of all backgammon players in head to head competition. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book. If you're an average or above player. By Joe Professor. Great book. If you're an average or above player, you will enjoy this book and learn from it. Problems are divided into categories (based on different stages of the game) and the "solutions" are explained clearly and with good insight (for the most part). But, as far as I know, this book is out of print. At the time of this review, used copies are going for about \$35 while new copies are offered at \$90 and more. A third edition (or a new printing of the second edition) at a more reasonable price would help refuel the sales and hopefully attract new players to this wonderful game. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A valuable purchase in spite of itself. By Wayne W. Wakeen. One has to assume Robertie knows what he's talking about given his track record at the World Championships. And if so, the examples (problems) he gives certainly do point out weaknesses in one's game. I'm a very experienced player and am learning quite a bit. So that's good. But this book was not proofread by anyone who knows what they're doing. I believe it was hastily put together (a "pot boiler") to generate revenue. Without much concern for the quality of the product. Having said all that, if you're a serious player this book can help you.

This comprehensive backgammon book challenges the reader with 501 essential problems to transform him into a thinking, aggressive pro-level player. Strategies and situation cover every aspect of the game, from playing positions to doubling maneuvers. Everything is carefully explained and illustrated so that the reader understands all the concepts.