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# OUTBACK



RULES • RÈGLES

HUCH!  
HUCH!



# RULES

# OUTBACK

Wild fun for 2 to 4 players ages 8 and up

You're deep in the Outback in Australia, in the desolate landlocked desert. Help the rangers take care of the animals there! New animals need to be settled and strategically located in the Outback. Points, lots of points are at stake! Who will be able to garner the most points by relocating their animals?



## AIM OF THE GAME

Arrange the animals in your Outback preserve in such a way that you gain as many points as possible. Matching animals are worth more points when they are next to one another than when isolated. But be careful! The scoring track along the top of the board starts over at 1 point again, and you only get points for your **last 3** animals on the scoring track on the left side of the board.

## 4 Outback preserves

Your Outback preserve. Place your animals on the hexagonal spaces.



## CONTENTS

1 jeep



Animals arrive at the preserves in the jeep. Throughout the course of the game take animals from the jeep and put them in your Outback preserve.

How to assemble the jeep:



These numbers indicate how many of the same animal symbol you have to roll to be able to place an animal in this row.



## 90 animal tiles

There are 18 tiles of each animal.

### Front



Emu



Kangaroo



Koala



Platypus



Monitor lizard

### Back



## 20 scoring markers

There are 4 scoring markers for each animal (1 set for each player).

### Front



### Back



## 20 bonus tiles

There are 4 bonus tiles for each animal (1 set for each player).



**Note:** There are another 14 bonus tiles needed only in the Plus version of "Outback", which are explained at the end of these game instructions.

**7 animal dice** (1 of which is only for the "Outback Plus" version)  
Each animal appears 1x on each die.

This is the  
joker symbol.



**1 start player marker**



**1 cloth bag**



**4 overview tiles**



## GAME SETUP

Put the jeep in the middle of the table so that everyone can reach it. Put all the **animal tiles** in the **bag** and mix them up. Then take 5 tiles from the bag without looking at them, laying them on the designated spaces in the jeep.

Have the 6 **animal dice** ready. The seventh die is not needed for this game.

Each player receives 1 **Outback preserve**, 5 **scoring markers** (one of each animal type) and 5 **bonus tiles** (one of each animal type).

Put the preserve with the 5 bonus spaces in front of you on the table. Put the scoring markers in the inlet next to -3 on your preserve. Put the bonus tiles next to your preserve for now; you will need them later on in the game.

Have the start **player marker** ready, which will be given to the start player at the beginning of the game.

Put all the remaining game materials back into the game box. You do not need them for this game.

Game setup for 4 players



## HOW TO PLAY

Roll the dice to see who goes first. The player with the highest number of matching animals gets to go first and puts the start player marker in front of him on the table. Jokers do not count when rolling to see who goes first.

Each player takes turns in a clockwise direction.

### Is the jeep full?

On your turn, first look at the jeep to see if there are 5 animals in it. If not, fill the designated spaces with new tiles, which you pull out of the bag. You are not allowed to look in the bag when pulling them out!

**Note:** If there are 5 animals of the same kind on the jeep, you can change all animals with new ones out of the bag.

### How to get an animal from the jeep

You want to add animals to your Outback preserve. When doing so, there are a few things to keep in mind: Beside each row in your preserve, there is a number. The number indicates how many of the same animal symbol you have to roll to be able to lay an animal in this row. You can use the joker symbol on the die to represent any one of the animals, but you cannot use it on its own

without another animal symbol. Depending on what you roll, you can lay 1, 2 or even 3 animals in your Outback on your turn.

### Rolling the dice

On your turn, roll all 6 dice. You can roll the dice up to 3 times on your turn. After each roll, you can keep 1 or more dice, which you will later use to take animals from the jeep. You can also add dice that you kept from your previous roll back into the mix for the next roll.

**Important!** Pay attention to which animals are in the jeep, because these are the only animals you can put into your Outback. If, for example, there are no kangaroos in the jeep, it won't do you any good to collect dice with the kangaroo symbol on them.

### Laying animal tiles in your Outback preserve

Once you have rolled the dice 3 times (or fewer if you were already satisfied after the first or second roll), match the dice with the animal(s) in the jeep that you want to take. Then take the animal(s) and lay them on any one of the spaces in the corresponding row.

After laying the tiles in your Outback preserve, fill the empty spaces in the jeep again by pulling tiles out of the bag without looking at them.

### Example:

On her first attempt, Anna rolls 3x Koalas, 1x kangaroo, 1x platypus and 1x joker. She keeps the 3 koalas and the joker, putting them off to the side. She then rolls the remaining dice again. Now she rolls 1x emu and 1x joker. She is satisfied with the result and passes on her third roll. She arranges her dice into two groups: 3x koalas + 1x joker = 4x koalas and 1x emu + joker = 2 emus. She then takes 1 koala tile and 1 emu tile from the jeep and puts the koala in the row with the number 4 and the emu in the row with the 2. She lays the emu on the space to the far left and the koala on the space to the far right of their respective rows. This gives her enough room on her following turns to lay more emus and koalas next to them.



### First roll



### Second roll

(with the two dice not kept from the first roll)



### No matching animal symbols?

If after 3 attempts of rolling the dice you do not roll the matching animal symbols that you need to be able to take animal tiles from the jeep, you're out of luck. Pull out a tile from the bag and lay it facing down on any space in your Outback preserve. This space is now blocked and can never be occupied by an animal. At the end of the game, you get 2 minus points for every blocked space in your preserve.

### Example:

Julie was able to put 2 animal tiles in her preserve. She laid a monitor lizard next to another monitor lizard that was already in her preserve and a platypus next to a group of platypuses.

For the monitor lizard, Julie gets 2 points: 1 point for the new animal tile and 1 point for the animal tile already in her preserve. Julie was able to lay her platypus next to a group of multiple platypuses and gets 1 point for the new platypus tile and 1 point each for every other platypus in the connected group. For the lone platypus not in the group she does not receive any points. By laying the new platypus, she has formed a group of 4 platypuses. She gets a total of 4 points for the group.



### Scoring

You get points for all the animals you were able to put in your Outback preserve during this round. For each new animal, you get to move your scoring marker of the corresponding animal 1 point ahead along the scoring track.

If the new animal is next to another of its kind or a connected group of animals of the same kind, you receive an additional point for each of these animals.

### The scoring track

The scoring track is divided into two parts, one on the left and one at the top. Scoring starts on the left scoring track. Once a scoring marker reaches the end of the left scoring track, it continues along the upper scoring track. The upper scoring track starts at 1 again, but don't let that worry you. At the end of the game, points for the left scoring track are awarded only for the **last 3** scoring markers, i.e. the 3 animal scoring markers closest to the bottom. That means, it is worth it to have 2 animals on the upper scoring track at the end of the game.

### Note:

- When receiving points for an animal for the first time, move the corresponding scoring marker from the -3 inlet to the 1. Ignore the other -3 inlets.

- Once your scoring marker reaches the end of the upper scoring track, leave it there. Remaining points are forfeited.

### Bonus tiles

If you manage to place 3 animals of the same kind in your Outback, take the bonus tile corresponding to the respective animal type and place it on the first free bonus space on your Outback preserve. For the first bonus tile, you get 1 point, for the second, 2 points, for the third, 3 points, for the fourth, 4 points, and for the fifth, 5 points. Immediately move the respective scoring marker ahead on the scoring track.



# OUTBACK PLUS



For this game variation, some of the rules change.

## GAME SETUP

In this version, you will also need:

- the other bonus tiles
- the seventh die
- possibly the 4 scoring tiles, if you want to play according to the scoring version (see end of the game instructions)

In this version, you no longer need:

- the bonus tiles for the basic game
- Set up the game as described above. However, lay the Outback preserves with the bonus spaces facing down. Place the 14 additional bonus tiles in the playing area so that everyone can see them.

Game setup for 3 players



**Note:** If you want to, you can also play with less bonus tiles. If so, simply turn over all the bonus tiles, so that the back is facing up. Shuffle the tiles and select any 5 of them. Turn the selected tiles back over again so that everyone can see them. The remaining tiles are not needed for this game.

**Hint:** It is recommended to sort the bonus tiles according to kind so that you have a better overview when playing.

## HOW TO PLAY

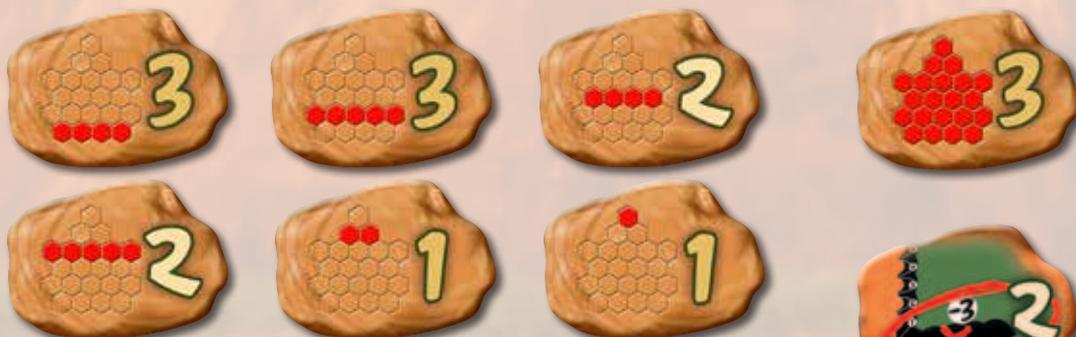
Play as described above in the basic game, but this time roll all 7 dice instead of 6. The bonus for three animals of the same kind no longer applies. But, at the end of every turn, look to see if you qualify to receive one or more of the available bonus tiles. To receive one of the tiles you have to meet the given criteria. If you meet the criteria, take the bonus tile and place it face down in front of you on the table.

**Note:** There is only 1 of each bonus tile, once it has been taken, it cannot be taken by anyone else.

## END OF GAME

The game ends just as it does in the basic game. Add up your points from the scoring tracks and the blocked spaces. Then turn over your bonus tiles and count up their points. Add them to your subtotal. The player with the most points wins! In the event of a tie, the player with the most bonus tiles wins. And if it is still a tie, these players share the win.

## BONUS TILES



The first player to complete the indicated row by occupying all its spaces **with animals** receives the points shown on the tile. If there are turned-over tiles in the row, the player does not qualify for the bonus tile.



The first player to have 5 animals of one kind in his preserve (they do not have to be connected) receives 2 points.



The first player to complete their preserve receives 3 points.



Whoever no longer has a scoring marker on the starting position with the -3 receives 2 points.



The first player to move 2 scoring markers onto the upper scoring track receives 2 points.



# OUTBACK

## Partnership variant for 4 players

**Play as described in the basic rules with the following changes:**  
Choose a partner so that you have two teams with two players.

### GAME SETUP

Each player receives an Outback preserve. Put the preserve with the 5 bonus spaces in front of you (However, these bonus spaces are not used in this variant).

Have all the 7 animal dice ready. Put the 5 bonus tiles with the animals from the Outback plus version in the middle of the table.

### HOW TO PLAY

Choose a start player. Each player take turns in a clockwise direction. On your turn, roll all 7 dice. If you take more than 1 animal, give the second animal to your partner. They has to put it into his

preserve per the normal rules for placement on their preserve. Animals taken must always alternate between partners. A player can't take 2 unless the other partner gets one. Don't forget to have a look at the bonus tiles! As soon as you can fulfill one of the tile requirements, you can claim it.

### END OF THE GAME

Play until one player has completed his preserve. Finish that round so everyone has had an equal number of turns. Now everyone counts their points. The teams add up their points. The team with the most points wins the game.

In the event of a tie, the team with the most bonus tiles wins.

