

BACKGROUNDS

In this section, you will find a collection of Backgrounds tailored to the Roma Invicta setting, which represents the ancient Roman Empire during the reign of Augustus. These Backgrounds highlight some of the most typical facets of this unique scenario and are designed to be used alongside those from the core rulebook.

Additionally, the list below outlines which Backgrounds from the main book are not allowed in the Roma Invicta setting.

Backgrounds not allowed:

- Dark Past
- Eccentric
- Elven Training
- Shapechanger



URBANITE

You were born and raised in the bustling cities of the Roman Empire, and you understand the intricate laws of the urban jungle better than anyone else. You may be seen as a typical “city-dweller” by those from the countryside, but you take pride in your urban upbringing.

- **Minor (cost 1 BP):** Write your Nature about your upbringing in the city and why you thrive in its environment. You gain a +10 bonus to all your Roguery Skills while you are within city walls. Additionally, you can navigate cities with ease, reducing travel time within the city by half, as long as you’re on foot and Unencumbered or Lightly Encumbered.
- **Major (cost 3 BPs):** Furthermore, you get a +30 bonus on your Save Rolls against Disease and Poison. You also gain a +20 bonus to your Cultures and Charisma Skills while dealing with city folk and urban environments.



SHOWMAN

You possess a natural flair for the dramatic and thrive under the gaze of an audience. Your performances inspire and captivate, whether you’re engaging in artistic pursuits or fighting for your life in the arena.

- **Minor (cost 1 BP):** You gain a +10 bonus to all your actions when acting, performing, or competing in front of a crowd. The GM will determine if a particular situation warrants this bonus, but it must have a show aspect, like in an artistic or musical performance, gladiatorial fight, chariot race or athletic games.
- **Major (cost 3 BPs):** Your dedication to the thrill of performance and the roar of the crowd has become a defining aspect of your life. In addition to the minor tier benefits, you gain an additional Passion, named “Spectaculum,” representing your unyielding commitment to putting on a magnificent show. Work with the GM and the rest of the group to define this Passion, ensuring it reflects your character’s unique drive and ties to their identity as a showman (e.g., “I must become the most famous gladiator in Rome,” “I will stage a play that brings the entire city to tears,” or “I shall organize a chariot race that leaves spectators breathless”). This Passion functions like any other, but it cannot be changed unless you fulfill your grand ambition.

AGILIS PUGIL

You possess extraordinary dexterity and finesse, allowing you to perform intricate maneuvers and exploit your enemies' weaknesses with ease. Whether slipping through tight defenses or executing precise strikes, your deft hands make you a formidable opponent in any confrontation.

- **Minor (cost 1 BP):** Your deft hands and keen eye allow you to exploit the weaknesses in your enemies' defenses. When using a weapon with the Backstab Quality, your Clumsy Range is reduced by 1 (to a minimum of 1), and you gain a +5 bonus to your Combat Maneuver Bonus (CMB) whenever you're Flanking, On Rear, performing a Dashing Attack, or attempting a Feint or Disarm Martial Move.
- **Major (cost 3 BPs):** Additionally, as long as you're wearing Light Armor or are unarmored and using a weapon with the Backstab Quality, you can use your SWI instead of BRN as the Stat modifier for the appropriate Combat Skill.

