

# **Barans Company Purchased Merchandise On Account From Springhill Company For \$8,200, Terms 1/10, N/30.**

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This transaction marks an important event in the accounting records of Barans Company, affecting its inventory, accounts payable, and cash flow management. Understanding the nuances behind this purchase, including the terms and implications, is essential for accurate financial reporting and strategic decision-making. This article explores the various facets of this transaction, including the purchase details, the accounting entries involved, the significance of credit terms, and how this impacts financial statements.

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## **Understanding the Purchase Transaction**

### **Details of the Purchase**

When Barans Company acquires merchandise from Springhill Company for \$8,200 on credit, it signifies an increase in inventory and a corresponding increase in accounts payable. The purchase is made on credit terms of 1/10, N/30, which provides the buyer with specific payment incentives and deadlines.

Key components of the purchase:

- Purchase Price: \$8,200
- Credit Terms: 1/10, N/30

The credit terms specify that Barans Company can take advantage of a 1% discount if payment is made within 10 days; otherwise, the net amount is due within 30 days.

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## **Deciphering Credit Terms: 1/10, N/30**

### **Meaning of the Terms**

- 1/10: A 1% discount is available if the invoice is paid within 10 days of the invoice date.
- N/30: The net amount (full invoice amount) is due within 30 days if the discount is not taken.

Implications for Barans Company:

- If the company pays within 10 days, it can reduce its expense by 1%, saving \$82 (1% of \$8,200).
- If payment is delayed beyond 10 days but made within 30 days, no discount is available, and the total of \$8,200 is payable.

## Strategic Considerations

Deciding whether to take advantage of the discount depends on the company's cash flow, financial strategy, and opportunity cost. If Barans Company has sufficient cash reserves, paying early to secure the discount can be beneficial. Otherwise, it might opt to pay later, especially if cash conservation is a priority.

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## Accounting for the Purchase

### Initial Journal Entry

When the merchandise is purchased on credit, the following journal entry is recorded:

- Debit: Inventory (or Purchases) for \$8,200
- Credit: Accounts Payable for \$8,200

This reflects an increase in inventory (asset) and an obligation to pay Springhill Company.

### Recording the Payment and Discount

If Barans Company pays within the discount period, the entry involves:

1. Recording the payment with the discount:

- Debit: Accounts Payable for \$8,200
- Credit: Cash for the amount paid (less discount)
- Credit: Inventory (or Purchase Discounts) for the discount amount

Calculations:

- Discount amount = 1% of \$8,200 = \$82
- Payment amount = \$8,200 - \$82 = \$8,118

Journal Entry:

- Debit: Accounts Payable \$8,200
- Credit: Cash \$8,118
- Credit: Purchase Discounts \$82

This reduces both the company's liabilities and cash outflow, reflecting the benefit of early payment.

2. If payment is made after the discount period:

- Debit: Accounts Payable for \$8,200
- Credit: Cash for \$8,200

No discount is recorded, and the full amount is paid.

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## **Impacts on Financial Statements**

### **Balance Sheet Effects**

- Assets: Inventory increases by \$8,200 upon purchase.
- Liabilities: Accounts payable increases by \$8,200.
- When paying early with discount: Cash decreases by \$8,118, and inventory decreases by \$82 (if discounts are recorded as a reduction of inventory).

### **Income Statement Effects**

- The purchase cost is reflected in the cost of goods sold when inventory is sold.
- The discount, if taken, reduces the total purchase cost, thereby increasing gross profit.

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## **Strategic and Financial Considerations**

### **Benefits of Taking the Discount**

- Cost Savings: The company saves \$82 on the purchase.
- Improved Cash Management: Paying early can improve creditworthiness.
- Interest Cost Avoidance: The discount effectively reduces the cost of credit, akin to an interest rate of approximately 10.2% annually (calculated as 1% over 10 days).

## Risks and Drawbacks

- Cash Flow Constraints: The company must have sufficient liquidity to pay early.
- Opportunity Cost: Funds used for early payment could be invested elsewhere.
- Administrative Effort: Ensuring timely payment to qualify for discounts requires diligent accounts payable management.

## When to Pay Early

- When cash reserves allow and the discount offers a favorable cost saving.
- When early payment enhances supplier relationships and may lead to better credit terms in the future.
- When the cost of capital is high, making early payment less attractive.

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## Conclusion

The transaction involving Barans Company purchasing merchandise from Springhill Company for \$8,200 under terms 1/10, N/30 presents a classic example of credit management, accounting procedures, and strategic financial planning. Recognizing the significance of credit terms allows companies to optimize cash flows and cost management. Proper recording of the transaction ensures accurate financial statements, which are vital for internal analysis and external reporting.

By understanding the implications of taking advantage of discounts and managing payable timelines effectively, Barans Company can improve its financial efficiency and strengthen supplier relationships. Such transactions underscore the importance of meticulous accounting and strategic decision-making in everyday business operations.

In summary, the purchase under the specified terms offers both opportunities and considerations that influence the company's financial health, operational planning, and strategic growth. Proper documentation, timely payments, and strategic use of credit terms are essential components of sound financial management for any business.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What does the term '1/10, N/30' mean in the purchase from Springhill Company?

It indicates a 1% discount is available if the invoice is paid within 10 days; otherwise, the net amount is due within 30 days.

## **How should Barans Company record the initial purchase of merchandise worth \$8,200 on account?**

They should debit Merchandise Inventory for \$8,200 and credit Accounts Payable for \$8,200.

## **If Barans Company pays within the discount period, how much will they pay for the merchandise?**

They will pay \$8,200 minus 1% discount, which is  $\$8,200 - \$82 = \$8,118$ .

## **What journal entry is made if Barans Company pays within the discount period?**

Debit Accounts Payable for \$8,200, credit Cash for \$8,118, and credit Merchandise Inventory for \$82 (the discount).

## **What happens if Barans Company misses the discount period and pays after 10 days but within 30 days?**

They will pay the full amount of \$8,200, with no discount applied.

## **Why is it important for Barans Company to pay within the discount period?**

Paying within the discount period reduces the cost of goods purchased by taking advantage of the 1% discount, saving the company money.

## **How does the purchase on account impact Barans Company's financial statements?**

It increases assets (Merchandise Inventory) and liabilities (Accounts Payable) until payment is made, affecting the company's working capital and cash flow planning.

## **Additional Resources**

Barans Company's Purchase from Springhill Company: An In-Depth Analysis of Terms, Accounting Implications, and Strategic Considerations

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## **Introduction to the Transaction**

In the realm of business transactions, purchasing merchandise on account is a common practice that

facilitates inventory management and cash flow optimization. A recent transaction between Barans Company and Springhill Company exemplifies this process: Barans Company purchased merchandise amounting to \$8,200 on credit, under the terms 1/10, N/30. This specific transaction encapsulates key accounting principles, strategic decision-making, and operational implications that warrant a detailed examination.

This review aims to dissect this transaction comprehensively, exploring the nature of the purchase, the significance of credit terms, the accounting entries involved, and strategic considerations that can influence business outcomes.

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## **Understanding the Purchase Details**

### **1. The Basic Transaction**

- Vendor: Springhill Company
- Purchaser: Barans Company
- Merchandise Value: \$8,200
- Type of Transaction: Purchase on account (credit purchase)
- Terms: 1/10, N/30

This indicates that Barans Company has acquired inventory worth \$8,200 from Springhill Company without immediate cash payment, under the agreed-upon credit terms.

### **2. Significance of the Purchase**

This transaction is pivotal for several reasons:

- It impacts inventory levels, affecting supply chain and sales capacity.
- It influences accounts payable, a crucial component of current liabilities.
- It offers an opportunity for cash savings through early payment discounts.

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## **Deciphering the Credit Terms: 1/10, N/30**

### **1. Meaning of the Terms**

- 1/10: A 1% discount is available if the invoice is paid within 10 days from the invoice date.
- N/30: The net amount (full invoice) is due within 30 days if the discount is not taken.

This type of credit term is common in trade credit arrangements, incentivizing early payment and managing supplier-customer relationships effectively.

## 2. Strategic Implications of the Terms

- Cash Flow Management: Barans Company can optimize cash flow by paying early and availing the discount.
- Supplier Relations: Taking advantage of the discount can foster good supplier relationships.
- Financial Cost/Benefit Analysis: The cost of not taking the discount equates to 1% over the period beyond 10 days. This cost must be weighed against the company's cash position and other investment opportunities.

## 3. Calculating the Discount

- Discount amount:  $1\% \text{ of } \$8,200 = \$82$
- Discounted payment amount:  $\$8,200 - \$82 = \$8,118$

If Barans Company pays within 10 days, they only pay \$8,118, effectively saving \$82.

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## Accounting for the Purchase

### 1. Recording the Transaction

The initial journal entry on the date of purchase would be:

| Date          | Account Debited       | Debit   | Account Credited | Credit  |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| -----         | -----                 | -----   | -----            | -----   |
| Purchase Date | Merchandise Inventory | \$8,200 | Accounts Payable | \$8,200 |

Explanation:

- Merchandise Inventory increases, reflecting the addition to stock.
- Accounts Payable increases, indicating the obligation to pay Springhill Company.

### 2. Considering the Discount if Paid Early

If Barans Company decides to pay within the discount period, the entry would be:

| Date                          | Account Debited                  | Debit   | Account Credited | Credit  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| -----                         | -----                            | -----   | -----            | -----   |
| Payment Date (within 10 days) | Accounts Payable                 | \$8,200 | Cash             | \$8,118 |
|                               | Merchandise Inventory (discount) | \$82    |                  |         |

Note: The discount is recorded by reducing the cost of inventory or as a separate discount account, depending on company policy.

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# Impact on Financial Statements

## 1. Balance Sheet Effects

- Assets: Merchandise Inventory increases by \$8,200 initially.
- Liabilities: Accounts Payable increases by \$8,200.
- After Payment: Cash decreases by the amount paid (either full \$8,200 or discounted \$8,118).

## 2. Income Statement Effects

- The purchase itself does not directly impact net income but affects gross profit through inventory costs.
- If discounts are taken, the cost of goods sold (COGS) reflects the discounted purchase price, reducing expenses and increasing net income.

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# Strategic Considerations for Barans Company

## 1. Timing of Payment

- Early Payment Benefits: Availing the 1% discount reduces inventory costs and improves profitability.
- Cash Flow Constraints: The company must assess whether it has sufficient liquidity to pay early.
- Opportunity Cost: The company should consider alternative uses for the cash that could yield higher returns than the 1% discount savings.

## 2. Inventory Management

- Ensuring that inventory levels are maintained to meet sales demands without overstocking.
- Using purchase discounts as part of a broader procurement strategy to optimize costs.

## 3. Supplier Relationship Management

- **Consistently paying within the discount period can build trust with suppliers.**
- **Negotiating better terms in future transactions based on reliable payment history.**

## **4. Financial Reporting and Compliance**

- Accurate recording of discounts and liabilities is essential for compliance and transparency.**
- Proper classification of discounts as either a reduction of inventory cost or as purchase discounts affects financial ratios and analysis.**

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## **Implications for Springhill Company**

### **1. Revenue Recognition**

- Recognizing the sale at the gross amount (\$8,200) until discounts are taken.**
- Offering discounts as an incentive to ensure prompt payment, improving cash flows.**

### **2. Cash Flow and Receivables Management**

- Encouraging early payments through discounts reduces the risk of overdue receivables.**
- Enhances liquidity and reduces collection efforts.**

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## **Broader Industry and Market Context**

## **1. Trade Credit as a Strategic Tool**

- Common in B2B transactions.**
- Facilitates smoother supply chain operations.**
- Offers mutual benefits: suppliers accelerate cash inflows; buyers optimize working capital.**

## **2. Risks and Challenges**

- Default Risk: If Barans Company delays or defaults, Springhill Company faces potential losses.**
- Market Fluctuations: Changes in inventory value or market conditions can impact the transaction's profitability.**
- Credit Terms Negotiation: Companies often negotiate to improve terms based on creditworthiness.**

## **3. Impact of Industry Norms**

- Industries with rapid inventory turnover may favor early payment discounts.**
- Industries with longer credit cycles might weigh the benefits of discounts against cash flow needs.**

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## **Conclusion: Strategic Insights and Best Practices**

**The purchase of merchandise on account at \$8,200 with terms 1/10, N/30 embodies the nuanced interplay between**

**operational efficiency, financial management, and strategic planning. For Barans Company, leveraging the early payment discount can lead to tangible cost savings and foster stronger supplier relationships. However, it requires careful cash flow analysis to ensure that early payments do not strain liquidity.**

**From an accounting perspective, proper recording of the purchase, consideration of discounts, and accurate reflection on financial statements are fundamental to transparency and compliance. Strategically, companies should weigh the benefits of discounts against their cash management policies, inventory needs, and market conditions.**

**This transaction exemplifies the importance of understanding credit terms and their implications. Proper management leads to improved profitability, enhanced supplier relations, and optimized working capital. As businesses navigate complex supply chain and financial environments, mastering such transactions becomes essential for sustained growth and competitive advantage.**

**In sum, the purchase from Springhill Company under these terms is more than a simple accounting entry; it's a strategic lever that can influence a company's financial health and operational success when managed with insight and discipline.**

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