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Chess Visualization For Innocent Souls



Synopsis

Are you able to see blindfold the path of a Knight located on b2 to check opponent's King on d4 without passing through the squares where it could be captured by the King? And are you able to replay the game you just played without looking at your scoresheet? A Candidate Master does that immediately, an expert can do it slowly, most intermediate players have great difficulties, a novice does not see anything. This book could help you see more plies blindfold, if you can stand to do the exercises (all of them, in the given sequence). A correct board vision is important as the execution of a tactic, or setting a strategy, depends on correct assessment of piece position. Besides, visualization skills reduce the chances of blind spots and illusions. Yasser Seirawan in his introduction to "Endings" states that even the most determined and enthusiastic players can be driven nearly to tears with the tedium of trying to study endings. But that's nothing compared to how boring a book about visualization can be, like this one. If you are new to my books, better look first for Fundamental Chess Patterns. If you already know some, please look inside before buying this one. Because this book is really very boring, it is not a leisure book to simply read, but it contains a series of exercises that must be done in the sequence shown. Should visualization have no appeal to you, samples of more user friendly chess handbooks can be seen here: scacchi.vecchilibri.eu/biblioteca/books.htm , copying this link to your browser. Rodolfo Pardi, librarian, instructor and arbiter of Italian Chess Federation. P.S. As usual, I apologize for the grammar errors you might find in this translation from Italian. Look inside to verify that you will understand, and to preview the usual 10% made available by .

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An excellent introduction to chess visualization that any player rated under 2000 should use.

Explanations, examples and tests are plentiful in the book. It covers familiarizations with squares, lines of attack and even Knight paths. There is also a section on learning to play blindfold chess.

Visualization isn't easy to master in any circumstance, but this book offers important steps you can take to improve your abilities. Highly recommended as a learning tool.

At the time this was written, grandmaster Gareev was chasing Koltanowski's 50-year-old records for simultaneous blindfold play, which has created interest in the SF Bay Area chess community about the skills required for such feats. I'll be glad to recommend Pardi's little book to my students who are interested in blindfold play or improving their chess visualization. The exercises therein are evergreen - I remember doing one of the knight touring exercises in the '70s, after an expert friend was pleased to have discovered a training secret of the Soviet School. The simplest exercise possible for visualization - name a square, name its color as fast as you can - was recommended by the unparalleled teacher Purdy in the '40s. Pardi teaches for the right reasons - he just wants people to improve at chess - and the only reason the Kindle edition costs 99 cents is because he wouldn't let him give this wonderful teaching away for free. The charming cat art is worth the price of purchase all by itself. Most highly recommended.

This is an excellent book for the improving player. The author recommends it for class B or under.

The book presents a series of exercises designed to help you learn to visualize the board and look ahead. Something all of us club players need to work on.

Mental exercises intended for players below expert level. Written on the basis that visualization improves knowledge and skill. Interesting. Why only four stars? Because it can have appeal only for a sub-set of the amateur players. However, at this price it is worth buying, in order to see if you like it.

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