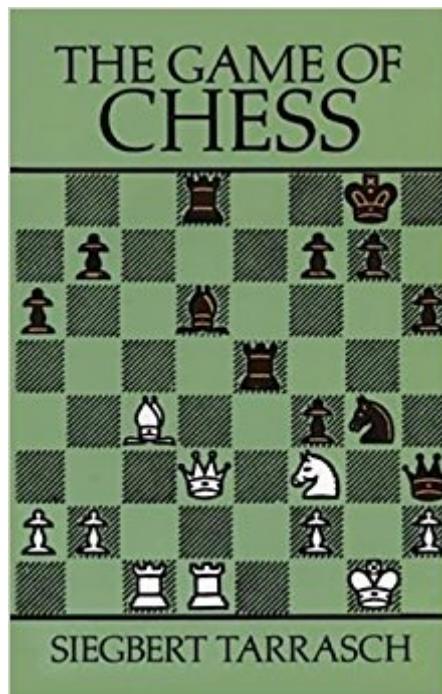


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The Game Of Chess (Dover Chess)



Synopsis

"I have always a slight feeling of pity for the man who has no knowledge of chess, just as I would pity the man who has remained ignorant of love. Chess, like love, like music, has the power to make men happy. The way to this happiness I have tried to show in this book." â " Author's PrefaceWhile there are many chess instruction books available, few have achieved the lofty stature of the present volume. Fewer still have been written by a legendary International Grandmaster whose pedagogical skills rivaled the chess prowess that enabled him to demolish opponents at the board. An immediate success upon its first publication, The Game of Chess has become one of the game's enduring classics, considered by some critics the finest book ever written on the game. Part of its success stems from Dr. Tarrasch's unorthodox approach to teaching chess: "I employ quite another method and one analogous to that a mother uses to teach her child to talk. I play with the beginner from the very start in that I put before him simple positions and from them explain the fundamentals of chess. It is the intuitive method of instruction. In this way the pupil learns chess quite easily, of that I am convinced." To make it easier for the beginning student, Dr. Tarrasch also reverses the order in which the game is usually taught. Instead, he begins with the End-Game, since "obviously it is easier for the beginner to deal with a few men than the entire thirty-two." Then follows the heart of the book, an important and extensive discussion of the Middle Game. Analyzing the most important parts of hundreds of games, Tarrasch presents a comprehensive treatment of combination play, an aspect of chess for which he was especially renowned. Finally, he deals with the most complex part of the game â " the Opening â " and offers enlightening comments on many historically important variations. Illustrated with over 340 diagrams and including 12 complete games, The Game of Chess remains one of the standard texts, a careful reading of which will improve the game of any player.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English, German (translation)

Dr Tarrasch was one of the most famous of the old school of chess masters. He was one of the original five first Grandmasters of the game. His works have been revered and recommended by chess masters throughout the twentieth century. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

My chess instructor recommended this book. It might be more accurate to say he required me to buy it, as I need to read a little bit every week to improve my game. Anyway, I have not gone through the whole book yet. I am still a novice, so I tend to follow his lead when it comes to reading and studying. However, from what I have read so far, the author of the book really took his time putting this book together. I have come across no typographical errors yet. A lot of care and consideration for the novice player has been used. Moves are explained, and good alternatives are given. For those who are absolute beginners, this book might seem confusing. I recommend finding another player (in the event that you can't afford a chess teacher) who knows the old descriptive notation. This book doesn't use 1. e4 e5...etc., but uses notation such as 1. P - K4 P - K4 . The book teaches one a little bit about the descriptive notation, but it is easier to have someone go over it with you. By the way, the book is written with endgames first, middle-games second, and openings third. This might not make sense to everyone. However, there are fewer pieces on the board in the endgame, thus fewer distractions. Also, you want to learn how to win some endings (or survive them if you must strive for a draw) so that all your hard work in a given game isn't for nothing... You CAN go through the book without reading about endgames first. Your needs might be different. My instructor decided to start me on some openings he thinks I can handle. We have studied some endgames that are appropriate for someone at my level (my current rating is just over 1100).

This is a welcome updating into algebraic notation of one of the greatest primers of chess ever. Everyone has their favorite, but I have seen a number of chess authorities who consider this the best ever of its kind in teaching the post-beginner the basic elements of chess. The book is divided into the Opening, the Middlegame and Endings. The opening section is quite dated, of course, and occasionally Tarrasch's well known dogmatism appears, but the ending and middlegame sections

are still very, very valuable. Tarrasch give fundamental positions and then gives clear and insightful explanation of the play. The middlegame section has some strategic ideas, but appropriate to the intended audience, focuses on tactics. Tarrasch is a master of highlighting key principles of play, and writes vividly and memorably. For example, his saying that "A pawn on f6 sets up all kinds of mating attacks" is vividly memorable, and is a theme that I have seen come into play over and over again when solving tactical puzzles. The great instructor C.J.S. Purdy was very fond of this book, marveling at how many fundamental positions and principles that Tarrasch packed into this text. Subjecting Tarrasch's recommended lines to the harsh light of computer scrutiny will find the occasional mistake, but that does not detract from the book's great value. Highly recommended for developing players. If you are a post-beginner and are debating between this and another classic, Nimzovich's "My System", definitely start with this one, as it will teach you many of the basic tactics that you need to know before moving on to the deeper strategic themes that "My System" tends to focus on.

Best introduction to chess I have seen, and I have read many.

I just received my copy of this today. I have been using the Dover Edition of The Game of Chess by Tarrasch, but that edition is in Standard Notation. I saw this online and figured it would be more useful in algebraic notation. It seems to be the same content, which is great. However the formatting they changed in how the text is organized is not as well done as the Dover Edition. Its mostly big chunks of paragraphs which makes it difficult to follow the moves list. The Dover Edition presented it in a numbered list format. Also, the images for the chess boards are very low resolution and noticeably worse than the Dover Edition. Some times the pieces are a bit confusing (pawn vs bishop) because the ink is so blurry. Overall, great book for me being new to chess and trying to take it to the next level. I would recommend this over the Dover Edition only because its in algebraic and that is used more often in today's chess games.

This is a cool book, but it has some drawbacks. Specifically, it uses an old notation of the chess board that limits its usefulness for those who want to learn the board according to the commonly used system of assigning letters and numbers to ranks and files. Strategies and sequences are often described using this old written system, and not with lots of pictures of chess boards. Only buy if you are familiar with older board notation systems, can "see" the board from reading said notations, or are interested in seeing what old-school chess books are like.

Chess is one of those board games that go beyond far beyond learning just how to move the pieces. Fortunately, or unfortunately there are a plethora of literature to guide one to understanding this game. The Game of Chess is one such book. But, instead of just showing familiar openings & tactics... It gives one a deep understanding of the game. It teaches you the three parts of the game in the order needed to ground you in the fundamentals before you have ever actually moved one piece! HMan...

I enjoyed it, and recommended it to a friend. He said it really improved his game, and he insisted on buying it from me. I let him.

This is, indeed, a book highly recommendable for beginners.

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