



Chess Puzzles

Volume 1

Medium



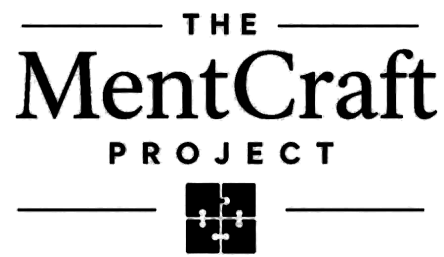
400 Puzzles + 50 Bonus Puzzles

Find the Best Move - Complete Answer Key

Legal Positions - Carefully Graded

GREAT FOR ALL AGES

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Chess Puzzles

Medium - Volume 1

Find the Best Move

450 Puzzles Including 50 Bonus Puzzles

For David

My son, you have a wonderful mind.
Always remain curious and never assume you know everything.

How to Get the Most Out of This Book

Every MentCraft collection starts from a simple idea: different minds grow stronger in different ways. Chess has a special place in that family. A single position can ask you to notice a hidden threat, compare tempting ideas, calculate a few moves ahead, and then trust the line that survives your own questions. It brings together pattern recognition, calculation, imagination, and the quiet satisfaction of seeing a position clearly.

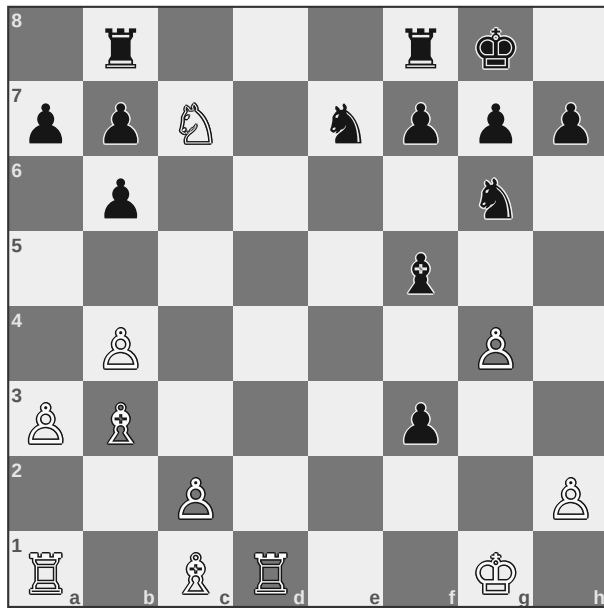
Each puzzle in this book asks one simple question: What is the best move? White is always shown at the bottom of the board, and the label beneath the diagram tells you whose turn it is. Before you turn to the solutions, give the position a little time. Look for checks, captures, threats, loose pieces, vulnerable kings, and tactical patterns - but don't stop at the first move that looks good. Ask what your opponent would play next.

This Medium volume is designed to strengthen calculation and pattern recognition as the positions become less immediate. Some ideas will still appear quickly; others will ask you to compare two or three plausible moves and follow the consequences a little further. The aim is not only to solve more puzzles, but to become more systematic, more accurate in your calculation, and more comfortable rejecting attractive moves that do not survive a careful reply. If a puzzle resists the first idea you see, that resistance is part of the training.

You'll find 400 main puzzles and 50 bonus puzzles, followed by complete solutions in standard algebraic notation. In the solutions, x marks a capture, + a check, # checkmate, and O-O / O-O-O castling. Every published position is carefully checked for legality and a clear best move. Use the My Notes line whenever it helps you compare ideas, remember a pattern, or capture the reason a move works. Take your time, enjoy the process, and let every position make the next one a little easier to see.

Puzzle 001

EASY

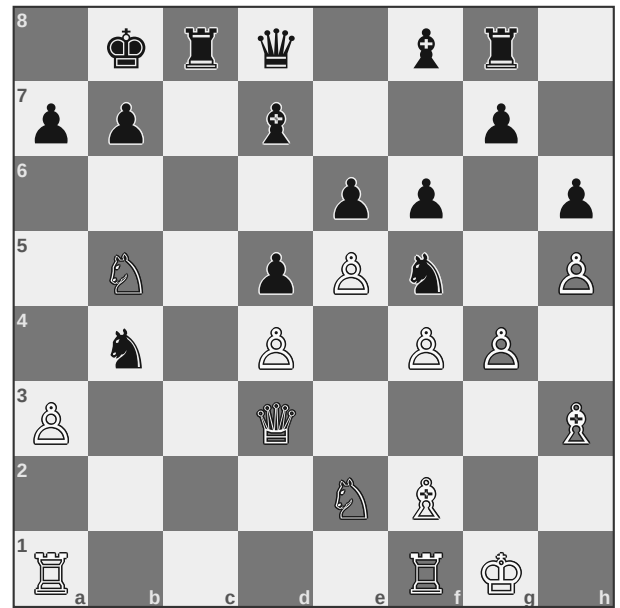
**WHITE TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 002

EASY

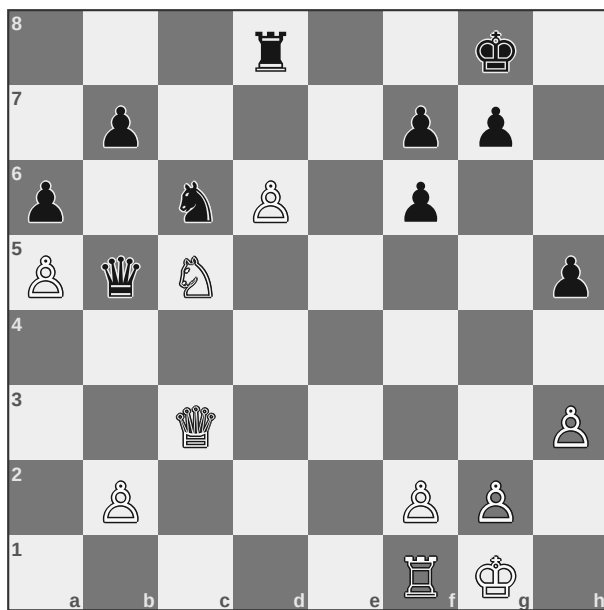
**WHITE TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 003

EASY

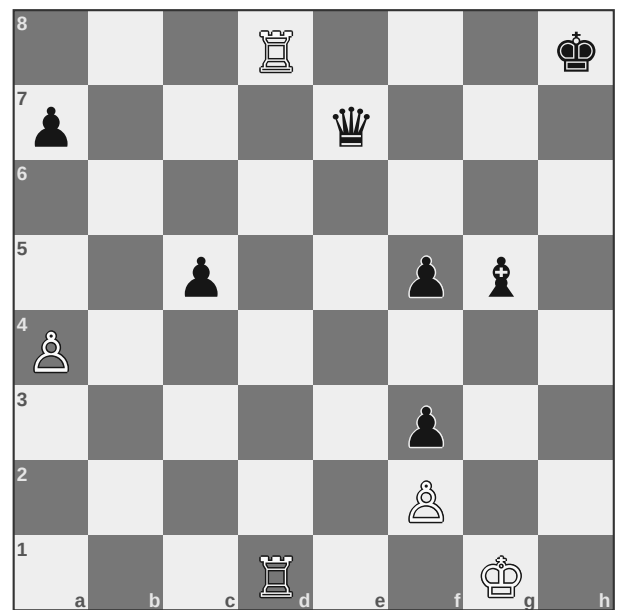
**BLACK TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 004

EASY

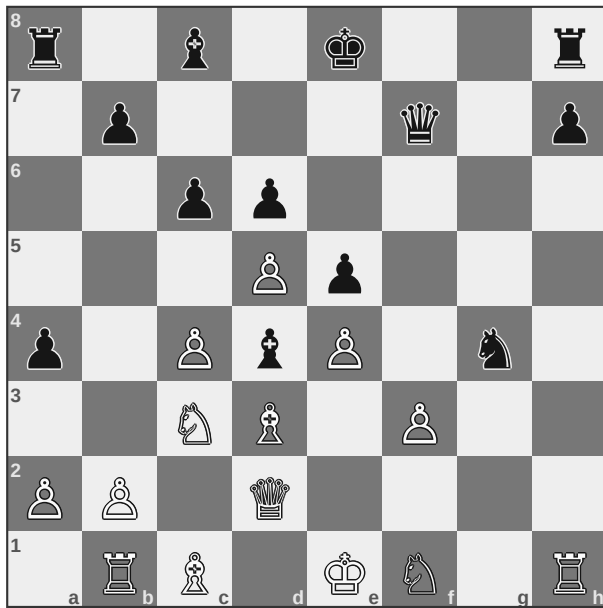
**BLACK TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 005

EASY

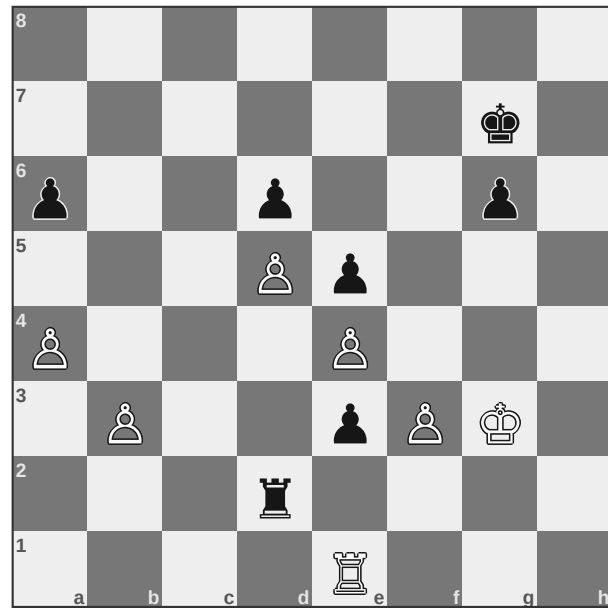
**BLACK TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 006

EASY

**WHITE TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 007

EASY

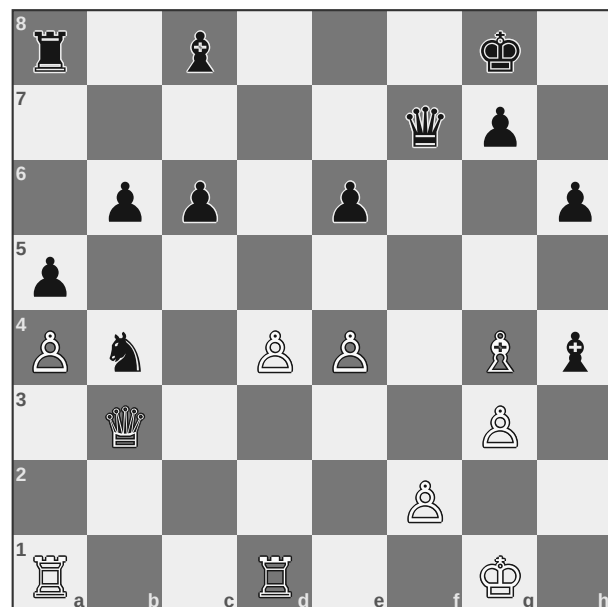
**WHITE TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 008

EASY

**WHITE TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

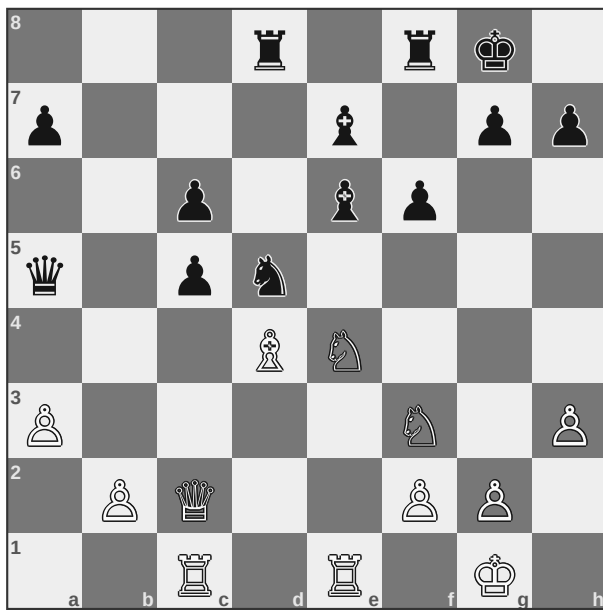
My Notes: _____

BONUS PUZZLES

Our gift to you for choosing this book.
50 extra Medium positions to keep your momentum going.

Puzzle 401

EASY

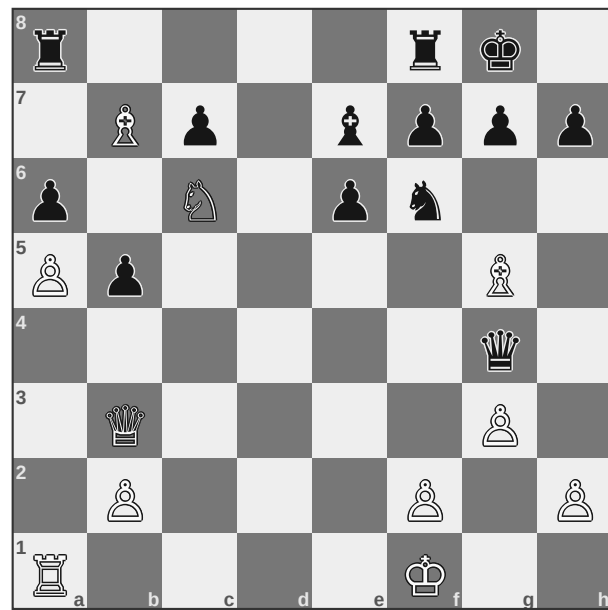
**BLACK TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 402

EASY

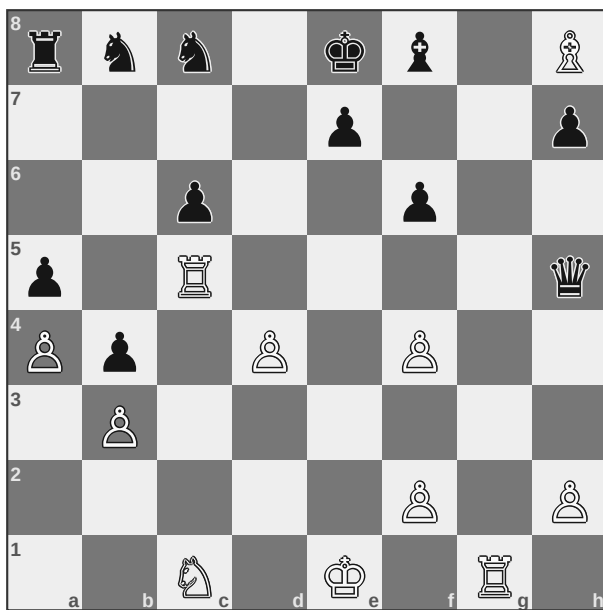
**WHITE TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 403

EASY

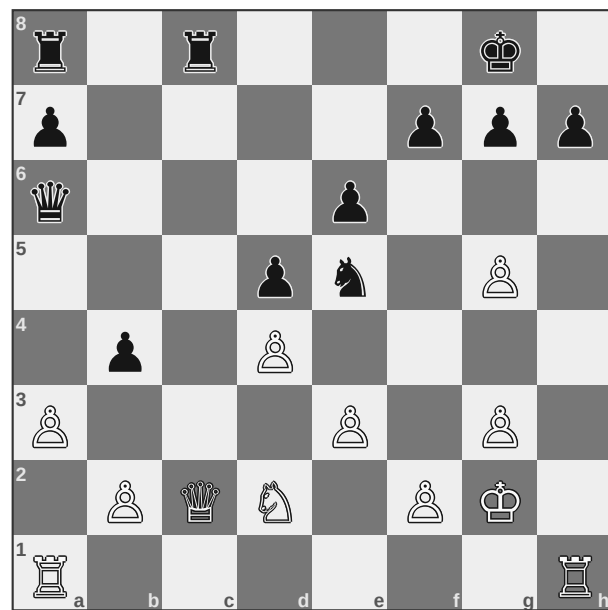
**WHITE TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 404

EASY

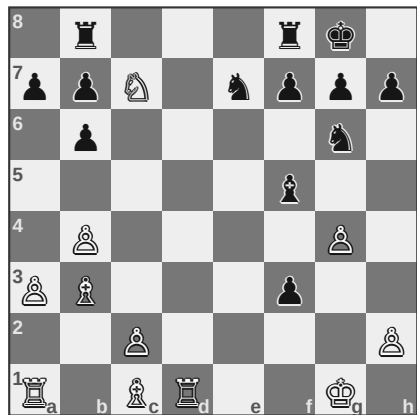
**WHITE TO MOVE**

Find the best move.

My Notes: _____

Puzzle 001

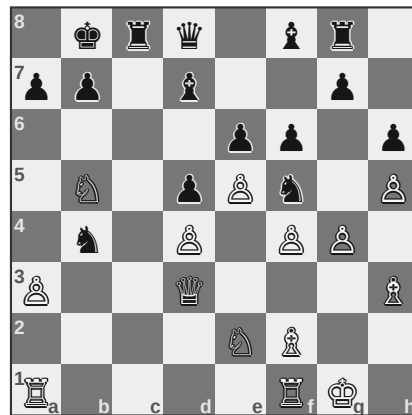
E



21. gxf5 Nxf5 22. Rd7 Rbc8

Puzzle 002

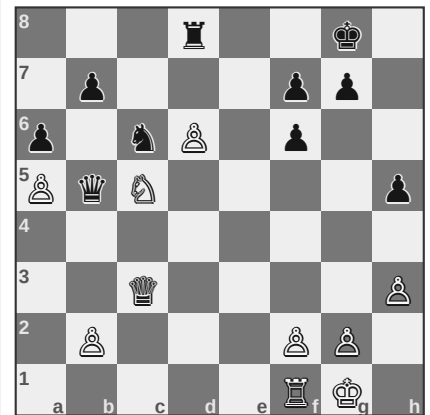
E



21. axb4 g6 22. Kh2 Ng7

Puzzle 003

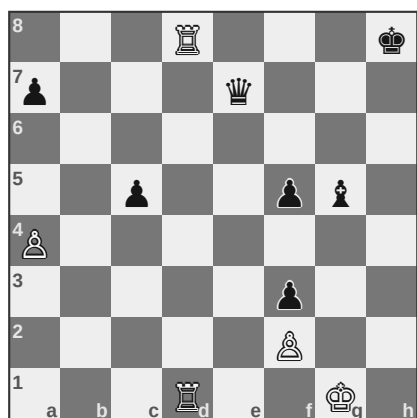
E



34... Rxd6 35. Re1 Rd4 36. Rc1

Puzzle 004

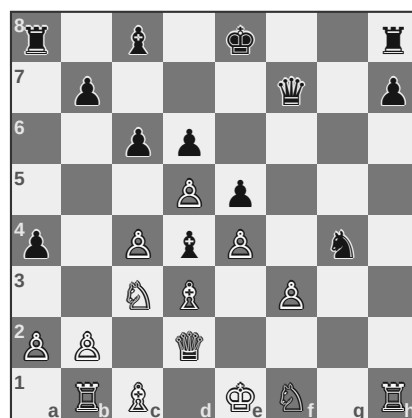
E



46... Qxd8 47. Rxd8+ Bxd8 48. Kh2

Puzzle 005

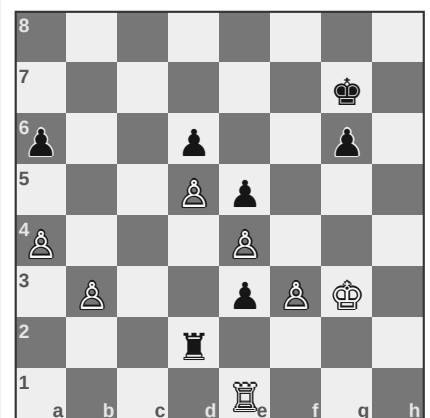
E



19... Qxf3 20. Qg5 Qxh1 21. c5

Puzzle 006

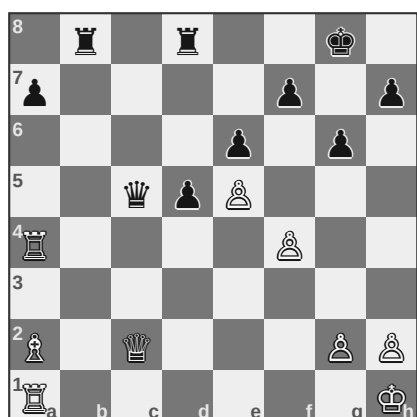
E



52. Rxe3 Rc2 53. b4 Rb2

Puzzle 007

E



26. Qxc5 Rbc8 27. Qa3 a5

Puzzle 008

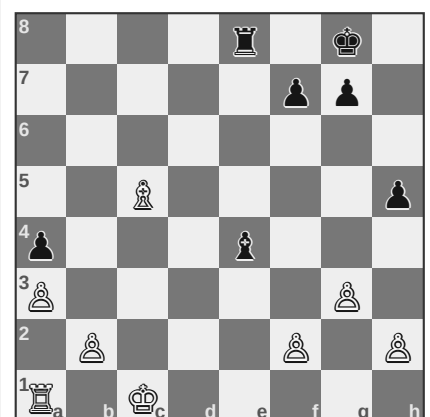
E



25. gxh4 Qg6

Puzzle 009

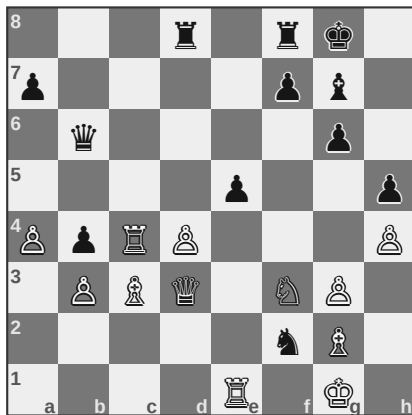
E



33... Rc8 34. b4 axb3 35. Kb2

Puzzle 442

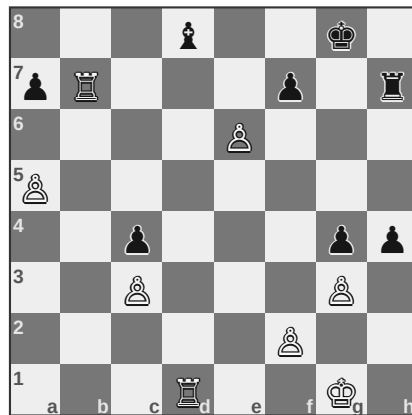
E



24. Kxf2 bxc3 25. Nxe5 Rfe8

Puzzle 443

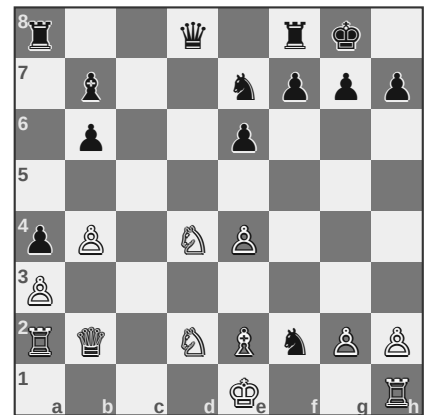
E



32. Rxd8+ Kg7 33. exf7 Kf6

Puzzle 444

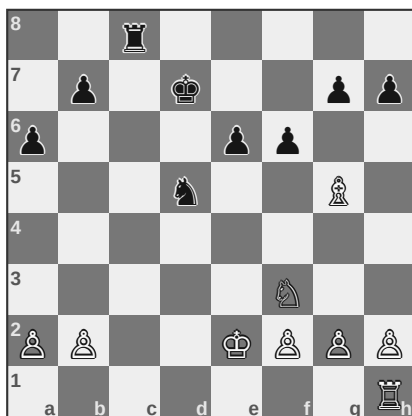
E



23. Kxf2 e5 24. N4f3 Ng6

Puzzle 445

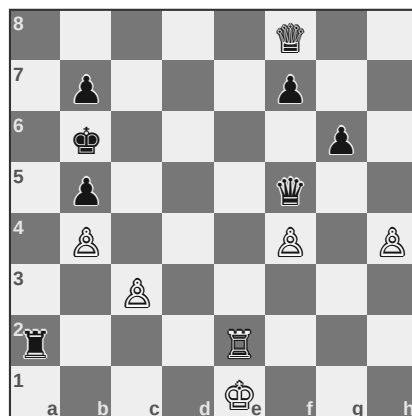
E



17... fxg5 18. Kd2 Rf8 19. Rc1

Puzzle 446

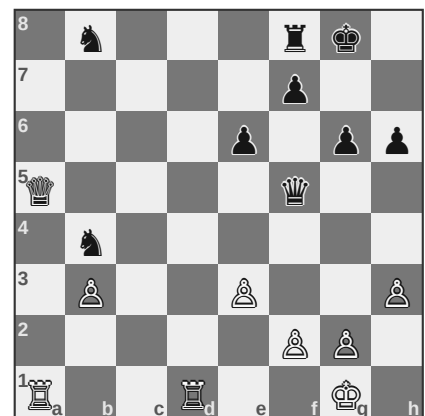
E



33... Ra1+ 34. Kd2 Qxf4+ 35. Kc2

Puzzle 447

E



30. Qxb4 Nc6 31. Qb7 Ne5

Puzzle 448

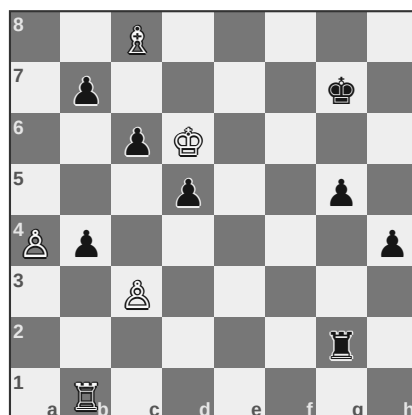
E



21. Qxe4 Rab8 22. Rb1 Rfe8

Puzzle 449

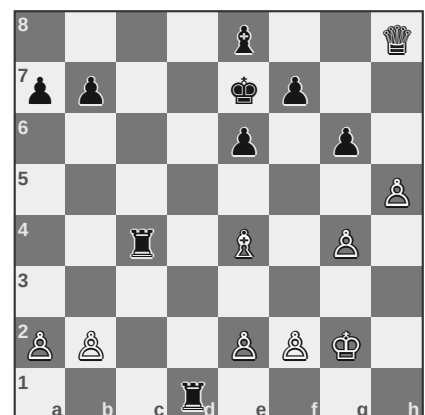
E



46... bxc3 47. Rxb7+ Kf6 48. Be6

Puzzle 450

E



28... Rxe4 29. Kf3 Bc6 30. hxg6

The MentCraft Project starts from a simple idea: a mind that's exercised regularly stays sharper, more curious, and more capable — but not every mind sharpens the same way. Some people think best in words, others in numbers, others in shapes and spatial patterns, others in sequences of logical steps. That's why MentCraft builds puzzle collections across many different formats, each one training a different kind of mental muscle.

Chess rewards the player who can pause, notice what matters, and calculate one move further. This Medium volume is designed to build that habit one position at a time.

Each puzzle asks one simple question: What is the best move? Look for checks, captures, threats, loose pieces, vulnerable kings, and tactical patterns - then test your idea against your opponent's best reply.

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