

Checkmate Patterns

Easy · Rating 446-1287 · 12 positions

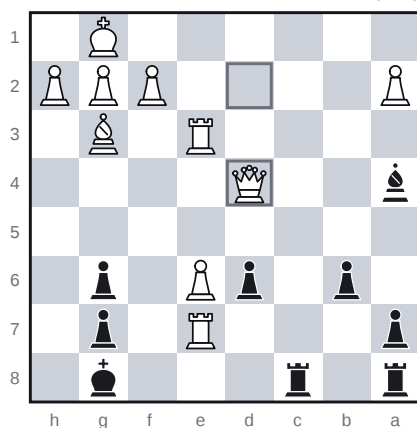
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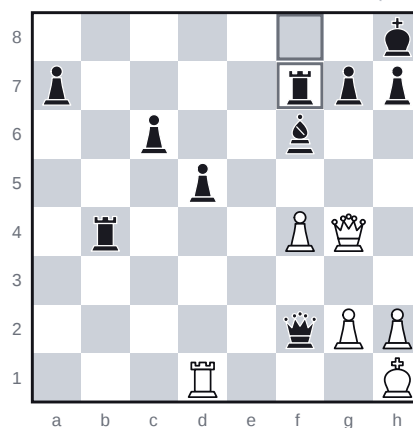
Find the best move for the side to move and write it in the box. The two outlined squares show the move just played. Answers on the last page.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 12

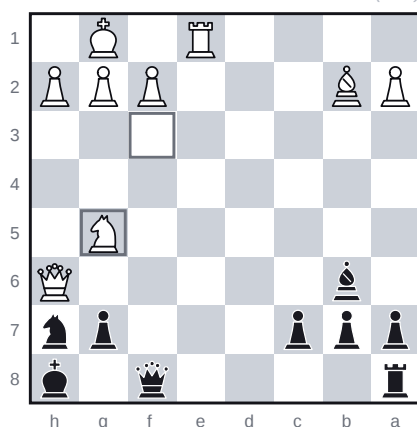
1 Black to move (446)



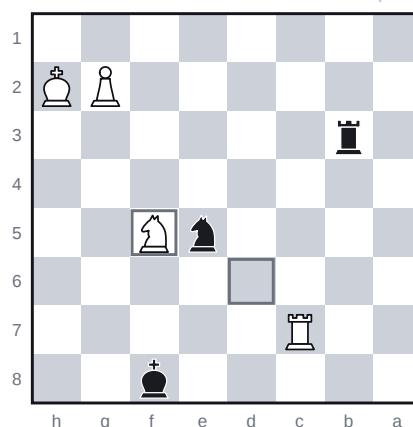
2 White to move (790)



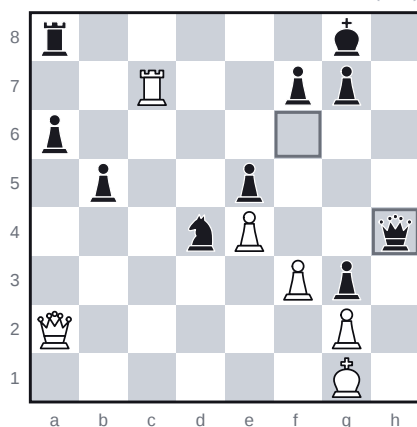
3 Black to move (863)



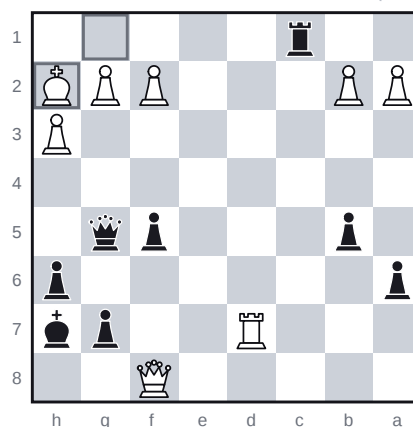
4 Black to move (899)



5 White to move (929)



6 Black to move (950)



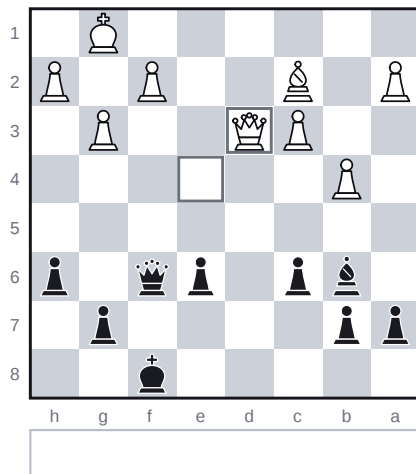
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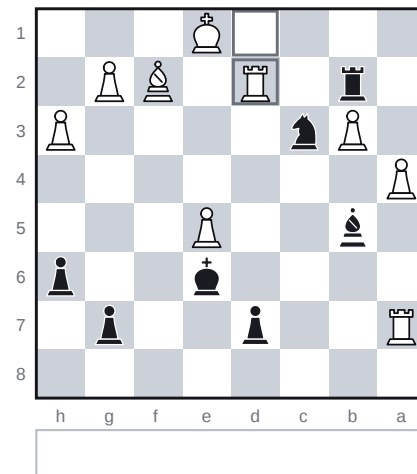
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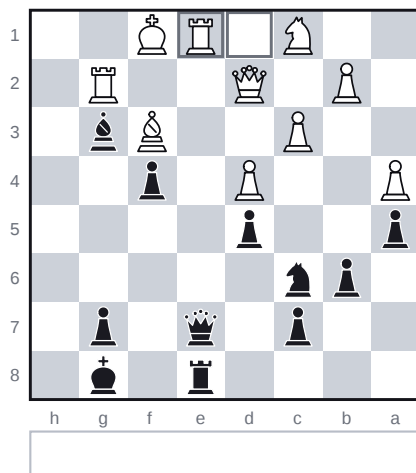
7 Black to move (975)



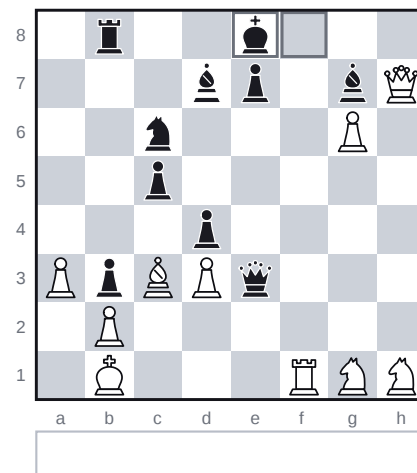
8 Black to move (994)



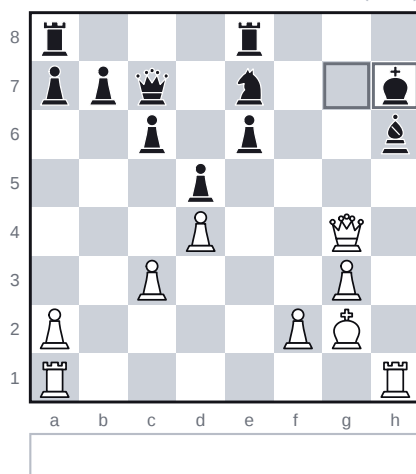
9 Black to move (1105)



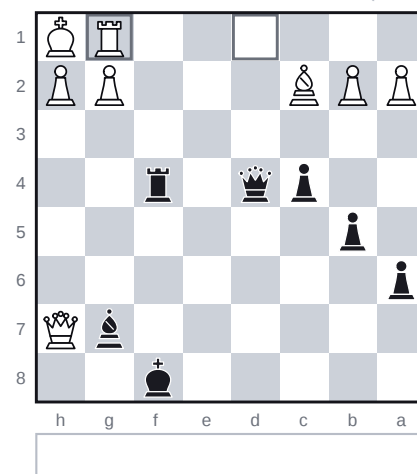
10 White to move (1190)



11 White to move (1249)



12 Black to move (1287)



Answer key

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What to look for

Every position here is mate in two or three. The pattern is the shape the pieces make at the end, so find the mating picture first and the moves that build it second.

1. **25...Rc1+ 26.Qd1 Rxd1+ 27.Re1 Rxe1#** #A0QmR
Mate in 3.
2. **29.Qc8+ Bd8 30.Qxd8+ Rf8 31.Qxf8#** #9KWZm
Mate in 3.
3. **22...Qxf2+ 23.Kh1 Qxe1#** #4H7bh
The queen on f2 attacks the king on g1 and the rook on e1. Mate in 2.
4. **46...Ng4+ 47.Kg1 Rb1+ 48.Rc1 Rxc1#** #AjRLp
Mate in 3.
5. **32.Qxf7+ Kh8 33.Qxg7#** #Bw0eE
Mate in 2.
6. **41...Qf4+ 42.g3 Qxf2#** #7MQ8W
Mate in 2.
7. **35...Qxf2+ 36.Kh1 Qg1#** #1O7WA
The queen on f2 attacks the king on g1 and the bishop on c2. Mate in 2.
8. **33...Rb1+ 34.Rd1 Rxd1#** #9XdSm
Mate in 2.
9. **28...Qxe1+ 29.Qxe1 Rxe1#** #28HQ2
The queen on e1 attacks the king on f1 and the queen on d2. Mate in 2.
10. **31.Qg8+ Bf8 32.Qxf8#** #14AHK
The queen on g8 attacks the king on e8 and the bishop on g7. Mate in 2.
11. **31.Rxh6+ Kxh6 32.Rh1#** #0Ms3R
Mate in 2.
12. **37...Qxg1+ 38.Kxg1 Bd4+ 39.Kh1 Rf1#** #1NbFC
Mate in 3.

About these worksheets

This is one of three sheets for checkmate patterns. The Intermediate and Advanced sheets cover the same pattern at other rating bands. Thirteen other patterns are available the same way, including forks, pins, skewers, back rank mates, mate in one and smothered mate. All free, all with answer keys, no sign-up.

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The positions come from the free Reflex Chess trainer: 87 skills and 10,440 positions from real games, banded by rating, in a browser, offline, with no ads. Solving on paper is the half of this that builds calculation; the trainer is the half that tells you straight away whether you were right.