

Mate in Three

Easy · Rating 615-1252 · 12 positions

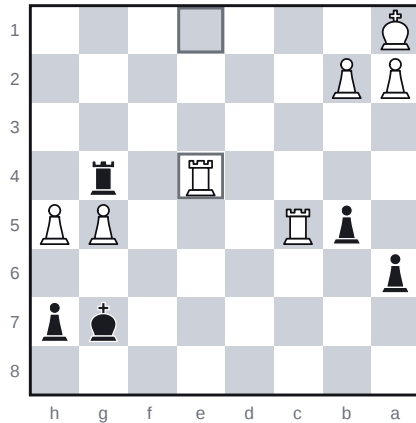
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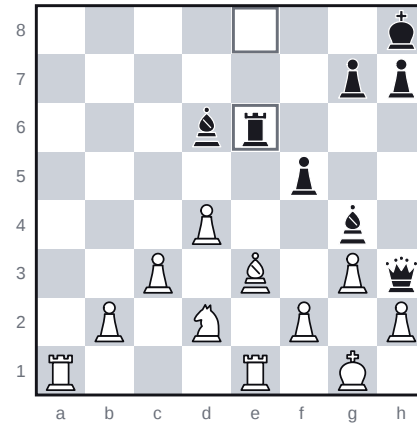
Find the best move for the side to move and write it in the box. The two outlined squares show the move just played. Answers on the last page.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 12

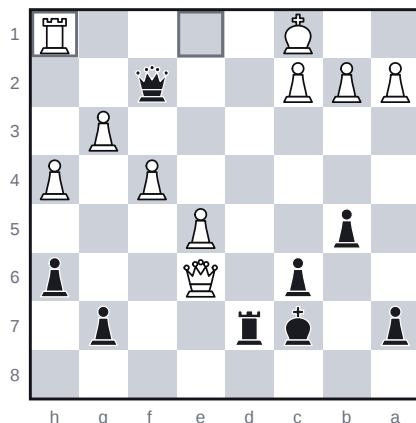
1 Black to move (615)



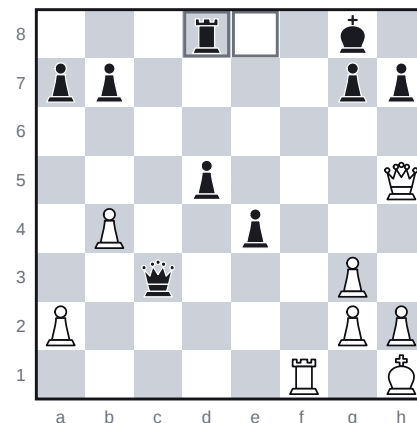
2 White to move (886)



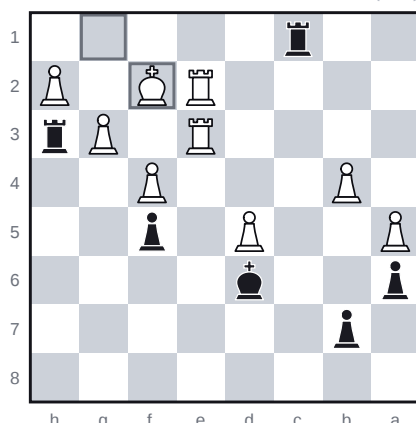
3 Black to move (926)



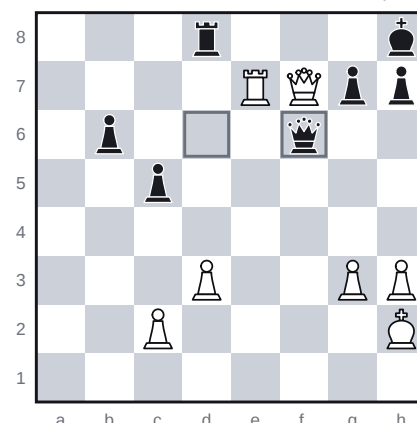
4 White to move (947)



5 Black to move (964)



6 White to move (977)



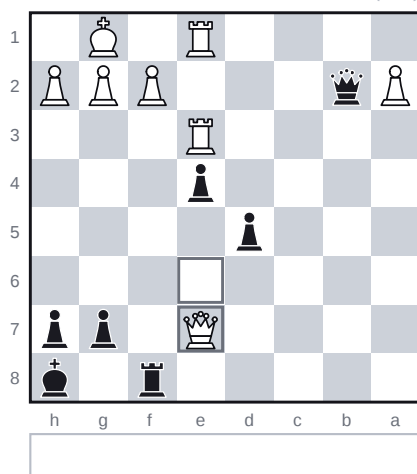
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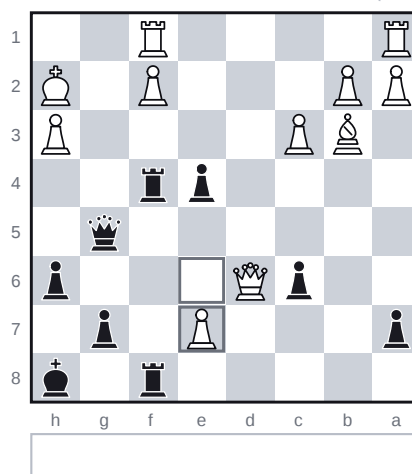
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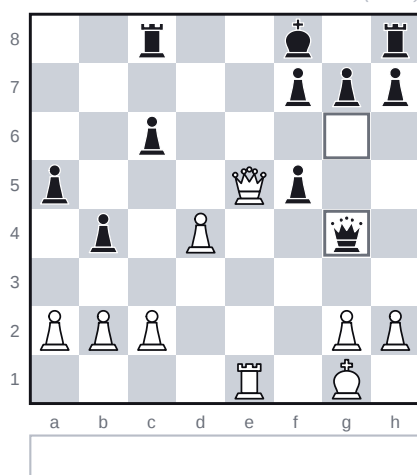
7 Black to move (985)



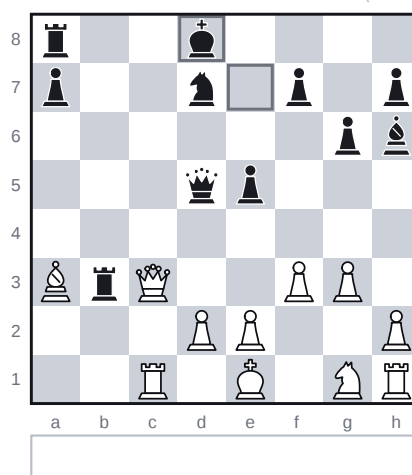
8 Black to move (996)



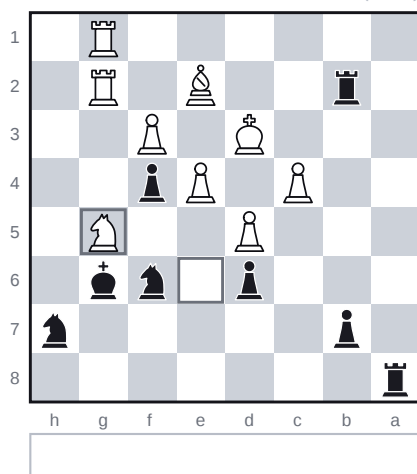
9 White to move (1143)



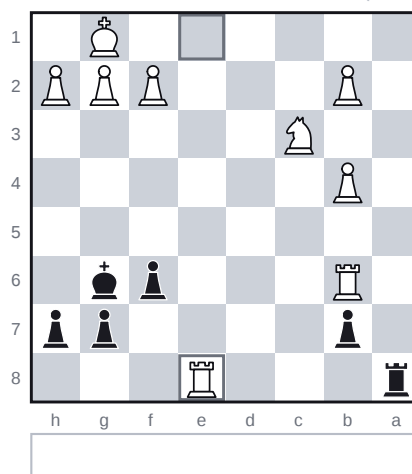
10 White to move (1174)



11 Black to move (1211)



12 Black to move (1252)



Answer key

Mate in Three · Easy

What to look for

Three moves, and the king is mated at the end of them. Work backwards: decide which square he is going to be mated on, then find the two moves that put him there.

1. **38...Rg1+ 39.Re1 Rxe1+ 40.Rc1 Rxc1#** #rJdXJ
Mate in 3.
2. **24.Ra8+ Bb8 25.Rxb8+ Re8 26.Rxe8#** #raWdG
Mate in 3.
3. **31...Qd2+ 32.Kb1 Qd1+ 33.Rxd1 Rxd1#** #ehxVF
Mate in 3.
4. **26.Qf7+ Kh8 27.Qf8+ Rxf8 28.Rxf8#** #aEiTs
Mate in 3.
5. **37...Rxb2+ 38.Kf3 Rf1+ 39.Rf2 Rxf2#** #vXOs8
Mate in 3.
6. **31.Re8+ Rxe8 32.Qxe8+ Qf8 33.Qxf8#** #u6cOk
The rook on e8 attacks the king on h8 and the rook on d8. Mate in 3.
7. **26...Qxf2+ 27.Kh1 Qf1+ 28.Rxf1 Rxf1#** #gNf6L
The queen on f2 attacks the king on g1 and the rook on e3. Mate in 3.
8. **27...Rxf2+ 28.Rxf2 Rxf2+ 29.Kh1 Qg2#** #owu4m
The rook on f2 attacks the king on h2 and the rook on f1. Mate in 3.
9. **28.Qe7+ Kg8 29.Qe8+ Rxe8 30.Rxe8#** #7gO5T
Mate in 3.
10. **20.Qc7+ Ke8 21.Qc8+ Rxc8 22.Rxc8#** #7A2Py
The queen on c7 attacks the king on d8 and the knight on d7. Mate in 3.
11. **31...Ra3+ 32.Kd4 Rd2+ 33.Bd3 Rxd3#** #8XZgd
Mate in 3.
12. **26...Ra1+ 27.Nb1 Rxb1+ 28.Re1 Rxe1#** #7JSIx
Mate in 3.

About these worksheets

This is one of three sheets for mate in three. 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.