

Mate in Three

Intermediate · Rating 1308-1853 · 12 positions

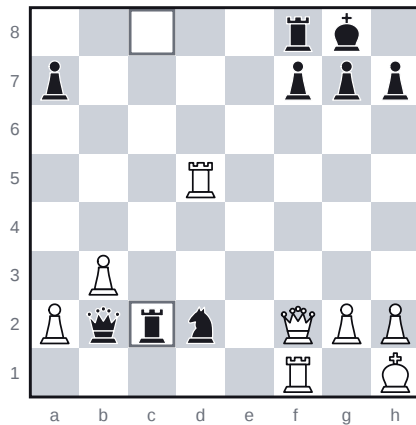
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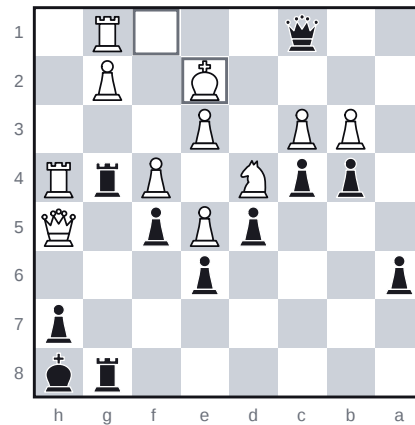
Find the best move for the side to move and write it in the box. The two outlined squares show the move just played. Answers on the last page.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 12

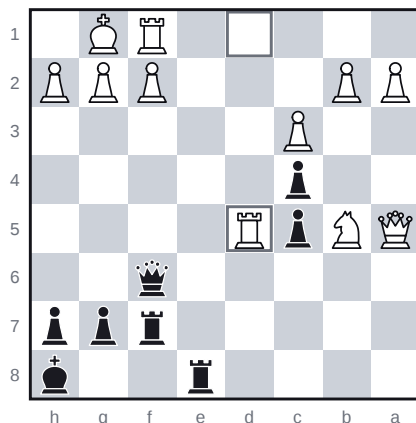
1 White to move (1308)



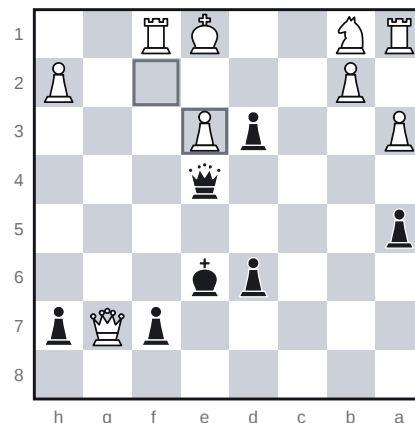
2 Black to move (1338)



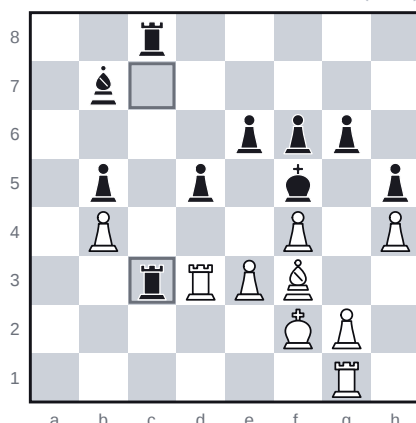
3 Black to move (1392)



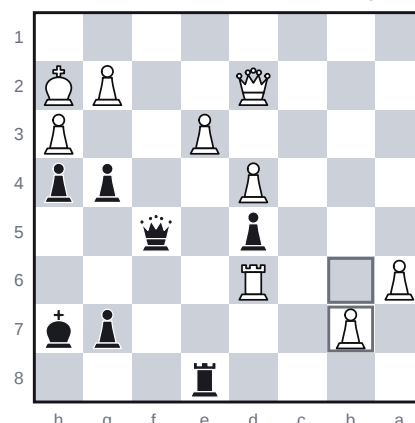
4 Black to move (1425)



5 White to move (1471)



6 Black to move (1525)



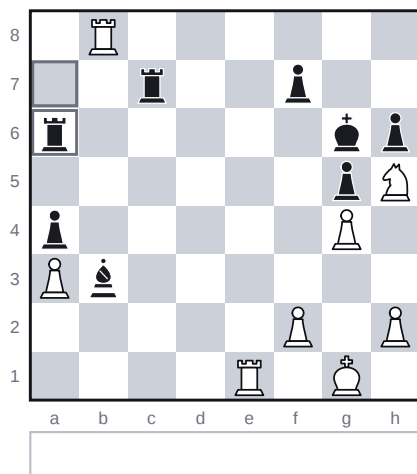
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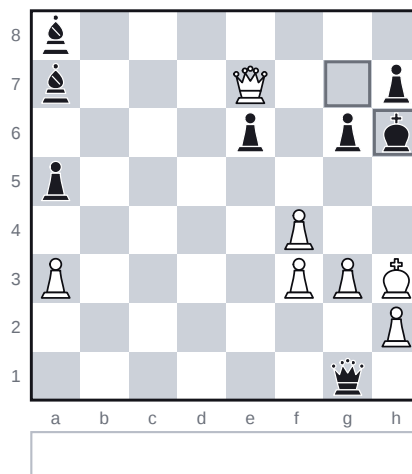
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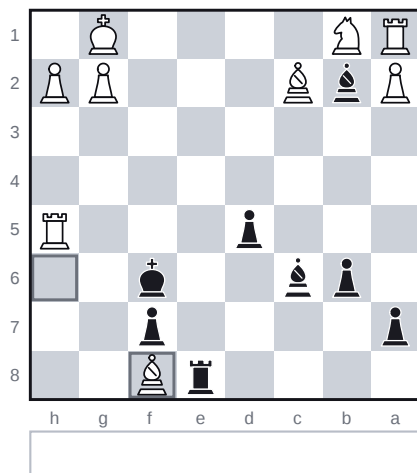
7 White to move (1585)



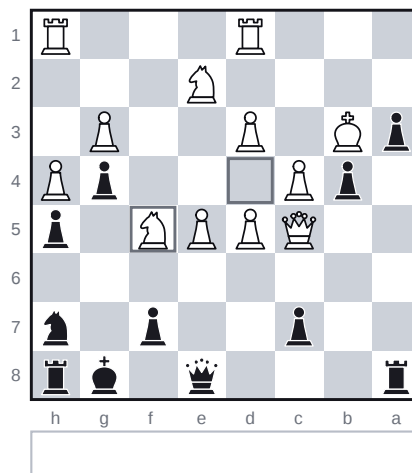
8 White to move (1632)



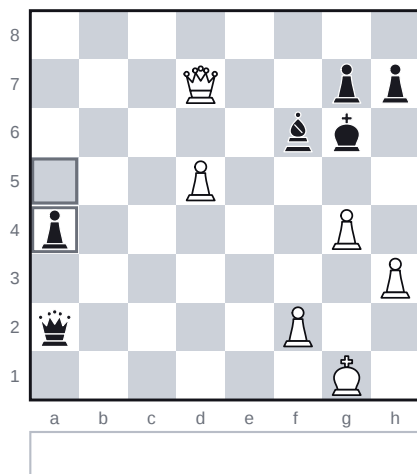
9 Black to move (1692)



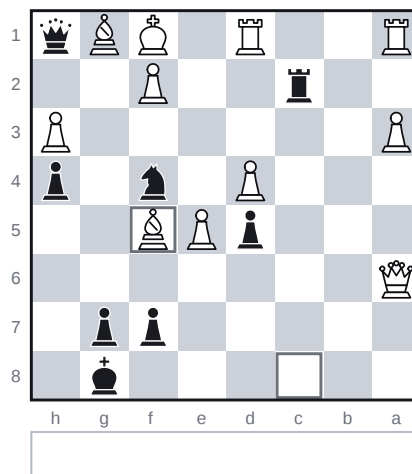
10 Black to move (1751)



11 White to move (1811)



12 Black to move (1853)



Answer key

Mate in Three · Intermediate

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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. **30.Qxf7+ Rxf7 31.Rd8+ Rf8 32.Rfxf8#** #6CcNi
The queen on f7 attacks the king on g8 and the rook on f8. Mate in 3.
2. **33...Rxc2+ 34.Rxc2 Rxc2+ 35.Kf3 Qf1#** #7j0SC
The rook on g2 attacks the king on e2 and the rook on g1. Mate in 3.
3. **29...Qxf2+ 30.Rxf2 Re1+ 31.Rf1 Rfxf1#** #8Jyb8
The queen on f2 attacks the king on g1 and the rook on f1. Mate in 3.
4. **24...Qxe3+ 25.Kd1 Qe2+ 26.Kc1 Qc2#** #6C45R
Mate in 3.
5. **40.g4+ hxc4 41.Bxc4+ Ke4 42.Rd4#** #3wNsN
Mate in 3.
6. **41...g3+ 42.Kg1 Qb1+ 43.Qe1 Qxe1#** #6YrjO
Mate in 3.
7. **29.Rg8+ Kh7 30.Rg7+ Kh8 31.Re8#** #6Mxum
Mate in 3.
8. **43.Qf8+ Kh5 44.g4+ Qxc4+ 45.fxc4#** #55Y6r
The queen on f8 attacks the king on h6 and the bishop on a8. Mate in 3.
9. **25...Bd4+ 26.Kf1 Bb5+ 27.Bd3 Bxd3#** #5329f
The bishop on d4 attacks the king on g1 and the rook on a1. Mate in 3.
10. **31...Qa4+ 32.Ka2 Qc2+ 33.Ka1 Qb2#** #55q4Q
Mate in 3.
11. **32.Qe8+ Kg5 33.Qh5+ Kf4 34.Qf5#** #BzhgM
Mate in 3.
12. **34...Qg2+ 35.Ke1 Qxc1+ 36.Qf1 Ng2#** #E5JPU
The queen on g2 attacks the king on f1 and the bishop on g1. Mate in 3.

About these worksheets

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