

Easy · Rating 610-1297 · 12 positions

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Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 12

6 White to move (965)

The chessboard is in a standard 8x8 layout. White pieces are on the bottom half (ranks 1-2) and Black pieces are on the top half (ranks 7-8). The pieces are arranged as follows:

Rank	File	Color	Piece
8	a	Black	King
8	c	Black	Rook
8	h	Black	Pawn
7	b	Black	Pawn
7	d	Black	Pawn
7	e	Black	Pawn
7	f	Black	Pawn
7	g	Black	Pawn
2	a	White	King
2	c	White	Rook
2	b	White	Pawn
2	d	White	Pawn
2	e	White	Pawn
2	f	White	Pawn
2	g	White	Pawn
2	h	White	Pawn

The square b3 is empty and highlighted with a thick border, indicating it is a key square in the problem.

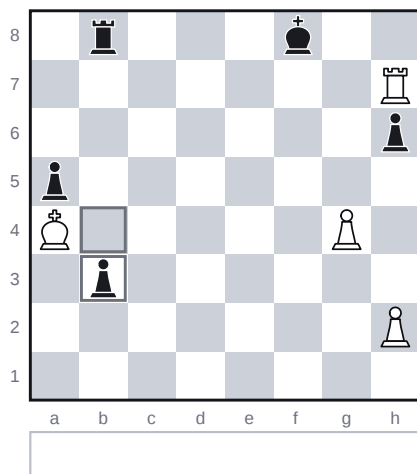
Chess Skewers

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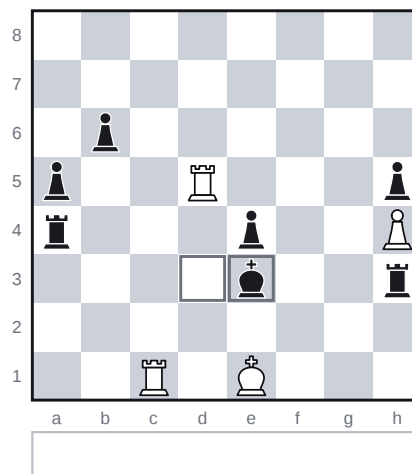
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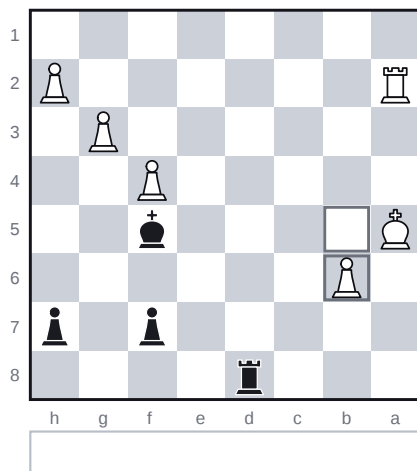
7 White to move (983)



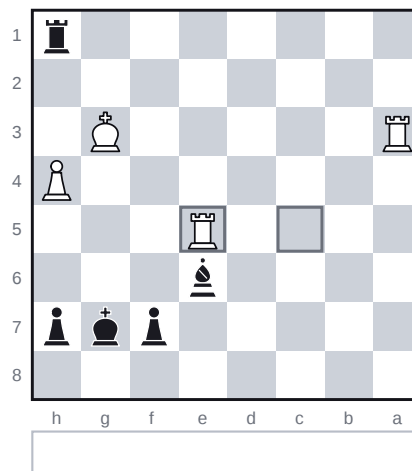
8 White to move (994)



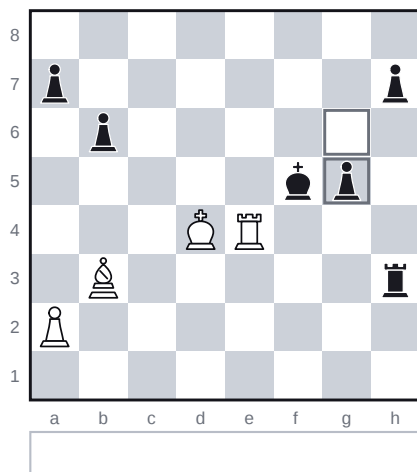
9 Black to move (1146)



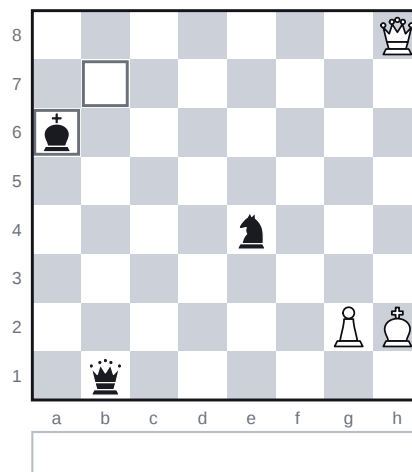
10 Black to move (1181)



11 White to move (1253)



12 White to move (1297)



Answer key

Chess Skewers · Easy

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What to look for

A pin backwards: the valuable piece is in front and has to move, and what was hiding behind it falls.

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. 40...Rxc2+ 41.Kf4 Rxc2
Wins a rook. | #hDwko |
| 2. 31...Rb2+ 32.Kd1 Rb1+ 33.Kc2 Rxc2
Wins a rook. | #e8oRD |
| 3. 37.Rg1+ Kf5 38.Rxc8
Wins a rook. | #eOslx |
| 4. 30...Rg3+ 31.Kf2 Rxc3
Wins a queen. | #gRYF1 |
| 5. 30.Qh6+ Kf6 31.Qxf8
Wins a rook. | #apY9e |
| 6. 34.Ra1+ Kb3 35.Rxa8
Wins a rook. | #gReyb |
| 7. 37.Rh8+ Kg7 38.Rxb8
Wins a rook. | #klPAu |
| 8. 52.Rc3+ Kf4 53.Rxc3
Wins a rook. | #b3OtL |
| 9. 42...Ra8+ 43.Kb5 Rxa2
Wins a rook. | #5b82J |
| 10. 45...Rh3+ 46.Kf4 Rxa3
Wins a rook. | #77W8D |
| 11. 42.Be6+ Kg6 43.Bxc6
Wins a rook. | #7GNMy |
| 12. 45.Qa8+ Kb6 46.Qb8+ Kc5 47.Qxb1
The queen on a8 attacks the king on e6 and the knight on e4. Wins a queen. | #BPdvQ |

About these worksheets

This is one of three sheets for chess skewers. 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.