

Smothered Mate

Easy · Rating 491-1292 · 12 positions

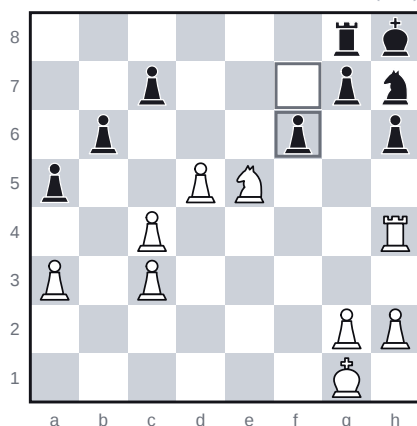
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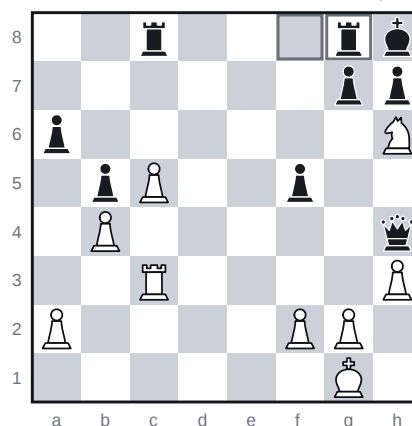
Find the best move for the side to move and write it in the box. The two outlined squares show the move just played. Answers on the last page.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 12

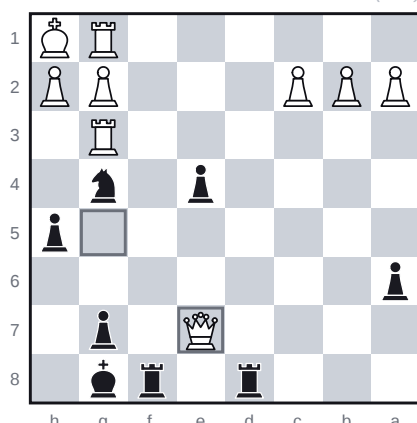
1 White to move (491)



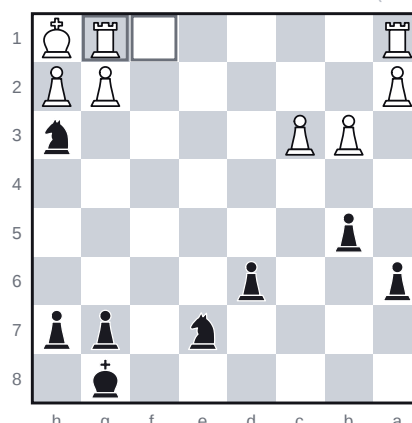
2 White to move (665)



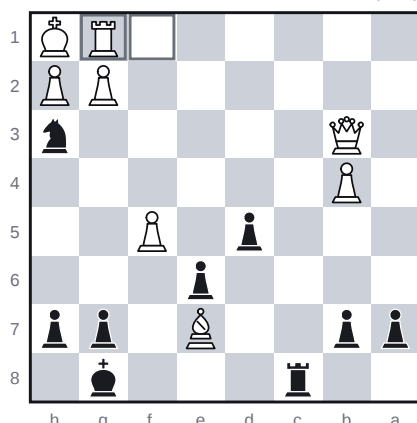
3 Black to move (717)



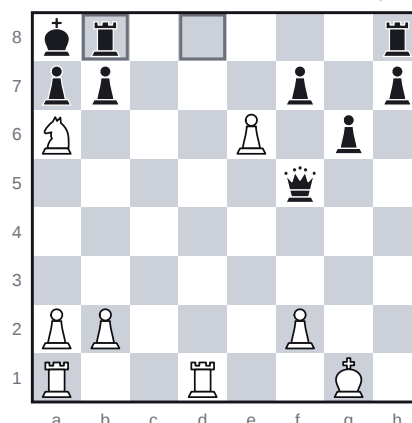
4 Black to move (817)



5 Black to move (852)



6 White to move (885)



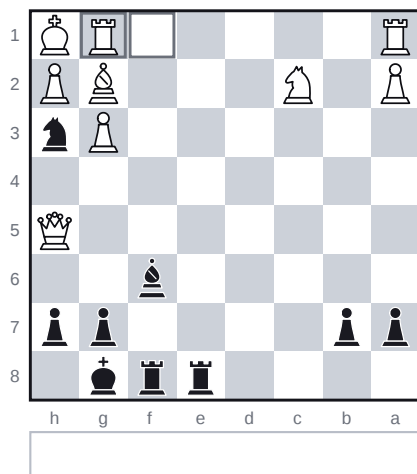
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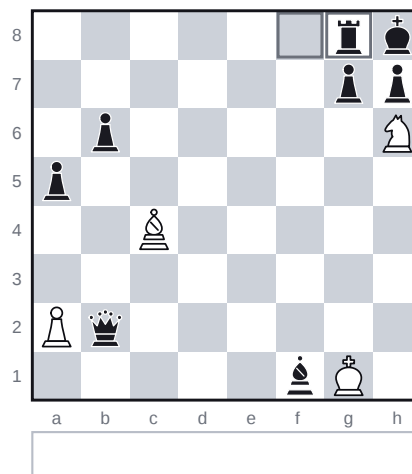
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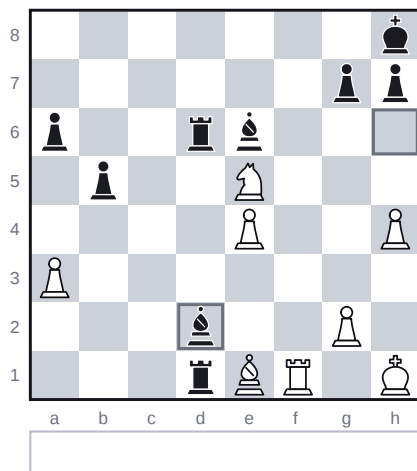
7 Black to move (924)



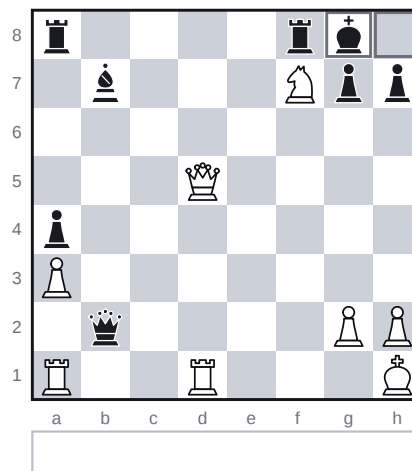
8 White to move (973)



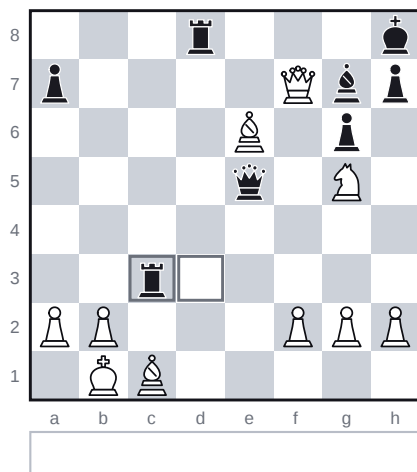
9 White to move (1130)



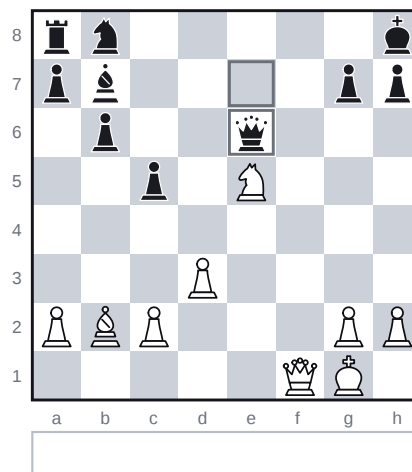
10 White to move (1188)



11 White to move (1213)



12 White to move (1292)



Answer key

Smothered Mate · Easy

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What to look for

A king boxed in by its own pieces and mated by a knight. Usually the last square is filled by a sacrifice that forces a piece onto it.

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. 35.Nf7#
Mate in one. | #MvUh6 |
| 2. 35.Nf7#
Mate in one. | #1FrhY |
| 3. 26...Nf2#
Mate in one. | #vFCMD |
| 4. 27...Nf2#
Mate in one. | #Lmlju |
| 5. 26...Nf2#
Mate in one. | #i8heJ |
| 6. 27.Nc7#
Mate in one. | #Jq75r |
| 7. 25...Nf2#
Mate in one. | #JOnnA |
| 8. 46.Nf7#
Mate in one. | #qQDnY |
| 9. 42.Rf8+ Bg8 43.Nf7#
Mate in 2. | #WzUFh |
| 10. 30.Nh6+ Kh8 31.Qg8+ Rxd8 32.Nf7#
Mate in 3. | #FnImI |
| 11. 27.Qg8+ Rxd8 28.Nf7#
The queen on g8 attacks the king on h8 and the rook on d8. Mate in 2. | #UvN0Q |
| 12. 18.Qf8+ Qg8 19.Nf7#
The queen on f8 attacks the king on h8 and the knight on b8. Mate in 2. | #7wNB0 |

About these worksheets

This is one of three sheets for smothered mate. 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.