

THE EIGHT RANKS METHOD

PUZZLE BOOK

400 PUZZLES, WHITE TO BLACK

THE EIGHT RANKS METHOD™

Fifty puzzles for every rank, from mate in one to mate in three. Every one completely solved.



400 PUZZLES · FIFTY FOR EVERY RANK

Written by Moheb Girgis, FIDE National Instructor

Chess that produces evidence.

eightranksmethod.com

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THE EIGHT RANKS METHOD

Eight ranks. One board. Total mastery.

THE EIGHT RANKS METHOD™

Puzzle Book

400 puzzles, White to Black

Fifty for every rank · every one completely solved

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

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Written by Moheb Girgis, FIDE National Instructor · FIDE ID 39935400

The Eight Ranks Method · New York

This book belongs to _____

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Puzzle Book
The Eight Ranks Method™ · 400 puzzles, White to Black

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First edition, 2026 · Version 1.2
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Every position in this book is completely solved by computer search (python-chess move generation; king-and-pawn and king-and-piece endings classified by retrograde analysis), 18 and 19 October 2026.

The Eight Ranks Method is designed to produce evidence aligned to the six attributes of the New York State Portrait of a Graduate.
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How to use this book

This book holds **400 chess puzzles**, fifty for each of the eight ranks of The Eight Ranks Method™, from the White Belt to the Black Belt. Each level uses skills that rank's Student Book teaches or has already taught: mates in one, two and three, the queen and rook mates, and king-and-pawn endings. A learner can work the level of their own rank, or the level below for confidence, or the level above for a stretch. Each kind of mate puzzle gets harder through the book, level by level and inside each level: the puzzles are ordered by how deep a computer (Stockfish 16) has to search before it finds the answer.

How to solve. Set the position up on a board. Find the move, then check every reply your opponent could make before you look at the answer. A mate in two means your move, any reply, and your move that gives checkmate; a mate in three goes one move further. In the king-and-pawn endings, exactly one move gives the result the caption asks for.

Every puzzle is completely solved. Every position in this book was solved by computer search, move by move, to the end: each mate has exactly one first move that forces mate in the stated number of moves and no faster mate; each pawn ending was classified with every possible position of the same pieces; each rook and queen mate was measured against the complete table of every such position. The answers are at the back.

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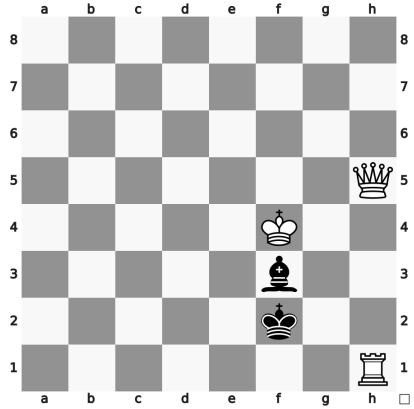
Reading the answers. Squares are named by a letter (a to h, left to right from White's side) and a number (1 to 8, bottom to top); the diagrams are always seen from White's side, and the small square beside each board shows whose move it is (white at the bottom right for White, black at the top right for Black). K king, Q queen, R rook, B bishop, N knight; a pawn move has no letter. x means a capture, + check, # checkmate, =Q a pawn that becomes a queen. 1.Qf7 is White's first move; 1...Kh8 is Black's reply. When two pieces of the same kind can reach a square, the file or rank of the one that moves is added (Rdxd1, R6b5). In brackets come Black's replies, each followed by White's mating move.

The queen and rook mates. "Rook mate in five" means that White can force checkmate in five moves however Black defends, and in no fewer; the answer gives the only first move that does it and one line of best play.

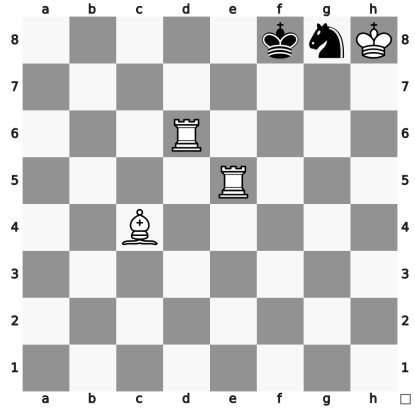
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White level

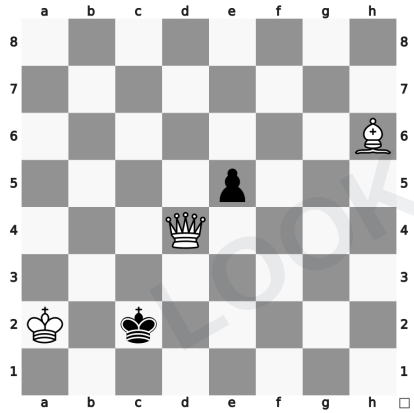
PUZZLES 1 TO 50 · THE WHITE BELT: CHECKMATE IN ONE.



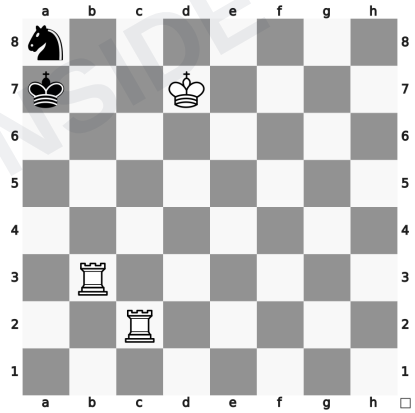
Puzzle 1. White to move: mate in one



Puzzle 2. White to move: mate in one



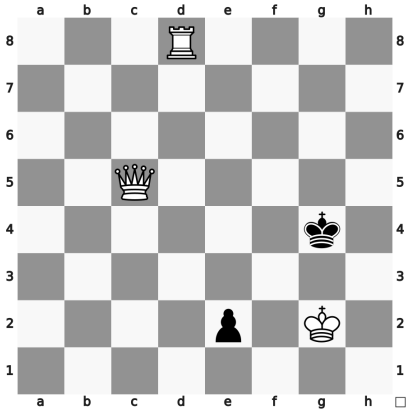
Puzzle 3. White to move: mate in one



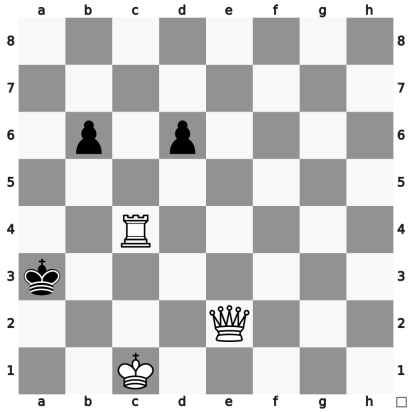
Puzzle 4. White to move: mate in one

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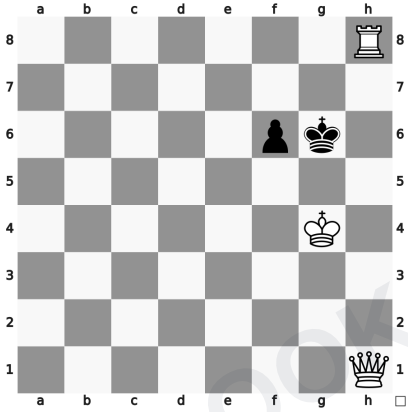
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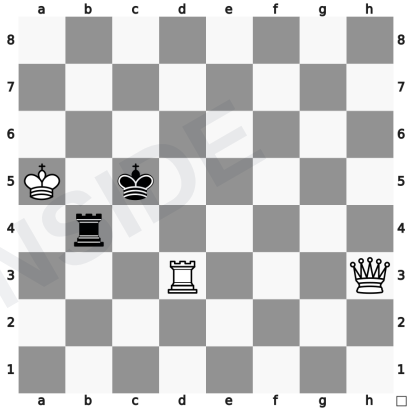
Puzzle 5. White to move: mate in one



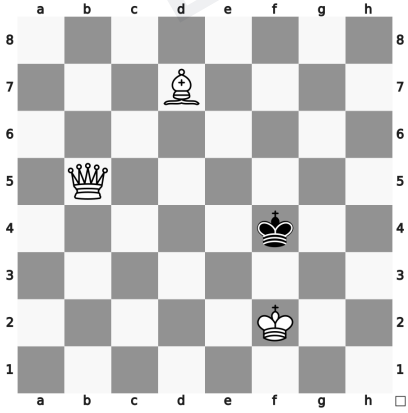
Puzzle 6. White to move: mate in one



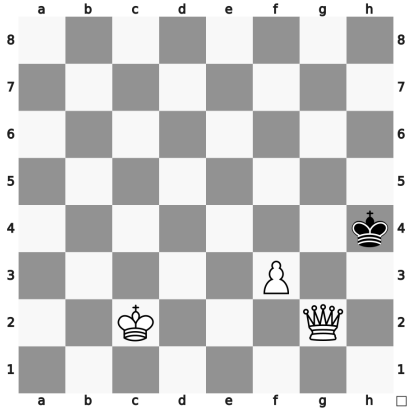
Puzzle 7. White to move: mate in one



Puzzle 8. White to move: mate in one



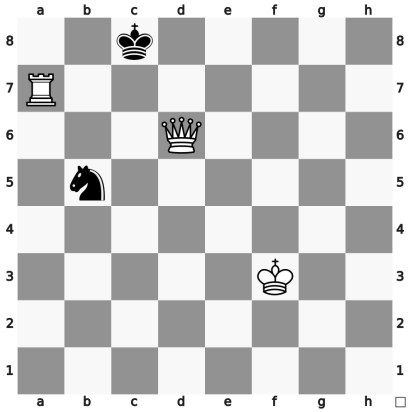
Puzzle 9. White to move: mate in one



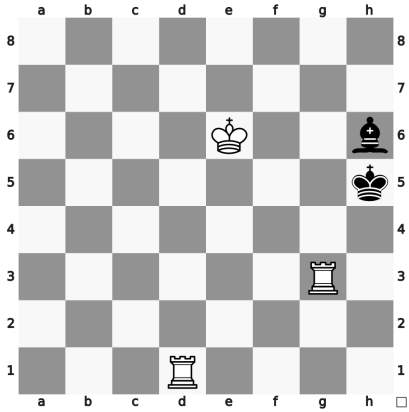
Puzzle 10. White to move: mate in one

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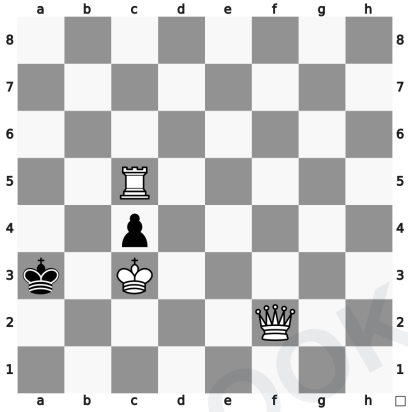
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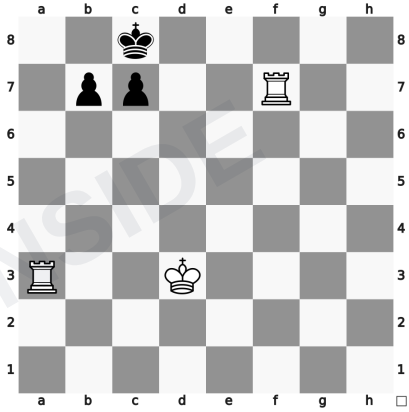
Puzzle 11. White to move: mate in one



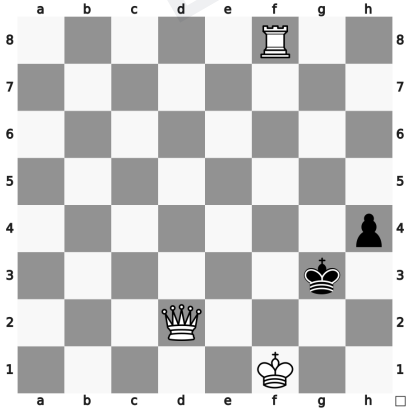
Puzzle 12. White to move: mate in one



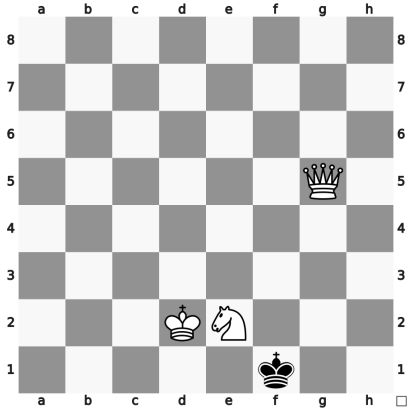
Puzzle 13. White to move: mate in one



Puzzle 14. White to move: mate in one



Puzzle 15. White to move: mate in one



Puzzle 16. White to move: mate in one

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