Press kit

The Eight Ranks Method™ · 10-MARKETING-ENGINE/16-PARTNERS-AND-PRESS · PUBLIC · PROMPT 40 of 48, 28 October 2026

About	The Eight Ranks Method is a belt-ranked chess curriculum for learners aged 6 to adult. Written by Moheb Girgis, FIDE National Instructor, with more than forty years of play.
Questions	Questions are answered in writing through the contact form. hello@eightranksmethod.com
Use	Journalists, bloggers and partners may quote this kit and use the images below without asking, unchanged. The author answers questions in writing only (section 4).

1. Fact sheet

- The Eight Ranks Method is a belt-ranked chess curriculum for learners aged 6 to adult.
- Eight books take a learner from the first move to Black.
- Eight ranks, White to Black, in four tiers: Foundation, Builder, Competitor and Master.
- Each Student Book is one twelve-week cycle: five chapters, five STEM labs, practice with answers, and a Family corner in every chapter.
- Every chapter ends with a STEM lab in seven parts: predict, measure, record, show, conclude, connect, and an exit ticket.
- Forty STEM labs, five in every book.
- After each twelve-week cycle comes Rank Day: a quiz, a puzzle set, games, a short oral explanation and the cycle’s portfolio, weighted by tier.
- A learner passes at 70 or more, with no attribute below Developing and conduct at Proficient.
- Ranks are earned and recorded on a certificate; nothing is worn.
- A site licence gives a club, school provider, library or coach the instructor books, the Rank Day papers and the right to award the eight ranks.
- A licence does not include training, visits, calls or workshops: the materials are written to be used without them.
- Every chess position in the books is engine-verified with Stockfish or completely solved, and each book says which.
- The Eight Ranks Method is designed to produce evidence aligned to the six attributes of the New York State Portrait of a Graduate.
- Every book has a free look-inside sample, and each book is printed on demand and shipped by the printer.
- Each Student Book is $22.99 in colour paperback and $46.99 in colour hardcover; licensed sites pay $12.50 for the black-and-white site edition (each introductory, subject to counsel).

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2. The author

Written by Moheb Girgis, FIDE National Instructor, with more than forty years of play. Moheb Girgis is the author of the method and of every book in it. He holds a BSc in Biology, with majors in Chemistry and Botany. The author runs no classes and makes no site appearances; every question is answered in writing.

No photograph of the author is in this kit yet; one will be added only if he supplies it.

3. The books

Eight books take a learner from the first move to Black. Square One, the Family Guide, the Puzzle Book and the Game Lab Journal sit beside the eight Student Books. No chess experience is needed to begin: Square One starts from zero. Each Student Book is $22.99 in colour paperback and $46.99 in colour hardcover; licensed sites pay $12.50 for the black-and-white site edition (each introductory, subject to counsel). Every price is introductory, subject to counsel. Every book has a free look-inside sample, and each book is printed on demand and shipped by the printer.

4. Twelve questions, answered in writing

Question	Answer
What is The Eight Ranks Method?	The Eight Ranks Method is a belt-ranked chess curriculum for learners aged 6 to adult. Eight books take a learner from the first move to Black. Eight ranks, White to Black, in four tiers: Foundation, Builder, Competitor and Master.
Who wrote it?	Written by Moheb Girgis, FIDE National Instructor, with more than forty years of play. Moheb Girgis is the author of the method and of every book in it. He holds a BSc in Biology, with majors in Chemistry and Botany.
Who is it for?	The Eight Ranks Method is a belt-ranked chess curriculum for learners aged 6 to adult. No chess experience is needed to begin: Square One starts from zero. Children and adults can share one room: the Mixed-Rank Room Guide shows how.
How does a learner earn a rank?	After each twelve-week cycle comes Rank Day: a quiz, a puzzle set, games, a short oral explanation and the cycle’s portfolio, weighted by tier. A learner passes at 70 or more, with no attribute below Developing and conduct at Proficient. No rank is skipped, except by the placement rule at entry. One cycle in each of the first four ranks; two in each of the last four.
Is a belt or any object given for a rank?	The eight colours are the names of the ranks, not something to wear: no belt, bracelet, band, pin or token is given. Each rank earned is recorded by a printed certificate and the Rank Progress Report.

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Question	Answer
What is a STEM lab here?	Every chapter ends with a STEM lab in seven parts: predict, measure, record, show, conclude, connect, and an exit ticket. Each lab ends with a footer naming the New York State mathematics or computer-science standard it practices. So the method does not wait for chess to turn into math on its own: every chapter ends with a lab that makes the math explicit.
Does chess raise grades?	We do not claim chess raises grades; the research points both ways. A 2016 review of 24 studies found a moderate average benefit of chess instruction (g = 0.338), larger for mathematics than for reading. A large 2018 randomized trial in England that taught chess as a stand-alone subject found no change in test scores.
How does it relate to New York's graduate attributes?	The Eight Ranks Method is designed to produce evidence aligned to the six attributes of the New York State Portrait of a Graduate. The rubrics and reports name six attributes: Academically Prepared, Creative Innovator, Critical Thinker, Effective Communicator, Global Citizen, and Reflective and Future Focused. New York's Board of Regents adopted six attributes for every graduate in July 2025.
Who teaches it?	A site licence gives a club, school provider, library or coach the instructor books, the Rank Day papers and the right to award the eight ranks. The method is written to run from the page: every session is planned minute by minute, and every answer is printed. For White and Yellow, a teacher needs no playing strength: the Teacher's Chess Companion, Foundation, holds the chess, and the Instructor Edition has every answer. One certified instructor may teach and score alone; the method requires no second adult.
Does the author teach classes or come to sites?	The author runs no classes and makes no site appearances; every question is answered in writing. A licence does not include training, visits, calls or workshops: the materials are written to be used without them.
What does it cost?	Each Student Book is $22.99 in colour paperback and $46.99 in colour hardcover; licensed sites pay $12.50 for the black-and-white site edition (each introductory, subject to counsel). The Founding Pilot is one 12-week White cycle at one site for $295 (introductory, subject to counsel), credited in full against a first-year licence. The Foundation Site License covers White and Yellow for $695 a year (introductory, subject to counsel), with up to 2 certified instructors. The Full Site License covers all eight ranks for $1,800 a year (introductory, subject to counsel), with up to 3 certified instructors. A school runs the program through a licensed provider; the suggested cycle is $3,200 plus books (introductory, subject to counsel), and the provider sets its own price. Every price is introductory, subject to counsel.
How is learners' privacy protected?	Sites keep records by student code, not by name, and publish no learner's name, photograph or score without written consent. The site shares attendance and Rank Day results by student code only; no learner's name, birth date or photograph leaves the site.

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5. Images (free to use unchanged; alt text to paste)

File	Where it is	What it shows	Alt text
logo-mark-on-white-1024px.png	WORD-FILES-BACK-END/BRAND-ASSETS/	The Eight Ranks mark on white	The Eight Ranks Method logo mark on a white background.
logo-lockup-horizontal-no-tagline-1200px.png	WORD-FILES-BACK-END/BRAND-ASSETS/	The horizontal lockup (mark and name)	The Eight Ranks Method logo: the mark beside the name, on white.
logo-lockup-horizontal-no-tagline-on-navy-1200px.png	WORD-FILES-BACK-END/BRAND-ASSETS/	The horizontal lockup on navy	The Eight Ranks Method logo in ivory and gold on a navy background.
logo-lockup-stacked-no-tagline-1200px.png	WORD-FILES-BACK-END/BRAND-ASSETS/	The stacked lockup	The Eight Ranks Method logo: the mark above the name, on white.
rank-strip-2400px.png	WORD-FILES-BACK-END/BRAND-ASSETS/	The rank strip	A strip of eight colored tiles, white to black, one for each rank.
White-Belt-Student-Book-front-cover.jpg	eightranksmethod.com/press/ (09-WEBSITE-V2/DRAFT-2026-10-28-V5/site/press/)	Front cover, White Belt Student Book	Front cover of the White Belt Student Book from The Eight Ranks Method.
Yellow-Belt-Student-Book-front-cover.jpg	eightranksmethod.com/press/ (09-WEBSITE-V2/DRAFT-2026-10-28-V5/site/press/)	Front cover, Yellow Belt Student Book	Front cover of the Yellow Belt Student Book from The Eight Ranks Method.
Orange-Belt-Student-Book-front-cover.jpg	eightranksmethod.com/press/ (09-WEBSITE-V2/DRAFT-2026-10-28-V5/site/press/)	Front cover, Orange Belt Student Book	Front cover of the Orange Belt Student Book from The Eight Ranks Method.
Green-Belt-Student-Book-front-cover.jpg	eightranksmethod.com/press/ (09-WEBSITE-V2/DRAFT-2026-10-28-V5/site/press/)	Front cover, Green Belt Student Book	Front cover of the Green Belt Student Book from The Eight Ranks Method.
Blue-Belt-Student-Book-front-cover.jpg	eightranksmethod.com/press/ (09-WEBSITE-V2/DRAFT-2026-10-28-V5/site/press/)	Front cover, Blue Belt Student Book	Front cover of the Blue Belt Student Book from The Eight Ranks Method.
Purple-Belt-Student-Book-front-cover.jpg	eightranksmethod.com/press/ (09-WEBSITE-V2/DRAFT-2026-10-28-V5/site/press/)	Front cover, Purple Belt Student Book	Front cover of the Purple Belt Student Book from The Eight Ranks Method.
Brown-Belt-Student-Book-front-cover.jpg	eightranksmethod.com/press/ (09-WEBSITE-V2/DRAFT-2026-10-28-V5/site/press/)	Front cover, Brown Belt Student Book	Front cover of the Brown Belt Student Book from The Eight Ranks Method.

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File	Where it is	What it shows	Alt text
Black-Belt-Student-Book-front-cover.jpg	eightranksmethod.com/press/ (09-WEBSITE-V2/DRAFT-2026-10-28-V5/site/press/)	Front cover, Black Belt Student Book	Front cover of the Black Belt Student Book from The Eight Ranks Method.

Updated 28 October 2026 (PROMPT 43): the logo files without the tagline and the current covers, the same files as on the website’s press page. No image shows a child. Do not crop the logo, change its colours or set it on a busy background.

Not issued, approved or endorsed by the New York State Education Department or any school district. Schools decide how to use its reports.

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