



Chess worksheet: What is the threat? Defence

12 puzzles · Levels 2, 3, 5, 6 · answers and explanations at the end

Name _____

Date _____



More practice in the Karotto app, with a voice guide and hints. Scan the code or visit playkarotto.com

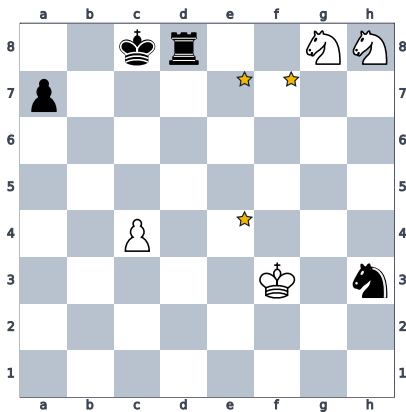
Write the move (for example Qf3 or Nf3) or draw an arrow on the board. The board always faces the side to move.

Yellow square: the piece to move (the "glowing piece" in the question). · Stars: squares you could move to; only one is right. · Letters A, B, C on squares: the options to choose from. · Arrow: the last move, or a move the question gives you. · Red square: a piece under attack. · Blue square: a piece or square to watch.

Level 2

1

White to move

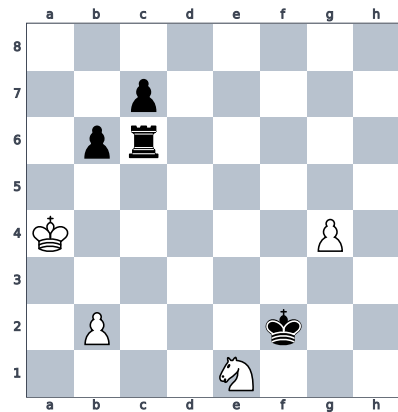


There are three stars, and one runs onto a square that's under attack. Pick the safe way to save it!

Move: _____

2

White to move



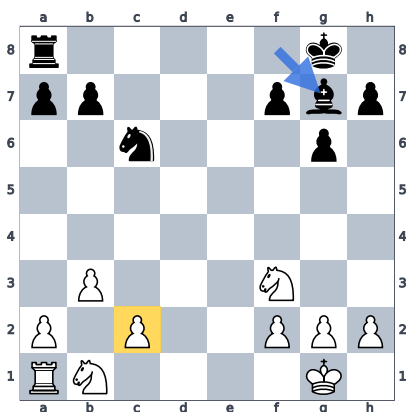
White to move. Which of your pieces is threatened? Save it!

Move: _____

Level 3

3

White to move

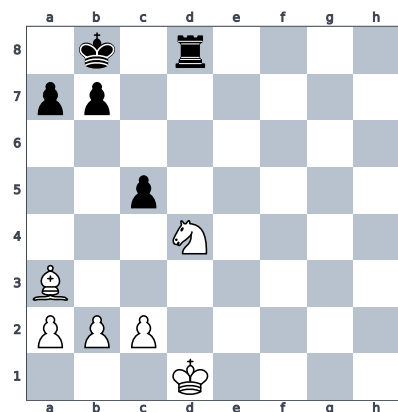


The black bishop just threatened the rook along the long diagonal. The rook can't run. The glowing piece can block that path, so move it!

Move: _____

4

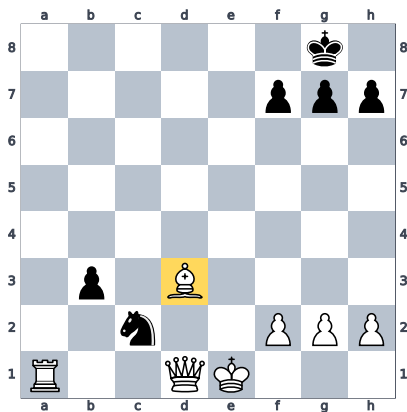
White to move



Your piece is pinned and under attack. Save it!

Move: _____

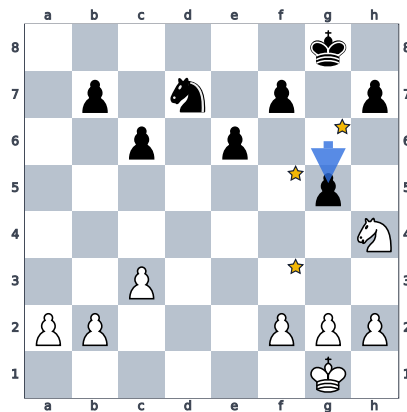
5 White to move



Your king is in check, and the black knight is also attacking your rook. What should the glowing bishop do?

Move: _____

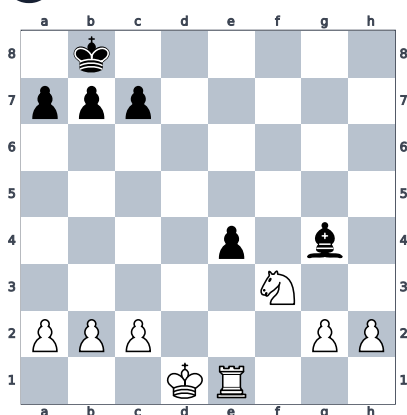
6 White to move



The black pawn just moved up to threaten the knight. There are three stars; move the knight to the safe star!

Move: _____

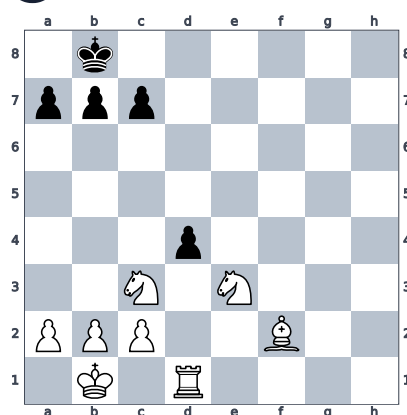
7 White to move



White to move. Find the best move!

Move: _____

8 White to move

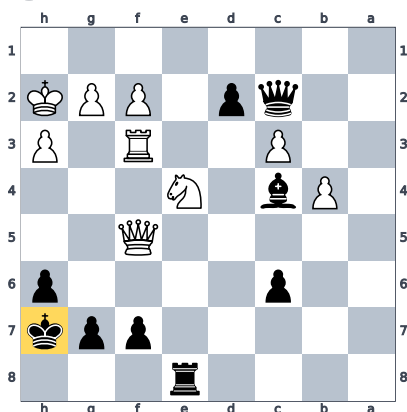


Black is attacking two of your pieces. Save both!

Move: _____

Level 5

9 Black to move

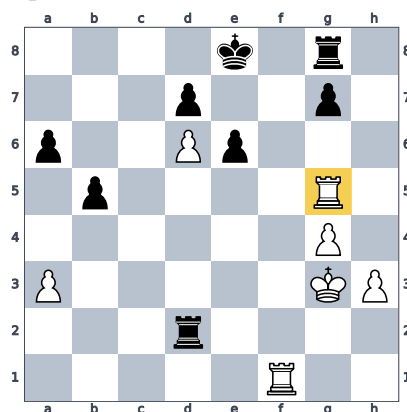


The black king is glowing. The white knight is about to give a forking check. Choose a move that holds your position!

- (A) ♖h8 (B) ♜g6 (C) ♜g8

Circle: A B C _____

10 White to move

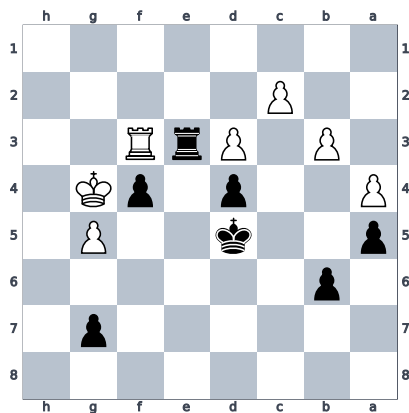


The glowing rook moves first. Protect the pawn and take control of the file!

Move: _____

Level 6

11 Black to move

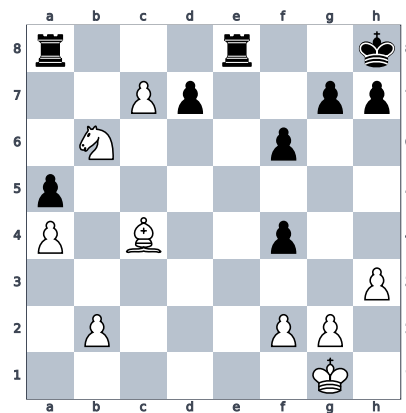


The white rook on f3 is attacking the pawn on f4. Of the three moves, which defends best?

- (A) ♖e1 (B) ♖xd3 (C) ♖xf3

Circle: A B C

12 White to move



White's pawn on c7 is about to promote. Of the three moves, which is best?

- (A) ♖xa8 (B) ♖xd7 (C) ♖c8

Circle: A B C

Answers and explanations: What is the threat? Defence

1. ♖e7+ · Level 2

Why: Your piece is safe, and you lost nothing.

2. ♖d3+ · Level 2

Why: Your piece is safe, and you lost nothing.

3. c3 · Level 3

Why: The pawn blocks the diagonal, and the black bishop can't see the rook anymore.

4. ♙xc5 · Level 3

Why: Take the attacking piece, and the pinned piece is safe.

5. ♙xc2 · Level 3

Why: Take the attacking knight. If the black pawn takes back, it's just a trade.

6. ♖f3 · Level 3

Why: The knight goes back to f3, where no black piece can take it.

7. ♖xe4 · Level 3

Why: The pinned knight is safe now.

8. ♖xd4 · Level 3

Why: Take the attacking piece.

9. A (♔h8) · 1...♔h8 2. ♖xd2 ♜xd2 · Level 5

Why: The king goes to h8, dodging the knight's forking check. Now Black still has the pawn on d2, which is about to become a queen.

10. 1. ♖c5 ♕d8 2. ♖fc1 · Level 5

Why: The rook moves to the c-file and threatens to come in on c8, so Black has to worry about the king. The other rook also moves to the c-file, and White attacks first.

11. C (♖xf3) · 1...♖xf3 2. ♕xf3 ♕e5 3. ♕g4 g6 · Level 6

Why: Trade rooks right away. In the pawn endgame that's left, the black king is in the center and the pawn on f4 is very strong: Black is much better.

12. A (♖xa8) · 1. ♖xa8 ♖xa8 2. ♙a6 · Level 6

Why: The knight takes the rook on a8. The black rook takes the knight back, then the bishop goes to a6 to help the c-pawn promote.
