



Chess worksheet: Rook endgames

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

Name _____

Date _____



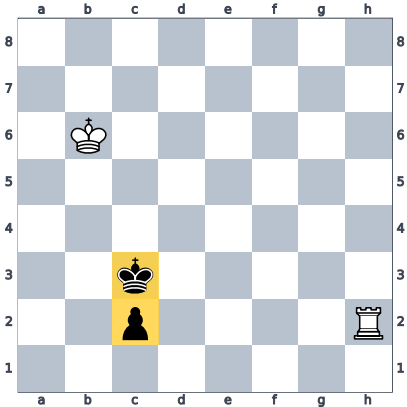
More practice in the Karotto app, with a voice guide and hints. Scan the code or visit playkarotto.com

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 5

1 White to move

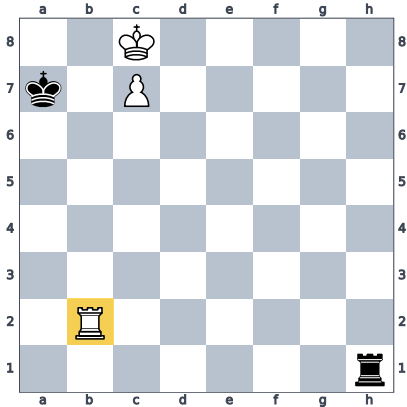


White moves first. The black pawn is about to become a queen, and the black king stands right next to it. Does White win or is it a draw?

- ☐ A White wins ☐ B Draw ☐ C Black wins

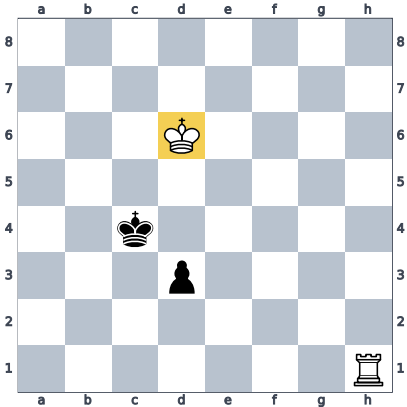
Circle: A B C _____

2 White to move



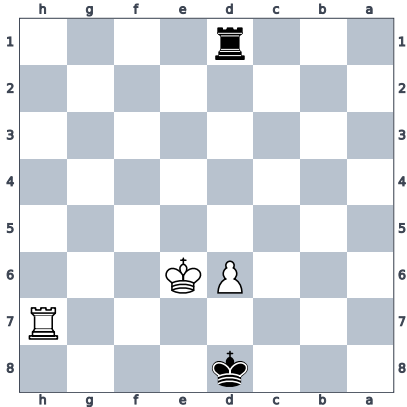
The glowing rook moves first. Help the pawn become a queen!
Move: _____

3 White to move



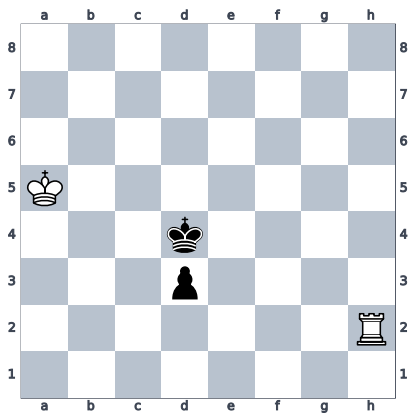
The white king is glowing. Bring the king back to stop the black pawn!
Move: _____

4 Black to move



You play Black. Hold the draw with your rook!
Move: _____

5 White to move

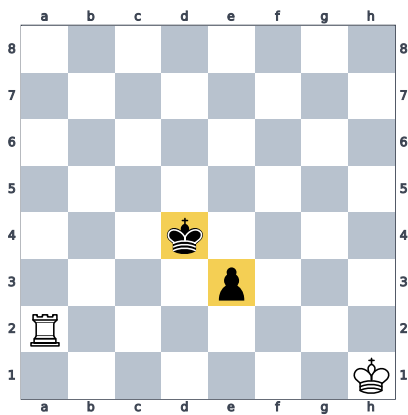


White moves first. In this game, does White win or is it a draw?

- ☐ A White wins ☐ B Draw ☐ C Black wins

Circle: A B C _____

7 White to move

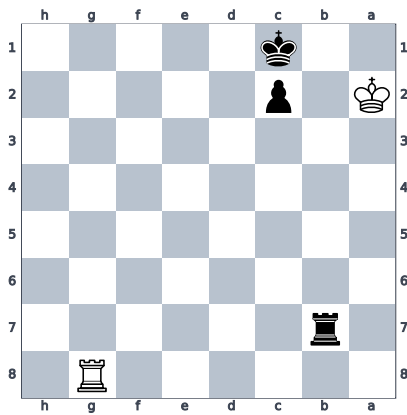


White moves first. In this game, does White win or is it a draw? Look at the black king and the black pawn!

- ☐ A White wins ☐ B Draw ☐ C Black wins

Circle: A B C _____

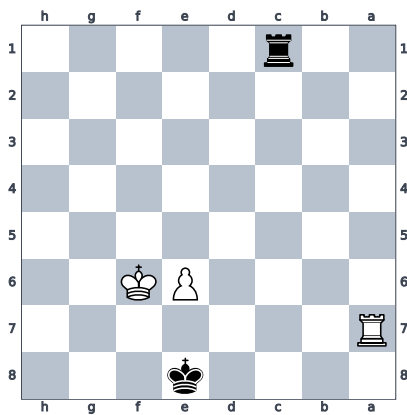
6 Black to move



Black to move. Find the best move!

Move: _____

8 Black to move

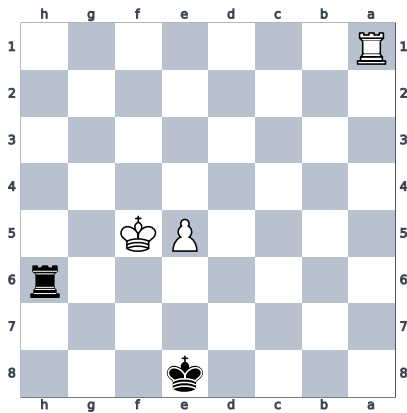


Black to move. Find the best move!

Move: _____

Level 6

9 Black to move

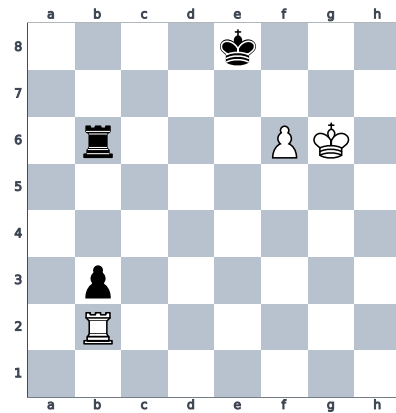


Black to move. The black rook holds the sixth rank, and the black king is in front of the pawn. What is the result of this game?

- (A) White wins (B) Draw (C) Black wins

Circle: A B C

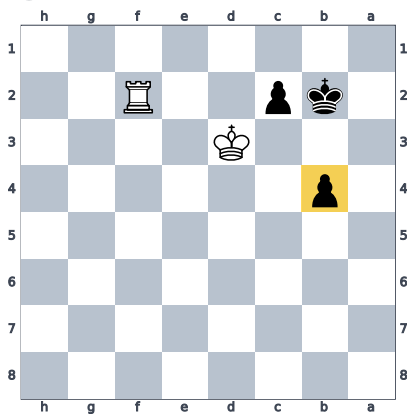
10 White to move



Rook endgame: active rook, king moves up. Keep playing!

Move: _____

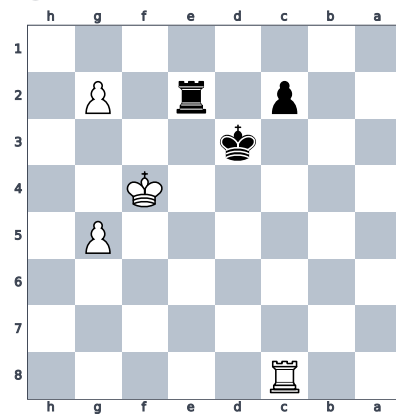
11 Black to move



The glowing piece moves first. Keep playing to the goal!

Move: _____

12 Black to move



Black to move. Find the best move!

Move: _____

Answers and explanations: Rook endgames

1. B (Draw) · 1. ♖xc2+ ♜xc2 · Level 5

Why: The rook can only trade itself for the pawn: if the rook takes the pawn, the black king takes the rook. The white king is too far away to help.

2. 1. ♖a2+ ♜b6 2. ♜b8 ♖h8+ 3. c8=♚ · Level 5

Why: The rook checks to push the black king away, the white king steps to b8, and then the pawn becomes a queen, blocking the check too.

3. 1. ♜e5 ♜c3 2. ♜e4 ♜c2 3. ♖h2+ ♜c3 4. ♖h3 ♜b4 5. ♖xd3 · Level 5

Why: The white king comes back to e4 to block the pawn's path, the rook checks to push the black king away, and then the rook takes the pawn.

4. 1... ♖e1+ 2. ♜d5 ♖a1 3. d7 ♖b1 4. ♖h2 ♜xd7 · Level 5

Why: The rook checks from the e-file, the white king has to step back, and the black rook guards the pawn from far away. When the pawn moves up, the black king can take it. Draw!

5. A (White wins) · 1. ♜b4 ♜e3 2. ♜c3 ♜e4 3. ♖d2 ♜e3 · Level 5

Why: The rook on the second row is already blocking the pawn, the white king runs back in time, and the black pawn can't become a queen.

6. 1... ♖a7+ 2. ♜b3 ♜b1 3. ♖g1+ c1=♚ · Level 5

Why: The black rook checks to push the white king away, the black king steps out to b1, and the pawn becomes a queen, blocking the check too.

7. A (White wins) · 1. ♖a4+ ♜c3 2. ♜g2 ♜c2 3. ♖e4 ♜d2 · Level 5

Why: The rook checks to push the black king away from the pawn, then blocks in front of the pawn. The black king can't protect the pawn, so the rook can take it.

8. 1... ♖f1+ 2. ♜e5 ♖b1 3. e7 ♖c1 · Level 5

Why: The black rook checks the white king from behind, stays very far away, then guards the back row. White can't make a queen: draw!

9. B (Draw) · 1... ♖h2 2. e6 ♖b2 3. e7 ♜xe7 4. ♖c1 · Level 6

Why: The black rook holds the sixth rank, so the white king can't move up. When the pawn reaches the sixth rank, the black rook drops down to check from behind.

10. 1. ♜g7 ♖b7+ 2. ♜g8 · Level 6

Why: The white king steps up to g7 to shield the f-pawn. If the black rook checks, the king hides on g8, and the f-pawn will move forward.

11. 1... b3 2. ♖e2 ♜b1 3. ♖e1+ c1=♚ · Level 6

Why: The b-pawn moves to b3 to support the pawn on c2. The black king goes to b1; if the rook checks, the c-pawn promotes to a queen and blocks the check. The white rook has to give itself up for the new queen, and then the b-pawn runs up to become a queen.

12. 1... ♖e4+ 2. ♜f5 ♖c4 · Level 6

Why: The rook checks first, then goes back to c4 to block the white rook. Black's c-pawn will become a queen.
