



Chess worksheet: Rooks on open files and the seventh rank

12 puzzles · Levels 4, 5 · answers and explanations at the end

Name _____

Date _____

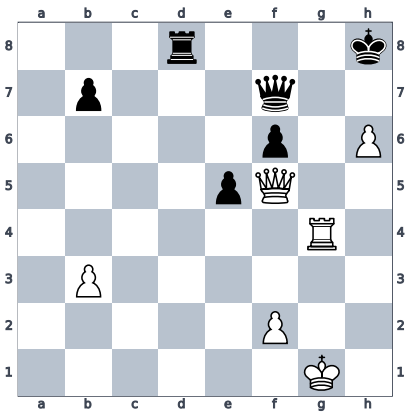


More practice in the Karotto app, with a voice guide and hints. Scan the code or visit playkarotto.com

Write the move (for example $\text{d}f3$ or $\text{N}f3$) 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 4

1 White to move

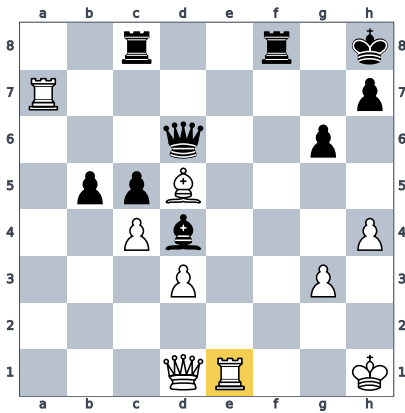


White to move. Where should the rook go? You choose!

- ☐ A $\text{h}g8+$ ☐ B $\text{h}g7$ ☐ C $\text{h}f4$

Circle: A B C _____

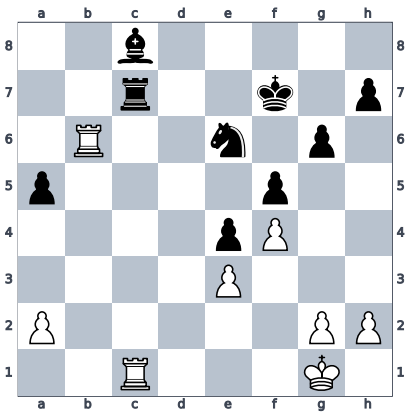
2 White to move



The glowing piece is the rook on e1. Bring your second rook to the seventh rank!

Move: _____

3 White to move

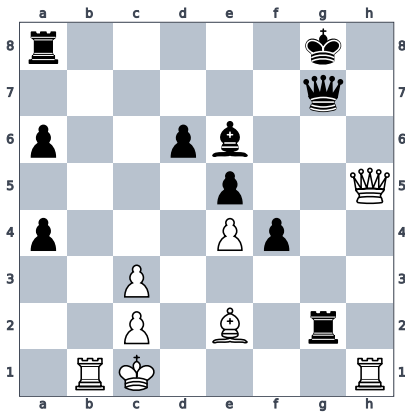


White to move. Pick the best rook move!

- ☐ A $\text{h}xc7+$ ☐ B $\text{h}xe6$ ☐ C $\text{h}cc6$

Circle: A B C _____

4 White to move

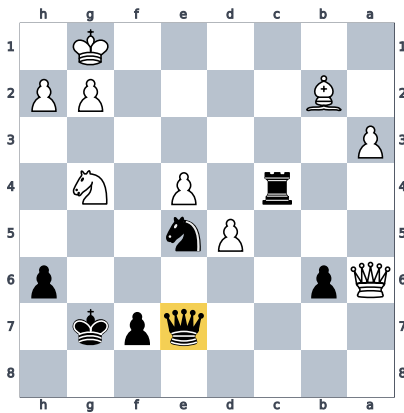


White to move. Find the best move!

Move: _____

Level 5

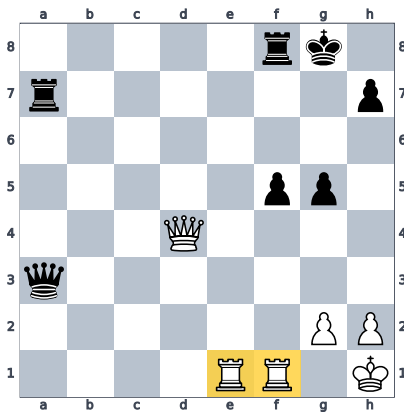
5 Black to move



The glowing queen checks first, then the rook goes down the open c-file to the back row. Go!

Move: _____

7 White to move

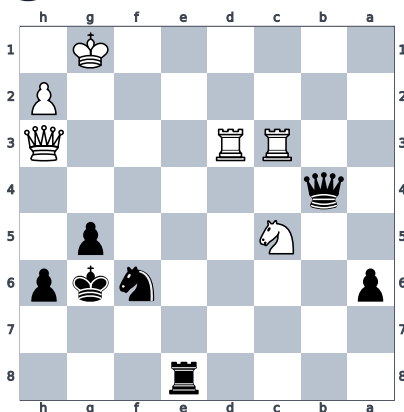


Two rooks are glowing. Choose the best rook move!

- (A) ♖d1 (B) ♖b1 (C) ♖a1

Circle: A B C _____

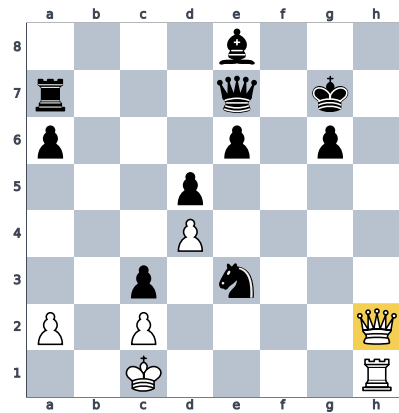
9 Black to move



The e-file is open. Bring your rook down to white's back row!

Move: _____

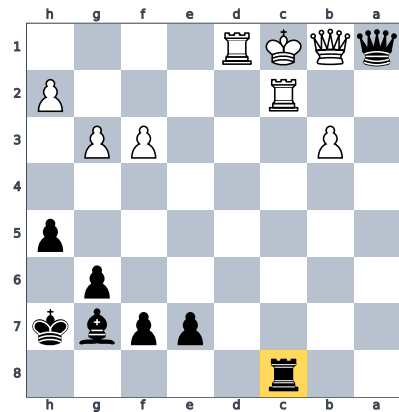
6 White to move



The glowing queen moves first, then the rook goes to the seventh row. Go!

Move: _____

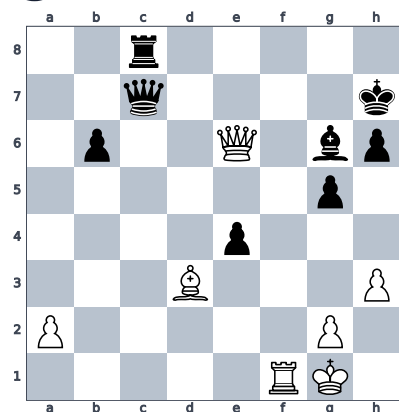
8 Black to move



The glowing rook captures its way into white's second row. Think ahead!

Move: _____

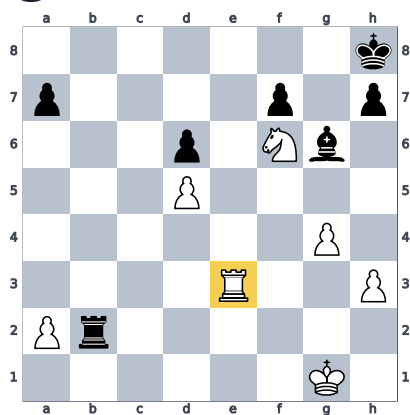
10 White to move



Open the way for your rook to reach the seventh row!

Move: _____

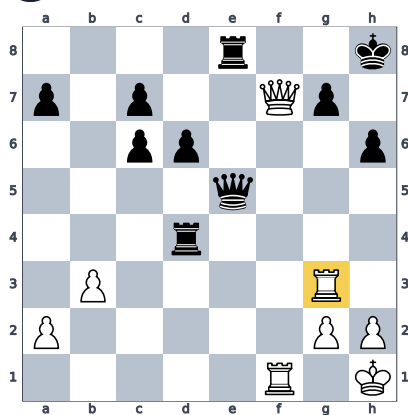
11 White to move



The glowing rook will run along the open file. Go!

Move: _____

12 White to move



The glowing piece moves first. Aim at the seventh row!

Move: _____

Answers and explanations: Rooks on open files and the seventh rank

1. B (Rg7) · 1. Rg7 ♖xg7+ 2. hxg7+ · Level 4

Why: The rook goes to the seventh rank on g7, threatening the queen and threatening checkmate. The black queen has to take the rook, and the pawn on h6 takes back with check and is about to promote.

2. 1. Rde7 ♖xe7 2. Rxe7 · Level 4

Why: The second rook reaches the seventh rank, and the two rooks threaten checkmate on h7. The black queen has to take a rook, and the other rook takes the queen.

3. A (Rxc7+) · 1. Rxc7+ ♗xc7 2. Rc6 ♗d5 3. Rxc8 · Level 4

Why: The rook takes the rook on c7 with check on the seventh rank. The knight takes back, and the rook on b6 moves to c6, aiming at the unguarded bishop on c8: you take the bishop.

4. 1. Rb7 Rd8 2. Rxg7+ · Level 4

Why: The rook goes to the seventh rank on b7 and attacks the queen on g7. Black can't save the queen: the rook takes it with check.

5. 1... ♖c5+ 2. ♕f1 Rc1+ · Level 5

Why: The queen checks so the white king runs to f1, then the rook goes down the open c-file to the back row and checks again. If the bishop takes the rook, the queen takes back, and the white king is trapped.

6. 1. ♖h8+ ♕f7 2. Rh7# · Level 5

Why: The queen checks on h8, the black king is forced up to f7, then the rook goes to the seventh row on h7: checkmate!

7. C (Ra1) · 1. Ra1 ♖xa1 2. Rxa1 Rxa1+ 3. ♖xa1 · Level 5

Why: The rook moves to the open a-file and attacks the black queen directly. The queen can't hide safely, so black has to give the queen for the rook.

8. 1... Rxc2+ 2. ♕xc2 ♖c3# · Level 5

Why: The rook takes the rook on c2 with check, the white king is forced to take back, then the queen comes down to c3: checkmate!

9. 1... ♖b1+ 2. ♖f1 Re1 · Level 5

Why: The queen checks and forces the white queen to block on f1. The white queen is pinned to the king, and the rook comes down the open e-file to attack it again: white loses the queen.

10. 1. ♗xe4 ♗xe4 2. Rf7+ ♖xf7 3. ♖xf7+ · Level 5

Why: The bishop takes the pawn on e4, and when the black bishop takes back, it leaves the line that guards f7. Now the rook goes to f7 on the seventh row: if the black queen takes the rook, the white queen takes back with check.

11. 1. Re8+ ♕g7 2. g5 · Level 5

Why: The rook runs down the e-file, which has no pawns, to the back row and checks the king. The black king runs to g7, the pawn on g5 locks it in: the black king is trapped, and white threatens checkmate.

12. 1. Rxg7 ♖xg7 2. ♖xe8+ · Level 5

Why: The rook takes the pawn on g7 right next to the black king. If the black queen takes the rook, the rook on e8 is left unguarded: the white queen takes the rook on e8 with check.
