

Chess

the game of kings

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What is a chess game?

Chess is one of the oldest and most popular board games. It is played by two opponents on a checkered board with specially designed pieces of contrasting colours, commonly white and black. The objective of the game is to capture the opponent's king.



A close-up photograph of a hand holding a yellow chess piece, likely a king or queen, positioned directly above a black chess piece, possibly a knight. The background is dark and out of focus, showing other chess pieces on a board. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures of the hand and the pieces.

Elements in chess

Chessboard



A **chessboard** is a gameboard used to play chess. It consists of 64 squares, 8 rows by 8 columns, on which the chess pieces are placed. It is square in shape and uses two colours of squares, one light and one dark, in a chequered pattern. During play, the board is oriented such that each player's near-right corner square is a light square.





Pawn

The **pawn** (♙, ♟) is the most numerous and weakest piece in the game of chess. It may move one vacant square directly forward, it may move two vacant squares directly forward on its first move, and it may capture one square diagonally forward. Each player begins a game with eight pawns



Rook

The **rook** (♖, ♜) is a piece in the game of chess. It may move any number of squares horizontally or vertically without jumping, and it may capture an enemy piece on its path; additionally, it may participate in castling. Each player starts the game with two rooks, one in each corner on their own side of the board.



Knight

The **knight** (♠, ♞) is a piece in the game of chess, represented by a horse's head and neck. It may move two squares vertically and one square horizontally or two squares horizontally and one square vertically, jumping over other pieces. Each player starts the game with two knights on the b- and g-files, each located between a rook and a bishop.



Bishop

The **bishop** (♗, ♝) is a piece in the game of chess. It moves and captures along diagonals without jumping over intervening pieces. Each player begins the game with two bishops. One starts between the king's knight and the king, the other between the queen's knight and the queen. The starting squares are c1 and f1 for White's bishops, and c8 and f8 for Black's bishops.



Queen

The **queen** (♛, ♛) is the most powerful piece in the game of chess, able to move any number of squares vertically, horizontally or diagonally, combining the power of the rook and bishop. Each player starts the game with one queen, placed in the middle of the first rank next to the king. Because the queen is the strongest piece, a pawn is promoted to a queen in the vast majority of cases.



King

The **king** (♔, ♚) is the most important piece in the game of chess. It may move to any adjoining square; it may also perform a move known as *castling*. If a player's king is threatened with capture, it is said to be *in check*, and the player must remove the threat of capture on the next move. If this cannot be done, the king is said to be in checkmate, resulting in a loss for that player. A player cannot make any move that places their own king in check. Despite this, the king can become a strong offensive piece in the endgame or, rarely, the middlegame.

Chess openings for beginners

A close-up photograph of a hand moving a white chess king piece on a chessboard. The board is partially visible with various pieces in play. The background is blurred, showing another person's hands and a blue shirt. The overall lighting is soft and blue-toned.



THE ITALIAN GAME

The Italian game begins with 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4. The point is to control the center quickly with your pawn and knight and then put your bishop on its most dangerous square. You are also preparing to castle to safety.



THE SICILIAN DEFENSE

The Sicilian Defense is the most popular choice of aggressive players with the black pieces. Often White will play 2.Nf3 and 3.d4 which will gain central space, but it allows Black to benefit by exchanging a central pawn for a bishop's pawn.



THE FRENCH DEFENSE

The French Defense is one of the first strategic openings every chess player should learn. After e5 (now or later), both sides will have pawn chains. One risk of the French Defense is that the c8-bishop can be very hard to develop.



THE RUY-LOPEZ

The Ruy Lopez is one of the oldest and most classic of all openings. It is named after a Spanish bishop who wrote one of the first books on chess. The Ruy Lopez attacks the knight which defends the e5-pawn. White hopes to use this attack to build more pressure on Black's central pawn.



THE SLAV DEFENSE

The Slav Defense is a very solid opening which defends the d5-pawn with another pawn. Most of Black's pieces can develop to natural squares, but Black will usually have a little less space and will have to find a good place for their b8-knight.

A black megaphone lies on a chessboard, surrounded by various chess pieces. White string is tied around the megaphone and some of the pieces, creating a network of connections. The chessboard has a black and white checkered pattern.

Thanks for the attention