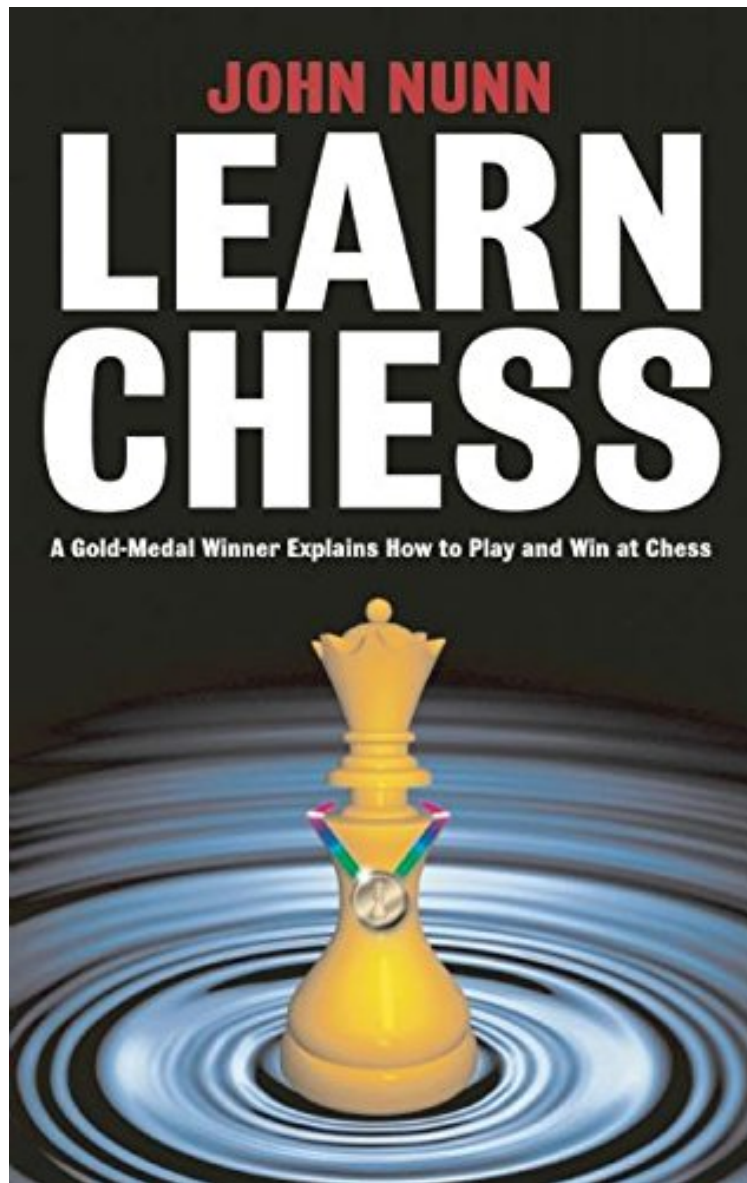


Learn Chess

John Nunn

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John Nunn : Learn Chess before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Learn Chess:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Anything by John Nunn is superb. Mr Nunn has ...By Tony MeyerDr Nunn has an uncanny ability to put into perfect words the ideas behind a tactic. Dr Nunn also simplifies puzzles exquisitely that it is perhaps like a teacher/ professor explaining some complicated concept in physics or math

or economics - - that i now can say "Aha! i finally understand". Perhaps this is because of John Nunn's background. At any rate John Nunn has a gift. 30 of 30 people found the following review helpful. Never studied tactics? pick this one first. By Marcelo Jost I have quite a few books on tactics and if I had to start all over again I would start by this book. Not that this book presents a huge collection of problems, which it does not, but because it explains the concepts behind tactic motifs very well. Each chapter starts with a clear explanation of what the tactic motif is. Quoting: "Like the fork, the discovered attack is a way of creating 2 threats at the same time. Unlike the fork, the discovered attack involves 2 attacking pieces". After the explanation there are a series of real life examples, mostly taken from GM games, all of them very instructive. Diagrams start very simple with chessbase-style threat arrows, clearly showing the combination principles, and then going into harder and harder to find combinations in diagrams without arrows. Solutions are given with nice verbose explanations, leaving nothing behind if you didn't find the complete solution at the diagram. The chapter introduction is followed by 50 exercises about the tactical motif. Again, diagrams start VERY simple (I would say beginners level) and slowly migrate toward VERY difficult positions (I would say over ELO 1800). Each problem was picked from real life and has an interesting call (example taken from a Fork exercise: Should Black regain the sacrificed piece with 11...f6 or 11...h6?). Unlike most tactic books, sometimes the combination goal in the harder exercises is only a positional plus or a pawn and I found this particularly interesting. The solution to each exercise is also very instructive for instead a short line Nunn takes time to explain what should white or black have played (sine lines included when the solutions allows it) and the what happened in the tragedy of real life (pretty funny sometimes... just like my ICC games). Finally, a scramble chapter (66 diagrams with side to move) where you are in the dark and have to found the correct tactical motif(s) and/or combination of them in the correct order. The book itself is of high quality, as all other GAMBIT books around. So far I could not find a typo or analysis error, the diagrams are of excellent quality and the book binding lets it open easily without leaving pages on the floor. Not the cheapest book around but the book material worths the price. I give 5 stars for the didactics and quality of the contents. 5 stars for the book itself. 4 stars for the problem collection (as all greedy chess readers, I would love to have a bigger problem collection, specially so well explained as the ones already presented). If you never studied tactics, pick this book first, then go elsewhere find other problem collections. 15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. The Best Chess Book. By Persnickity I love this book! It is so very well written. Easy to understand from beginning to end. Perhaps the best book ever written to teach chess to the adult who wants it simple yet not juvenile. I used to play chess long ago. I needed a book that would refresh my memory without bogging me down in trivial technicalities. If you are a very advanced player, this is not for you.

Starting with the very basics, this book tells you everything you need to know to become a successful chess-player. No prior knowledge is assumed. The reader learns step-by-step, with each new point illustrated by clear examples. By the end of the book, the reader will be fully ready to take on opponents across the board, or on the Internet, and start winning.

About the Author Dr John Nunn is one of the best-respected figures in world chess. He was among the world's leading grandmasters for nearly twenty years, winning four gold medals in chess Olympiads and finishing sixth overall in the World Cup in 1989. He is a much-acclaimed writer, whose works have won 'Book of the Year' awards in several countries. In 2004, 2007 and 2010 Nunn was crowned World Chess Solving Champion, ahead of many former champions.