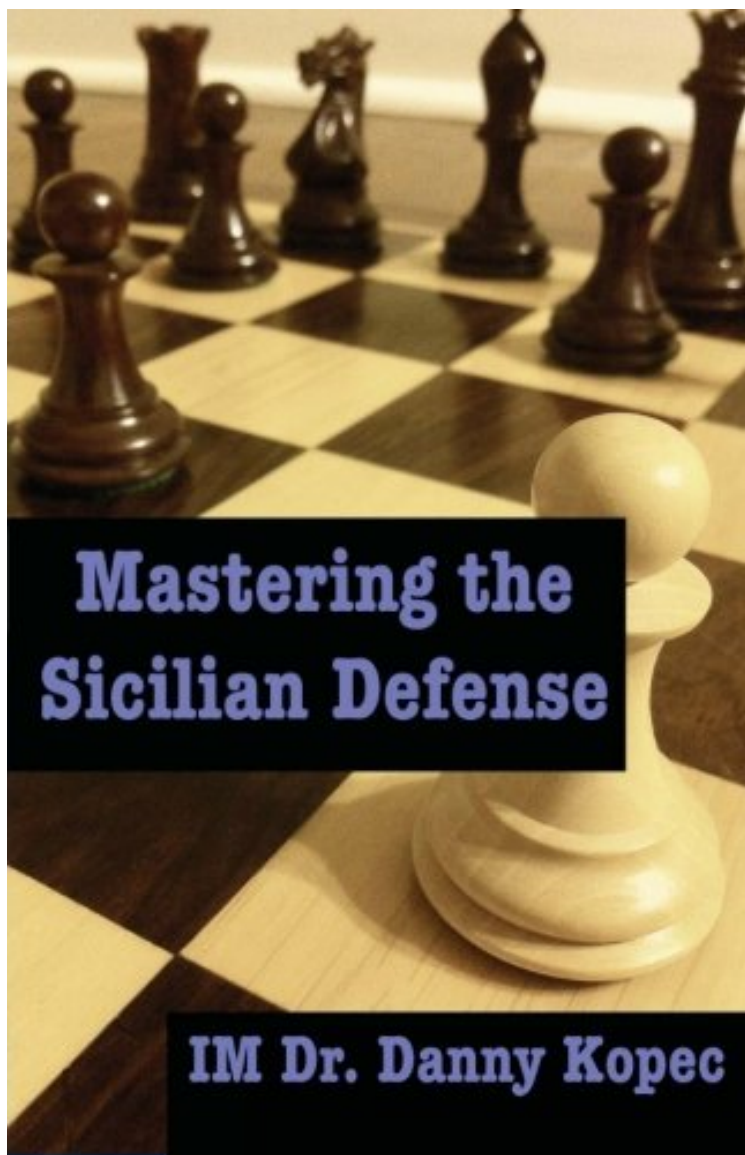


(Ebook pdf) Mastering the Sicilian Defense

Mastering the Sicilian Defense

Danny Kopec

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8.50 x .50 x 5.50l, .58 #File Name: 1466210044220 pagesAuthor: Danny KopecPages: 216 PagesPublication
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Danny Kopec : Mastering the Sicilian Defense before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mastering the Sicilian Defense:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Ideas book. No need for any other sicilian book below USCF 2000.By BKI am rated about 1900 USCF and always had trouble playing the sicilian against stronger players. I just cannot remember any memorized lines after about move 7 in most case (probably a bit longer in the dragon). After

seeing a few reviews, i was not sure if i wanted to buy this book. However, I have read some material by Mr Kopec and he writes clearly, and gets to the point. So I went ahead and ordered the book (i could always return it if i did not like it). However, I was pleasantly surprised. I tried a few ideas on chess.com/icc and generally the play went well for me. I also used some ideas in an OTB tournament with slow time controls and was able to hold a USCF Master (rated 2264) to a draw (after coming out of the opening with a better position, i messed up after the opening and the opponent messed up the ending leading to a draw). So, if you are rated below 2200-2300, ignore the reviews that the book is superficial and does not cover variations in detail. None of your opponents at this level are going to have a perfect recollection of all the variations. Try something less played like the labourdonnais/kan variation for an occasional surprise! As long as you play according to the general ideas, you should be doing fine in the opening. Any memorization without understanding is counterproductive. You may lose the occasional point to an overly booked up player in an extremely sharp line, but each loss will deepen your understanding.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One thing I really like about the book is the "Mastery Lesson" for each ... By Mehl I swear by the Sicilian Defense. I have been playing the Dragon variation (even as white) for many years now, because of the extremely interesting games it always seems to create. I wanted more information on other variations and transpositions, in a slightly less heavy format than some of my other books on the subject. This book delivers, and then some. One thing I really like about the book is the "Mastery Lesson" for each of the example games. They break down the key points of the variation used, and how you might want to deal with the likely attacks in the typical positions they create. From the Dragon variation part, I picked up some ideas on how to deal with Rauzer-esque positions, which had always given me the heebie-jeebies. Now I have even started added some Najdorf and Scheveningen variations to my play, just to spice things up a bit (and when I want a slightly less double-edged game than the Dragon). The best part is that while you can (and should) sit down at a chessboard and work through things, it's also good for reading a short bit or two before bed or during those little 5-minute chunks of the day when you can squeeze in a little chess reading. While I truly liked playing Sicilians before, now I truly LOVE playing them.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not Very Useful By King Kong I didn't find this book very useful. Basically it's just a short book of annotated games with some key points at the beginning. Sometimes the games don't even represent main lines (see the 3. Bg5 section, for example), and the key points are often trivial, such as don't attempt the highly theoretical Najdorf without prior study. Disappointing to say the least.

Quite simply put the Sicilian Defense is the most popular and most complex of opening systems in chess. It has been the favorite of top players throughout modern times. There are a number of systems and variations to choose from such as the Scheveningen, Dragon, Najdorf, Boleslavsky, Kan, etc. There are also a number of sharp, complex, theoretical systems and that is why it is aptly named The Sicilian Jungle. IM Dr. Danny Kopec s addresses the problem of trying to simplify the complexities of the Sicilian Defense from the perspective of STRUCTURE that is, sound structures for Black, particularly for the endgame. Dr. Kopec uses a unique method which he calls Mastery Lessons to guide the learner towards pawn structures and piece configurations which have been demonstrated to lead to success in certain Sicilian variations. This approach, developing heuristic packets, helped to achieve master level play in his work with computer chess programs.

About the Author Daniel Kopec (1954-2016) was an American chess International Master, author, and computer science professor at Brooklyn College. He graduated from Dartmouth College in the class of 1975. Kopec later received a PhD in Machine Intelligence from the University of Edinburgh. With Ivan Bratko he was the creator of the Bratko-Kopec Test, which was one of the de facto standard testing systems for chess playing computer programs in the 1980s. Kopec was one of the most talented home-bred players in the US. Dr. Kopec was New York High School Champion at 14, National Master at 17, Scottish Champion in 1980, 2nd-equal in the Canadian Closed in 1984, and International Master in 1985. He was an active player, journalist, writer, chess educator and scholar. His competitive results with top-flight chess professionals were remarkable. He delivered many chess courses, lectures, published seven highly recognized chess books, and developed eight highly regarded instructional videos (18.5 hours). Over the past 16 years Kopecs Chess Camp, had become world renowned. In parallel with his chess career, Dr. Kopec had pursued an academic career in computer science with research in artificial intelligence, software methodology, and computer science education. For more than 20 years Kopec tested and evaluated hundreds of human and machine chess players in the UK, Canada, and US in order to quantify their overall chess strength, their specific deficiencies and definite abilities. In bridging his chess and academic interests, Kopec developed a reputation as perhaps the worlds greatest exponent of chess knowledge.