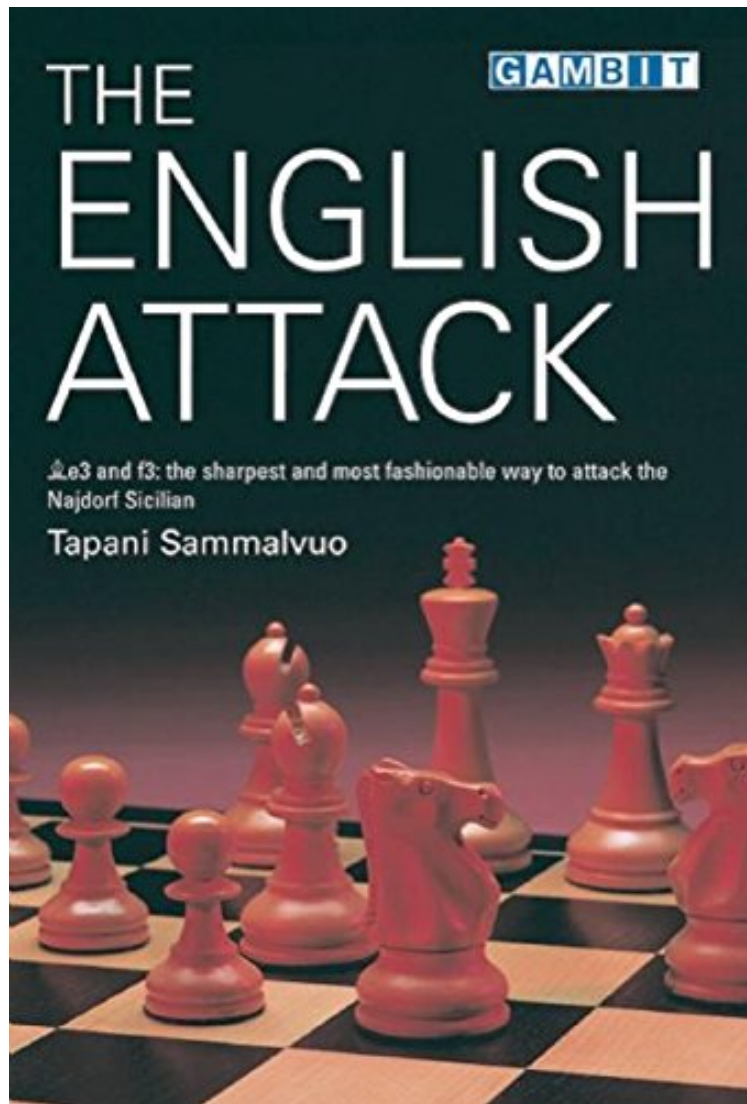


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## The English Attack

*Tapani Sammalvu*

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**Tapani Sammalvu : The English Attack** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The English Attack:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Very good analysis on a most popular line By M. Wang Sicilian Narjdorf is currently considered the best response to king pawn opening. The English attack is in turn the best response to Narjdorf. It is therefore a key component in any serious chess player's repertoire. I agree with the other reviewers that this book is incredibly detailed and advanced, as well as being fairly up to date. I want to raise two additional points, however. First, even with 270 pages of dense information, this book does not cover everything one

needs to know about English Attack. For example, on page 56, Chapter two, Section C22, variation 12b, the author did not consider any other alternative to 14. 0-0-0 than 14. Nb3. In fact, 14. Nd5 is perfectly playable. It is therefore vital for the reader to combine the volume with a good electronic opening book with a large database, e.g. Rybka 3 Chess Opening Book for Aquarium. Second, I am rated at around 1200, but I still enjoy reading some parts of this book that I have encountered before. Obviously, advanced players will get more out of it, but given how important the subject is, even casual players will benefit. 23 of 25 people found the following review helpful. One more opening masterpiece by GambitBy Garik TalAt 272 pages who are 256 mm by 172 mm this is a huge book. Huge was Tapani Sammalvuo's task: to write an opening book about the latest opening fashion to counter the Sicilian Defence, the English Attack against the Najdorf. When an opening book follows the tracks of opening fashion it risks to be out of date even before the publication date, so the best the author can do is to inform us about the state of the art in that opening at the moment that he writes. Sammalvuo - another new author discovered by Gambit's staff - succeeds: this book is a masterpiece in opening theory and maybe it is the best book published by Gambit ever (not an easy task, if you read other reviews I have written here, you know Gambit is the unchallenged leader in chess publishing nowadays). The book is articulated into 13 chapters: 8 chapters are dedicated to pure Najdorf lines, where Sammalvuo first analyzes what he calls the "new move order" - White playing 6.f3 before committing the Bishop to e3 - and then pays attention to the intricacies related to all the playable - and even dubious - lines; the chapter (4) regarding the hypermodern 8...h5 is really illuminating. The last 5 chapters analyze the Scheveningen lines after 6...e6 and an entire chapter (13) analyzes the main line and its critical move (12Na4). Of course the book has an index of variations and a bibliography, but what makes it the best Gambit book ever is the fact that while this certainly is a book aimed to 2200 players, it has an incredible amount of wordy explanations and informations completing and explaining the analysis, so making them understandable to a wider audience. This way the book will be useful also to players

The Najdorf Sicilian is one of the key battlegrounds of modern chess. This opening line occurs in a high proportion of top-level games, and is popular amongst players of all levels. World Champions Fischer and Kasparov are the Najdorf's most famous adherents - both made it their main defence, and scored a high proportion of wins with it, while very rarely losing. The English Attack (Be3 and f3) became popular as a direct attacking method against the Najdorf in the 1980s, following its successful use by Nunn, Short and Chandler. Since then, it has become established as the most critical line of the Najdorf, with Anand and even Kasparov himself using it to devastating effect at the highest level. This book is the first to be devoted to this most topical of openings, and its comprehensive coverage will enable players of all standards to play either side of the English Attack with confidence. Sammalvuo also discusses the trendy 6 f3 move-order, and the English Attack set-up against a variety of other Sicilian lines.

From the Publisher Gambit Publications specialises in chess and has an unrivalled reputation for originality and editorial excellence. The company is owned and staffed entirely by leading chess masters and grandmasters. About the Author Tapani Sammalvuo is a young international master from Finland, who has extensive experience on both sides of the English Attack. He was Finnish Champion in 1998, and has represented Finland in various Olympiads and other team competitions.