

How To Play Chess

By Kevin R. Kosar
Chess-In-the-Schools

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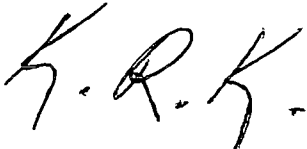
The mission of *Chess-In-the-Schools* is to motivate children to develop their higher order thinking skills, self-confidence, and to instill in them a desire for academic achievement. A child taking part in a chess program develops logic, reasoning, and problem solving abilities; memory, concentration and visualization skills; critical thinking; patience; and determination. Perhaps most importantly, young chess players develop a can-do spirit which tells them, *work hard, work smart, and you can achieve anything.*

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Warm regards,



Kevin R. Kosar
& The *Chess-In-the-Schools* Staff

CHESS BASICS

What is chess?

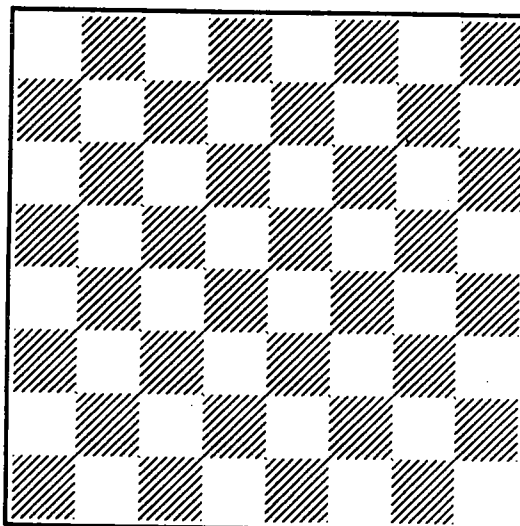
Some people say that chess is an art. Other people say chess is a science. And Bobby Fischer, great chess player, said “chess is life.” One thing we can all agree on is this: chess is fun!

What kind of game is chess?

Chess is a board game played by two people. One player has 16 white (or light) pieces and the other has 16 black (or dark) pieces. First, the player with the white (or light) pieces moves one of his white (or light) pieces. Then the player with the black pieces moves one of his black pieces. Then white gets to move a piece. And then black moves a piece. You just keep taking turns moving your own pieces until the game ends.

What does the chess board look like?

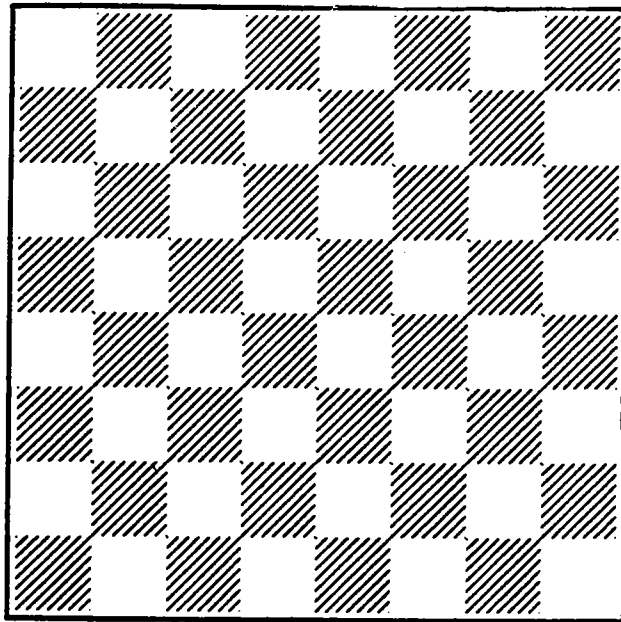
The chessboard is 8 squares wide and 8 squares long- that makes 64 squares ($8 \times 8 = 64$). The squares on the chess board are white (or light) and black (or dark). See:



HOW DO WE PLAY?

First, you need to set the board between you and the other player. When you set the board down, you each should have a white (or light) square on the right hand corner nearest each of you.

Your Opponent



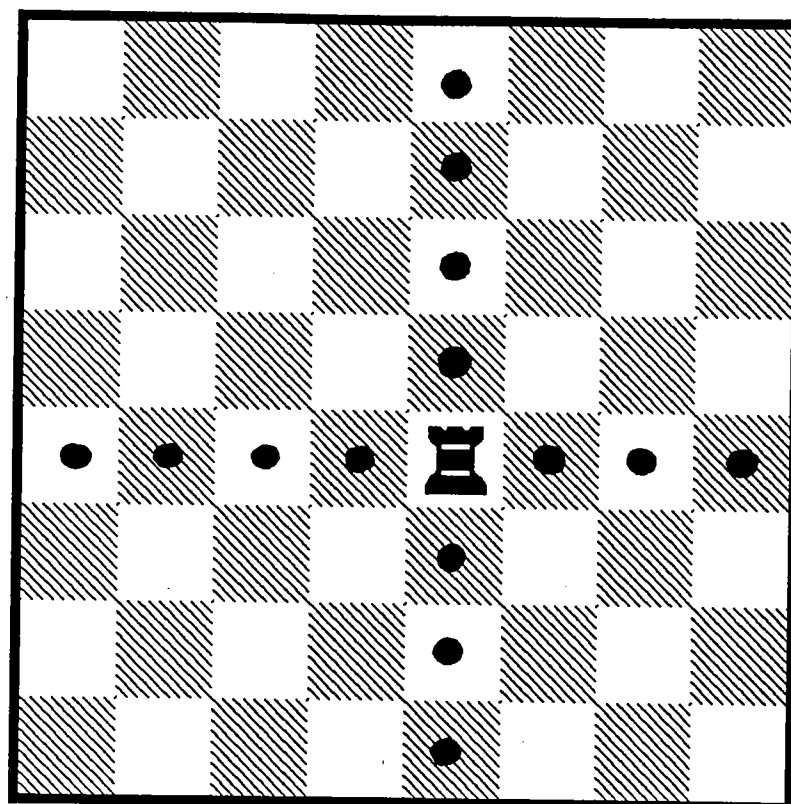
You

Don't forget: When you set the board between you and your opponent, white goes on the right!

Now it is time to learn what the chess pieces look like and how they move. There are 6 different kinds of chess pieces. Each is different and each moves in a different way.

The Rook

Each player has two rooks. A rook can move straight forward, backward, to the left or the right. A rook can move as far as it wants. A black dot marks the squares to which the rook can move. See:



White rook ♖
 Black rook ♜

Did you know?

Rooks are sometime called "castles". That's because the rook chess piece looks like the corner of a medieval stone castle.

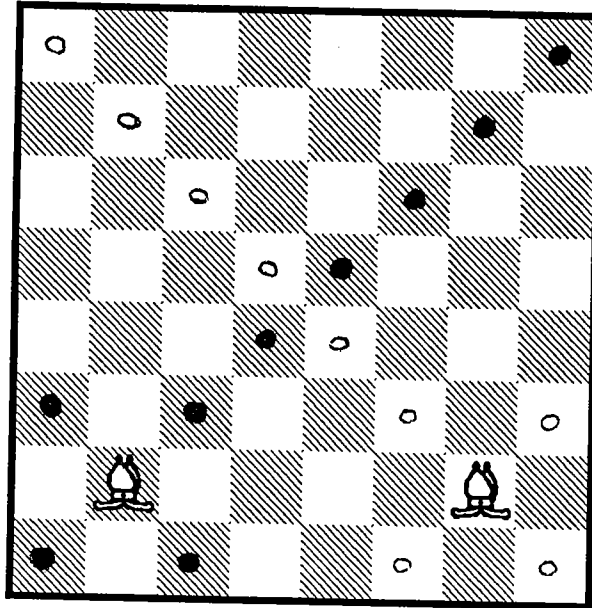
The Bishop

Each player has 2 bishops. One rests on a white (or light) square, the other on a black (or dark) square. A bishop moves diagonally and can move as far as you want. But it always stays on the same color.

white bishop

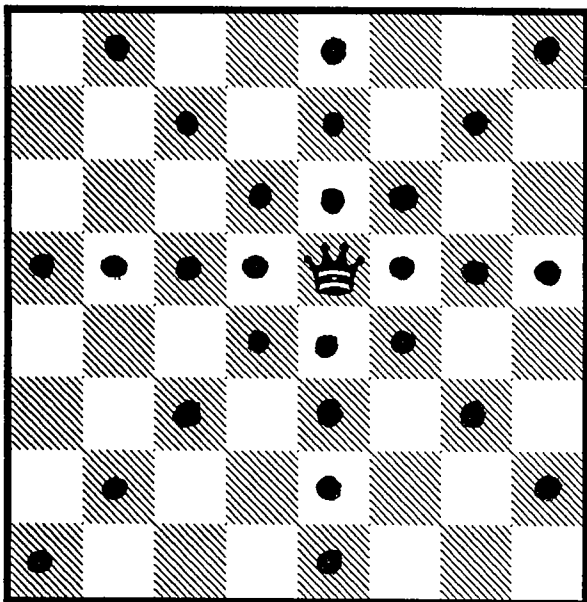



black bishop



The Queen

The queen is the most powerful piece in chess. It can move in any direction. But best of all, it can move as many spaces as you want (or until it bumps into another piece!)



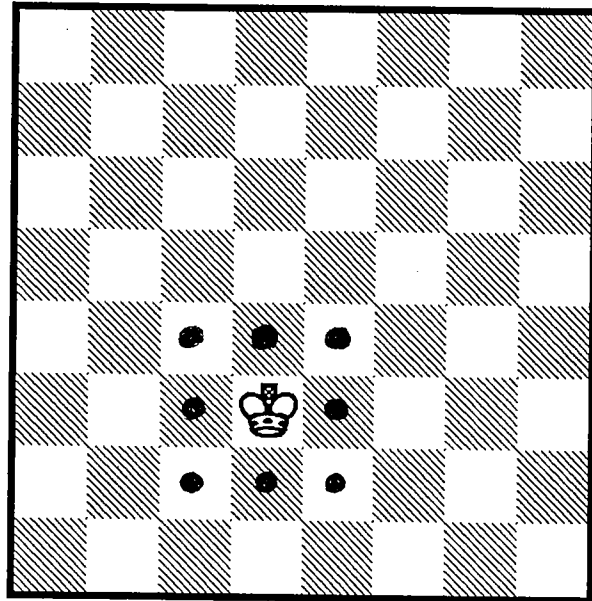
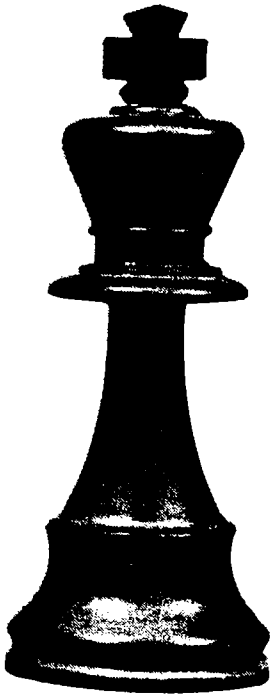
White queen: 

Black queen: 




The King

The King moves one square per turn. The king can move in any direction. In the diagram below, you see the black king and the white king. A black dot marks where each king may move.



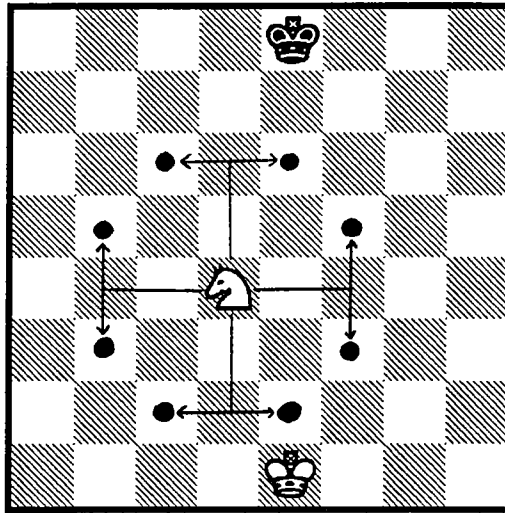
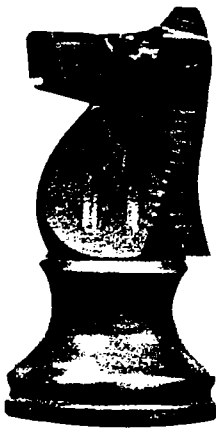
In chess diagrams, the king looks like this:

white king 

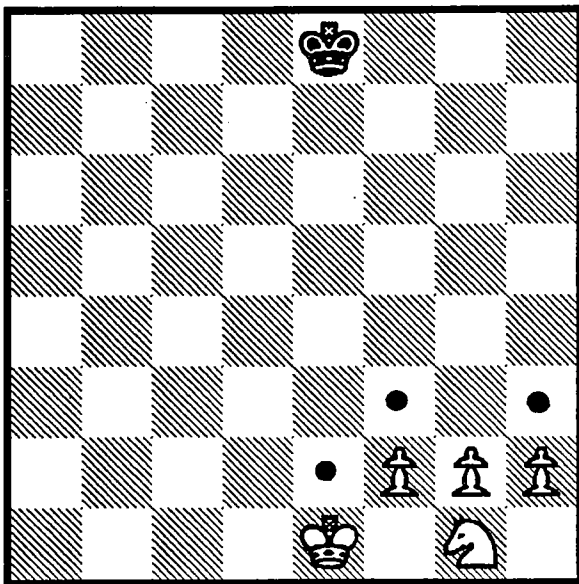
black king 


The Knight


Each player has two knights. The knight looks like a horse's head because- you guessed it- a knight rides a horse! Unlike the other pieces on the board, knights do not move in a straight line. Instead, they move in an L shaped way. Two moves in one direction then a quick step to the left or right. Like this:



On the chess board, the knight may jump over other pieces. That's because he is riding a horse, of course! See:



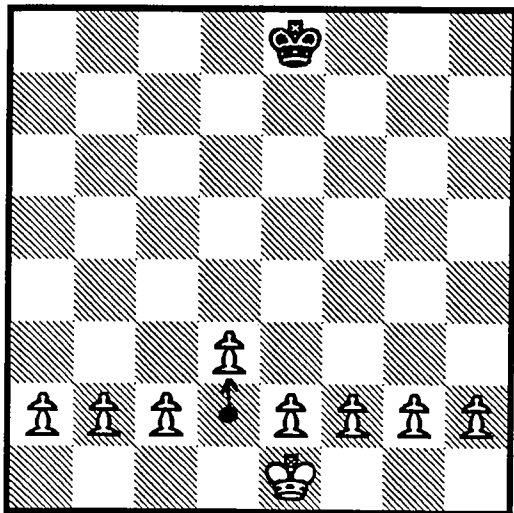
white knight 

black knight 

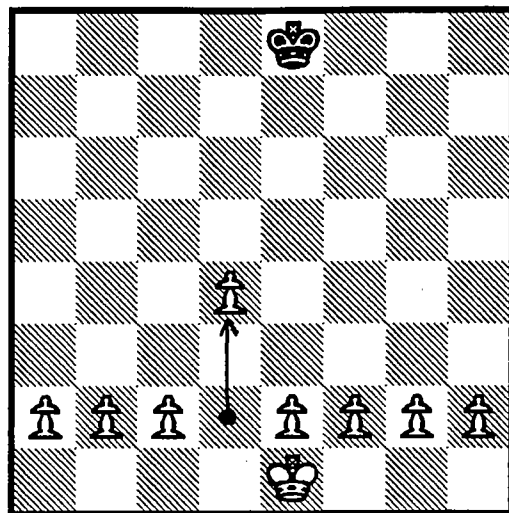
The Pawn

Each player has 8 pawns. Moving the pawn is tricky- so listen closely! At the beginning of the game the pawns all stand in a line. You can move any one of them, though it is smartest to move one of the middle pawns. Now, when you move a pawn from its starting position, you may move it ONE or TWO squares forward. It's your choice! See:

move # 1



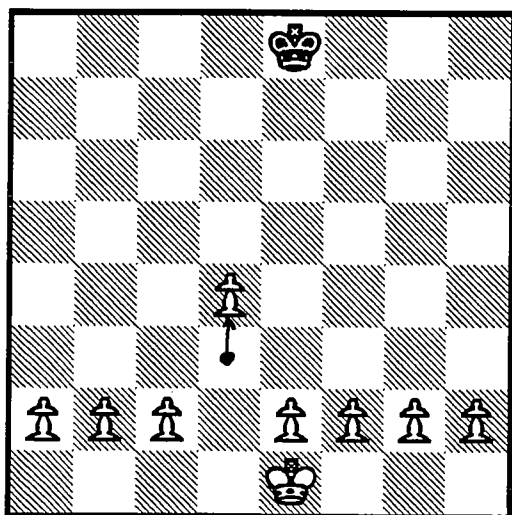
move #1



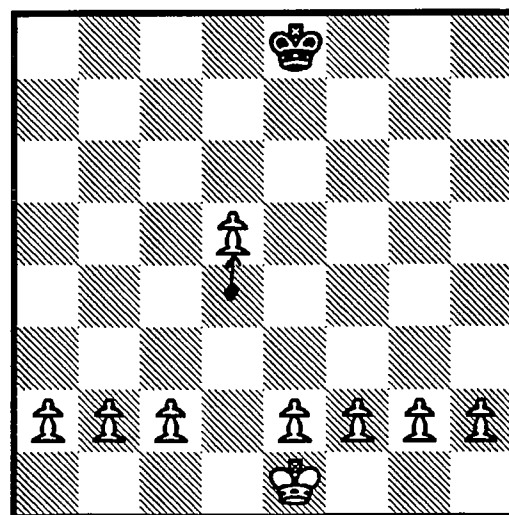
OR

Now, after a pawn has been moved from its starting position, you may move it only straightforward one square at a time. Like this:

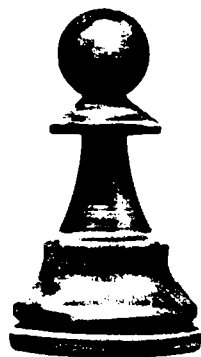
move #2





move #2



OR



-  white pawn
-  black pawn

