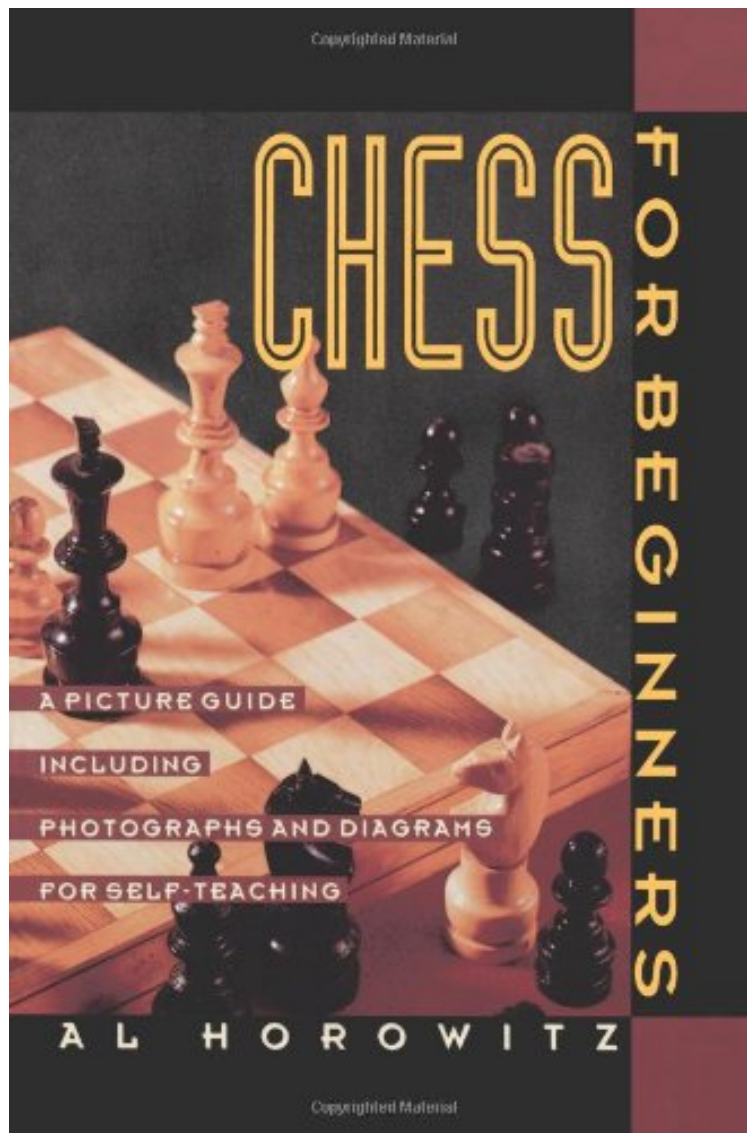


Chess for Beginners: A Picture Guide Including Photographs and Diagrams for Self-Teaching

Al Horowitz

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Al Horowitz : Chess for Beginners: A Picture Guide Including Photographs and Diagrams for Self-Teaching before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chess for Beginners: A Picture Guide Including Photographs and Diagrams for Self-Teaching:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Why does he have to make it so complicated?By Bill DowneyI am a beginner and I bought four beginning chess books by four different authors: John Nunn, Jon Edwards, Gareth

Williams, and this one. I like the other three. They are all good in different ways. But Al Horowitz drove me nuts. It's the way he labels the ranks on the chess board. If you look at the left side of a chess board in one of his diagrams the ranks are numbered 1 thru 8 from top to bottom. On the same diagram on the right side the ranks are numbered 1 thru 8 from bottom to top. "Each of the players therefore has his own system of counting. . . When White is moving, we count ranks from the White side. When Black is on move we count from the Black side," Horowitz says. "The numbers of each rank always give a total of 9." Okay. I get it. But why make it so difficult? None of my other three authors makes it this complicated. I have no problem following a game in any of my other three books, but the Horowitz system of notation makes it extremely difficult to follow a game and drives me nuts. I gave up on his book 2/3's of the way thru because it makes me grind my teeth. Maybe an experienced player would be kind enough to post a comment to this review and explain the logic behind the Horowitz system, if there is any rhyme or reason to it. I wonder if there are other chess masters who use this system. As a beginner myself, I don't know. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Book! By Jan C Very helpful book! 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Right on the dot! By Pee Elle Like the title says, it is a good book for beginners especially because it has pictures to guide through. My son just turned 8 and i would think that at that age it wouldn't be that easy to learn chess but with this book, with all the picture guide, it became easier for him to acknowledge what the book is actually explaining. A really good book for chess beginners!

In this book, I. A. Horowitz, Chess Editor of the New York Times and former U.S. Open Champion, applies some of the ideas and convictions acquired from thirty-five years of playing, teaching and analyzing the royal game. He emphasizes the tactical aspects of the game: how to recognize the big chance and hit hard when it occurs. He also stresses the ideas and methods in opening play, rather than the routine memorizing of variations that takes the joy out of chess for so many beginners. When you have completed this book, you will be able to play chess with pleasure and some ability.

From the Publisher With more than 50 photographs and 230 diagrams, Chess for Beginners is a unique and matchless self-teaching authority.