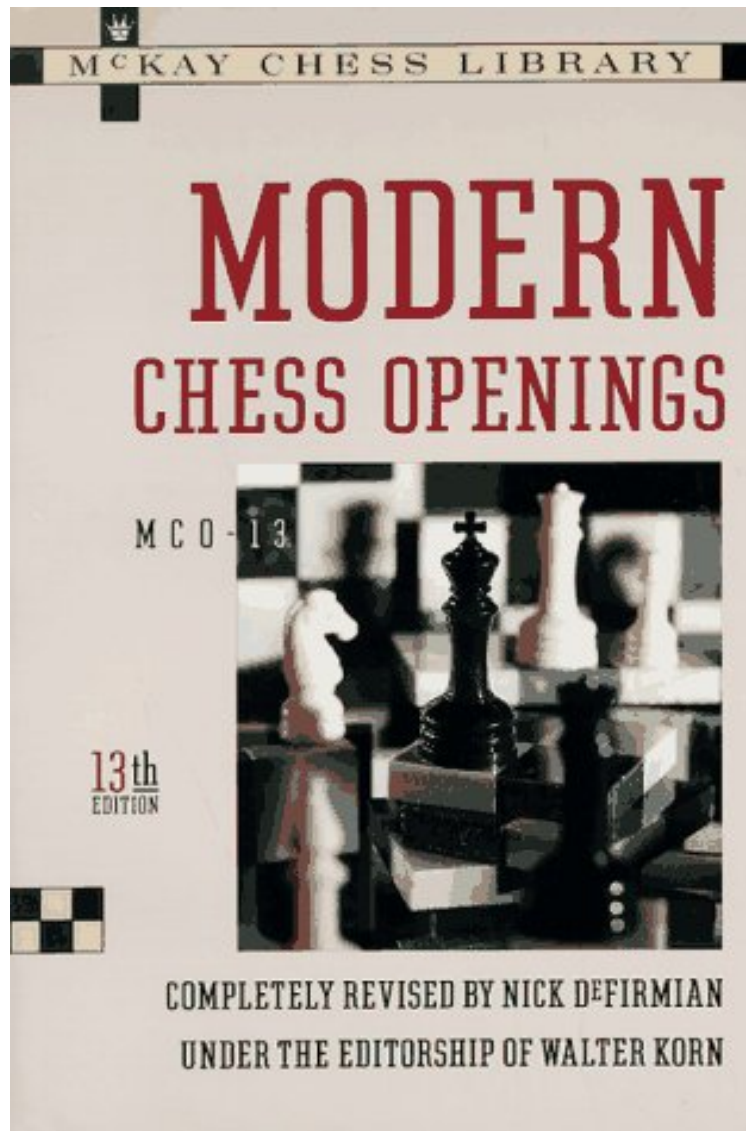


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Modern Chess Openings: McO-13, 13th Edition

Nick Defirmian

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Nick Defirmian : Modern Chess Openings: McO-13, 13th Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Modern Chess Openings: McO-13, 13th Edition:

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information is a bad thing! You just played a variation of the French Winawer, and felt confused in the opening, and you want to know what the best move is. Nothing wrong with the Chessbase database or Livebook (which are probably more up-to-date), but there's something about having a single, vetted variation with references to grandmaster games that makes me feel all warm and tingly inside. Besides, with databases, a lot of weaker games are included (to beef up the numbers) so you have to be careful to check the average rating of the variation each time, which is annoying. Sure, I know Shirov or Short might vary from the variation, and create their own sublines. But this book is a great authority on tried-and-true opening variations, giving dozens of (some over a hundred) solid variations for each major opening. Each variation is numbered, so you never get lost. The notes are very helpful and explanatory. The tabular form is easy to follow. Unlike the 15th edition, the spine is still intact (better bookbinder); this is important for a heavily-used tome like this. Yes there are some typos, but you can usually figure them out. I have Horowitz's "Chess Openings: Theory and Practice" which is great, but it's a bit old (1962 I think), and it's in descriptive notation (which is a bit bothersome when you're so used to mentally calculating using algebraic). But I'll still keep that, because old lines are still sometimes played! Oh, and in the MCO all the main variations of the openings are explained in terms of strengths and weaknesses. Highly recommended.

Book by Nick Defirmian

.com Modern Chess Openings, better known in the chess world as MCO, has been called "the chess player's bible" since it was first produced by Walter Korn almost 60 years ago. With this 13th incarnation, Korn took the role of editor and put the update in the capable hands of International Grandmaster Nick De Firmian. The result is MCO-13, a grander, fully revised and greatly expanded version of this classic work. One important and welcome update over earlier editions is the incorporation of algebraic notation, making the book useful to a wider range of readers. The in-depth analysis of all the major chess openings currently in use--and several minor ones--is based on their use and performance in every major tournament game for several years prior to publication. Even popular old openings, such as the Vienna Game and Two Knights Defense, and tricky offenses such as the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit and "Fried Liver" Attack are given detailed attention. The book is divided into five major segments covering symmetrical King's Pawn openings, semi-open King's Pawn defenses, Queen's Pawn openings, Indian Defense systems, and flank openings. MCO-13 belongs on the shelf of every serious chess enthusiast.