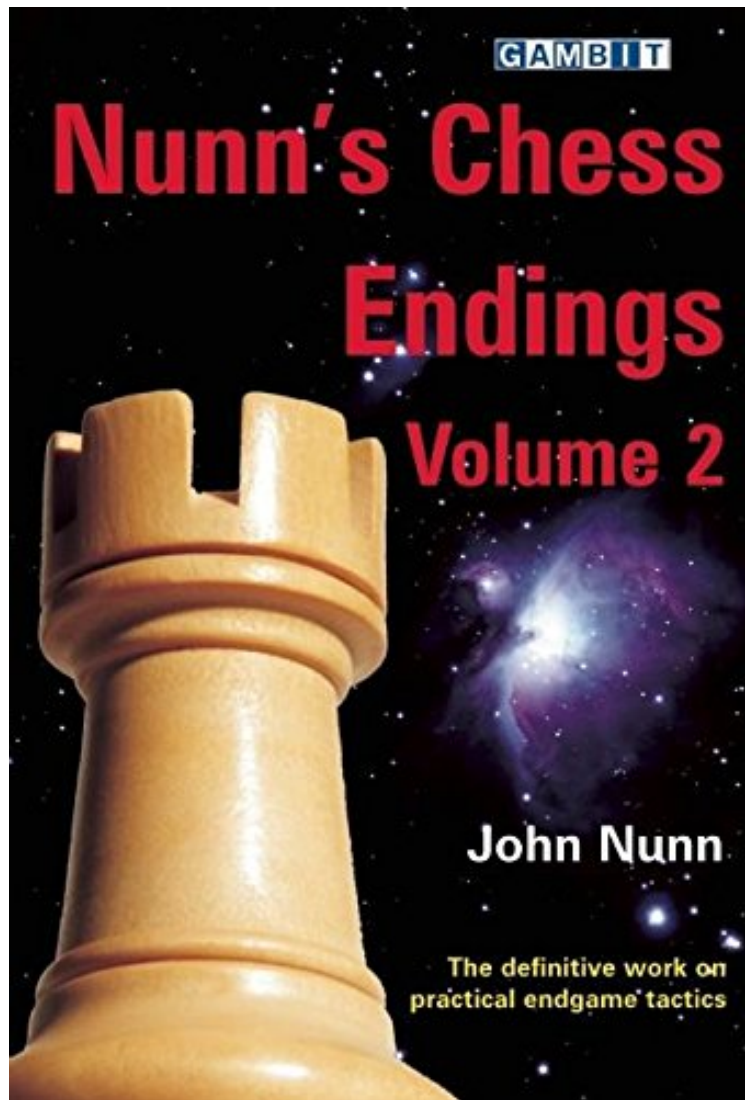


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Nunn's Chess Endings Volume 2

John Nunn

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#1418663 in Books The House of Staunton, Inc. 2010-10-05 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.56 x 1.00 x 6.74l, 1.51 #File Name: 190645423X336 pages Author: John Nunn Pages: 352 Pages Publication Years: 2010 | File size: 44.Mb

John Nunn : Nunn's Chess Endings Volume 2 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nunn's Chess Endings Volume 2:

17 of 18 people found the following review helpful. More than I wanted to know, but not more than I needed to know By Derek Grimmell Nunn's Chess Endings volume 2 is actually the third and final book in Nunn's series. Understanding Chess Endings contains all the fundamentals that Nunn thought the student needed to master before diving into the study of complex endgames, and the diligent student would do well to read it first. Then Volume 1

focuses on all endings except those with a rook, and this book covers all endings with a rook. Nunn's goal is twofold: 1) to convince the reader that tactics matter in endgames; 2) to equip the diligent student with most, if not all, of the ideas necessary to notice and apply those tactics in endgames. Notice that I have twice used the word "diligent" in this review. This book requires careful, slow study, not a quick read, and I don't think any other form of study will help much. All of the examples within have tricks and hidden points, so a careful read is bound to be more educational than a brief review. Compared to the other two volumes, *Understanding Chess Endings* is a pretty good one-volume overview of all the different types of endings, and just about any player would benefit from reading it, all the way down to the level just above novice -- in tournament play, anyone with a four-number rating would benefit; in everyday parlance, an enthusiastic youth or local club player. Nunn's *Chess Endings 1* covers a wide variety of endgames with the same intent -- teach players how to spot and use tactical ideas in the endgame -- but because of the breadth of material, the details are less overwhelming. By contrast, Nunn spends the first 66 pages on several fundamental ideas in rook endings. The first, the "hesitation check," is a tactic I had observed before but which never had a name before. It refers to intermediate checks that cause the opponent to waste a tempo, and they are indeed crucial in rook endings. Then he covers the fifth-rank cutoff, switching the angle of attack of the rook, Lasker's method of driving back an opposing king, and several others. After that he dives into specific examples: 10 pages on all the nuances of play in rook and pawn versus lone rook endings, divided up by which file the pawn occupies; 40 pages on rook and two pawns versus rook, 30 pages on rook and pawn versus rook and pawn, 35 pages on rook and two versus rook and one, and so on. At each step he offers text ideas followed up by detailed variations illustrating the ideas, and sidelines (sometimes main lines) showing strong players mishandling what should be basic endings. So diligent is the operative word here. Because of the need for thorough study, this appears to be the kind of book a club player (USCF 1500 to USCF 2000) might use to thoroughly train on this type of ending and try to move up into the master ranks. Other players, enthusiastic but less determined, may profit from *The Survival Guide to Rook Endings*. This book is also pretty thorough and detailed -- rook endings are complex, sorry to say -- but Nunn's book is definitely more detailed. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Extremely practical book! By Bill Brock If you have a reasonable theoretical grounding in the endgame, and you want to improve your play in rook endings, then buy this book! I've worked through Averbakh, Levenfish Smyslov (still essential), Korchnoi (too hard for me), Mednis (great), Dvoretsky (generally too hard for me) parts of ECE, and even the austere beauty of Nunn's *Secrets of Rook Endings*, but this book is really special and really practical. As difficult as the material is, the examples are generally accessible in a way that Nunn's books often aren't. He worked hard at making the explanations both correct and accessible, and it shows. Finally, this review applies only to Volume 2. I haven't read Volume 1 yet! 1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Contains a lot, Remains a lot to be mentioned. By Jerome Lewis Hey readers, The pros on this book say it contains all you need to learn and improve facing rook endgames; stated in thematic, clear and concise format for readers to digest. The cons say the book is another "Nunn theme", egoistic, sarcastic, nonsensical barage of writing that insults the intelligence of other writers on this topic (see reviews on volume 1) and offers no NEW or REAL value to readers. So comment readers one question..... "Is this book worth the purchase price?" My experience says you never really know until you read one! If you THINK your rook endgame play needs a refreshing boost of insight, updated, deeply analysed, theme-oriented, and digestible material, this book covers the gammit. The introduction tells you upfront the author's writing direction, purpose, and ideas for this book while offering alternative directives and books of similar/other material readers may find valuable. I have purchased this book based on revised/new material content and rook endgame themes presented. NO book of this nature can cover all issues on the rook endgame subject and they have been around since the game began, but this volume 2 is a DEFINITE buy! Go to the GAMBIT publisher's website and view a pdf sample of this book and see for yourself.....

In this major two-volume work, renowned endgame theoretician John Nunn teaches the skills that are most important to success in practical endgames. Going beyond standard texts, Dr Nunn shows how to apply knowledge of standard endgames to find the right methods in tricky real-life practical situations - even when they differ greatly from the idealized forms given by traditional endgame manuals. * Identifies new and important motifs which occur repeatedly in over-the-board play * Tactical elements are heavily featured * In many examples, previous analysis is corrected * Focuses on endgames that are susceptible to concrete analysis * Geared to the over-the-board player - no composed or artificial positions * Ideas underlying analysis - however complex - are richly explained in words Nunn shows that lack of familiarity with key ideas can cause important ideas and themes to be missed even by very strong players. We discover that a staggering amount of previously published endgame analysis is simply wrong, and that many of the standard guidelines are at best partially true. This second volume focuses on rook endgames - the most common and important category of practical endgames. Nunn also covers endings with rooks and minor pieces, a wide and rich area of strategic endgame play that is universally recognized as vital for chess mastery, but nevertheless neglected in chess literature.

From the Back Cover In this major two-volume work, renowned endgame theoretician John Nunn teaches the skills

that are most important to success in practical endgames. Going beyond standard texts, Dr Nunn shows how to apply knowledge of standard endgames to find the right methods in tricky real-life practical situations - even when they differ greatly from the idealized forms given by traditional endgame manuals. * Identifies new and important motifs which occur repeatedly in over-the-board play * Tactical elements are heavily featured * In many examples, previous analysis is corrected * Focuses on endgames that are susceptible to concrete analysis * Geared to the over-the-board player - no composed or artificial positions * Ideas underlying analysis - however complex - are richly explained in words Nunn shows that lack of familiarity with key ideas can cause important ideas and themes to be missed even by very strong players. We discover that a staggering amount of previously published endgame analysis is simply wrong, and that many of the standard guidelines are at best partially true. This first volume covers general topics and discusses in detail pawn endings, queen endings and minor-piece endings. About the Author Dr John Nunn is one of the best-respected figures in world chess. He was among the world's leading grandmasters for nearly twenty years, winning four gold medals in chess Olympiads and finishing sixth overall in the World Cup in 1989. He is a much-acclaimed writer, whose works have won 'Book of the Year' awards in several countries. In both 2004 and 2007 Nunn was crowned World Chess Solving Champion, ahead of many former champions.