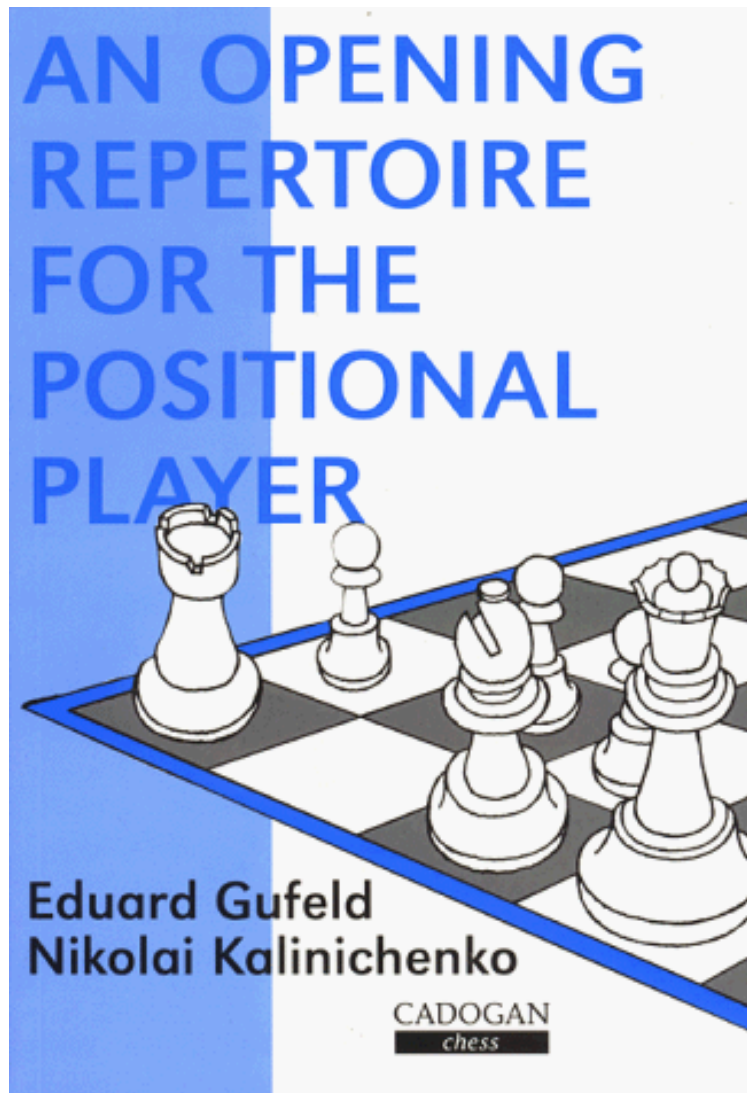


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Opening Repertoire for the Positional Player

Eduard Gufeld, Nikolai Kalinichenko
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Eduard Gufeld, Nikolai Kalinichenko : Opening Repertoire for the Positional Player before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Opening Repertoire for the Positional Player:

23 of 32 people found the following review helpful. Con Book of the Year By Farley This book would surely get first prize for the con book of the year. I'm sure the publishers and authors are sharing a big laugh at the readers' expense. Imagine an opening repertoire for the positional player that suggests 1.e4! Virtually all the defenses selected (like the Scotch Game, Sicilian, King's Indian, etc) would make a tactician's delight. And the authors' claim that they could be played in a quieter fashion doesn't obtain, for in most of the lines suggested your opponent could steer the game to fierce tactical battles! To boot, the book is also dishonest : in the chapter on the Sicilian for black, after 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3

the authors say, "well, white can play other lines than 2.Nf3, but to learn those you will have to buy our other book." In a nutshell, this book should be entitled "An Incomplete Repertoire for the Positional Player Who Does Not Want to Play Positionally!" 18 of 20 people found the following review helpful. An excellent value! By A Customer This book is great! With white the authors suggest e4 and against the Sicilian, the Alapin (I love this opening because it's simple to play and tends to really annoy Sicilian players); against e5, the four knights Scotch game; against the French, the Tarrasch variation (Nd2); against the Caro Cann, the Short variation; against the modern/pirc, the Pirc-Ufimtsev defence; against the Alekhine, a system with Nf3. All these openings are relatively slow and positional in nature but ultra solid and with dynamic potential. What's more, they are played regularly by the leading GMs of today. For black against e5 they suggest a classical sicilian with Qb6 in the Sozin variation and the interesting Bd7 in the Rauzer variation. The main omission is that they don't deal with the closed sicilian with Bg2 nor the grand prix attack but instead refer you to another book that they wrote. Against d4, they recommend the King's Indian Defense and the chapters on this opening alone are worth the price of the book. GM Gufeld, the co-author of the book, is one of the leading experts on the King's Indian. There are also chapters on how to deal with the annoying Trompowsky and Torre attacks. Lastly, the authors suggest ideas on how to react against 1. c4 and 1. f4. Overall the book is well-written and well presented. Any player who likes positional play and is not not a strong master or above will greatly benefit from this book. Highly recommended. 9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Full of practical wisdom By A Customer This is an excellent book by a voice of experience. Some will argue with the idea of a book of "positional" openings all beginning with 1. e4, but really, there is no reason why you cannot play in a more positional manner with e4, and with a more attacking manner with d4. I think Gufeld's idea is that you are going to be able to control your repertoire better with e4. 1. d4 has so many things to be prepared against, but with e4 you are much more likely to know what you will face. To wit, you will generally face 1...e5 and 1...c5. The Scotch Four Knights is a fine opening, and if you study it, you will know it better than black. Frequently it will reduce to a scenario where you have the two bishops and doubled isolated c-pawns. The resultant scenario is rich with "positional" ideas, but in an open setting. Against the Sicilian, 2. c3 may or may not appeal to you, but clearly, it is a good move, and one that does allow you to determine the contours of the game. Personally, I prefer the Closed Sicilian, and Emms' Attacking with 1. e4 has an excellent chapter on the Closed Sicilian. The Gufeld book is very well put together, with the variations clearly distinguished with well-placed boldfaced fonts. Also, with each new line, all the moves to that point are re-written, which is very helpful. Finally, each chapter has a couple of illustrated games. I think this is an outstanding book. I could go on about his recommendations as black too, with the Classical Sicilian and King's Indian being great suggestions. Excellent book!

One of the hardest tasks faced by competitive chess players is the development of an opening repertoire suited to their own style of play. As in their companion volume *An Opening Repertoire for the Attacking Player* (also translated by Ken Neat), the authors provide a refined and thoroughly up-to-date opening program, this time selecting variations of a more positional nature.

From the Back Cover One of the hardest tasks faced by competitive chess players is the development of an opening repertoire suited to their own style of play. As in their companion volume *An Opening Repertoire for the Attacking Player* (also translated by Ken Neat), the authors provide a refined and thoroughly up-to-date opening program, this time selecting variations of a more positional nature. For example, this title includes practical repertoire based on 1 e4 as White and the Classical Sicilian and King's Indian Defenses as Black. It concentrates on solid and reliable lines of play and provides an easy-to-learn explanation of the typical plans and ideas. Eduard Gufeld is one of the most popular and widely traveled grandmasters, and is known throughout the world as a coach, opening theoretician, journalist and author. Nikolai Kalinichenko, author of more than 30 chess books, holds the International Master title in correspondence chess and enjoys a growing reputation as a specialist in opening theory.