

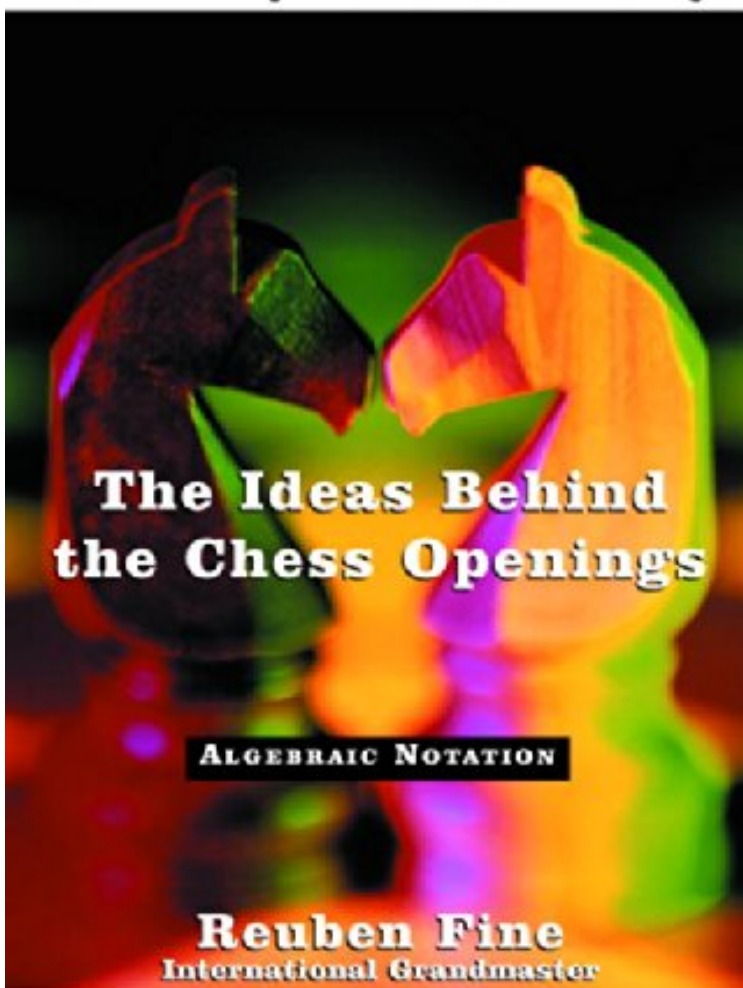
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The Ideas Behind the Chess Openings: Algebraic Notation

Reuben Fine

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Reuben Fine : The Ideas Behind the Chess Openings: Algebraic Notation before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ideas Behind the Chess Openings: Algebraic Notation:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Best chess book.By Warren ThompsonI won't say best ever because I like several but it is in the top 5-10. The player beginning to stretch his wings needs basic information like this. The book starts at a point = where?= wherever the author felt comfortable in trying to make sense of the complexities of a

whole region of chess knowledge. He succeeds brilliantly. There is no pretense of trying to make you tournament ready because for the higher events you need the latest and the best knowledge of specific lines. You don't know any lines? That is what this book does. It gives a general outline of what an opening (100s) is trying to accomplish and how to go about accomplishing that. A club player finds himself wondering what openings would be good for him. Open game, closed game, attacking lines, defensive lines etc. Ideas Behind The Chess Openings goes into enough detail that a player can see if the opening suits his personality. If not he can avoid it, if so he can study a line suited to him in more detail. That makes study time more effective and because you can choose the opening style that suits your play you will become a stronger player faster. I can't recommend this book too highly. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. I get this book as a present for any developing ... By WFHI get this book as a present for any developing players whom I feel needs or wants to learn about openings. The reason is because it is just about the ONLY opening book than focuses on CONCEPTS and doesn't have reams of variations where you can't see the forest for the trees. Apparently the marketplace thinks so too: Look at how long it's been around. Meaning: It's one of the few chess books that has stood the test of time. -- WFH12 of 14 people found the following review helpful. good guide marred by typos and a lack of explanation By Christopher Stackas has already been said, there are numerous typos in this edition which can make for a frustrating process when trying to work moves through, even using an online chess program as I was. that said, my main complaint would be that not enough of the theory or explanation for many of the moves (both good and bad), is given. perhaps the author assumes more knowledge than mine of chess (although I've played chess on and off for years, I have practically no chess theory knowledge), but many moves are dismissed without explanation and other "obvious" moves are never explained. if you're expecting more essays and discourse about style, types of defences and attacks, etc., as I was - you'll be disappointed. there's 4 1/2 pages of overall analysis given at the beginning of the book and then it's step-by-step algebraic moves with minimally sketched out accompanying theory after that. that said, it's still a very comprehensive look at all the major chess openings (at least current to 1989). as I've no knowledge of the newer trends or lines I can't say what it's missing. my approach with this book was to start playing online games and use the lines in the book, hoping to understand them as the games developed. the bottom line? as a basically beginning player I am left still wanting a book that more thoroughly explains the reasons for certain moves, (i.e. what exactly a strong point defence is and what it entails for a game), the ramifications of neglecting the center (controlling the center was a tenet of Steinitz's theory, the man who did the most to codify and promote chess theory), etc. but as an theoretical overview and step-by-step guide to all the main openings this is, with the caveat of navigating the typo's, an excellent book.

In the opening, each player tries to control the center, set up a flexible pawn structure, develop the pieces rapidly and harmoniously, sometimes even go for direct attack. But there are so many complicated variations -- how can you memorize them all? You can't -- and you don't have to! If you understand the basic goals of the opening you're playing, you will know which moves fit logically into its overall scheme. This classic, best-selling volume, now completely reset in modern algebraic notation, explains everything you need to know to play the opening sensibly and successfully. Reuben Fine, an International Grandmaster, is one of the world's top players and a leading theoretician of chess. He is the author of over half a dozen books, including the definitive Basic Chess Endings.

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