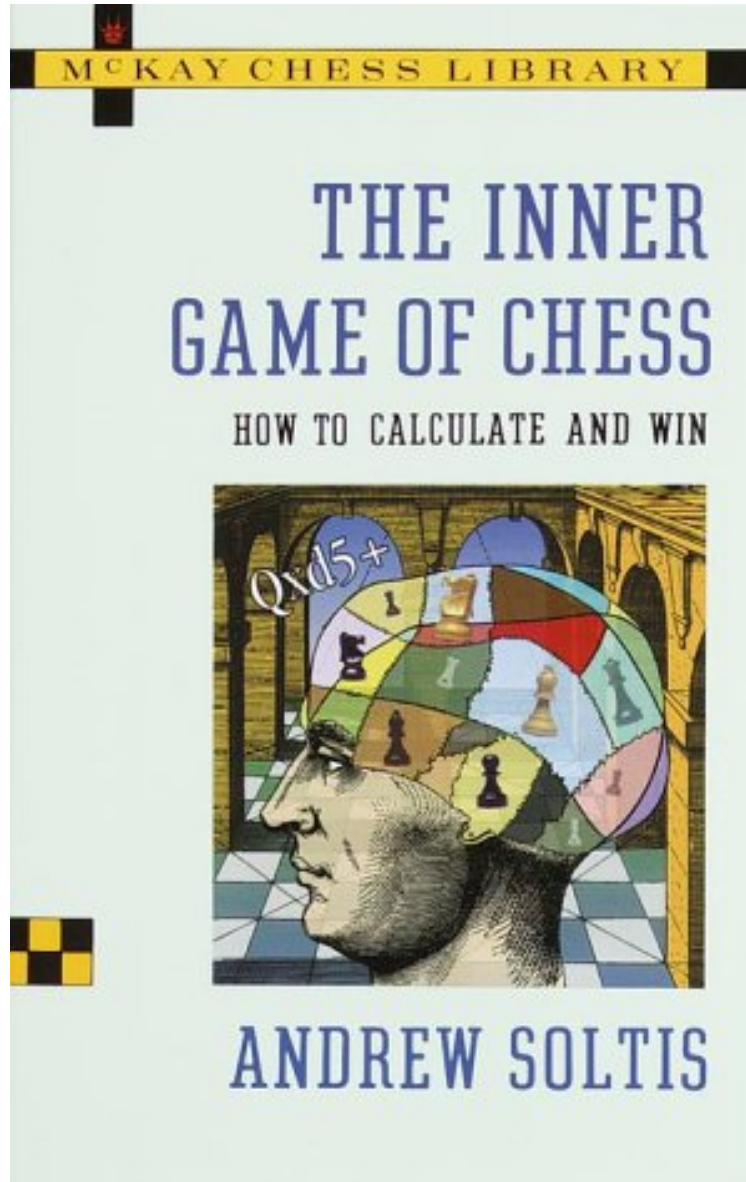


(Ebook free) The Inner Game of Chess: How to Calculate and Win

The Inner Game of Chess: How to Calculate and Win

Andrew Soltis

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Andrew Soltis : The Inner Game of Chess: How to Calculate and Win before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Inner Game of Chess: How to Calculate and Win:

60 of 62 people found the following review helpful. Good but flawed By A. Ali Can't understand the unrestrained adulation some reviewers have given this book. Soltis can write very well - see for example 'Soviet Chess' which is a scholarly work, or see 'Confessions of a Chess Grandmaster'. The title being reviewed here is also one of his better

efforts. The book explains the pragmatic realities of calculation very well indeed. A thoughtful reading of this book will enhance one's understanding of what to calculate, how to calculate, how far to calculate, and what positions deserve calculation. By implication, one's strength would improve. It's difficult to provide a synopsis of this book because, like Kotov, it's not coherently organised but is a compendium of practical wisdom concerning calculation. Chapters include 'Trees and how to build them', 'Rechecking' and 'The Practical Calculator' - all of importance to a player. I've given this four stars (and not five) for 3 reasons. The first is lack of organisation. The second, and more serious, is the sheer number of analytical mistakes. The very first example (Piket - Sosonko) has an error. The sacrifice 1.Rxh7 is actually unsound. 3...Bf5, which Soltis mentions in passing, holds the game for Black. Or examine the analysis to Ljubojevic - Stein, on page 58. 11.Qf4 works fine for White. Soltis hasn't done his spadework. The examples that are correct are frequently so because they've been pulled, with analysis, from other sources. This brings me to third criticism: many of the examples are hackneyed, and frequently don't exemplify the ideas well. But these caveats aside, I can recommend this book. There is material to ponder over here. A pity Soltis didn't give the book the time and energy it deserved; it would have been a sterling work. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Readable classic reprinted with a ridiculous font By Fx3 This is an extremely readable introduction to chess calculation. Soltis teaches by example, considering the pros and cons of a variety of methods. It is a bit disappointing that he didn't try to systematize the subject matter into a more practical framework. One important note: the new edition is printed with a GRAY font, suffering from an extreme level of dithering that makes reading for a sustained period quite tiring. This is just an absurd choice by Mongoose, and I urge them to correct this blunder in future volumes. For this reason, I strongly prefer the original (1994) edition of "The Inner Game of Chess". 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Calculation, The Heart of Chess By R. Tobias American GM Andy Soltis is a bit of an enigma. He is infamous for churning out mediocre (or worse) opening books, but then he turns around and puts out a gem like this one. The ability to calculate variations, to sense WHEN to calculate, to be able to choose worthwhile candidate moves and to be able to clearly visualize the position a few moves down the road, is the main divider between strong and ordinary players. GM Soltis does the chess community a service by breaking down this very complicated subject into positions and topics that are digestible and instructional. He points out that not everyone has the strategic gifts of a Smyslov or a Capablanca, and that by becoming adept at calculating, you can often overcome a strategically inferior position by simply outcalculating your foe. He discusses ideas, the famous 'tree of analysis', forcing moves, counting (not as simple a topic as you might think!), quiet moves, desperadoes, in-between moves (the famous zwischenzug) and many other vital topics. Many well chosen examples from master play are carefully and insightfully explained. In all of this, Soltis has, I believe, done a better job for the average player than Kotov in his monumental 'Think Like a Grandmaster', as Soltis is far more flexible and adaptable than Kotov's 'analyze a line only once' stance. If you have already mastered basic tactics, general openings ideas and simple endgames, mastering this book will do FAR more for your rating than rotely memorizing reams of opening analysis. Also, be sure to review your own games with a stronger player, play as many games at slow controls as you can, and study LOTS of well annotated master games. Good Hunting!

Every player has heard the saying, "Chess is 99 percent tactics." It isn't. It's 99 percent calculation. But until now there has never been a book devoted entirely to this most mysterious and essential chess technique. This book examines both the technical and practical aspects of how to think ahead -- the selection of candidate moves, the evaluation of end positions, finding the proper move order, and the like. Special attention is paid to the broad range of calculating mistakes, such as overlooked zwischenzugs and "quiet moves," visualization blunders, and "believing" your opponent.

From the Inside Flap Every player has heard the saying, "Chess is 99 percent tactics." It isn't. It's 99 percent calculation. But until now there has never been a book devoted entirely to this most mysterious and essential chess technique. This book examines both the technical and practical aspects of how to think ahead -- the selection of candidate moves, the evaluation of end positions, finding the proper move order, and the like. Special attention is paid to the broad range of calculating mistakes, such as overlooked zwischenzugs and "quiet moves," visualization blunders, and "believing" your opponent. About the Author Andrew Soltis is an International Grandmaster, a former U.S. Open Champion, and the author of more than seventy books. He writes an award-winning column for Chess Life magazine.