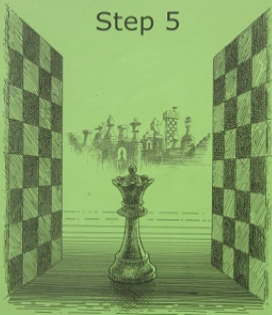


Learning chess

Step 5



Rob Brunia, Cor van Wijgerden

Workbook Step 5



| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Name: | Date of birth: |
| Street: | Place: |
| Club: | Trainer: |
| 1 st step completed: | 2 nd step completed: |
| 3 rd step completed: | 4 th step completed: |

Pawn ending

Pawn race: A



White to move. Black has a pawn on d14.

White to move. Black has a pawn on d15.

White to move. Black has a pawn on d16.

Pawn ending

Lesson 10 Pawn race: B



Strong square

A square is strong if

- it cannot be controlled by any of the opponent's pawns,
- it is, or can be, occupied by one of your own pieces,
- it is, or can be, close to the part of the board where the action takes place. The battle for strong squares includes the following elements:



Creating a strong square
With 1. e4 White gains control of the square d5. This square cannot be controlled by any of the black pawns.

On the right, White can create a strong square on d5 by taking on d6. The c7-pawn can then no longer control d5.



The route to a strong square
On the left Nd7 is better off on the strong square d4. This can be achieved with Nf6-c6-d4 or, even better, with gain of tempo: Nd7-c6-a6.

White is down an exchange but his compensation is the form of a strong square on e4. He can reach e4 by 1. Nd2. Note the function of the pawn on c5.



Eliminating the defender
On the left White cannot occupy d5, since it is protected by the c7-pawn. White can exchange this pawn with 1. b5, securing d5.

On the right, Black can eliminate the defender of d4 by 1. ... Bg4 and 2. ... BxQ3.



Denying your opponent a strong square
On the left, Black threatens to occupy a strong square with 1. ... Nd7 and 2. ... Ne5. Hence, White must play 1. Bb3.
On the right, White threatens to play his knight to d5. Black can prevent this with 1. ... a6 2. Bxa6 (otherwise 2. ... b7). Black occupies d5.







Learning chess *Step by Step*

The *Step by Step* learning system is an officially acknowledged method by the Dutch Chess Federation. It has been successfully adopted by the majority of chess clubs and schools in the Netherlands and Belgium.

The whole system consists of workbooks with exercises and manuals for teachers and trainers.

Appeared in English up till now:

Manual for chess trainers: *Step 1, Step 2, Step 3, Step 4, Step 5*

Workbook: *Step 1, Step 2, Step 3, Step 4, Step 5*

You will find updated information on our website at: www.stappenmethode.nl