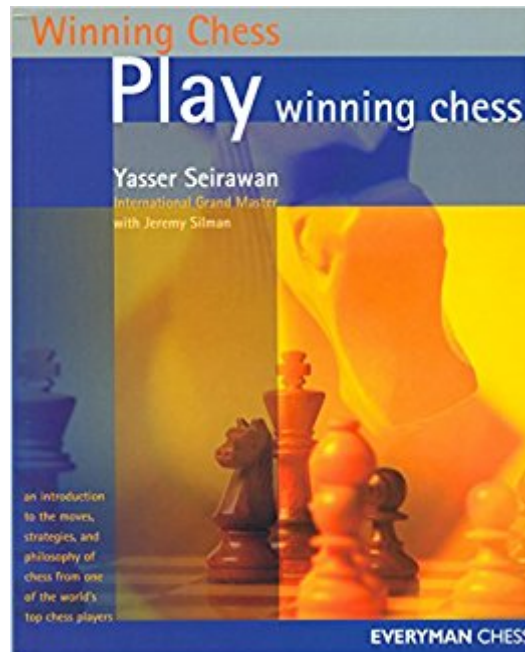




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Play Winning Chess (Everyman Chess)



Synopsis

Play Winning Chess is an introduction to the moves, strategies and philosophy of chess, with clear explanations of the games, fundamental and instructive examples, question-and-answer sections, sample games and psychological hints.

Book Information

Series: Everyman Chess

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Everyman Chess; 1st edition (June 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1857443314

ISBN-13: 978-1857443318

Product Dimensions: 7.3 x 0.6 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 79 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #152,810 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Chess](#) #98 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Board Games](#)

Customer Reviews

International grandmaster Yasser Seirawan has a knack for communicating not only the playing of the game, but also an enthusiasm for it. In this first of a four part series, Seirawan talks to the chess novice. He explains the game's development and basics of play, sharing stories of some of the wild and wonderful characters from chess history and Seirawan's own experiences. The language is simple and nontechnical enough for the greenest newcomer, who will hardly seem green at all after absorbing the lessons of this terrific introduction to chess. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Play Winning Chess is an enthusiastic introduction to chess that will transform you into a veritable gladiator of the chessboard. Seirawan begins by explaining piece movement, chess notation, the rules of play and basic tactics. His examples, question-and-answer sections, psychological hints, and lively sample games help you learn strategies and play aggressively while having fun. Discovering how to engage in clever attacks and subtle defenses will take you beyond the thrill of competition into the realm of creative art. Play Winning Chess is exuberant and conversational,

enlivened by personal anecdotes and fascinating historical details.

This book is simply an excellent introduction to the principles of good playing. Seirawan's grandiose style might be a little unflattering for many, but I find it humorous. Clearly he's earned the right to speak about crushing opponents, and I believe it's done sort of tongue-in-cheek as inspiration for the perhaps sordid newbie (myself). I now perform much more admirably against 1300-1900 rated friends of mine, usually taking them to an interesting endgame, though my position is typically much weaker. All in due time! Once Seirawan introduces algebraic notation, he jumps right in and expects you to have it memorized, so be ready to have a mini chess set on hand, or a phone app where you can play both sides. It is simply too much for a beginner to keep visualizing the positions as they change from the printed board. I prefer the tactile experience of actual pieces to a phone or iPad app. If you're the same way, I recommend the Checkbook Magnetic Travel Chess Set, especially if you wish to use this book while commuting or traveling. I travel often and this is a great tool. In summary, if you are thinking about getting into chess, and don't really know which book to buy, get this one and start playing!

I never really tried to "learn" chess tactics. This is a good introduction to some basic broad strategies. But practice is really still the key. Still getting beaten at the 1400 level so I will probably play and re-read parts of the book until my proficiency gets better. IMHO one should never think that any book on chess is going to get immediate results until you get some frequent play under your belt.

A great book with intelligible principles, insightful demonstration games and a nice dose of humor. Well worth the read for any aspiring chess player!

This is the first chess book I read back in 95' or 96' (the first edition) when I was a young teenager and unrated chess player. I read this book followed by "Winning chess Tactics" and "Winning chess Strategy". I placed 2nd in the unrated division of a class tournament and quickly went from a rating of 1100 to 1300. This book is perfect for unrated beginners or rated players anywhere from 0 to 1200. I definitely recommend this book to be paired with "winning chess tactics" and later on either "winning chess strategy" or "the amateur's mind" also by IM Jeremy Silman. "Winning Chess Endings", "Silman's complete endgame course", or Pandolfini's endgame manual are perfect choices for beginner level endgame study as well!

The Yasser Seirawan "Winning Chess" series of chess books have some of the very few chess books that I actually enjoyed reading. Their style is engaging and easy to read and comprehend, and I found my game improving. I'm no chess master, I just love the game, and when my father-in-law showed interest in learning how to play, this was the book that immediately sprang to mind. This book starts out assuming that you know absolutely nothing about chess. It starts you out with how the pieces move, and teaches algebraic chess notation in a non-threatening manner (essential for any chess book! ;) But then it also goes into essential strategy, such as pawn structure and tempo. If I had to choose only one chess book to take with me for an extended trip, this would be the one.

This is a wonderful book. It begins with the basic concepts and rules of the game (some of which I was not clear on despite having played for a few years) and covers basic tactics in an engaging, fun manner. Packed full of tips and interesting games and stories, this book is a must for any novice looking to improve their game. It certainly has improved mine.

This book was so good I already had it in paperback but I wanted it in Kindle form so it would always be in my pocket for reading and reference.

International Grand Master Yasser Seirawan and International Master Jeremy Silman team up in this collaborative effort to teach the basic fundamentals of Chess. When I originally opened up this book, I thought it was a little below my level and probably written for children. I muscled through it, though, before moving on to the next book in the series, and I'm very glad I did. While at first the writing style and information makes the book seem less valuable than it is, in reality the book is deceptive in its simplicity. Seirawan and Silman present the fundamental concepts of chess at a break-neck speed and move on to the next important piece of information without stopping. The history section and rules information section were boring to me because I already knew the material, but they'd probably be invaluable to someone who was just learning how to play. What follows, though, is a primer on the four principles of chess that most amateurs don't understand. How to properly utilize material advantage, tempo, initiative, position and pawn structure is a very difficult thing to learn, and the authors don't try to teach it all in one book. This is a primer. It lays the foundation for tactical, strategic and positional learning to be made later. An earlier reviewer said that this book has a "steep learning curve", and it does. If you walk into this book with no knowledge of how to play

chess, you will probably have to read it 2 or 3 times. Even if you have a solid grasp of chess fundamentals, I still recommend reading this book just for the possibility of new insights. Reading it as a 1400 rated player, it still opened my eyes to some new ideas I hadn't thought about before. I heartily recommend this book to chess amateurs of my level and lower.

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