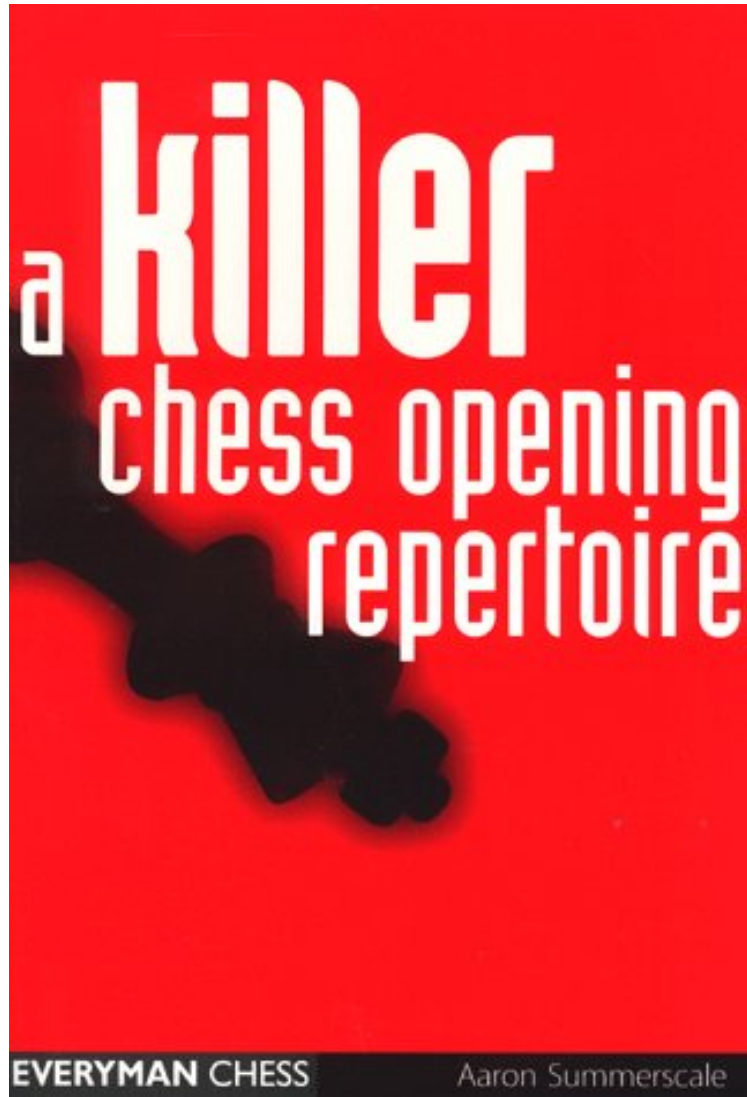


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A Killer Chess Opening Repertoire (Cadogan Chess Books)

Aaron Summerscale

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Aaron Summerscale : A Killer Chess Opening Repertoire (Cadogan Chess Books) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Killer Chess Opening Repertoire (Cadogan Chess Books):

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. This book has some great ideas in it, buttttttBy R. HutchinsonThe home work was not done 100% for this book.The main theme of the book is the 150 attack and the Barry Attack. Now the Barry Attack is a fascinating idea vs Grunfeld and Kings Indian Players.The problem of the book it does not mention the main line of the Barry I feel. 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 0-06.Be2 c5 7.d:c Qa5 8.Nd2 Now why this book does not mention this line of the Barry is just beyond me. I feel this is by far whites best way of

getting an advantage. Not the Ne5 stuff the book suggests. But the book has some awesome ideas in it! But you need to study them on your own from other sources.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Really disorganized. By TB

The book covers all the openings that I am interested in. What it is missing is some text and graphics like is in move-by-move books. I want to see what strategies go with which board positions. Let's say 1. P-Q4, P-Q4, 2.N-KB3 2.N-KB3. What is white supposed to do? If he plays 3. P-K3 he is blocked out of the author's favorite Barry Attack. If he plays 3. B-B4 he is blocked out of the author's favorite, the Colle. Q. Why couldn't the author have organized the book so white would know what opening is appropriate based on where black puts his pawns? It doesn't do any good to run off variations to 20 moves if the reader doesn't understand which of the killer chess openings he should play at move three. My other complaint is this book is just complete annotated games with reams of variations, sometimes pages of them with no diagrams - useless, unless you have a photographic memory. Virtually nothing here that juxtaposes strategy with pawn positions. Be forewarned the text uses the little pictures of pieces nomenclature, and that can make it even tougher to follow.

19 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Killer Chess Opening Repertoire

By mrbishop

Opening repertoire books for white are a tricky proposition for a chess author. It is more common to find repertoire books for the black pieces - often based around a particular first move which thereby ensures that whatever white's continuation, the game will be channelled for at least a few more moves in the system of black's choosing. I am thinking, for example, of Yrjola Tella's excellent 'Explosive Opening Repertoire for Black' in which 1 ... d6 is played against any white opening move. The difficulty is that a white repertoire must be able to cope with a vast variety of black responses - from the Nimzovitch (1 ... Nc6) to the Modern (1 ... g6) and everything in between - yet must not overwhelm the reader by presenting endless variations. Yet there are some successes in presenting a repertoire for the white player - Kosten's 'Dynamic English', Palliser's 'Play 1.d4!' and this book by Summerscale.

In many ways, for the average player, I would opine that this book is the better choice. Summerscale presents a queen pawn repertoire with an emphasis on quick development and an attacking set up. Kosten's book, while very well written, advocates quite a sophisticated set up requiring reasonable positional knowledge. Palliser's book is very good, and he presents a solid repertoire using the theoretical best move for white 2.c4, but it is also very comprehensive and thus requires a lot of time to study. By not playing 2.c4 white, in theory, is not pressuring black quite as much - but there are compensating advantages. The most obvious is that the amount of study required is drastically reduced. Another is that white tends to remain in the system of their choosing. Less obviously, these systems lend themselves well to a style of play based on attacking, straightforward chess which is simply quite fun to play. I would recommend - in fact I would say it is essential - reading Vukovic's classic 'Art of Attack in Chess' if you wish to adopt this repertoire in order to get the most out of the aggressive setups you will (hopefully) obtain. But let's not get carried away here. These systems, while easy to learn, can certainly be countered by black. Black can equalise without too much difficulty if they know what they are doing. On the other hand, even the theoretically best openings played in master games usually end up with only a small advantage to white. In my opinion, a more serious defect is in the presentation of the repertoire. The 'complete game' format - while often touted as enabling better comprehension of an opening - also makes it far more difficult to spot holes in the system. For example, I compared the system that Summerscale advocates against the Pirc (150 Attack) with the lines given in the Yrjola Tella book, which uses the Pirc (in Summerscale's book, you reach the 150 attack by 1.d4 d6 2.e4). In the main line, around move 5, the move given by Yrjola Tella is simply not considered. Nothing, no mention and it's a good move (which I won't disclose - in case you ever use the 150 attack against me in internet chess!). As black, I certainly would not fear the 150 attack based on what I have seen in the Summerscale book. However, this only confirms the point I made above - black can equalise if they know what to do. I guess using this book is about trade offs - you study less, and your games are probably more fun if you find attacking fun, but you have less chance of a lasting advantage against a good player. Physically, this is an attractive book. High quality paper, nice typesetting and I like the graphic design on the cover. Overall then Summerscale presents a repertoire that is easy to learn and fun to use, with a few holes which you may be able to plug using other sources. A parting thought - as other reviewers have noted, some of Summerscale's lines are less effective against black's Indian systems. Have you considered the Trompowsky (1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5)? It is also an attacking line that is fun to play, and in conjunction with Summerscale's book will broaden your repertoire.

For readers who are worried about having to learn too much theory, this book will come as a godsend - it presents in depth a brand-new armoury of opening weapons based on the Queen's Pawn Opening.

From the Back Cover

For readers who are bored with the same old openings, or are worried about having to learn too much theory, this book will come as a godsend. Aaron Summerscale presents a brand-new armoury of opening weapons for White. Each recommended line is built on a solid positional foundation, yet also promises long-term (and short-term!) attacking chances. The variations are not just easy to learn and play, but they also set Black complex problems. You will find a queen's pawn repertoire based on rapid aggressive piece development in this book, which also reveals many lethal attacking ideas and features the legendary '150' and Barry Attacks. Aaron Summerscale is a prominent figure on the British and European tournament circuit. His many successes led to him being awarded the

Grandmaster title in 1997. He is also a renowned chess trainer, and has been involved in coaching some of England's best junior players. (5 11/16' X 8 1/4', 128 pages, illustrations)