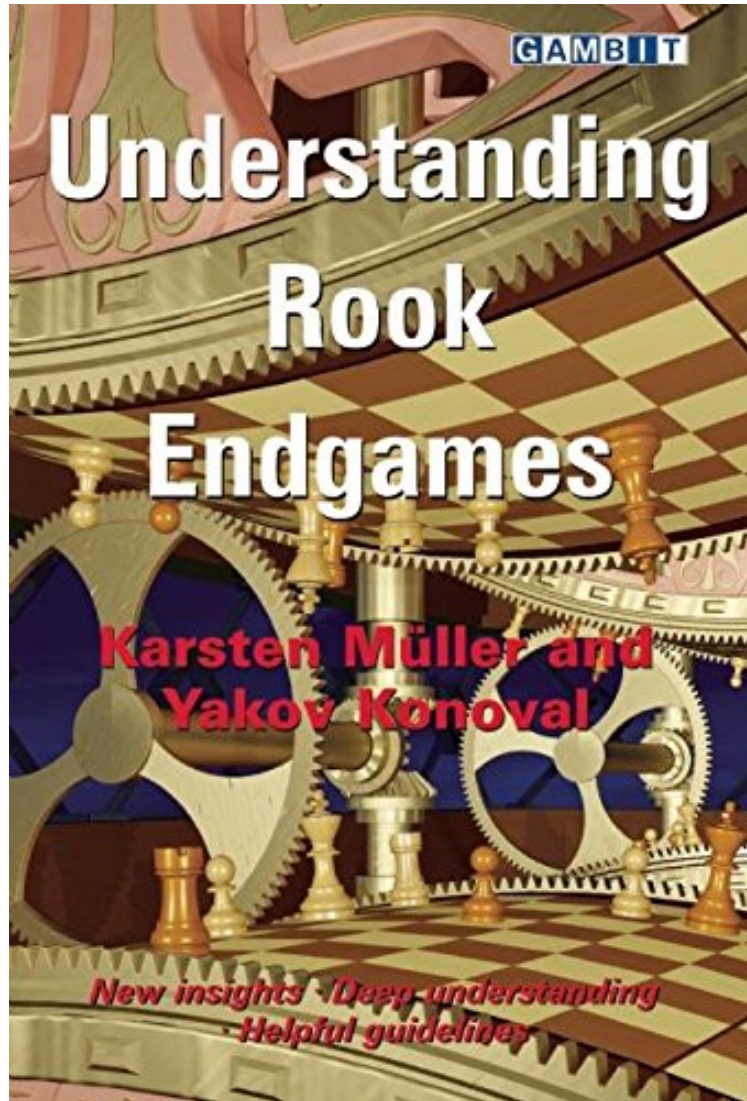


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Understanding Rook Endgames

Karsten Muller, Yakov Konoval
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#889578 in Books The House of Staunton, Inc. 2016-03-22Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.70 x 1.00 x 6.70l, .0 #File Name: 1910093815288 pagesAuthor: Karsten Muller,Yakov KonovalPages: 288Publication Years: 2016 | File size: 30.Mb

Karsten Muller, Yakov Konoval : Understanding Rook Endgames before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Understanding Rook Endgames:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Solid Introduction to Rook and Pawn EndingsBy Jesse J. FloresHaving previously purchased Mller's wonderful Fundamental Chess Endings book, I bought this book as soon as it came out. I have not had the time to read it in-depth yet, but I have enjoyed what I have read so far. Aided by 6- and even 7-pawn tablebases, the book covers Rook + Pawn vs. Rook endgames and Rook + 2 Pawn vs. Rook + 1 Pawn

endgames in great depth, taking many of the positions from actual games and following the game to the conclusion, with notes on mistakes and improvements along the way. Besides this in-depth coverage of simplified positions (including quizzes!), which take up 220 pages, there are small bonus chapters at the end of the book on Principals of Rook Endings, Theoretical Endgames, Historic Endgames, and Double Rook Endgames. These chapters are mostly taken from practical play and they illustrate (mostly) more complex endgames. In the Theoretical Endgames chapter, I enjoyed the discussion of the famous Rook + f,g,h pawn endgame, with White having an extra a pawn. These positions are fairly common and in over-the-board play I have had this ending at least twice. (In one typical position--with White pawns on a6, f2, g3, and h4, Black pawn on f7, g6, h5; the White rook on a7 in front of its pawn, with the Black Rook on a2, behind the pawn; the White King on e3 Black king on f6, with White to move this ending was once thought to be drawn, then the verdict was that it was won for White, and now the verdict is again that it is drawn. But black must play extremely accurately.) I have had a similar ending with b pawns instead of a pawns at least once, and this second ending is also discussed. I do wish though that the drawing line starting with 4...Ke6!! were discussed in more detail; for example the consequences of the winning attempt 7. R-b8, making room for the king, are not discussed (in the game Hollis-Florian the stronger side one due to an instructive error by his opponent). In the penultimate, Historic Games, chapter, 11 historic games are discussed. I have seen at least a few of them, but they are important games and I welcome their inclusion and the thorough analysis of where the players went right or wrong. I think this is a great book. I wish the Theoretical Endgames and Historic Games chapters could have been expanded, but the book is already large at 287 pages, so probably no more pages could have been added. I hope this excellent and practical book sells well. Hopefully in the future the final chapters on the more complex theoretical and historical endgames will be expanded into separate books. Improve your Rook endgame skills by buying this book! 10 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Destined to be a classic on Rook endgames By g15713 How can one top reader Jesse J. Flores excellent review? I can't so I won't but instead... This book is meant for serious chess players wanting to delve into the theory of rook endings. For those just starting to learn rook endings, here is my suggestion list - all published by Gambit Publications and of course these can all be bought on ! The Survival Guide to Rook Endings by John Emms - good starter Secrets of Rook Endings by John Nunn (my favorite chess writer) - Classic book that first revealed the truth about Rook + Pawn versus Rook endings using five-piece tablebases. Nunn's Chess Endings Volume 2 by John Nunn Probing deeply by diving into the sea of Rook + Two Pawns versus Rook and also Rook + Pawn versus Rook + Pawn using six-piece tablebases. Understanding Rook Endgames by Muller and Konoval - Focusing largely on seven-piece endings Rook + Two Pawns versus Rook + Pawn which is of immense practical importance to tournament chess players. I concur with John Nunn In summary, Understanding Rook Endgames is a genuinely valuable contribution to the literature on rook endings, pushing back the theoretical boundaries while remaining rooted in the practical game. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. but knowledge of the other chapters would be useful. As said in the introduction the analysis is ... By Carvalho Peter This book is geared to those who seriously want to take up competitive chess. It is not for the casual player. Club players can omit Chapter 4 entirely, but knowledge of the other chapters would be useful. As said in the introduction the analysis is based on seven man tablebases and much of the pretablebase analysis was wrong. It only goes to show the difficulty of the topic and you find grandmasters, super-grandmasters and chess engines with five men tablebases erring and losing half a point. I agree with the previous reviewer that it would be nice if chapters 5 to 8 were longer and more detailed, and for this reasons I do not give it five stars.

Endgames with rooks and pawns are the most frequently occurring in chess, arising in about 1 game in 10. If you learn an important technique in this endgame, chances are you will end up using it sooner or later. And there are a great many methods and concepts that can be mastered with a little effort. This book highlights the key themes in rook endings, and at each turn invites the reader to test his knowledge and skills with abundant exercises. Rook endgame theory does not stand still. New practical examples illustrate novel approaches as players seek to pose problems to their opponents Magnus Carlsen has shown that even the driest-looking positions can feature deadly traps. The ongoing creation of new endgame tablebases of which coauthor Yakov Konoval has been at the forefront enables new classes of positions to be assessed with definitive certainty. Using six-man and the brand new seven-man tablebases, the authors re-examine many of the old evaluations and reach new and enlightening conclusions about classic rook endings. You will be startled and amazed, and soon discover that you are becoming a far more effective endgame player. German grandmaster Karsten Mller is arguably the worlds foremost writer on chess endgames. His masterwork, Fundamental Chess Endings, is a modern endgame bible and was studied intensively in his youth by current World Champion Magnus Carlsen. Yakov Konoval is a Russian chess-player and programmer who studied at Mikhail Botvinnik's chess school. He has written programs for solving chess problems and has pioneered new techniques for generating endgame tablebases.