

Chess Puzzles

White Belt — read the board, find the move

RiddleRaven

earn your shinies

48 puzzles, easiest first

For the parents

Each page shows two chess positions. Under each board it says whose turn it is and what the goal is: checkmate in a certain number of moves, or simply the best move.

Set the position up on a real board if you can. Moving real pieces beats staring at paper, and setting up the position is training too.

The answers are at the back. A move is written as the from-square and the to-square: e2 to e4 means the piece standing on e2 moves to e4. The letters run a to h across the bottom, the numbers 1 to 8 up the side.

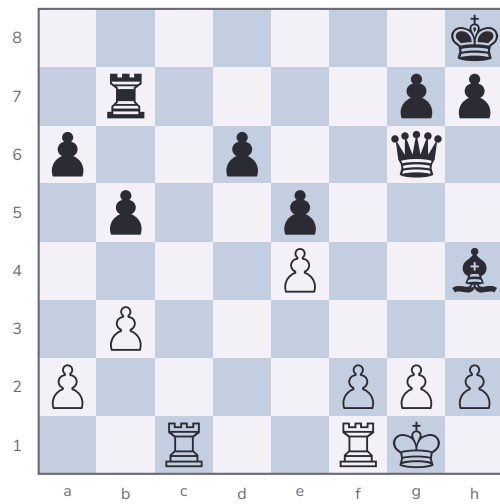
The answer shows the whole line: your move, the best reply, and so on. If your child finds a different move, play it out together and see what happens. Being refuted by a real line is the best chess lesson there is.

The puzzles start easy and get harder. Two or three in a sitting, done slowly, beats a whole page done fast.

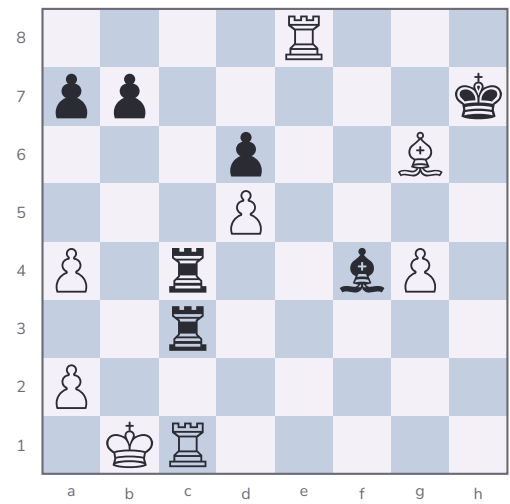
Contents

Puzzles3

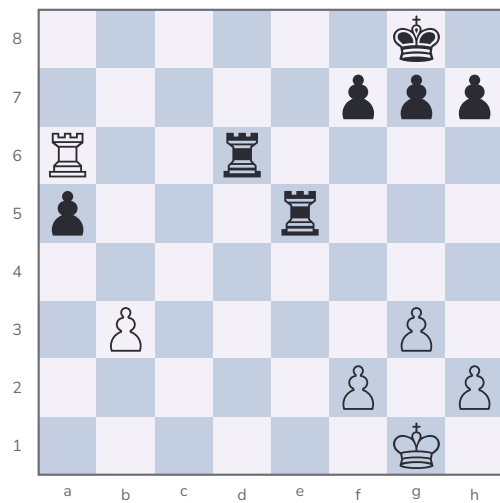
Answer key15



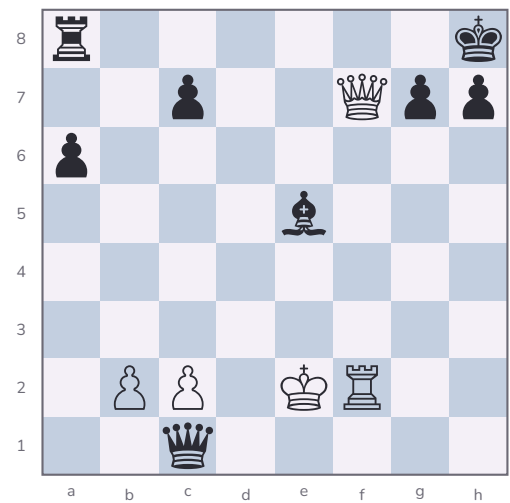
1. White to move, checkmate in 3.



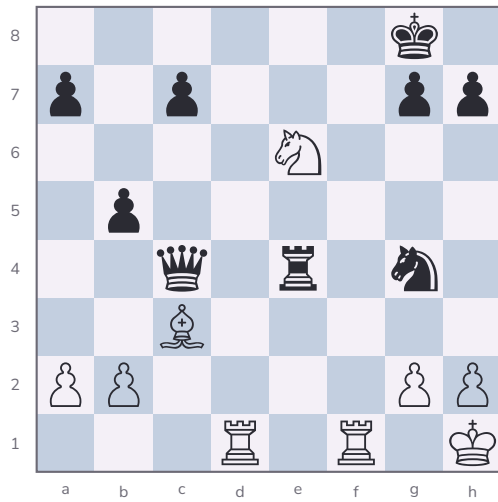
2. Black to move, find the best move.



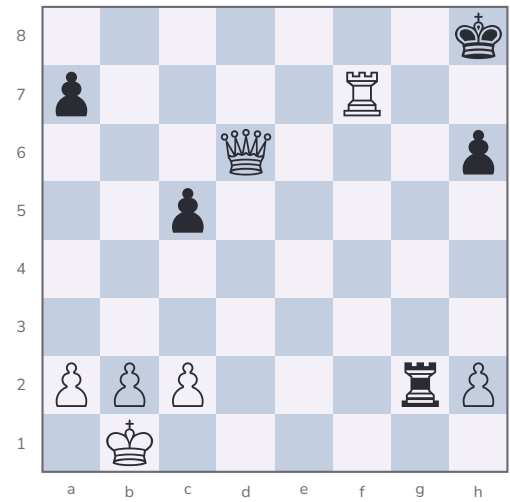
3. White to move, checkmate in 3.



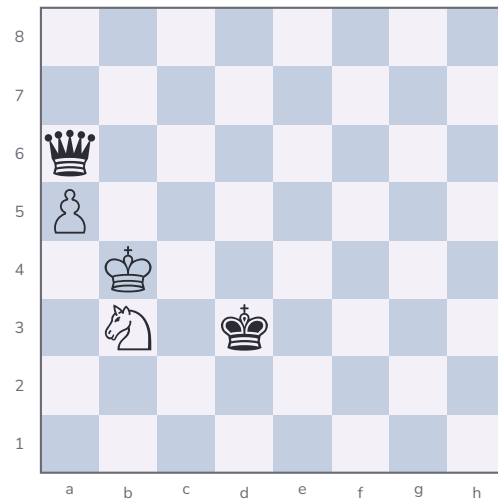
4. White to move, checkmate in 2.



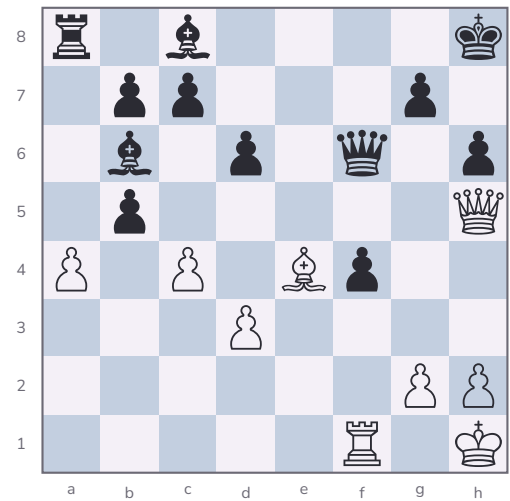
5. White to move, checkmate in 1.



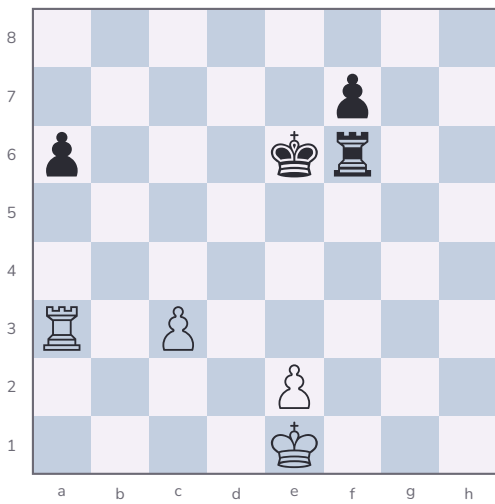
6. Black to move, checkmate in 3.



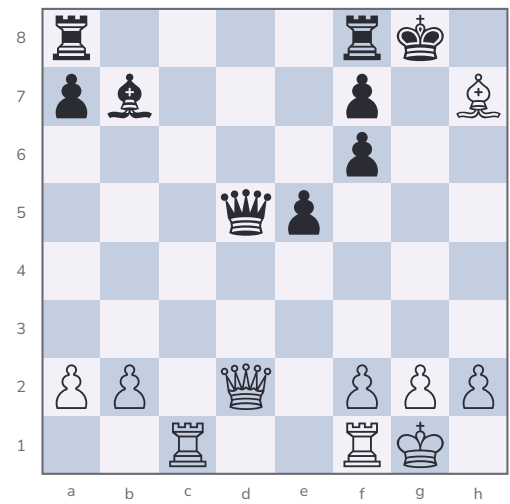
7. White to move, find the best move.



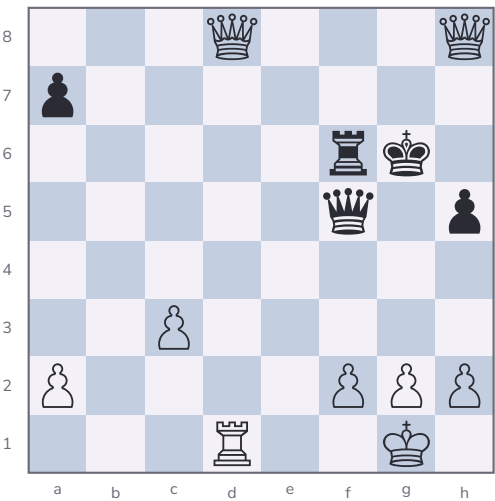
8. White to move, checkmate in 2.



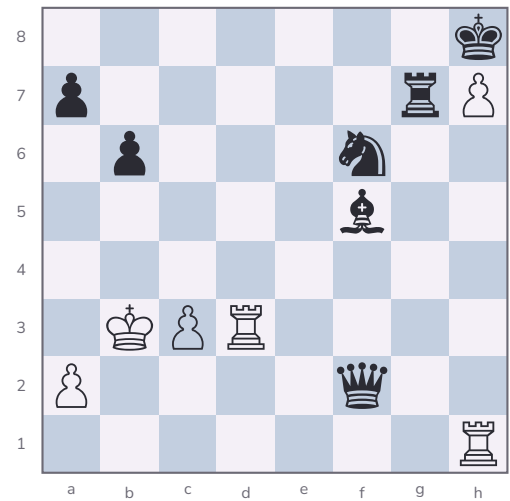
9. White to move, find the best move.



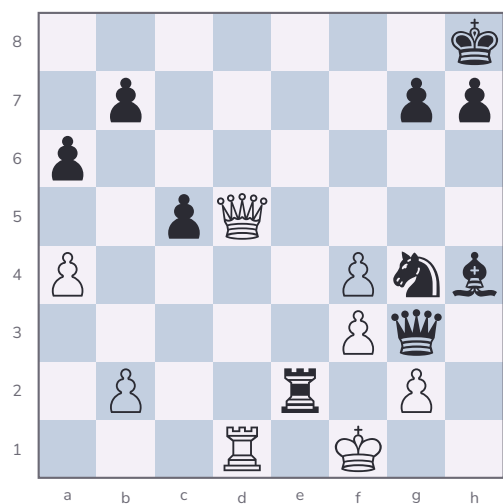
10. Black to move, find the best move.



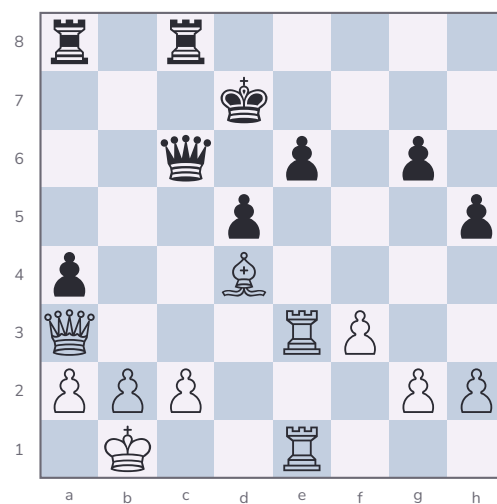
11. Black to move, checkmate in 3.



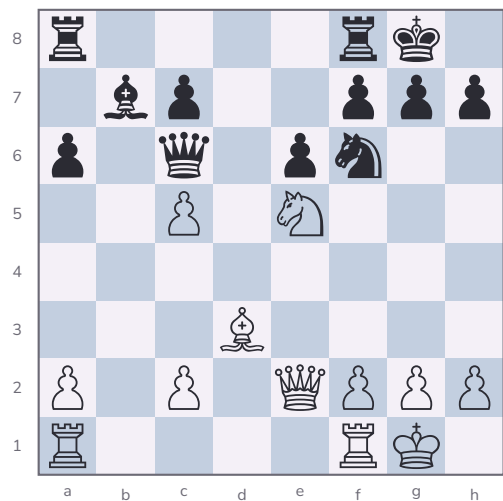
12. White to move, checkmate in 3.



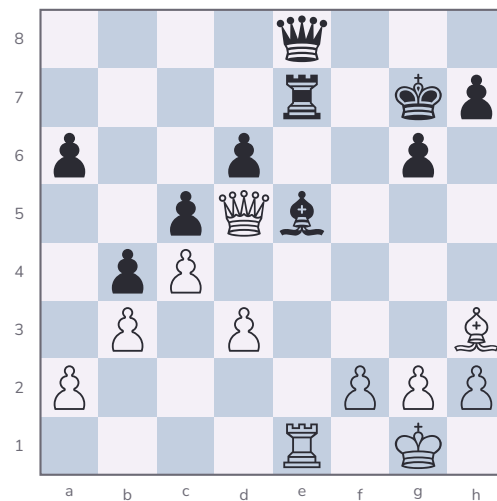
13. White to move, checkmate in 3.



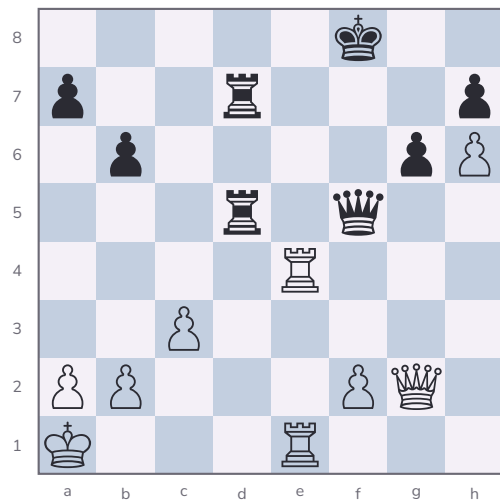
14. Black to move, checkmate in 3.



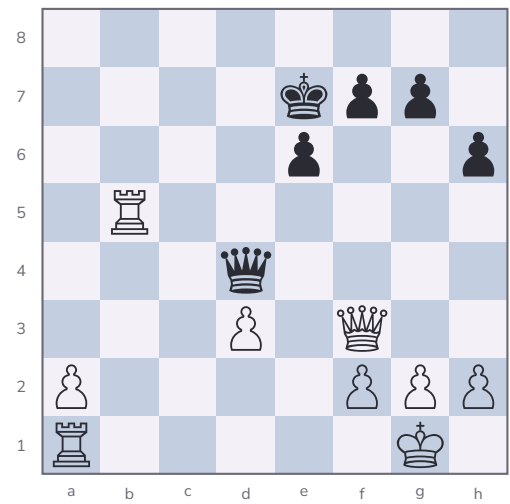
15. Black to move, checkmate in 1.



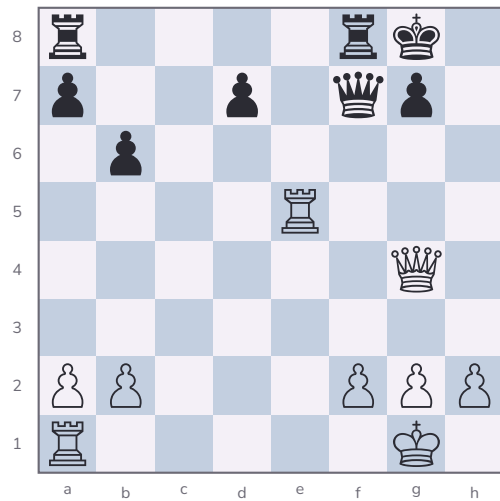
16. Black to move, find the best move.



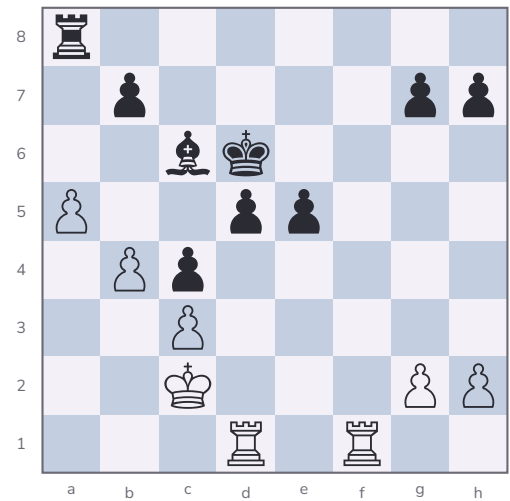
17. Black to move, checkmate in 2.



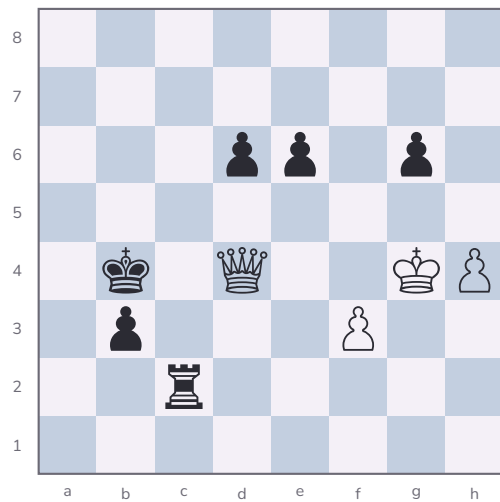
18. Black to move, checkmate in 3.



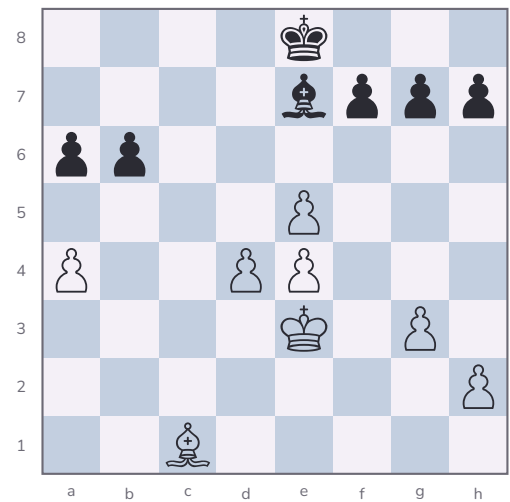
19. Black to move, checkmate in 3.



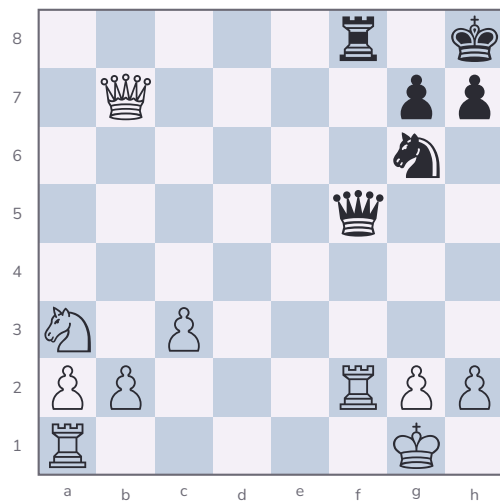
20. Black to move, find the best move.



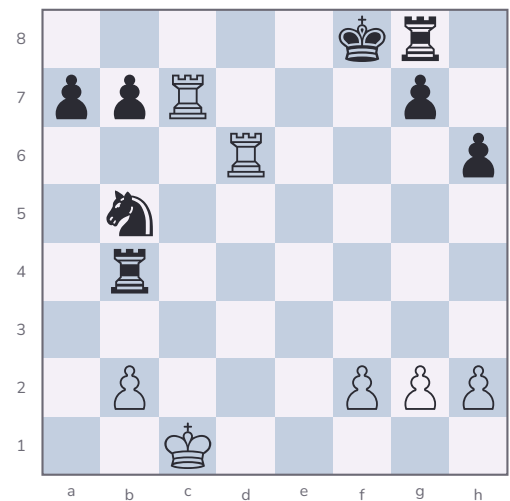
21. Black to move, find the best move.



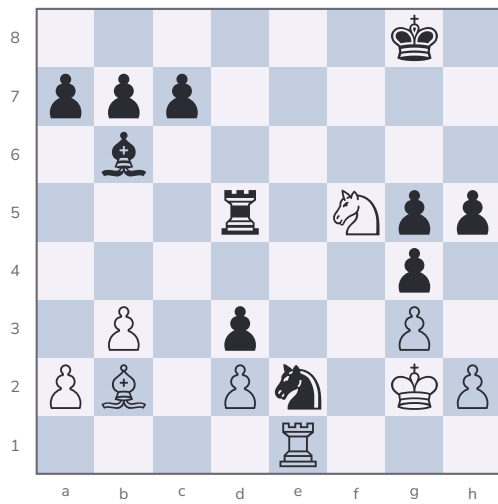
22. Black to move, find the best move.



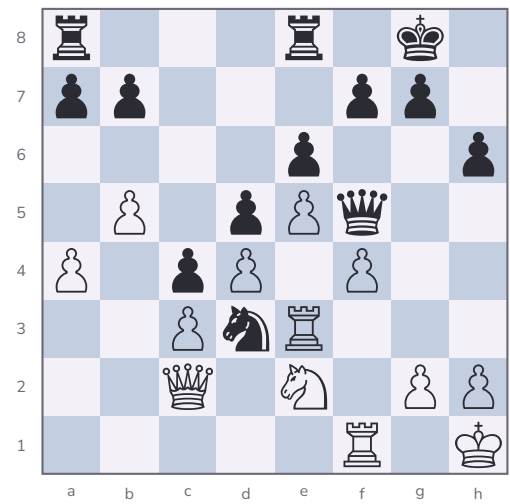
23. Black to move, checkmate in 3.



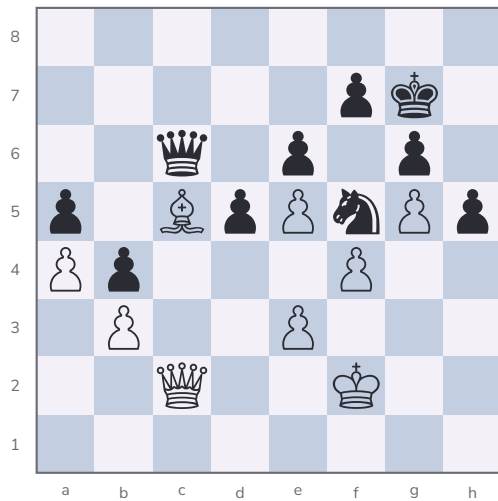
24. White to move, checkmate in 1.



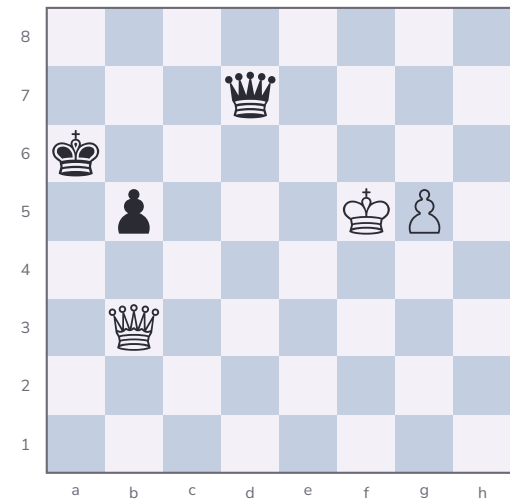
25. White to move, find the best move.



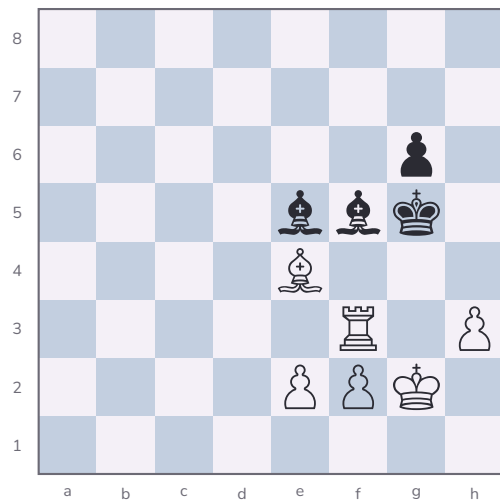
26. Black to move, find the best move.



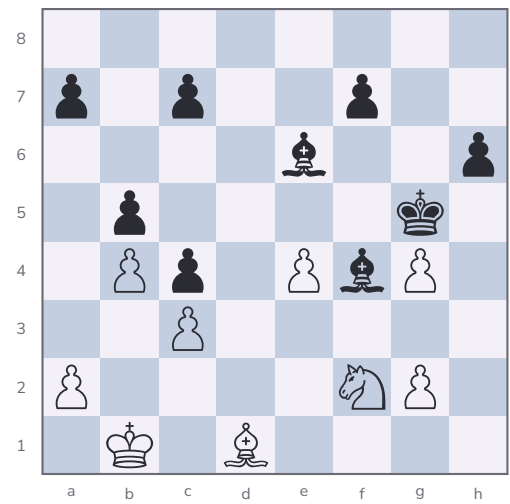
27. White to move, find the best move.



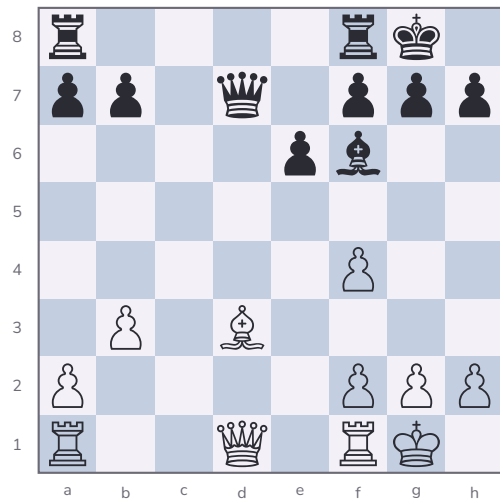
28. White to move, find the best move.



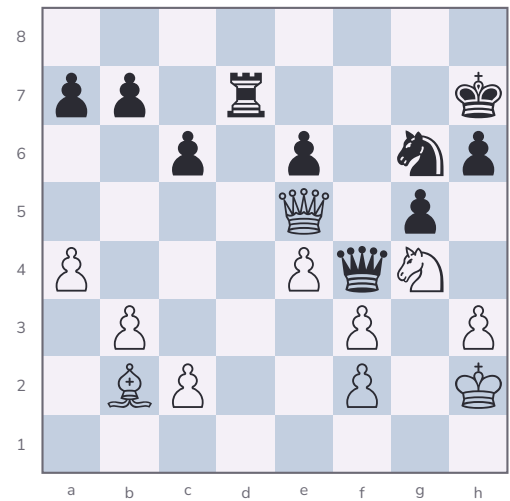
29. Black to move, find the best move.



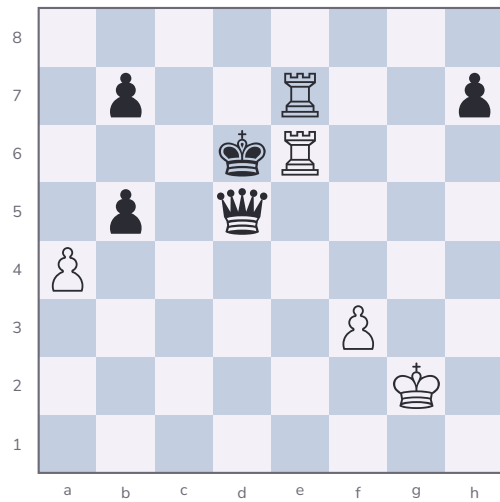
30. White to move, find the best move.



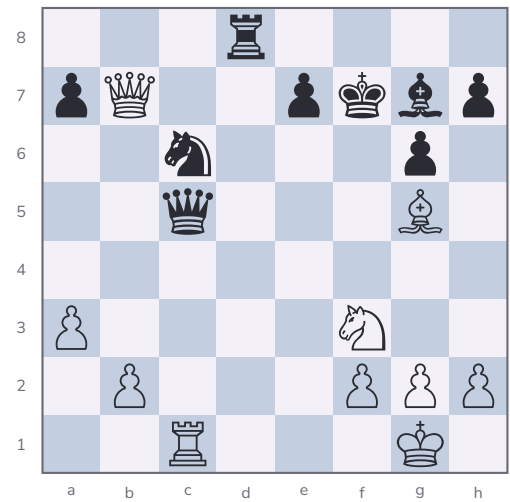
31. White to move, find the best move.



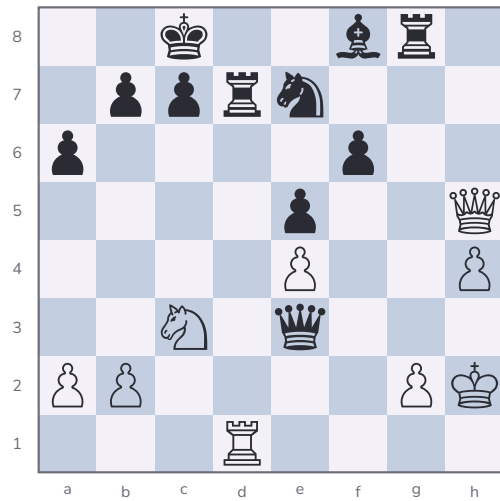
32. White to move, find the best move.



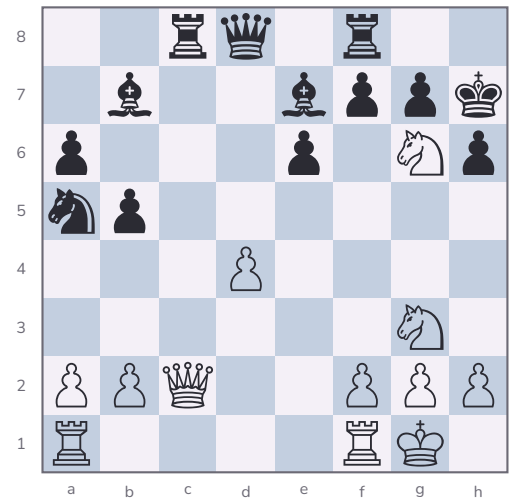
33. Black to move, find the best move.



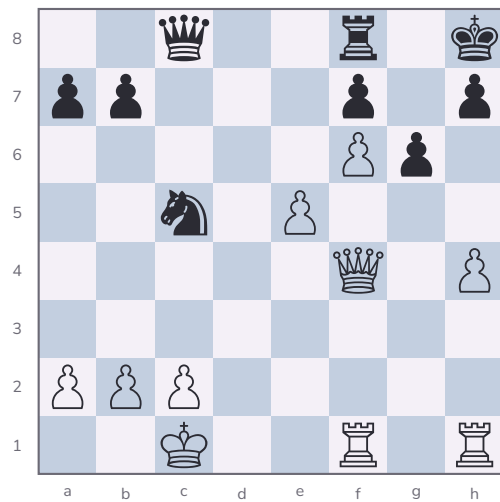
34. Black to move, checkmate in 3.



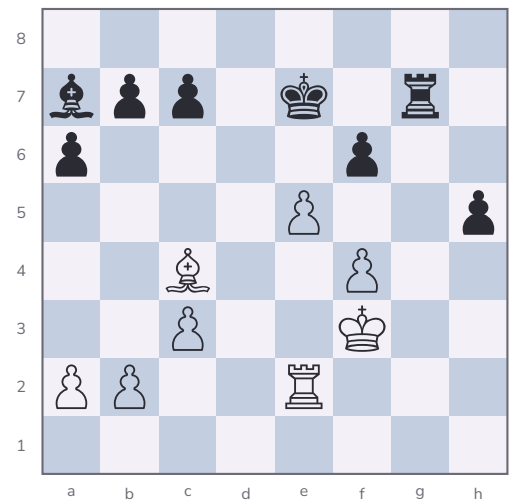
35. White to move, checkmate in 2.



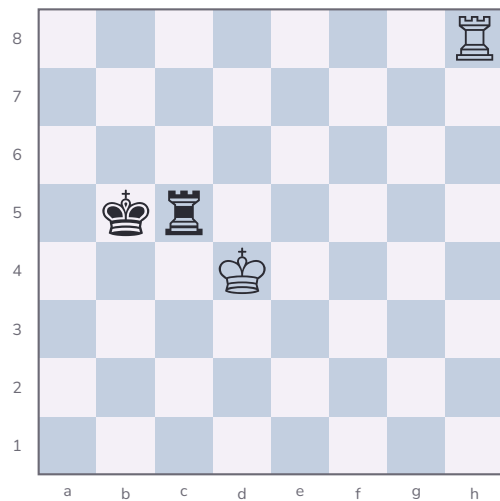
36. White to move, checkmate in 3.



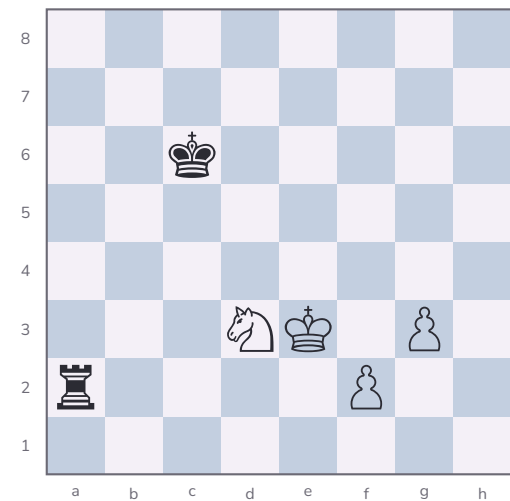
37. Black to move, find the best move.



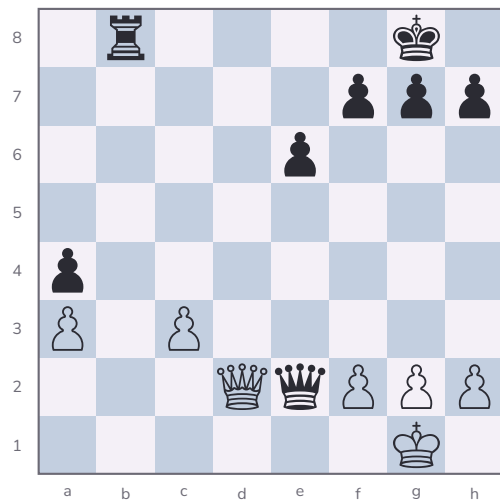
38. White to move, find the best move.



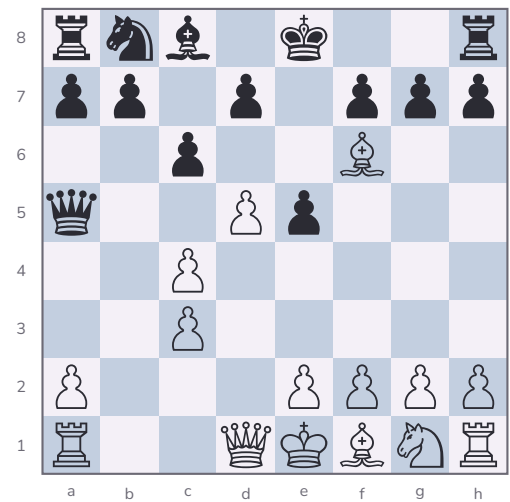
39. White to move, find the best move.



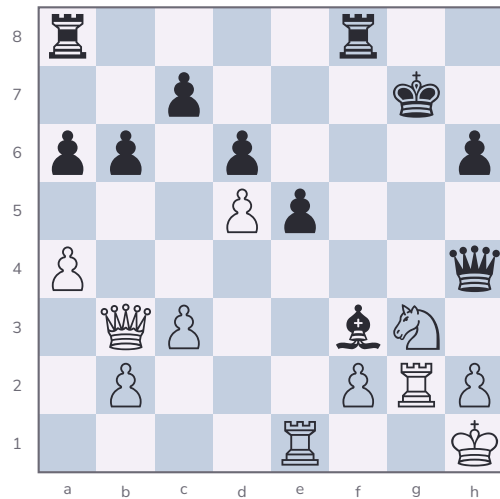
40. White to move, find the best move.



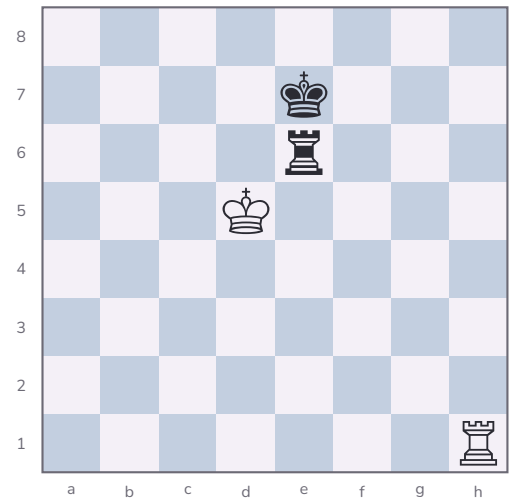
41. White to move, find the best move.



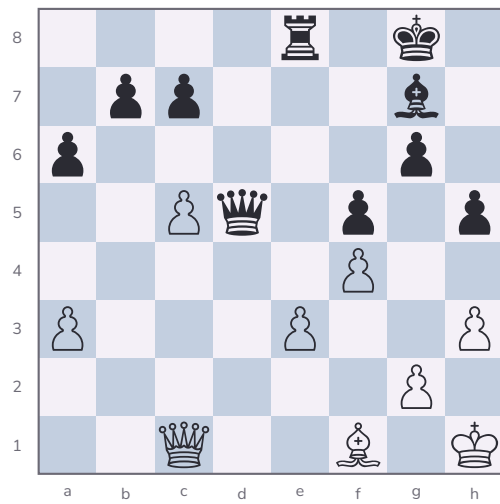
42. Black to move, find the best move.



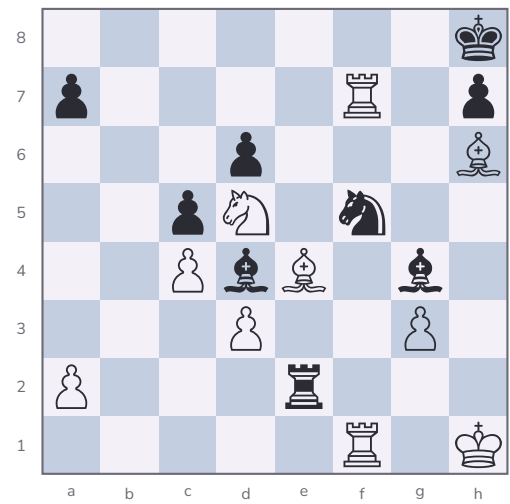
43. White to move, find the best move.



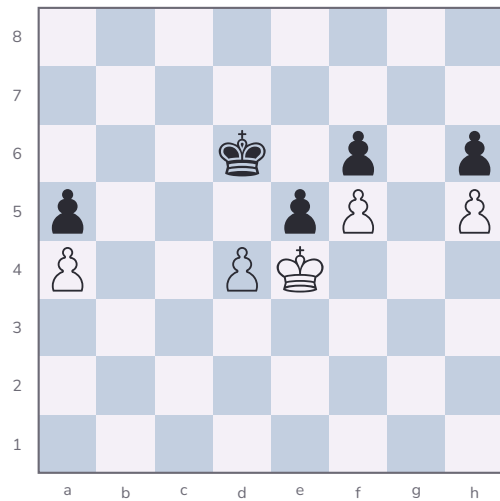
44. White to move, find the best move.



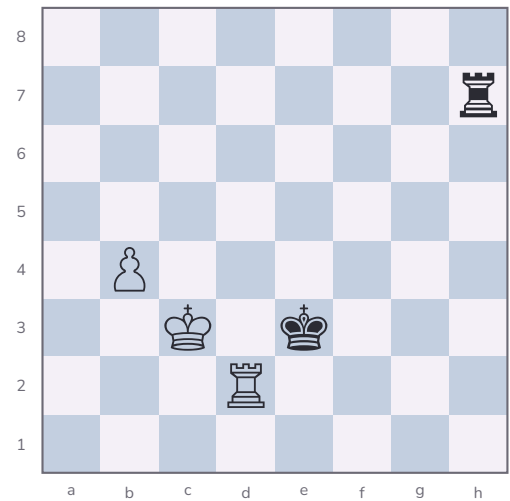
45. White to move, find the best move.



46. Black to move, checkmate in 1.



47. White to move, find the best move.



48. Black to move, find the best move.

Answer key

1. White: c1-c8, h4-d8, c8-d8, g6-e8, d8-e8
2. Black: h7-g6, c1-c3, c4-c3
3. White: a6-a8, d6-d8, a8-d8, e5-e8, d8-e8
4. White: f7-f8, a8-f8, f2-f8
5. White: f1-f8
6. Black: g2-g1, f7-f1, g1-f1, d6-d1, f1-d1
7. White: b3-c5, d3-d4, c5-a6
8. White: h5-e8, f6-f8, e8-f8
9. White: a3-a6, e6-e5, a6-f6
10. Black: g8-h7, d2-d5, b7-d5
11. Black: f5-f2, g1-h1, f2-f1, d1-f1, f6-f1
12. White: d3-d8, f6-e8, d8-e8, g7-g8, h7-g8=Q
13. White: d5-d8, h4-d8, d1-d8, e2-e8, d8-e8
14. Black: c6-c2, b1-a1, c2-c1, e1-c1, c8-c1
15. Black: c6-g2
16. Black: e5-h2, g1-h2, e7-e1
17. Black: d5-d1, e1-d1, d7-d1
18. Black: d4-a1, b5-b1, a1-b1, f3-d1, b1-d1
19. Black: f7-f2, g1-h1, f2-f1, a1-f1, f8-f1
20. Black: c6-a4, c2-d2, a4-d1
21. Black: c2-c4, d4-c4, b4-c4
22. Black: e7-g5, e3-e2, g5-c1
23. Black: f5-f2, g1-h1, f2-f1, a1-f1, f8-f1
24. White: d6-d8
25. White: f5-e7, g8-f7, e7-d5
26. Black: d3-f2, f1-f2, f5-c2
27. White: c5-f8, g7-f8, c2-c6
28. White: b3-e6, d7-e6, f5-e6, b5-b4, g5-g6, b4-b3, g6-g7, b3-b2, g7-g8=Q
29. Black: f5-e4, g2-g1, e4-f3
30. White: f2-h3, g5-h4, h3-f4
31. White: d3-h7, g8-h7, d1-d7
32. White: e5-f4, g6-f4, g4-f6
33. Black: d5-e6, e7-e6, d6-e6
34. Black: c5-c1, g5-c1, d8-d1, f3-e1, d1-e1
35. White: h5-e8, d7-d8, d1-d8
36. White: g6-f8, h7-g8, c2-h7, g8-f8, h7-h8
37. Black: c5-d3, c1-b1, d3-f4
38. White: e5-f6, e7-f6, e2-e6
39. White: h8-b8, b5-c6, b8-c8, c6-d7, c8-c5
40. White: d3-b4, c6-d6, b4-a2
41. White: d2-e2, b8-b1, e2-f1
42. Black: a5-c3, d1-d2, c3-a1
43. White: g3-f5, g7-h8, f5-h4
44. White: h1-h7, e7-f6, h7-h6, f6-g5, h6-e6
45. White: f1-c4, d5-c4, c1-c4
46. Black: f5-g3
47. White: d4-e5, f6-e5, f5-f6, d6-e6, f6-f7, e6-f7, e4-e5
48. Black: h7-c7, c3-b3, e3-d2