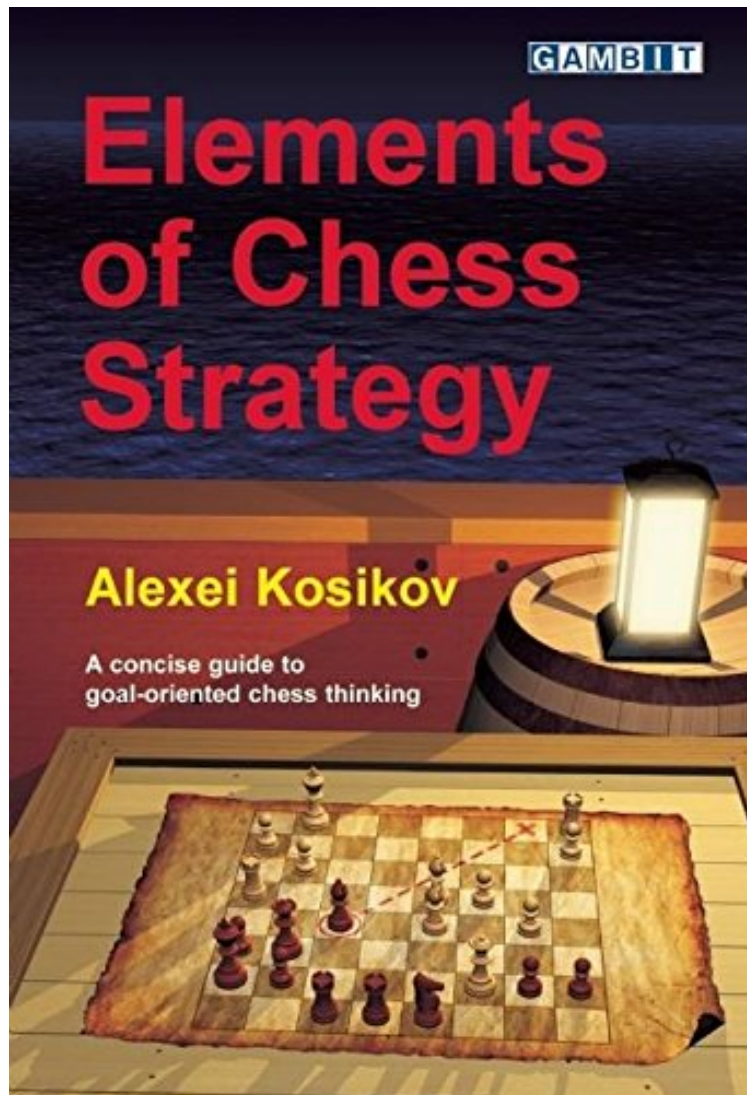


## Elements of Chess Strategy

Alexei Kosikov

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**Alexei Kosikov : Elements of Chess Strategy** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Elements of Chess Strategy:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Get ready for a chessic workout By Jun Barrack At first reading, especially the first two chapters, I was really bogged down by the wealth of information contained in this book. My opinion of this work started to increase after the second reading and SLOWLY working through the examples provided. Not until I started to understand the depth of subtleness involved with the bishop pairs did I grasp the massive insight that this book provides for a 1500 player as myself. Be prepared to spend weeks before coming to grips with the wealth of info, depth of insight, and broad ranging chess gifts that Alexei Kosikov presents; this book is

deep.19 of 40 people found the following review helpful. An excellent self-study guide for intermediate to advanced chess players striving to improve their gameBy Midwest Book ReviewUkraine chess master and chess trainer Alexei Kosikov presents Elements of Chess Strategy, a step-by-step guidebook and teaching tool for executing one's strategy, while remaining aware that one's opponent will be taking countermeasures. The STEPS algorithm, one of Kosikov's most effective methods, is explained at length in practical terms. A wealth of sample games dissected move by move help to illustrate key principles in this excellent self-study guide for intermediate to advanced chess players striving to improve their game.

Forming a plan is the most important goal of logical chess thought. Without a good plan, we are reduced to tactical opportunism, rather than harnessing the power of our pieces to achieve specific tasks and make methodical progress towards victory. However, few chess-players - even those fortunate enough to have a trainer - develop a disciplined approach to planning. In this book, one of the world's leading chess teachers provides step-by-step guidelines for identifying the features of a position onto which our strategy should be latched. He adopts a thoroughly modern approach, recognizing that the opponent will have his own plans and be attempting to disrupt ours. The effectiveness of Kosikov's methods - in particular the STEPS algorithm - is shown by his pupils' over-the-board proficiency. Having presented the basics of orderly strategic thinking, Kosikov shows them at work in a variety of middlegame and endgame situations, especially the strategic minefield of minor-piece play. Examples are taken from both classic games and modern grandmaster play, together with instructive moments from games by the author's pupils.

About the AuthorAlexei Kosikov is a chess master from Ukraine who has enjoyed an illustrious career as a chess trainer. He has nurtured a vast array of chess talents, including nine who have achieved grandmaster titles, perhaps most notably Vladimir Baklan and Dmitry Komarov. He has written extensively about chess - and combinations in particular - and was a frequent lecturer at the Yusupov/Dvoretzky elite chess school, to whose training manuals he also contributed.