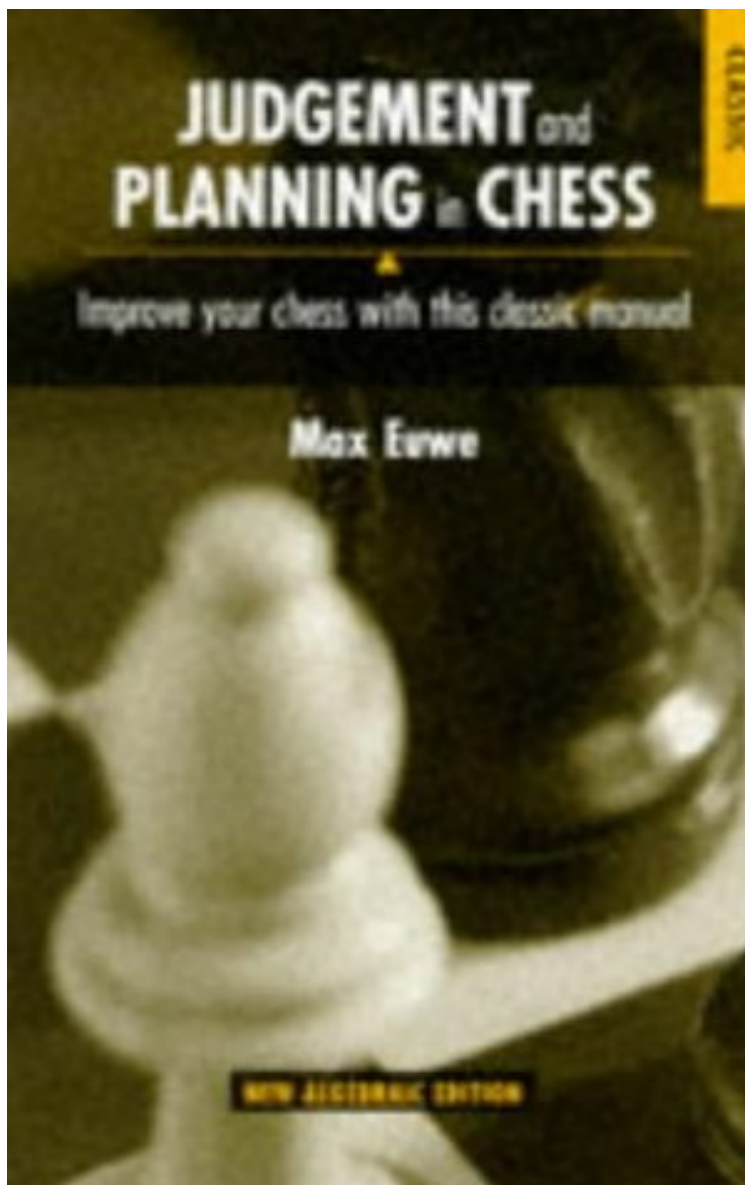


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Judgement and Planning in Chess (Batsford Algebraic Classics)

Max Euwe, John Nunn

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Max Euwe, John Nunn : Judgement and Planning in Chess (Batsford Algebraic Classics) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Judgement and Planning in Chess (Batsford Algebraic Classics):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Required reading for Intermediate or "advanced beginner." By aulachs If you are intermediate or "advanced-beginner" and have been stuck where you are for too long, you really

need this book. The content is excellent. The notation and editing are less than ideal, so if you can you should have multiple chessboards (real or virtual) available simultaneously to follow the examples. The point of the book is "why?" Some people spend a couple years memorizing an openings book 15 deep only to end up in a situation they totally do not understand, and still lose to a weaker player who understands the "why". Books like this are designed to avoid that misery. 23 of 23 people found the following review helpful. Covers important middlegame themes not present in other (even great) works. By Andre E. Harding The 5th World Champion, Dr. Max Euwe, is an underrated chessplayer; I think this is because he knocked off Alekhine during the latter's uncontrollable alcoholism. The chess legacy of this man lies, however, more in his textbooks than in his playing career. His prose is very clear, and to the point. I would even say that at many points he is refreshingly terse! JUDGMENT AND PLANNING IN CHESS is not difficult to comprehend (I didn't say "easy" because it WILL require some work, but not an inordinate amount), and because Euwe explains things that are missing in other, even great, middlegame texts. I have read many of the classics (Niemzowitsch, Pachman, Silman, Stean, etc.), but none of them, to my recollection, explicitly detail the power of a queenside majority (Ch. II), or "The Queen's side Attack" (Ch. III. Euwe's prose on Bogoljubow-Capablanca from New York, 1924 which begins the chapter is brilliant, in my opinion). Another topic that he devotes much (needed!) time to is "Knight vs. Bad Bishop" (Ch. IV). All experienced players have heard of this and have a concept of what a bad bishop is, but Dr. Euwe actually makes exploiting such an advantage understandable. In this chapter, the variations given are particularly valuable. Now, the book is invaluable simply for coverage of the above. The author does cover many of the "standard" topics of middlegame texts, including "Weakening the King's Side" (Ch. V) and of course "The Attack on the King's Field" (Ch. VI), but even here he has something worthwhile to add, especially in that he does not discuss the maneuvers of the attacking side in a vacuum (as many authors do) and thoroughly analyzes the example games as a BATTLE, and not as a one-sided MASSACRE. Implicit throughout "Weak Pawns" (Ch. VII) is the difficult motif of ALTERNATION (Euwe even calls it by name at a couple of turns). Provided herein are good examples of play against isolated and hanging pawns, the latter not receiving enough attention in the chess literature, in my opinion. "Strong Squares" (Ch. VIII) is also, it seems to me, unique. If you have surveyed Kmoch's PAWN POWER, this chapter will no doubt reinforce the power of sealer/sweeper maneuvers when available. In fact, Euwe talks about "sealing," both as a detriment to the defender, and how the attacker should avoid the sealing off of weaknesses! Very interesting! "Open Files" (Ch. IX) is much akin to Stean's "The Minority Attack" in SIMPLE CHESS, but is well-done for those who will encounter this for the first time, even if the title of this chapter should be "Half-open Files." Some general comments. There are plenty of diagrams, and Euwe certainly utilizes them in all the right places, making it possible to gain much from this work on-the-go, because his "expository power," as the blurb calls it, is tremendous. Euwe also does not overburden us with variations: he includes them if they are important to understanding the main play, or if they help illustrate the subject of the current chapter. Also (fair warning!), this book is written in Descriptive Notation (even using Kt for Knight), so you will have to know how to read this. But if you have been reading other classics, this should be no problem. HIGHLY Recommended. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. What do I do next? By Rev. John D. White Depending on who you talk to Max Euwe was either a worthy successor (if shortlived) to Alekhine as World Chess Champion in the mid-nineteen thirties, or the weakest of all the world champions who just got lucky against arguably one of the greatest, if not the greatest, chess player of his era. Euwe, following his reign, became an author and I have consistently found his books helpful, easy, clear and precise. This is one of my favorite's.

An edition of a work first published in the 1950s, updated and converted to modern chess notation, in which Max Euwe, World Champion 1935-37, provides instruction on key elements of chess strategy. The editor of this edition, a grandmaster, has added analytical footnotes.

From the Inside Flap Judgment And Planning In Chess focuses on that crucial point in the chess game -- eight or so moves into the game -- where the opening development breaks off and the middle game begins. This is precisely the part of the game that falls between opening books and middle-game books. Dr. Euwe studies a number of orthodox openings and positions from the point where the opening stage has come to an end. He describes the characteristics of the position reached, shows why one or the other side stands better, and gives a practical demonstration of the means by which the game can be brought to its logical conclusion. "Written with all the expository power for which the ex-champion is famous" (Times Literary Supplement), this well-known book is regarded as one of the standard manuals for developing players.