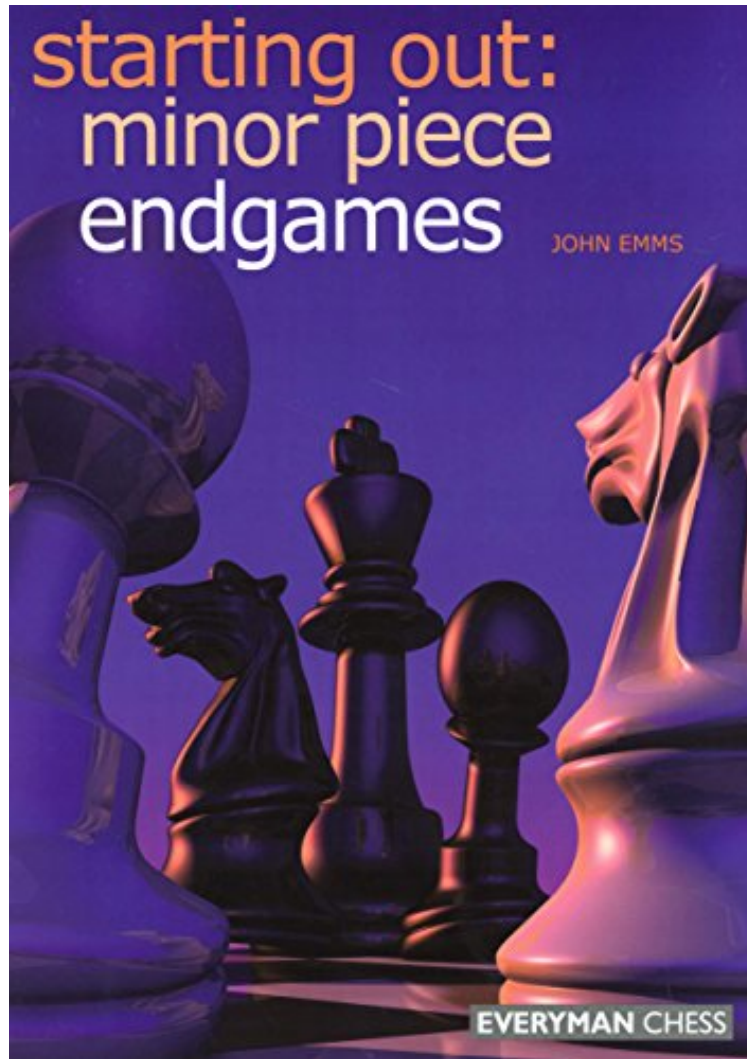


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Starting Out: Minor Piece Endgames (Starting Out - Everyman Chess)

John Emms

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John Emms : Starting Out: Minor Piece Endgames (Starting Out - Everyman Chess) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Starting Out: Minor Piece Endgames (Starting Out - Everyman Chess):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Very good, usefull and simple ideas towards game endingBy Ignacio Z.A great ending knowledge involving bishop knight (plus pawns and kings) combinations. A must read for the ones trying to master the game.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Vernon L Livingstoni like emms as well13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Minor piecesBy Jill MalterAnyone who plays chess

in tournaments generally has acquired some knowledge of endgames. But how much? Well, in my experience, one learns the most about rook endgames. That means that most tournament players know all about getting one's rook to the seventh, keeping one's rook active, getting it behind a passed pawn, and winning won endgames with rook and pawn against rook. But what about the endgames in this book? What if you have only a minor piece versus pawns, or a piece and pawn against a pawn? Or if you have one or two extra pawns where each side has a knight, or bishops of the same color, or bishops of opposite colors? Well, there is one lucky case: everyone knows what to do with a bishop against a bishop of the opposite color and one pawn. The rest of it is what one has to learn, not just so that one will be able to play these endgames but so that one will know whether to try to aim for one of them during a game. I think many tournament players are surprisingly weak at just these endgames. I think Emms does a good job. This book is quite readable for any chess player. And there are also 32 good exercises, with detailed solutions at the end of the book. It should go a long way towards bringing readers up to speed on these positions. Did Emms omit anything I would have included? Yes. Emms never gives either side more than one piece. So we don't see two bishops against a knight or two knights against a bishop, with or without pawns. We don't see the basic mates with bishop and knight against a king, two bishops against a king, three knights against a king, or the instructive two knights versus king and pawn. Still, I think these are minor omissions. I highly recommend this book.

Endgames with kings, bishops, knights, and pawns are generally considered among the most complex and can seem quite bewildering to improving players. This is hardly surprising given that even Grandmasters have been known to struggle in some areas of these endgames, with some examples resulting in embarrassing failure to deliver elementary checkmates! In this user-friendly book, Grandmaster and notable endgame authority John Emms begins with the absolute fundamentals of minor piece endings. This slowly but surely arms readers with the essential knowledge and confidence to move onto slightly trickier positions. Using examples from practical play, Emms highlights the correct procedures as well as the typical mistakes made by both attacker and defender. As is normal with the famed Starting Out series, there are an abundance of notes, tips, and warnings throughout the book to help improving players. Starting Out: Minor Piece Endgames is perfect for those who have previously honed their chess skills with the earlier books Starting Out in Chess, Tips for Young Players and Improve Your Endgame Play. Key features: *Covers all crucial minor piece endings* Easy step-by-step guide to better endgame play *Ideal for improving players* User-friendly layout to help readers absorb the key ideas

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