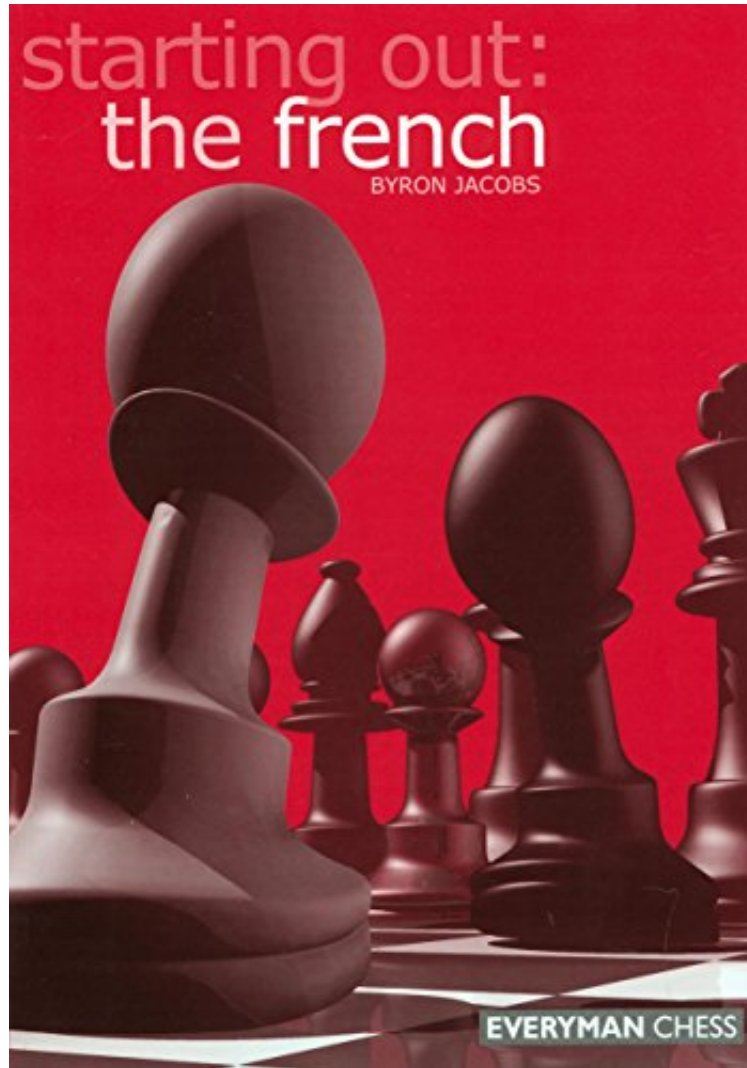


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Starting Out: The French (Starting Out - Everyman Chess)

Byron Jacobs

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Byron Jacobs : Starting Out: The French (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: The French (Starting Out - Everyman Chess):

2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. very poorBy S. ShaikhSome of the other "Starting out" books have a lot of ideas, theory and reasons for the first 10-12 moves, which I find very user friendly. This one has almost none of that, just some annotated games. It's more for beginners of chess.0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy VPA solid book to understanding the french and its variations. Have had this book since 2003.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not for players just "Starting Out".By bwzAfter transposing from a Sicilian to a French in one of my postal games, I went to my personal library and picked out several books about the French

Defense (including this one), and started doing some research. I've had this book almost from the day it first came out until now, and was shocked at how useless it probably is for most beginners. Maybe having read several newer books, like those in the 'Move By Move' series; or the 'Chess Explained' series over the years, has made me see what a "good" opening book should look like, and 'Starting Out: The French' isn't one of them. Maybe when it first came out it was "okay", but it's so much like the older pre-computer books filled with mostly "variation after variation", that it does little to "instruct". Too many moves are left unexplained. Questions go unanswered. This might be a good book for someone already fairly familiar with the French, but I can't recommend it for people new to chess. Like I did when I first "Started Out", they'd probably just try to memorize the moves, and not truly be able to "appreciate" what a great and sometimes beautiful game chess can be. Recommended only for intermediates and up.(The book 'how to play against 1 e4' by Neil McDonald ended up being the one to help me most. I got it because I'm a Morphy fan and Neil analyzes a couple of his games, but he also does a surprisingly good job explaining the moves. The French has been his opening for over 25 years, and it shows!)

The French is one of Black's soundest defences to 1 e4 and is very popular at all levels of chess. Club players enjoy its super-solid structure, while at the top it's played by famous grandmasters such as Vishy Anand and the young Russian star Alexander Morozevich. With his first two moves Black obtains a substantial foothold in the centre, and a structure that is incredibly difficult to break down. In this user-friendly book, International Master Byron Jacobs revisits the basic principles behind the French Defence and all of its variations. Throughout the reader is helped along by a wealth of notes, tips, warnings and exercises. This book is ideal for the improving player.

From the Back CoverThe French is one of Black's soundest defences to 1 e4 and is very popular at all levels of chess. Club players enjoy its super-solid structure, while at the top it's played by famous grandmasters such as Vishy Anand and the young Russian star Alexander Morozevich. With his first two moves Black obtains a substantial foothold in the centre, and a structure that is incredibly difficult to break down. In this user-friendly book, International Master Byron Jacobs revisits the basic principles behind the French Defence and all of its variations. Throughout the reader is helped along by a wealth of notes, tips, warnings and exercises. This book is ideal for the improving player.Explanations to key ideas throughoutWritten in an easy-to-learn formatAll the important variations are covered