

(Pdf free) Starting Out: The Sicilian (Starting Out - Everyman Chess)

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John Emms

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John Emms : Starting Out: The Sicilian (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 Sicilian (Starting Out - Everyman Chess):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This book is heavily read and reviewed for a good reason! By Patrick D. Goonan Starting Out: The Sicilian 2nd Edition by John Emms is exactly targeted to an audience who wants to become familiar with the general plans, strategies, difficulty learning and challenges of the various options in the Sicilian. As such, it does not cover every possible variation, but it does do an excellent job of discussing the basic plans, type of play you can expect and even gives statistics for each variation. If you are trying to make decisions as

white or black as to what to include in an opening repertoire, this will meet your needs. In addition to providing basic plans, it also includes illustrative games by grand masters. With this book, you can make good decisions about what variations fit with your playing style, personality, tolerance for risk, etc. I primarily enjoy playing against Sicilian Defenses, but I also utilize them in tournament play. In general, I avoid the most theoretical variations as black, but the ones I use I try to learn deeply. Once you have read this book and made some decisions as to what will work for you, you will need to study the particular variations and about the specific positions you most enjoy playing. A good basic book with a simple, but fun repertoire as white against the various Sicilians is *Starting Out: 1 e4!: A Reliable Repertoire for the Improving Player (Starting Out - Everyman Chess)*. This is also NOT a deep exploration of the openings, but rather a starting repertoire for white in the Open Sicilians. After getting experience playing them, you can decide what to include or not include in your own games. One argument that McDonald makes for his repertoire of having solid plans as White in Open Sicilians is that it helps you to become a better player via having you play tactically sharp positions. Later, you will need and want more in-depth content, but this book provides a solid foundation that complements *Starting Out: the Sicilian*. If you are very serious about being a tournament player and want to have a competitive, but rigorously analyzed interconnected repertoire, I can't recommend *Chess Openings for Black, Explained: A Complete Repertoire (Revised and Updated)* and *Chess Openings for White, Explained: Winning with 1.e4, Second Revised and Updated Edition*. These two books are truly comprehensive, easy to follow and you can score highly without having to turn the openings into a part-time job. However, they don't use gimmick openings, they are solid choices e.g. the Nimzo-Indian in response to queen pawn openings and the Hyperaccelerated move order of the Accelerated Dragon. As white, the recommendations are entering the sharp variations of the Italian via the Scotch. *Starting Out: The Sicilian* gives you a LOT of value for your money. A lot of chess books don't have much content these days and they aren't always well-organized. The second edition of this book is a major exception. I wouldn't want to be without it even though I have many other opening books. With that said, if I had to play tournament chess quickly in competition, I would pursue the two books above like my hair was on fire. The disadvantage, however, is that the repertoire is what it is and you can't adapt it to your style of play or the type of positions you enjoy most. In reality, for most players below 2000 it is tactics applied in familiar positions that win games. If one adheres to good opening principles, one should win more games as long as you have chosen relatively solid openings. Hour-for-hour studying tactics will pay off more than a similar amount of time learning critical variations. Only between 1500-1600 do the openings take on more critical importance. At the lower levels, I would explore a lot of openings, but focus on tactics, endgames and reviewing master games that are annotated. With all of the above said, I am not a master level player, but I suspect for these players *Starting Out: The Sicilian* would be largely a review or survey without much value beyond entertainment. On the other hand, these folks aren't the target audience and therefore, I must rate this work from the perspective of the audience it was intended for. As such, it is quite good, interesting and engaging along with being very informative.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. the sicilian - very first step
By chess reader
the book is well written , very clear no ambiguity , but it is better called an "introduction to the sicilian" since it will only help anybody who knows nothing about the sicilian except it is 1 e4 c5 nothing else so it will open a window to a completely new world called the sicilian....but if u already played sicilian before or at least know the first 6 or 7 moves of any of its variation this book will not take u any further in that direction.....the contents can be grasped more or less from other sources like wikipedia.....you will need probably another book after that under the title "starting out the sicilian" which should take you further and assist u in chosing which variation you would like to play , and then a specialized book in that variation to continue deeperso if you like that very early and primitive step go ahead and buy it its very well written book and so simple to understand.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Great Book for Anyone that Plays 1.e4
By Carl Armstrong
This 2nd edition by GM John Emms covers all the major systems and variations of the various Sicilian Defence's that you are most likely to encounter. He explains the plans and objectives, for both sides, of each variation, and gives many illustrative games to prove his point. Whether you play against the Sicilian Defence as white, or whether you play it as black, this book gives many valuable insights and suggestions. Very up to date also, considering that some variations undergo theoretical changes frequently. A great book for the novice, student and club player.

Everyman Chess present three new books in their highly praised and best-selling *Starting Out* series. The series continues with coverage of two very popular openings among club and tournament players: the Trompowsky Attack and the Torre Attack. Added to this, there's an updated and largely expanded edition of *Starting Out: The Sicilian*, the much acclaimed guide to the most popular opening in chess. The *Starting Out* series has firmly established itself as the leading guide to studying openings for up-and-coming chess players. These books are ideal for enthusiastic players who have little experience of the openings in question and who wish to appreciate the essential principles behind them.

From the Back Cover
This is an updated and largely expanded edition of *Starting Out: The Sicilian*, the highly acclaimed guide to the most popular and famous opening in chess. In this user-friendly book, Grandmaster John Emms goes back to basics, studying the fundamental principles of the Sicilian Defence and its many variations. Throughout

the book there are an abundance of notes, tips, warnings and exercises to help the improving player, while key strategies, ideas and tactics for both sides are clearly illustrated. The greatest attraction of the Sicilian is that it allows Black to unbalance the position and play for a win, without having to take any unjustified risks. Its many variations range from the super-solid Scheveningen to the dangerous and ultra-sharp Dragon. For those playing Black it should be easy to find one that suits your style, while those playing White can choose from the range of options given against each line. *Expanded to include new developments and more variations* Concentrates on the key principles of the Sicilian *Ideal for the improving player John Emms is one of the UK's leading Grandmasters and has captained the English Team at two Chess Olympiads. He's an experienced coach who has worked with many top players, including World Championship finalist Michael Adams. He's also a highly respected writer; previous works for Everyman Chess include Discovering Chess Openings and The Survival Guide to Competitive Chess.