

ADVANCED LEVEL PART 2

22. Mating Motif (Legal's mate, Damiano's mate)

Legal's mate

Legal mate is a position when three minor pieces actively coordinate to deliver a checkmate to the opponent king. It can be done with either two bishops and a knight or two knights and one bishop.

The following examples will give a better explanation

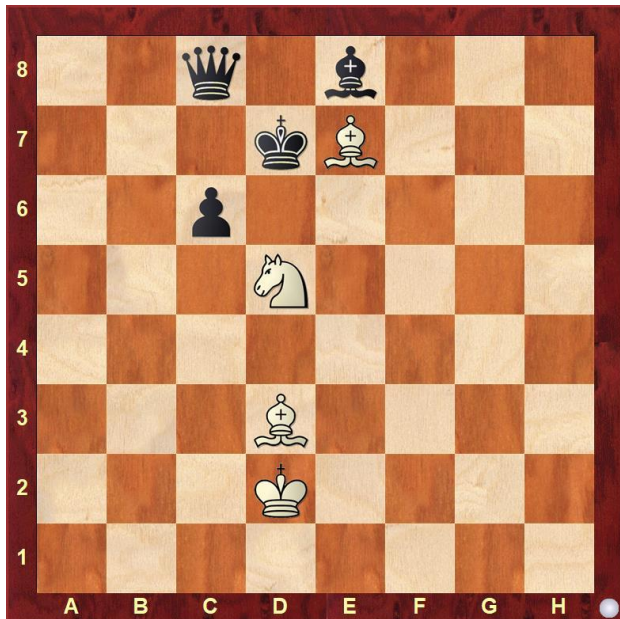


Diagram 7.1



Diagram 7.2

In diagram 7.1, we can observe that the white knight and white's dark square bishop are blocking most of the squares of the opponent king. Therefore, white performs a legal mate by playing Bf5#

In diagram 7.2, we can observe that most of the white's minor pieces are already developed. Therefore, white can perform legal mate by playing Bxf7+ forcing the black king to play Ke7 followed by Nd5#

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22. Mating Motif (Legal's mate, Damiano's mate)

Damiano's mate

Damiano's mate is a position when a pawn or a knight or a bishop blocks the diagonal squares of the castled king and the queen delivers the checkmate. It is often done by first sacrificing a rook on the 'h' file or 'a' file, then checking the king with the queen on the 'a' file or 'h' file, and then moving in for checkmate.

The following examples will give a better explanation

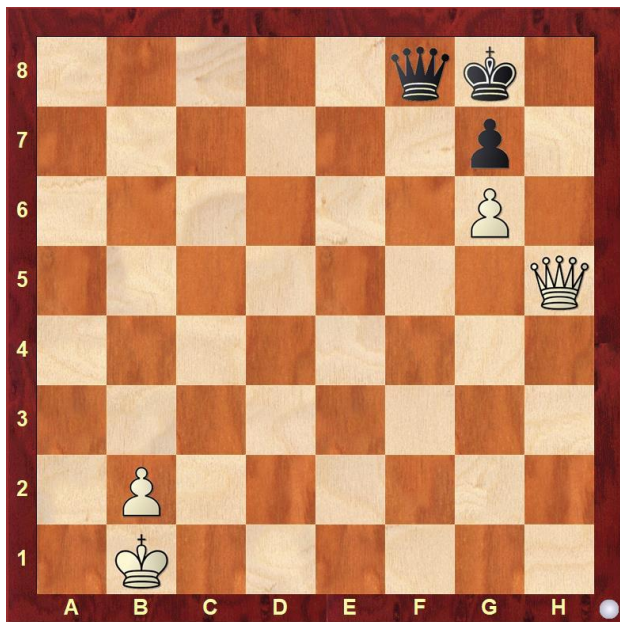


Diagram 7.3

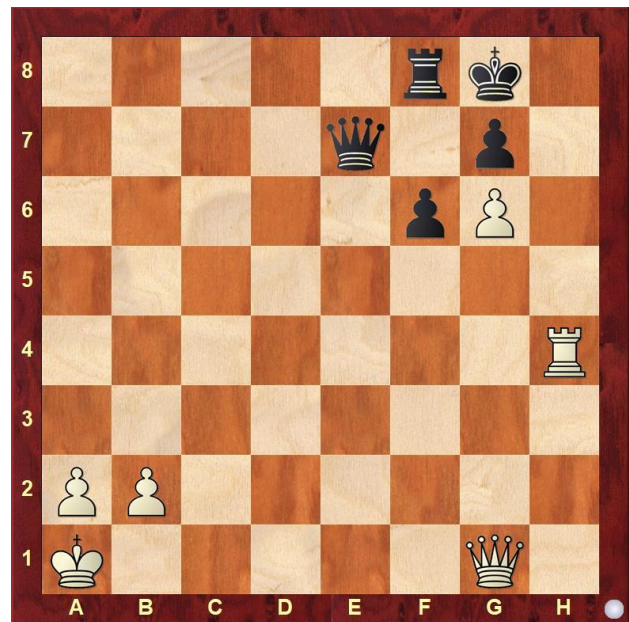


Diagram 7.4

In diagram 7.3, we can observe that the white pawn on g6 is blocking the diagonal squares of the black king. Therefore, white can perform Damiano's mate by playing Qh7#

In diagram 7.4, we can observe that the white pawn on g6 is blocking the diagonal squares of the black king. Therefore white can perform Damiano's mate by playing Rh8+ forcing the black to play Kxh8 followed by Qh1+ again forcing the black king to play Kg8 and then Qh7#

ADVANCED LEVEL PART 2

22. Mating Motif (Legal's mate, Damiano's mate) Homework

1. White to play & win



2. White to play & win



3. Black to play & win



4. White to play & win

