

The Game of Chess

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Rules and Help

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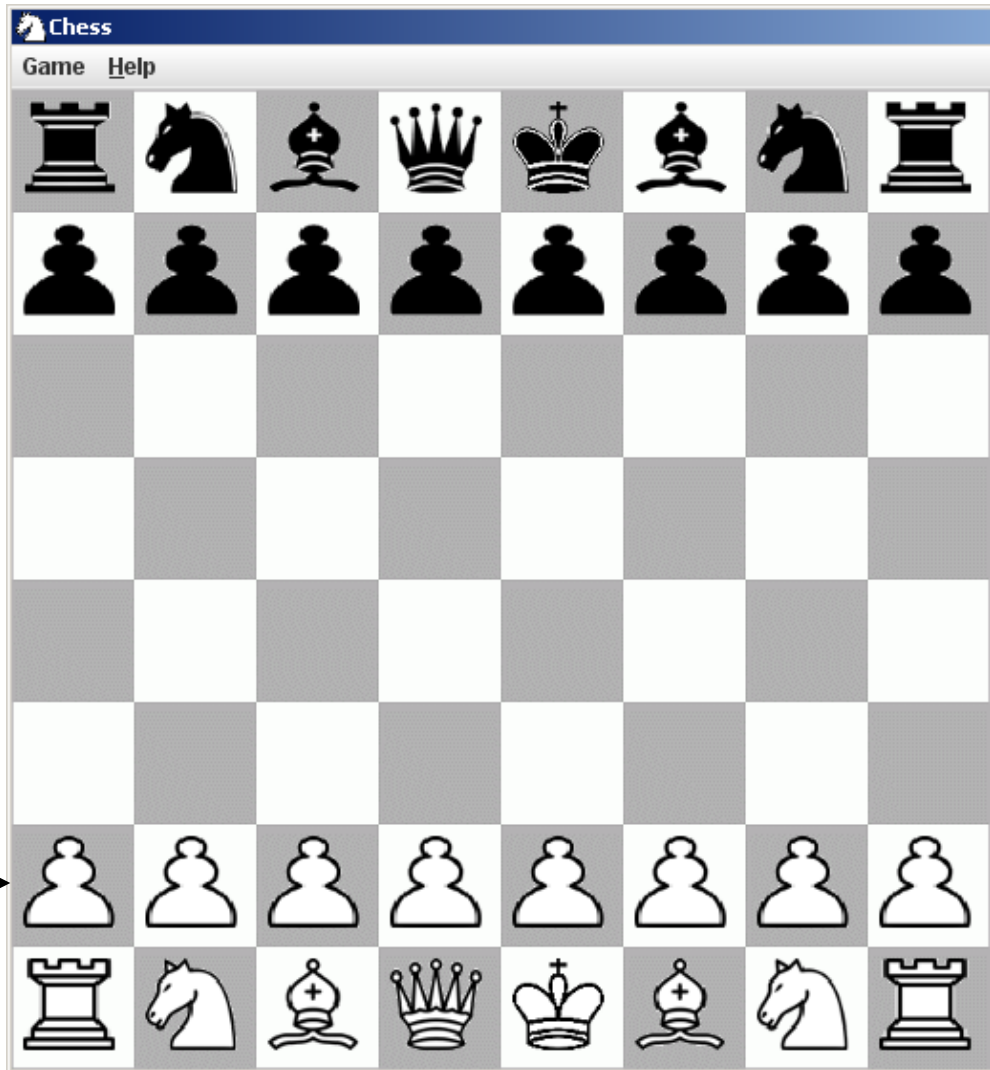
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The Game of Chess

Chess is a game played on an 8 by 8 board of pieces. Players alternate taking turns, and each piece has its own special set of moves to help the player set up for taking down the enemy's king. The pieces along the second row are known as pawns.



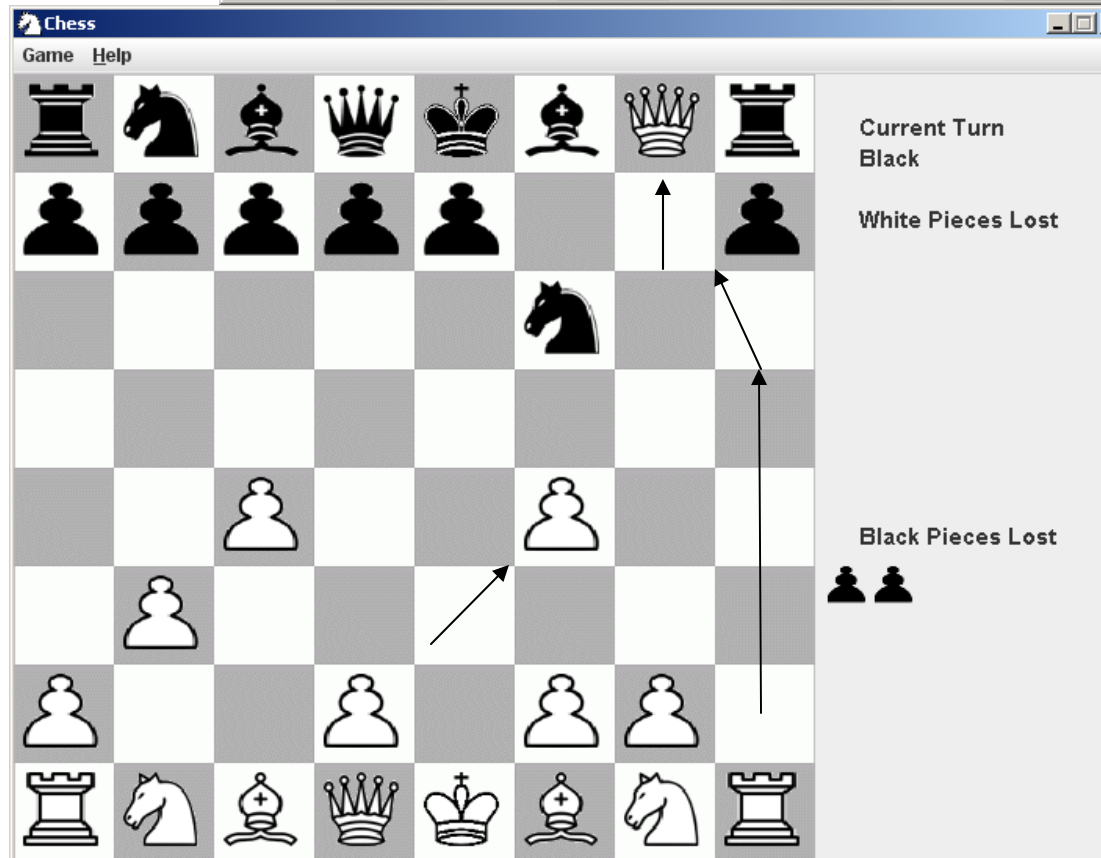
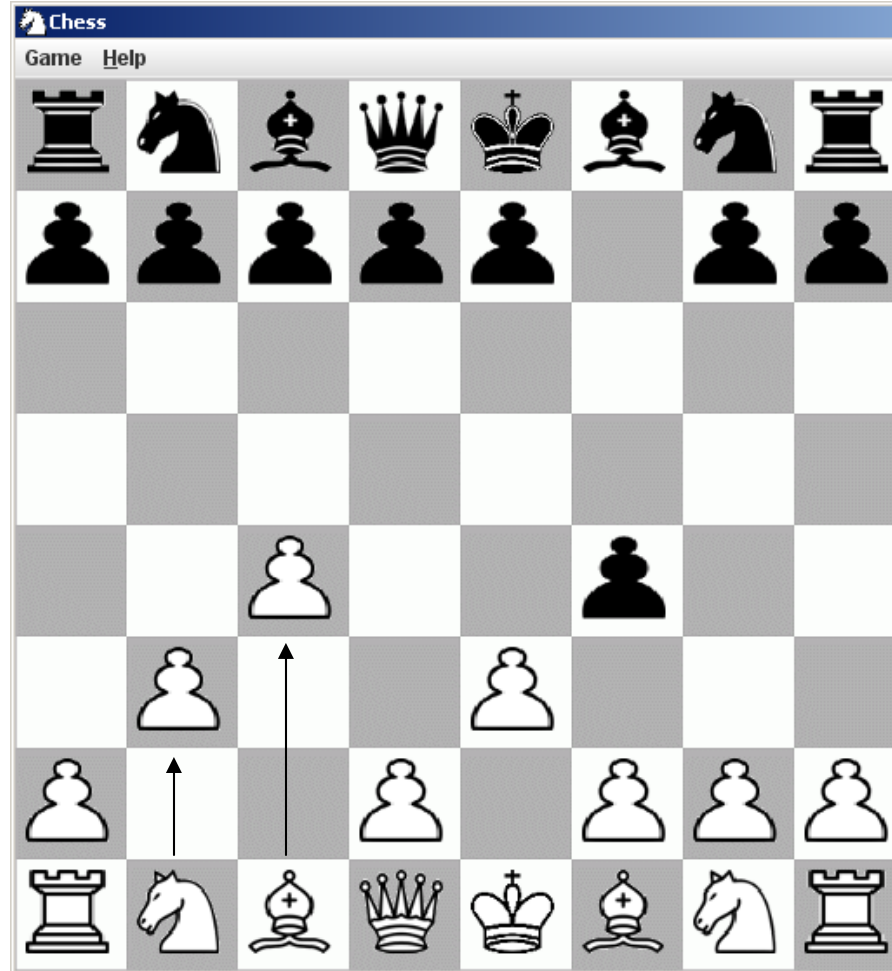
From left to right, the pieces are: Rook (or Castle), Knight, Bishop, Queen, and King, with another Bishop, Knight and Rook on the other side of the king.

The Pieces in Chess

The Pawn

The pawn is a very simple piece in chess, often used for sacrifices. The pawn can normally move just one space forward, unless it is the first move in which it can move 2 spaces. The pawn can also never move backwards.

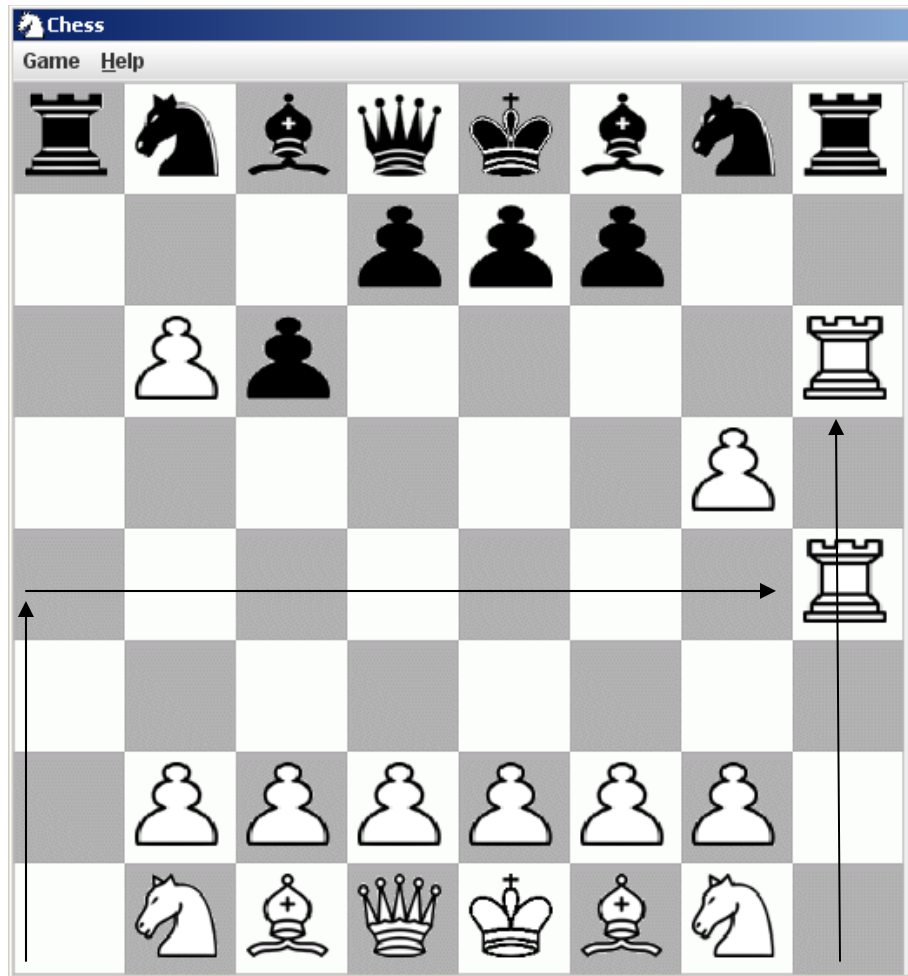
When attacking with a pawn, the pawn can only attack in a diagonal direction one square forward. The pawn also has a special ability, that when the pawn reaches the end of the board, it is able to become a piece of your choice, but is usually a queen, as it is the best piece.



The Pieces in Chess

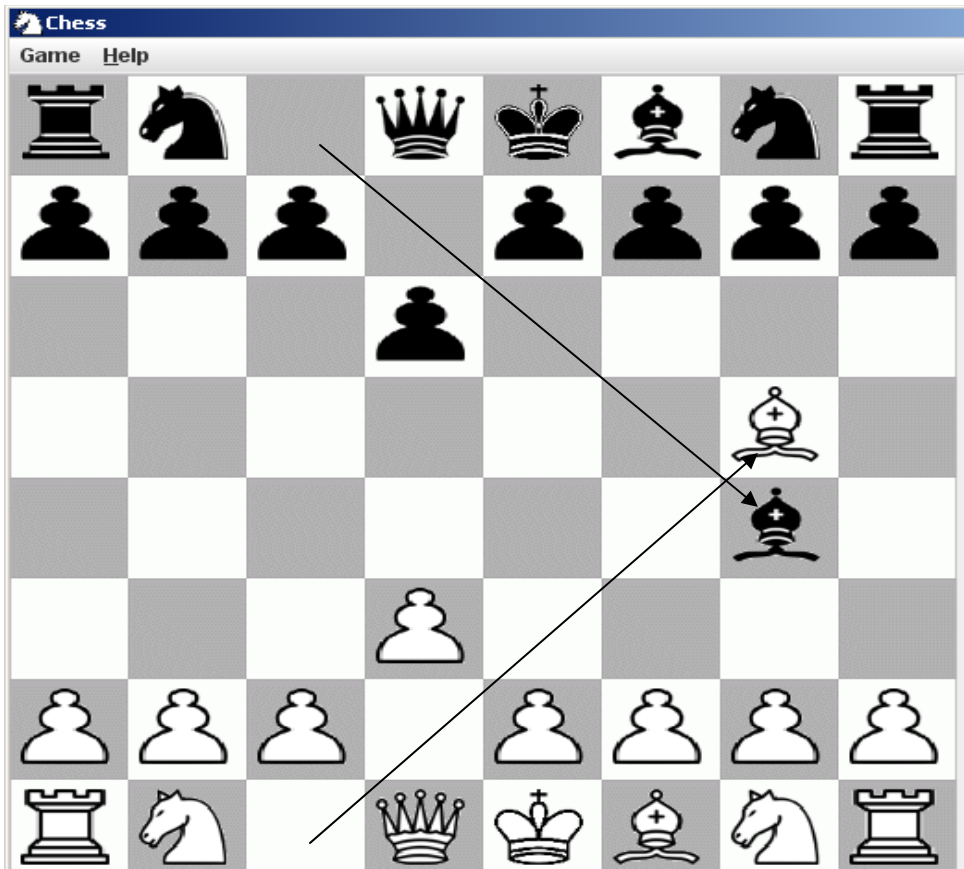
The Rook

The rook is a very useful endgame piece in chess, often used to secure a checkmate. The rook can be moved down a row or column until it reaches another piece or the end of the board.



The Bishop

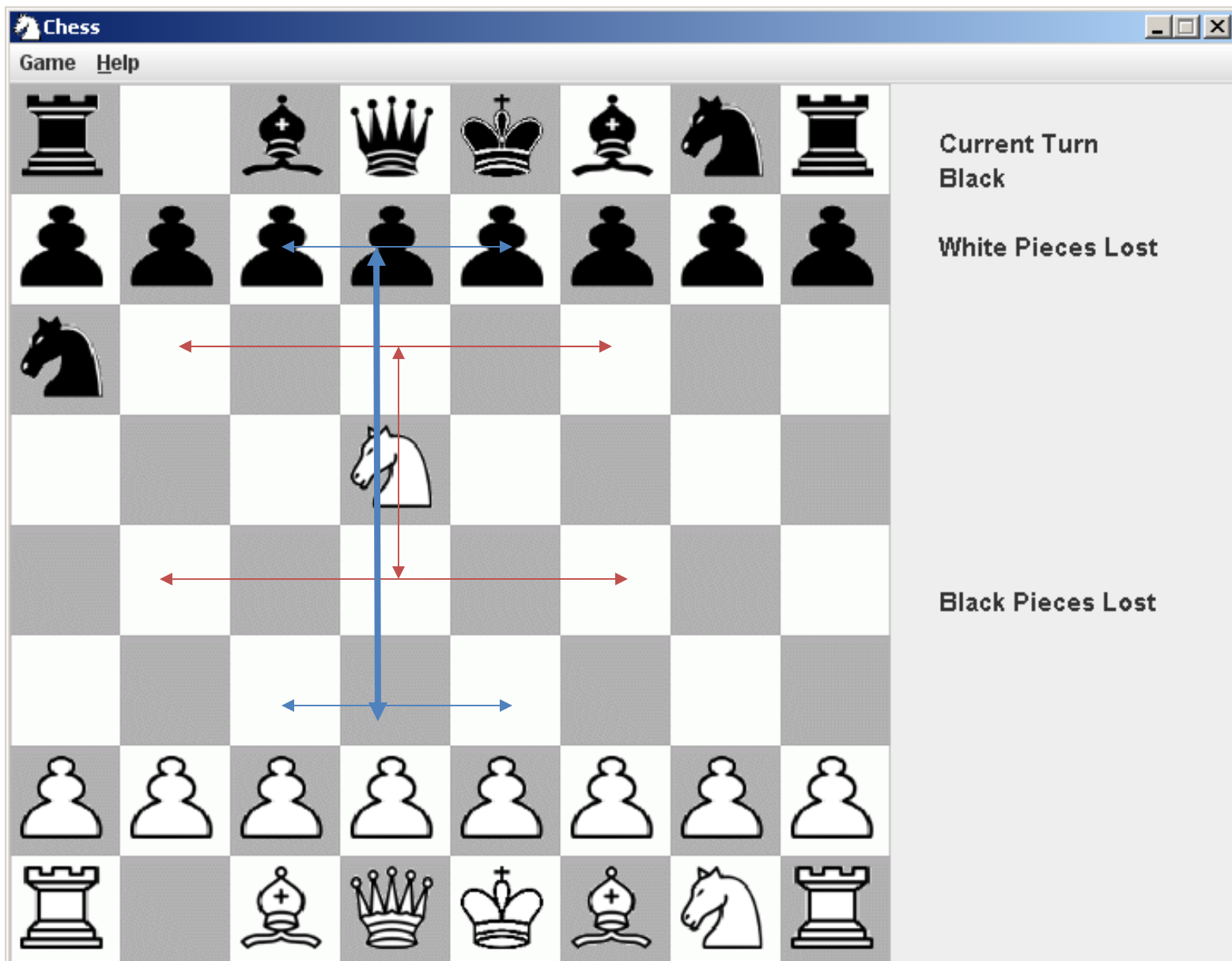
The bishop is a very strategic piece in chess, and is very useful for taking out rooks. The bishop can only move diagonally, but can keep moving until it hits another piece or the end of the board.



The Pieces in Chess

The Knight

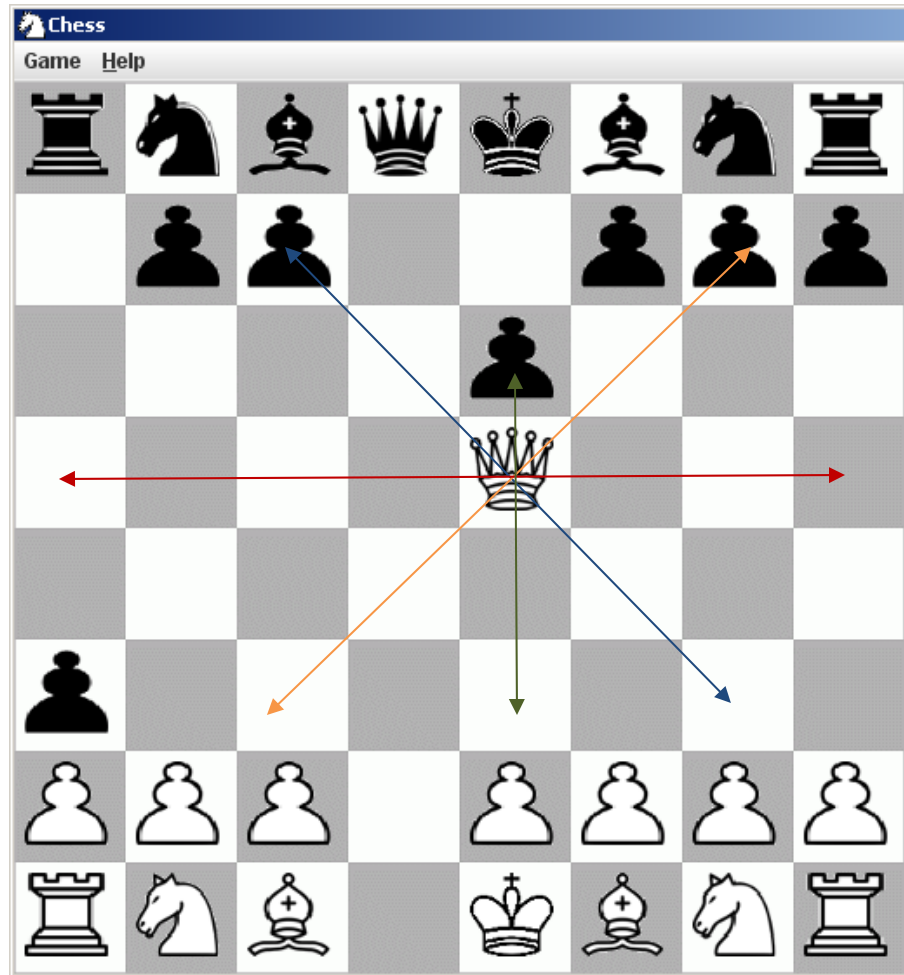
The knight is a very useful midgame piece in chess, often used to take down pieces behind the cover of pawns. The knight can only be moved in an “L” shape, meaning it can go 2 down a row or column and then one across the opposite row or column.



The Pieces of Chess

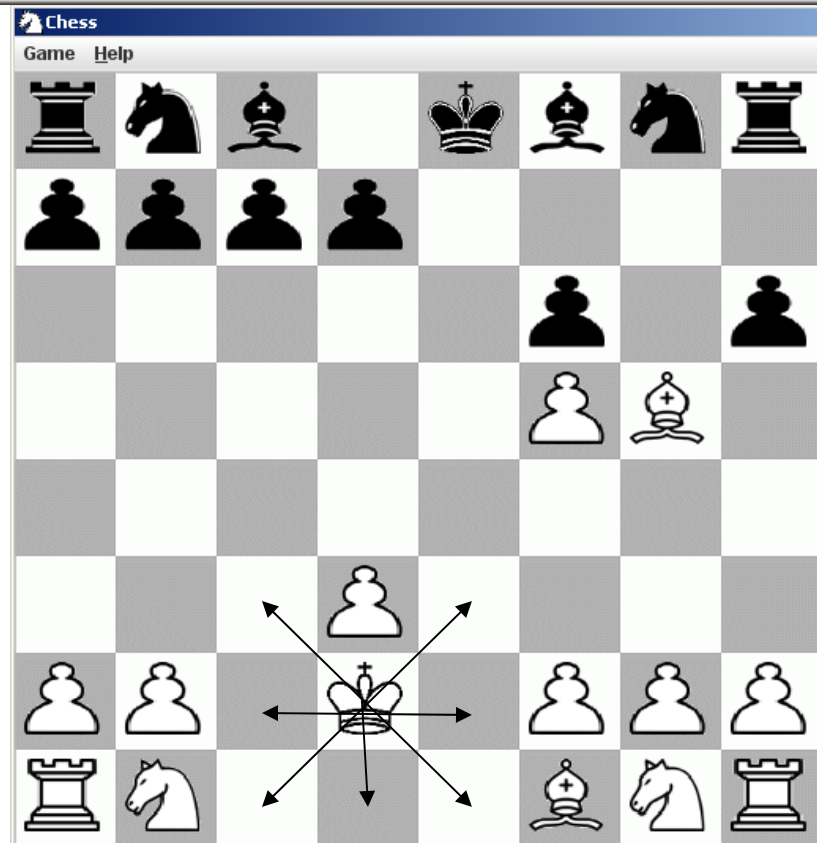
The Queen

The queen is debatably the most powerful piece in chess and is very useful for taking out pieces of all kinds. The Queen is like a mix of a bishop and rook, as it can move up, down, left, right, or diagonally until it reaches a piece or the end of the board.



The King

The king, while being one of the worst pieces movement wise, is the most important piece as losing this results in a game over. The king can move one tile in any direction, allowing him to kill any opposing piece that gets too close.



Winning at Chess

The objective of chess is to get the enemy's king into a checkmate, a position in which the king has no move that won't result in his death. This is done by planning and working out an optimal set of pieces and positions that will not allow the king to move anywhere.

In the example beside, you can see the white king is in checkmate. The king cannot stay on his current square as the rook will kill him, and moving to any other square will result in his death. This is an example of checkmate.

