Englund gambit

HISTORY

1.d4 e5 is also known as the **Charlick Gambit** after [Henry Charlick](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Charlick) (1845–1916), the second [Australian chess champion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Chess_Championship), who introduced the 2...d6 line in the early 1890s.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Englund_Gambit#cite_note-HooperWhyldp.73-5) The main line Englund Gambit (2...Nc6, 3...Qe7) was introduced by [Kārlis Bētiņš](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K%C4%81rlis_B%C4%93ti%C5%86%C5%A1" \o "Kārlis Bētiņš) (1867–1943), who also established the [Latvian Gambit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latvian_Gambit). The [Swedish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sweden) player [Fritz Carl Anton Englund](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Fritz_Carl_Anton_Englund&action=edit&redlink=1) (1871–1933) sponsored a thematic tournament in which all games had to begin with the position after 4.Qd5; the 1.d4 e5 gambit complex was later named after him.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Englund_Gambit#cite_note-OvertheHorizons-3)

BASIC

The **Englund Gambit** is a rarely played [chess opening](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chess_opening) that starts with the moves:

1. [d4](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._d4) [e5](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._d4/1...e5)[?!](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chess_annotation_symbols#?!)

Black's idea is to avoid the traditional closed queen's pawn games and create an open game with tactical chances, but at the cost of a pawn. The gambit is considered weak; [Boris Avrukh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boris_Avrukh) writes that 1...e5 "seems to me the worst possible reply to White's first move".[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Englund_Gambit#cite_note-1) It is almost never seen in top-level play, although [Paul Keres](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Keres) once tried it.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Englund_Gambit#cite_note-2) The gambit is occasionally seen in amateur games and in [correspondence chess](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Correspondence_chess), and the 3...Qe7 version of the gambit was frequently used by [Henri Grob](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henri_Grob)

The **King's Gambit** is a [chess opening](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chess_opening) that begins with the moves:

1. [e4](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4) [e5](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4/1...e5)

2. [f4](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4/1...e5/2._f4)

White offers a [pawn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pawn_(chess)) to divert the black e-pawn. If Black accepts the [gambit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gambit), White has two main plans. The first is to play d4 and Bxf4, regaining the gambit pawn with [*central*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_chess#center) domination. The alternative plan is to play Nf3 and Bc4 followed by 0-0, when the [semi-open](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Half-open_file) f-file created after a pawn push to g3 allows White to attack the weakest point in Black's position, the pawn on f7. [Theory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chess_theory#Opening_theory) has shown that, in order to maintain the gambit pawn, Black may well be forced to weaken the [*kingside*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_chess#kingside) with moves such as ...g5 or odd piece placement (e.g. ...Nf6–h5). A downside to the King's Gambit is that White weakens their own king's position, exposing it to the latent threat of ...Qh4+ (or ...Be7–h4+). With a black pawn on f4, White cannot usually respond to the check with g3, but if the king is forced to move then it also loses the right to [castle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castling).

The King's Gambit was one of the most popular openings for over 300 years, and has been played by many of the strongest players in many of the greatest [*brilliancies*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_chess#brilliancy), including the [Immortal Game](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immortal_Game). Nevertheless, players have held widely divergent views on it. [François-André Danican Philidor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fran%C3%A7ois-Andr%C3%A9_Danican_Philidor) (1726–1795), the greatest player and [theorist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chess_theory) of his day, wrote that the King's Gambit should end in a [draw](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Draw_(chess)) with [best play](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Optimal_play) by both sides, stating that "a gambit equally well attacked and defended is never a decisive [game], either on one side or the other."[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/King%27s_Gambit#cite_note-3) Writing over 150 years later, [Siegbert Tarrasch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siegbert_Tarrasch" \o "Siegbert Tarrasch), one of the world's strongest players in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, pronounced the opening "a decisive mistake" and wrote that "it is almost madness to play the King's Gambit

The **Evans Gambit** is a [chess opening](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chess_opening) characterised by the moves:

1. [e4](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4) [e5](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4/1...e5)

2. [Nf3](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4/1...e5/2._Nf3) [Nc6](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4/1...e5/2._Nf3/2...Nc6)

3. [Bc4](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4/1...e5/2._Nf3/2...Nc6/3._Bc4) [Bc5](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4/1...e5/2._Nf3/2...Nc6/3._Bc4/3...Bc5)

4. [b4](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Chess_Opening_Theory/1._e4/1...e5/2._Nf3/2...Nc6/3._Bc4/3...Bc5/4._b4)

The Evans Gambit is an aggressive line of the [Giuoco Piano](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giuoco_Piano" \o "Giuoco Piano). White offers a pawn to divert the black bishop on c5. If Black accepts, White can follow up with c3 and d4, ripping open the [*centre*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_chess#centre), while also opening diagonals to play Ba3 or Qb3 at some point, preventing Black from castling [*kingside*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_chess#kingside) and threatening the f7-pawn respectively. If Black declines, the b4-pawn stakes out [*space*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_chess#space) on the queenside, and White can follow up with a4 later in the game, potentially gaining a tempo by threatening to trap Black's [*dark-square bishop*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_chess#dark-square_bishop). According to [Reuben Fine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reuben_Fine), the Evans Gambit poses a challenge for Black since the usual defences (play ...d6 and/or give back the gambit pawn) are more difficult to pull off than with other gambits. (Fine was once beaten by this gambit in a friendly game against [Bobby Fischer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bobby_Fischer), in just 17 moves.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evans_Gambit#cite_note-1))

The gambit is named after the Welsh sea Captain [William Davies Evans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Davies_Evans), the first player known to have employed it. The first game with the opening is considered to be Evans–[McDonnell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_McDonnell), London 1827, although in that game a slightly different move order was tried (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.0-0 d6 and only now 5.b4). In 1832, the first analysis of the gambit was published in the *Second Series of Progressive Lessons (1832)* by [William Lewis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Lewis_(chess_player)).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evans_Gambit#cite_note-2) The gambit became very popular shortly after that, being employed a number of times in the series of games between McDonnell and [Louis de la Bourdonnais](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_de_la_Bourdonnais) in 1834. Players such as [Adolf Anderssen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolf_Anderssen), [Paul Morphy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Morphy) and [Mikhail Chigorin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mikhail_Chigorin) subsequently took it up. The [Evergreen game](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evergreen_game) won by Adolf Anderssen against [Jean Dufresne](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jean_Dufresne) opened with the Evans Gambit.