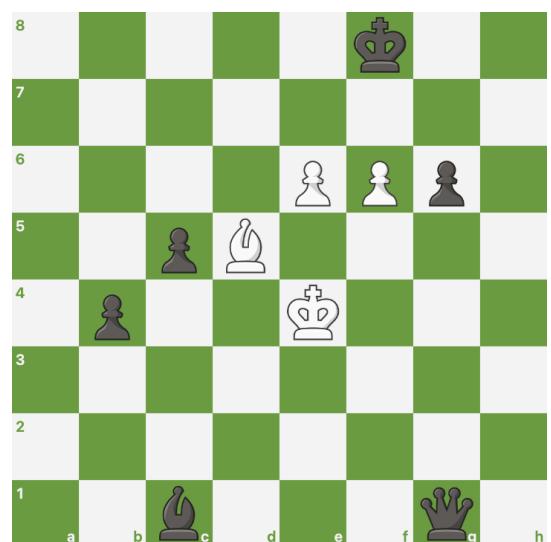


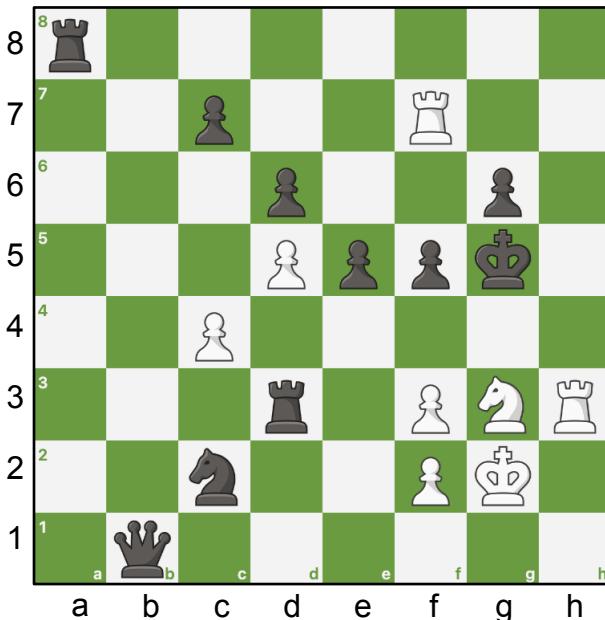
90. The Balestra Mate

White has a forced mate in 7 in this position. However, even the slightest mistake will hand the game over to black. Join us to learn about a mating pattern called the Balestra Mate which is named after an explosive lunge technique in fencing.

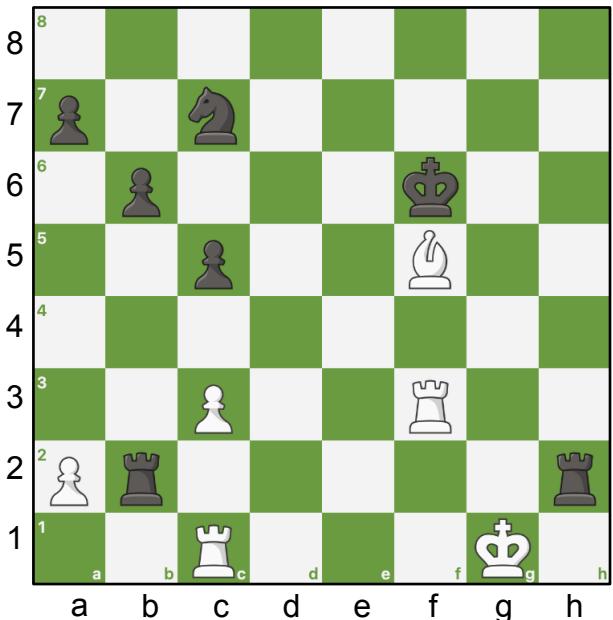


Challenge Puzzles

① White to play - Find best move.



② White to play - Find best move.



Hints.

- ① Start with a rook.
- ② Start with the bishop.

Answers.

- ① 1. $\mathbb{R}h5+$ $\mathbb{P}gxh5$ 2. $\mathbb{R}g7+$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 3. $\mathbb{N}xh5\#$
- ② 1. $\mathbb{B}c2+$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 2. $\mathbb{Q}xh2$

