

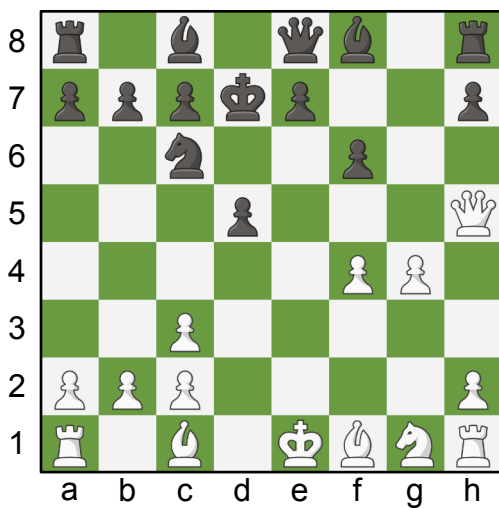
24. Pins

In chess, a pin occurs when a piece cannot move without exposing a more valuable piece behind it to capture.

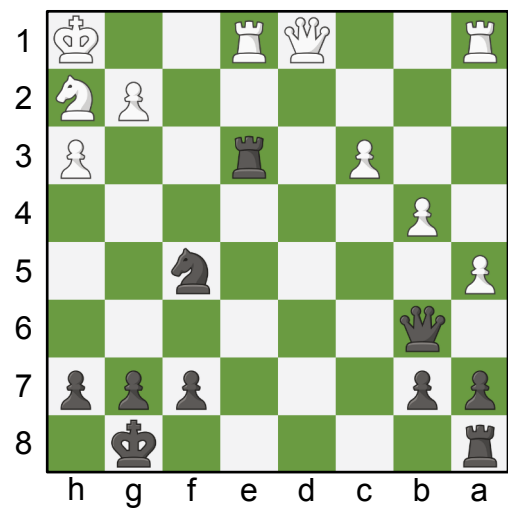
- A bishop pinning a knight to the king means the knight can't move without putting the king in check.
- Pins can be absolute or relative: an absolute pin involves the king and is binding, while a relative pin involves less valuable pieces.
- Pins are strategic tools that can restrict an opponent's mobility and create tactical opportunities.

Challenge Puzzles

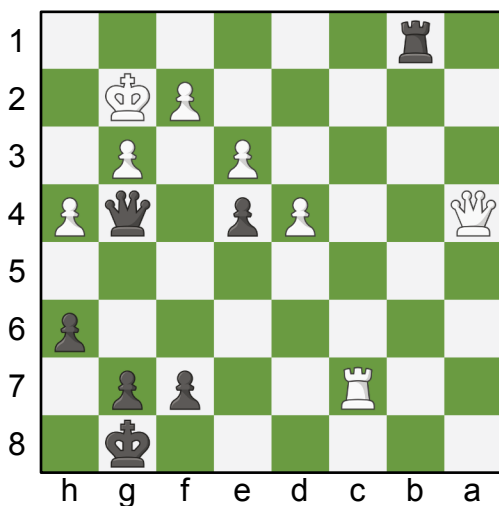
① White to play - mate in 1.



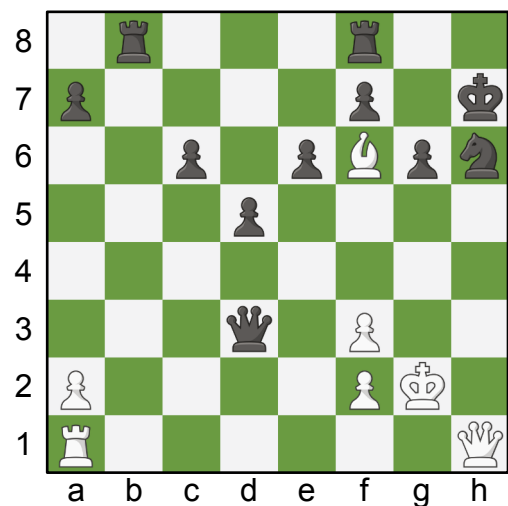
② Black to play - mate in 2.



③ Black to play - mate in 2.



④ White to play - mate in 2.



Hints.

- ① Use the queen.
- ② Start with the knight.
- ③ Start with the queen.
- ④ Start with the queen.

Answers.

- ① 1. ♔xd5#
- ② 1... ♞g3+ 2. ♔g1 ♜xe1#
- ③ 1... ♚f3+ 2. ♔h2 ♜h1#
- ④ 1. ♚xh6+ ♔xh6 2. ♜h1#

