

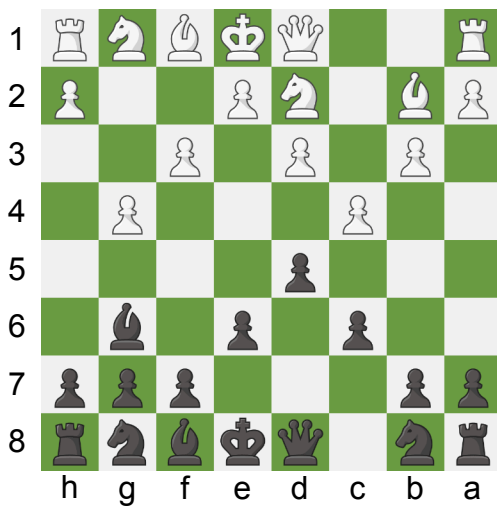
3. Stalemate

Stalemate occurs when there are no legal moves to make but neither side is in check. Stalemate means there is no winner. The game is a tie.

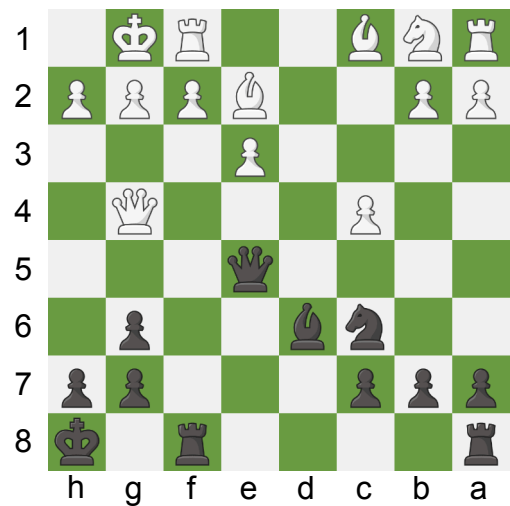
- If you're winning the game, be careful to avoid stalemating your opponent. Make sure your opponent always has a legal move to make. Either put the king in check each move or consider keeping attacking pieces away.
- If you're losing the game, a stalemate can rescue you from defeat. Push pawns forward until only the king can move. Then lure your opponent into bringing their attacking pieces close while avoiding checks.

Challenge Puzzles

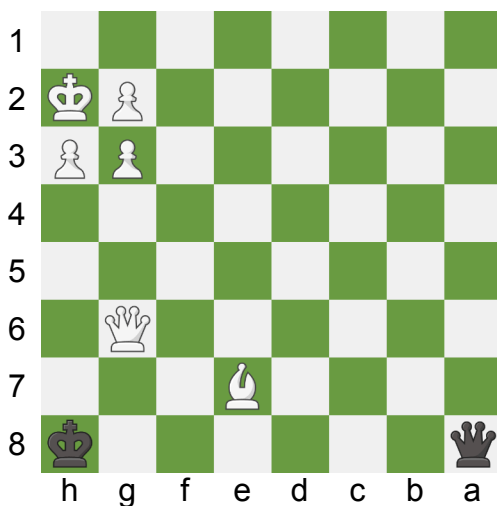
① Black to play - mate in 1.



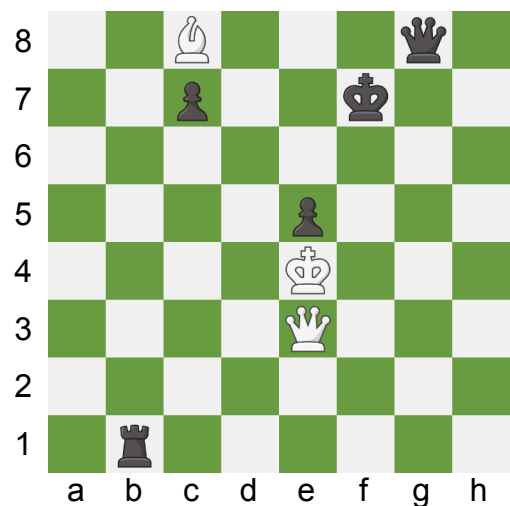
② Black to play - mate in 1.



③ Black to play and not lose.



④ White to play and not lose.



Hints.

- ① Move the queen.
- ② Move the queen
- ③ Stalemate is black's only hope.
- ④ Find a way to give away your pieces leaving no moves for the king.

Answers.

- ① 1. ♔xg5# 1-0 (King takes on g5.)
- ② 1. ... ♚h2# 1-0
- ③ 1. ... ♚xg2+ 2. ♔xg2 Stalemate 1/2-1/2
- ④ 1. ♙e6+ ♔xe6 2. ♚b3+ ♖xb3 Stalemate 1/2-1/2

