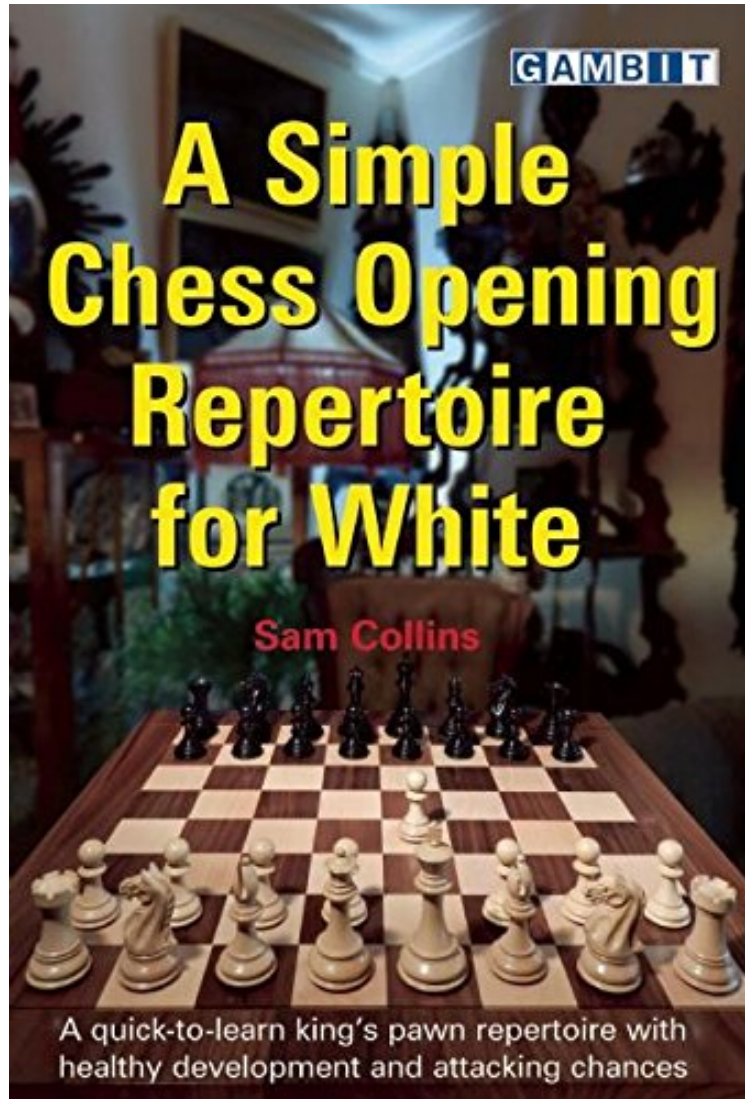


A Simple Chess Opening Repertoire for White

Sam Collins

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#377908 in Books Collins Sam 2016-07-12Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.10 x .50 x 5.70l, .0 #File Name: 1910093823160 pagesA Simple Chess Opening Repertoire for White | File size: 39.Mb

Sam Collins : A Simple Chess Opening Repertoire for White before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Simple Chess Opening Repertoire for White:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CHEN LAI KEATA useful chess book for beginners12 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Great selection with a common themeBy Ranx0r0xThis is the kind of book I think any repertoire book should be. It selects a single strategic and set of tactical ideas that work in the same fashion across the different openings. In this case it is choosing openings in which black is pretty much forced to give white an IQP. While the IQP can be good or bad depending on the situation, in the opening and middle game it tends

to give its owner more space in the center. Additionally piece placement and development are much easier. Putting pieces on their "natural" squares is usually the best move and even if there might be something better it isn't a show stopper. One gets castled early, development flows naturally, rooks go to the c1, d1 or e1 in most cases and one gets one's pieces out of the box. It also bears mentioning that Collins is very honest about the openings. He might end a main line with "the position is roughly equal but I'd prefer playing white's position" or "with comfortable play for white". Everything doesn't end with an exclamation mark and a +/- or +/- like so many repertoire books do. In most if not all of the positions it is black who has to tread carefully and make the right moves or suffer the consequence. Many times black must make small concessions like giving white the advantage of the two bishops in an open or semi-open position. And many of the openings can result in whirlwind king side attacks by white if black missteps. That's part of the advantage of having a space advantage in the center. Just as an example, I find when playing these openings against the computer I don't find myself trussed up in 10 moves unable to find good moves or unable to develop my pieces or watching as the computer finds some dramatic tactical shot that leaves me down material. Not that I beat the computer but I find the positions comfortable to play as Collins would put. It's easy to dismiss some of these openings as "sidelines" but he gives a number of examples of super-GMs playing the positions including modern world champions. This also means that you aren't stepping into someone's deep understanding of French, Caro-Kann or Sicilian defense where often the opponent is going to have a much deeper understanding of the structures and themes than you do. You get to the IQP positions that you understand and where the Caro or French or Sicilian player are not going to feel at home. Positions that are uncomfortable for them to play and comfortable for you. And when it comes down to it, isn't having a comfortable and playable position what we'd all like to have? 4 of 10 people found the following review helpful. *New Weapons for White* By Danny Woodall Sam Collins gives a good solid repertoire to play with White. The explanation at the beginning of the book goes in detail how to play the IQP position which will arise out of many of the lines chosen for this book. Definitely worth the price.

By carefully choosing variations that lead to similar structures, IM Sam Collins has put together a powerful repertoire book ideal for players with limited study time. White opens with 1 e4 and develops his pieces to natural squares, seeking open lines and the initiative. The dominant theme of this sound and active repertoire is that where reasonable White seeks out Isolated Queen Pawn (IQP) positions: i.e. with the c3 Sicilian, Panov Caro-Kann, Tarrasch French, and the Italian Game with early c3 and d4. There are no speculative gambits here, just plenty of healthy aggression and new ideas. Because so many of Collins's recommendations lead to familiar structures, ideas can easily be transplanted from one opening to another. He gives illustrative games that emphasize the key themes, including Whites many opportunities to forcibly weaken and attack the black king. The specific analysis is up-to-the-minute and features ideas that have proven their worth in grandmaster practice. Throughout there is attention to move-order subtleties, with clever nuances in sidelines that your opponents are unlikely to have examined in detail. Irish international master Sam Collins won the championship of his home country in 2002 and 2014. He has represented Ireland in numerous Olympiads, winning an individual gold medal at Bled in 2002. He is also an experienced chess teacher who has lectured at the Berkeley Chess School in California. His previous books for Gambit were *Chess Explained: The c3 Sicilian* and the highly successful general opening work *Understanding the Chess Openings*.