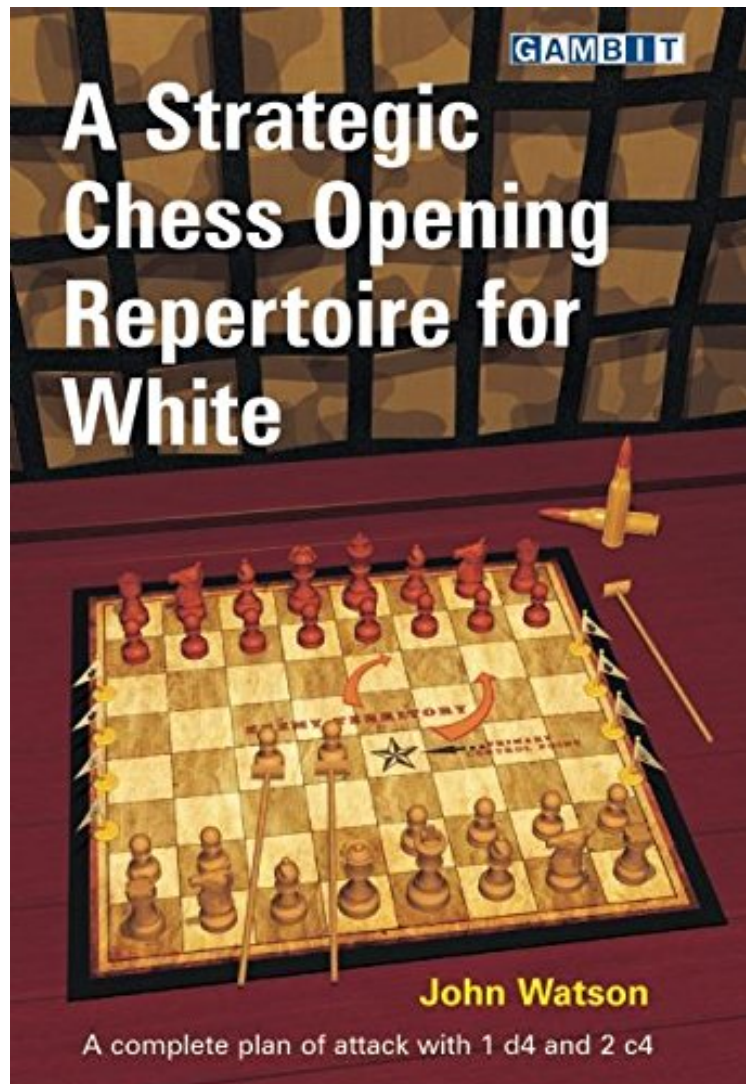


[Free and download] A Strategic Chess Opening Repertoire for White

A Strategic Chess Opening Repertoire for White

John Watson

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#1124574 in Books The House of Staunton, Inc. 2012-07-24 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.00 x 6.75 x 1.00l, 1.15 #File Name: 1906454302272 pages Author: John Watson Pages: 272 Pages Publication Years: 2012 | File size: 61.Mb

John Watson : A Strategic 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 Strategic Chess Opening Repertoire for White:

45 of 46 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding, and written for the non-GM! By John Hartmann Here's the thing about opening books: most of them are completely unrealistic for non-GMs. The majority of chess players can't devote hundreds of hours to memorizing the nuances of the new hot opening system. We can't keep up with the latest novelties from obscure Russian tournaments. If we can get a solid but rich position, we've done

well. This philosophy is where Watson's book begins. He promotes tactically sound and strategically rich openings for White, with 1.d4 / 2.c4 systems forming the basis of his repertoire. Included are a mix of mainline variations (Rubinstein Nimzo, Exchange QGD) as well as lesser-known paths. His analysis is thorough without being overwhelming, and it anticipates just about every logical response from Black. To give you an example, I spent quite a bit of time going through the proposed lines (7.Qa4 / 7.Bg5) against the Grunfeld Defense. These are sub-lines in the massive Exchange Variation, but both moves - and 7.Bg5 in particular - lead to interesting positions where White has every chance to gain an advantage while also forcing Black to play on White's terms. I was really impressed with the depth and breadth of the analysis, and it was entirely comprehensible for a 1750 player like me. You might not like every line that Watson offers in his repertoire, but you'll find that all the proposed choices are sound, logical, and well explained. All in all, this book is well worth your money. 17 of 17 people found the following review helpful. I Really like the Repertoire Watson Provides for White By Randy I've always had an interest in playing the QGD exchange variation, because it seemed like a fairly difficult opening to handle as black when I played 1...d5. Although this is only one chapter of the book, he seems fairly thorough in his analysis throughout, both in giving the more strategic moves he chooses for a line and some sidelines that can lead to more complicated play. He tends to stray away from more tactical lines that are unclear for white, since the book is strategic in nature, but he doesn't ignore some interesting choices for white if the reader wishes to investigate on their own. It doesn't lack for prose but its not overflowing with it either, so its kind of intimidating as you first pick and glance through the pages, but once you start it flows together nicely (Of course, there are more prose and advice for the main lines he suggests than the sidelines where he will more or less simply relay the moves). I've made it though about four chapters, sometimes skipping around as some openings bother me more than others, but look forward to explore the rest. As some readers have noted, this isn't exactly the best book for beginners (I feel fairly comfortable with this book and I'm about 1900 USCF, but I feel any 1.d4 player a class below or above can also gain a great deal of understanding by going through this book). As the title suggests this is more of a strategic repertoire, so if you like fireworks and tactics it may not be an ideal match. Its more about exploiting imbalances in the position (ala minority attack with the QGD Exchange Var) and building small advantages. That isn't to say the lines are boring or drawish, they leave a great deal of fighting chess to be played and provides guidance on ways to minimize blacks chances of reaching equality in a given position. The only real criticism is that it is rather dry. It doesn't cover actual games, usually just the lines and variants and subvariants that might be encountered and then leaves off at a certain point in the middlegame. This is all useful and keeping with the purpose and intent of the book, but it can get rather tedious trying to read it as a whole and I find myself using it more and more as a reference like one would with MCO. I previously rated this book five stars, but after just reading the Move by Move Nimzo-Indian book by John Emms, I have to scale it back to four stars since Emms demonstrated in his fine work how to provide not only great instruction but also enjoyment in an opening book. Watson's book does have a very useful instructive repertoire inside, I just can't say you will find great enjoyment reading it. All said though, I think most 1. d4 players would be happy with his selection. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I like this book a lot By carlos I like this book a lot, especially the fact that all of the openings that are offer to the non initiated share ideas with one another. I mean, the author tries to maintain the reader away from highly complicated and theoretical openings so as to start the middle game with good chances. Hope this makes some sense. Great book!

Such has been the acclaim for John Watson's ground-breaking works on modern chess strategy and his insightful opening books, that it is only natural that he now presents a strategic opening repertoire. It is the chess-player's holy grail: a flexible repertoire that gives opponents real problems but doesn't require masses of memorization or continual study of ever-changing grandmaster theory. While this book can't quite promise all of that, Watson offers an intriguing selection of lines that give vast scope for over-the-board creativity and should never lead to a dull draw. The repertoire is based on 1 d4 and 2 c4, following up with methodical play in the centre. Watson uses his vast opening knowledge to pick cunning move-orders and poisonous sequences that will force opponents to think for themselves, providing a true test of chess understanding. Throughout, he discusses strategies for both sides, so readers will be fully ready to pounce on any inaccuracies, and have all the tools to decide on the most appropriate plans for White.

About the Author International Master John Watson is one of the worlds most respected chess authors. In 1999, his Secrets of Modern Chess Strategy won Chess Book of the Year awards in the USA and the UK. He reviews chess books for The Week in Chess and hosts a weekly radio show on the Internet Chess Club. His bestselling four-volume work Mastering the Chess Openings has reaffirmed his reputation as a perceptive and authoritative chess opening writer.