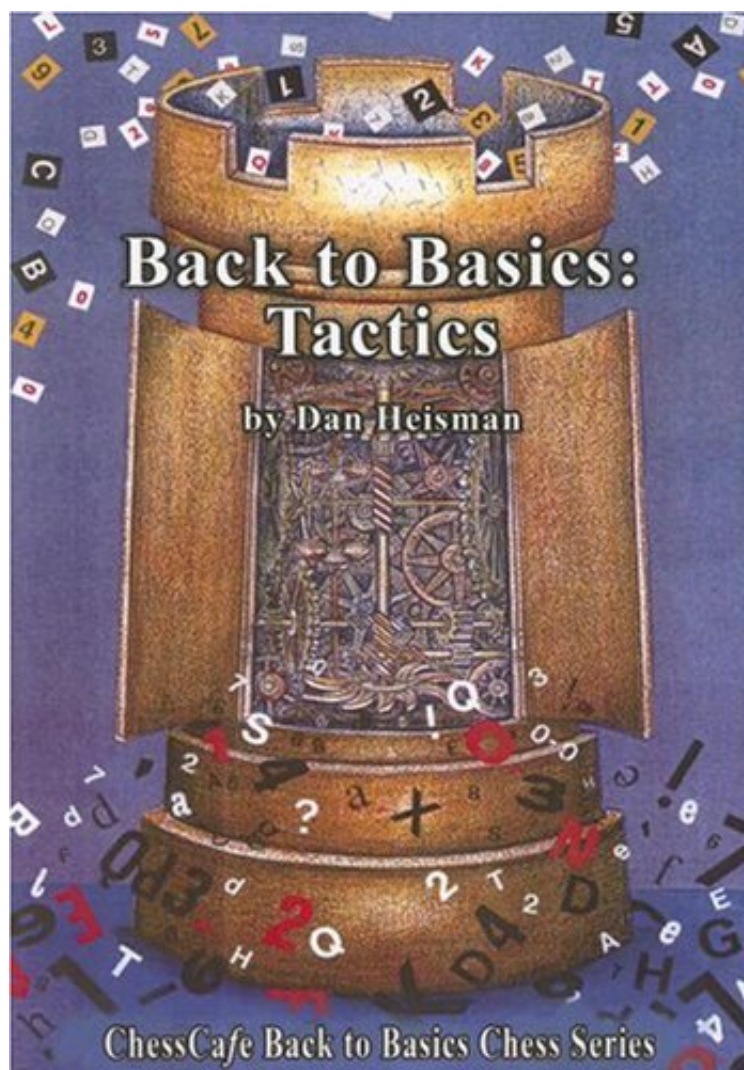


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Dan Heisman

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Dan Heisman : Back to Basics: Tactics (ChessCafe Back to Basics Chess) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Back to Basics: Tactics (ChessCafe Back to Basics Chess):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Getting the 2nd Printing is ImportantBy Michael J. CashenI bought this book in paperback on 1/26/17 and got -as hoped- the 2nd printing, meaning the 20+ instances of errata in the 1st printing are corrected (the author points that out on his web page).The "look inside" feature here shows the 1st printing (the page before the Table of Contents includes the words "2nd printing" in the 2nd printing) but the 2nd printing is what I got. I ordered from instead of optional new and used sources listed under the Paperback listing because I suspect the cheaper priced other sources are often the 1st printing.Many of the "errata" are actually "enhancements" -

where there wasn't really an error, but additional notes were helpful. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. This book improved my Chess. By Matt B. Heisman's book is an excellent guide to the various tactics you're likely to encounter in games of chess. Each section of the book briefly introduces a tactic, walks through a few examples then has a quiz section comprised of puzzle diagrams. The prose sections of the book are easy to read and to the point. The book also contains several boxes floating in the text that outline the main concepts for that section; I find this aids my recollection. The puzzles vary in difficulty and number. Some chapters have only a few puzzles others have thirty or more. I especially like this book because I can pick it up and put it down as needed. As an adult with limited time to devote to chess, this book is great since I can squeeze in some learning in brief intervals of time. On the downside, the printing quality is not the highest and the font is rather small. And the text is laid out in two columns per page, which may or may not bother you. But you won't be doing much reading anyway - most of this book is puzzles for you to solve. Overall, the content of this book is outstanding. After reading this book I immediately saw more tactics in my games that I might have otherwise overlooked. I would choose Heisman's tactics book over Seirawan's "Winning Chess Tactics". I found Heisman's book to be more to the point than Seirawan's and for some reason Heisman's just cemented in my brain more permanently. I would say this book looks pretty similar to Susan Polgar's "Chess Tactics for Champions", which I've thumbed through but have not read cover to cover. I've heard her book is also quite good. I am an adult novice chess player rated around 1300. I think this book is appropriate for that level or anyone who has read a chess primer and played several games. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. this book has some challenging puzzles to solve and I like how they are organized by theme so you get ... By ZAs a beginning player (1000), this book has some challenging puzzles to solve and I like how they are organized by theme so you get good repetition. I'm not giving it a full 5 stars because for someone at my level these puzzles are a bit beyond my skill level; I have found Chess Tactics for Students by John Bain to have easier problems to just get the hang of the tactics whereas this book really stretches your analytic abilities as a beginner.

Tactics are usually why most people find chess fun! This book will greatly enhance your enjoyment learning about and benefiting from the recurring patterns of tactics. In chess, if you lose all your pieces you can't win! And if you capture each of your opponent's pieces, winning should be easy. Even if you just get ahead by a small amount of material, your chances of winning soar. The way to win your opponent's pieces is through the use of tactics. This book is about all types of beginning tactics. The author covers comprehensively the subject with basic instructional material, examples, and problems of all types about 500 examples and problems ranging from too easy to very difficult! Back to Basics: Tactics the first in the ChessCafe Back to Basics Chess Series should enhance your enjoyment in learning about and benefiting from the recurring patterns of tactics. It does not matter who gets the advantage out of the opening if one of the players is likely to lose a piece to a simple tactic in the middlegame. Losing a piece from an advantageous position will almost always result in a lost position. So study tactics, not openings, until you almost never lose pieces to simple tactical motifs. This book is an introduction to the various kinds of basic chess tactics. With instructional material, examples, and problems of all types, the subject of chess tactics is covered comprehensively. There are approximately 500 examples ranging from easy to challenging!

About the Author Dan Heisman (born 1950) is a United States Chess Federation National Master and author. He is the two-time Open chess champion of Philadelphia (1973 and 1976), and the Philadelphia Invitational Chess Champion (1973). His Penn State team won the U.S. Amateur Team Championship in 1972. Although rated over 2200 by both the United States Chess Federation and FIDE, he is currently inactive as a tournament player. Heisman is a member of the International Computer Games Association and worked at both Deep Blue versus Garry Kasparov matches (1996 and 1997).