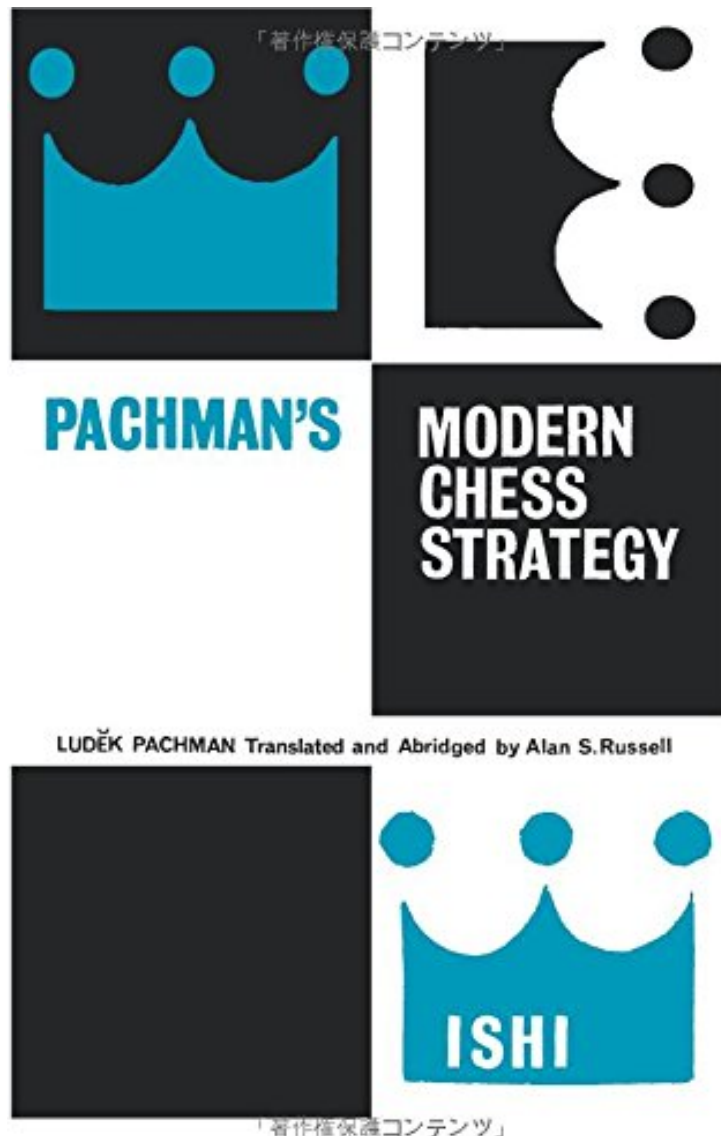


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Pachman's Modern Chess Strategy

Ludek Pachman

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Ludek Pachman : Pachman's Modern Chess Strategy before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pachman's Modern Chess Strategy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. great book! Gave me a lot of insight about ...By Customergreat book! Gave me a lot of insight about how to maximize the utility of each piece throughout the game.4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Clear, Concise Strategic InstructionBy R. TobiasThis is one of the classics of chess middlegame instruction. Covering more or less the same ground as Nimzovich's more famous 'My System', it is

a condensation of the original three volume work. The most important principles are all here, however. Pachman was a very strong GM in his heyday, and he covers many vital topics with authority. Concise and clearly written essays are followed by superbly annotated games from many of the greats of the early and mid-twentieth century like Nimzovich, Alekhine, Smyslov and Botvinnik. Concepts like play in the center and on the wings, pawn structures, and how to play with the various pieces are covered. The chapter on how to use your rooks is considered by some strong players to be so good that it alone is worth the price of the book. He briefly discusses the vital topic of exchanging pieces, and also dynamics (lead in development, coordination of the pieces, etc.). And though this book may not be as highly regarded as some as 'My System', I will say that it in some ways excels over that work by being more even handed (no self-congratulatory prose, eg) and more reliable (no overemphasis on 'overprotection', eg.). This work is fairly advanced, so I would definitely read a primer or two, some tactics books, and some basic games collections before taking it on. This book is in the older descriptive notation, but DON'T let that stop you! Descriptive notation is not hard to get used to, and getting fluent with it opens up a world of chess classics that you will sadly miss if you insist on only the newer algebraic notation. Once you have grasped the material in this book, you will be well positioned to go on to more specialized works like Kmoch's 'Pawn Power In Chess' or Soltis' 'The Art of Defense In Chess'. Good hunting!

10 of 1 people found the following review helpful. as advertised
By Charles S. Ferguson as advertised

Modern Chess Strategy by the well-known Czech Grandmaster and theorist Ludek Pachman, is widely recognized on the continent of Europe as the standard work on the middle-game. English-speaking enthusiasts now have the opportunity to study this chess classic, ably translated by the Irish International player Alan S. Russell. The aim of the book is to help the player to recognize the characteristic features of a position and to plan his campaign accordingly. The author begins with an examination of the individual pieces and then discusses the problem of the center, material and space advantage on a particular section of the board, pawn formations, and some general problems the chess struggle. Illustrations are drawn from games spanning many periods of chess, with a predominance of examples from recent tournaments, many of them the author's own games. Good books on the indeterminate stage of chess between openings and endings are rare. Ambitious players wanting a practical guide to the middle game will find that Ludek Pachman's great trilogy, which is completed with this volume, stands in a class of its own. A careful study of this well translated book can hardly fail to improve the readers standard of play." Scottish Chess Association. " . . . it has come to be rated as a standard work, and the English edition should be all the more welcome and useful. New Statesman.

About the Author Ludek Pachman was born in Bela pod Bezdezem, Czechoslovakia on May 11, 1924. Pachman's first big break came at an international tournament in Prague in 1943 with Alekhine and Keres. Pachman came to watch and to play in a subsidiary tournament. When the subsidiary tournament was canceled, Pachman was given a spot in the main event, taking the place of a player who could not make it. Pachman finished in the top half and created a sensation. Ludek Pachman became one of the world's strongest chess grandmasters and one of the world's greatest writers and teachers of the game. He won four zonal tournaments and played in six Interzonal tournaments, possibly a record, but he missed qualifying to the World Champion Candidates Tournament by a half-point twice. Pachman played eight tournament games against Bobby Fischer. Pachman made an even lifetime score against Fischer, +2 -2 =4. His most famous game is his win over Bobby Fischer in Chile in 1959. Ludek Pachman died on March 6, 2003 in Passau, Germany.