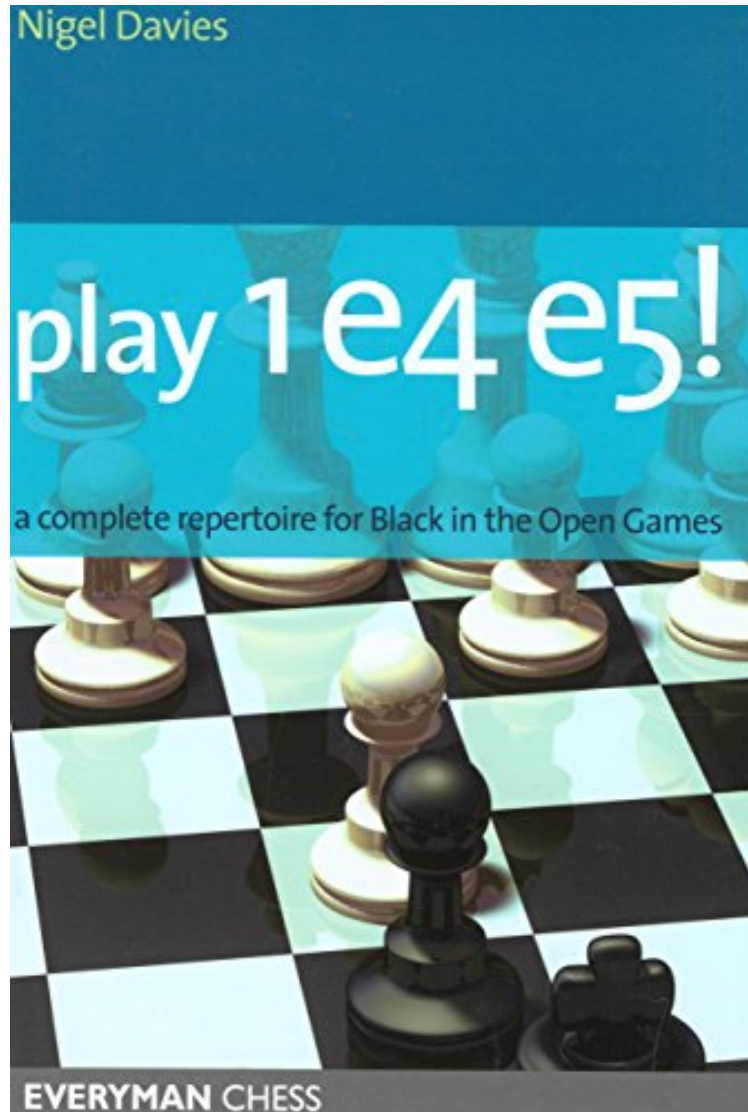


[PDF] Play 1e4 e5: A Complete Repertoire for Black in the Open Games (Everyman Chess)

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Nigel Davies

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Nigel Davies : Play 1e4 e5: A Complete Repertoire for Black in the Open Games (Everyman Chess) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Play 1e4 e5: A Complete Repertoire for Black in the Open Games (Everyman Chess):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not Just a Good Opening Book, A Fine CHESS Book By Robert Pearson I have had Play e4 e5! in hand for about three months and it has become one of my favorite chess books. I

have periodically replied to 1. e4 with e5 in my 30 years of serious chess, but the vast majority of my games as black against 1. e4 have been Center-Counter (aka Scandinavian) (1. e4 d5), Sicilian (1. e4 c5) or Pirc/Modern (1. e4 d6). My reasoning has always been that 1. e4 e5 is "giving White what he wants," that is at my below-Master level a chance to play a sharp gambit. I just never felt comfortable playing against the celebrated King's Gambit, and it seemed that other gambits also required a lot more study time than I wanted to use to meet them. Of course, the Ruy Lopez is an enormous complex unto itself. Since I like and respect Grandmaster Nigel Davies for his "Power Chess" books and his fine Chess Improver blog [...] I thought I would give this book a go, partly based on the other, positive reviews. I am very glad I did. Play 1. e4 e5! is a complete repertoire against 1. e4, with the exception (as others have noted) of Alapin's Opening (1. e4 e5 2. Ne2). I don't consider this much of an omission, since it probably gets played in about .1% of e4 e5 games. To be completely thorough, also not covered here are unusual second moves for white like 2. a3, g3 and c4. These do get trotted out occasionally, mostly at below-master level, and it's not a bad idea to have replies prepared for these rare moves. Some coverage can be found at the beginning of John Emms' Play The Open Games As Black which I think is a good book, but not as directly useful for me as the Davies. Emms' book, published in 2000, is in the bibliography of Play 1. e4 e5! and is cited in the text as well, but the repertoire there is more complicated (e.g. King's Gambit Accepted) and it doesn't touch on the Ruy. You have to get a whole different book for that. The final difference is one referenced in my title for this review. A great strength of Davies' book is that it has 65 main, annotated COMPLETE games (plus more in the notes), and the annotations don't end after the opening. The author comments on various turning points throughout the games (in 14 of which he was the player of the black pieces) and close study of these games can improve your play in all phases. This is what puts Play 1. e4 e5! a cut above many other good opening books. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. OK, not brilliantly organized. By Skippy 01 I've had this for a few months, using it to improve my skill in open games and as a reference. I've given it a lot of use. Objectively it's a good book, but it's not getting the job done, which is a pity because there's no alternative on Kindle. It's not particularly well-organized. There's no over-all variation tree. There's no option to click to Table of Contents (which is just chapter headings anyway, in a book where "second move alternatives to Nf3" are all one chapter), and "go to Cover" and "go to Beginning" are the same link (to the cover). You can do a lot of jumping around in trying to find your way in openings like the Bishop's Opening, the King's Gambit Declined (Davies' choice) and the Vienna, and the extra effort to deal with half-baked organization gets to be a drag. Since it doesn't teach play in the open games, the book stands or falls by its variations (even though it's organized by example games). Whether you like Davies' choice of variations is a matter of taste. Over time, I found myself not liking them. In an important line the defense to the main line Ruy Lopez points to a draw unless White deviates. (Of course this is not a problem if you are a grandmaster playing other grandmasters.) The defense to the Exchange Variation seems like something that generates "equals" rather than "slight edge to White" post-opening evaluations but has no coherence, or at least I couldn't see in what way Black was aiming at something other than "=". And so on. It felt like going through ECO picking lines that end in good symbols. Except that somebody else made the choices. And I don't like his choices. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. It's a complete guide that I rely upon. Great value. By Chess expert It's not easy covering the entire 1e4 e5 opening for black, but the author succeeds. The book is both complete and succinct. Nigel Davies has great insight as he selects variations for black. Some lines are tried and true. They are the lines that you expect Davies to recommend. But some lines are rare and surprising. Either way, the reader can learn these lines with confidence that he is going down the right track. I have recently looked at all answers to the exchange variation of the Ruy Lopez and have found none better than the uncommon line advanced in this book. The same applies for playing the black pieces against the King's gambit. 1e4 e5 is not simple for black, but it may be the most satisfying reply in the end. Black can get his fair share of chances in a game that is logical and understandable. With this book, you have an excellent chance of facing your opponent, having a real game, and even winning the full point. Though the book is written from the black side, any white player who varies, or who might vary, his play in the double king pawn opening should enjoy this book. There is more to 1e4 e5 than the Ruy Lopez. If you enjoy chess, you will surely enjoy looking at some of the alternatives covered in this book.

There is no doubt that playing the Open Games is one of Black's most reliable and aggressive ways of meeting White's favorite opening move, 1 e4. Experts also agree that playing these fundamental openings is a crucial step in the development of a chess player, while moving up to the highest level it provides the battleground for countless duals between the likes of World number one Garry Kasparov, Vishy Anand and Vladimir Kramnik. It's true that some Black players are put off by the seemingly endless number of variations they can be faced with, as White can choose a between the King's Gambit, Vienna Game, Scotch Opening, Bishop's Opening and a number of wild and offbeat gambits. However, in Play 1 e4 e5! Nigel Davies provides a complete answer to this perennial problem by offering a concise and practical repertoire for the Black player, whilst crucially including a dependable defence to the Ruy Lopez--White's most popular attacking try in the Open Games. Davies is the perfect choice for this subject, having been battle-hardened by years of international competition in these openings. A complete defence to 1 e4 Written by a 1 e4 e5 expert All of White's tries are covered Includes White's main weapon, the Ruy Lopez

From the Back Cover There is no doubt that playing the Open Games is one of Black's most reliable and yet aggressive ways of meeting White's favourite opening move, 1 e4. Experts also agree that playing these fundamental openings is a crucial step in the development of a chess player, while moving up to the highest level it provides the battleground for countless duels between the likes of World number one Garry Kasparov, Vishy Anand and Vladimir Kramnik. It's true that some Black players are put off by the seemingly endless number of variations they can be faced with, as White can choose a between the King's Gambit, Vienna Game, Scotch Opening, Bishop's Opening and a number of wild and offbeat gambits. However, in Play 1 e4 e5! Nigel Davies provides a complete answer to this perennial problem by offering a concise and practical repertoire for the Black player, whilst crucially including a dependable defence to the Ruy Lopez - White's most popular attacking try in the Open Games. Davies is the perfect choice for this subject, having been battle-hardened by years of international competition in these openings. *A complete defence to 1 e4* Written by a 1 e4 e5 expert *All of White's tries are covered* Includes White's main weapon, the Ruy Lopez Nigel Davies is both an experienced Grandmaster and chess trainer. A former British Open Quickplay Champion, Davies is the author of several successful chess books and is highly experienced in chess publishing. Previous works for Everyman Chess include Alekhine's Defence and The Trompowsky.