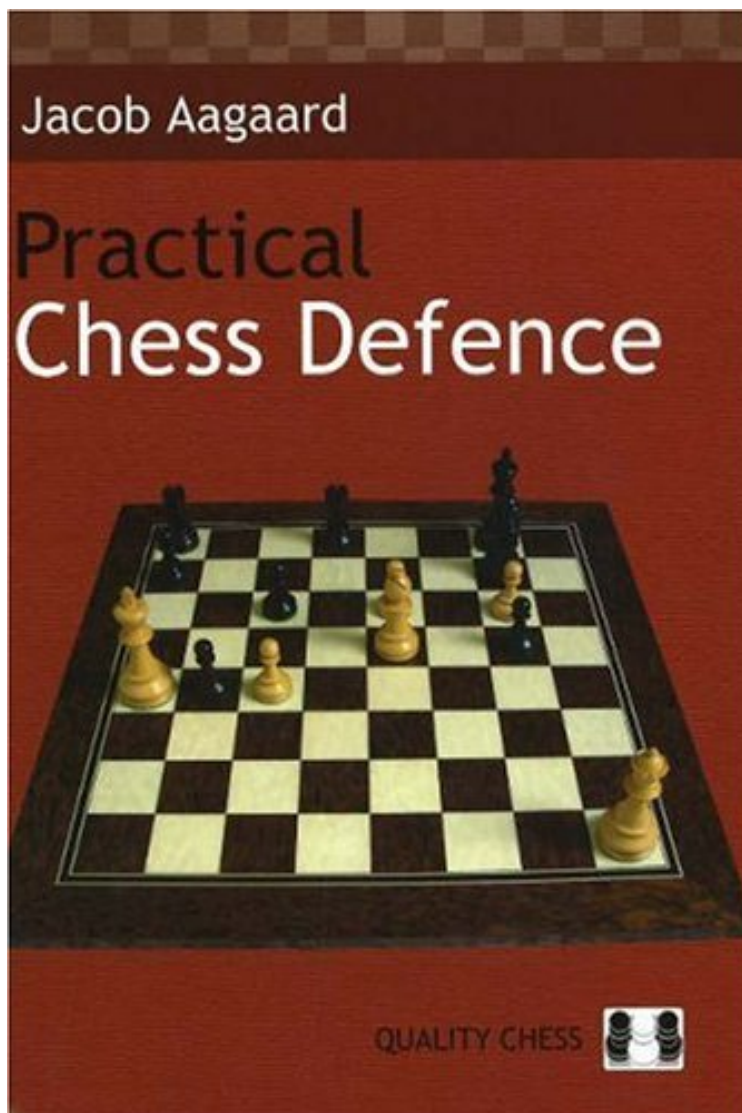


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Practical Chess Defence

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Jacob Aagaard : Practical Chess Defence before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Practical Chess Defence:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I DID NOT LIKE THIS BOOK VERY MUCH By Frank Tirado I do not know why some chess players are giving this book 4-5 starts ? I found it very frustrating for the first 67 pages because, there are several mistakes on the written moves that cannot be executed by the pieces, Very annoying to pick or figure out the sequence of another new defense move by going back an forth on the pages because of the saving in space writing approach. I am not going to get into more details because you will have to experienced yourself.

However, the author is a good player with many games played. But, I do not like his book specially the first two chapters that are suppose to provide the understanding and principles of chess defense. The author in his noble effort to provide different possible moves of defenses is given moves that not real players or computers engines will perform and that is not acceptable for my way of thinking. I really did not like the first 67 pages of this book or first two chapters as I mentioned before. I hope that the problem sections will be better and without mistakes. I will recommend to look into other books on defense (There are not many). Specially select books where you have to pick the best move or get a Chess Database where you can find probably all the games on this books and more and go over, analyzed them by yourself and take the suggestions by the computer chess program and waste no time ... Chessbase 14 Is the best in my opinion. I am just a player, my ELO is above 1900 according to a very active GM of 2600 ELO I been told, even if I do not think so.... Sorry, but this was my experience and very honest impression with this book, may be somebody else will see it in a different way.37 of 40 people found the following review helpful. Good, but not quite what I expectedBy Joshua GutmanMy background in chess:2107 FIDE, been playing a little over 4 yearsI'm not sure what I expected from this from this book, it sounded like an interesting work and Aagaard hasn't disappointed me with his other titles so I figured I'd give this book a read. There is a relatively short section (less than 50 pages I believe) at the beginning of this book with a section of "defensive techniques" which covers a decent amount of ground. I thought a possible improvement upon this might be taking a few more examples from his own games where he was defending for a long time and explain his thoughts during a few of the critical moments (where he either defended successfully or failed to defend) and how he came to his choices. It seems very often when I'm defending I have to make choices where I believe one is better than the other for various reasons although I'm not quite sure that either is completely satisfactory. Also it seems strange that he doesn't cover stirring up complications directly. Sometimes you might make your position objectively worse, but increase your chances of defending in practice this way.The bulk of the book is a series of defensive puzzles. These are mostly examples from real games where strong players either found nice defenses or failed to defend (sometimes the examples are from side-variations that were either rejected by the attacker due to a stunning defense or rejected by the defender due to missing a stunning defense). These do compromise a somewhat unique class of chess puzzle that aren't so much "black to play and draw" but more like "black to play and equalize" or "black to play and reach a defensible position", sometimes they're even "black to play and win" in the sense that one side is materially up and needs to stave off mate and sometimes manages to hold onto his material to achieve a winning position. My one criticism to the solutions section which almost seems unfair is that his "How you should have solved it" section with each solution could be expanded upon a little bit in some cases, especially fleshing out the thought process a little more.7 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book with great exercisesBy S. GowerI have other books on defense, but this one is in a class of its own. Why? The teaching sections are very good. The author writes simply, directly and with candor. And always he emphasizes both the practical aspects of defence, while fostering a fighting spirit in difficult situations. But the book's exercises set the book apart from others. While quite quite challenging, these exercises compel the student to really analyze a position, trying to find the defence that is certainly there. In short, I am very glad I purchased this book. Study of it will reward a player.I do suggest that the book should have hint section, so that a reader could, where needed, obtain a hint.I recommend this book strongly.

Chess is developing faster now than ever before in history, and the appearance of strong chess computers has changed the way players think. In the past many positions would have been rejected on principle as impossible to defend, and even the best players would shy away from capturing material if it meant that they would have to face a difficult defense. This attitude has changed, and todays top players are not afraid of walking a very fine line in defense.This book gives practical advice on various methods of defense, offering readers the chance to test and train with 200 challenging examples. While not for the faint-hearted, this book will help the reader greatly improve in this vital part of the game.

An excellent collection of exercises. Useful for everybody, even the absolute best.GM Peter Heine NielsenBy solving the 200 carefully selected exercises the reader will be helped to increase his calculating powers. The short introductory comments (sometimes amusing, sometimes instructive) placed below each diagram add color to this excellent book.GM Mihail Marin