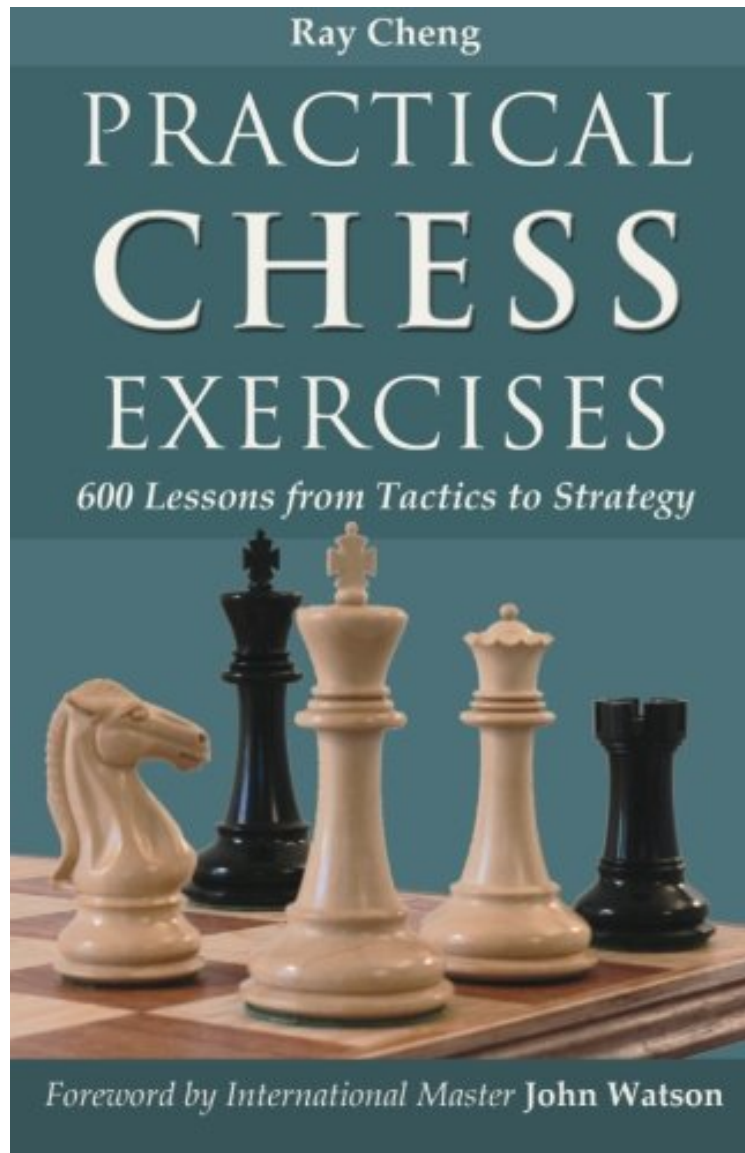


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Practical Chess Exercises: 600 Lessons from Tactics to Strategy

Ray Cheng

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Ray Cheng : Practical Chess Exercises: 600 Lessons from Tactics to Strategy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Practical Chess Exercises: 600 Lessons from Tactics to Strategy:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Five Star SurpriseBy New England ReviewerSince I am an adult

player of whom the late Ken Smith would say, "Tactics, tactics and more tactics. Tactics is your first name; tactics is your middle name, and tactics is your last name", I am tackling a myriad of tactical books and websites and am finding that my "tactical vision" is, in deed, coming. There are many fine tactical books to help the brain recognize the patterns of tactics, first offensively, and then in a manner from which I can recognize when I am setting the stage for my opponent to make a tactical strike against me. Yet it is this book that stands apart, and although it should not replace the many tactic books (and web sites), it is essential for someone like me, who has been studying tactics and getting the "mate in 3" or "win a piece in 4", and so on because this book uses real settings but does not alert as to whether or not a tactic is present. If present, I must find it. If it is not present, I must find the best move. This is fascinating and is a wonderful supplement to my tactical training. As I can now "see" certain tactical patterns almost immediately, when doing tactic after tactic after tactic, I am now faced with situations where I do not know if a tactic exists, therefore, the more advanced form of positional play is introduced. Well written, with a user friendly page set up, it is a terrific book for Intermediate players. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Your task to is find the best move much like you have to do over the ... By Charles A. Wittnam Solving a classical chess problem usually involved being told part of the answer at the outset. (e.g. Mate in three) This collection of chess "exercises" is appropriately named. You are given a position and a color and nothing more. Your task to is find the best move much like you have to do over the board. The solutions are varied: tactical moves that result in mate or winning material, positional moves that result in a superior position, and defensive moves that hold the position together. They vary from the fairly obvious to the very difficult. All the tactical motifs are touched on from pins to pieces sacrifices. Once you do the work positional analysis becomes somewhat easier, and tactical themes become more apparent in tournament play. I would highly recommend this book especially for intermediate tournament players. I prefer the Kindle version on an iPad because you can hide the answer more effectively by having it on the next page. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Helps you learn to think for yourself By Thomas M. Brooks This isn't a book for the beginner, but for the casual player, it may be the best possible book you can buy. Instead of memorizing openings, this book teaches you to see opportunities for yourself using actual games. Each of the 600 positions is a problem to be evaluated and solved. This book won't help you look 20 moves ahead like Capablanca, or play the Poisoned Pawn Variation of the Najdorf Sicilian like Bobby Fisher, but it will help you recognize a tactical advantage on the chess board. As said, it's not a book for the beginner. You do need to be familiar with chess rules and with algebraic notation. Now if there was just a book to teach me how to maneuver my opponent into one of the 600 example above ...

Raise your chess to the next level with this program of 600 instructive and challenging exercises covering all aspects of the game. This book will sharpen your tactical vision, deepen your positional understanding, and enrich your knowledge of theoretical positions. It will also strengthen your analytical skills, and instill a sound move selection process. Win more games and increase your enjoyment of chess!

"If you study this book, you will acquire the most important chess skill of all: the ability to think for yourself."-- John Watson, International Master, Author of the award-winning *Secrets of Modern Chess Strategy*, *Chess Strategy in Action*, and *Mastering the Chess Openings* "In creating *Practical Chess Exercises*, Ray Cheng has turned a labor of love into a treasury of instructive problems to help non-beginners improve their chess. The problems are of all types -- tactical and positional -- and all levels. Best of all, they are not labeled in any way other than who is to move, so for each position you have to find the relevant concerns and properly address them. The answers are not just a list of moves, but they also include instructive prose. This book answers the prayers of chess enthusiasts looking for 'unmarked' problems to test their skills."-- Dan Heisman, U.S. National Master, Author of the award-winning *Novice Nook* column at *Chess Caf* and books such as *A Parent's Guide to Chess*, *Looking for Trouble*, and *Everyone's 2nd Chess Book*