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## The Soviet Chess Primer (Chess Classics)

*Ilya Maizelis*

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# The Soviet Chess Primer

Ilya Maizelis

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**Ilya Maizelis : The Soviet Chess Primer (Chess Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Soviet Chess Primer (Chess Classics):

16 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Destined to become a classic in The WestBy RLBellThis was a classic chess training manual in the Soviet Union, and is now destined to become a classic in The West. The book is endorsed by three former World Chess Champions - Lasker, Karpov and Kasparov, as well as the eminent Russian chess trainer Mark Dvoretsky. While the book starts off treating elementary chess basics, it quickly becomes very challenging and advanced for the beginner-novice. In this respect it is really more suitable for the experienced player, intermediate level and above. It is designed to take one, with diligent (!) study, to at least Expert level, and perhaps beyond. If you don't yet have "Master" in your chess title, but have aspirations (or fantasies) in that direction, and are

looking for a chess course to help you along the way, this would be a great one to consider. Kudos to Quality Chess for publishing this exceptional work. For the beginner-novice player, two good choices for a first chess course would be "Pandolfini's Ultimate Guide to Chess" by Bruce Pandolfini, and "Winning Chess Strategy for Kids" by Jeff Coakley. (Regardless of the title, the latter is not just for kids!) 17 of 19 people found the following review helpful.

Incredible book  
By Jon  
This is a fantastically written book that is much more interesting to read than other chess books. The first few chapters are for beginners, but quickly goes into advanced tactics. Every chapter has entertainment pages and puzzles at the end that are challenging, thought provoking, and fun. This chess book is delicious. Read it with a chess set and your game is bound to improve. 45 of 47 people found the following review helpful. In a class of its own ...  
By a novice  
This is the first review I write on a chess book. The reason I write this review is that this book is, in my humble opinion, in a class of its own. The writer writes in a way that reminds me of writers like Chernev and Purdy; writers with a love for the game that shines through on every page of the books they have written. And the physical quality of the book is, like that of all the books from Quality Chess, outstanding. Like other primers on chess it teaches you the basics of the game, but after the first two chapters it gets really serious. From there it teaches you about subjects like tactics, strategy, techniques of calculation, combinations, and positional chess. When that was all that there was in this book it would already have been the best chess book that I have ever read, but besides all these topics it also contains three great chapters about the three stages of the game - the opening, middlegame, and endgame. Thanks to this book I look at the chessboard in a totally different way. I have read it once but to really let all the information sink in I have to read it at least two times more I think. I have read books from Seirawan, Silman, Lasker, and Capablanca. All good books, but this one is much better. Trust me on this one; if you are looking for one book that gives you a solid foundation in the game of chess, go for this one.

Ilya Maizel's masterpiece is the definitive introduction to the game of chess. It has inspired generations of Russians to take up the game, including arguably the two greatest players of all time, the 12th and 13th World Champions. In the original Russian, this landmark work is simply called "Chess" no other explanation was considered necessary. The Soviet Chess Primer is a modern English translation of Maizel's witty introduction to the royal game. This new edition of a timeless classic includes an original foreword from the 2nd World Champion, Emanuel Lasker, as well as an introduction from the most celebrated chess trainer of modern times, Mark Dvoretsky.

About the Author  
Ilya Maizelis was a respected Soviet chess trainer, renowned for his endgame analysis.