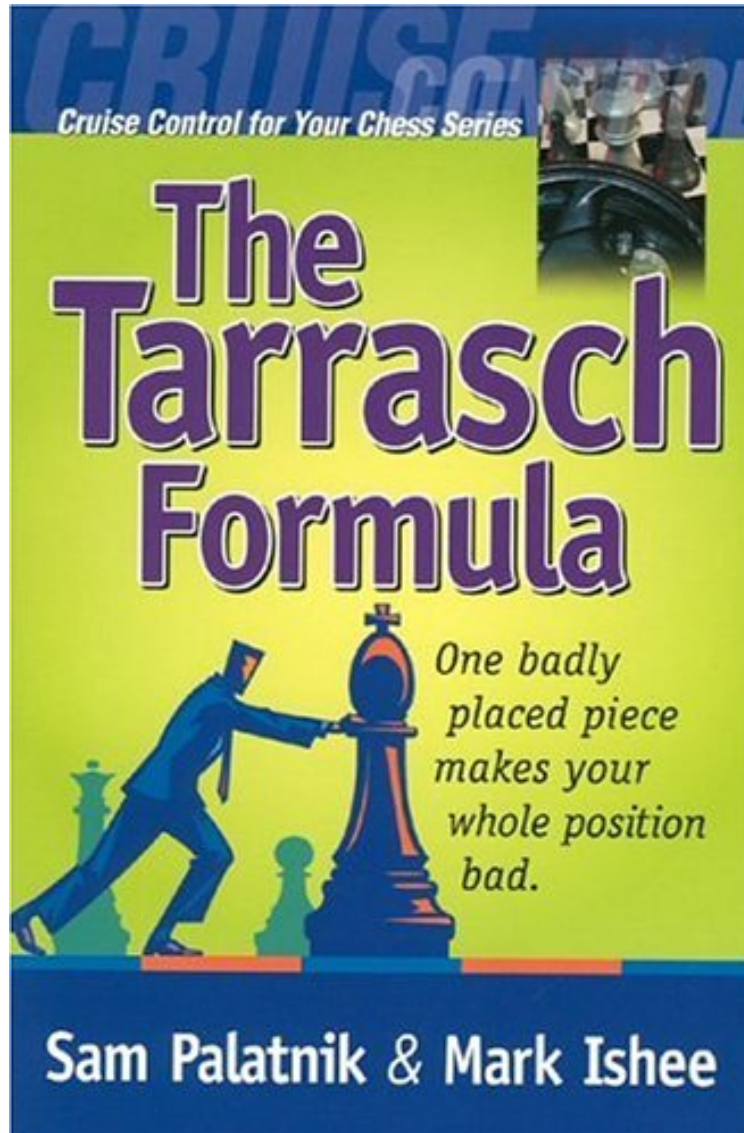


## The Tarrasch Formula

Sam Palatnik, Mark Ishee

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**Sam Palatnik, Mark Ishee : The Tarrasch Formula** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Tarrasch Formula:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. One of a KindBy Nimzo-KarpovMany chess pundents refer to the problem of "misplaced or underutilized pieces". Aagaard, for example, devotes a chapter in his Positional Play book to this error. Various other middle game book authors refer to this frequent deficiency-"Get all of your forces working" is the mantra. Palatnik's book, however, stands alone in devoting an entire book to this problem. He systematically

considers the inactivity of the various pieces and illustrates the effects of the misplaced pieces by reviewing entire, well selected (and occasionally his own) games. His annotations are informative and his writing style and pithy comments are also notable. This is an exceptional and unfortunately, overlooked, book. If you have a problem developing all your pieces, this is the book should be very helpful in remedying the problem. 13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. A Difficult but Valuable Book By Robert J. Newell There is no doubt that this book demands much from the reader, and it may in fact be more suitable for a higher class of player than I am (which is fairly low). Let's be clear: there is no "magic formula" in this book, or in any chess book. The Tarrasch Formula is, in the end, a common-sense principle; a misplaced or out-of-play piece is a liability. I knew that. You know that. Nearly everyone knows that. But the real value lies in the application of the principle, and that is what this book is all about. The book leads us on a tour of the chess pieces, showing concrete and detailed examples of how the Tarrasch Formula would apply. We see hemmed-in bishops, sidelined knights, useless rooks, and much more. The examples are very clear. That is not to say that they are simplistic or even easy to follow. You will have to apply another universal formula, namely "hard work + dedication = success." You will get out of this book what you put into it; but that is more than you can say about most chess books. If you are at a level where you can grasp positional concepts, this book will definitely increase your skill level and your tournament results, if you work at it. The book has marvelous focus and is a real tour-de-force. I definitely recommend it. Find a copy and pay the price; it won't be cheap but it will return real value. 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. 4 STARS By thecityofjoy This is a good book on chess . It shows a number of games played by GM Sam Palatnik and illustrates concepts of chess strategies through the games . I think one will learn more by reading this book than spending time on opening volumes . This is a very practical hands-on approach to learning chess . The book has plenty of diagrams . I was able to follow the games without a chess book and increase my rating within minutes of finishing this book . I would say it is a must for anyone aspiring to improve in chess . I give this book 4 stars which speaks volumes . My rating jumped from 1700 to around 1800 after reading this book -- so I would say a rating increase of about 50 points to the average player who reads this. Easy to understand and very nice illustrations .

Dr. Siegbert Tarrasch was the first to formulate and express the rule that If one piece is badly placed, your whole game is bad. The genius of this phrase lies in its simplicity as well as its correctness. Properly applied, it is a significant addition to Stenitz's theory. On the basis of this single axiom, various types of positions can be studied where the difference in force between the two sides is defined only by the difference in location between corresponding pieces. Applying the Tarrasch Formula in this way develops and builds chess theory by emphasizing the interrelationship between the location of a piece and its real power. Examine any modern text book of chess strategy and you will see its lasting value. The Tarrasch Formula is a fundamental and unifying principle that embraces familiar core concepts such as good/bad bishop, advantage of opposite color bishops in the attack (and vice versa), and so forth. Playing steadily to reduce the power of a single enemy piece, to turn down volume until its normal voice become only a whisper, can provide enough advantage to win the game. Why? Because it is functionally the same as winning a piece. Every chess player loves to have an extra piece. Thinking of strategy in this way is a very useful part of your chess planning. It offers a straightforward and effective method for improving your chess decision-making and move selection, as demonstrated in the games collected for this book. International Grandmaster Sam Palatnik is co-author (with GM Lev Alburt) of three volumes in the best selling Comprehensive Chess Course series. Chess Tactics for the Tournament Player, and The King in Jeopardy. National Master Mark Ishee is the author of Evans Gambit Games, and has written articles for numerous chess publications including Chess Life, School Mates and Inside Chess

From the Back Cover Dr. Siegbert Tarrasch was the first to formulate and express the rule that "If one piece is badly placed, your whole game is bad." The genius of this phrase lies in its simplicity as well as its correctness. Properly applied, it is a significant addition to Stenitz's theory. On the basis of this single axiom, various types of positions can be studied where the difference in force between the two sides is defined only by the difference in location between corresponding pieces. Applying the Tarrasch Formula in this way develops and builds chess theory by emphasizing the interrelationship between the location of a piece and its real power. Examine any modern text book of chess strategy and you will see its lasting value. The Tarrasch Formula is a fundamental and unifying principle that embraces familiar core concepts such as "good/bad bishop," "advantage of opposite color bishops in the attack" (and vice versa), and so forth. Playing steadily to reduce the power of a single enemy piece, to "turn down volume" until its normal voice become only a whisper, can provide enough advantage to win the game. Why? Because it is functionally the same as winning a piece. Every chess player loves to have an extra piece. Thinking of strategy in this way is a very useful part of your chess planning. It offers a straightforward and effective method for improving your chess decision-making and move selection, as demonstrated in the games collected for this book. International Grandmaster Sam Palatnik is co-author (with GM Lev Alburt) of three volumes in the best -selling "Comprehensive Chess Course" series. Chess Tactics for the Tournament Player, and The King in Jeopardy. National Master Mark Ishee is the author of Evans Gambit Games, and has written articles for numerous chess publications including Chess Life, School Mates

and Inside Chess. About the Author I was born in Odessa, Ukraine, home to a fair share of chess grandmasters. There, I started attending chess classes at the age of 9, and I was hooked. Chess opened a whole new world for me. My favourite metaphor, which I believe to be true, is that chess is a model of life. At the board, you can be creative, daring, and even whimsical. Off the board, chess was a vehicle for me to escape the Soviet reality. While international travel was restricted to most people, chess allowed me to see the world, meet many interesting people and overcome obstacles. My chess career was on the rise, and in 1978 I became an International Chess Grandmaster (back when there were only a bit over 100 of us). From that point on, I have won over a dozen class A tournaments, traveled all over the world, until I finally decided to become a coach. Back in Ukraine, I have earned the title of Emeritus coach of Ukraine, trained numerous famous grandmasters and coached both world and Olympic teams. In 1994, my family and I moved to the United States. Ever since, I have been training players of all levels (from grandmasters to scholastic players). I have also written several best selling chess books. Now, I am also one of the official USCF coaches for the US Youth players at the Scholastic World Championships, and have also been a coach to the US Olympic Chess Team. Currently, I reside in Bethesda, MD, very close to Washington, DC and Baltimore areas. Here, I work as an associate director for University of Maryland's at Baltimore County (UMBC) chess team, the strongest collegiate team in the United States, comprised of 4 grandmasters per academic year. I also represent Kasparov Chess Foundation (KCF) as the Greater Mid Atlantic region coordinator. In this capacity, we organize the Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Championships, and hope to conduct more events in the future. In my spare time, I give private lessons at my residence, conduct chess camps for scholastic players, and continue to write books.