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## Playing the French (hardcover) by Jacob Aagaard & Nikolaos Ntirlis

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### Product description

The French Defence is one of the most solid and strategically rich responses to 1.e4. Many opening lines have been analysed to death by computer, but the French is relatively resistant to this growing trend, as the characteristic blocked pawn centre leads to situations where a player with superior understanding can overcome an opponent whose expertise lies in computer-assisted preparation.

Acclaimed authors Ntirlis and Aagaard present a complete repertoire for Black based on 3.Nc3 Nf6 and 3.Nd2 c5. With many new discoveries and detailed explanations of positional and strategic motifs, this book is essential reading for those playing this complex opening with either colour.

**Nikolaos Ntirlis** is a computer specialist and supplier of opening ideas for many grandmasters.

**GM Jacob Aagaard** is the only chess author to have won all the major Book of the Year awards.

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### Reviews

"I gave up the French long time ago but now, after having worked with the books by Aagaard, Ntirlis and Berg, I am seriously considering visiting my old-forgotten friend..."

[A book] of high quality by the very publisher who sets the standard nowadays regarding chess literature."

**Lukas Wedrychowski** ([full review](#))

"This complete monograph by Aagaard & Ntirlis recommends the Classical variation with 3...Nf6 in response to 3.Nc3... An advantage is that the structures are not as crazy as in the Winawer Variation and are somewhat easier to play. Players whose French repertoire includes this are well-served by this book."

**André Schulz**, ChessBase ([full review](#) in German)