



The Power of Pawns: Chess Structures Fundamentals for Post-Beginners

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Product description

If you want to improve at chess, you must know the characteristics of typical pawn formations.

Understanding the pawn structure is a key tool when you are evaluating a position on the board.

One simple pawn move can ruin your position or win the game.

Post-beginners should know the basic essentials of chess structures and that is what this modern training manual focuses on.

Experienced chess teacher Jörg Hickl helps you to:

- Assess the strengths and weaknesses of pawn structures
- Recognize strategic patterns
- Identify how you can improve your position
- Develop a plan of action.

The Power of Pawns provides common sense guidance and Jörg Hickl uses practical examples to explain typical structures, strategies and plans.

His tips and exercises are both highly enjoyable and to the point.

Grandmaster Jörg Hickl (1965) is a former German Champion and a highly experienced chess trainer. He published this book originally in German, titled: 'Die Macht der Bauern'.

Harry Schaack, KARL magazine:

"The didactic concept of the book is admirable. Each chapter defines the structures, explains the typical characteristics and shows the plans for both White and Black. The reader participates by assessing positions and invariably receives useful tips for practical play."

IM Dirk Schuh, Rochade Europa Magazine:

"Jörg Hickl's explanations are always very to the point and written in an entertaining way, which keeps the reader motivated to continue."

Harald Fietz, SchachMagazin 64:

"The main focus is on showing the dangers and opportunities in seemingly dull positions. There are lots of valuable training lessons, in particular in areas where chess engines offer no help."

GM Matthew Sadler, former British Champion:

"The author is setting out what you need in order to have a balanced, basic understanding (..) A good way of bringing [club players'] understanding of all pawn structures up to a consistent level."

Florian Jacobs, Max Euwe Centre Amsterdam:

"Indispensable for your chess development up to an ELO rating of about 2200."

John Hartmann, Chess Life Magazine (US):

"A compact eminently useful guide to key positional themes and structures."

Gary Lane, ECF Newsletter:

"A keen player will learn a lot."

Elburg Chess Reviews:

"A masterpiece of explanation."

Klaus Kögler, Kaissiber Chess Magazine:

"Hickl's prose is entertaining and amusing, and the instructions are always helpful and practical. This is a first-class manual that teaches much more than just pawn structures and their immediate consequences."

Uw Bekemann, German Correspondence Chess Federation:

"A manual that explains and clarifies very well."

IM Gary Lane, English Chess Federation Newsletter:

"A keen player will learn a lot because basically it is a middlegame title that has a lot to offer, especially when considering how to think up a decent plan in a blocked position (..) A middlegame book that will make you think and play better."

CHESS Magazine (UK):

"It's great to see the German Grandmaster tackling what has often been a rather neglected subject."

B.H. Wilders, Nederlands Dagblad:

"Hickl's book is of great importance for chess players who are past the beginners' stage."