



Back to Basics: Openings (ChessCafe Back to Basics Chess Series)

By Carsten Hansen

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Chess Openings Can Be Simple! Because of the sheer volume of variations, possible transpositions and ever-changing theory, chess openings can be overwhelming – even intimidating. This book is an introduction to understanding and playing chess openings. The author, Danish Master Carsten Hansen, stresses opening play based on comprehending opening principles as well as useful, fundamental knowledge. With an overview of all the most important opening variations, examples of good and bad opening play, opening traps and problems to solve, chess openings and its major principles are covered thoroughly. Many games are lost as a result of a player's poor grasp of even the most basic principles of opening play. This book will help you enhance your understanding and give you guidelines on how to best study and play chess openings, reaching good, playable middlegame positions.

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Back to Basics: Openings (ChessCafe Back to Basics Chess Series) By Carsten Hansen Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

From an **Amazon.com** review:

"Carsten Hansen's book on the opening demonstrates why he writes the review on opening books for Chess Cafe. Basic opening principles, the center openings for e4 and d4 are covered. Examples of the basic openings, the first few moves and the basic plans and strategies are given. Good information for selecting an opening for further study. Next the flank openings are described. Carsten does a bang-up job here. As a life long English player he is at home in sharing the plans and strategies with us. Additional guidelines for selecting books on our chosen opening are a great finishing touch. Strongly recommended."

From **Sean Marsh, Marsh Towers**:

"This is a good, solid guide to the basics of all chess openings. It would suit adult club players who are making their first explorations into the scary world of chess theory."

From **Dennis Monokroussos, The Chess Mind**:

"It's not perfect, but what chess book is? There are a number of slightly surprising omissions and places where I'd disagree with Hansen's evaluations, but generally speaking that's just shop talk among FMs. For the intended audience, these details aren't of much (any?) significance. I think the book is a little too sophisticated for someone who really is a near-beginner, but for players rated around 1100-1400 (give or take a bit) it could be very useful, and I can recommend it to players in that range."

From the Author

When I started playing chess I was relying on an opening book by the late Danish Grandmaster and World Championship candidate, Bent Larsen. In that book, he discussed basic chess opening principles, how to play the opening, development of the pieces. The last part of the book he devoted to a very brief overview of all openings. Not an in-depth, detailed description of all lines, but just enough to get you an idea what the openings are about.

That book was the model I used when writing this book. The opening overview can possibly seem overwhelming to some and too little for others. If you as reader feel it is overwhelming, then remember this: you do not need to know all of this, not even close. I have provided the overview for you to figure out which positions you like and which you don't like as much. When you have determined which openings you like, build your chess opening repertoire around these and study those openings more carefully.

If you on the other hand, feel that it is not detailed enough, you need to jump forward to building your opening repertoire and work with books that are more advanced than this one.

I hope you will enjoy this book and let it help you in your first steps into the exciting world of chess openings.

About the Author

Carsten Hansen is an experienced coach as well as both a FIDE Master and a certified FIDE Trainer. He has authored 15 books all phases of the game, but is particularly recognized as an expert on the opening phase of the game.

Users Review

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Douglas Barlow:

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Roger Lindsey:

This Back to Basics: Openings (ChessCafe Back to Basics Chess Series) is great guide for you because the content which is full of information for you who have always deal with world and still have to make decision every minute. This particular book reveal it data accurately using great manage word or we can declare no rambling sentences within it. So if you are read the idea hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only provides straight forward sentences but tough core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having Back to Basics: Openings (ChessCafe Back to Basics Chess Series) in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, data in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no guide that offer you world within ten or fifteen second right but this reserve already do that. So, this is good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt this?

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