



WINNING MOVE WITH
MANTHAN CHOKSHI



Manthan Chokshi, International Rated Chess player and Chess coach is former U-13 British Chess Champion , Gujarat State Chess Champion and International Master Norm holder. He is among the leading players of Gujarat and runs a Chess school in Ahmedabad.

The lessons on our Website is for beginners and intermediate chess players who want to take their playing skills to the next level. Many chess players find it difficult to improve their game. Why? Most of them do not have access to good **chess guidance** for the needed improvement. Every Lesson will give you a complete guide for your study in all aspects of the game, so that you can improve for sure and with greater speed.

The relative values of the chess pieces

The following table provides the approximate value of the chess pieces. The king is not included in the table because it has infinite value. Use the this table as a rough guide. In most situations, there are many other factors to consider.



**9
points**



**5
points**



**3+
points**



**3
points**



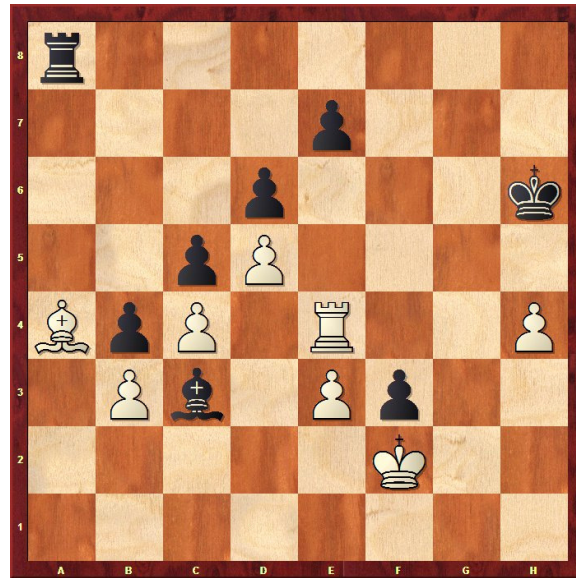
**1
point**

Today's Concept : Pawn Promotion

- The Pawn is the least valuable of all the pieces, but it has one feature which enhances its value immensely. Pawns have a special ability called pawn promotion. If a pawn reaches the other side (last rank) of the board it can become any other chess piece (called promotion).
- A pawn may be promoted to Queen, Rook, Bishop, Knight.
- NOTE: A common misconception is that pawns may only be promoted for a piece that has been captured. That is NOT true. Even if you have a queen you can make a second queen.
- A pawn is usually promoted to a queen since the queen is the strongest piece. Only pawns can be promoted. All other pieces remain the same on reaching last rank.
- Pawn promotion generally happens in the Endgame and rarely in the opening and middle game.
- Mastering pawn promotion in the endgame requires practice. There are many nuances and tricks. This lesson will teach you the basics.
- PASSED PAWN: A passed pawn is one which has no opposing pawns in front of it, either on the same file or any adjacent file. A passed pawn can be promoted easily unless stopped by pieces.
- Passed pawns must be pushed. Passed pawns get stronger as they approach the queening square.
- UNDERPROMOTION : Underpromotion is when a pawn does not promote to a queen, but promotes to a rook, bishop or knight, for tactical reasons. Underpromotion to a knight might create an immediate knight fork.
- Pawns are precious in endgame , so don't give up free pawns to your opponent unless you are getting some big advantage.

How to win using pawn promotion concept

Pawn Promotion is one of the most important rules of chess. You can often win a game by getting a Pawn to the end of the board and turning it into a Queen

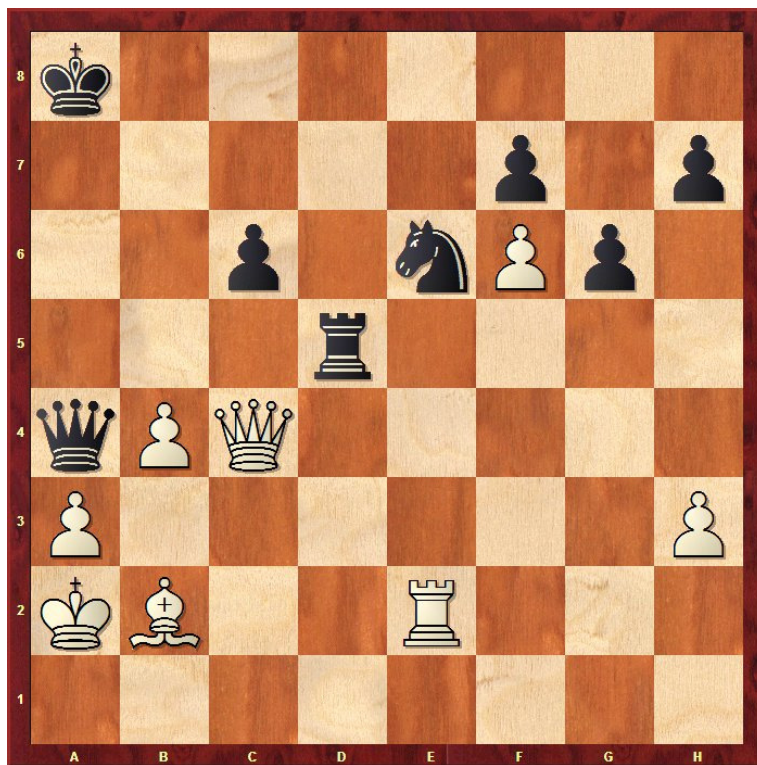


BLACK TO PLAY AND WIN

SOLUTION - The position is equal, however black has a nice way to create a passed pawn and promote it to Queen. Black sacrifices his Rook to clear the path of the b pawn. Black plays :
1.....Rxa4! 2. bxa4 b3 3. Rg4 Be1+! 4. Kxe1 b2 and the pawn is unstoppable. If 3. Rxe7 b2 4. Rb7 Bb4! blocks the Rook from stopping the pawn.

Puzzle of the Week!

WHITE TO PLAY AND WIN (Hint : Pawn Promotion!)



Solution in Next Lesson!

Readers are invited to send their solutions to me by e-mail : manthan_2001@yahoo.com. At the end of each month we will announce monthly winners who send in the most correct answers.

