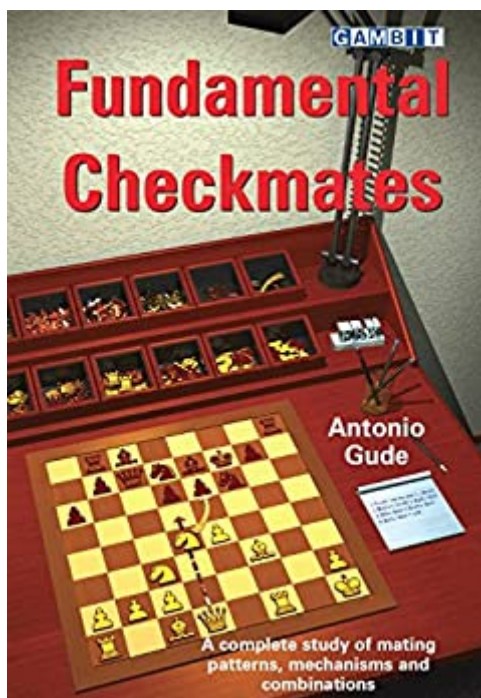


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# Fundamental Checkmates



## Synopsis

Shortlisted for the English Chess Federation Book of the Year Award: "Once picked up, the book is most difficult to put down" - ECF Press Release

Chess might seem a complex and mysterious game, but the ultimate goal is simple: checkmate. Checkmate can occur in all stages of the game, from snap mates in the opening, through middlegame attacks to simplified endgames. Learning how to use our pieces together to corner the enemy king is a fundamental skill that all chess-players must constantly practise, sharpen and develop. This book lays out, in systematic and thorough fashion, a wide range of mating patterns and techniques, in particular showing how each piece-pair can combine to deliver mate. A working knowledge of these ideas enables players to move on to mating combinations, where pieces lay down their lives so that the remaining forces can deliver mate. Gude explains an amazing variety of tactical devices, and illustrates them in unforgettable style with some of the most brilliant mating attacks from practice, new and old. There are chapters on how to attack kings in the centre, as well as standard (and other!) attacks against the castled position. This is a true textbook of checkmate; readers will never be short of mating ideas, and will instinctively know when there is a possibility to launch an attack, or when they must parry the opponent's threats. Fundamental Checkmates also features more than 300 exercises with full solutions.

Antonio Gude is an extremely experienced chess writer and teacher from Spain. Several of his books on tactics and for beginners are long-standing best-sellers in Spanish language. Gude has also translated a great many books, including some of the classics of chess literature. He is the author of "A Complete Chess Course", also published by Gambit.

Mating patterns and combinations are well covered in Antonio Gude's new book. The Spanish writer admires beauty in chess and explains how attacks and combinations work together with mating patterns. He is well-read, knows important games from the past and present, and uses famous endgame compositions to create a useful mating manual for wide readership.

"Lubosh Kavalek, Huffington Post

"Checkmate diamonds shimmer on every page" - Sean Marsh, Chess Magazine

"The number of great examples is overwhelming. On the one part there are classic game fragments you may already know, but also a lot is new, giving something for everyone. I myself am currently using this book as study material for my constant training | the book is actually suitable for any chess player. Highly recommended" - IM Dirk Schuh, Rochade Europa

## Book Information

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Board Games > Chess

## Customer Reviews

This is a must-have for every aspiring player rated 1400 and above -- even masters will also benefit from it. It ranks with all-time classics like Renaud and Kahn's "The Art of the Checkmate," du Mont's "The Basis of Combination in Chess," Herstan's "Forcing Chess Moves," and Henkin's "1000 Checkmate Combinations." About 140 pages are devoted to two-piece mating combinations (R+B, Q+N, Q+R, B+B, etc.). About 45 pages to the king in the centre. And about 100 pages to sacs against the castled king. And the taxonomy is detailed -- e.g., in rook sacs, he look at sacs against h7, then g7, then f7, with copious examples for each. One thing I notice is that none of the game examples go further than around 1999. My conjecture is that the book came out in Spanish around 2000 or 2001 but has only just now been translated into English. The book is a delight to read -- one can open the book at random and start looking at the examples there.

"This is a very well-known problem, which we have probably all been shown by some grizzled veteran when we began to visit a chess club." Mr Gude typed this in regards to an endgame study composed by Paul Morphy. How did he know? This is an incredible book which outlines many checkmating patterns with all piece configurations. Mr Gude's extensive research has paid off in producing the definitive/authoritative volume in this chess sub-  
topic. I am particularly

enamored by the examples chosen; across the spectrum from extremely well-known to game endings of amateurs, from Australia to Iceland (in both directions). The book is structured logically in four themed parts. Part two is the meat of the book, demonstrating checkmating patterns in all the different piece configurations. Part one is an introduction whilst part three & four are checkmating the king in the centre of the board & from a castled position, respectively. I cannot praise this book enough. If this is a sub-Å“Å“Å“topic lacking in your arsenal of knowledge as a serious chess player, then do yourself a favour & grab a copy. A true chess lover will find their time absorbed by soaking up the information in this book. It is written in a manner that is engaging with anecdotes about lesser known players & histories. Thank you Mr Antonio Gude for your special contribution to chess literature. I'm sure GM Yasser Seirawan is kicking himself for not having written this book himself.

My boyfriend loved this gift so much

A must have book for the aspiring player - an excellent book for those who teach chess

Excellent

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