

The

Fork



King Chess Club

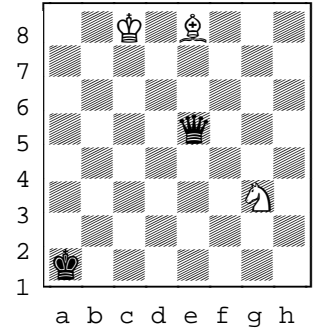
A PieceTakers Mini-lesson Level: Novice

Attacking two (or more) opponent pieces with one piece.

1) A fork is a chess term used to describe attacking two or more opponent pieces with only one piece.

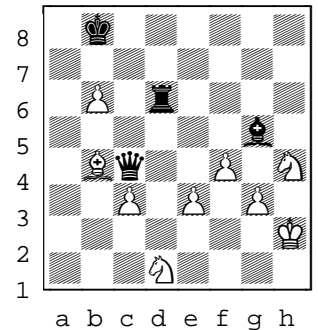
In the example, note how the black queen is attacking both the white bishop and the white knight. Only one white piece can escape the wrath of the queen. The other must perish.

You can see how devastating a good fork can be.



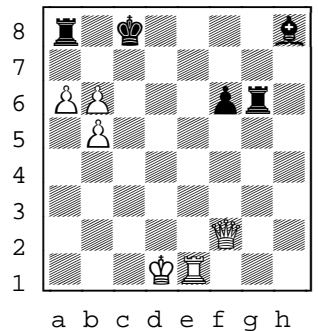
2) A good fork will result in an advantage in pieces or position. A bad fork will result in losing the attacking piece or other disadvantage.

In this example, it is white's move who will try to defend against various forks. The black rook has a good fork and will capture either a white pawn or white knight. The black bishop has a bad fork because it will lose the bishop. The black queen has a neutral fork because both forked pieces are defended and the queen is unlikely to attempt capture of either piece.



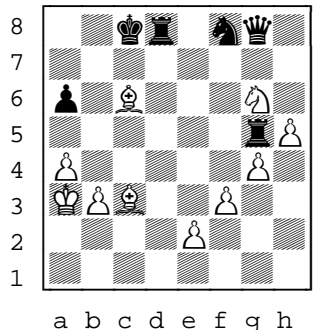
3) A fork where one of the attacked pieces is the king can also be called a "forcing move". This is because the opponent must get out of check often allowing easy capture of the other forked piece.

Solve the puzzle: Find 4 moves for white which will result in forks that are also forcing moves.



4) **Solve the puzzle:**

In this example, we have a number of possible moves for both sides that will create forks. Some are good, most are very bad. Find the good forks that will result in an immediate material advantage.



Answers:



4) Black: Rg5-c5, Qg8-e6 White: Bc3-f6, Ng6-e7+!!
3) b6-b7+, Re1-e8+, Qf2-f5+, Qf2-c2+

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