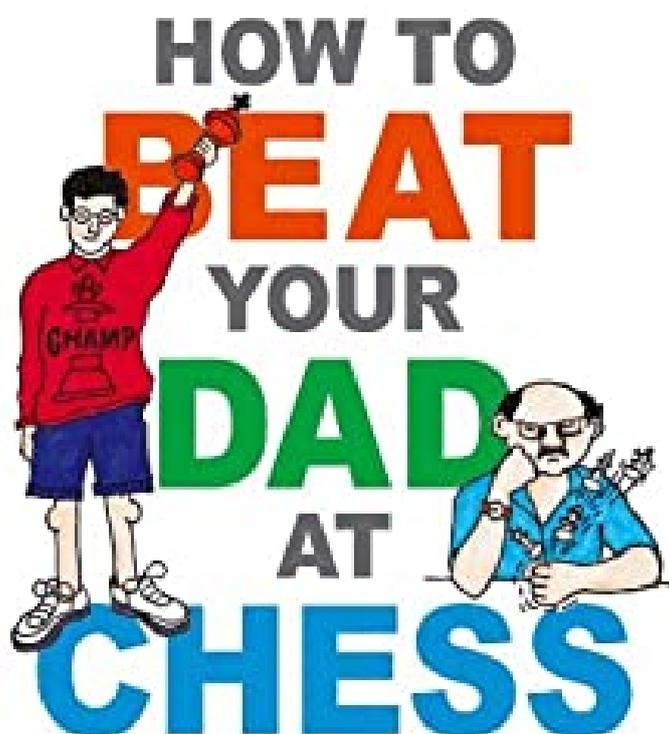


# How to Beat Your Dad at Chess (Chess for Kids)

*by*

Murray Chandler



Including the 50 Deadly Checkmates

Murray Chandler



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## Synopsis

"Fun to read for players of any age or any strength" - Lubosh Kavalek, Washington Post  
This is a chess book for everyone, from eight to eighty, beginner to master. In a clear, easy-to-follow format it explains how the best way to beat a stronger opponent (be it a friend, clubmate - or Dad!) is by cleverly forcing checkmate. Delightful and instructive positions from real games are used to show the 50 Deadly Checkmates that chess masters use to win their games. For the beginner, simply learning the checkmating ideas and enjoying the examples will help develop the tactical skills needed to carry out attacks, combinations and sacrifices. For the advanced player, many of these checkmating ideas will come as a revelation, having never been categorized before. Experts agree that pattern-recognition is vital to success in chess, and this book provides a wealth of valuable patterns. *How to Beat Your Dad at Chess* makes improving easy and fun, and is full of helpful explanations and practical advice on how to approach chess games with confidence - and success. "Among several good guides to tactical play, my favourite is grandmaster Murray Chandler's *How to Beat Your Dad at Chess*" - Leonard Barden, London Evening Standard  
Grandmaster Murray Chandler finished second in the World Cadet Championship in 1976, ahead of Garry Kasparov, whom he defeated in their individual game. He remains to this day one of the few players in the world with a 100% score against Kasparov. He was a key member of the England team that won the silver medals in Chess Olympiads three times during the 1980s, and went on to captain the team in 1994. He is a former proprietor and Editor-in-Chief of the British Chess Magazine and the author of several bestselling chess books. "A perfect introduction to tactics for the beginner and developing student" - IM John Watson, TWIC  
"Don't let the title fool you; this is a book that almost anyone below the Expert level would benefit greatly from. Chandler has a very clear idea of his audience and I think that almost anybody who studied this book closely would improve his or her tactical vision. I found the book to be extremely well written and a useful addition to my collection. It also would be very beneficial in the instruction of young players, as the examples given in the test positions would probably keep most youngsters engaged for a couple of hours at least" - Bill Whited, Chessville.com

















## What people say about this book

Bill Brock, "Great for adults, too!. I am a US Chess expert who teaches as a volunteer for the Chicago Chess Center, and I often (sheepishly) give a copy of this book to my ADULT students after their first lesson. Why? Illustrations aside, it's a wonderful book for teaching the most common checkmating patterns. Recognizing these patterns is only a small part of the tactical competency that beginners need to acquire in order to become strong amateurs. But it's an essential component, the exercises are beautiful (not boring) and fun. Because checkmate is our goal, we can make forcing moves that would otherwise be ridiculous if they didn't achieve our goal. Hey, checkmate ends the game. Many experienced adult players at the Class D level (competent tournament players) will be able to solve 60% of the exercises on sight. But most of these players can progress to solving 95%+ on sight. That's meaningful progress! This is NOT AT ALL the best book for absolute beginners. Chess for Children (co-authored by Chandler & Helen Milligan) fits that bill, and Coakley's Winning Chess Strategy for Kids is a great second book. (The more absolute beginner books a beginner reads—or works through with a parent or coach—the better!) Most young players probably shouldn't read it until they've been playing for at least six months (your mileage may vary). But it is a great book for those who are ready for it. Tactics is of course much more than mating combinations, but there's a lot to learn about mating combinations themselves. Henkin's 1000 Checkmate Combinations and Reinfeld's 1001 Brilliant Ways to Checkmate are both good follow-ups to Chandler."

YankeesBabe83, "Really good choice for new chess players. Really fun Chess book for kiddos new and learning chess. My oldest son has Aspergers (a type of Autism) and because of this, social interactions can be difficult. One of his teachers introduced him to chess a couple months ago and he instantly fell in love. He wants to play ALL the time which lead us to joining a chess club. I told his teacher I had recently got amazon prime and asked if there were any books I could get him so that he could keep up with his Chess club buds... The book he had suggested was sold out or the seller just wasn't carrying hard copies anymore, just digital.. but then I saw this one and bought it on a whim. It turned out to be a fantastic choice because his chess game has improved so much and he's even able to beat some of the senior members of his chess club! The book has a ton of pictures in it, not just text explaining moves. That's important because not everyone learns or take in information the same way. This is definitely one of those cases where you "can't judge a book by it's cover" because the Art on the cover is a bit cheesy. Honestly, I think the author may want to rethink it and give the cover a little reboot. It's not really a known children's chess book and I really think it's because people are being discouraged to pick it up and look at it. Again, I know you shouldn't judge a book that way, but it's sometimes hard not too. The cover is what you see first and could be the deciding factor. I did love the title, I thought I will mention how much of a kick his dad got out of that!"

Joe, "Excellent book for chess improvers age 12 and up.. Some (or maybe a lot of) chess books for kids are written at a level more appropriate for teens or adult improvers, but with cartoons added. I think this is one of them. Kids develop abilities such as logic, calculation, decision making, risk, consequences, concepts, reasoning (etc.) at different ages. I think this is a great book for any teen or older who already knows basic rules of chess and how the pieces move and seeks to improve their game through pattern recognition. I bought this book for me, and I'm in my 50's."

Treetown, "Great book for the beginner of all ages - not just kids.. A classic book - don't let the title and cartoony image on the cover fool you. It teaches new players especially kids how to get better - numerous diagrams and clearly written it is terrific. Even adults and older kids would benefit because the fundamental ideas are well presented. The emphasis is on recognition of basic tactics - after all that is the funnest part of the game for new players."

Albert C. Doyle, "Breezy, fun, not much strategy or tactics, but a solid intro for kids and refresher for grown-ups. This is fun for grown-ups like me who were sharp from grade-school through college, then didn't play for a long time, and have now come back to the game as they play against kids between grade school through college. It will remind you of a few clever strategies you've forgotten, and certainly give you a heads-up as to traps those whippersnappers might be laying for you. Of course, you can share it with children....if you don't want to beat them like a rug! As some commenters have said, it's more a compilation of checkmates than a true tactical/strategic guide, but that's not completely true. There are useful little sections, with titles such as "what do I do if Dad DOESN'T castle?", or how to turn Legall's Mate into at least Legall's Trap, e.g. But sure, it's a compilation of checkmates, and each chapter is a cute name for a different mating pattern. Nothing wrong with that. The writing is breezy. It's just a fun little book, for a kid that's beyond novice level, or a grown-up polishing up a rusty game."

Ebook Tops\_mom, "Really good!. My son (7) loves this book. It's technical but he loves playing chess and this is a great book for him learn more about chess. It's not a beginners book. He is passionate about learning so he wants to read it every night. I would say it's boring if you are not interested in chess because it shows multiple ways to check."

Alfred Barclay, "Very useful for beginner or average player.. I played a lot of club chess in my teens, but very seldom since then (73 now). My son plays regularly on the GameKnot web site, and occasionally challenges me to a game. Pleased to say that I usually win the games against him, as he is not used to playing the game over the board in real time, so I bought this book for his Christmas (He's over 50!!)"

JonWH, "Excellent book , but..... The but refers to the title...I learnt to play as a teenager. Aged 15 to 17, for a couple of years I had a mate I played against regularly. We played different styles ,

but about the same standard. We would have both loved this book then. I have recently returned to chess, and although I can develop a good position find In some situations I am lost for ideas for an effective attacking plan and I get frustrated when I get stung by an aggressive player. This book looks to be very promising for me now. It is not a suitable book to teach a child to play. It is suitable for someone who has mastered basic end game techniques maybe has two or three basic openings they use and has learnt how to develop a defensive position but now wants to be a more effective attacking player and also wants to be more effective at avoiding falling into checkmate traps. This book deserves 5 stars because if that is what you are after this book does it very well. No long sequences of moves, no big paragraphs of text. It has clear ideas, with the right number of examples to see each idea in action in real games. Also a bonus that the ideas are tested at the end of the book in a really effective way. I am determined not to cheat and look back. I feel this book is not heavy on theory, but will make me a better chess thinker and a more effective aggressive player.”

s, “Quality book. This book is decent for learning some simple mating patterns for beginners. It was also very cheap when I bought it (£3 for a hardcover) so it was really a steal. Adults can definitely learn from this too. It is probably a bit too easy for intermediate/advanced players but you might still get some utility out of some of the patterns and can help you with finding mates.”

Ebook Tops Reader, “Good book, Only problem is that 'my dad' now .... Good book, Only problem is that 'my dad' now deceased, was a great chess player that used to win competitions. So you can see my concerns, there is an assumption that the author could have out smarted him !P.S. anybody know a good Medium, so I can put it to the test ?”



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