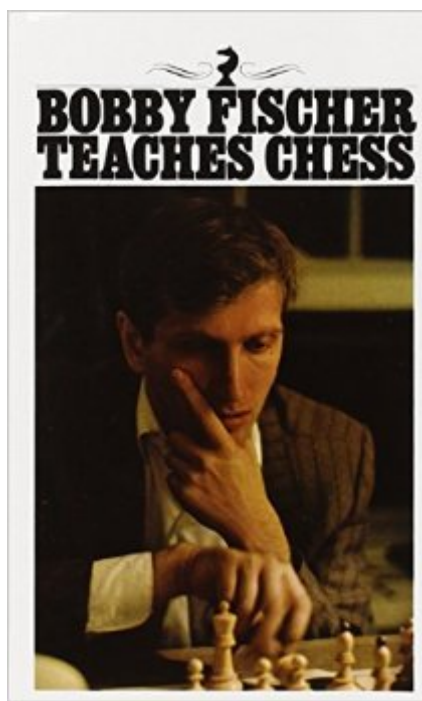


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# Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess



## Synopsis

This book is essentially a chess teaching machine. The way a teaching machine works is: It asks you a question. If you give the right answer, it goes on to the next question. If you give the wrong answer, it tells you why the answer is wrong and tells you to go back and try again. This is called "programmed learning". The real authors were experts and authorities in the field of programmed learning. Bobby Fischer lent his name to the project. Stuart Margulies is a chess master and also a recognized authority on programmed learning. He is a widely published author of more than 40 books, all in the field of programmed learning, especially in learning how to read. For example, one of his books is "Critical reading for proficiency 1 : introductory level". Donn Mosenfelder is not a known or recognized chess player, but he was the owner of the company that developed and designed this book. He has written more than 25 books, almost all on basic reading, writing and math. The definitive way to learn how to play chess, or to master more complex chess strategies.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

BOBBY FISCHER TEACHES CHESS was first published in 1966, when the great player was still a young man seen as a prodigy newcomer in professional chess circles. The first thing one has to realize about the book is that it is essentially ghostwritten--a long tradition in chess primers and accessories--so those hoping to understand something of Fischer's playing peculiarities will be quite disappointed. The book is the creation of Stuart Margulies and Donn Mosenfelder, two educators and chess aficionados who wanted to create a chess primer using the then-new concept of

"Programmed Instruction". In spite of the fact that the book is an experimental teaching tool created by two academics, it is written as if Fischer himself were speaking, which makes for a rather incongruous style. Enough about its origins. What readers should be most concerned about is what the book is and whether it will help their chess skills. BOBBY FISCHER TEACHES CHESS begins from the very beginning with a 13-page introduction to the rules of chess. This is probably redundant since many chess boards come with a sheet describing the rules. The real instruction really consists only of a series of example situations, which the reader is asked "Can white checkmate? If he can, draw an arrow." then one has to turn the page to find out. The amount of situations here are very limited, and one would encounter them and master them in one's first few games. This makes the book rather unnecessary. There is no discussion of openings, no use of algebraic notation (which pretty much all other chess titles use). All the strategy presented is short-term, there doesn't appear to be even general hints such as the importance of gaining control of the centre of the board.

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