

# Chess Notation - Reading And Writing Chess Games

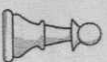
Chess notation is the special way chess players write down the moves of a chess game. Most chess books are written in chess notation. And in chess tournaments players always write their moves in chess notation.

**1 CAPITAL LETTERS** For each move write the piece that is moving and the square it is moving to.

K for King  
Q for Queen  
R for Rook  
B for Bishop  
N for Knight

Ke2 - means the King moved to e2.  
Rh4 - means the Rook moved to h4.  
Nf6 - means the Knight moved to f6.

**3** Pawns don't have any letters. You just write down the name of the square the Pawn is moving to.



e4 - means a Pawn moved to e4.  
d5 - means a Pawn moved to d5.

**4** The moves are written in two columns. White first, then Black and each move is numbered.

<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
1. <u>e4</u>	<u>e5</u>
2. <u>Nf3</u>	<u>Bd6</u>
3. <u>Bc4</u>	<u>Nf6</u>

These moves are:

1. White Pawn to e4 - Black Pawn to e5
2. White Knight to f3 - Black Bishop to d6
3. White Bishop to c4 - Black Knight to f6

## Other Symbols Used In Chess Notation

OO - Castling on the King side  
OOO - Castling on the Queen side

x - captures

Rxh7 - means a Rook captured a piece on h7.

+ - check  
Qf2+ - means the Queen moved to f2 and checked the King.

# - checkmate  
Bc5# - means a Bishop moved to c5 and checkmated the King.

**Pawn Promotion** - write the square then the new piece.  
a8Q means a Pawn moved to a8 and became a Queen.

If two pieces of the same kind can move to the same square - you must write the file or rank that the piece is moving from: dxe5 means the Pawn on the d file captured on e5. N5f6 means the Knight on rank 5 moved to f6.

Set up your chess board and pieces and make these practice moves to see if you can reach this position.

<u>WHITE</u>	<u>BLACK</u>
1. <u>e4</u>	<u>e5</u>
2. <u>Nf3</u>	<u>Bd6</u>
3. <u>Bc4</u>	<u>Nf6</u>
4. <u>Nc3</u>	<u>OO</u>
5. <u>d4</u>	<u>Nc6</u>
6. <u>Bg5</u>	<u>b6</u>
7. <u>Qd2</u>	<u>Bb7</u>
8. <u>OOO</u>	<u>Qe7</u>
9. <u>d5</u>	<u>Nb4</u>
10. <u>a3</u>	<u>Na2+</u>

