

Chess Notation 1

Homework Help

Chess Notation is very important in chess if you ever want to go back and see what moves you played in a past game. It is very simple to learn and is a useful tool to see what mistakes or good moves you made later on. Always remember that a Pawn is not a piece so it doesn't get its own letter. If a Pawn moves from b2 to b4, we would just write b4. If a Bishop moves from f1 to b5, we would write Bb5. The first B is for the piece (in this example we used the Bishop). The second b is for the file it moved to (in this example we moved to a b file). The 5 is for the rank it moved to (as you can see, we moved to the 5th rank of the chessboard)

Diagram 1:

To begin the game white made the most common move in all of chess. It moved its pawn up 2 squares. As mentioned above, the pawn is not a piece, so it doesn't get its own letter. So what you want to do is write the letter (file) first, then the number (rank) it moved to. White's moves always written on the left hand side since white goes first, and black's moves always get written on the right hand side.

Diagram 2:

Both sides have decided to bring out their Knights and get them developed. The hard thing to remember is that even though Knight starts with a K, it doesn't get written down as that. Instead, we use the second letter in its name, N. So to write the moves for both sides, we first want to write the letter of the piece we are moving, then we write the file, then the rank.

Diagram 3:

White has decided to bring out its bishop with the hopes of being able to castle early. Black has decided to bring out its bishop as well. Just like with the Knight, we want to write down the piece letter first, then the file, and then the rank for both colors.

Diagram 4:

Both sides have moved their pawns up one space. For more info about writing pawn moves, go to the beginning or Diagram 1.