

Skewers “Intermediate” Help Guide

Skewer: A tactic where an enemy piece is attacked and forced to move, exposing another enemy piece behind it to capture.

Diagram 1: White to move. You want to start off this problem by putting the Black King into Check with one of your major pieces. The King will be forced to move down to the 5th rank and now you will be able to set up the Skewer. Put Black back into Check with your major piece and when he moves his King you will be able to capture the Rook on h5.

Diagram 2: White to move. This diagram is a bit tricky but with a little help you will breeze right through it. Start off with a Rook Check. The Black King only has one square to move to. Once he has moved put him in Check again on the square that will Skewer the Black King to the Rook on e3. Keep in mind that you have protection from your Bishop on b5.

Diagram 3: White to move. This problem asks you to start off with a Rook sacrifice. This will result in a Check and the Black King will be forced to capture your Rook. From here you will be able to Skewer the Black King and Queen. Use your other major piece to do this.

Diagram 4: Black to move. Start this diagram off by using one of your major pieces to put the White King into Check. The King will be forced to move to the second rank. From here use your same major piece and put the King back into Check. It doesn't matter where he moves to because you will be able to capture the White Rook on your next turn.

Diagram 5: White to move. Diagram 5 asks you to start off by capturing the Pawn on e4 with your Knight. Black will then take your Knight with his Pawn on d5. From here you will be able to set up the Skewer by moving your only major piece over and putting the Black King into Check. He will be forced to move out of the way and you will be able to capture his Queen on your next turn.

Diagram 6: White to move. This problem tells you that a Rook sacrifice will set up a great Skewer. You want to start by trading Rooks with Black. This will put the Black King and Rook on the same diagonal line. From here just bring your Bishop down to attack that diagonal line. The King will be forced to move out of the way and you will win the remaining Black Rook.