

The London System Help Guide

Diagram 1:

Black's next move should not develop a piece. The object of attacking the center is to start with your Pawns and then develop your pieces. Black would like to eliminate Whites Pawn on d4, with a Pawn. Move a Pawn to attack the center square d4.

Diagram 2:

White moves the c Pawn to c3. Does this defend the pawn on d4? Yes. By defending you are supporting your center. So if Blacks pawn takes your center Pawn you can take back with you c Pawn allowing you to keep the Pawn on d4.

Diagram 3:

Whites dark Bishop needs a place to run to if attacked. Keeping him on that long diagonal can be very useful later in this game. Move a pawn that allows the Bishop to back up to a safe square on the h file.

Diagram 4:

Thanks to the last move you have a place to put you Bishop when Black plays Knight to h5 (Nh5). Move the Bishop backwards as far as it can go.

Bonus Questions:

To understand who has more pieces developed count all the pieces moved off their original square. When you move a Pawn it is not considered developing a piece. You may only develop Kings, Queens, Rooks, Bishops, and Knights. You may only castle when you have moved all your pieces that sit between you King and Rook.