

Petroff Defense for Black - Mason's Defense

Main Lines

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6

	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1	d4	e5	♙xd4	ed6	♘c3	♙f4	♚b5	♙e4				= Modern Variation
	ed4	♘e4	d5	♘d6	♘c6	♘f5!	♚d6	♙e7				Kasparov - Karpov 1990
2	♘e5	♘xf7	d4	dxc5	♚c4	♚xe6	0-0	e5	♙g4	♙f5	♘c3	≠ Cochrane Gambit
	d6	♙xf7	c5	♘c6	♚e6	♙xe6	d5	♘e4	♙f7	♙e8	♘d4!	Vitolinsh - Dautov 1988
3	...	♘f3	♙e2	d3	♚g5	♚xe2	♘c3	0-0	♚fe1			= Spassky's Line
	...	♘xe4	♙e7	♘f6	♙xe2	♚e7	c6	♘a6	♘c7			Spassky - Karpov 1982
4	...	...	d4	♚d3	c4	♘bd2	0-0	♚xd2	♚f4	♚e1		= Marshall's Line
	...	...	d5	♚e7	♚b4	0-0	♚xd2	♚g4!	♘c6	♘xd4		Tarrasch - Marshall 1914
5	...	...	...	...	0-0	c4	h3	♚xc4	♘c3	♚b3		= Mason's Defense
	...	...	...	...	0-0	♘f6	dxc4	♘bd7	♘b6	♘bd5		Yusupov - Hubner 1988

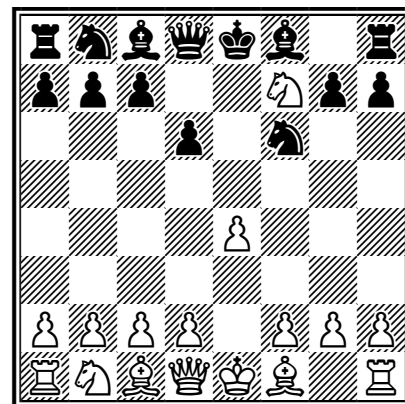
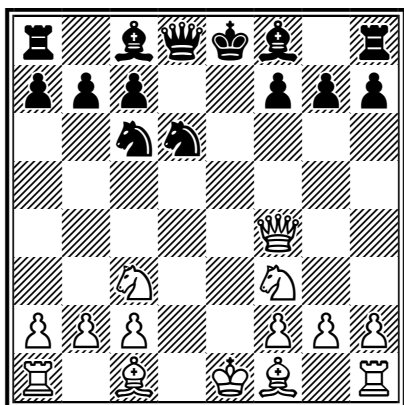
Theory

1 e4 e5
 2 Nf3 Nf6
 3 Nxe5
 3 d4 Line 1 3 ... exd4 4 e5 Ne4 5 Qxd4 d5
 6 exd6 Nxd6 7 Nc3 Nc6 8 Qf4

11 ... f6 12 Bd2 Bd7 13 O-O-O Qxe4 14 Nxe4
 Be7 15 g4 Kasparov - Karpov, World Ch 1990
 15 ... Nd6! 16 Nxd6+ Bxd6 17 Rde1+ Kf8
 18 Rhg1 Re8 19 Rxe8+ Kxe8 = Karpov

3 ... d6
 4 Nf3

4 Nxf7 Line 2 The Cochrane Gambit



8 ... Nf5! 9 Bb5 (9 Nb5 Bb4+ 10 c3 Ba5 11 g4 Nfe7=)
 9 ... Bd6 10 Qe4+ Qe7 11 Bg5 (11 Bxc6+ bxc6
 12 O-O Qxe4 13 Nxe4 O-O 14 Re1 h5 = Rodriguez,A
 (2565) - Ginzburg,M (2450), Villa Martelli (1) 1997-06-08)

4 ... Kxf7 5 d4 c5 6 dxc5 Nc6 7 Bc4+ Be6
 8 Bxe6+ Kxe6 9 O-O d5 10 e5 Ne4 11 Qg4+ Kf7
 12 Qf5+ Ke8 13 Nc3 Nd4! -/+ Vitolinsh,A (2415) -

Dautov,R (2515), semi final (Minsk): ch-URS (1) 1988

4 ... Nxe4
5 d4

5 Qe2 Line 3 Spassky's "Draw Line" 5 ... Qe7
6 d3 Nf6 7 Bg5 Qxe2+ 8 Bxe2 Be7 9 Nc3 c6
10 O-O Na6 11 Rfe1 Nc7 = Spassky,B - Karpov,A, Torino (1) 1982

5 ... d5
6 Bd3 Be7
7 O-O

7 c4 Line 5 Marshall's Line 7 ... Bb4+ 8 Nbd2
(8 Kf1?! O-O 9 cxd5? Qxd5 +/- 10 Qc2 Re8 11 Nc3? Nxc3
12 bxc3 Qxf3!! Janowski,David - Marshall,F, Biarritz (1) 1912)
8 ... O-O 9 O-O Bxd2 10 Bxd2 Bg4! 11 Bf4 Nc6
12 Re1 Nxd4 13 Bxe4 dxe4 14 Qxd4 exf3 15 Qxd8 Rxd8
16 Bxc7 Rd2 = Tarrasch,Siegbert - Marshall, Frank James, St Petersburg 1914

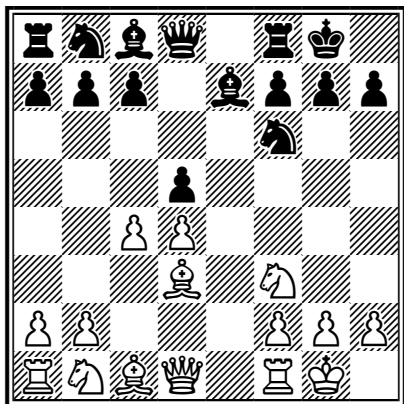
7 ... O-O

Mason's Defense, Line 5, the main line.

8 c4

8 Re1;
8 h3

8 ... Nf6

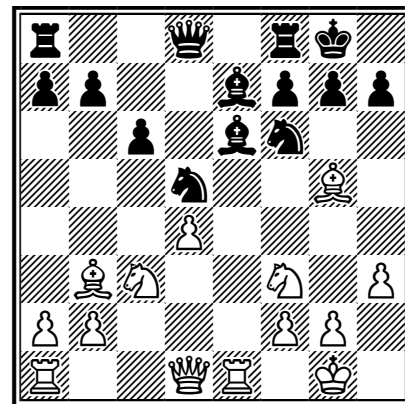


The key retreat, aiming toward an isolated queen pawn middlegame.

9 h3

9 Nc3 Nc6 10 h3 dxc4 11 Bxc4 Na5 12 Bd3 Be6
13 Re1 Nc6 14 a3 a6 15 Bf4 Nd5 16 Bg3 Bf6 = Gufeld,E - Schussler,H, Havana (1) 1985

9 ... dxc4
10 Bxc4 Nbd7
11 Nc3 Nb6
12 Bb3 Nbd5
13 Re1 c6
14 Bg5 Be6



We have a classic IQP game - the better center and middlegame chances against the isolated pawn and better endgame.

15 Ne5

15 Rc1 Re8 16 Ne5 (16 Bxf6 Bxf6 17 Nxd5 Bxd5
18 Rxe8+ Qxe8 19 Bxd5 cxd5 20 Rc7 b6 21 Qc1 h6 = Van der Sterren,P - Piket,J, Amsterdam ch-NED 1995)
16 ... Nc7 17 Bc2 Nd7 Yusupov,A (2620) - Hubner,R (2595), Belfort: World Cup (1) 1988

15 ... Re8
16 Rc1 Nc7
17 Bc2 Nd7
18 Qh5 Nf8 =

Yusupov - Hubner, World Cup 1988 is game 5.



Key Games

1

Kasparov,G - Karpov,A
New York 1990

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 d4 exd4 4 e5 Ne4 5 Qxd4 d5 6 exd6 Nxd6 7 Nc3 Nc6 8 Qf4 Nf5 9 Bb5 Bd6 10 Qe4+ Qe7 11 Bg5 f6 12 Bd2 Bd7 13 O-O Qxe4 14 Nxe4 Be7 15 g4 a6?!

15 ... Nd6! 16 Nxd6+ Bxd6 17 Rde1+ Kf8
18 Rhg1 Re8 19 Rxe8+ Kxe8 = Karpov

16 Bc4?!

16 Ba4 b5 17 Bb3 (17 gxf5 bxa4 18 Ng3 O-O-O)
17 ... Nfd4;

16 Bxc6! Bxc6 17 Rhe1 Bxe4 (17 ... Nd6?
18 Nxd6+ cxd6 19 Nd4 +/-) 18 Rxe4 Nd6 19 Re2
+/- with the idea of N-d4-e6 Karpov

16 ... Nd6 17 Nxd6+ Bxd6 18 Rde1+ 1/2

2

Vitolinsh,A (2415) - Dautov,R (2515)
semi final (Minsk): ch-URS (1) 1988

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nxf7 Kxf7 5 d4 c5
6 dxc5 Nc6 7 Bc4+ Be6 8 Bxe6+ Kxe6 9 O-O d5
10 e5 Ne4 11 Qg4+ Kf7 12 Qf5+ Ke8 13 Nc3
Nd4 14 Qh3 Qd7 15 e6 Qxe6 16 Qd3 Nxc3
17 bxc3 Ne2+ 18 Kh1 Nxc1 19 Raxc1 Kf7
20 Rce1 Qc6 21 Qf5+ Kg8 22 Re6 Qd7 23 Qe5
Bxc5 24 f4 h5 25 f5 Bf8 26 f6 Qf7 27 Rf3 Rh6
28 Rg3 Rg6 29 Rxc6 Qxc6 30 Qxd5 Qf7 0-1

3

Spassky,B - Karpov,A
Torino 1982

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nf3 Nxe4 5 Qe2
Qe7 6 d3 Nf6 7 Bg5 Qxe2+ 8 Bxe2 Be7 9 Nc3
c6 10 O-O Na6 11 Rfe1 Nc7 12 Bf1 Ne6 13 Be3
O-O 14 d4 Re8 15 d5 Nxd5 16 Nxd5 cxd5
17 Bb5 Rd8 18 Red1 Bf6 19 c3 Nc7 20 Be2 Re8
21 Nd4 Bd7 22 Bf3 Bxd4 23 Bxd4 Bc6 24 Be3
1/2

Hogey Bill

4

Tarrasch,Siegbert - Marshall, Frank
St Petersburg 1914

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nf3 Nxe4 5 d4 d5
6 Bd3 Bd6 7 c4 Bb4+ 8 Nbd2 Bxd2+ 9 Bxd2 O-O
10 O-O Bg4 11 Bf4 Nc6 12 Re1 Nxd4 13 Bxe4
dxe4 14 Qxd4 exf3 15 Qxd8 Rfxd8 16 Bxc7 Rd2
17 b3 fxg2 18 Kxg2 h6 19 Bf4 Rd3 20 Re3 Rxe3
21 Bxe3 a6 22 Kg3 Bd7 23 Rd1 Bc6 24 Bb6 Re8
25 Rd8 Rxd8 26 Bxd8 Be4 27 b4 Bd3 28 b5
Bxc4 29 bxa6 Bxa6 30 a3 f6 31 Kg2 Kf7 32 Kg1
Ke6 33 Ba5 g5 34 Bb4 h5 35 Bc3 h4 36 Ba5 g4
37 Bd8 Be2 38 Kh1 h3 39 Kg1 f5 40 Bc7 Kd5
41 Bb8 Ke4 42 Bc7 Bf3 43 Bd6 Bg2 44 Bc7 f4
45 Bd6 Kf3 46 Bc7 b5 47 Bd6 Ke4 48 Bc7 1/2

5

Yusupov,A - Hubner,R
Belfort: World Cup 1988
(D20 Queen's G-A)

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 Nc3 e5 4 e3 exd4 5 exd4
Nf6 6 Bxc4 Be7 7 Nf3 O-O 8 h3 Nbd7 9 O-O
Nb6 10 Bb3 c6 11 Re1 Nbd5 12 Bg5 Be6 13 Ne5
Re8 14 Rc1 Nc7 15 Bc2 Nd7 16 Qh5 Nf8
17 Bxe7 Rxe7 18 Rcd1 f6 19 Nf3 Qd7 20 Qc5
Ree8 21 Re3 Nd5 22 Nxd5 Bxd5 23 Bb3 Rxe3
24 fxe3 Qe6 1/2

Supplemental Games

6

Janowski,David - Marshall,F
Biarritz (1) 1912
(C42 Petrov, Classical A, Marshall V)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nf3 Nxe4 5 d4 d5
6 Bd3 Bd6 7 c4 O-O 8 cxd5 Bb4+ 9 Kf1 Qxd5
10 Qc2 Re8 11 Nc3 Nxc3 12 bxc3 Qxf3 13 cxb4
Nc6 14 Bb2 Nxb4 15 Bxh7+ Kh8 16 gxf3 Bh3+
17 Kg1 Nxc2 18 Bxc2 Re2 19 Rc1 Rae8 20 Bc3
R8e3 21 Bb4 Rxf3 22 Bd1 Rf6 0-1

10/2/12

7

Gufeld,E - Schussler,H
Havana (1) 1985
(C42 Petrov, Classical A, Jaenisch V)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nf3 Nxe4 5 d4 d5
6 Bd3 Nc6 7 O-O Be7 8 c4 Nf6 9 h3 O-O 10 Nc3
dxc4 11 Bxc4 Na5 12 Bd3 Be6 13 Re1 Nc6
14 a3 a6 15 Bf4 Nd5 16 Bg3 Bf6 17 Bc2 Nce7
18 Ne4 Bf5 19 Nxf6+ Nxf6 20 Bb3 c6 21 Ne5
Nfd5 22 Qf3 Be6 23 Rad1 Nf5 24 Bxd5 1/2

8

Sax,G - Kortchnoi,V
Wijk aan Zee, 1991
(C42 Petrov, Classical A, Mason V)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nf3 Nxe4 5 d4
Be7 6 Bd3 d5 7 O-O O-O 8 c4 Nf6 9 h3 dxc4
10 Bxc4 Nbd7 11 Nc3 Nb6 12 Bb3 Nbd5 13 Re1
c6 14 Bg5 Be6 15 Rc1 Re8 16 Ne5 Nd7
16 ... Nc7 is probably better, as in Yusupov -
Hubner, Belfort 1988
17 Bxe7 Rxe7 18 Ne4 Nf8 19 Nc5 Qe8 20 Qf3
Rd8 21 Nxb7 Rxb7 22 Nxc6 Rxb3 23 Qxb3 Rd7
24 Qa3 Qa8 25 b4 Ng6 26 b5 h6 27 Qf3 Qb7
28 Rc5 Nf6 29 a4 Bd5 30 Qg3 Ne4 31 Qb8+
Qxb8 32 Nxb8 Nxc5 33 Re8+ Kh7 34 dxc5 Re7
35 Rxe7 Nxe7 36 a5 Kg6 37 a6 Nc8 38 Nd7 Kf5
39 b6 Ne7 40 bxa7 Nc8 41 Nb6 Nxa7 42 Nxd5
Ke5 43 Ne3 h5 44 Kh2 g6 45 Kg3 Kd4 46 Kf4 f6
47 g4 1-0

9

Van der Sterren,P - Piket,J
Amsterdam ch-NED 1995
(D20 Queen's G-A)

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 e3 e5 4 Bxc4 exd4 5 exd4
Nf6 6 Nf3 Be7 7 O-O O-O 8 h3 Nbd7 9 Nc3 c6
10 Re1 Nb6 11 Bb3 Nbd5 12 Bg5 Be6 13 Rc1
Re8 14 Bxf6 Bxf6 15 Nxd5 Bxd5 16 Rxe8+ Qxe8
17 Bxd5 cxd5 18 Rc7 b6 19 Qc1 h6 20 Qc6
Qxc6 21 Rxc6 Re8 22 Kf1 Re4 23 Rc8+ Kh7
24 Rc7 Bxd4 25 b3 a5 26 Rxf7 a4 27 Nd2 axb3
28 axb3 Re5 29 Nf3 Re4 30 Nd2 Re5 31 Nf3 1/2

10

Rodriguez,A - Ginzburg,M
Villa Martelli (1) 1997
(C43 Petrov, Modern A, Main line)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 d4 exd4 4 e5 Ne4 5 Qxd4 d5
6 exd6 Nxd6 7 Nc3 Nc6 8 Qf4 Nf5 9 Bb5 Bd6
10 Qe4+ Qe7 11 Bxc6+ bxc6 12 O-O Qxe4
13 Nxe4 O-O 14 Re1 h5 15 h3 c5 16 b3 Bb7
17 Bb2 Rfe8 18 Nfd2 Re6 19 Nxd6 cxd6
20 Rxe6 fxe6 21 Re1 e5 22 Nc4 Rf8 23 f3 Rf6
24 Kf2 Kf7 25 a3 g5 26 Kg1 Ke6 27 b4 cxb4
28 axb4 Rf7 29 Na5 Nh4 30 Re2 Ng6 31 c4 Nf4
32 Rd2 Ba8 33 b5 e4 34 fxe4 Bxe4 35 Ba3 g4
36 hxg4 hxg4 37 Rxd6+ Ke5 38 Rd2 Bd3 39 Bc5
g3 40 Bxa7 Ke4 41 Bb8 Ke3 42 Bxf4+ Rxf4
43 Rd1 Ke2 44 Rc1 Be4 45 Nb3 Rf2 46 Nd4+
Kd2 47 Nb3+ 1/2