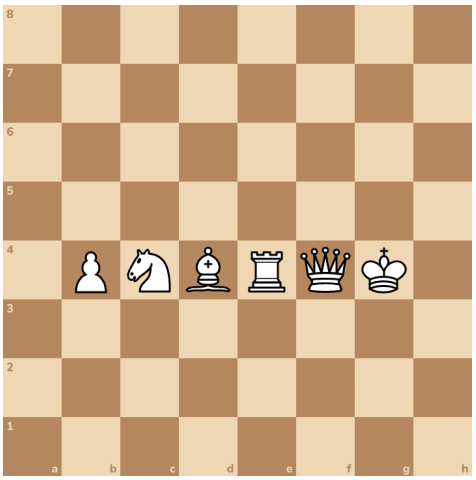
My Chess Family

How many points is each chess piece worth?

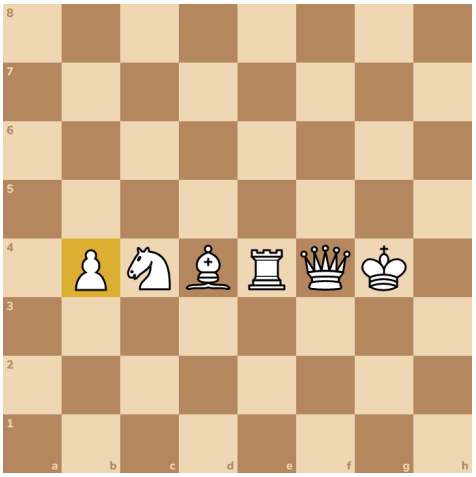
Try each question on a real board, then check the answers at the end of the sheet.

Counting points

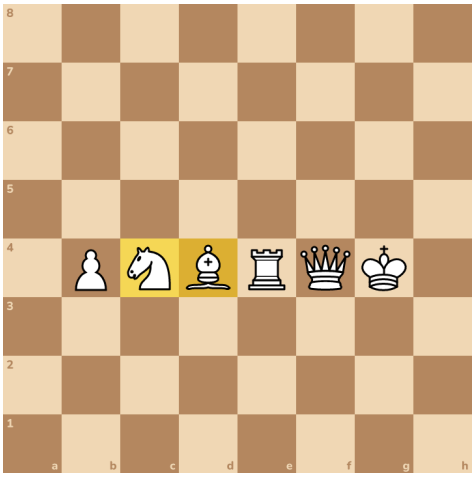
Not all pieces are worth the same. Players count them in points, to tell a good swap from a bad one.



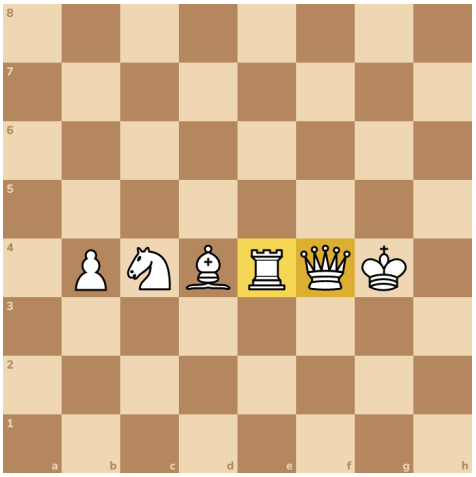
A pawn is worth 1 point.



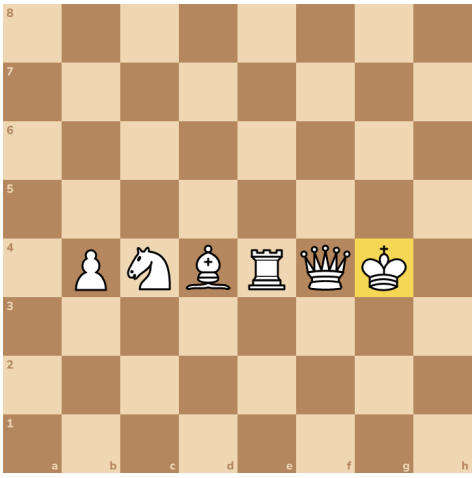
A knight is worth 3 points, and so is a bishop.



A rook is worth 5 points. The queen is worth 9, the most of all.



The king has no points. He can never be taken, so he's worth the whole game!



Try it 1. How many points is a rook worth?

A: 3 **B: 5** **C: 9**

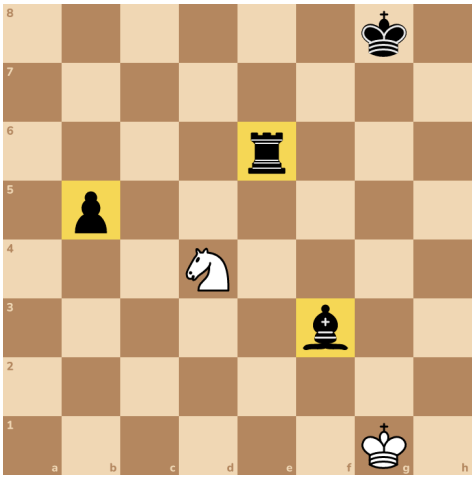
Try it 2. Which piece is worth the same as a knight?

A:  **B:**  **C:** 

Try it 3. Counting points, which is worth more, two rooks or one queen?

A: Two rooks **B: One queen**

Try it 4. Here's a new position. Your knight can take three black pieces. Take the one worth the most!



The rook! That's 5 points. The bishop was worth 3, and the pawn only 1.

Answers

1. B: 5

2. A: the white bishop

3. A: Two rooks

Two rooks make 10 and a queen 9. That's so close that strong players call it about even. What's happening in the game decides which is better.

4. Nxe6

