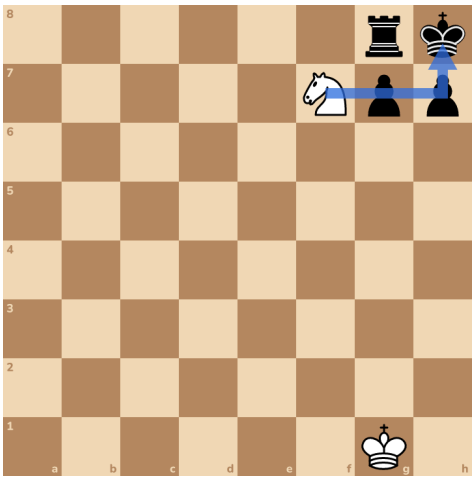
My Chess Family

What is a smothered mate?

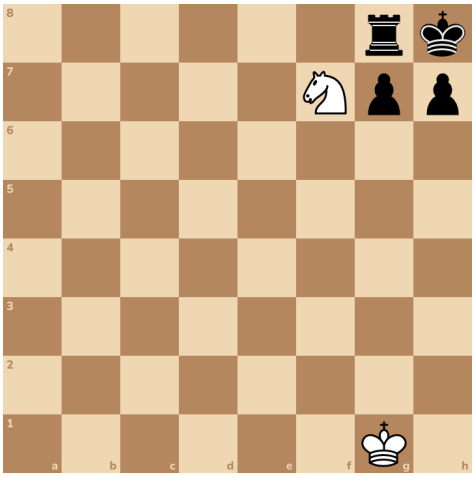
Try each question on a real board, then check the answers at the end of the sheet.

The knight's checkmate

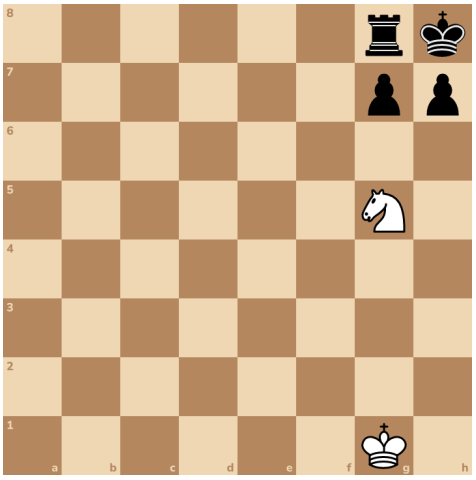
A smothered mate is a knight's checkmate. The king is surrounded by his own pieces, so he can't escape.



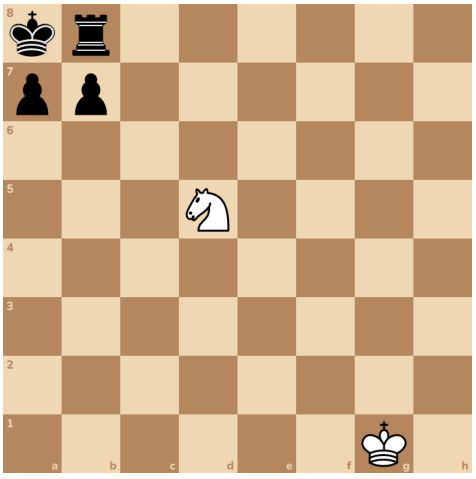
The knight jumps over the pieces around the king, and nothing can catch it.



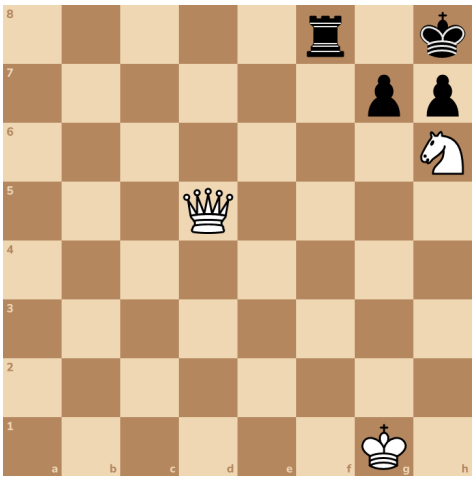
Try it 1. New position. Give a smothered mate!



Try it 2. Now in the other corner!

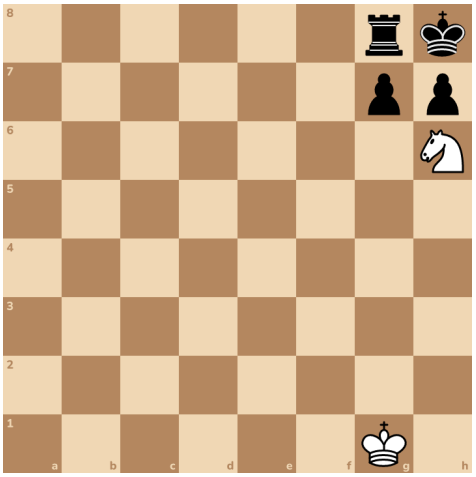


Try it 3. Here's a new position. The famous one. Give up your queen with check, to make the rook block the last square!



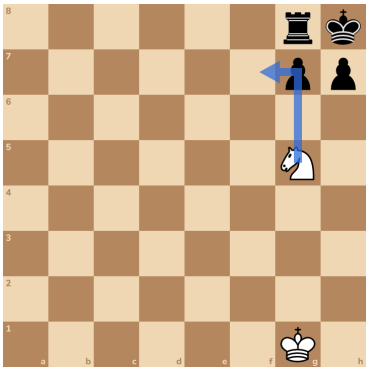
Amazing! Smothered mate is one of the most beautiful checkmates in chess.

Try it 4. Now the smothered mate!

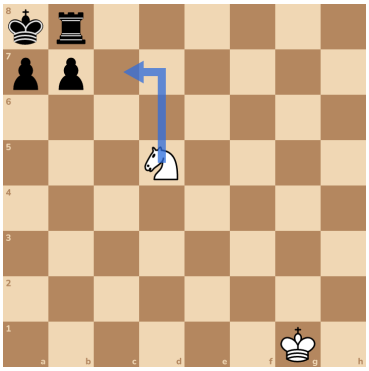


Answers

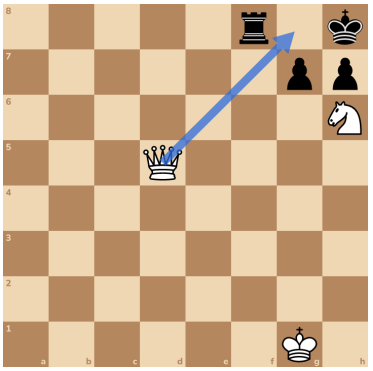
1. Nf7#



2. Nc7#



3. Qg8+



4. Nf7#

