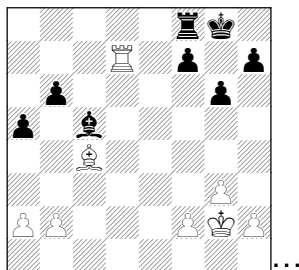
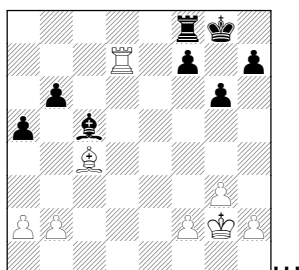


OPPOSITE COLORED BISHOPS WITH ROOKS OR QUEENS ON THE BOARD



OPPOSITE COLORED BISHOPS WITH ROOKS OR QUEENS ON THE BOARD

OPPOSITE COLORED BISHOPS WITH ROOKS



OPPOSITE COLORED BISHOPS WITH ROOKS

In endings with opposite colored bishops and rooks, which occur in practice rather often, the stronger side has much more chances to utilize his material or positional advantage than in endings with opposite colored bishops without rooks. By coordinated actions of rook and bishop, supported by king and pawns, one can destroy a fortress that seem

impregnable or organize an attack on the enemy king, with the weaker side's bishop being powerless to take part in defense.

In some cases, the weaker side converts his advantage into a win by sacrificing an exchange or a piece. All these factors prove that, provided that rooks are on the board, the stronger side does not have to fear of endings with opposite colored bishops, and the following examples will convince you of the truth of this statement. Let us start with some classic endings.

Despite material equality, Black is hopeless - the weakness of the f7-pawn is decisive, with the c5-bishop being powerless to help in its defense. White's plan involves a pawn advance on the K-side, which clears a way for the king.

1. g4! h6 2. h4 g5 3. hxg5 hxg5 4. Kg3 Kg7 5. f4! Be3 6. fxg5 Bxg5 7. Kf3! The king is transferred to f5 in order to support the g4-g5-g6 advance. 7... Bd8 8. Kf4 Kg6

[8... Kf6 9. a4]

9. Bd3+ Kg7

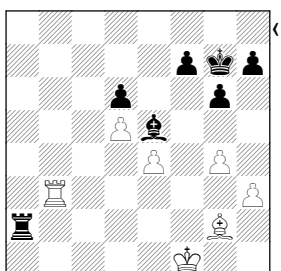
[9... Kh6 10. Kf5 f6 11. Kf4 f5 (11... Rh8 12. a4†) 12. gxf5]

10. Kf5 Kh6

[10... Re8 11. g5 Be7 12. Bc4 followed by ♭b7]

11. Bc4 Kg7 12. g5 Kg8 13. g6 Black resigned.

Tal M. - Jussupow A.,1986



The following ending is another illustration of utilizing an "extra" bishop.

In comparison with the e5-bishop, the g2-bishop looks like a "pawn". The black king comes to help its rook and bishop, after which White is defenseless. 1...

Bd4 2. Bf3

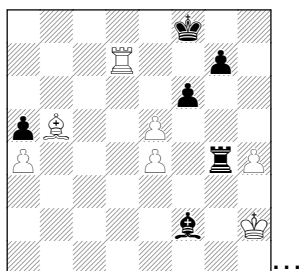
[Passive defense by 2. Rf3 could hardly have saved White; after 2... f6 3. h4 Black would break with his king on the Q-side.]

2... Kf6 3. Be2 Kg5! 4. Rb7 f6! (a pawn is of no importance) 5. Rxh7 Ra1+! (the simplest) 6. Kg2 Kf4 7. Rb7

[Or 7. Rc7 Rg1+ 8. Kh2 Re1 9. Rc2 Ke3 10. Bb5 Kf3 ... ♞e5]

7... Rg1+ 8. Kh2 Re1 White resigned.

Bogoljubow E. - Alekhin A.,1929



Variation from the game

It seems that the draw agreement will follow soon, but coordinated actions of the white pieces decide the game. 1.

e6 Rxe4 2. Rf7+ Kg8 3. Rc7! (threatening 4. e7□) 3... Kf8 4. Bc4! (threatening 5. lf7 ♜g8 6. e7; 5... ♜e8 6. ♞b5 ♜d8 7. ld7 ♜c8 8. ♞a6 followed by 9. e7□) 4... Ke8!

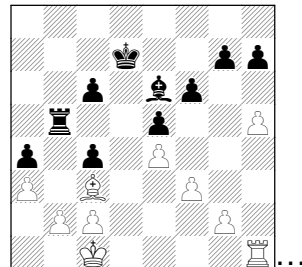
[4... Bxh4 5. Rf7+□]

5. h5! The pawn joins the attack. 5... Bh4

[5... Bb6 6. Bb5+ Kf8 7. Rf7+ Kg8 8. Rb7 Bc5 9. Rb8+ Bf8 10. Bc4□; 5... Bd4 6. Kg2]

6. Bb5+ Kf8 7. e7+ Rxe7 8. Rc8+ Kf7 9. Bc4+□

Panchenko A. - Lutikov A.,Smolensk,1986



The stronger side often manages to use his better pawn structure in spite of the presence of opposite colored bishops.

White is unable to attack the opponent's weak pawns on the Q-side immediately; first he should open up the K-side. 1. Kd2 Ke7 2. Ke3 h6

[Better is 2... Rb7]

3. g3 Bf7 4. Bb4+ Ke8 5. g4! (... ld1-d6) 5... c5

[Bad is 5... Rb7 6. Rd1 Rd7 7. Rxd7

Kxd7 due to 8. Bf8□]

6. Bc3 Be6 7. f4! exf4+

[Stronger is 7... Bxg4 8. fxe5 fxe5! 9. Bxe5 Rb7]

8. Kxf4 Rb7 9. Rg1! (threatening 10. e5 fxe5 11. ♟xe5) 9... Rd7 10. e5 fxe5+

[No better is 10... Kf7 11. exf6 gxf6 12. Rf1 Kg7 13. Kg3 Rf7 14. Rf2! , and Black is in trouble.]

11. Kxe5 Ke7 12. Kf4 Kf7

[12... Kf8 13. Re1 ... ♞e5]

13. g5! Rd5

[13... Kf8 14. gxxh6 gxxh6 15. Rg6]

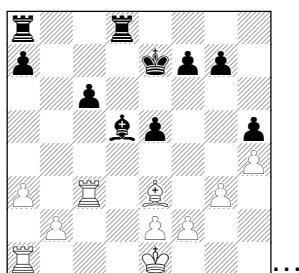
14. Be5 Kf8 15. gxxh6 gxxh6 16. Rg6 Bf7

17. Rxxh6 Rd2 18. Rh8+ Bg8?

[18... Ke7 could have prolonged Black's resistance.]

19. h6 Rh2 20. Bd6+ Kf7 21. Bxc5 Black resigned.

Andersson U. - Steen M.,Sao Paolo,1979



The following ending was won by White by skilful, subtle play.

1. b4! Rdb8

[The black pawns should be fixed; impossible is 1... a5 because of 2. bxa5 Rxa5 3. Bb6□]

2. Bd2 Ke6 3. Rc5 Rb5 4. Rcc1! (it is better to keep the rook from being

exchanged) 4... f6 5. a4 Rb7 6. Rc5

White's plan involves the following steps:

1) to deprive Black of any counterplay on the K-side by "closing" it; 2) to transfer the king to a3 in order to protect the b4-pawn; 3) to attack the a7-pawn by ♞a5 and ♞a6 followed by ♞d4 or ♞e3. 6... Rg8 7. f3! (... 7. e4) 7... f5 8. Kf2 Rd8 9. Bc3 (... 9. e4) 9... e4 10. Rd1 Rdd7 11. Ke3 g6 12. f4!?

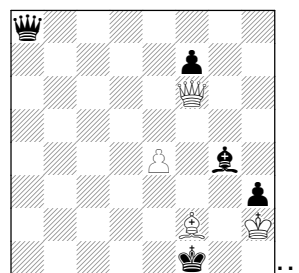
[Also good is 12. Kf4]

12... Rd6 13. Rb1 Rdd7 14. Bd4 Kf7 15. Rb2 Ke6 16. Kd2 Kf7 17. Kc3 Ke6 18. Ra5 Kf7 19. Ra6 Re7 20. Bc5 Red7 21. Rd2 Rbc7 Black is helpless. 22. Be3 Rb7 23. Bc5 Rbc7 24. Rc2 Rb7 25. Kb2 Rdc7

[More stubborn would have been 25... e3!]

26. Ka3 Rd7 27. e3 Rbc7 28. Bd4 Rb7 29. Rc5 Rbc7 30. Kb2 Rb7 31. Kc3 Rb6 32. Rca5 Rxa6 33. Rxa6 Ba2 34. Rxc6 Black resigned.

OPPOSITE COLORED BISHOPS WITH QUEENS



OPPOSITE COLORED BISHOPS WITH QUEENS

With queens on the board, the strongest side most often manages to organize an attack on the opponent's king, and his own king's position is of great importance here.

The following study is a good illustration of queen's and bishop's perfect co-ordination.

1. Ba7+! Cutting of the black queen, White secures the a-file for his own queen. 1... Ke1

[1... Ke2 2. Qa6+]

2. Qa1+ Ke2 3. Qa6+ Kd1 4. Qa4+ Ke2

The king cannot move to the dark squares due to a loss of the queen. 5.

Qc2+ Kf3

[5... Ke1 6. Bf2+ Kf1 7. Bg3 Qa7 8. Qd3+ Be2 9. Qb1+□]

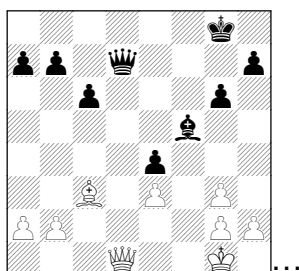
6. Qd3+ Kf4 7. Bb8+! Kg5

[7... Qxb8 8. Qg3+□]

8. Qd8+ Kh5 9. Qh8+ Kg6 10. Qg8+ Kh5

11. Qxf7+ , mating. The black bishop played the role of a passive spectator and could not defend its king.

Seirawan Y. - Tal M.,Montpellier,1985



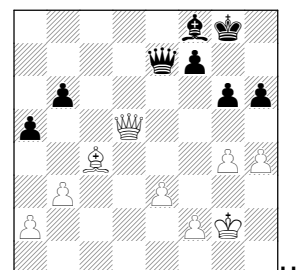
The black king is weak, and White quickly obtains a decisive advantage. 1. Qe1! Be6 2. b3 c5 3. h3! First White improves his own king's position - on h2 it

will be in safety. 3... b5 4. Qf1! b4 5. Be5 Qd8 Black must not let the white queen to f6. 6. Qb5 (penetrating from the other side) 6... Qc8 7. Kh2 Bd5 8. Bd6 a6 9. Qa5!

[Of course, not 9. Qxc5? Qxc5 10. Bxc5 a5 11. Bb6 a4 , with a draw.]

9... Kf7 10. Bxc5 Qc6 11. Qxb4 Be6 12. Bd4 h5 13. Qb8 Ke7 14. Qe5 Qd5 15. Qf6+ Black resigned.

Hort V. - Uhhannesen,1970

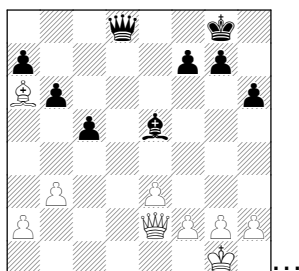


Queen and bishop, as well as rook and bishop, can tightly tie the opponent's pieces to the defense of some weak point.

White' position is nearly won. After the correct 1. g5! followed by an advance of the e- and f-pawns Black would be helpless; he would be unable to create any counterplay, being tied to the defense of the f7-pawn.

[In the game, after the premature 1. f4? b5! White failed to win.]

Andersson U. - Ioseliani N.,Rio de Janeiro,1985



One can hardly believe that White can win here, but it is not easy to play this position with Black. A few inaccuracies have led him to a quick defeat. 1. Qh5 Bf6?

[Necessary was 1... Qg5! , and if 2. Qf3 (2. Qh3 is met by 2... Qd8!) , then 2... Qe7 , intending to regroup by g7-g6 and e7-e6.]

2. g3 Qd7 3. h4 Kh7

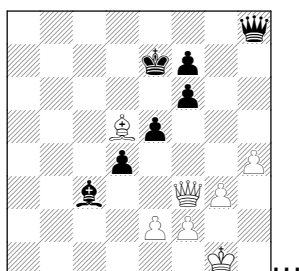
[Better is 3... Kf8]

4. Qf3 Bc3?

[After this mistake Black's defense is extremely difficult; he must have played 4... Bb2 or 4... e4.]

5. Bc4 Kg8 6. Qa8+ Kh7 7. h5! Qf5 8. Qd8! Bf6 9. Qe8! White's three last moves have decided the game. 9... Qxh5 10. Bxf7 Qd1+ 11. Kg2 h5 12. Qg8+ Kh6 13. Qh8+ Black resigned.

Kasparov G. - Computer "Deep
B.,Philadelphia,1996



Despite equal number of pawns, Black's position is almost hopeless - so great is the difference in pieces' activity. 1. Bc4 Qc8 2. Qd5 Qe6 3. Qb5 Qd7 4. Qc5+

[Surely, not 4. Qxd7+? , with a draw.

White primary task is to attack the f7-pawn.]

4... Qd6 5. Qa7+ Qd7 6. Qa8! Qc7 7. Qa3+ White does not let the black king to escape to g7. 7... Qd6 8. Qa2 f5 9. Bxf7 The black king is insecure. 9... e4 10. Bh5 Qf6 11. Qa3+! Kd7 12. Qa7+ Kd8 13. Qb8+ Kd7 14. Be8+ The bishop is transferred to a more active position. 14... Ke7 15. Bb5 Bd2 16. Qc7+ Kf8 17. Bc4 Bc3 18. Kg2 Be1 Black has to passively wait. 19. Kf1 Bc3 20. f4! The f5-pawn is doomed. 20... exf3 21. exf3 Bd2 22. f4! Ke8 23. Qc8+ Ke7 24. Qc5+ Kd8 25. Bd3 It's all over now. 25... Be3 26. Qxf5 Qc6 27. Qf8+ Kc7 28. Qe7+ Kc8 29. Bf5+ Kb8 30. Qd8+ Kb7 31. Qd7+ Qxd7 32. Bxd7 Kc7 33. Bb5 Black resigned.