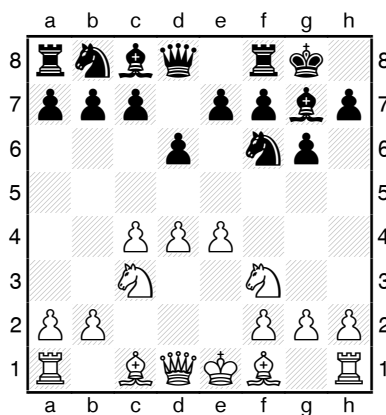


# Classical [E90–99]

*Written by IM Andrew Martin*

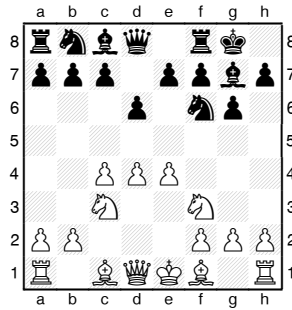


Simple, logical. development behind his wall of pawns. Although White doesn't try to 'blow Black away', this treatment is critical for the King's Indian.

All the games given in [blue](#) can be accessed via ChessPub.exe, simply head for their respective ECO code.

# Contents

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♙g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0



6 ♙e2

6 h3 *Classical–without 6 Be2 [E90]*

6...e5

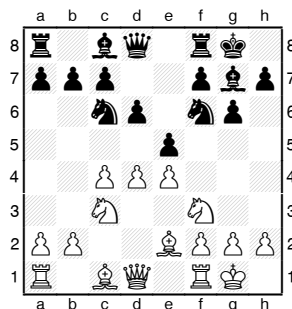
6...♙g4 *Classical–6 Be2 without 6...e5 [E91]*

7 0-0

7 ♙e3 *Classical–Petrosian, Gligoric, Exchange [E92]*

7 d5 ♘bd7 *Classical–Petrosian System, 7...Nbd7 [E93]*

7...♘c6



7...♖bd7 8 ♖e1 (8 ♖c2 Classical–Alternatives to 7...Nc6 [E94]) 8...c6 9 ♗f1 ♖e7 (9...a5 Classical–7...Nbd7 old main line [E96]) 10 d5 Classical–7...Nbd7 8 Re1 [E95]

**8 d5 ♗e7 9 ♗e1**

9 ♗d2 Classical–7...Nc6 Intro [E97]  
9 b4 Classical–The Bayonet Attack [E97]

**9...♗d7 10 ♗e3**

10 ♗d3 Classical–9 Ne1 Intro [E98]

**10...f5 11 f3 f4 12 ♗f2**

Classical–9 Ne1 Main line [E99]

*Press F5 to toggle the Navigation Pane, then click on the appropriate bookmark to go straight to that section.*

*Ctrl + 2 resizes the page.*

All rights reserved ChessPublishing.com Ltd

# Classical – without 6 Be2 [E90]

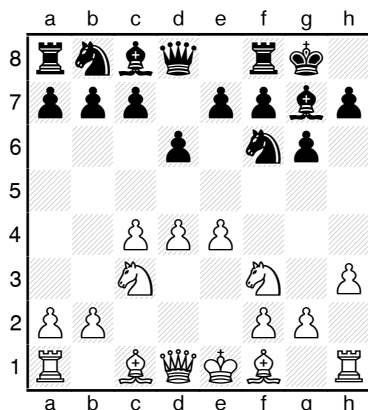
Last updated: 09/02/02 by amartin

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♗c3 ♕g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗f3 0-0

5...♗bd7

5...c5

6 h3



The Makagonov System, a slower version of the Classical Main Line, which is nevertheless very popular today. White tries to squeeze the Black position.

This section also covers fifth move alternatives to castling for Black, Larsen's Variation, 6 Be3 and the hybrid 6 Bg5 which, frankly, is neither one thing nor another.

6 ♗e3 Larsen

6 ♗g5

6...♗a6

One of several good possibilities:

6...c5 7 d5 taking play into a Benoni position, 7...e6 8 ♗d3 Black has to react energetically or he could be stamped on, 8...exd5 (8...♗a6 9 0-0 ♗c7 10 ♖e1 e5 11 ♗g5 h6 12 ♗e3 ♖h7 13 ♖h2 a6 14 a4 a5 15 ♖g1± 1-0 Babula,V–Kiik,K/34th Olympiad, Istanbul TUR 2000 (29)) 9 exd5 ♖e8+ (9...♗e7+ 10 ♗e2 ♗xe2+ 11 ♖xe2 ♖e8+ 12 ♖d1 ♗a6 13 a3 ♗c7 14 ♗f4 ♖d8 15 ♖c2 b5⇒ 0-1 B.Gelfand–J.Gdanski/Belgrade 1999 (55)) 10 ♗e3 ♗h6 (10...♗bd7 11 0-0 ♗h5 12 ♗d2 ♗e5 13 ♗xe5 ♖xe5 14 ♖fe1 ♗d7 15 ♗e4 f5 16 ♗c3 ♗f8 17 g3 ♖ae8 18 ♖h2 f4± 0-1 Lautier,J–Murey,Y/Paris 1989 (21)) 10...b5 11 ♗xb5 ♗e4 12 0-0 ♗xb2 13 ♗xe4

- ♖xe4 14 ♗c2! 1-0 Ivkov,B–Gheorghiu,F/Buenos Aires 1979 (32)) 11 0-0 ♕xe3 12  
 fxe3 ♜bd7∞ 0-1 Antic,D–Velimirovic,D/55th ch–YUG, Subotica YUG 2000 (44)  
 6...e5 7 d5  
 a) 7...a5 8 ♕g5 ♜a6 9 g4?! 0-1 Barsov,A–Gallagher,J/12th Goodricke Open, Calcutta IND  
 2001 (33)  
 b) 7...♜bd7 8 ♕g5 h6 9 ♕e3 ♜c5 10 ♜d2 ♜e8 (10...a5 11 ♕e2 ♕d7 12 ♖c1 b6 13 g4 ♜h7 14 b3 f5  
 15 exf5 gxf5 16 ♗c2 e4! 0-1 Macdonald Ross,M–Smith,I/GB Ch Seniors 1999 (33)) 11  
 b4 ♜a6 12 a3 f5 1-0 Barsov,A–Mirzoeva,E/ADCF Masters, Abu Dhabi UAE 2001  
 (34)  
 c) 7...♜a6! An excellent move, keeping the diagonal open of the c8 Bishop, 8 ♕e3 (8 ♕g5 c6  
 9 ♜d2 h6 10 ♕h4 ♗e8 1-0 Martin A.–Cobb J./Torquay 1998 (31)) 8...♜h5 9 ♜h2 ♗e8  
 10 ♕e2 ♜f4 (10...f5 11 exf5 ♜f4!?! ⇒ 0-1 Chernin A.–Polgar J./New Delhi 1990 (29)) 11  
 ♕f3 f5 12 h4 ♗e7 13 g3 ♜b4 14 ♗b3 ♜fd3+ 15 ♖e2 f4!! 0-1 L.Kavalek–  
 G.Kasparov/Bugojno 1982 (27)  
 6...♜bd7 7 ♕e3 e5 8 d5 ♜e8 9 g4 ♜df6!? Setting the scene for a heavy manoeuvring  
 struggle, Divljan,I–Sahovic,D/TSIM, Belgrade YUG 2001 (48)

### 7 ♕g5 ♗e8 8 g4

8 ♕d3 e5 9 0-0 ♜h5 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 ♖e1 ♜c5 12 ♜d5 c6 13 ♜c7 ♗d7 14 ♜xa8 ♜xd3 15  
 ♖c3± 1-0 Barsov,A–Sutovsky,E/York 1999 (36)

### 8...♖h8

8...e5 9 d5 ♜d7 10 ♖g1 ♜dc5 1-0 M.Krasenkow–I.Smirin/Belgrade 1999 (32)

### 9 ♕e2 e5 10 d5 ♕d7 11 ♜d2 ♜g8

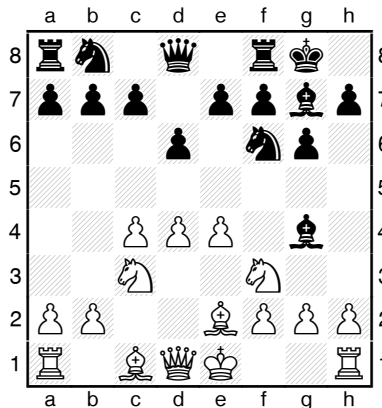
1-0 Krasenkow,M–Sutovskij,E/Pamplona 1998 (30)

# Classical – 6 Be2 without 6...e5 [E91]

Last updated: 12/03/02 by amartin

Not exactly unimportant sidelines but all of these are very rare in comparison with 6...e5. It seems to me to be slightly defeatist to adopt one of these continuations because in each White can keep at least a slight edge with even the simplest moves– he doesn't have to expend too much effort. Perhaps 6...Bg4 is most combative but Black's results at the top level are very poor, 7 Be3 Nfd7 8 Ng1! is good, leaving Black without too many long-term prospects. And that's the story here folks– you'd better have your improvements ready!

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♗e2 ♗g4



All sixth move alternatives for Black to 6...e5 are covered here. Of these, 6... Na6 has attracted a great deal of attention recently, as has 6...Bg4. 6...Nbd7 will probably transpose back into a more common line whereas 6...c5 is probably best described as 'mistimed'

6...♘a6 7 0-0 (7 ♗g5 h6 8 ♗h4 c6 9 0-0 ♘h5 10 ♖d2 g5 11 ♘g5 hxg5 12 ♗xg5 1-0 Vescovi,G–Tkachiev,V/Bastia 1998 (34)) 7...e5 (7... ♗e8 8 ♖e1 e5 9 ♗e3 ♘g4 10 ♗g5 1-0 Anand,V–Polgar,J/Advanced Chess rapid playoff, Leon ESP 2000 (68)) 8 ♖e1 (8 dxe5 dxe5 9 ♗xd8 ♖xd8 10 ♗g5 h6 11 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 12 ♘d5 ♗g7 13 ♘e7+ ♗f8 14 ♘xc8 ♖axc8= 0-1 Navarro,T–Matsuura,E/Aberto do Brasil BCX, Brasilia BRA 2001 (33)) 8 ♗e3 ♘g4 9 ♗g5 ♗e8 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 ♘d2 1-0 Shulman,Y–Perelshteyn,E/Milwaukee 2000 (31)) 8...c6 9 ♗f1 (9 ♖b1 exd4 10 ♘d4 ♘c5 11 f3 a5 12 ♗g5 ♖e8 13 ♗f1 ♗d7 14 ♖d2 ♗b6 15 ♗h1 a4 16 ♖ed1 ♘h5!?!⇒ 0-1 Hergott,D–Rogers,I/Den Bosch, Hertogenbosch NED 1999 (32)) 9...exd4 (9... ♗g4 10 d5 ♘e8 11 ♗e2 c5 12 g3 ♘ac7 13 ♘h4!± 1-0 Epishin,V–

Cebalo,M/Scaccommatto, Torino ITA 2000 (33)) 10 ♖xd4 ♗g4 11 h3 ♜b6 12 hxg4 ♙xd4 13 ♙e3 1-0 Leitao,R–Milos,G/Sao Paulo zt 2000 (28)

6...c5 If you can remember the heyday of the 6...c5 variation then you are nearly as old as I am! Actually, it went out of fashion because White calls all the shots. 7 d5 (7 0-0 ♙g4 8 d5 ♗bd7 9 h3 ♙xf3 10 ♙xf3 a6 11 a4 1-0 Garcia Palermo,G–Reeh,O/Bundesliga 1989 (21)) 7...e6 (7...♗a6 8 0-0 ♗c7 9 ♙g5 ♙g4 10 ♗d2 ♙xe2 11 ♜xe2 e6 12 f4 1-0 Chilov,A–Chatalbashev,B/Open, Ano Liosia GRE 2001 (30)) 8 0-0 ♞c8 9 ♙f4 (9 h3 exd5 10 exd5 ♗e4 11 ♗xe4 ♞xe4 12 ♙d3 1-0 Summerscale,A–Norris,A/Scottish Ch 1999 (25)) 9...exd5 10 exd5 ♙g4 11 h3 ♙xf3 12 ♙xf3 a6 13 g4 ½-½ Kramnik,V–Piket,J/Corus, Wijk aan Zee NED 2000 (39)

6...c6 7 0-0 a6 8 h3 b5 9 a3 ♗bd7 10 ♙g5 h6 11 ♙e3 ♗b6 12 b3 ♙b7 13 ♜c1 ♖h7 14 ♞d1 ♞c8 15 c5 ♗bd7 16 b4± 1-0 Mikhalevski,V–Wortel,M/Open, Gent BEL 2001 (28)

6...a5!? 7 0-0 ♗a6 8 ♙f4 ♜e8 9 e5 ♗d7 10 ♜d2 dxe5 11 dxe5 ♗dc5 12 ♙h6∞ ½-½ L.Ftacnik–Istratescu/Krynica (ZT) 1998 (29)

6...♗bd7 to avoid the exchange variation, Black plays this before ...e5, 7 e5!? Interesting, if there is an immediate objection to the 6...Nbd7 move order then this must be it! 7...dxe5 8 dxe5 ♗g4 9 e6 fxe6 10 0-0 Morales Cano,C–De la Cruz Sanchez,G/XXVII Open, Seville ESP 2002 (26).

## 7 ♙e3

I would say that the 6...Bg4 is best reserved as a surprise weapon, particularly if your opponent expects one of the long main lines emanating out of 6...e5.

## 7...♗c6

7...♗fd7 8 ♞c1 (8 d5 ♗a6 9 ♗d4 ♙xe2 10 ♜xe2 ♗ac5 11 0-0 0-1 Handke,F–Zueger,B/Mitropa Team Cup, Charleville FRA 2000 (37)) 8...c5 (8...a6 9 0-0 ♙xf3 10 ♙xf3 c5 11 d5 b5 12 ♙e2 ♜a5 13 ♙d2 b4 14 ♗a4 ♗b6 15 ♗xb6 ♜xb6 16 ♞b1± 1-0 Knott,S–Ghasi,A/Scarborough 2001 (55)) 9 d5 a6 10 a4 ♗b6 11 b3 e6 12 0-0 0-1 Prusikhin,M–Gutman,L/ch–GER, Seebad Heringsdorf GER 2000 (34)

## 8 d5

8 ♜b3 ♙xf3 9 ♙xf3 e5 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 ♜xb7 ♗d4 1-0 Kishnev,S–Rogers,I/Bundesliga 2001 (31)

## 8...♙xf3 9 gxf3 ♗b8 10 h4

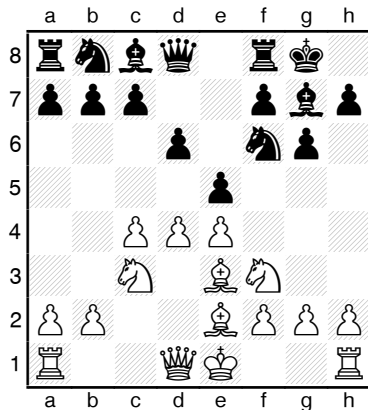
1-0 Van Wely,L–Rogers,I/Dutch Team Championships, Breda NED 2000 (23)

# Classical – Petrosian, Gligoric, Exchange [E92]

*Last updated: 10/04/02 by amartin*

We cover some very important systems here.

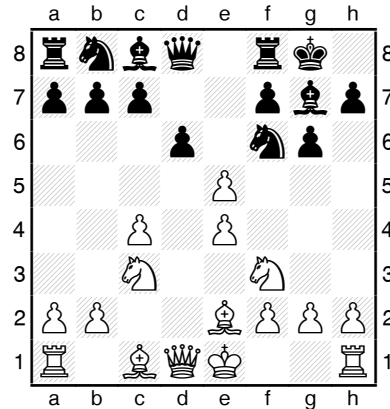
1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♙g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♙e2 e5 7 ♙e3



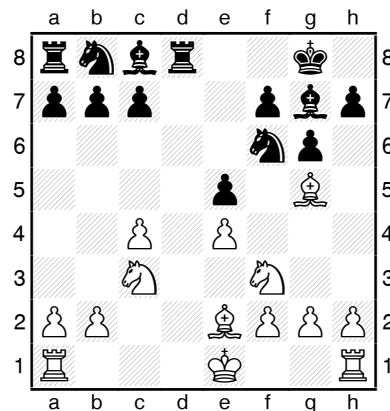
The Gligoric System is a flexible, balanced weapon. White makes no immediate commitment, just places his Bishop on an excellent, central square. Black has challenged 7 Be3 in diverse ways, of which the most reliable are 7...Na6, 7...Ng4 and 7...exd4. We highlight other ideas too.

7 dxe5



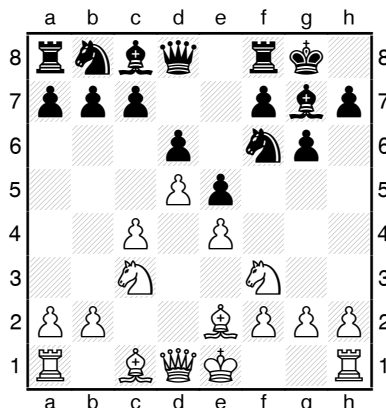


This is rather dull. Black remains fine in the Main Line in several different ways, but if you're good technically or want to bore a better opponent's pants off, then I suppose it's still worth a try. 7...dxe5 8 ♔xd8 ♖xd8 The Exchange Variation can be recommended only to a very strong player wishing to 'out-technique' weaker opposition. The critical position arises after 9 ♕g5



but here Black has several strong moves : 9...Nbd7, 9...Re8 and 9...c6 to name but three. (9 ♔d5 ♔xd5 10 cxd5 c6= 0-1 [Kyriakidis,T–Novikov,S/EYCC B, Halkidiki GRE 2001 \(25\)](#)) 9...♖e8 (9... ♔bd7 10 ♔d5 c6 11 ♔e7+ ♔f8 12 ♔xc8 ♖dxc8 13 0-0-0 ♔c5 14 ♕xf6 ♕xf6= 0-1 [Danailov–Kasparov/Dortmund 1980 \(30\)](#)) 10 ♔d5 ♔xd5 11 cxd5 c6 12 ♕c4 b5 (12...cxd5 13 ♕xd5 ♔d7 14 ♔d2 ♔c5 15 ♔c4 ♕f8 16 0-0-0 ♕e6 17 ♔b1 ♖ac8= 0-1 [Salgado,A–Gallagher,J/L'Hospitalet 1992 \(25\)](#)) 13 ♕b3 ♕b7 14 0-0-0 ♔d7 15 d6 a5∞ 1-0 [Sulskis,G–Jatautis,D/ch–LTU, Vilnius LTU 2000 \(31\)](#)

7 d5



The Petrosian System is a strategically complex method of play originally worked out by Tigran Petrosian. Today a prominent supporter is Vladimir Kramnik. Critical are

7...a5, 7...Nbd7 (see E93) and 7...Na6, all of which lead to good play for Black

a) 7...♠a6 8 ♠d2 c6 9 a3 ♙d7 10 b4 cxd5 11 cxd5 ♠c7 12 0-0 a5 13 b5 ♙e3 14 ♜b1 ♠d7 15 ♠c4 ♠c5 16 ♙e3 f5 17 ♙xc5 dxc5 18 b6± 1-0 [Kramnik,V–Ljubojevic,L/Amber Blindfold, Monaco MNC 2001 \(27\)](#)

b) 7...h6?! 8 0-0 (8 ♠d2!) 8...♠h7 9 ♠e1 ♠d7 10 ♠d3 f5 11 f3 f4 12 b4 ♜f7 13 c5∞ 0-1 [Krogus,N–Stein,L/Ukraine 1960 \(43\)](#)

c) 7...a5 This flexible move seems to be the best answer, 8 ♙g5 (8 h3!? ♠a6 9 g4 ♠c5 10 ♜c2 c6 11 ♙e3 a4 12 0-0-0 0-1 [Yurtaev,L–Shulman/Vladivostok 1995 \(24\)](#))

c1) 8...♠a6 9 0-0 ♜e8 10 ♠d2 ♙d7 (10...♗h8 11 a3 ♙d7 12 ♠b5 ♠g8!∞ 0-1 [Zvjaginsev,V–Kozul,Z/Portoroz SLO 1999 \(34\)](#)) 11 ♜b1 h6 12 ♙e3 ♠h7 13 b3 f5 14 f3 ♠f6 15 a3 ♠c5 16 b4 axb4 17 axb4 ♠a4 18 ♠xa4 ♜xa4= 0-1 [Zvjaginsev,V–Polgar,J/FIDE WCh KO, Las Vegas USA \(4.3\) 1999 \(41\)](#)

c2) 8...h6 9 ♙h4 ♠a6 10 ♠d2 ♜e8 11 0-0 ♠h7 12 a3 ♙d7 (12...h5 13 f3 ♙h6 14 ♗h1 ♙e3 0-1 [Peng Zhaoqin–Al Sayed,M/FSGM June, Budapest HUN 2001 \(44\)](#)) 13 b3 (13 ♠b5 h5 14 f3 ♙h6 15 ♜b1 ♙g5 16 ♙f2 ♜e7 17 b4 axb4 18 axb4 h4 19 ♜e1 f5 20 c5 h3∞ 1-0 [Lugovoi–Avrukh/Beersheva 1998 \(41\)](#)) 13...h5 14 f3 ♙h6 15 ♗h1 ♙e3 16 ♜b1 ♙c5 17 ♜c1 g5 18 ♙e1 f5 19 exf5 ♙xf5 20 ♠de4± 1-0 [Naumkin,I–Marino,O/It, Montecatini Terme ITA 2001 \(33\)](#)

## 7...♠g4

If Black tries to do something fast then the White pieces are all in good positions. If both sides develop normally, the three pawn centre gives a useful space advantage. I forecast that the Gligoric System will become very popular in the years to come.

7...♠a6 8 0-0 (8 d5 ♠g4 9 ♙g5 f6 10 ♙h4 ♠h6 11 ♠d2 ♠f7 12 f3 0-1 [Smirin,I–Gallagher,J/Mind Sports Olympiad 1999 \(33\)](#)) 8...♠g4 9 ♙g5 ♜e8 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 h3 f6 12 ♙d2 ♠h6 13 ♙e3 c6 14 c5 ♠f7 15 ♙xa6 bxa6 16 ♜a4 f5 17 exf5 gxf5 18 ♜fe1 ♗h8 19 ♜ad1± 1-0 [Xu Jun–Motylev,A/CHN–RUS Summit Men, Shanghai CHN 2001 \(33\)](#)

7...exd4 8 ♠xd4 ♜e8 9 f3 c6 10 ♙f2 (10 ♜d2 d5 11 exd5 cxd5 12 0-0 ♠c6 13 c5 ♜xe3! ½-½ [Karpov–Kasparov/New York/Lyon 1990 \(24\)](#)) 10...d5 11 exd5 cxd5 12 0-0 ♠c6 13 c5 ♠h5 14 ♜d2 ♙e5 15 g3 ♠g7 16 ♜fd1 ♠e6 (16...♙e6 17 ♠xe6 fxe6 18 f4 ♙f6 19 ♠b5

♙e7 20 ♖ac1 a6 21 ♜d4± 1-0 Khalifman,A–Akopian,V/FIDE WCh Final 1999 (61) 17  
♜xe6 ♙xc6 18 f4 ♙xc3 19 ♚xc3 ♙f5 20 ♙f1 ♙e4 21 b4 ♚e7 22 ♖d2 a6 23 a4 h5 24  
♖e1± 0-1 Hansen,C–McShane,L/North Sea Cup, Esbjerg DEN 2001 (42)

### 8 ♙g5 f6 9 ♙h4 ♚d7

9...g5 10 ♙g3 ♜h6 11 d5 ♜d7 12 ♜d2 f5 13 exf5 ♜f6 14 ♜de4 ♜xe4 15 ♜xe4 ♙xf5 16  
♙d3 g4 17 ♚e2 ♜h8 18 0-0-0 ♚e8 19 ♜b1 ♚g6∞ 0-1 Dorfman,J–Nataf,I/Mondariz  
zt 2000 (47)

9...♜c6 10 d5 ♜e7 11 ♜d2 ♜h6 12 f3 c5 13 dxc6 (13 ♖b1 ♜f7 14 0-0 f5 15 b4 b6 16 a4 ♙h6 17  
♙f2 ♜h8 18 a5 ♜g8 19 ♚c2 ♜f6 20 ♖b2 ♜h5 21 ♖a1 ♙d7 22 axb6 axb6 23 ♖xa8 ♚xa8 24 ♖a2  
♚d8 25 bxc5 bxc5 26 ♖a7± 1-0 Gelfand,B–Nataf,I/NAO Masters, Cannes FRA 2002  
(66)) 13...bxc6 14 b4 g5 15 ♙f2 f5 16 0-0 ♜h8 17 ♜b3 fxe4 18 fxe4 ♙e6 19 a4 ♜g6  
20 b5 c5 21 ♜d5 ♜f4± 0-1 Fomichenko,E–Hebden,M/White Tower Open,  
Halkidiki GRE 2000 (35)

9...♜d7 10 0-0 h5 11 dxe5 dxe5 12 b4 ♜h6 13 ♙g3 c6 14 c5 ♜f7 15 ♚b3 ♙h6 16 ♖ad1 ♜g7  
17 ♜d2 f5 18 f4! 1-0 Magerramov,E–Bologan,V/USSR Ch 1991 (40).

### 10 h3 ♜h6 11 dxe5 dxe5 12 ♚d5+ ♚f7 13 ♚xf7+ ♖xf7!? 14 0-0-0 ♜c6 15 ♜d5 ♜h8 16 g4 ♜g8 17 ♜b1 ♙e6 18 ♙g3 ♖e8±

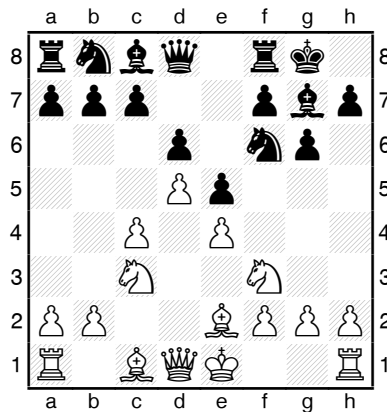
0-1 Crisan,A–Beliaevsky,A/Milan Vidmar Mem, Portoroz SLO 2001 (58).

# Classical – Petrosian System, 7...Nbd7

[E93]

Last updated: 09/02/02 by amartin

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♗c3 ♕g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗f3 0-0 6 ♖e2 e5 7 d5



The Petrosian Variation. White blocks the centre and with a subsequent Bg5 takes prophylactic action against Black's projected Kingside attack. With Black thus delayed, White turns his mind to the usual Queenside pressure.

As stated, the best games were played by originator Petrosian— in his hands 7 d5 looked a concept of genius. These days, Kramnik likes 7 d5 and he has given Garry Kasparov a rough ride with the line.

7...♗bd7 8 ♖g5

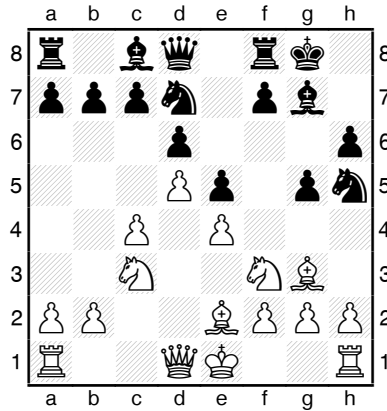
8 ♖c2

8 h4

8 h3

8 ♖c3 ♗g4 9 ♖g5 f6 10 ♖h4 ♗h6 11 ♗d2 g5 12 ♖g3 f5 0-1 JH Donner–S.Gligoric/Eersel 1968 (28)

8...h6 9 ♖h4 g5 10 ♖g3 ♗h5



In the old days, when the ECO coding system was devised, 7...Nbd7 held centre stage. This was the King's Indian heyday of Gligoric, Fischer, Geller et al. Today 7...a5 has taken over, but 7...Nbd7 remains strong and viable.

**11 h4 g4 12 Nh2 Nxc3 13 fxg3 h5**

1-0 Kuzmin,G–Novikov,M/White Nights Open, St Petersburg RUS 2000 (57)

# Classical – Alternatives to 7...Nc6 [E94]

*Last updated: 10/04/02 by amartin*

E94 covers all lines for Black which exclude the Classical Main line with 7...Nc6. The trendy 7...Na6 is prominent today, whereas 7...Nbd7, although solid, has taken a distant back seat by comparison. 7...exd4 remains an exciting option for the chess terrorist while 7...Qc7 and 7...Qe8 head along an unexplored trail, perhaps towards the future.

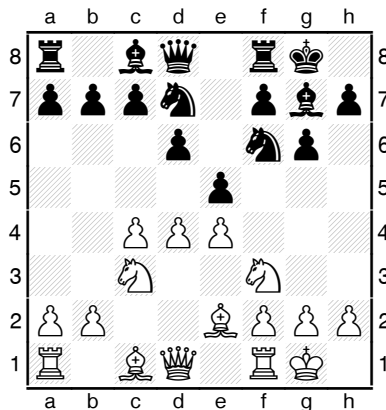
**1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♕g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3**

5 ♕e2 0-0 6 ♕g5 ♘bd7 7 ♚d2 e5 8 ♘f3 c6 0-1 [Adamski,J–Geller,E/Lugano Ol 1968 \(28\)](#)

**5...0-0 6 ♕e2 e5 7 0-0**

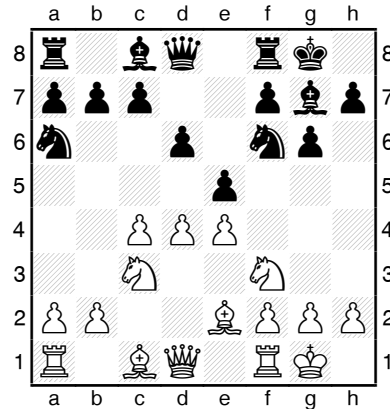
7 ♕e3 ♘bd7 8 0-0 ♜e8 9 d5 ½-½ [Radjabov,T–Xie Jun/Najdorf Memorial ARG 2001 \(65\)](#)

**7...♘bd7**



Regarded as a very solid move, possibly not combative enough for the modern era. Black contents himself with a sturdy, durable position, but not much else. Would suit the patient defender or a strong player who wishes to avoid clarification.

7...♘a6



Options-preserving, flexible. Those are the words that come to my mind when trying to describe the appeal of 7...Na6. Let's list the advantages of this move as opposed to 7...Nbd7 : Black's Bishop on c8 is left free.

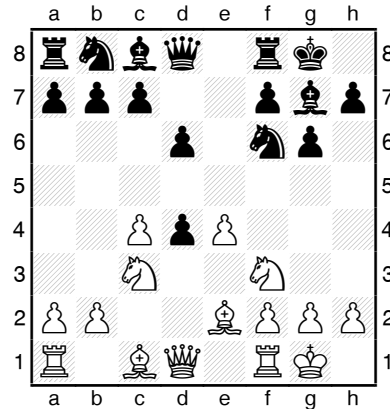
The c7 square is defended.

The Knight has options of the traditional ...Nc5 or, importantly in some lines ...Nb4 This is state of the art although recently the pendulum has begun to tip in White's favour.

We must see what the future holds for Black's interesting idea.

- a) 8 d5 ♖c5 9 ♔c2 a5 10 ♙g5 h6 11 ♙e3 ♜h5 ½-½ [Piket,J–Hernandez,G/FIDE WCh KO, New Delhi IND \(1.3\) 2000 \(29\)](#)(11...b6 12 ♜d2 ♙g4 13 f3 ♙d7 14 b3 ♜h5 15 a3 ♜f4 16 ♜h1 f5 17 ♜fe1 ♜xe2 18 ♜xe2 f4 19 ♙f2 g5 20 ♜b1 g4 ↑ 0-1 [Naumkin,I–Glek,I/10th Open, Valle d'Aosta ITA 2002 \(41\)](#))
- b) 8 ♙e3 ♜g4 (8...♜e8 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 ♜d2 ♜d7 11 a3 0-1 [Lputian,S–Nalbandian,T/ch–ARM, Yerevan ARM 1999 \(32\)](#)) 9 ♙g5 ♔c8 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 h3 h6 (11...f6 12 ♙d2 ♜h6 13 c5 c6 14 ♙xa6 bxa6 0-1 [Mellegers,J–Piket,J/Lost Boys Open, Amsterdam NED 2001 \(40\)](#)) 12 ♙d2 ♜f6 13 ♙e3 ♔e7 14 a3 1-0 [Lutz,C–Kindermann,S/ch–GER, Altenkirchen GER 1999 \(30\)](#))
- c) 8 ♙g5 ♔c8 (8...h6 9 ♙h4 ♔e8 10 ♙xf6 ♙xf6 11 c5 1-0 [Rahman,Z–Gallagher,J/GB Champ. 1999 \(34\)](#)) 9 ♙xf6 ♙xf6 10 c5 1-0 [Miles,A–Moreno,J/zt 2000 \(29\)](#))
- d) 8 ♜e1! Quietly does it–no heroics today. White is relying on common-sense to build up his advantage. 8...c6 9 ♙f1 exd4 (9...♙g4 10 d5 cxd5 11 cxd5 ♜e8 ½-½ [Ftacnik,L–Shirov,A/Bundesliga 2001 \(34\)](#)) 10 ♜xd4 ♜g4 (10...♔b6 11 ♜a4 ♔a5 12 ♙f4 1-0 [Kozul,Z–Smirin,I/7th Solana It II event, Solin CRO 1999 \(36\)](#)) 11 h3 ♔b6 12 hxg4 ♙xd4 13 ♙e3 ♙xe3 14 ♜xe3 ♜c5 (14...♔c5 15 ♙e2 ♙e6 1-0 [Van Wely,L–Ernst,S/ch–NED Leeuwarden NED 2001 \(26\)](#)) 15 ♜b1 ♔c7 16 b4 ♜d7 17 ♙e2 ½-½ [Ftacnik,L–Milos,G/34th Olympiad, Istanbul TUR 2000 \(29\)](#))

7...exd4



When things are looking bad in the main line some players will turn here. IM Yurtaev is perhaps the World's leading exponent of the capture on d4 and he has produced many fine ideas in this line, on occasion of necessity. Latterly Glek has refined the line with an early ...Nc6, allowing White to double Black's pawns. Throughout the 1990s this has remained unrefuted. 8 ♖xd4 ♜e8 9 f3

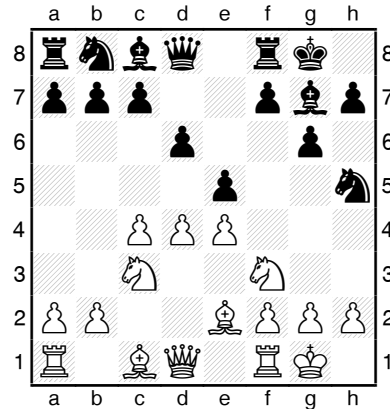
a) 9...c6 10 ♔h1 ♜bd7 (10...d5?! 11 cxd5 cxd5 12 ♕g5 dxe4 13 fxe4 ♜bd7 14 ♜db5 ♜e5 15 ♕f4± 1-0 Tal,M–Spassky,B/Montreal 1979 (32)) 11 ♕g5 h6 12 ♕h4 ♜c5 13 f4 ♜eg4 ½-½ Wells,P–Gallagher,J/Scarborough 2001 (21)

b) 9...♜h5 10 ♕e3 f5 11 ♜d2 f4 12 ♕f2 ♕e5 13 ♜fd1 ♜a6 14 ♜b3 ♜f6 15 c5↑ 1-0 Kramnik,V–Forster,R/Kramnikv SWITZERLAND 1999 (38)

c) 9...♜c6 10 ♕e3 White has learned not to take on c6, giving away too many open lines. Instead, he builds up steadily, relying on the c4, e4 grip to give a small edge. 10...♜h5 11 ♜xc6 (or 11 ♜d2 ♜f4 12 ♜f2 ♜xe2+ 13 ♜xe2 ♜e5 14 b3 a6 15 ♕g5 f6 16 ♕h4 So Black faces the simple question– how do I break the White bind? The White plan chugs along e.g. ♔h1, ♜d1 and then later ♜d5 or f3–f4 and what has Black got to show in response? Pelletier,Y–Glek,I/Christmas Open, Zurich SUI 2001 (63).) 11...bxc6 12 ♜d2 f5 13 ♜ad1 (13 exf5 ♕xf5 14 ♕d4 ♜f6 15 ♜fe1 1-0 DeMauro,J–Kurtz,M/John F Cleeve Mem (corr) 1999 (54) 13 c5 ♜b8 14 cxd6 ♜xd6 15 ♜ad1 1-0 Atalik,S–Blehm,P/San Francisco 1999 (25)) 13...♜e7 14 ♕g5 ♜f7 15 exf5 ½-½ Bareev,E–Bologan,V/TCh–RUS, Tomsk RUS 2001 (15)

7...♜h5!?





An unusual move. Of course, Black would normally wait until White closes the centre before playing ...Nh5, but that may not be necessary. 8 ♖g5 (8 dxe5 dxe5 9 ♗xd8 ♜xd8 10 ♘d5 ♘a6 11 ♙g5 f6 12 ♙e3 ♙f8 13 ♜fd1 ♙g4 14 h3 ♙xf3 15 ♙xf3 c6= 0-1 Orso,M–Seeman,T/III ShakkiNet IM 2001 (40)) 8...f6 9 ♙e3 ♘f4 10 ♙xf4 (10 c5 ♘xe2+ 11 ♗xe2 exd4 12 ♘xd4 dxc5 13 ♘b3 0-1 Hegde,R–Saravanan,V/Nagpur 1999 (26)) 10...exf4 11 c5 ♙h8 12 cxd6 ♗xd6 13 ♘b5 1-0 Kozul,Z–Krstic,U/Bled 1999 (37)

7...c6  
7...♗e7  
7...♗e8

### 8 ♗c2

8 d5  
8 ♙e3 ♜e8 9 ♗c2 ♘g4 10 ♙g5 ♙f6 11 ♙xf6 ♘gxf6 12 ♜ad1 ♘h5 13 ♜fe1 c6 14 g3 ♗e7 15 ♗d2 ♘df6 16 b4 1-0 Shipov,S–Mastrokoukos,G/Open, Ano Liosia GRE 2000 (39)  
8 ♜e1 is the subject of E95.

### 8...c6

8...a5 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 ♙e3 c6 11 ♜ad1 1-0 Cramling,P–Haik,A/Metz 1989 (65)

### 9 ♜d1 ♗e7 10 ♜b1 exd4

10...♜e8 11 dxe5 dxe5 12 b4 0-1 Polajzer,D–Tratar,M/Bled 1999 (33)

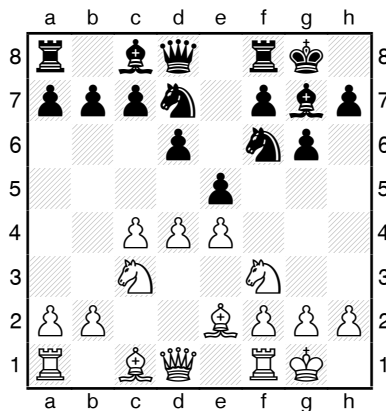
### 11 ♘xd4 ♘c5 12 f3 ♘h5

½-½ Stohl,I–Smejkal,J/Prague 1996 (19).

## Classical – 7...Nbd7 8 Re1 [E95]

Last updated: 09/02/02 by amartin

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♙g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♙e2 e5 7 0-0 ♘bd7



Dubbed the 'Positional Variation' in the seminal Batsford King's Indian Book, 7...Nbd7 has been eclipsed by the more flexible 7...Na6 on the current master scene. Perhaps this is unjustified. Here we see White countering soundly, with 8 Re1 and 9 Bf1 aiming for a slight spatial edge.

8 ♖e1 c6

8...♖e8

9 ♙f1

9 ♖b1 a5 10 b3 ♖e8 11 ♙f1 ♘g4 12 ♙g5 f6 13 ♙c1 ½-½ Najdorf,M–Ivko,B/Mar Del Plata 1955 (32)

9...♙e7

9...♘g4 10 h3 exd4 11 ♘xd4 ♙b6 12 hxg4 ♙xd4 0-1 Farago,I–Rantanen,Y/Finland 1983

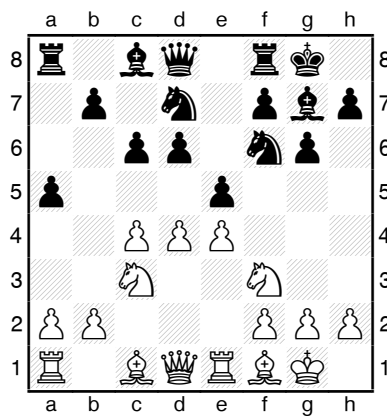
10 d5 a5 11 a3 ♘c5 12 b3 ♘e8 13 ♙b2 f5

1-0 Mikhailevski,V–Sutovsky,E/Tel Aviv 1994 (31)

# Classical – 7...Nbd7 old main line [E96]

*Last updated: 09/02/02 by amartin*

**1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Qg7 4 e4 d6 5 Nf3 0-0 6 Qe2 e5 7 0-0 Nbd7 8 Re1 c6 9 Qf1 a5**



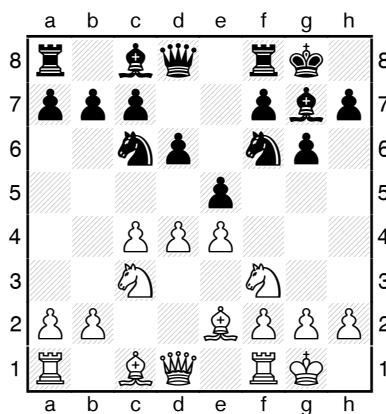
A continuation of the 7...Nbd7 mainline which these days is right out of fashion.

# Classical – 7...Nc6 Intro [E97]

Last updated: 10/04/02 by amartin

A fiddly section, with lots of important ideas being lumped together under one banner.

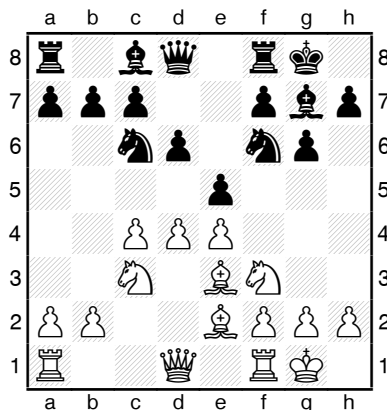
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 Nf3 0-0 6 Be2 e5 7 0-0 Nc6



So to the meat and potato line of the King's Indian. Black invites a full-scale Queenside v Kingside battle. There is only one way to wimp out now and that is with 8 Be3 .....but for the most part White players will be ready to accept the challenge. Thus 8 d5 Ne7 is normal and now the final split is between: 9 Ne1, the currently popular 9 b4, 9 Nd2, 9 Bd2 and the rest, of which 9 Bg5 and 9 a4 are the most important. In each the song remains the same— who will be faster? Tries by Black to avoid the mutual wing attack scenario have been almost exclusively unsuccessful.

8 d5

8 Be3



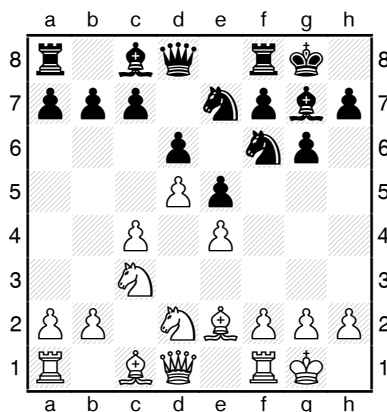
this isn't dangerous, but Black should prefer 8...Re8! to 8...Ng4, which, although combative, tends to favour White,

a) 8...♘g4 9 ♙g5 f6 10 ♚c1 exd4 (10...f5 11 ♙g5 ♜e8= 0-1 I Sokolov–A Shirov/Las Vegas FIDE WCh 1999 (24)) 11 ♜xd4 ♜xd4 12 ♞xd4 f5 13 ♞d1 ♞h4 14 ♙f4 ♙e6 15 exf5 gxf5 16 ♞d2± 1-0 Vera,R–Garcia Gallego,A/3rd Open, Malaga ESP 2000 (30)

b) 8...♞e8 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 ♞xd8 ♜xd8 11 ♜b5 ♜e6 12 ♜g5 1-0 Portisch,L–Xie Jun/Roquebrune 1998 (30)

8 dxe5 dxe5 9 ♙g5 ♞xd1 10 ♞fxd1 ♜e8 11 h3 f6 12 ♙e3 ♞f7 13 c5 ♙e6 14 ♞d2= 1-0 Chekhov,V–Husari,M/Koszalin 1999 (45)

### 8...♜e7 9 ♜d2

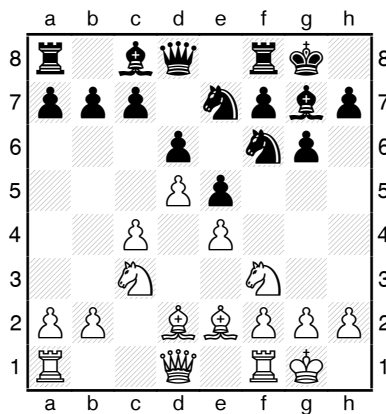


A very important line, White intends a quick Queenside advance with b4, c4–c5 and then Nd2–c4!, pressurising d6. Play becomes very complex with Black usually countering with an all-out assault against White's King.

9 ♙g5 A move which always looked odd to me, although it has proved quite popular in the last few years. 9...♜h5 (9...h6 10 ♙xf6 ♙xf6 11 b4 0-1 Carleton,J–Richardson,K/British ClubCorres. Ch 1999 (39)) 10 ♜e1 ♜f4 11 ♜d3 ♜xd3 (11...♜xe2+ 12 ♞xe2 h6 13 ♙d2 f5 14 f4 exf4 15 ♜xf4 g5 16 ♜h5 ♙d4+ 17 ♚h1 f4! 0-1 Stanec,N–Nataf,I/Tch–AUT 2001

(25)) 12 ♖xd3 f6 13 ♜e3 f5 1-0 Yermolinsky,A–Fedorowicz,J/World Open 1993  
(57)

9 ♜d2



Taimanov brought 9 Bd2 to the forefront during his fateful match with Bobby Fischer. White obtained good positions. Since then the idea has been in and out of fashion without totally grabbing the imagination. 9...♘h5 10 g3 f5 11 exf5 ♘xf5 12 ♘e4 ♘f6 13 ♜g5 h6 14 ♜xf6 ♜xf6 15 ♜d3 ♜g7 16 h4 c6 17 ♖g2 ♜d7 18 ♚d2 cxd5 19 cxd5 ♚b6± 0-1 Vogt,L–Gufeld,E/Baku 1980 (48)

9 ♖h1!? ♖h8!? 1-0 Spraggett,K–Santos,C/Boavista Masters, Porto POR 2000 (34)

9 a4 a5 10 ♝a3 ♘d7 11 ♘h4 f5 12 exf5 gxf5 13 f4 ♘g6 14 ♘xg6 hxg6 15 ♘b5 ♝f7 16 ♝g3± 0-1 Garcia Palermo,C–Flores,D/72nd ch–ARG, Pinamar ARG 2002 (31)

## 9...c5

9...♘e8 10 b4 f5 11 c5 0-1 Ftacnik,L–Cvitan,O/Bundesliga 1997 (27)

9...c6 10 a3 ♘e8 11 b4 f5 1-0 Gurevich,M–Bologan,V/Match, Saint–Pierre FRA 2000 (34)

9...a5 10 a3 (10 ♝b1 ♘d7 11 a3 f5 12 b4 ♖h8 13 ♚c2 0-1 Lputian,S–Piket,J/Corus, Wijk aan Zee NED 2000 (46)) 10...♜d7 11 b3 c6 12 ♝a2 1-0 Gurevich,M–Babula,V/Bundesliga 2000 (40)

## 10 a3

10 ♝b1 ♘e8 11 b4 b6 12 bxc5 bxc5 13 ♘b3 f5 14 ♜g5 ½-½ Gurevich,M–Hebden,M/GM, Clichy FRA 2001 (31)

10 dxc6 bxc6 11 b4 d5 12 b5 0-1 Farago,I–Piket,J/Amsterdam 1985 (40)

**10...♘e8 11 b4 b6 12 ♝b1 f5 13 f3 f4 14 a4 g5 15 a5 ♝f6 16 bxc5?**

16 axb6

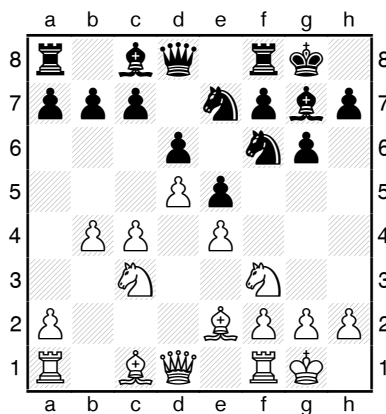
**16...bxc5 17 ♘b3 ♝g6!±**

0-1 Korchnoi,V–Fischer,R/Curacao 1970 (31).

# Classical – The Bayonet Attack [E97]

*Last updated: 10/04/02 by amartin*

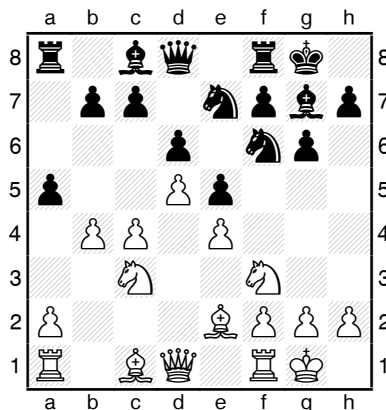
**1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♗c3 ♙g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♙e2 e5 7 0-0 ♗c6 8 d5 ♗e7  
9 b4**



The Bayonet Attack. THE modern battleground of the King's Indian. White begins the queenside advance without delay. It's fair to say that the discovery of 9..Nh5 10 Re1! is the most important development in this opening of the last 25 years. We examine several counters here, but 9...a5 and 9..Nh5 remain critical and still evolving.

**9...♗h5**

9...a5



In view of the current record of 9...Nh5 10 Re1!, 9...a5 may be considered Black's most promising try against the Bayonet Variation. Originally thought anti-positional, attacking White where he has more space and enabling him to open up lines. But modern chess has nothing to do with beauty – if it works, play it!

a) 10 bxa5 c5 (10... $\text{Bxa5}$  11  $\text{Qd2}$  c5 12  $\text{Qb3}$   $\text{Ba6}$  13 a4 0-1 [Lupion,M–Svetushkin,D/Linares 1999 \(27\)](#)) 11  $\text{Bb1}$   $\text{Bxa5}$  12 a3 h6 13  $\text{Qh4}$   $\text{Ba6}$  14  $\text{Bb3}$   $\text{Qh8}$  15 g3  $\text{Qh3}$  16  $\text{Qg2}$   $\text{Bb6}$  17  $\text{Qd2}\pm$  1-0 [Lobron,E–Kachiani,K/Bundesliga 2001 \(45\)](#)

b) 10  $\text{Qa3}$

b1) 10... $\text{Qh5}$  11 c5  $\text{Qf4}$  12 b5 b6 13 cxd6 cxd6 14  $\text{Bc1}$  (14  $\text{Qd2}$  f5 15  $\text{Qc4}$  1-0 [Savchenko,S–Rechel,B/Integrata GM, Darmstadt GER 2001 \(29\)](#)) 14... $\text{Qh6}$  15  $\text{Qd2}$  f5 1-0 [Topalov,V–Polgar,J/Frankfurt GER 1999 \(25\)](#)

b2) 10...axb4 11  $\text{Qxb4}$  b6 (11... $\text{Qe8}$  12 c5 f5 13  $\text{Qg5}$  1-0 [Zontakh,A–Skurski,J/Open, Kazimierz Dolny POL 2001 \(25\)](#)) 12 a4  $\text{Bc8}$ ?! as in [Janssen,R–Golubev,M/Dieren 1999 \(36\)](#), 13  $\text{Bc1}$  h5 14  $\text{Qf1}$   $\text{Qg4}$  15  $\text{Qb5}$   $\text{Qh7}$  16  $\text{Qe2}$  f5 17  $\text{Qd2}$   $\text{Qxe2}$  18  $\text{Qxe2}$  fxe4 19  $\text{Qxe4}$   $\text{Qf5}$  20 a5  $\text{Qd4}$  21  $\text{Qd3}$  bxa5 22  $\text{Bxa5}$   $\text{Bb8}$  23  $\text{Ba7}$  c6 24 dxc6 1-0 [Epishin,V–Langheinrich,F/8th Schloss Open, Werther GER 2002 \(24\)](#)

9...c6 an interesting and little used sideline, 10 a4 a5 11 bxa5  $\text{Qxa5}$  (11...c5 12  $\text{Qd2}$   $\text{Qd7}$  13  $\text{Qb5}$   $\text{Ba6}$  14  $\text{Qb3}$  f5 15 exf5 gxf5 0-1 [Crouch,C–McShane,L/ch–GBR, Millfield ENG 2000 \(45\)](#)) 12  $\text{Qb2}$   $\text{Qe8}$  13  $\text{Qd2}$  f5 (13...c5 14  $\text{Qb5}$  f5 15 f4 1-0 [Zontakh,A–Slaby,J/Open, Kazimierz Dolny POL 2001 \(34\)](#)) 14  $\text{Qc2}$  c5 15 exf5  $\text{Qxf5}$  16  $\text{Qb5}$  0-1 [Zontakh,A–Murey,Y/Cappelle La Grande 2000 \(59\)](#)

9... $\text{Qh8}$ ?! 10 c5  $\text{Qcg8}$  11  $\text{Qd2}$   $\text{Qe8}$  12 a4 f5 1/2-1/2 [Tukmakov,V–Hebden,M/Master Open, Lausanne SUI 2000 \(32\)](#)

## 10 $\text{Bc1}$ !

It may have been Kramnik's 9 b4, 10 Re1 system which dissuaded Kasparov from playing the King's Indian in their fateful match.

10  $\text{Qc2}$  f5 (10...a5 11 bxa5  $\text{Bxa5}$  12  $\text{Bc1}$  c5 13 dxc6 bxc6 14  $\text{Qe3}$  0-1 [Epishin,V–Fedorov,A/1st ch–Europe, Saint Vincent ITA 2000 \(32\)](#)) 11  $\text{Qg5}$   $\text{Qf4}$  12  $\text{Qxf4}$  exf4 13  $\text{Bae1}$  1-0 [Epishin,V–Menoni,V/Bratto 1999 \(38\)](#)

10  $\text{Qb3}$  h6 11 a4  $\text{Qf4}$  12  $\text{Qd2}$  0-1 [Elwert Hans,M–Van Oosterom,J/Korning Memorial \(corr\) 1999 \(32\)](#)



## 10...f5

10...h6 11 d2 f4 12 f1 a5 13 bxa5 xa5 14 b3 a8 15 c5 1-0 [Karpov,A–Kamsky,G/FIDE World CH Elista 1996 \(71\)](#)

10...f4 11 f1 a5 12 bxa5 c5 13 d2 xa5 14 a4 a6 15 a3 d7∞ (15...g5 16 g3 h3+ 17 xh3 xh3 18 h5 d7 19 xg5 h6 20 e3 f5 21 e2∞ 1-0 [Kramnik,V–Kasparov,G/Novgorod 1997 \(32\)](#)) 16 b5 c8 17 h1 g5 18 g3 h3 19 e2 1-0 [Xu Jun–Sasikiran,K/ch–Asia, Udaipur IND 2000 \(38\)](#)

10...h8 11 d2 f4 12 f1 c6 13 b2 cxd5 14 cxd5 g8 15 c1 f6 16 c4 e8 17 h1 f5 0-1 [Zhao,Z–Hebden,M/Scarborough 2001 \(35\)](#)

## 11 g5

11 d2 A move which has experienced a recent wave of popularity due to the overworking of 11 Ng5, 11...f6 12 c5 h8 13 f3 f4 14 c4 g5 15 a3 g6 16 b5 dxc5!/? [Kobalija,M–Miroshinenko,E/Ohrid 2001 \(44\)](#).

## 11...f6 12 f3

12 f3 e8 13 c5 a5 14 cxd6 xd6 15 b5 1-0 [Khalifman,A–Peng Xiaomin/CHN–RUS Summit Men, Shanghai CHN 2001 \(32\)](#)

## 12...c6 13 e3 cxd5

13...h8 14 b5 cxd5 15 cxd5 fxe4 16 gxe4 xe4 17 xe4 ½-½ [Gligoric,S–Pavlovic,M/56th ch–YUG, Herceg Novi YUG 2001 \(20\)](#)

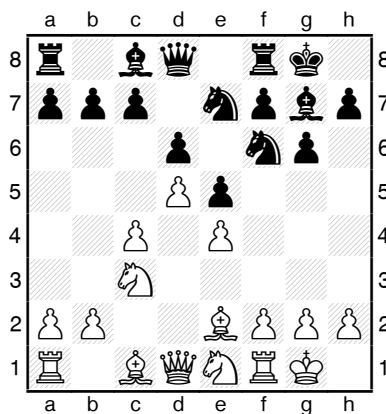
## 14 cxd5 h6 15 e6 xe6 16 dxe6 fxe4 17 xe4 xe4 18 xe4 d5∞

½-½ [Xu Jun–Ponomariov,R/FIDE World Cup Gp B, Shenyang CHN 2000 \(28\)](#).

# Classical – 9 Ne1 Intro [E98]

Last updated: 09/02/02 by amartin

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♙g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♙e2 e5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 d5 ♘e7  
9 ♘e1



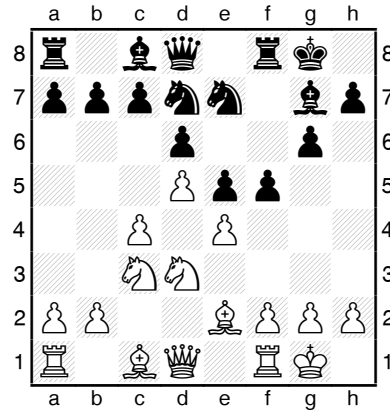
The old main line, the knight relocates to d3 which both prepares c5, and frees the f-pawn.

9... ♘d7

9... c5

9... ♘e8 10 ♙e3 (10 f3 f5 11 g4 Lines with an early g4 used to be known as 'the Benko Attack'. Nowadays that name seems to have faded but it was Benko who popularised g2-g4 back in the 50's and 60's. 11... ♖h8 12 ♘g2 ♘g8 13 ♙e3 c5 1-0 Lim Chuing Hoong–Theerapabpaisit, W/Sea Chess TCh, Kuala Lumpur MAI 2001 (34) 10 ♘d3 f5 11 f4 fxe4 12 ♘xe4 ♘f5 1-0 Yermolinsky, A–Clairborne, M/US Open, Saint Paul USA 2000 (34) 10... f5 11 f3 ♖h8 (11... f4 12 ♙f2 g5 13 c5 h5 14 a4 1-0 Ikonnikov, V–Smits, M/Dutch Open, Dieren NED 2001 (32)) 12 c5 ♘g8 13 cxd6 cxd6 14 ♙d2 f4 15 ♙f2 h5 0-1 Ziegler, A–Hillarp Persson, T/Goteborg 1999 (36)

10 ♘d3 f5



The Mar Del Plata Variation. White's Knight on e1 will either play to d3 or g2 (after g2–g4) according to circumstances. The usual Queenside v Kingside rival attacks is the prominent feature.

**11 exf5 ♖xf5 12 ♗e4**

12 f3 ♗f6 13 ♗f2 ♗d4 14 ♗fe4 ♗h5= ½-½ [Gligoric,S–Fischer,R/Bled 1961 \(33\)](#)

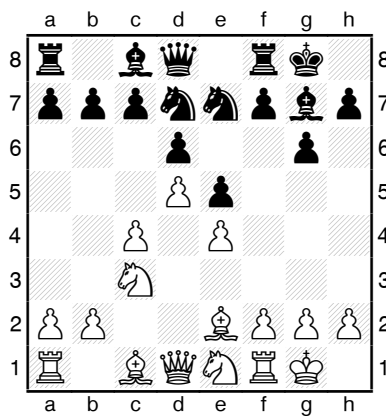
**12...♗f6 13 f3 ♗d4 14 ♗e3 c6**

0-1 [Schmid,L–Gligoric,S/Hamburg 1965 \(35\)](#)

# Classical – 9 Ne1 Main line [E99]

Last updated: 09/02/02 by amartin

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♖c3 ♙g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♙e2 e5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 d5 ♘e7  
9 ♘e1 ♘d7

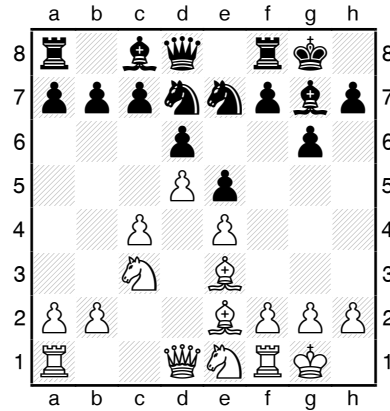


The Main Line of the Mar Del Plata, where theory extends to move 30 and beyond. White tries to combine attack on the queenside with successful defence on the other flank.

In general, Black is committed to all out Kingside assault.

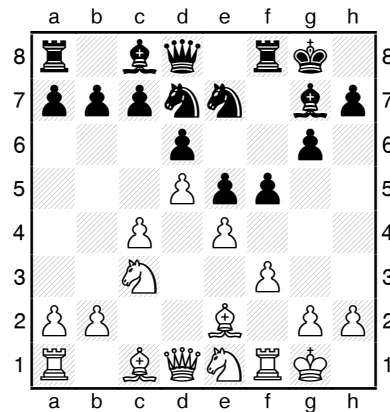
9...♘c8 10 ♘d3 f5 11 ♙d2 ♘f6 12 f3 f4 1-0 [Lalic,B–McShane,L/Redbus KO, Southend ENG \(2.1\) 2000 \(38\)](#)

10 ♙e3



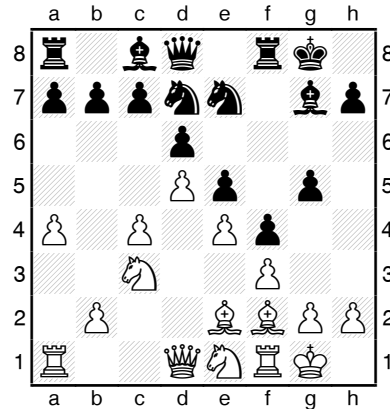
The most uncompromising move. White allows Black to gain a tempo with ...f5–f4 in return for the opportunity to post this Bishop actively. Summerscale and Hebden often debate this line and an interesting game is guaranteed.

10 f3 f5



10 ♖d3 f5 11 ♙d2 ♜f6 12 f3 c5 (12... ♔h8 13 ♞c1 c5 14 g4 ♜eg8 15 ♔g2 ♜e8 1-0 Ftacnik,L–Nunn,J/Vienna Open 1986 (40)) 13 ♞b1 f4 14 b4 b6 15 bxc5 bxc5 16 ♞b2 0-1 Pavlov,A–Ulko,J/Open Voronezh RUS 2001 (29)

10...f5 11 f3 f4 12 ♙f2 g5 13 a4



White Announces that he intends to waste no time. I guess that appeals to a lot of players because Korchnoi's 13 a4 has become the most popular move here. One concealed idea apart from the obvious Queenside push is that White might consider Ra1-a3 sometime in the future to help defend the Kingside.

13 ♖c1 ♗f6 (13... ♗g6 14 c5 ♗xc5 15 b4 ♗a6 16 ♗d3 1-0 [Piket,J-Ivanchuk,V/Wijk-Aan-Zee 1999 \(38\)](#)) 14 c5 ♗g6 15 cxd6 cxd6 16 ♗b5 1-0 [Nemet,I-Antognini,F/Open, Crans Montana SUI 2001 \(33\)](#)

13 ♗d3 ♗f6 14 c5 ♗g6 15 ♖c1 0-1 [Taimanov,M-Najdorf,M/Zuerich 1953 \(43\)](#)

### 13... ♗g6

13... ♖f6 14 ♗b5 a6 15 ♗a7! 1-0 [Summerscale,A-Black,R/4NCL, Birmingham ENG 2001 \(39\)](#)

13... a6 14 a5 ♖f6 15 ♗a4 ♖h6 16 c5 ♗e8 17 ♔h1 ♗h5 18 ♗g1 ♗f6 19 ♗d3 ♗fxd5!! 0-1 [Summerscale,A-Hebden,M/GB CH Millfield 2000 \(50\)](#)

### 14 a5 ♔h8 15 ♗d3 ♗f6 16 c5 h5 17 cxd6 cxd6 18 ♗b5

1-0 [Van der Sterren,P-Nijboer,F/ch-NED, Rotterdam NED 2000 \(36\)](#)