

INTRODUCTION and INSTRUCTIONS

Hello chess kid, chess parent, or adult chess player!

Thank you for purchasing this handy book that any chess player can use to improve her/his notation speed. This book is an innovation in chess notation meant to help you save time notating and focus on your chess game. I created Rapid Notate™ Everything Chess Score Sheets after watching numerous children, especially younger ones, waste a lot of time in chess games trying to play the game and also notate at the same time. While I like electronic notation devices, not every competition allows them and not everyone can afford them. So, I wanted to develop a chess notation score sheet that speeds up the process of notating and is also very affordable. That's why I created Rapid Notate™ Chess Score Sheets. As you will see, the score sheets have all of the key notations that most people use while playing chess. Instead of writing down your moves, all you need to do is circle or mark the characters that indicate your moves (see below). I hope this innovation in chess notation score sheets helps you focus on playing the game well and spend less time worrying about notating. I think is very useful for players of all levels but will be especially useful for junior players who are learning how to notate and need to keep track of their games. For those of you who want less information on the score sheet, but want to speed up your notating a little, I also created "Rapid Notate™ Chess Score Sheets" – a book that only provides pre-printed letters for key pieces (everything but pawns) and none of the additional characters that are in this book.

I wish you success in your future chess games!

Perry (Chess Kid Parent/Chess Enthusiast)

How to Use Rapid Notate™ Everything Chess Score Sheets

Circle or Mark the Piece You or Your Opponent Is Moving – Examples below

Pawn moves to e4 (circle around move)

piece/castle	position/ pawn	take	position/ pawn	check/ checkmate/other
N R B Q K O-O / O-O-O	ABCDEF ^o GH 1234 ^o 5678	X	ABCDEFGH 12345678	+ # ! ? (ep) = NRBQK

Bishop takes a knight at C6 and checks the king - Bxc6+ (mark line through move)

piece/castle	position/ pawn	take	position/ pawn	check/ checkmate/other
N R B Q K O-O / O-O-O	ABCDEF G H 12345678	X	AB C DEF G H 12345 6 78	! # ! ? (ep) = NRBQK

Chess Notation Basics

There are lots of good resources online and offline that teach people the basics of algebraic chess notation – the most common form of chess notation used in chess competitions in the US. They include chess.com, chesskid.com, and many more. However, for those of you who are not familiar with the basics, I’m providing some tips below.

Step One – Identify Your Piece

For every move you notate, you need to identify the piece being moved. Every piece has a letter to identify it. Most people don’t write a letter for pawns, but if you are just starting you may want to write a letter for pawns too. The letters for each piece are:

K-King, Q-Queen, N-Knight, B-Bishop, R-Rook, P-Pawn (the letter for pawn is not commonly used)

Because there are two knights, bishops, and rooks, some people like to identify each with an “a” or “b” (such as Na or Nb) or write the position of the piece before moving it (such as Ng1). For pawns, you will simply write the position that the pawn is moving to (such as e4). Since there are so many pawns, writing the position only is a lot faster than write “P” for pawn over and over again. Rapid Notate™ Everything Chess Score Sheets does not include the “P” because most people don’t use this label.

Step Two – Identify Where Your Piece is Moving

The main point of notation is to figure out where each piece is moving and what the piece is doing. This allows you to keep track of what is happening in the game in case there is an argument about who won and how. Also, notation allows you to review your game later at home after a competition or friendly game. For any piece you move, you have to write where it is moving. For example, you will write Nf3 to signify that one of your knights is moving to f3. Again if you want to show which knight is moving you can write Na f3 or write the position of the knight and where it is moving – such as Ng1 – f3. Any of these styles can work, but check your competition rules to make sure you meet the required standards. There are special characters for castling 0-0 (King’s side castle) and 0-0-0 (Queen’s side castle).

Step Three – Indicate What Your Piece is Doing

You are moving the pieces on the board for a reason. When you notate, you are going to indicate what happens when you move a piece. You need to indicate when your piece take another piece or checks the king or checkmates the king. For example, if a pawn on f4 takes a pawn on e5 you write “x” for take. The move would be written as f4 x e5. For check you will write + and for check mate you write # or ++.

These are the basics of chess notation for those who are doing this for the first time. Again, there are lots of useful resources online and in chess books. I encourage you to use those in order to make sure you understand how to notate and keep track of your game. Rapid Notate™ Everything Chess Score Sheets will help you speed up your notation during the game and make the moves easier and faster to read.

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