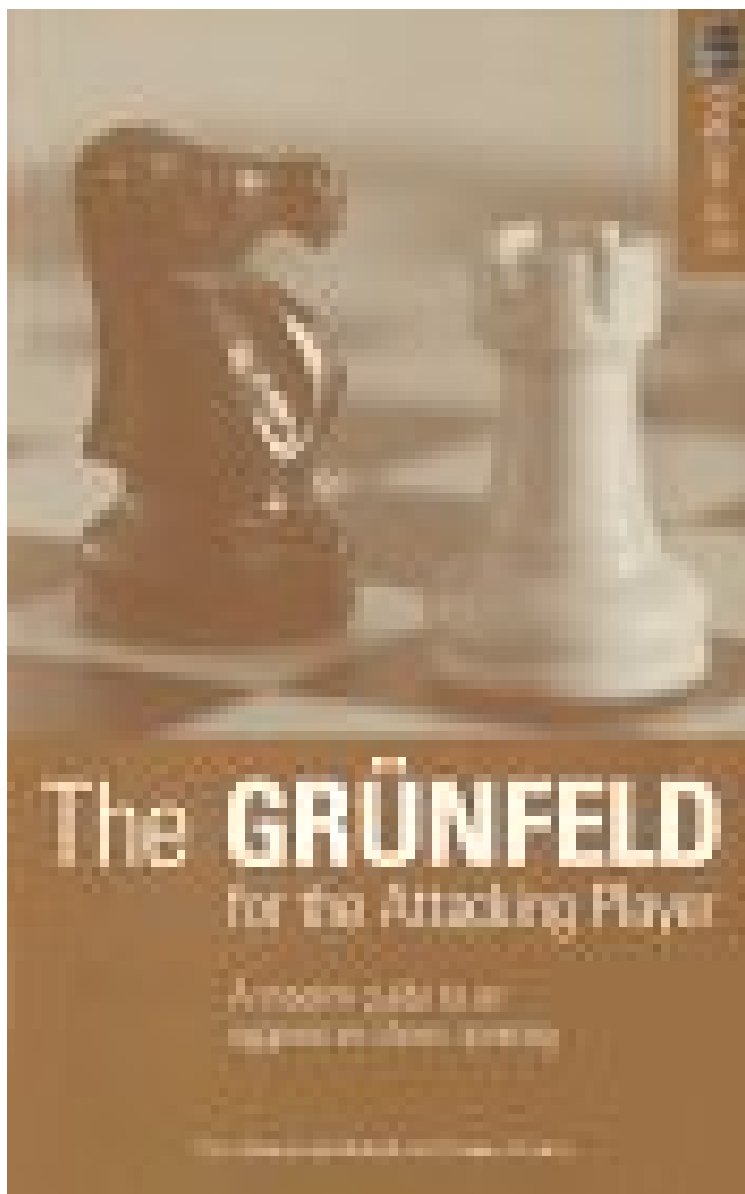


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The Grunfeld for the Attacking Player

Bogdan Lalic

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Bogdan Lalic : The Grunfeld for the Attacking Player before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Grunfeld for the Attacking Player:

22 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Superb openings workBy johnnyqbThe book, "The Grunfeld for the Attacking Player," by Bogdan Lalic, is a superb opening work in every way that I can think of. I am intermediate "club" type player, and decided to play the Grunfeld a few months ago. I already owned the excellent "Understanding

the Grunfeld" by Rowson, but wished to supplement this with a more standard opening work as well. Looking up reviews of Lalic's work, I noticed that John Watson does not think very highly of it. In his review (all his reviews can be found at chesscenter.com), he noted the high production values, but complained that the book lacked theoretical originality, and that Lalic had not explored several lines that Watson thinks are important. Finally, I bought the book anyway, despite Watson's negative review, and I am very happy that I did. The book is beautiful. It contains 86 heavily annotated games, with a dense mix of variations and constant textual explanation. It is wonderfully produced and extremely well-written. Lalic himself says that the book is a labor of love (and that he personally typed in every move), and it shows. His annotations are constantly evaluating the position and the possibilities therein. Each time I play through a game, I am glued to it, and drawn in by the quality of the games and analysis. In short, I am using this book a lot more than Rowson's and I value it most highly. This experience has made apparent to me a key point about John Watson's chess reviews. Namely, his reviews of opening books often are aimed at the highest level of player, where theoretical originality and subtlety are what make a book stand out. I am not qualified to agree or disagree with Watson's reviews of theory, but I have realized that in many cases his critiques are of little or no relevance to the club player who is seeking to understand and learn an opening. Watson is a high level master, who writes openings books of great theoretical value. When he reviews books, he is applying his own high standards. Very few players in the chess-book-buying public will have any concern, however, for theoretical originality. I, for instance, am not interested in whether Lalic's book adequately explores a theoretical byway that had become important on move 15 of some Grunfeld line. Rather, I want to learn how to play the Grunfeld Defence. This book is teaching me that, and it has taught me the importance of putting chess book reviews in their proper light. Don't get me wrong, Watson's reviews are great, and they are important to me. It's just that they are not always aimed at me. This is not to say that I am not a good player, but that many theoretical distinctions that signify originality to Watson are completely over my head and irrelevant to me. What is important to me is that a book engages me, teaches me, illuminates me, and inspires me. Lalic's book on the Grunfeld succeeds in all these ways extremely well. I highly recommend it.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Leo
excellent book!
6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A classic
By Diego Acosta
Lalic's book is a masterpiece that shines among its computerized counterparts of these days. The book contains complete games of the highest level in the most important lines of the Grunfeld. I like Lalic's treatment of the exchange variations because of the organized presentation of the material... However, I did find that some dangerous lines (Thanks to my database, I found this) are not covered and need to be addressed by the reader (Not to worry, that happens a lot with openings books) Still, Lalic's book is a shining jewel and I keep on coming back to it every time I have to prepare my opening. If you are serious about the Grunfeld this one is a must... In fact get all these books if you are interested in the topic:
1. Winning with the Grunfeld by Adorjan
2. Gruenfeld by Boyd and Richardson
3. The complete Grunfeld by Suetin
4. Understanding the Grunfeld by Rowson
5. The Gruenfeld for the attacking player by Lalic
6. The Gruenfeld defence by Nigel Davies
All those books are a must...

A complete set of recommended systems for Grunfeld enthusiasts, designed to appeal to club and tournament chess players everywhere.