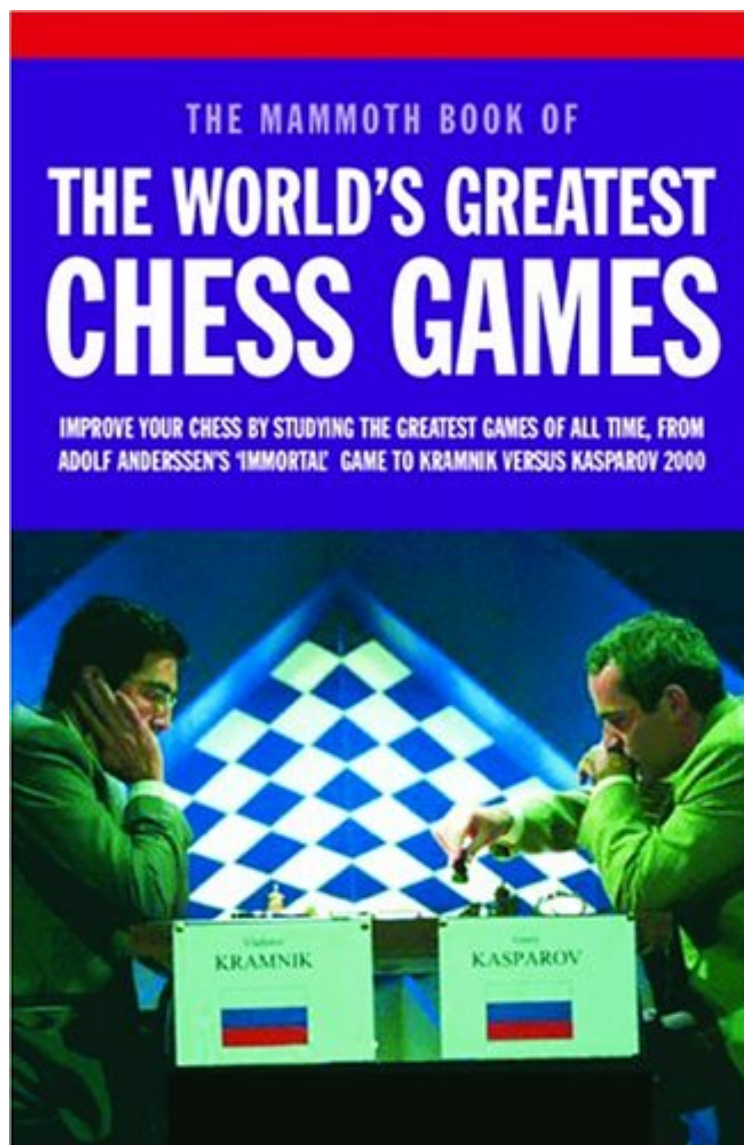


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## **Mammoth Book of the World's Greatest Chess Games: Improve Your Chess by Studying the Greatest Games of All time, from Adolf Anderssen's 'Immortal' Game to Kramnik Versus Kasparov 2000**

*Graham Burgess, Dr. John Nunn, John Emms*  
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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mammoth Book of the World's Greatest Chess Games: Improve Your Chess by Studying the Greatest Games of All time, from Adolf Anderssen's 'Immortal' Game to Kramnik Versus Kasparov 2000:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Highly Recommend!By BrandonIt's a great book! However, it isn't as detailed as John Nunns book Understanding Chess Move by Move. I've enjoyed going through some of the games. I'd recommend you get Understanding Chess Move by Move first. The other good book is Logical Chess Move by Move. In order to get the most out of the book, take your time going through these games. I highly recommend this book! A suggestion when going through this book is to have one board as your main line, and two more for the variations.10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Wow! How did I overlook this book for so long!By Timothy N. dePlumeThe title of this book, "The Mammoth Book of the World's Greatest Chess Games," may conjure the image of an oversized coffee table book or, more likely, a compendium of sensational chess games of the sort Irving Chernev and Fred Reinfeld used to write in a week or two, e.g., "1,000 Chess Brilliances," chess entertainment on a par with America's Funniest Home Videos. And that probably explains why I overlooked its earlier editions. I recommend you not make the same mistake, as this book is a finely polished gem.The book contains many great chess classics, famous games of former world champions we've all seen published elsewhere, as well as many outstanding games of lesser masters; games, old and new, with which I wasn't familiar. The 125 games are the authors' selections as history's "greatest" games, which is not to be confused with the most flawless games ever played. The most flawless games, almost by definition, would be games that end in perpetual check or liquidate into drawn endgames, and I don't recall there being a single draw in this book. These games are all flawed in some way, meaning they represent the very best the human mind has to offer.One cannot reasonably critique the book based on the authors' game selections -- after all, this is a book about chess as art, not chess as science -- so I'll resist the temptation to debate the subject. It's highly improbable that any two people on earth would select precisely the same inventory of the 125 greatest anything where subjectivity is concerned: cities, novels, paintings, baseball players, or chess games. My list would probably include a couple of Morphy's masterpieces and Fischer-Spassky 1972, game 13, but, as I said, I'll resist the urge...These are unquestionably brilliant games, all. Some were selected because they featured sensational sacrificial combinations, though they are far subtler and more artful than the forced-mate-in-three opening swindles Irving Chernev gushed about. Others were included because of opening novelties that laid waste to decades of accepted opening theory. Still others were brilliant defensive efforts, an underappreciated genre. A game that combined these last two themes is the famous Capablanca-Marshall game in which Marshall sprang his extensively prepared opening gambit against the Ruy Lopez, which Capablanca managed to refute over-the-board.My favorite theme of all is the relentlessly sustained pursuit of a tense initiative over a long series of moves, wherein the defense is offered many defensive attempts at a narrow escape, none of which quite suffices. The Kasparov-Topalov Grand King Chase game (Wijk ann Zee 1999) is a beautiful example. Another is game 16 of the 1985 Karpov-Kasparov match, early in which game Kasparov planted a black knight on the precarious perch d3, from where it managed to control the entire board to the very end. Who in history but Kasparov could have achieved such feats against the likes of Karpov and Topalov in their prime?I like the authors' incisive commentary, their objectivity (yes, let's be honest, even the winner of a great game occasionally makes a mistake or two along the way), and their summations. At the conclusion of each game the authors offer three one-sentence morals that nicely sum up what the game teaches.If you thought Bobby Fischer's My 60 Memorable Games was a great chess book, I believe you'll find this 700-page mammoth of a book a perfect companion. Nearly every game in the book has been published before, but never, to my knowledge, with the extensive analysis this book offers. The authors took nothing for granted, including the published comments of the players themselves. I found greater appreciation for games that I had previously reviewed but had not well understood. This 700-page book, like the games in it, brims with creative energy and represents a majestic effort. At a price of about a dime a game, you're unlikely to find better value anywhere if you enjoy top-level chess.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. My New FAVORITE Book!By RandyI bought this book after being disappointed with Soltis' 100 Best Chess Games and it has lived up to its reviews! Each game leads in with a short biography of the two players and a introduction to the game itself. The annotation mixes both useful prose and concrete analysis with great effect. Many of the games you've probably seen before, but over the years I've forgotten many of them so they still dazzle with similar effect. The newer edition I have came out in 2010, it includes 25 new games since the first edition, which includes current players like Anand, Carlsen and Kramnik. Since most of my book knowledge is from the Classical Era of Lasker and Capablanca to the Golden Era of Spassky and Fisher, I bought this book in part for the newer games I have not before reviewed.Basically, the only criticism with the book, is not with the authors job, but the rather cheapness of the book material itself. I have some doubt as to whether this (Mammoth!) book won't fall apart when I get towards the latter part, because its built like a Stephen King paperback novel, small in size but very thick. But really for \$10, its a minor issue. Get it!

This new and expanded edition of The Mammoth Book of the World's Greatest Chess Games contains the 112 greatest

chess games of all times selected, analyzed, re-evaluated and explained by a team of experts and illustrated with more than 900 diagrams. Among the highlights are Kasparov vs. Topalov; Kasparov vs. Wijk aan Zee; the super-computer Deep Blues historic first win over Kasparov; Boris Spasskys James Bond Mating Combination; and Bobby Fischers Game of the Century. Study these games and learn about defense and counterattack, logical opening play, endgame strategy, psychological warfare, and how great players think.

About the Author Graham Burgess has been a World Chess Federation (FIDE) Master since the age of 20. He lives in Bristol, England. Dr. John Nunn was among the worlds leading grandmasters for nearly twenty years, winning four gold medals in chess Olympiads and finishing sixth overall in the World Cup in 1989. He lives in Chertsey, Surrey, England. John Emms is one of Englands strongest grandmasters, and an experienced trainer and editor. He lives in Tonbridge, Kent, England.