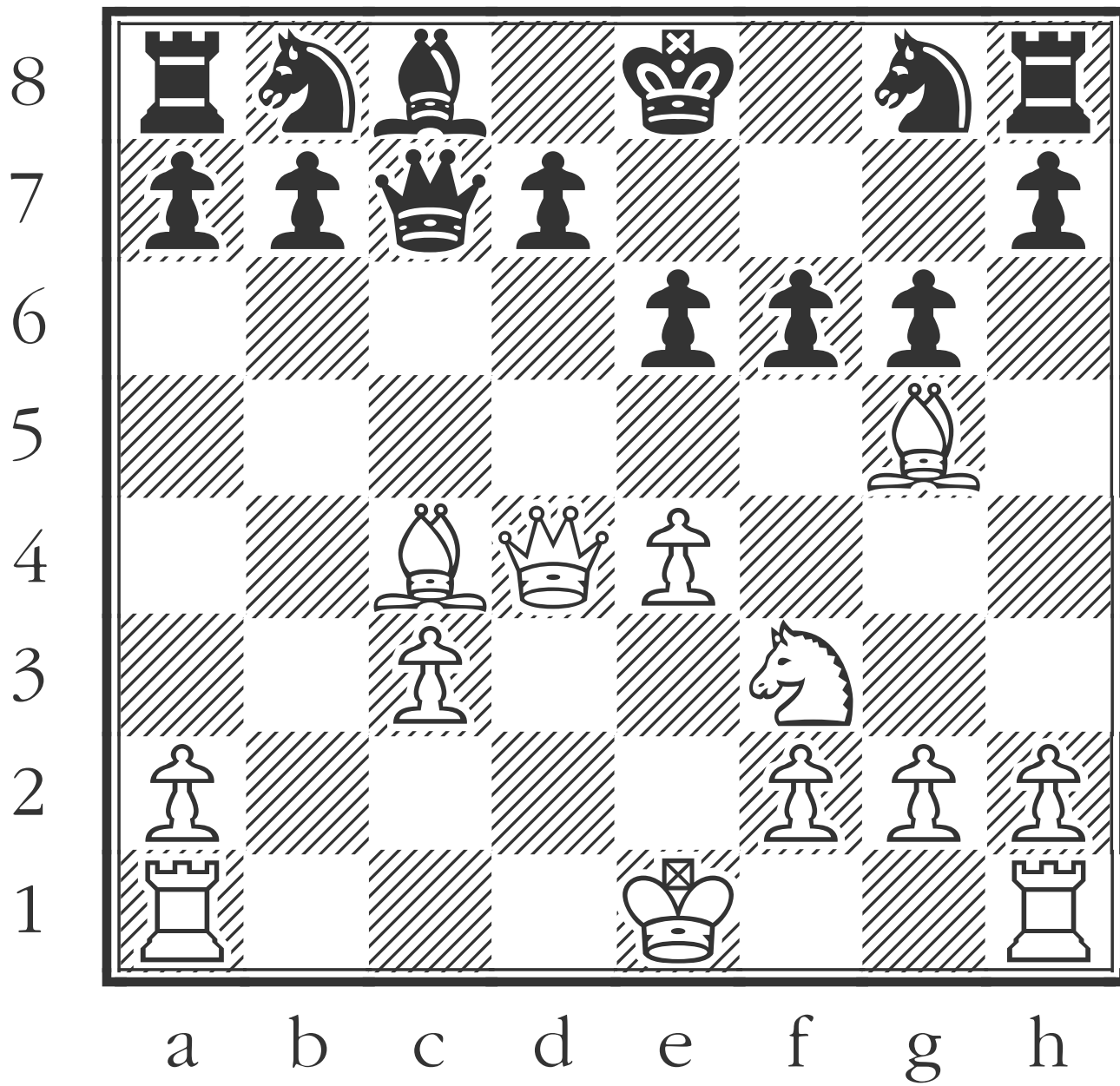


A collection of chess pieces on a wooden board. The pieces include a king, queen, rook, knight, and pawns. The king and queen are light-colored, while the rook and pawns are dark-colored. The knight is light-colored and is lying on its side. The word "THINKING" is overlaid in the center in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

THINKING

White to play



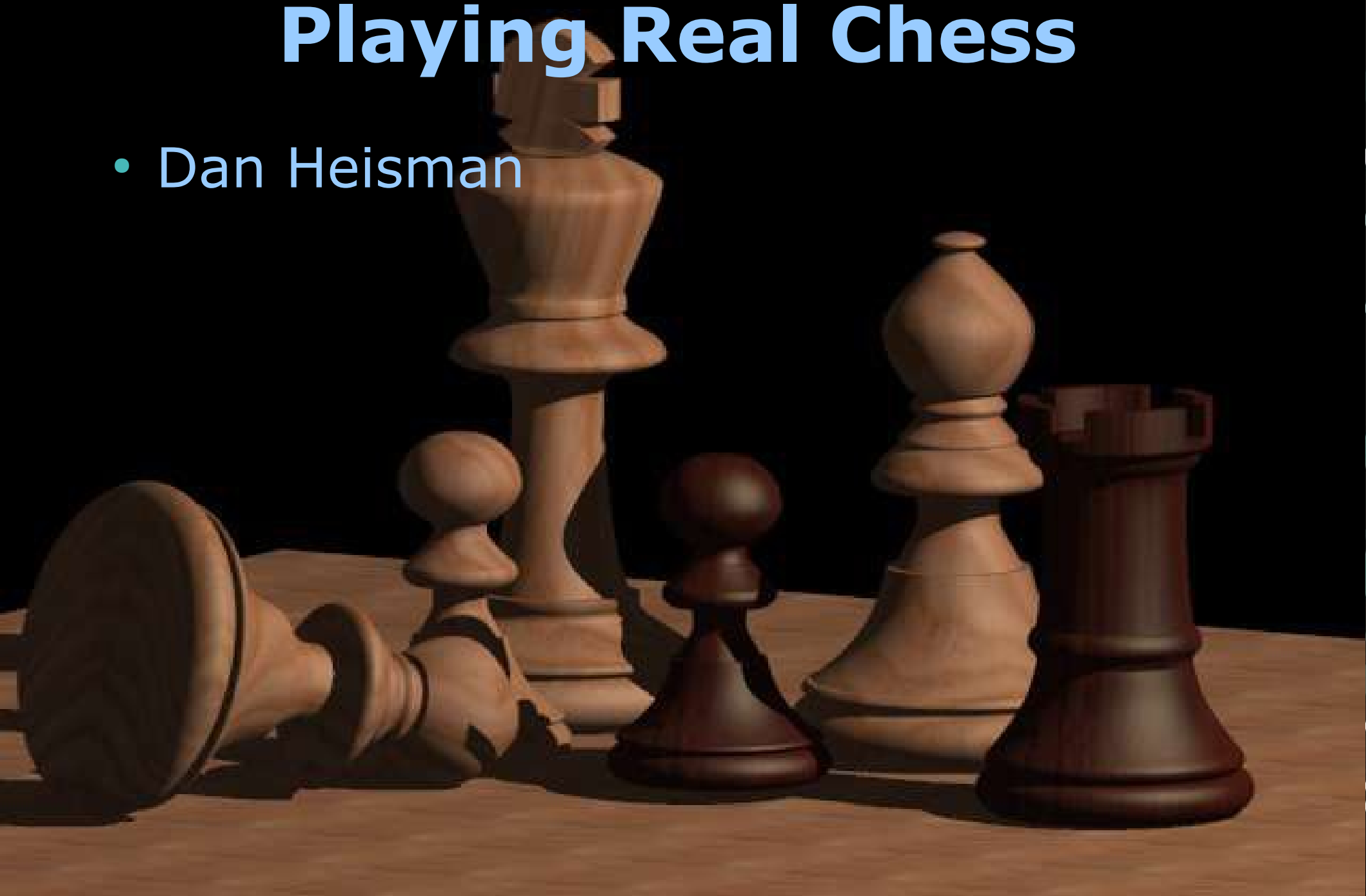
Ksawery TARTAKOWER



“The winner of the game is the one who makes the next-to-last **blunder**”

Playing Real Chess

- Dan Heisman



Flip-Coin Chess



My move is

A

(and then I will go

B)

No mention of the opponent!

= “I hope my opponent doesn’t do anything”

Will you survive? =Toss a coin!

Hope Chess I



My move is

A

If oppo goes

...**B**

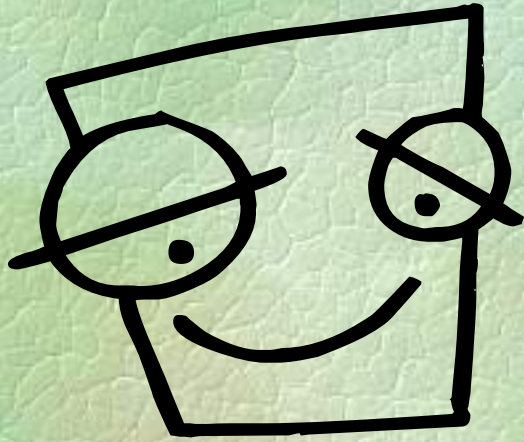
Then I will go

C

No mention of threats!

= “I hope I can deal with anything that happens”

Hope Chess 2



The **threat** is

...B

so I will go

A

now if oppo goes

...B

then I will go

C

No mention of any other threats or new threats after you move A = “I hope I can cope with anything else”

Real Chess



If your thinking doesn't sound like that, you're in trouble!

The threat is ...B.

My move is

A

so **if** ...B then C

The **best** reply is

...D because A

undefended my pawn

but then I will go

E

Missed anything?

OK, A it is.

Misleading feelings



Maths

$$2+2=4$$

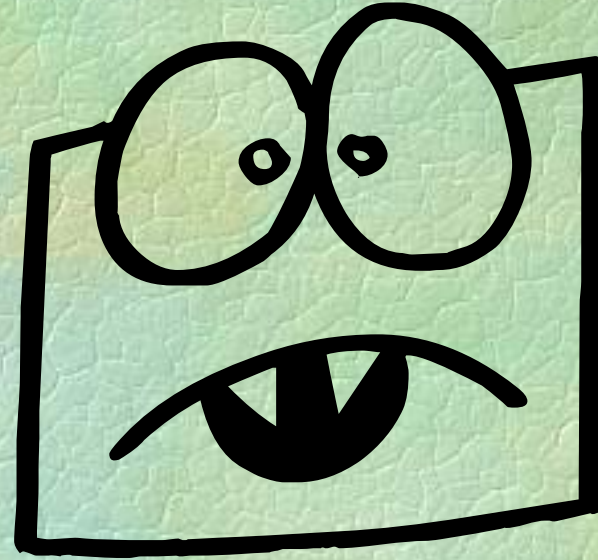
...end of story!

Puzzles

check, check, mate

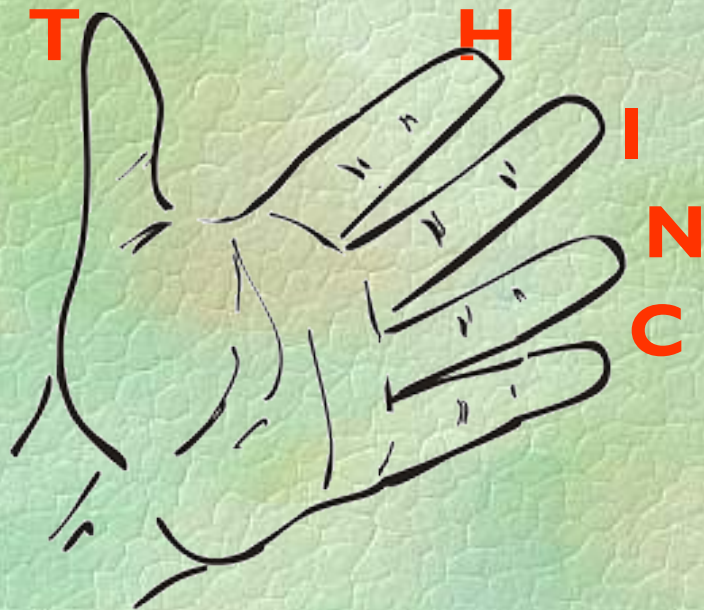
...every time!

The Chess Burglar Alarm



**Take it with you to all
your games and look at
it before making each
move!**

How to think ahead in chess... or **THINC!**



T hreats (what is opponent trying to do to you?)

H opes (what can you do to them?)

I mprovements (get lazy pieces working, or some other plan)

N ext moves (what moves look good?)

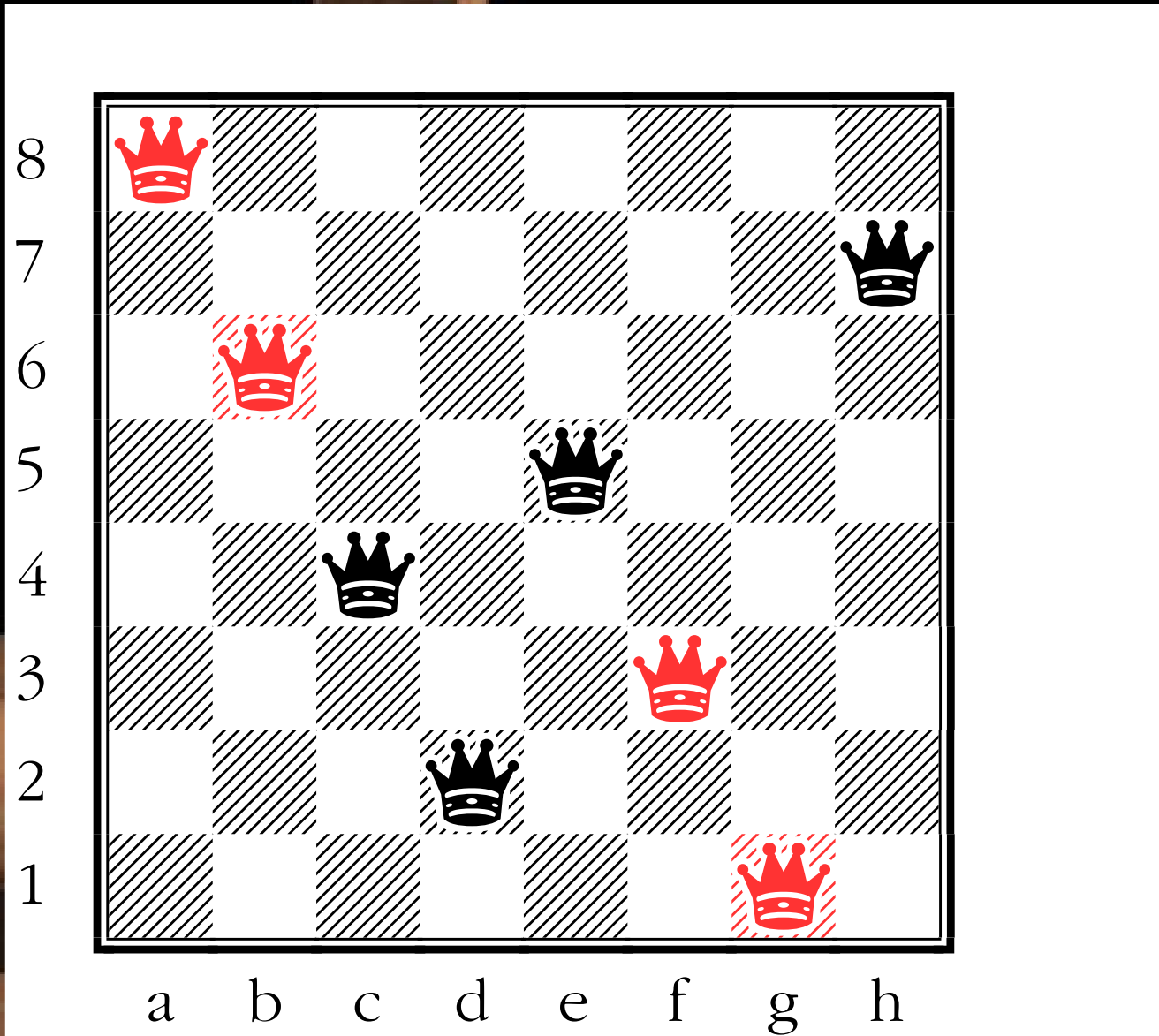
C heck! (make sure your burglar alarm is on)

THINC... or thwim

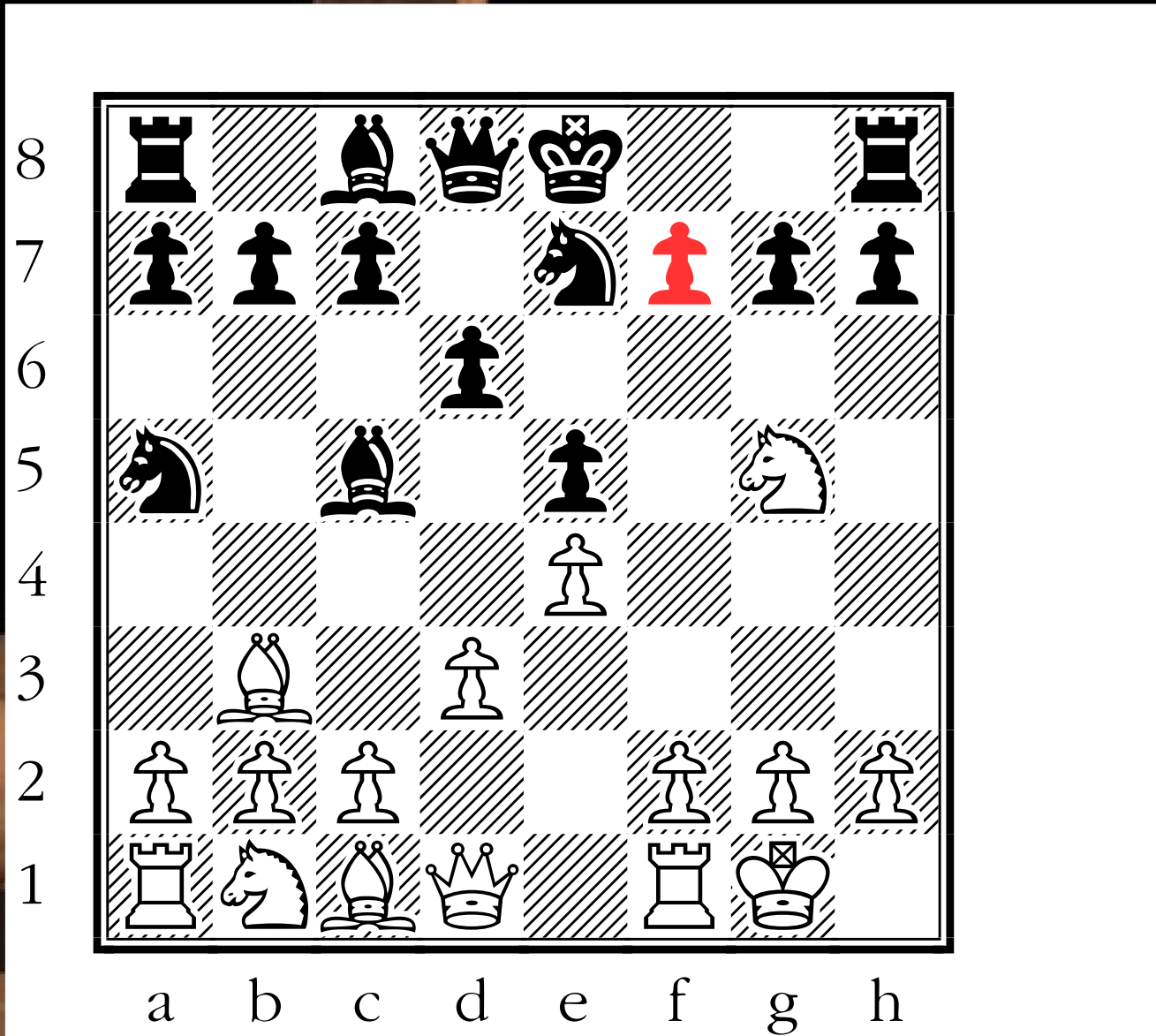
Playing Real Chess in real games

- Rapidplay doesn't give you time to do this
- **So, practise until it's automatic**
...in slow games
...in exercises
- In a real game, you get used to the idea that $Bxh7+$ doesn't work, and then it does... :(
- **So, try and pay attention to changes in the position – what is now less defended or more attackable than before?**

Practising checking: 8Queens



Help, help! I'm being oppressed!



Defending... as easy as ABCD



Avoid

Just move your piece out of the way

Block

Block the attack by putting something in the way

Capture

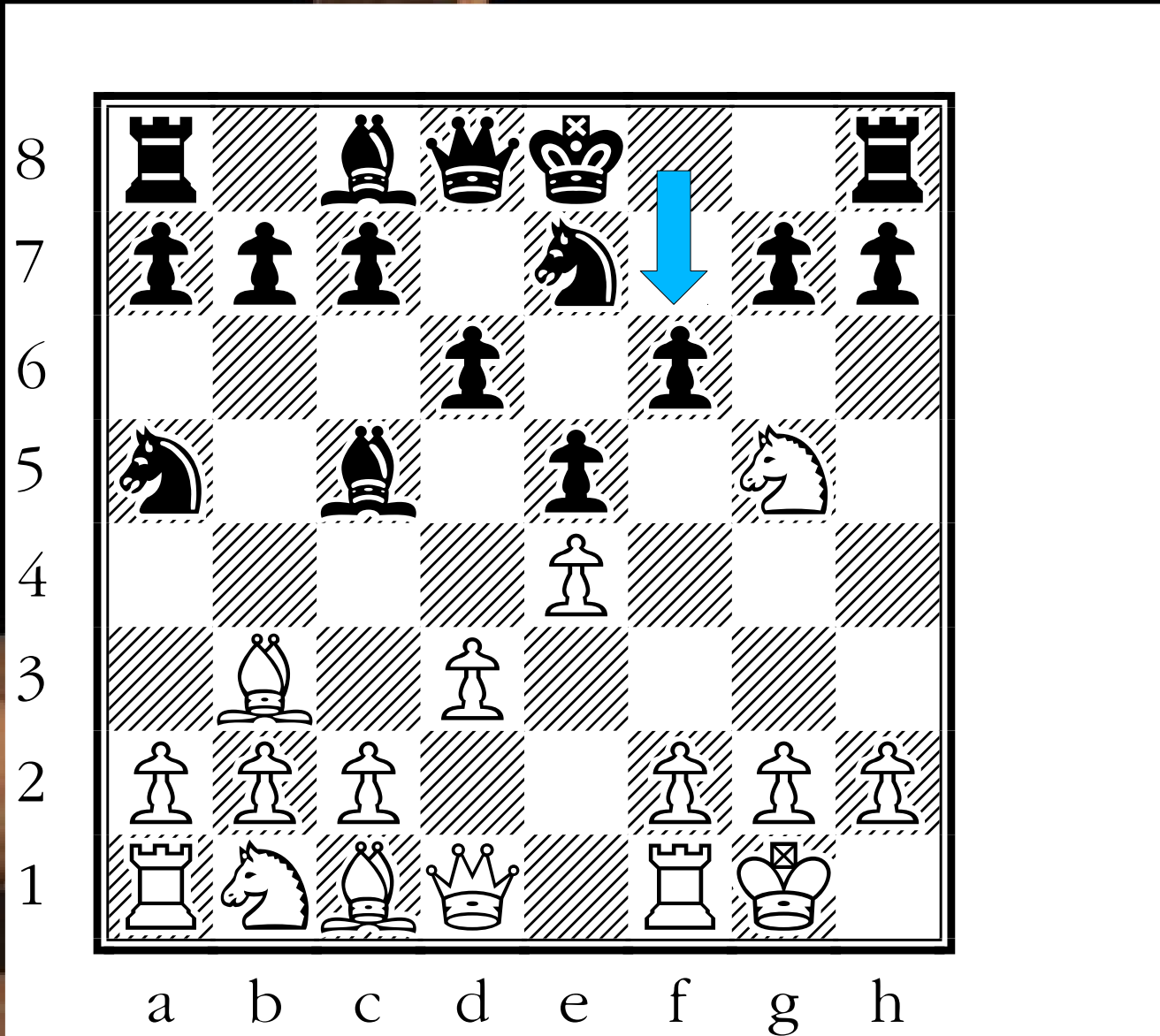
Take the piece that is attacking you.

Defend

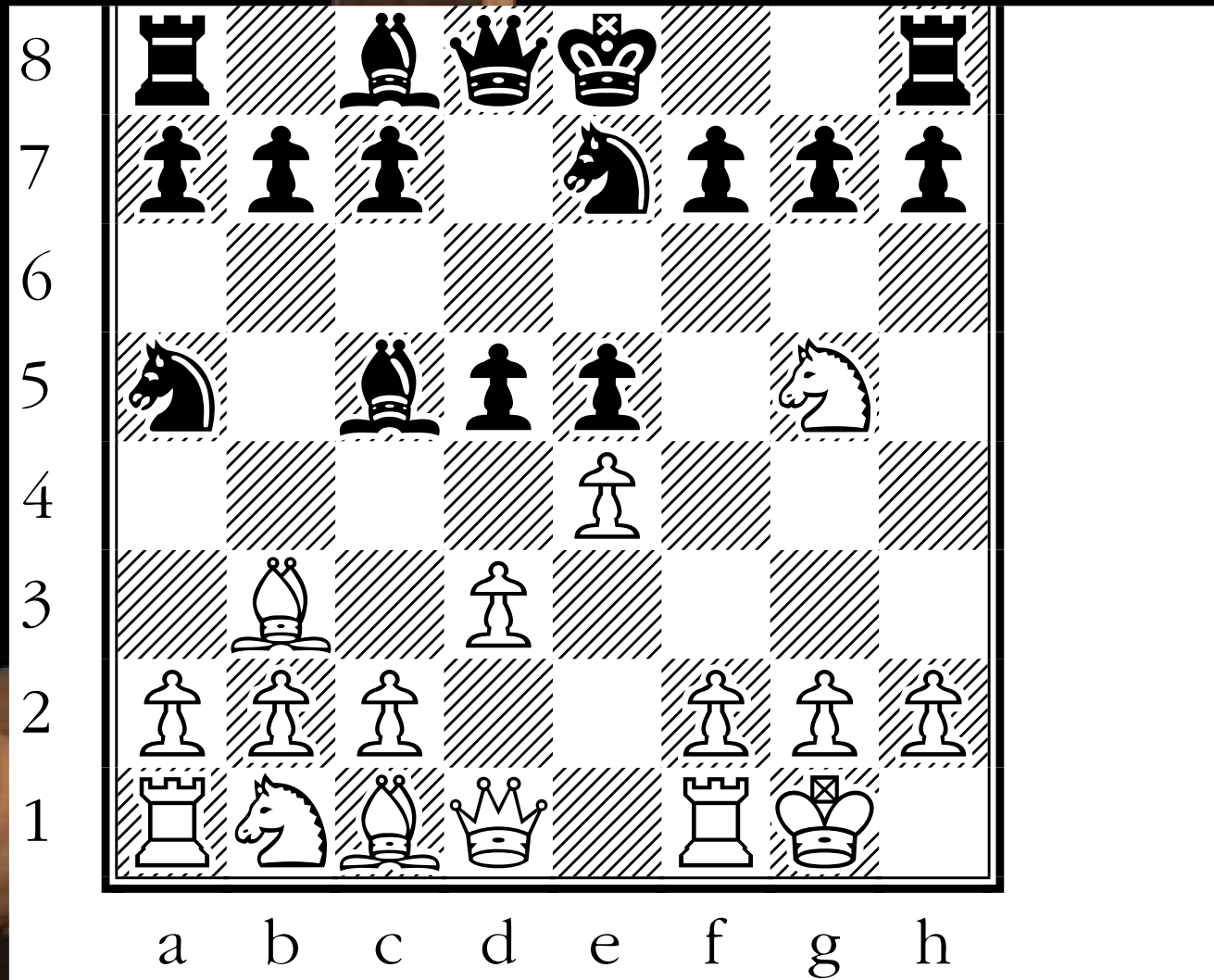
Defend your piece, so if it is taken, you can take back.

But you might also be able to use Ingredient X: counterattack! If your threat is more important than your opponent's threat, then they won't get a chance to attack you!

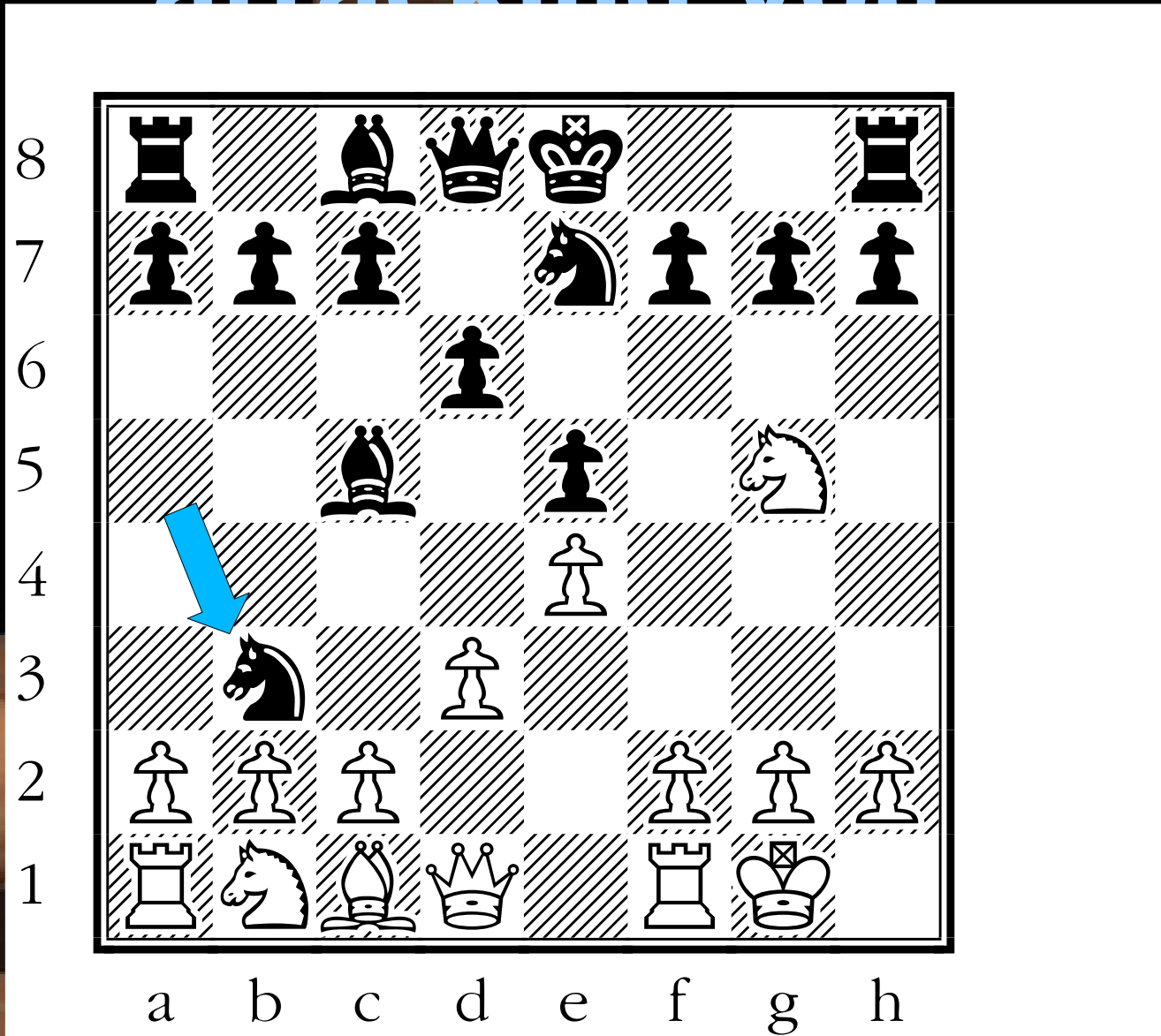
Avoid: Just move your piece out of the way



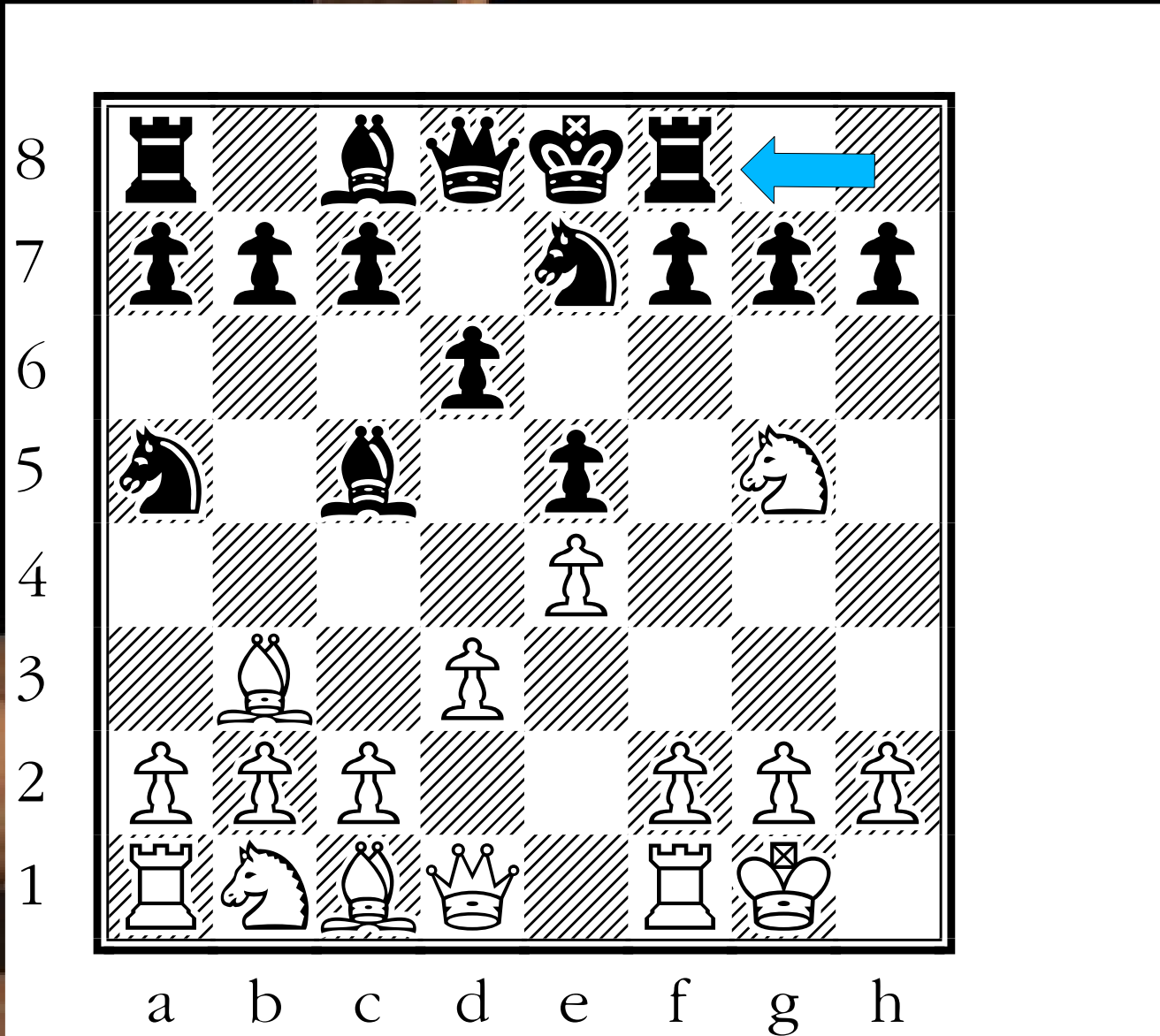
Block: Block the attack by putting something in the way



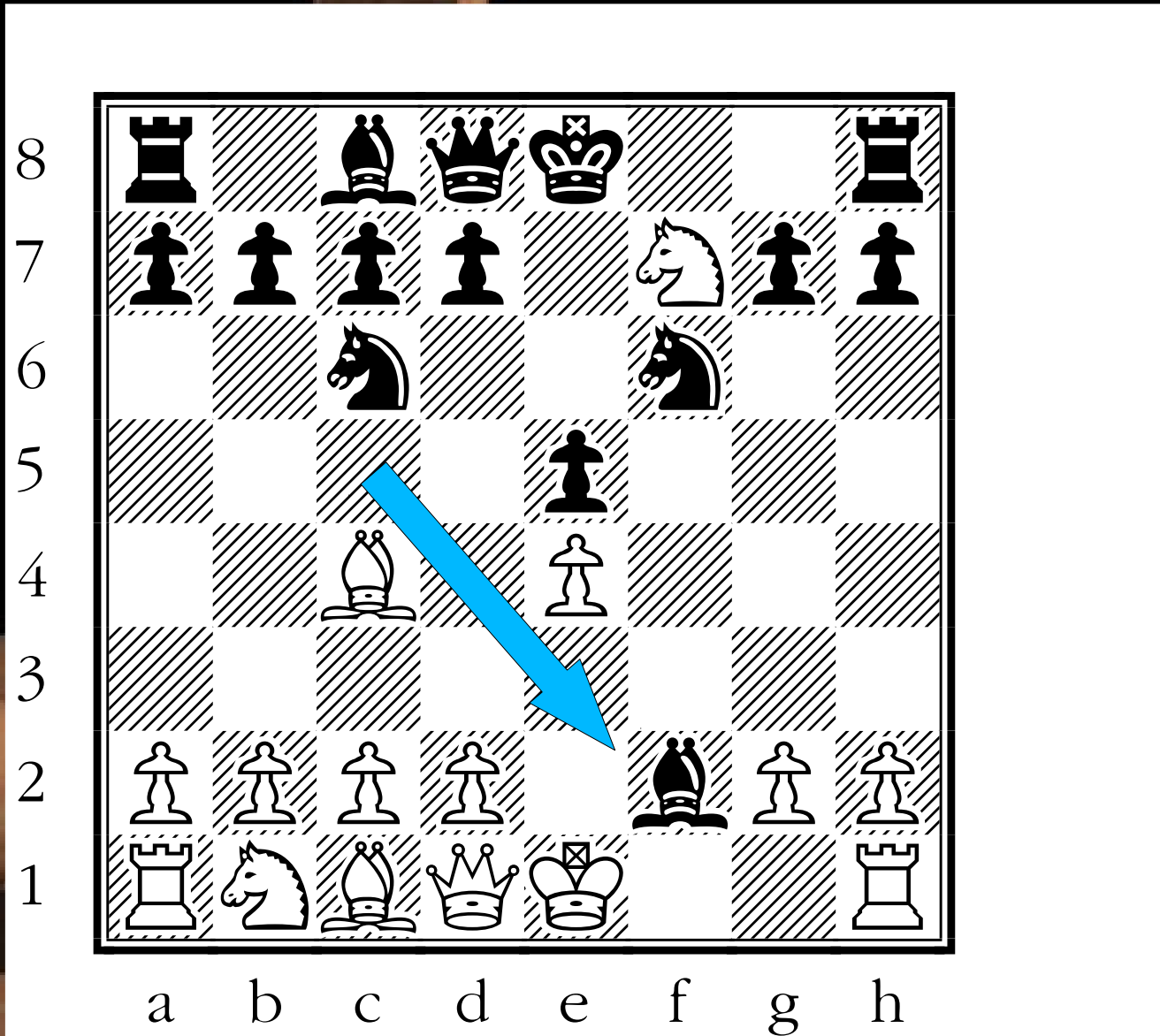
Capture: Take the piece that is attacking you



Defend: Defend your piece, so if it is taken, you can take



Counterattack!



How paranoid is your chess?

