

CORR database 2006 CD review

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Chessbase **CORR database 2006**

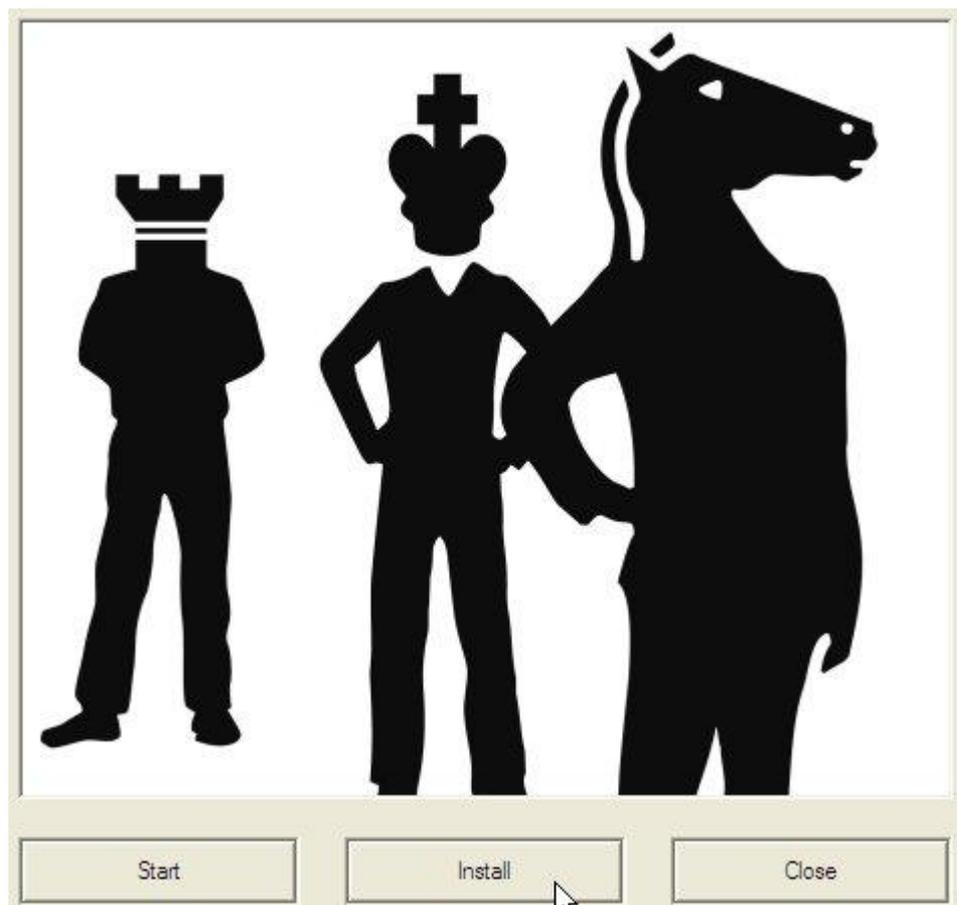
System requirements: Pentium PC, Win98, Me, 2000, XP, 32 MB RAM, CD-ROM drive, ChessBase 8.0 or 9.0, hard disk space requirements: 350 MB.

CD contents:

Chessbase 9 Reader with 7-page manuals in English and German language in PDF format,
A readme.txt file in German and English,
Correspondence Playbase 2006 database,
Correspondence Database 2006 in Chessbase format.

Total CD size: approximately 258 megabytes. Packaging: the CD comes in a standard DVD-like box.

Chessbase Reader, necessary for viewing the correspondence database, starts automatically.



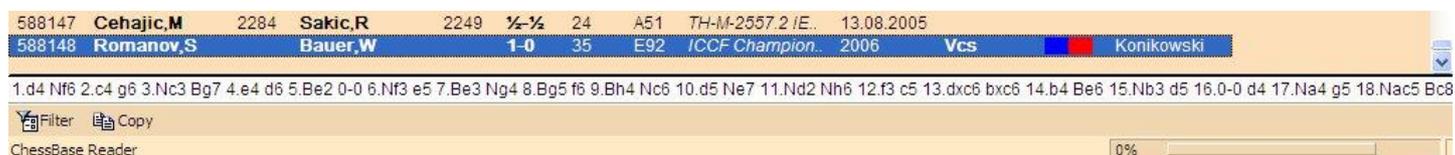
The "install" choice takes up to one minute only, after which you're prompted to restart your computer.



Reader automatically opens the database on the CD. There are exactly 588.148 entries stored. The CD package cover reveals that these are made up of classical correspondence mail games, as well as email games, ranging from 1804-2006!



Unfortunately, there is no introductory, correspondence chess-related text to the database, which would be useful for the average user.



Don't let the years trick you. Correspondence games take a while to complete.

A Correspondence Chess Playerbase with approximately 63.000 names is included! The Playerbase can be accessed via the Tools/Options menu in the Reader.



If your data is not included in the Playerbase, you can use online access through "Update My Player Encyclopedia Entry".

A closer look inside the database reveals not only the advertised tournament games, but Correspondence Opening Surveys, too!? There seem to be a significant number of these included.

CR97 - 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.c3, Survey Opening 1995 C78 (Konikowski)

Notation Table Training Score sheet Openings Book

CR97 - 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.c3
C78 Survey Opening 1995 [Konikowski]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6
5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5!? 7.c3 d6
[7...Nxe4!? 8.d4 Bb6
(8...exd4 9.Re1 (9.cxd4 Be7 10.a4 Bb7 11.Re1
d5 12.axb5 axb5 13.Rxa8 Bxa8 14.Nc3 Nxc3
15.bxc3 0-0 16.Qe2 b4=) 9...d5 10.cxd4 Bb4
11.Bd2 0-0 12.Bxb4 Nxb4 13.Ne5 Bb7 14.Nc3
Nxc3 15.bxc3 Nc6 16.Qf3 Ne7=)
9.dxe5 0-0 10.Bd5 Nc5 11.Bg5 Qe8 12.Re1 Bb7=]
8.d4
[8.a4 Rb8 9.d4 Bb6 10.axb5 axb5 11.Na3 Bg4
(11...Ba6?! 12.Re1 0-0 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bh4 b4
15.Nc2 Bc8 (15...Bb7 16.d5 Na5 17.Nxb4±)
16.Ba4 Ne7 17.dxe5 dxe5 18.Nxb4 Qxd1 19.Bxd1
Bb7 20.Nxe5 g5 21.Bg3 Nxe4 22.Nd7 Ra8
23.Bf3 f5 (23...Rxa1 24.Rxa1 Rd8 25.Bxe4 Bxe4
26.Nf6++) 24.Bxe4 fxe4 25.Nxf8 Rxf8 26.Re2 h5
27.Rd1 h4 28.Bxc7 Bxc7 29.Rd7 1-0 Z. Almasi-
Zviangintsev, Wijk aan Zee 1995)
12.Nxb5 0-0 13.Be3
(13.d5!? Nxe4
a) 13...Na5 b) 14.Bc2 Bxf2+ 15.Rxf2 Rxb5
16.Bd3 Nb3 17.Ra3 Nxc1 18.Bxb5 Nxe4
19.Qxc1 Nxf2 20.Kxf2+-;
b) 13...Ne7 14.Qe2 Nd7 (14...Ng6 15.Bd1 Nh4
16.Qd3±) 15.c4 f5 16.Bd1 fxe4 17.Qxe4 Nf6
18.Qc2 Qd7 19.Nc3±;
14.dxc6 Nxf2 15.Qc2 Nd3+ 16.Kh1 Nf2+
(16...Bxf3 17.Qxd3+-) 17.Rxf2 Bxf2 18.Ng5! g6
19.Nxf7 Rxf7 20.Bxf7+ Kxf7 21.Qxf2+-)
13...exd4 14.cxd4 Qe8 15.Ba4 (15.h3!? Bd7
16.Nc3 Nxe4 17.Nd5± Ivanchuk) 15...Nxe4 16.Nc3
(16.d5 Bxe4 17.fxe3 Nb4 18.Nxd6 Qe7 19.Nxe4
Qxe4 20.Qd4 Bxf3 21.Rxf3 Qxd4 22.exd4 Nxd5
23.Bb3 Nf4 24.Kf2 Ne6 25.Ra4 Rfd8±) 16...Nxc3
17.bxc3 Qe4 18.h3 Bxf3 19.gxf3 Qg6+ 20.Kh2 d5
21.Qd2 Ne7 22.Rg1 Qd6+ 23.Bf4 Qd8 24.Rae1

C78: Ruy Lopez: Archangelsk and Möller Defences

Popularity of correspondence chess is easily seen by the number games played by the most active players, among close to seventy-five thousand in all.

Correspondence Database 2006: 74849 players

File Edit View Tools Window Playchess.com

Text Games Players Tournaments Annotator Sources

Last name	First Name	Total
Leisebein	Peter	2779
Malmstroem	Jan	2015
Grott	Peter	1379
Marcotulli	Giancarlo	1365
Simmelink	Joop Theo	1176
Ventimiglia	Charles	1081
Morgado	Juan Sebastian	1053
Hanison	Bernard	1022

Openings, Themes, Tactics, Strategy and Endgames keys are fully classified and searchable through specialized keys.

The screenshot shows a software window titled 'Correspondence Database 2006: Pawn Structures / Bauernstrukturen'. The window has a menu bar with 'File', 'Edit', 'View', 'Tools', 'Window', and 'Playchess.com'. Below the menu bar is a navigation bar with buttons for 'Text', 'Games', 'Players', 'Tournaments', 'Annotator', 'Sources', 'Teams', 'Openings', 'Themes', 'Tactics', 'Strategy', and 'Endgames'. The main area displays a tree view of chess structures with the following items and counts:

Structure	Count
+ Pawn Structures / Bauernstrukturen	70973
+ Material Allocation / Materialverteilung	358147
+ Typical piece behavior / Typisches Figurenverhalten	74733
+ King's positions / Königspositionen	121409
- Outpost / Vorposten	16918
+ French outpost / Französischer Vorposten	3968
+ w Knight on f6 / w Springer auf f6	32
+ b Knight on f3 / s Springer auf f3	11
- w Pawn on f6 / w Bauer auf f6	72
commented / kommentiert	3
+ b Pawn on f3 / s Bauer auf f3	29
+ w Knight on e5 / w Springer auf e5	3520
+ b Knight on e4 / s Springer auf e4	3038
+ w Knight on d5 / w Springer auf d5	4432
+ b Knight on d4 / s Springer auf d4	1277
+ w Outpost on d6 / w Vorposten auf d6	414
+ b Outpost on d3 / s Vorposten auf d3	125
- Medals to strategy / Medaillen zur Strategie	174
Medal strategy / Medaille Strategie	74
Medal strategic blunder / Medaille strategischer Patzer	100
+ Symbols / Symbole	1023
+ Text Comments strategy / Textkommentare Strategie	593
+ Winning strategies / Gewinnstrategien	1585

More than 48.000 tournaments are available for browsing!

Title	Place	Date	Type	Nation	Cat	Rounds	Count	Complete
corr Ros Miro Memorial - America	AEAC	15.04.2004	tourn (corr)				105	✓
corr ESP-23ch	AEAC	25.11.2003	tourn (corr)				78	✓
corr Mate Postal-Jub25 A	AEAC	01.07.2000	tourn (corr)				102	✓
corr Mate Postal-Jub25 B	AEAC	01.07.2000	tourn (corr)				105	✓
corr ESP-21ch	AEAC	2000	tourn (corr)				171	✓
Marco Polo MPEE03 corr	ASIGC Email	01.06.1999	tourn (corr)			4	6	✓
Marco Polo MPEE01 corr	ASIGC Email	1999	tourn (corr)			4	6	✓
Marco Polo MPEE05 corr	ASIGC Email	1999	tourn (corr)			4	6	✓
Marco Polo MPEE06 corr	ASIGC Email	1999	tourn (corr)			4	6	✓
Marco Polo MPEE08 corr	ASIGC Email	1999	tourn (corr)			4	6	✓
Marco Polo MPEE09 corr	ASIGC Email	1999	tourn (corr)			4	6	✓
ASIGC E1F004 corr	ASIGC email	1999	tourn (corr)			2	4	✓
ASIGC E1F007 corr	ASIGC email	1999	tourn (corr)			6	21	✓
ASIGC E2F005 corr	ASIGC email	1999	tourn (corr)			6	21	✓
ASIGC E2F007 corr	ASIGC email	1999	tourn (corr)			6	21	✓
ASIGC E2F008 corr	ASIGC email	1999	tourn (corr)			6	20	✓
ALG jub15 corr9398	Algeria	01.02.1993	tourn (corr)			14	101	✓
Sinergia 16 email	Argentina	01.06.2001	tourn (corr)			6	21	✓
Sinergia 09 email	Argentina	01.02.2001	tourn (corr)			6	21	✓
APA Mag 30 years-B corr	Argentina	2001	tourn (corr)		VII	15	3	✓

A large number of annotated games, close to 500 annotators, by Correspondence and OTB (grand)masters, is another highlight of this database.

Name	#	White	Elo W	Black	Elo B	Result	Year	Tournament
Bellmann	377	Brodeur, T		Cullum, J		0-1	1978	USA corr
Morgado, Juan S	266	Rotariu, G		Despotovic, M		1-0	1979	Belgrade jub30 c..
Konikowski	262	Handel, H		Smit, D		1-0	1983	NOR jub40 corr
Alvarez, Roberto	115	Gelemerov, I		Khokhlov, I		1-0	1985	EU-ch36 corr
Knudsen	66	Read, M		Chapman, R		1-0	1985	Kellner mem cor..
Zedtler, U	45	Pantaleoni, L		Bucciardini, G		0-1	1986	ITA-ch corr Italy
Tinture	41	Pappier, C		Wright, J		1-0	1987	W-ch14 q01 corr..
Littleboy, B	34	Tsveltkov, A		Wittmann, W		1-0	1988	EU-ch GT292 corr
Runting, Tim	32	Manduch, M		Mitov, B		1-0	1988	EU-chT3 fin 04 c..
Bricke	31	Eisen, D		Carlson, C		0-1	1988	USA master corr
Azar, P	29	Gordon, S		Sek, Z		0-1	1988	W-ch17 sf04 corr..
Malmstroem, J	25	Garmendia, J		Ruiz, H		0-1	1989	ARG-ch12 corr
Ahues, C	24	Minerva, E		Wittmann, R		1-0	1990	FRG-ITA corr
Chatterjee, A	23	Karker, N		Smith, P		½-½	1990	ICCF-Cup6/7 sf1..
Mauro	23	Watson, R		Tolstykh, N		0-1	1990	ICCF-Cup6/7 sf1..
Ruefenacht	22	Rocchetti, A		Ruggieri, O		0-1	1991	ITA corr Italy
Vesely	22	Staal, J		Boll, P		0-1	1991	NED jub25 corr9..
Ftacnik	20	Vasilenko, A		Muravyev, S		0-1	1991	URS-chT10 corr..
Itter, Erik	20	Neat, K		Barnsley, A		0-1	1993	ENG-chT corr
Bangiev	18	Leko, P	2694	Alvarez Villar, ...	2321	½-½	1997	EMTT/F01 email

High-corr-rated games ensure quality of this remarkable collection.

Number	White	Elo W	Black	Elo B	Result	Moves	ECO	Tournament	Date	VCS	P	Medals	Annotator
367297	Andersson, U	2805	Timmerman, G	2738	½-½	58	E63	Millennium Email Tournament	03.11.1999				
367298	Andersson, U	2805	Van Oostero..	2684	½-½	47	D75	Millennium Email Tournament	03.11.1999				
367295	Andersson, U	2805	Elwert, H	2681	0-1	34	D56	Millennium Email Tournament	03.11.1999				
367296	Andersson, U	2805	Tarnowiecki, H	2676	½-½	54	D58	Millennium Email Tournament	03.11.1999				
367294	Andersson, U	2805	Bang, E	2661	½-½	40	C42	Millennium Email Tournament	03.11.1999				
453019	Berliner, H	2763	Timmerman, G	2744	½-½	21	E81	ICCF 50th Jubilee World Champio..	2004	vcs		Blue	Konikowski
453016	Berliner, H	2763	Oim, T	2610	½-½	61	D10	ICCF 50th Jubilee World Champio..	2004	VcS		Blue	Konikowski
453018	Berliner, H	2763	Sloth, J	2605	1-0	44	E31	ICCF 50th Jubilee World Champio..	2004	VcS		Red	Konikowski
453017	Berliner, H	2763	Sanakoev, G	2597	½-½	62	E31	ICCF 50th Jubilee World Champio..	2004	VcS		Blue	Konikowski
254497	Timmerman, G	2747	Bang, E	2663	1-0	31	C92	Massow mem-A corr9599	1995	VCS		Blue	Morgado, Juan S
254551	Timmerman, G	2747	Anton, V	2616	½-½	83	C18	Massow mem-A corr9599	1996	VCS		Blue	Anton, VM
254555	Timmerman, G	2747	Rittner, H	2601	1-0	55	C18	Massow mem-A corr9599	1996	VCS		Blue	Harding

Conclusion:

The tournaments collected and published here are of the obvious highest quality, “featuring all games of the correspondence chess world championships 1-18, correspondence chess olympics 1-15, correspondence chess european championships, national championships (AUS, CSR, DEN, GER, NED, USA) and memorials (1965 SUI jub75, 1991 FIN jub30, NED jub 25, NBC Millennium Email, ICCF 50th Jubilee Elite and ICCF 50th Jubilee World Champions)”.

OTB players may as well benefit from researching these games, as they contain masterpieces that can be useful in pursuing novelties necessary for modern tournament preparation, ideas that can only be found in games such as these. Correspondence games, although its players might argue differently, are relieved of typical OTB time control stress situations, thus hinting on potentially higher quality precision techniques in openings, middlegames and endgames alike.

Even with the growing powers of computer chess engines, having witnessed a number of regular correspondence chess players spending countless hours in analyzing their ongoing games over the board, without external aid, I have no fear of software overtaking the human element in producing competitive and evergreen correspondence games of chess.

My personal earlier experiences with experimenting OTB chess, using Correspondence Chess based knowledge, have brought me success on more than a few occasions and will always play an important part in tournament preparation and general study of the game of chess.

Chessbase continues its quest in storing the history of chess, updates it on a regular basis, to the joy and convenience of all chess friends and professionals. This jewel, enriched by the powerful features of Chessbase’s software, is a must for all past, present and future correspondence chess players and a goldmine for chess excavations.