

Two Knights with ♞a5

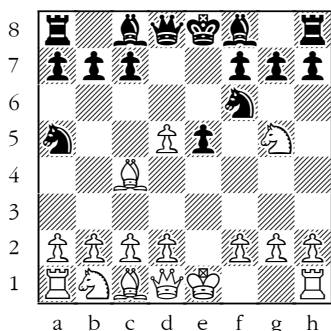
Compiled by Steven Craig Miller (2nd edition)

1. e4 e5
2. ♟f3 ♞c6
3. ♞c4 ♟f6
4. ♟g5 d5
5. exd5 ♞a5

For 5. ... ♞xd5, see the Fried Liver and Lolli Attacks.

For 5. ... ♞d4 or 5. ... b5, see the Fritz and Ulvestad Variations.

After the unorthodox 5. ... ♞b4, there is: 6. d6 ♞bd5 (6. ... ♟fd5 7. d4± [or 7. d3±]) 7. dxc7 ♞xc7 8. d3± (which is not bad for such an unorthodox variation).



6. ♞b5+

The Morphy Variation: 6. d3 h6 7. ♟f3 e4 8. ♞e2 ♞xc4 9. dxc4 ♞c5 ♞.

6. ... c6

Also playable is 6. ... ♞d7, where White should continue with 7. ♞e2. Now Black has two major continuations:

- (a) 7. ... ♞d6 8. ♞c3 0-0 9. ♞xd7 ♞xd7 10. a3 b6 11. d3 c6 12. b4 ♞b7 13. dxc6

- ♞xc6 14. ♞ce4 ♞d7 15. ♞f3 ♞e7 16. ♞xh7 ♞fc8 17. ♞hg5 f6 18. ♞h3 ♞c2 19. 0-0 ±, Morozevich—Sokolov, Sarajevo 1999 —75/301.

- (b) 7. ... ♞e7 8. ♞c3 0-0 9. ♞xd7 ♞xd7 10. 0-0 ♞fe8 11. d3 ♞b4 12. ♞d2 ♞xc3 13. ♞xc3 ♞d5 14. ♞d2 ♞c6 =, Pavasovic—Flear, Asti 1996.

7. dxc6 bxc6
8. ♞e2

The move 8. ♞a4 is a blunder, for after 8. ... h6 9. ♟f3 e4 10. ♞e5 Black is able to win a piece with 10. ... ♞d4 (forking the knight and bishop).

The Bogoljubow Variation: 8. ♞f3, and now (a): 8. ... ♞b8 (a1) 9. ♞xc6+ ♞xc6 10. ♞xc6+ ♞d7 11. d3 ♞e7 ♞; (a2) 9. ♞d3 ♞e7 10. 0-0 0-0 ♞; (b) 8. ... ♞e7 9. ♞xc6 ♞xc6 10. ♞d7 11. ♞c4 0-0 ♞.

Slightly unorthodox is the move: 8. ♞d3 and now Black can consider:

- (a) 8. ... h6 9. ♞e4 ♞d5 10. ♞bc3 ♟f4 11. ♞f1 ♞ 12. g3 ±

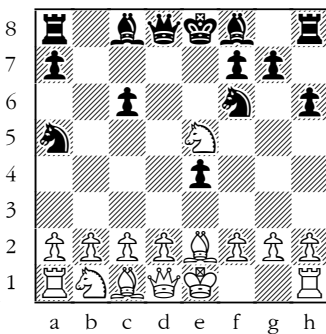
- (b) 8. ... ♞d5 9. ♞e4 ♟f4 (9. ... f5 10. ♞ec3 ♟f4 11. ♞f1 ♞c5 12. g3 ±) 10. ♞f1 f5 11. ♟g3 ♞c5 12. c3 ♞b6 13. d4 ♞b7 14. ♞c4 ±, Klovan—Nikolaevsky, Erevan 1959.

- (c) 8. ... ♟g4 9. ♞e4 f5 10. ♞e2 ♞d4 11. ♞bc3 h5 12. ♞xg4 hxg4 13. ♟g3 g6 14. ♞e2 ♟f7 15. d3 ♞b8 16. ♞e3 ± Belavsky & Mikhalchishin 1999:74-75.

8. ... h6
9. ♖f3

The Steinitz Variation: 9. ♖h3, for example: 9. ... ♗c5 10. d3 0-0 11. 0-0 ♖b7 (11. ... ♗xh3?! 12. gxf3 ♖d7 13. ♗f3 ♖h3 14. ♖d2 ♖ad8 15. ♗g2 ♖f5 16. ♖e1 ♖fe8 17. ♖e4 ±, Fischer—Bisguier, New York 1963) 12. ♖c3 ♗b6 13. ♗f3 ♖d5 14. ♖e2 ♖e8 15. ♖e1 ♖xc3 16. bxc3 ♗d7 17. ♗a3 ♖b8 18. ♖ab1 ♖c7 ♖, Nunn—Hardicsay, Budapest 1978 — 26/264.

9. ... e4
10. ♖e5



Here Black has four major choices: (A) 10. ... ♗d6 (B) 10. ... ♗c5, (C) 10. ... ♖d4, or (D) 10. ... ♖c7

- A
10. ... ♗d6

And now White has two choices: (A1) 11. d4 or (A2) 11. f4.

- A1
11. d4 exd3
12. ♖xd3 ♖c7
13. b3 0-0
14. ♗b2

(a) 14. ... ♖e8 15. h3 ♖d5 16. 0-0 ♖e7 17. ♖c3 ♖c3 18. ♗xc3 (Kasparov—Timman,

Moscow (rapid) 1994 —60/(318)) ♖b3 19. ab3 ♖c2 ±, Morozevich.

(b) 14. ... ♗f5 15. ♖d2 ∞, Mestel—Flear, London 1986.

(c) 14. ... ♖d5 15. h3 ♗f5 16. 0-0 ♖ad8 17. ♖c3 ♖b4 ♖, Losev—Frolov, Moscow 1995.

(d) 14. ... ♖e4 15. ♖c3 f5 16. h3 ♗a6 17. 0-0 ♖ad8 18. ♖e1 c5 ∞, Morozevich—Nenashev, Alushta 1994 —60/318.

- A2
11. f4 exf3
12. ♖xf3 0-0
13. 0-0 ♖

- B
10. ... ♗c5
11. c3 ♖c7
12. f4 ♗d6
13. 0-0 ♖

- C
10. ... ♖d4
11. f4 ♗c5
12. ♖f1 ♖

- D
10. ... ♖c7
11. d4 exd3
12. ♖xd3

This line transposes into ‘A1.’