

Analysing Your Games

Chess

How to review a game so that it teaches you something.

The single highest-return activity in chess study.

1

Replay it yourself first

Write down what you were thinking at each critical moment.

2

Find your own mistakes

Where did the evaluation change? Why did you play that?

3

Then run the engine

Compare its assessment against your own.

4

Categorise each error

Tactical oversight, wrong plan, time trouble, opening gap?

5

Record the pattern

One line per game. Patterns emerge over ten games, not one.

CATEGORIES WORTH COUNTING

Hung a piece

Missed their threat

No plan

Time trouble

Opening confusion

An engine gives moves, not understanding. Knowing the best move without knowing why teaches nothing transferable.