

# Scholar's Checkmate - aka the Four Move Checkmate

## The Four Move Checkmate

1	<b>e4</b>	<b>e5</b>
2	<b>♞c4</b>	<b>♞c5</b>
3	<b>♚h5</b>	<b>d6??</b>
4	<b>♚xf7#</b>	<b>1-0</b>

## The Four Move Checkmate delayed

1	<b>e4</b>	<b>e5</b>
2	<b>♞c4</b>	<b>♞c5</b>
3	<b>♚h5</b>	<b>g6??</b>
4	<b>♚xe5+</b>	<b>♞e7</b>
5	<b>♚xh8+</b>	<b>♞g8</b>
6	<b>♚xg8+</b>	<b>♞f8</b>
7	<b>♚xf7#</b>	<b>1-0</b>

## .. and delayed even further

1	<b>e4</b>	<b>e5</b>
2	<b>♞c4</b>	<b>♞c5</b>
3	<b>♚h5</b>	<b>g6??</b>
4	<b>♚xe5+</b>	<b>♞e7</b>
5	<b>♚xh8+</b>	<b>♞g8</b>
6	<b>♚xg8+</b>	<b>♞e7</b>
7	<b>♚xf7+</b>	<b>♞d6</b>
8	<b>d4!</b>	<b>♞xd4</b>
9	<b>♞f4+</b>	<b>♞c6</b>
10	<b>♚d5+</b>	<b>♞b6</b>
11	<b>♚b5#</b>	<b>1-0</b>

## Stopping the Four Move Mate

1	<b>e4</b>	<b>e5</b>
2	<b>♞c4</b>	<b>♞f6</b>
3	<b>♚h5</b>	<b>♞xh5</b>

and black has won the queen

## Another attempt

1	<b>e4</b>	<b>e5</b>
2	<b>♞c4</b>	<b>♞f6</b>
3	<b>♚f3</b>	<b>♞c6!!</b>
4	<b>g4</b>	<b>♞d4</b>
5	<b>♚e3</b>	<b>♞xc2+</b>

notice the counter-attack by black's knight as it jumps to d4 attacking the queen.

## A more dangerous way to play the Four Move Mate

1	<b>e4</b>	<b>e5</b>
2	<b>♚h5</b>	<b>♞c6</b>
3	<b>♞c4</b>	<b>♞f6??</b>
4	<b>♚xf7#</b>	<b>1-0</b>

This line where white brings the queen out on the second move often tricks many players – they protect the e pawn immediately but forget to protect the f7 square the next move.

If someone tries this on you – there is a fabulous pawn sacrifice you can play which will give you the INITIATIVE – it will be you pushing the white queen around.

## A dangerous GAMBIT response for black

1	<b>e4</b>	<b>e5</b>
2	<b>♚h5</b>	<b>♞f6!!?</b>
3	<b>♚xe5+</b>	<b>♞e7</b>
4	<b>d4</b>	<b>♞c6</b>
5	<b>♚g5</b>	<b>♞xe4</b>
6	<b>♚xg7</b>	<b>♞f6!</b>
7	<b>♚g4</b>	<b>d5</b>
8	<b>♚f3</b>	<b>♞xd4</b>
9	<b>♚e3</b>	<b>♞xc2+</b>
10	<b>♚d1</b>	<b>♞xe3+</b>
11	<b>fxe3</b>	<b>♞f2+</b>
12	<b>♚c2</b>	<b>♞f5+</b>
13	<b>♚b3</b>	<b>♞xh1</b>

and black is winning.

Notice that you play 3... Be7 when white is checking you – you do not want white to swap queen for queen when you are a pawn down – you want to get ready to CASTLE and get ready to bring out more pieces and you pursue the queen that came out too early.

Look at the X-ray on move 6, the discovered attack on move 7 and all the forks – including the family fork.