

Continuing our series on attacking in the Evans Gambit, this week's puzzle selection highlights a number of thematic defensive ideas: what moves should we be *trying to look for*? If we don't do this, how will we ever "see" them?

In our example, White missed that Black could play **11. ... Bf5**, with the bishop taking over for the knight on defensive, removing White's best attacker in the process!

After **12. Bxf5 Nxf5 13. Ba3 Qg6!**,

Black goes on the offensive, as you'll see in the final puzzle.



### DEFEND AGAINST THE EVANS

A common excuse for a failed attack is, "I didn't see their move!" This is why every attacker must study the art of defensive resources.

#### # 1. BLACK TO PLAY

#### # 2. BLACK TO PLAY

#### # 3. BLACK TO PLAY

#### # 4. BLACK TO PLAY

#### # 5. BLACK TO PLAY

#### # 6. BLACK TO PLAY

### SOLUTIONS

**1) 10. ... Bxh2+** Beware the hanging knight on g5! **11. Kxh2 Ng4+** **12. Kg3 Qxg5** Black is winning. (Kaminski – Kevitz, Milwaukee, 1954) **2) 12. ... Nxd5** A common motif with a hanging knight on h4! **13. Nf5 gxf5 14. exf5** Now, Black could have played **14. ... c6** when they have nothing to worry about, with ... Nd5-f6 coming to blockade the f-pawn. (Eriksen – Bank Friis, Denmark, 1988) **3) 10. ... d5!** Perfect

timing. The ambitious **10. ... Ng4?!** **11. Nxf7 Qh4** looks interesting, but White holds onto a decent advantage with the devastating **12. Qxg4!! Qxg4 13. Nh6+ Kh8 14. Nxf7**. **11. exf6 dxc4 12. Qh5 Bf5** The key defensive resource! (Winter – Wood, London, 1946) **4) 12. ... Qf6** Defending while attacking! The greedy **12. ... Kxf7 13. Qxd4 Nf6** defends the threat on the a5-bishop of Qd4-d5+, but nothing else. **13. Bh5** Any other bishop move allowed

... Nd4xf3+, with the discovered attack on the hanging a1-rook. **13. ... Nc6** When Black has a serious initiative. (Schwarz – Thielsch, Berlin, 1995) **5) 8. ... Nxd4** Black says "prove it!" **9. Bxf7+ Kf8 10. Qd1 Qg4 11. Qxg4 Bxg4 12. Bb3 h6** The attack is over, and Black is two pawns up. (Nemry – Romanelli, Ludison, 1996) **6) 19. ... Ng3** There's no way to save the queen and mate. **20. Qxg6 Nde2** mate. (Marache – Morphy, New York, 1857)