

Mikhail Botvinnik

Quotes

*Chess, Analysis, Player, Games, Success, Variation, Years, Art, Pieces, Play,
Culture, Issues, World, Sacrifice, Class, People, Kids, Ifs, Mind, Believe*

If you are weak in the endgame, you must spend more time analysing studies; in your training games you must aim at transposing to endgames, which will help you to acquire the requisite experience.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Chess is the art which expresses the science of logic.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

If Tal sacrifices a piece, take it. If Petrosian sacrifices a piece, don't take it.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Chess mastery essentially consists of analyzing Chess positions accurately

~Mikhail Botvinnik

When my opponent's clock is going I discuss general considerations in an internal dialogue with myself. When my own clock is going I analyse concrete variations.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Chess cannot be taught. Chess can only be learned.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

In short, we can see Karpov as an exploiter of other people's ideas. His ability to use these ideas is not at issue, but he himself is about as fertile as a woman who has been sterilized is.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Chess is the art of analysis.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Every great master will find it useful to have his own theory on the openings, which only he himself knows, a theory which is closely linked

with plans for the middle game.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Chess is a part of culture and if a culture is declining then Chess too will decline

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Yes, I have played a blitz game once. It was on a train, in 1929.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

The boy (then a 12 year old boy named Anatoly Karpov) doesn't have a clue about Chess, and there's no future at all for him in this profession

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Suddenly it was obvious to me in my analysis I had missed what Fischer had found with the greatest of ease at the board

~Mikhail Botvinnik

I claim that nothing else is so effective in encouraging the growth of chess strength as such independent analysis, both of the games of the great players and your own.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

It is a well known fact that almost all the outstanding chess-players have been first-class analysts.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

There is no better place for learning to work independently and to extend your horizon than in higher school.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

With opposite coloured bishops the attacking side has in effect an extra piece in the shape of his bishop.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Along with my retirement from chess analytical work seems to have gone too.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Don't worry kids, you'll find work. After all, my machine will need strong chess player-programmers. You will be the first.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Before Geller we did not understand the King's Indian Defence.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Chess, like any creative activity, can exist only through the combined efforts of those who have creative talent, and those who have the ability to organize their creative work

~Mikhail Botvinnik

It must be clearly understood that Soviet players do not seek simple systems in the opening, but try to formulate opening systems in which everything is complicated, distinctive, or new.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

I only think well when my mind is calm.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Capablanca's phenomenal move-searching algorithm in those early years, when he possessed a wonderful ability for calculating variations very rapidly, made him invincible.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Memorization of variations could be even worse than playing in a tournament without looking in the books at all.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

You have to accustom yourself to practical study at home, you have to

devote time to studies, to the history of chess, the development of chess theory, of chess culture.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Chess is no whit inferior to the violin, and we have a large number of professional violinists

~Mikhail Botvinnik

If Tal would learn to program himself properly, then it would become quite impossible to play against him.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

Everything is in a state of flux, and this includes the world of Chess

~Mikhail Botvinnik

It is peculiar but a fact nevertheless, that the gamblers in chess have enthusiastic followers.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

A knight ending is really a pawn ending.

~Mikhail Botvinnik

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