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White and Black candidates (b5, g5)

**Candidate passed pawn,** a [pawn](#) on a [half-open file](#), which, if the board had only pawns on it, would eventually become a [passed pawn](#) by moving forward. Whereas this definition is obvious for a human, in a form presented above it would require no less than a separate [recursive](#) search routine. For that reason, computers have to use approximations of that rule.

One possibility is to define a pawn as a candidate, if no square on its path is controlled by more enemy pawns than own pawns. However, this simple heuristics rules out an early recognition of a candidate passed pawns. For example with white pawns on a4 and b5 and black pawn on a7, the b5 pawn would be viewed as a candidate passer only after a4-a5.

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## Forum Posts

- [How to define a candidate passer](#) by [Jan Willem de Kort](#), [CCC](#), January 03, 2006
- [Outside passer and candidate passer: definition wanted! :-\)](#) by [Alessandro Scotti](#), [CCC](#), February 27, 2006
- [Improving evaluation of passed pawns](#) by [Ben-Hur Carlos Vieira Langoni Junior](#), [CCC](#), January 22, 2011 » [Passed Pawn](#)

## External Links

- [Pawn Power in Chess by Hans Kmoch - Glossary of Terms - Chess Forums](#) - [Chess.com](#) <sup>[1]</sup>
- [Candidates Tournament from Wikipedia](#)

## References

1. <sup>^</sup> [Hans Kmoch](#) (1959, 1990). *Pawn Power in Chess*. New York: Dover, 1990. Previous ed.: New York: McKay, 1959. ISBN 0-486-26486-6

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