

[Home](#) \* [Engines](#) \* **Chess Champion Super System III**



Super System III with LCD  
Display <sup>[2]</sup>

**Chess Champion Super System III**, (Chess System III, Super System III, ChessMaster) [Novag's](#) third [dedicated chess computer](#) released in 1979, at about the time that the Novag / [SciSys](#) split took place. After the early sales period different SciSys and Novag versions of the **Super System III** emerged, the early **Chess System III**, the later SciSys **ChessMaster**, and the **Chess Champion Super System III** by Novag <sup>[1]</sup>.

The chess computer had a [6502](#) CPU with a [Philidor Software](#) program written by [Mike Johnson](#), supported by [David Levy](#) with expertise in [search](#) heuristics, also providing the [opening library](#). The program and book was stored in 8 [KiB](#) of [ROM](#), and used 1 KiB of [RAM](#). It was a kind of modular system with a computer unit, and optionally, a pluggable printer and the very first [LCD](#)-chessboard.

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## Oversight

During the [1980 Chess Tournament](#) in [Bad Kissingen](#), Germany <sup>[3]</sup>, sponsored by [Horten](#), a German department store chain and primary German Novag distributor <sup>[4]</sup>, [Anatoly Karpov](#) played 25 Super System IIIs in a [simultaneous exhibition](#). In one game he was rather lucky that the program, a rook up, uncorked 32... Rfd8 overlooking [mate](#) in one, instead of Qb8 <sup>[5]</sup> <sup>[6]</sup>.

```
[Event "Karpov Simultaneous"]
[Site "Bad Kissingen"]
[Date "1980.01.??"]
[Round "?"]
[White "Anatoly Karpov"]
[Black "Super System III"]
[Result "1-0"]
```

```
1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 Bc5 4.Bg2 Nf6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.O-O d6 7.d3 Be6
8.a3 a5 9.h3 Qe7 10.Rb1 Bf5 11.Bg5 Kh8 12.Nd5 Qd8 13.b4 axb4
14.axb4 Ba7 15.Ra1 h6 16.Bxf6 gxf6 17.Qd2 Kh7 18.Nh4 Be6 19.Be4+
Kg7 20.g4 Nd4 21.Kh2 Nb3 22.Qb2 Nxa1 23.e3 c6 24.Nc3 d5 25.cxd5
cxd5 26.Bg2 d4 27.Nb5 Qb6 28.Nxa7 Qxa7 29.f4 dxe3 30.fxe5 fxe5
31.Qxe5+ Kg8 32.Ng6 Rfd8 33.Qh8# 1-0
```

r4rk1/qp3p2/4b1Np/4Q3/1P4P1/3Pp2P/6BK/n4R2 b - - 2 32

## See also

- [Chess Champion MK I](#)
- [Chess Champion MK II](#)
- [Chess Champion Mark IV](#)
- [Karpov Challenge](#)
- [Karpov's Endorsement](#)
- [Masters](#)

## Publications

- [Novag - Chess Champion Super System III](#) pdf by [Hein Veldhuis](#)
- [Schachcomputer: Markt und Müll](#), [Der Spiegel](#) 49/1979, December 03, 1979, (German) [pdf](#)
- [John F. White \(1981\)](#). [Survey-Chess Games](#). [Your Computer](#), [August/September 1981](#)

## External Links

### Chess Computer

- [Chess Champion Super System III](#) from [Chess Computer UK](#) by [Mike Watters](#)
- [Scisys and Novag : The Early Years](#) from [Chess Computer UK](#) by [Mike Watters](#)
- [Novag SS 3](#) by [Hein Veldhuis](#)
- [Novag Chess Champion Super System MK III](#) from [Schachcomputer.info - Wiki](#) (German)

### Misc

- [Champion](#) from [Wikipedia](#)
- [Super \(disambiguation\)](#) from [Wikipedia](#)
- [super](#) - [Wiktionary](#)
- [System \(disambiguation\)](#) from [Wikipedia](#)
- [Nintendo Super System](#) from [Wikipedia](#)
- [Supersystem \(band\)](#) from [Wikipedia](#)
- [Super/System \(Poker book\)](#) from [Wikipedia](#)

## References

1. [^](#) [Scisys and Novag : The Early Years](#) from [Chess Computer UK](#) by [Mike Watters](#)
2. [^](#) [Close UP Of SSIII LCD Display | Flickr - Fotosharing](#) by [Chewbanta](#)
3. [^](#) [Bad Kissingen 1980 - 365Chess.com Tournaments](#)
4. [^](#) [Horten macht's möglich: Schach-Computer für 250 Mark](#), October 13, 1978 [Computerwoche](#) 42/1978 (German)
5. [^](#) [Chess Champion Super System III](#) from [Chess Computer UK](#) by [Mike Watters](#)
6. [^](#) [Anatoly Karpov vs Super System III](#) from [chessgames.com](#)

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| <a href="#">Chess-Master</a>                    | Sep 7, 2017  |

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| <a href="#">Mike Johnson</a>      | Jan 7, 2016  |
| <a href="#">Novag</a>             | Aug 19, 2015 |
| <a href="#">Philidor Software</a> | Sep 18, 2014 |
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