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Merlin <sup>[4]</sup>

### **Merlin,**

a chess program by [Jeff Rollason](#) whose development started in 1976, initially written in [Fortran](#) for mainframe computers. Merlin already focused on a [Swapping Off Material Analyzer](#) (SOMA) approach of the whole board, which was later refined in Rollason's [Shogi](#) program [Shotest](#) <sup>[1]</sup> and his later chess program [Treebeard](#) <sup>[2]</sup>. The micro-processor program Merlin X <sup>[3]</sup>, basically a [Z80 Assembly](#) port to run on a [Nascom 2](#), played the [4th European Microcomputer Chess Championship](#) 1983 in [London](#) with 4 out of 9.

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## Namesakes

- [Merlin](#) from [Vienna University of Technology](#)
- [Merlin](#), a [Chess Engine Communication Protocol](#) compatible chess engine by [Balázs Jákó](#) <sup>[5]</sup>

## External Links

- [Merlin from Wikipedia](#)
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- [Myrddin & Merlin: A Guide to the Early Evolution of the Merlin Legend](#) from [Arthuriana](#) by Thomas Green
- [The Coming of the King from Wikipedia](#)
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- [If - Merlin the Magic Man](#), 1975, [YouTube](#) Video <sup>[6]</sup>

## References

1. <sup>^</sup> [Jeff Rollason \(2000\). SUPER-SOMA - Solving Tactical Exchanges in Shogi without Tree Searching. CG 2000, Word preprint](#)
2. <sup>^</sup> [Treebeard - A new way to do Chess - AI Factory newsletter article Summer 2005](#)
3. <sup>^</sup> [Jeff Rollason from Wikipedia](#)
4. <sup>^</sup> [Merlin](#), from the [Nuremberg Chronicle](#) (1493), by [Hartmann Schedel](#) (1440-1514)
5. <sup>^</sup> [Merlin Chess Engine](#)
6. <sup>^</sup> [Merlin \(TV series\) from Wikipedia](#)

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