

[Home](#) \* [Engines](#) \* **Nightmare GER**



[Henry Fuseli](#) 1781, The  
Nightmarfe <sup>[1]</sup>

**Nightmare**,  
a chess program by [Reinhold Gellner](#) and [Gaby von Rekowski](#),  
playing various tournaments in the  
late 80s and 90s, most notably the  
[WMCCC 1989](#), [ACM 1990](#),  
[WMCCC 1990](#), [2nd Computer  
Olympiad 1990](#), [WMCCC 1991](#),  
[WCCC 1992](#), [WMCCC 1993](#),  
[WCCC 1995](#), [WMCCC 1995](#),  
[WMCCC 1996](#), [WMCCC 1997](#),  
[Aegon Tournaments](#) and the early  
[IPCCCs](#).

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## Description

given in 1995 <sup>[2]</sup> :

Completely written in [C](#), work on Nightmare started in 1989 as a non-commercial project. It is a [brute force](#) program searching up to 7-ply in the middle-game with a selective search depth of up to 40 ply.

Modified [null-move searches](#), modified [singular extensions](#), [part-ply extensions](#) and a new idea of hashing related meaningful subtrees are special features of Nightmare.

The program also uses well known techniques like [killer-moves](#), [history heuristic](#), [principal variation search](#) and [hash tables](#) of 64,000 entries per side. The tournament [opening book](#) consists of about 40,000 moves. Endgame databases are NOT used. Last year, Nightmare was transferred to 32-bit under extended [DOS](#) and it can now search 12,000 moves per second. The program's rating is about 2000ELO (German) on a [486-50](#).

## Namesake

- [Nightmare](#) by [Joost Buijs](#)

## See also

- [Demonology](#)

## Publications

- [Raymond Smullyan](#) (1982). [An Epistemological Nightmare](#). [MIT](#) <sup>[3]</sup>

## External Links

## Chess Engine

- [Nightmare's ICGA Tournaments](#)

## Misc

- [Nightmare from Wikipedia](#)
- [Nightmare \(disambiguation\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [Knightmare \(disambiguation\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [Zbigniew Seifert](#) - McCoy's Nightmare, Hamburg, March 1974, [YouTube](#) Video  
[NDR Studio Band](#) with [Zbigniew Seifert](#), [Hans Koller](#), [Adelhard Roidinger](#), [Janusz Stefanski](#), conductor [Franz Thon](#)

## References

1. [^ The Nightmare from Wikipedia](#)
2. [^ Nightmare's ICGA Tournaments](#)
3. [^ Epistemology from Wikipedia](#)

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