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Monument of Ostap Bender ^[5]

OBender, (previously called Qchess and Chess) a [Chess Engine Communication Protocol](#) compliant [open source chess program](#) by [Evgeniy Korniloff](#), written in [C](#), with recent modifications by [Serg Nifont](#). Sources of various versions are hosted by [Jim Ablett](#) ^[1] ^[2]. Despite released more recently, OBender aka Qchess seems to be the oldest Russian [WinBoard engine](#). QChess was a demonstration program of [selective search](#) as an example in Evgeniy Korniloff's book *Программирование шахмат и других логических игр* (Programming Chess and other logical games) ^[3]. The program has an own [graphical user interface](#), but can also play via WinBoard. A newer version of the engine was called Chess, applying a deeper but narrower selective search with an extended positional [evaluation](#), until it evolved to OBender with an additional side branch called [Woodpecker](#) ^[4].

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Description

OBender [represents the board](#) with [8x8 arrays](#) and [piece-lists](#), and applies [negamax PVS](#) with [null move pruning](#), [mate threat extensions](#), [check extensions](#), [LMR](#) and [quiescence search](#) inside the [iterative deepening](#) framework. Beside the [transposition table](#) and a tree structure of [principal variations](#), OBender features a [persistent learn file](#) and various personalities. [Move ordering](#) is further enhanced by the [killer heuristic](#) and [history heuristic](#), and the [evaluation](#) takes [material](#), [piece squares](#), [pawn structure](#), [king safety](#), and [mobility](#) into account, also considering [attacks](#) and [x-ray attacks](#) and [pinned pieces](#) ^[6].

Etymology

OBender is named after the main character of the classic [satirical novel The Twelve Chairs](#) by the [Odessan Soviet](#) authors [Ilf and Petrov](#), released in 1928, and its 1931 sequel [The Little Golden Calf](#). “[Smooth operator](#)” and [conman Ostap Bender](#) is a tricky individual who makes people believe he's a chess grandmaster and makes a now very well-known speech about making a small town called Vasiuki very famous by engaging it into a series of chess matches against the whole world, and even against other planets ^{[7] [8] [9]}.

See also

- [Fiction](#)
- [Ippolit](#)
- [QCHESS](#)
- [Woodpecker](#)

Forum Posts

- [Problems with OBender](#) by [Harm Geert Muller](#), [Winboard Forum](#), May 30, 2007
- [Highest number of programs?](#) by Tony Thomas, [CCC](#), October 30, 2007
- [OBender 3.29a](#) by [Evgeniy Korniloff](#) by [Norbert Raimund Leisner](#), [CCC](#), September 14, 2008
- [OBender](#) by [Evgeniy Korniloff \(formely: QChess\)](#) as x64? by [Norbert Raimund Leisner](#), [CCC](#), May 23, 2009

- [Silent updates to Woodpecker and OBender](#) by [Tony Mokonen](#), [CCC](#), June 07, 2010
- [Obender 03.2016 64-bit \(working compile by Andrew Fan\)](#) by [Graham Banks](#), [CCC](#), April 16, 2016

External Links

Chess Engine

- [Домашняя страничка Евгения Корнилова | Evgeniy Korniloff Home Page](#)
[Chess OBender Download Free](#) by [Serg Nifont](#)
- [Index of /chess/engines/Jim Ablett/OBENDER](#) by [Jim Ablett](#), hosted by [Kirill Kryukov](#)
- [OBender \(ранее - Qchess-chess\)](#) by [Evgeniy Korniloff](#), [Russia](#) from [sdchess.ru](#)
- [OBender 3.2.4.2](#) in [CCRL 40/40](#)

Misc

- [Ostap Bender from Wikipedia](#)
- [The Twelve Chairs from Wikipedia](#)
- [The chess games of Ostap Bender](#) from [chessgames.com](#)
- Шахматы в фильме from the 1976 USSR series "12 стульев" ([The Twelve Chairs](#)) with [Andrei Mironov](#) as [Ostap Bender](#), [YouTube](#) Video

References

1. [Домашняя страничка Евгения Корнилова | Evgeniy Korniloff Home Page](#)
2. [Index of /chess/engines/Jim Ablett/OBENDER](#) by [Jim Ablett](#), hosted by [Kirill Kryukov](#)
3. [Evgeniy Korniloff \(2005\)](#). *Программирование шахмат и других логических игр*. (Programming Chess and other logical games), ISBN 5-94157-497-5, [Глава 1. Общие сведения \(Chapter I\) as pdf](#)
4. [OBender \(ранее - Qchess-chess\)](#) by [Evgeniy Korniloff](#), [Russia](#) from [sdchess.ru](#)
5. [Monument of Ostap Bender in Kremenchuk, Ukraine](#), Photo by [TheVovaNik](#), June 29, 2014, [CC BY-SA 3.0](#), [Wikimedia Commons](#), [Ostap Bender from Wikipedia](#)
6. [Description based on OBender-3.2.x.s.7.5](#)
7. [The United States Chess Federation - Ostap Bender and the Space Chess Game](#) by [Glenn Petersen](#), November 8, 2008
8. [The chess games of Ostap Bender](#) from [chessgames.com](#)
9. [The Interplanetary Chess Congress](#) by [colibas](#), [Chess.com](#), August 17, 2012

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