

[Home](#) * [Engines](#) * [Sfinks](#)



[Sphinx](#) ^[3]

Sfinks,

a chess program written by [William Fink](#). It was one of the early commercial chess programs for [IBM PC's](#) ^[1], written in [Assembly](#) for 8-bit [Z80](#)- and 16-bit [8086 microprocessors](#) subsequently, and participated at the [MCC 1980](#), the [ACM 1982](#) and the [WCCC 1983](#) with the 8-bit version running on an [TRS-80 microcomputer](#). Sfinks was a modern full-width [alpha-beta](#) searcher with [iterative deepening](#) and small [refutation tables](#) with very moderate memory requirements to store two additional [moves](#) of a [principal variation](#) for each [root](#)-move ^[2].

Despite embedding its authors name, [Sfinks](#) is the Polish spelling for [Sphinx](#), the mythological creature of [Ancient Egypt](#) and [Achaemenid Empire](#) that is depicted as a recumbent feline with a human head.

Table of Contents

[See also](#)

[Publications](#)

[External Links](#)

[References](#)

[What links here?](#)

See also

- [Anubis](#)
- [CHEOPS](#)
- [CXG Sphinx](#)
- [Mythology](#)

Publications

- [William Fink](#) (1981). *Sfinks riddles Sargon II*. [Personal Computing, Vol. 5, No. 3](#), pp. 104 » [Sargon](#)
- [William Fink](#) (1982). *An Enhancement to the Iterative, Alpha-Beta, Minimax Search Procedure*. [ICCA Newsletter, Vol. 5, No. 1](#)

External Links

- [Sfinks' ICGA Tournaments](#)
- [Classic Computer Chess - ... The programs of yesteryear](#) by [Carey](#), hosted by the [Internet Archive](#)
- [SFINKS PC: Microcomputer Chess Game written by William Fink](#)

Awesome!

SFINKS PC

Unsurpassed!

Microcomputer Chess Game written by William Fink

System Requirements: 64K IBM Personal Computer
64K COMPAQ Portable Computer

Program Media: Protected diskette Program Size: 18K,20K

Program Language: 8088 (8086) Assembly Language

Price: Only \$49.95 plus \$2.00 shipping

Features of Sfinks PC:

- * You may select any level of play from beginner to expert. Select any time from 0 hrs.-0 mins.-0 secs. to 99 hrs.-59 mins.-59 secs.
- * 32 Book Openings, 8 full moves deep, including

King's Gambit	Danish Gambit	Classical Dutch
Philidor's Defense	Alekhin's Defense	Nimzo Indian
Petrov's Defense	Cardsan Defense	Chigorin Defense
Scotch Game	French Defense	King's Indian
Ruy Lopez	Sicilian Defense	English
Giuoco Piano	Pirc Defense	Scheveningen
4 Knights Game	Queen's Gambit Accepted	
Budapest Defense	Queen's Gambit Declined	
Warshall Attack	Slav Defense	
Stonewall Defense	Kodern Steinitz Defense	
Remont	Colle	
- * Easy to use problem set-up mode allows you to modify the board, change response times, change colors, set up any chess problem or board position quickly.
- * Save (restore) up to 100 chess positions to (from) disk.
- * Displays and prints moves in standard algebraic notation. Scrolling scorepad displays the last 20 moves.
- * Optional printer output. You can produce a record of your games with Sfinks PC. The game will be printed as play proceeds.
- * A dual chess clock displaying the total time used by each player.
- * Attractively designed chess graphics for your color or monochrome display.
- * Solves and announces checkmates.
- * Optional audio signal to alert you when Sfinks PC moves.
- * Halt key (F1) stops program immediately.
- * Instructional aids. Sfinks PC allows you to take back any number of moves at any time during the game. Sfinks PC will suggest moves should you request a hint for your next move. Also, you can improve your analytical ability by studying the moves being displayed by Sfinks PC during its search for its best move.
- * Plays by the USCF rules. Sfinks plays all legal moves including En Passant, Castling and Promotions.

References

1. ^ [SFINKS PC: Microcomputer Chess Game written by William Fink](#)
2. ^ [William Fink](#) (1982). *An Enhancement to the Iterative, Alpha-Beta, Minimax Search Procedure*. [ICCA Newsletter, Vol. 5, No. 1](#)
3. ^ [Winged sphinx](#) from the palace of [Darius the Great](#) during [Persian Empire](#) at [Susa](#), ca 510 BC, excavated by [Roland de Mecquenem](#), 1911, Current location: [Louvre](#), Department of Oriental Antiquities, Sully, ground floor, room 12a, Photo by [Jastrow](#) in 2005, [Sphinx from Wikipedia](#)
4. ^ [Re: Old programs CHAOS and USC](#) by [Dann Corbit](#), [CCC](#), July 11, 2015

What links here?

Page	Date Edited
ACM 1982	Jul 19, 2016
Anubis	Sep 29, 2015
CHEOPS	Apr 18, 2015
Cheops (Miller)	Jan 13, 2017
CPWTIPC 1981	Oct 12, 2013
CXG Sphinx	Jun 23, 2017
Engines	Mar 10, 2018
MCC 1980	Dec 27, 2017
Personal Computing	Dec 27, 2017
Refutation Table	Mar 27, 2015
Sargon	Dec 25, 2017
Sfinks	Dec 25, 2017
Shy	Jul 19, 2016
WCCC 1983	Jan 20, 2018
William Fink	Dec 25, 2017

[Up one level](#)