

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

Card-Sharpers ^[3]

Sharper,
a [Chess Engine Communication Protocol](#) aka [Winboard](#) compliant chess engine by [Albert Bertilsson](#), written in [C++](#). Sharper emerged in 2002 and 2003 from Albert's former engine [#Chess](#), which was written in [C#](#) ^[1]. Released in 2003 ^[2], Sharper became a reference engine for [Perft](#) and [Divide results](#).

Table of Contents

[Features](#)

[Board Representation](#)

[Search](#)

[Evaluation](#)

[Misc](#)

[See also](#)

[Forum Posts](#)

[2003](#)

[February ...](#)

[April ...](#)

[June ...](#)

[August ...](#)

[2004](#)

[2010 ...](#)

[External Links](#)

[Chess Engine](#)

[Misc](#)

[References](#)

[What links here?](#)

Features

[\[4\]](#)

[Board Representation](#)

- [0x88](#)
- [Piece-Lists](#)
- [Bitboards](#)

[Search](#)

- [Iterative Deepening](#)
[Aspiration Windows](#)
- [Alpha-Beta](#)
- [Transposition Table](#)
[Zobrist Hashing](#)
- [Quiescence Search](#)
- [Verified Null Move Pruning](#)
- [Fractional Extensions](#)
[Check Extensions](#)
[One Reply Extensions](#)
[Pawns to 7th Rank](#)
[Promotions](#)
- [Move Ordering](#)
[MVV/LVA](#)
[History Heuristic](#)
[Piece-Square Tables](#)

[Evaluation](#)

- [Material](#)
[Bishop Pair](#)
- [Piece-Square Tables](#) ^[5]

- [King Safety](#)
- [Pawn Structure](#)
[Pawn Hash Table](#)

Misc

- [Opening Book](#)
- [Perft](#) and [Divide](#)
- [Pondering](#)

See also

- [#Chess](#)
- [SharpChess](#) by [Peter Hughes](#)

Forum Posts

2003

February ...

- [To Uri, about perft speeds](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), February 14, 2003 » [Perft](#)
- [Perft 9, confirmed by Sharper too...](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), February 16, 2003
- [Why have a UnMakeMove or UndoMove function \(not as stupid as it sounds\)?](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), February 24, 2003 » [Unmake Move](#)
- [New engine, Sharper 0.02!](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), March 09, 2003
- [Sharper version 0.03 released!](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), March 12, 2003
- [Adding knowledge to the evaluation, what am I doing wrong?](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), March 13, 2003
- [WACNEW 40% less fails when Sharper get 12x the time](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), March 17, 2003 » [Win at Chess](#)
- [What's best low BF or good WAC result?](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), March 18, 2003 » [Branching Factor](#)
- [Buggy check extensions, back to square one =\(.](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), March 20, 2003 » [Check Extensions](#)
- [Sharper 0.04 released](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), March 22, 2003
- [I search for an opening book for my engine...](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), March 26, 2003

April ...

- [Sharper 0.06 released!](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), April 04, 2003
- [My engine doesn't understand this position neither do I](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), April 25, 2003
- [Sharper 0.07](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), April 26, 2003

- [Dual processor owners, please help me with 15 min of CPU time](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), May 23, 2003

June ...

- [Sharper 0.10 released](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), June 25, 2003
- [Problem with extending to maxdepth](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), June 26, 2003 » [Extensions](#)
- [Improvements in BF makes my MoveGen suck =\(](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), June 26, 2003 » [Branching Factor](#), [Move Generation](#)
- [Program settings \(Re: Programmers Should Take A Cue From Chessmaster\)](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), July 04, 2003 » [Piece-Square Tables](#)
- [How stable is stable enough for you?](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), July 24, 2003
- [Sharper 0.11 released](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), July 27, 2003
- [Sharper 0.12 released](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), July 31, 2003

August ...

- [Sharper 0.14 released!](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), August 03, 2003
- [Sharper version 0.16 released](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), October 22, 2003
- [Highest perft for initial position?](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), November 07, 2003 » [Perft](#)
- [Anybody interested in a new version of Sharper?](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), November 24, 2003
- [Sharper 0.17 released](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), November 27, 2003
- [A few Sharper perft hash 8 benchmarks](#) by [Frederic Louguet](#), [CCC](#), December 18, 2003

2004

- [Newer version of Sharper is available](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), January 11, 2004
- [Improving the endgame of my engine](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), April 08, 2004 » [Endgame](#)

2010 ...

- [perft/divide bug in roce38 and Sharper? \[SOLVED\]](#) by thedrunkard, [Winboard Forum](#), October 16, 2013 » [Perft](#), [ROCE](#)

External Links

Chess Engine

- [Sharper \(Wayback Machine\)](#)
- [Sharper 0.17](#) in [CCRL 40/4](#)

Misc

- [Sharper from Wikipedia](#)
- [sharper - Wiktionary](#)
- [Sharp from Wikipedia](#)

References

1. [^ #Chess \(Wayback Machine\)](#)
2. [^ New engine, Sharper 0.02!](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [Winboard Forum](#), March 09, 2003
3. [^ Card-sharpers by candlelight](#) by [Feliks Pęczarski](#), [oil on canvas](#), 1845, Current location: [National Museum, Warsaw](#), [Wikimedia Commons](#), [Card sharp from Wikipedia](#)
4. [^ Features based on History.txt](#), November 2003
5. [^ Program settings \(Re: Programmers Should Take A Cue From Chessmaster\)](#) by [Albert Bertilsson](#), [CCC](#), July 04, 2003

What links here?

Page	Date Edited
Albert Bertilsson	Jun 6, 2017
Endgame	Sep 18, 2017
Engines	Mar 10, 2018
Perft	Sep 26, 2017
Piece-Square Tables	Mar 31, 2018
ROCE	Jun 6, 2017
Sharp Chess	Jun 6, 2017
Sharper	Jun 6, 2017
Unmake Move	Jun 10, 2017
Win at Chess	Sep 25, 2017

[Up one level](#)