

pbchess-1.2.4

Important

Here [<http://pbchess.vlasovsoft.net/en/manual-1.2.3.html>] you can find the manual for the previous version - pbchess 1.2.3.

This is just a brief guide. I do not have time to write the complete one. If you are looking for something specific then ask your question on our forum [<http://forum.vlasovsoft.net/viewforum.php?f=3>].

Installation

Microsoft Windows

Does not require installation. Just unzip the archive into your home directory* (where you have write permissions) and run pbchess.exe. To set a language for the user interface go to Menu/Settings/View.

* Directory name limitation. Full path to it should contain latin symbols only (e.g. C:\Documents and Settings\Users\MyName).

PocketBook

Is not necessary to remove the previous version (1.2.3) to install version 1.2.4. They can operate without interfering with each other.

1. Unpack the archive.
2. Copy "pbchess" directory into the root of internal flash memory.
3. Copy pbchess-1.2.4.app from the "applications" directory into the same folder of your book (note that in some models a folder with applications is called "games").
4. Disconnect in the safe mode your PocketBook from PC.
5. Run pbchess-1.2.4.app from "applications".
6. Set user interface language (Menu/Settings/View/Language) if you want.

Amazon Kindle

You can run pbchess through [launchpad](#) or [kite](#) or [cr3runner](#). You should have one of these applications installed to start pbchess.

1. If you have previous version of pbchess installed then backup your "pbchess/chess" directory with your puzzles and games and backup your license key (if any).
2. Uninstall the previous version of pbchess (if any) - just remove it's files from flash storage.
3. Unpack the archive.
4. Copy "pbchess" directory to your Kindle flash memory root directory.
5. If you **have no** "qtKindle" dir in the root of FLASH then copy it from one of the archives:
Kindle_3 [http://pbchess.vlasovsoft.net/files/qtKindle_k3_kdx.zip] or Kindle_DX [http://pbchess.vlasovsoft.net/files/qtKindle_k3_kdx.zip] or Kindle_4 [http://pbchess.vlasovsoft.net/files/qtKindle_k3_k4.zip]. You don't need it if you have CoolReader installed.

6. Apply your license key if you have it.
7. Restore you games from the previous version (if you wish).
8. Set up **one** of the following launchers to run pbchess: [launchpad](#), [kite](#) or [cr3runner](#) (see below).

Set up launcher

launchpad

1. Set up [jailbreak](#) and than [launchpad](#).
2. Copy launchpad/pbchess.ini to "launchpad" directory of your Kindle.
3. Update launchpad configuration (Shift + Shift + C or reboot your Kindle).
4. Run the program by means of Shift+P+C - quickly, one by one (launchpad configuration, you can change it).

kite

1. Set up [kite](#).
2. Copy pbchess/pbchess.sh into the kite of your Kindle.
3. Run pbchess from the main page of your Kindle!

cr3runner

1. Set up [cr3runner](#).
2. Add the following line into cr3launcher/commands.txt: /mnt/us/pbchess;pbchess.sh; ;Chess
3. Your can now start pbchess from the [cr3runner](#) kindlet.

Useful notes

1. Set user interface language (Menu/Settings/View/Language) if you want.

Onyx Boox

1. If you have previous version of pbchess installed then backup your "pbchess/chess" directory with your puzzles and games and backup your license key (if any).
2. Uninstall the previous version of pbchess (if any) - just remove it's files from flash storage.
3. Unpack the archive.
4. Copy "pbchess" directory to your internal flash memory root directory.
5. Restore you games from the previous version (if you wish).
6. Safely disconnect USB.
7. Run the program: go to pbchess folder and exec pbchess.oar.
8. Set user interface language (Menu/Settings/View/Language) if you want.

Onyx Box A60S (and probably A60) users should run pbchess.a60.oar!

Main menu

You can call the main menu using one of the following ways:

- For the touchscreen devices - tap on the header area (above the board);

- For the non-touchscreen devices - use MENU button (Amazon Kindle, Onyx Boox, PocketBook);
- For the non-touchscreen devices - long press of OK button (some PocketBook devices have no MENU button).

Working with dialogs for non-touch devices

This program uses the dialog windows for the settings modification, opening files and new game creation. Use the following keys for the dialogs:

- Cursor UP and DOWN keys for selecting the control you want to modify.
- Cursor RIGHT key for accept the changes in dialog (dialog Ok button analog).
- Cursor LEFT key for reject the changes in dialog (dialog Cancel button analog).
- Cursor OK key for the controls modification (on Onyx Boox you should use the MENU/OK keys for that).

In the file dialogs (Open base, Import PGN) you should select the file you want to open with cursor and press cursor OK or RIGHT.

Game

To start a new game:

1. **Activate: Меню / New game.**
2. The "New game" dialog should appear;
3. Select your color and opponent;
4. You can set "Add to base" flag. It means that this game will be saved into the current base and it will not be lost after the device turning off or another game selection.
5. You can set "From current position" flag. It means that the new game will be started directly from position that was on the chess board before the new game creation.
6. Use the "Swap" button to swap colors with you opponent.
7. Press "Play" button (or RIGHT cursor button) to start a new game.
8. Press "Cancel" button (or LEFT cursor button) to cancel.

I guess that you can understand yourself how to move. For touchscreen devices you can move either using the "tap-tap" way or using the "drag-and-drop" way.

A pawn should promote to the queen by default (this works in 99% cases). You should use Menu/Settings/Game just before your move to promote to another piece.

Solving puzzles

We already have big chess exercises collection in our site. To work with it you should:

1. Download a puzzles base here [<http://pbchess.vlasovsoft.net/en/contents.html>].
2. Unpack it.
3. Copy CDB or PGN file to your device into the pbchess/chess directory.
4. For CDB file you should simply open it: Menu/Base/Open.
5. For PGN file, you should import it: Menu/Base/Import PGN. This file will be converted to CDB file with the same name and opened. Starting from this moment you should work with CDB file and

don't need the PGN file any more.

6. Some bases (e.g. Ivashenko, Kalinichenko) are ordered by exercises types, difficulty and so on. They have contents that you can use for navigation: Menu/Base/Contents.

Tips to beginners

Set game level

You can set the game level in the game settings dialog: Menu/Settings/Game.

By default the game level is pretty weak. (approx. ELO 1400-1500), but it's serious for you if your are a beginner.

It's not very interesting to lose every time. Thus it is necessary to increase the level step by step:

1. Set up the weakest chess engine - hoichess and level=1 (Menu/Settings/Game).
2. Start a new game.
3. Go to the next level if you easily can win.
4. Do not go to the next level if you can't beat the program.
5. You can set another (more serious engine) such as gnuchess, fruit, stockfish when you reach level 3-4.

It's not enough only to play to increase your level. You should also work with chess exercises. For the beginners I can recommend "The manual of chess combinations" by S. Ivashenko and for more advanced level: N. M. Kalinichenko "Encyclopedia of Chess Combinations".

en/chess.txt · Last modified: 2012/03/30 15:43 by sergv

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