



## C O L U M N I S T S

## Chess Mazes

Bruce Alberston

## Chess Mazes

In the fall of 2004, popular chess author Bruce Alberston released a book called *Chess Mazes*, designed to help students to develop their visualization and planning skills. *Chess Mazes* was an instant success and **ChessCafe** was delighted when Bruce agreed to offer a new *Chess Maze* puzzle each week.

The concept is simple enough: The object is to place the black King in check in the shortest number of moves. The one restriction is that the white piece may not put itself *en prise*, i.e., on a square where it can be captured.

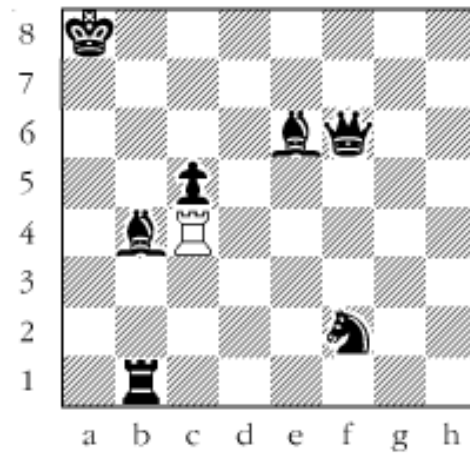
For those who may be interested in a more detailed introduction and overview to these puzzles, we invite you to take a look at the introduction from Bruce's book. Click [here](#) to read more, otherwise, we hope you enjoy this week's *Chess Maze* puzzle...

## A Rook Maze

Put Black in check using only your rook. We'll you don't really have anything else. Take as many moves as you want but do it in the shortest possible way. Black is not allowed to move but he can take you if you place your rook on a takeable square. Remember, you're the white rook.

#8

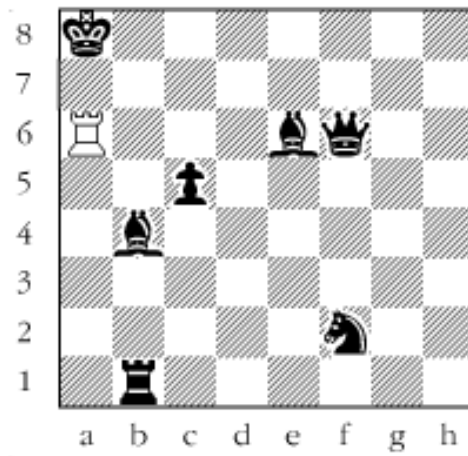




*Scroll down for the solution*

The e8-square is not a checking square as the rook can't get there. That leaves a6. First the rook has to wend its way around the knight to the h-file. 1. Rc2 2. Re2 3. Re3 4. Rg3 5. Rg2 6. Rh2 Now the rook can penetrate. 7. Rh7 8. Rc7 9. Rc6 10. Ra6+

**#8a**



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