



COLUMNISTS

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.

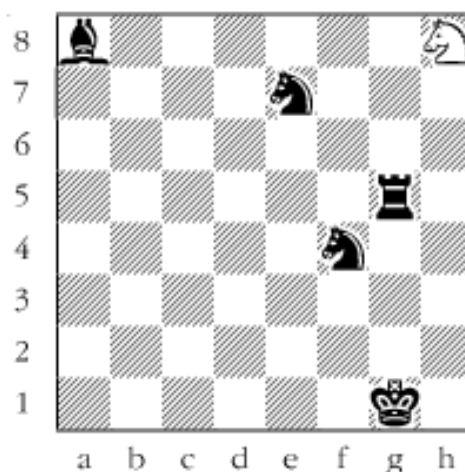
The concept is simple enough: The object is to place the black King in check in the shortest number of moves. The one restriction is that the white piece may not put itself *en prise*, i.e., on a square where it can be captured.

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 Knight Maze

White to manoeuvre his knight and check the black king. Don't put the knight en prise and don't worry about Black making moves•he can't in a *Maze*. Go for the fastest solution.

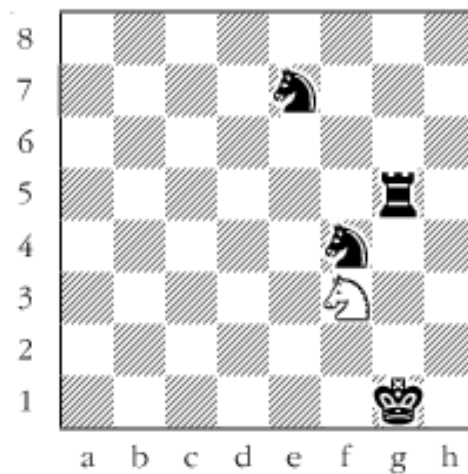
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Scroll down for the solution

The bishop has to be eliminated for the check to follow at f3. 1. Nf7 2. Nd6 (taking the rook extends the move count) 3. Nc4 4. Nb6 5. Nxa8 6. Nb6 7. Nc4 8. Nd2 9. Nf3+

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