



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.

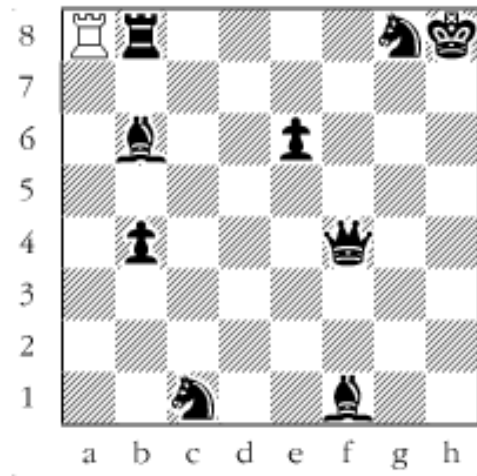
For those who may be interested in a more detailed introduction and overview to these puzzles, we invite you to take a look at the introduction from Bruce's book. Click [here](#) to read more, otherwise, we hope you enjoy this week's *Chess Maze* puzzle...

A Rook Maze

The white rook to check the black king. None of black's pieces can move, unless it's to take the white rook. Aim for the fastest route to administer the check.



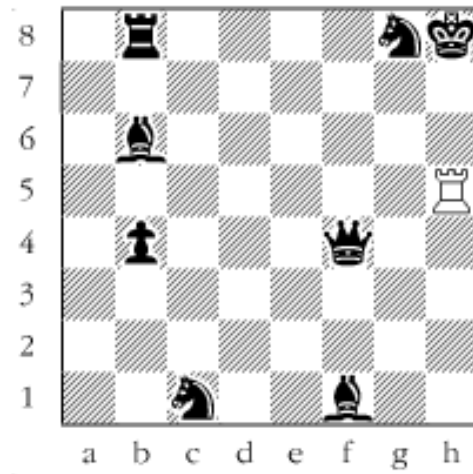
#44



Scroll down for the solution

The only capturable unit is the pawn at e6, everything else is nailed down. So go for the pawn and take it from there. 1. Ra1 2. Rb1 3. Rb2 4. Rc2 5. Rc6 6. Rxe6 7. Re1 8. Rd1 9. Rd5 10. Rh5+

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