



## COLUMNISTS

### Chess Mazes

Bruce Alberston



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### 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.com](#) was delighted when Bruce agreed to offer a new *Chess Maze* puzzle each week.

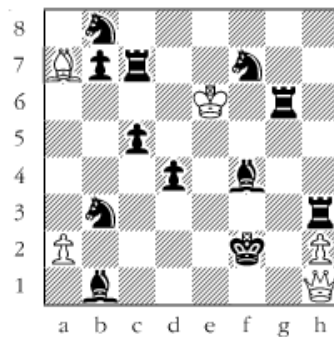
The concept is simple enough: the object is to place the black king in check in the shortest number of moves. The one restriction is that the white piece may not put itself *en prise*, i.e., on a square where it can be captured.

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 King Maze

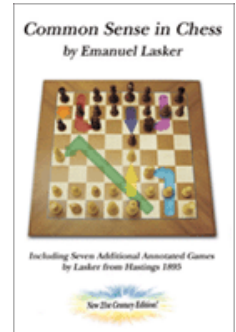
Only the white king moves (no illegal moves) and the play is for mate. Other white pieces assist but cannot move.

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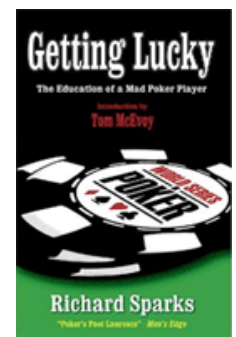


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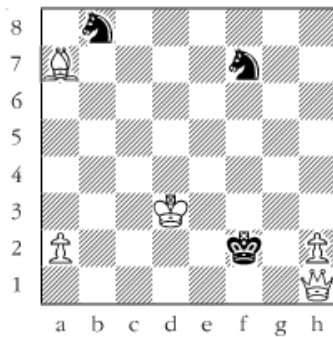


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by Richard Sparks

1 Kd5 2 Kc4 3 Kb5 4 Ka4 5 Ka3 6 Kb2 7 Kxb1 8 Kb2 9 Ka3 10 Ka4 11  
Kb5 12 Kc4 13 Kd5 14 Ke4 15 Kf5 16 Kxg6 17 Kf5 18 Kg4 19 Kxh3 20

**Kg4 21 Kxf4 22 Ke4 23 Kd5 (or 23 Kd3 24 Kc2) 24 Kc4 25 Kxb3 26 Kc4 (or 26 Ka4 27 Ka5) 27 Kb5 28 Kb6 29 Kxc7 30 Kxb7 31 Kb6 32 Kxc5 33 Kxd4 34 Kd3#.**

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