



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.

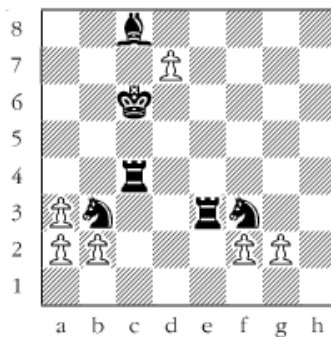
The concept is simple enough: the object is to place the black king in check in the shortest number of moves. The one restriction is that the white piece may not put itself *en prise*, i.e., on a square where it can be captured.

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 Pawn Maze

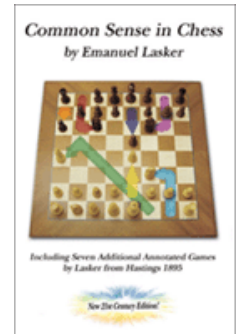
The pawns play only for mate, not check. Take care in how you promote as once promoted the new piece cannot move.

#131



Scroll down for the solution

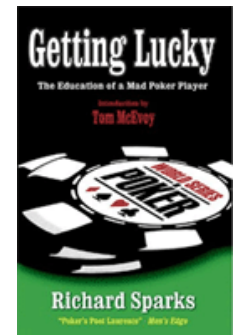
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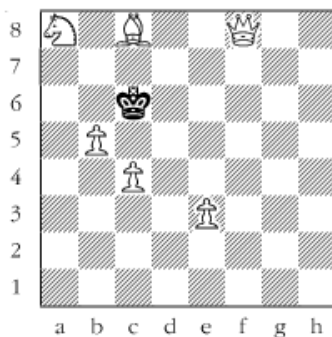
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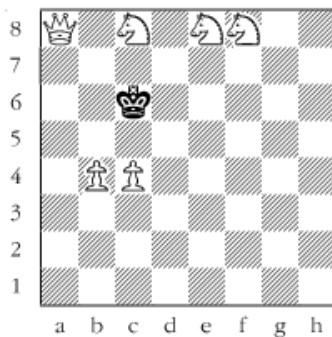
1 dxc8/B 2 fxe3 3 gxf3 4 axb3 5 bxc4 6 f4 7 f5 8 f6 9 f7 10 f8/Q 11 a4
12 a5 13 a6 14 a7 15 a8/N 16 b4 17 b5#.

#131a



1 dxc8/N also mates, but it takes longer: 2 fxe3 3 gxf3 4 axb3 5 bxc4 6 f4
7 f5 8 f6 9 f7 10 f8/N 11 e4 12 e5 13 e6 14 e7 15 e8/N 16 b4 17 a4 18 a5
19 a6 20 a7 21 a8/Q#.

#131b



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