



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.

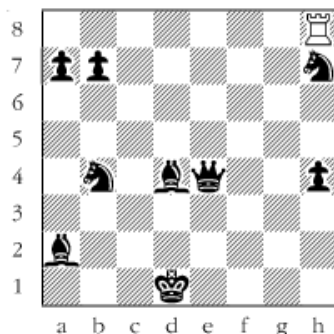
The concept is simple enough: the object is to place the black king in check in the shortest number of moves. The one restriction is that the white piece may not put itself *en prise*, i.e., on a square where it can be captured.

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 Rook Maze

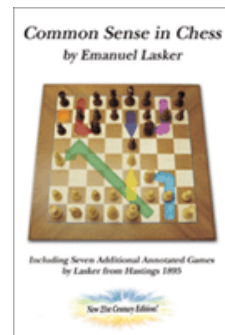
White to play and check the black king in x number of moves, x being the shortest number. The rook may not go to squares where it is subject to capture but can on its own capture enemy men.

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[Scroll down for the solution](#)

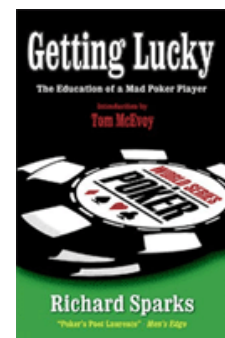
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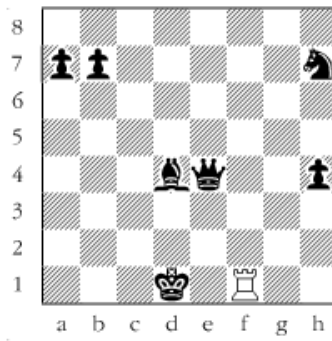
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1 Rd8 2 Rd6 3 Rh6 4 Rh5 5 Rb5 6 Rxb4 7 Ra4 8 Rxa2 9 Ra4 10 Rc4
11 Rc7 12 Rf7 13 Rf1+.

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