



COLUMNISTS

Chess Mazes

Bruce Alberston



Chess Mazes

There are two types of chess mazes: *checking* and *mating*. For bishop, rook, and knight mazes the play is to **check** the black king. For queen, pawn, and king mazes the object is to **checkmate** the enemy king; here checks are not allowed.

The rules in common for each type of maze are as follows:

1. Black never moves.
2. Only the maze piece (in the case of pawns – the maze units) may move.
3. A maze piece may never move to a square where it can be captured by enemy forces.
4. A maze piece may capture undefended enemy forces.
5. Plus we look for the shortest solution.

Helpers in queen and king mazes are frozen to the diagram position, unable to move or be removed. In pawn mazes promoted pawns are unable to move off their promotion squares. Also move order may be juggled without harm to the solution. Often, when running up the board to promote, pawns can advance in different sequences.

For those who may be interested in a more detailed introduction and overview to [chess maze puzzles](#), we invite you to read more; otherwise, we hope you enjoy this week's *Chess Maze* ...

A Queen Maze

Clearly the dark-squared bishop has to be freed. That takes up most of the maze. Mate follows just one move later.

#346a



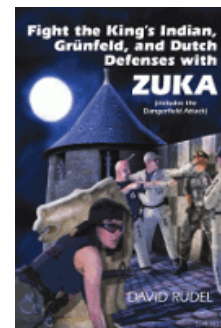
[FEN "1r2Q2b/r6b/n7/N2k2p1/6r1/2p5/1pn5/B3rbb1"]

[Scroll down for the solution](#)

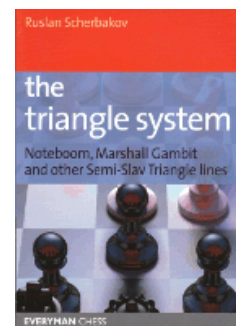
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[Paul Morphy](#)
by Geza Maroczy



[Zuka](#)
by David Rudel



[The Triangle System \(Ebook\)](#)
by Ruslan Scherbakov

1 Qh5 2 Qxg4 3 Qxg1 4 Qxa7 5 Qxh7 6 Qxc2 7 Qf2 8 Qxe1 9 Qxf1 10
Qxa6 11 Qa7 12 Qxb8 13 Qxh8 14 Qxc3 15 Qxb2 16 Qe5#

#346b



[FEN "8/8/8/N2kQ1p1/8/8/8/B7"]

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