

Contest Duration: 2025-12-13(Sat) 23:00 (<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/fixedtime.html?iso=20251213T2100&p1=248>) - 2025-12-14(Sun) 00:40 (<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/fixedtime.html?iso=20251213T2240&p1=248>) (local time) (100 minutes)

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D - Teleport Maze

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Time Limit: 2 sec / Memory Limit: 1024 MiB

Score : 400 points

Problem Statement

There is a maze consisting of a grid with H rows and W columns. Let (i, j) denote the cell at the i -th row from the top and j -th column from the left. The type of cell (i, j) is given as a character $S_{i,j}$, where each character has the following meaning:

- `.` : Empty cell
- `#` : Obstacle cell
- Lowercase English letter (a - z): Warp cell

In the maze, you can perform the following two types of actions any number of times in any order:

- Walk: Move from the current cell to a cell that is one cell away in one of the four directions (up, down, left, right). However, you cannot move to an obstacle cell or outside the grid.
- Warp: When you are at a warp cell, move to any warp cell with the same character written on it.

Determine whether it is possible to move from cell $(1, 1)$ to cell (H, W) , and if possible, find the minimum total number of actions required.

Constraints

- $1 \leq H, W \leq 1000$

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- $H \times W \geq 2$
- H and W are integers.
- $S_{i,j}$ is ., #, or a lowercase English letter.
- $S_{1,1} \neq \#$
- $S_{H,W} \neq \#$

Input

The input is given from Standard Input in the following format:

```
H W
S1,1S1,2...S1,W
⋮
SH,1SH,2...SH,W
```

Output

If it is possible to move from cell $(1, 1)$ to cell (H, W) , print the minimum total number of actions required; otherwise, print -1.

Sample Input 1

Copy

```
3 4
..a.
####
ba#b
```

Copy

Sample Output 1

Copy

```
5
```

Copy

You can move from cell $(1, 1)$ to cell $(3, 4)$ by performing actions as follows:

1. Move from cell $(1, 1)$ to cell $(1, 2)$ by walking.
2. Move from cell $(1, 2)$ to cell $(1, 3)$ by walking.
3. Move from cell $(1, 3)$ to cell $(3, 2)$ by warping.
4. Move from cell $(3, 2)$ to cell $(3, 1)$ by walking.
5. Move from cell $(3, 1)$ to cell $(3, 4)$ by warping.

The total number of actions is 5, which is the minimum.

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Sample Input 2

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```
3 4
..a.
####
b.#b
```

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Sample Output 2

[Copy](#)

```
-1
```

[Copy](#)

It is impossible to move from cell (1, 1) to cell (3, 4).

Sample Input 3

[Copy](#)

```
4 4
xxxx
xxxx
xxxx
xxxx
```

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Sample Output 3

[Copy](#)

```
1
```

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Sample Input 4

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```
7 11
u..#y..#...
k..#.z.#.k.
iju#...#x..
#####
..x#.t.#..n
abc#y..#...
..z#...t#.y.
```

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Sample Output 4

[Copy](#)

```
12
```

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#telegram)

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