

# Maze Puzzle Game – Report

## Introduction

The Maze Puzzle Game is a simple yet engaging game that challenges players to navigate through a labyrinth from a start point to an exit using keyboard controls. Players can move the blue player icon  using either the arrow keys or WASD keys. The goal is to reach the green exit icon  in the fewest moves possible.

The game is built with a clear maze structure and provides an automated solution using Prolog, demonstrating the use of algorithmic problem-solving techniques in artificial intelligence.

## Game Rules

1. Objective: Navigate from the starting point to the exit.
2. Player Representation: Blue circle .
3. Exit Representation: Green circle .
4. Movement: Use arrow keys or WASD keys.
5. Counting Moves: Each movement increments the move counter.
6. Maze Completion: The game announces a win once the player reaches the exit, showing the number of moves taken.

## Maze Structure

- The maze is represented as a  $10 \times 10$  grid.
- Walls block movement; paths allow movement.
- Start Position: (1,1)
- Exit Position: (8,8)
- The maze includes internal walls that create challenges and force players to find the correct path.

## Prolog Maze Solver Algorithm

The game includes a Prolog-based maze solver that demonstrates algorithmic solutions for finding paths. The solver uses Depth-First Search (DFS) and Breadth-First Search (BFS).

### 1. Maze Representation

- `wall(X, Y)` – Defines a wall at position (X, Y).
- `valid_position(X, Y)` – Checks whether the position is within the maze bounds and not a wall.
- `start_position(X, Y)` – Player starting point.
- `exit_position(X, Y)` – Exit point.

## 2. Movement

Possible moves are defined as:

- Up: (X-1, Y)
- Down: (X+1, Y)
- Left: (X, Y-1)
- Right: (X, Y+1)

Each move is validated to ensure it is within bounds and not blocked by a wall.

## 3. Depth-First Search (DFS)

DFS explores paths by moving forward until it reaches a dead end, then backtracks:

dfs([(X, Y), Exit, Visited, Path])

- Visited keeps track of already visited positions.
- The algorithm recursively searches for a path from the start to the exit.

## 4. Breadth-First Search (BFS)

BFS finds the shortest path by exploring all possible moves level by level:

bfs([[Position|Path]|\_], Position, [Position|Path])

- Uses a queue (CurrentPath) to explore all possibilities.
- Stops when the exit is reached, ensuring the shortest path is found.

## 5. Additional Features

- Path Printing: The solver prints the path in (X, Y) coordinates.
- Path Length: Calculates the total number of steps to the exit.
- Dead End Detection: Finds all positions with only one possible move.
- Move Count: Counts possible moves from a given position.

## Conclusion

The Maze Puzzle Game combines interactive gameplay with algorithmic problem-solving. It allows players to:

- Experience maze navigation challenges.
- Understand how DFS and BFS algorithms work.
- Analyze maze complexity and dead ends.

By integrating Prolog for the automated solver, this game provides a practical example of how artificial intelligence can be used to solve real-world navigation problems efficiently.