

Miners and Minutes

Here is a more difficult version of our first puzzle:

Four miners have just been trapped in a mine cavern that is about to collapse: In fact, it will collapse in exactly 15 minutes. There is an open, but dark, dangerous, and narrow side tunnel leading to safety. It requires a lantern to traverse safely, and the miners only have one working lantern. In addition, only two miners can traverse the tunnel at a time with the lantern. Onika is uninjured and can walk the tunnel in *one* minute; Twitch has a limp, but can walk the tunnel in *two* minutes; Fiona has a broken foot, but can manage to get through in *four* minutes; while Edward is more seriously injured and can only get through in *eight* minutes. How can all the miners get out safely?

Even if you cannot come up with a solution, spend some time with this puzzle and find the best solution you can. There is a solution!

The Endangered Miners

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Solution:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

(You won't need this many instructions!)