

Two Bishops Mate

Chess

Forcing mate with two bishops, in about twenty moves.

Requires the king's help throughout.

1

Centralise your king

Nothing works without it.

2

Build a wall with the bishops

On adjacent diagonals, cutting the board in half.

3

Advance the wall

Shrinking the enemy king's area step by step.

4

Use the king to take squares

The bishops cannot do it alone.

5

Mate in the corner

King opposes, bishops deliver.

NUMBERS

At most 19 moves with best play

Any corner works

Watch for stalemate as the box closes

Bishop and knight together also mate, but only in a corner of the bishop's colour, and it takes up to 33 moves.