

**Deal 1**  
South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 7 6 5  
♥ K Q  
♦ 8 7 5 2  
♣ Q 10 8 2

6  
7 9  
18

♠ Q 3  
♥ 4 2  
♦ K J 10 9 4  
♣ 7 6 5 3

♠ A K 4  
♥ A 10 8 6 5  
♦ Q 3  
♣ A J 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass		Pass	1 ♥
3 NT by North			
Lead: ♠ J			

North is to play 3 NT. East leads the ♠ J.

Winners: ♠=3 ♥=1 ♦=0 ♣=1 Total = 5

You need 4 more winners, and they will come from the ♦ suit once you have knocked out the ♦ A. But there is one danger to avoid - if the defenders don't take the ♦ A on the first round dummy won't have a ♦ to lead back to your hand. So to make sure you have an entry back you win the first trick with dummy's ♠ K, saving your ♠ Q.

Next start playing ♦s, first ♦ Q, then ♦ K. Assume the defenders take their ♦ A on the second round.

Win whatever they now play and come to your hand with the ♠ Q to enjoy your three established ♦s for 9 tricks total.

Just don't foul up on your ♠ entry.

**Deal 2**  
 South Deals  
 None Vul

<b>♠ 8 7 6</b> <b>♥ A J 9 8</b> <b>♦ 9 4</b> <b>♣ Q 10 7 3</b>  <b>5</b> <b>7 12</b> <b>16</b>	<b>♠ Q 10 2</b> <b>♥ 7 3</b> <b>♦ K 8 7 6 3</b> <b>♣ 8 5 4</b>  <b>♠ A K J 9 5 3</b> <b>♥ 4 2</b> <b>♦ A 5</b> <b>♣ A 9 2</b>	<b>♠ 4</b> <b>♥ K Q 10 6 5</b> <b>♦ Q J 10 2</b> <b>♣ K J 6</b>
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*West      North      East      South*

Pass      **2 ♠**      Pass      **1 ♠**  
 Pass      Pass      Pass      **4 ♠**

**4 ♠ by South**  
**Lead: ♠ 6**

You were counting on North to have a little better hand than that. South is to play 4 ♠. West leads the ♠ 6, East plays ♠ 4.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=2 ♦=0 ♣=2 Total = 4

You must find a place for one of those losers and that will mean establishing the ♦ suit. If ♦s split 3-3 that will be pretty easy so you should plan to deal with a 4-2 split. Dummy entries are limited so win the first trick in your hand with the ♠ A.

Before you pull any trumps you start on the ♦s by playing ♦ A, ♦ K and then ruffing a ♦ with the ♠ K. West follows to the first two, then discards a ♥.

Play a small trump to dummy's ♠ T (East shows out) and ruff another ♦ with the

♠ J.

Dummy's last ♦ is now good. Play a ♠ to the ♠ Q, (pulling West's last trump), and discard a ♥ or ♣ loser on the ♦ 8.

And once again you had to pay close attention to entries.

**Deal 3**

North Deals	♠ A K 7 2
None Vul	♥ A 8 3
	♦ A Q 7 2
	♣ 6 2

♠ Q 10 9 6 3	♠ J 4		
♥ Q 9	♥ K 10 5 4		
♦ K 4	♦ J 10 9 5 3		
♣ J 9 8 7	♣ 10 5		
	♠ 8 5		
	♥ J 7 6 2		
8 5 <sup>17</sup>	♦ 8 6		
10	♣ A K Q 4 3		
West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 NT
ALL	Pass		
3 NT by North			
Lead: ♦ J			

your winners, including 4 tricks in ♣s!

South's ♣ bid was Stayman, but he didn't match ♠s. North is to play 3 NT. East leads the ♦ J, West plays ♦ K.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=1 ♦=2 ♣=3 Total = 8

With the ♦ K onside you have 8 tricks, and only need one more. If ♣s split 3-3 you can get 2 extras and make an overtrick. But when you are missing 6 cards they are more likely to be 4-2 than 3-3. Since you only need 4 ♣ tricks you should establish the suit with a duck.

Win the ♦ A and play a small ♣ from each hand.

The defense gets a cheap trick in ♣s but you don't mind because you still have a small ♣ for an entry to dummy. You win whatever they return and take the rest of

**Deal 4**  
South Deals  
None Vul

♠ J 4              ♠ 8 5  
♥ K Q 9 5 4      ♥ J 10  
♦ J 7 3            ♦ 8 2  
♣ Q 10 5           ♣ A K 8 7 6 4 3



♠ Q 10 9 6 3  
♥ 7 6 2  
♦ K Q 10 5  
♣ J

8  
9 8  
15      ♠ A K 7 2  
        ♥ A 8 3  
        ♦ A 9 6 4  
        ♣ 9 2

*West*      *North*      *East*      *South*  
Pass            3 NT        Pass        1 NT

Pass  
3 NT by South  
Lead: ♥ 5

South is to play 3 NT. West leads the ♥ 5, East plays the ♥ 2.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=2 Total = 7

You are very lucky. Apparently West led from ♥ K Q so you won an undeserved ♥ trick. Now, if ♣s split 2-2 you can make 12 tricks! But hold it a minute. If you play dummy's two top ♣s and they DON'T split 2-2 you will only win two ♣ tricks and the contract will fail. Instead you should play a small ♣ from dummy right now. The defenders will win the trick easily, but you will win their return and you will still have a ♣ to get to dummy's 6 ♣ winners!

**Deal 5**

North Deals	♠ A K 5		
None Vul	♥ A K 6		
	♦ 7 6 3		
	♣ A K 4 2		
	♠ J 8 3		
	♥ J 10 8 5		
	♦ K J		
	♣ Q 9 8 3		
	21		
	8 7		
	4		
	♠ 9 6 4		
	♥ 7 3 2		
	♦ A 8 5 4 2		
	♣ 6 5		
West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

3 NT by North  
Lead: ♠ 2



North is to play 3 NT. East leads the ♠ 2, West plays the ♠ J.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=2 Total = 7

You need two more winners and dummy's ♦ suit is your only hope. IF ♦s split 3-2 and IF the defenders don't take too many winners in their suit(s) you can establish ♦s by ducking twice.

Win the first ♠. If you hold up they might pocket the ♠ trick and switch to another suit where you only have two stoppers.

Next play a small ♦ from each hand. Win the return (probably a ♠) and duck a second ♦.

If the defenders can only take 2 ♠ tricks now you are home-free since dummy's 3 ♦s are now established.

But in fact you were pretty sure they were going to do so. Since East's ♠ 2 was probably his fourth-down then he couldn't have a fifth-down.