

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9 6 3 2**♥ K 2****♦ Q J 8****♣ 8 7 6**

♠ A Q
♥ J 10 4
♦ 10 7 4 3
♣ A K J 2



♠ K 8 7 4
♥ 6 3
♦ A K 9 6
♣ 9 5 3

♠ J 5
♥ A Q 9 8 7 5
♦ 5 2
♣ Q 10 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♥ by North

Lead: ♦ A

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. East led the ♦ A, dummy played the ♦ 2 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

As soon as dummy appears you can see 3 tricks for your side. Partner surely has the ♦ K to go with his Ace and you have a certain trump trick. However, that's all you can see.

Your best hope is that East may be able to win a ♠ trick, and it may be important for the first ♠ lead to come from your side of the table.

Your ♦ Q play informs partner that you also have the ♦ J, giving him the option of underleading his ♦ K to get to your hand.

East next plays a small ♦ which you win with your ♦ J. You return the ♠ T. This establishes East's ♠ K before North can pull trumps and discard one of dummy's ♠ s on his fourth ♣.

Deal 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 6 5 2

♥ A Q 10 6

♦ 9 5 4 2

♣ —

8
7 8
17

♠ 7

♥ 5 3 2

♦ 7 3

♣ A K J 9 6 4 2

 ♠ 10 8 4
 ♥ J 7 4
 ♦ K Q 8 6
 ♣ Q 7 3

 ♠ A K Q 3
 ♥ K 9 8
 ♦ A J 10
 ♣ 10 8 5

West

North

East

South
1 NT

Pass

3 NT

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: ♠ 5

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ 5, East plays the ♠ T and South wins the ♠ K. To the second trick South plays the ♠ T and you must discard something.

When you have made your choice

You know that East has no high ♠ honor or he would have played it to the first trick. So South has the ♠ A Q left, plus all those ♣ tricks. You need to have West switch to a ♥ if possible.

East must be expecting to lead a ♠ back when he wins the ♠ Q which you hope he holds. Your ♠ J discard may make him rethink. If your ♠s were any good why would you be discarding a winner when all you had to do was toss a small red card?

Hopefully East will come to the conclusion that this is Suit Preference for a ♥ return and will play his ♥ J. Hopefully.

Deal 3North Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 4
♥ 9
♦ J 8 7 2
♣ A 9 8 6 5 3

♠ J 8 5
♥ A Q J 8 7 5 2
♦ A K
♣ K

♠ A K Q 7 3
♥ 4
♦ 10 6 5 3
♣ 10 7 2

♠ 9 6 2
♥ K 10 6 3
♦ Q 9 4
♣ Q J 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♥	1 ♠	2 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♥ by North			
Lead: ♠ A			

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♠ A, dummy played the ♠ 2 and you signal with your ♠ T. East next plays the ♠ Q and you drop the ♠ 4, completing your doubleton signal. East then plays the ♠ K and it turns out you don't have to ruff after all. So what are you going to play?

When you have made your choice

This should be a clear enough signal for East to play a ♣ to your ♣ A next.

An alternate play, just as good, would be for you to ruff the good ♠ Q and play the ♣ A yourself.

If you don't get your ♣ trick at trick 4 you will never get it. North will discard his ♣ K on South's extra ♦ winner.

Deal 4
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ 10 ♥ 9 6 4 3 ♦ 9 7 5 ♣ K Q 10 6 3 8 5 13 14	♠ Q J 9 8 6 3 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ Q 8 4 ♣ J ♠ 2 ♥ A K J ♦ J 10 6 3 2 ♣ A 9 7 2 ♠ A K 7 5 4 ♥ 10 8 5 ♦ A K ♣ 8 5 4		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i> 1 ♣
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	Pass

4 ♣ by South
 Lead: ♣ K

(choosing between ♦s and ♥s).

West dutifully plays a ♥ and you take the next three tricks. Had he switched to a ♦ instead, South would have been able to discard one of his ♥ losers on North's ♦ Q.

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣ K, dummy's singleton was played and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

West will look at your ♣ 9 and perhaps think for an instant that you want him to play another ♣.

But it will be a short instant because a look at dummy makes in absolutely clear to everybody that playing another ♣ could not help your side. Dummy has so many trumps that repeated ♣ leads would do nothing.

OK. If it's not an encouraging Attitude signal, what is it? Suit preference of course. Since it is a high spot card you are asking West to switch to the higher suit