

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 2East Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 10 2
♥ 7 3
♦ K 8 7 6 3
♣ 8 5 4

12
5 16
7

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K J 9 5 3
♥ 4 2
♦ A 5
♣ A 9 2

♠ 8 7 6
♥ A J 9 8
♦ 9 4
♣ Q 10 7 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		
4 ♠ by East			
Lead: ♠ 6			

You were counting on West to have a little better hand than that East is to play 4 ♠. South leads the ♠ 6, North 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. South follows to the first two, then discards a ♥.

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

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

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

Deal 3
South Deals
None Vul

	♠ 8 5		
	♥ J 7 6 2		
	♦ 8 6		
	♣ A K Q 4 3		
♠ J 4		♠ Q 10 9 6 3	
♥ K 10 5 4	N	♥ Q 9	
♦ J 10 9 5 3	W E	♦ K 4	
♣ 10 5	S	♣ J 9 8 7	
10	♠ A K 7 2		
5 8	♥ A 8 3		
17	♦ A Q 7 2		
	♣ 6 2		
West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	3 NT	ALL	Pass
3 NT by South			
Lead: ♦ J			

your winners, including 4 tricks in ♣s!

North's ♣ bid was Stayman, but he didn't match ♣s. South is to play 3 NT. West leads the ♦ J, East 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 4West Deals
None Vul

♠ A K 7 2
 ♥ A 8 3
 ♦ A 9 6 4
 ♣ 9 2

9
 15 8

♠ J 4
 ♥ K Q 9 5 4
 ♦ J 7 3
 ♣ Q 10 5

♠ 8 5
 ♥ J 10
 ♦ 8 2
 ♣ A K 8 7 6 4 3

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

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

Pass
 3 NT by West
 Lead: ♥ 5

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

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=2 Total = 7

You are very lucky. Apparently North 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!