

**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

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

5  
 7 12  
 16

West      North      East      South  
 Pass      2 ♠      Pass      1 ♠

Pass      Pass      Pass      4 ♠

4 ♠ by South

Lead: ♠ 6

	N		♦ 4
W		E	♥ K Q 10 6 5
	S		♦ Q J 10 2
			♣ K J 6

♠ A K J 9 5 3  
 ♥ 4 2  
 ♦ A 5  
 ♣ A 9 2

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

	♠ 8 5		
	♥ J 10		
	♦ 8 2		
	♣ A K 8 7 6 4 3		
♠ J 4		♠ Q 10 9 6 3	
♥ K Q 9 5 4		♥ 7 6 2	
♦ J 7 3		♦ K Q 10 5	
♣ Q 10 5		♣ J	
	♠ A K 7 2		
8	♥ A 8 3		
9 8	♦ A 9 6 4		
15	♣ 9 2		
West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
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.

**Deal 6**

South Deals

None Vul

**♠ Q 10 5 2****♥ 7 4 2****♦ 8 7****♣ J 8 7 2****♠ A 7 4****♥ K 10 9 8 3****♦ J 5 3****♣ Q 3****♠ J 9 8****♥ A 6 5****♦ Q 10 9 6****♣ K 9 5****♠ K 6 3****♥ Q J****♦ A K 4 2****♣ A 10 6 4****10  
3 10  
17***West**North**East**South*

1 NT

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

3 NT

ALL

Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: ♠ 2

North's 3 ♦ bid was a transfer to ♥s.  
South is to play 3 NT. West leads the ♠ 2.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=0 ♦=2 ♣=1 Total = 5

Obviously you need to establish 4 ♥ winners and by driving out the ♥ A you can manage that handily. The problem is that dummy has only one sure entry, (the ♠ A), and the defenders may be good enough to hold up their ♥ A twice.

To assure the contract you should win the first trick in your hand with the ♠ K. Then play ♥ Q, ♥ J overtaking with dummy's ♥ K so you can continue establishing the suit while you still have that ♠ entry.