

Deal 1

South Deals	♠ Q J 10
None Vul	♥ A 7
	♦ A K 7 5
	♣ 10 7 5 3

♠ K 8 7 5 4 2	♠ 9 3		
♥ Q 10 4	♥ J 8 6 5 2		
♦ 8 3	♦ J 10 9 4		
♣ A 6	♣ K 4		
	♠ A 6		
	♥ K 9 3		
14 9 5 12	♦ Q 6 2		
	♣ Q J 9 8 2		
West	North	East	South
2 ♠	2 NT	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	3 NT
3 NT by North			
Lead: ♠ 9			

The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♠ 9, dummy played the ♠ 6 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

You could easily win the ♠ K, then play a small ♠ to drive out dummy's ♠ A. But North bid Notrump over your 2 ♠ overcall, so he surely holds ♠ Q J T. So when you get the lead with your one ♣ A entry you can establish your ♠ s, but you won't get into the lead to cash them.

Look what happens when you duck the first trick. North will win the trick with his ♠ T, and start on dummy's ♣ suit.

East (your wonderful partner) will win the first ♠ and return his final ♠ to dummy's ♠ A.

North will have to keep working on ♣ s, but now you can win the ♣ A and play your ♠ K, dropping North's ♠ Q, and your other three good ♠ s.

Just like the previous deal, North gets two ♠ tricks either way, but one way he makes an overtrick, the other way he goes down 2.

Deal 2South Deals
None Vul

♠ A Q 8 3
♥ 6
♦ J 10 7 2
♣ K Q J 10

¹¹
¹³ 4
₁₂

♠ K 9 5
♥ A K 9 7 5 2
♦ Q 8 3
♣ 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Dbl	Rdbl	2 ♣	Pass
3 ♣	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♥ by South
Lead: ♣ K

N	E
W	S

♠ 7 2
♥ 8 4 3
♦ 9 5 4
♣ A 8 7 5 3

The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣ K, dummy played low and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

You are pretty sure partner would not have supported your ♣s unless he had 4 of them, which means it is very likely that South has a singleton. (he might even be void)

So if you are to set this contract partner is going to have to have some ♠ winners. It might not matter, but it also might be vital that the first ♠ lead comes from your side of the table so after you overtake with the ♣ A you switch to the ♠ 7.

Partner loves it - whatever South does West takes the next two ♠s, then leads a third ♠ for you to ruff. Down 1.

Deal 3
 South Deals
 None Vul

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

The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣ K, dummy played the ♣ 7 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

As soon as you see the opening lead and dummy you should start figuring out just how you can defeat the contract. Hopefully this plan came to your mind.

From his lead, you know partner also holds the ♣ Q. Overtake the ♣ K. Play your singleton ♥ 5. When North starts on trumps, win the first one with your ♠ A. Put partner back on lead with a small ♣ to his known ♣ Q.

If you have a partner who pays attention he will now play a ♥ for you to ruff. Two ♣s, the Ace of trumps, and a ♥ ruff makes down 1.

Deal 4
 South Deals
 None Vul

	♠ Q 7 4		
	♥ A Q J 5		
	♦ 8 6 2		
	♣ K J 4		
♠ J 10 9 8	♠ 6 3 2		
♥ 7 3	♥ K 10 8 6 2		
♦ K Q 10 9 3	♦ J 4		
♣ A 9	♣ 8 7 3		
	♠ A K 5		
13	♥ 9 4		
10 4	♦ A 7 5		
13	♣ Q 10 6 5 2		
West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	3 NT	Pass	1 NT
Pass			Pass
3 NT by South			
Lead: ♦ K			

The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♦ K, dummy played low and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

Put yourself in partner's shoes. He almost surely has ♦ K Q T x (x). When South holds up on his ♦ A, which he almost surely will, West may think he is holding up with ♦ A J x, and be afraid to continue the suit.

You can help your partner figure out the true situation by merely playing your ♦ J so he can see that South doesn't have it.

With this good play West will be able to continue ♦s and defeat the contract.