

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 8 3

♥ J T 8 5

♦ K J

♣ Q 9 8 3

♠ A K 5

♥ A K 6

♦ 7 6 3

♣ A K 4 2



♠ 9 6 4

♥ 7 3 2

♦ A 8 5 4 2

♣ 6 5

♠ Q T 7 2

♥ Q 9 4

♦ Q T 9

♣ J T 7

West	North	East	South
	2NT	Pass	3NT

All Pass

3NT by South

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.

Baker Establishment 5

North is to play 3NT. 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.

Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q T 5 2
♥ 7 4 2
♦ 8 7
♣ J 8 7 2

♠ A 7 4
♥ K T 9 8 3
♦ J 5 3
♣ Q 3



West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	2♥

3NT by North

Baker Establishment 6

North's 3♦ bid was a transfer to ♥s. South is to play 3NT. 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.

Board 3

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ -
 ♥ T 9 6 3
 ♦ K Q J 9 4
 ♣ Q T 9 7

♠ K Q 9 8 7 5 2

♥ A 2

♦ A 2

♣ 5 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ T 3
 ♥ K Q J 8 4
 ♦ T 8 7 5
 ♣ J 8

♠ A J 6 4
 ♥ 7 5
 ♦ 6 3
 ♣ A K 6 4 3

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

6 ♠ by North

Baker Establishment 7

North is to play 6♠. East leads the ♥K.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=1 ♦=1 ♣=0 Total = 2

One of the two red losers must be discarded on dummy's ♣ suit. So you pull trumps, taking two rounds, with ♠K and ♠Q. Then play two top ♣s and ruff a ♣. When East shows out on the third ♣, enter dummy with a trump and ruff another ♣. Dummy's final ♣ is now established, so enter dummy with another trump and discard one of the red losers on the fifth ♣.

Board 4

South Deals
None Vul

 ♠ K 6 4 3
♥ 9 7
♦ K T 8 6 2
♣ 8 2

♠ T 9 7 2

♥ A J 6

♦ 7 5

♣ Q 6 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 8

♥ Q T 8 2

♦ Q J 9

♣ J T 9 7

West North East South
All Pass

1NT
1NT by South

♠ Q J 5
♥ K 5 4 3
♦ A 4 3
♣ A K 5

If you had played 3 rounds of ♣s you would have gone down with the defenders winning 4 ♦s, 1 ♣ and 2 ♠s.

Only by establishing ♠s can you make the contract.

Baker Establishment 8

South is to play 1NT. West leads the ♦ 6, taken by East with the ♦ J. East next plays the ♦ Q on which West plays the ♦ 2. East plays the ♦ 9 which you finally win.

Winners: ♠=0 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=3 Total = 6

You only need one more winner and you have several possibilities. The ♥ finesse might work, or the ♣s might split 3-3. But you need to consider the defenders winners also. They have already scored 2 ♦ tricks and will get 2 more as soon as they gain the lead. (The spot cards told you that West has a 5-card ♦ suit.) Plus they have the 2 top ♠s which they can take whenever they like. So if your play sets up just one more trick for them you will go down.

No, you must establish ♠s, the suit where they have 2 winners anyway. So you play a ♠ which West wins. He takes his 2 ♦s but you are now home free. When you gain the lead again you will get your ♠ winner established and only lose 2 ♠s and 4 ♦s.