

Deal 1

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A 7
♥ K 3
♦ Q J 9 8 7 4 2
♣ 7 6

♠ 10 9 8 4 3**♥ Q 8 6****♦ 6****♣ J 10 9 2**

10
3 6
21

♠ K 6 2
♥ A 10 9
♦ A K 3
♣ A K 8 4

West North East South

Pass 4♣ Pass 4 NT

Pass 5♣ Pass 5 NT

Pass 7 NT Pass Pass

Pass

7 NT by South

NORTH isn't sure just how much he can make, but surely 6

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isn't

too much to hope for.

He starts with a Gerber 4â™£ and SOUTH shows three Aces.

Hmmm, 5â™£ asks for Kings and SOUTH shows three.

Hmm, NORTH can now count all thirteen tricks, so he forgets about the

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slam and bids 7 NT.

Deal 2
South Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 9 4
♥ 10 8 4 3
♦ A J 9 7
♣ 4 3

¹¹
5 4
20

♠ J 8
♥ J 7 2
♦ 8 5
♣ A K Q 10 9 6

N
W E
S
♣ 2

♠ A K Q
♥ K Q 6
♦ K Q 3
♣ J 8 7 5

West North East South
Pass 4 ♣ Pass 4 ♥
Pass 4 NT Pass Pass
Pass
4 NT by South

NORTH has 13 points and can contribute six tricks so she figures that twelve tricks will be a slam (dunk).

However, just to make sure the opponents don't take the first two tricks she checks with Gerber.

Uh Oh, missing two Aces she signs off at 4 NT. She could also happily play 5^{â™£}, but it

would be tricky to get there. Very tricky.

Deal 3
South Deals
None Vul

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

Yes, this has nothing to do with Gerber or Blackwood, but everything to do with smart bidding.

NORTH has a 16 points and SOUTH has 15, 16 or 17. NORTH wants to be in 6 NT if SOUTH has 17,

but merely a Notrump game if she has 15 or 16.

The way to find out is to bid 4 NT - not Blackwood but merely an invitation to bid 6 NT.

In this case, SOUTH has but 15 points and declines the invitation. If her

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Q

were changed to the

â™¥

A she would bid 6 NT and collect her twelve easy tricks.

Deal 4South Deals
None Vul**♠ K Q J 4****♥ K 6****♦ K 4****♣ K Q J 10 5****♠ 10 9 5 3****♥ A 8 5 4****♦ 9 6****♣ 9 6 3****♠ 2****♥ 10 9 3 2****♦ Q 10 8 7 5 2****♣ 7 4****♠ A 8 7 6****♥ Q J 7****♦ A J 3****♣ A 8 2****18
4 2
16**

West North East South

1 NT

Pass 4 ♣ Pass 4 NT

Pass 6 NT Pass Pass

Pass

6 NT by South

When SOUTH opens 1 NT NORTH hopes his hand includes all four Aces so she can bid 7 NT.

So she uses Gerber to find out.

But, when she discovers they are missing an Ace she settles for 6 NT.