

**Board 1**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q T 8

♥ J T 5 3

♦ K 9 2

♣ J T 3

♠ 7 4 3

♥ 9 7 6

♦ 8 5

♣ A K 6 4 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K J 9 5 2

♥ Q 8 4

♦ J T 6 4

♣ 9

♠ A 6

♥ A K 2

♦ A Q 7 3

♣ Q 8 7 5

West	North	East	South
			1♦
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

3NT by South

Baker Entries 5  
North is to play 3NT. East leads the ♠5.

Winners: ♠=1 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=5 Total = 9

Wow! The winners add up to 9 already. We have assumed that ♣s will split no worse than 3-1, which is exactly how they do split. Is there any other pitfall you might need to worry about?

Just one minor problem. The ♣s will block if you are not careful. If you win the ♠A, then play dummy's ♣Q. Next you play dummy's ♣8 to your ♣K. Then your ♣A on which you put dummy's ♣7. Aha! Now when you play your ♣6 you will be able to keep the lead.

As they are, though, the contract is cold. But only if you are a good bridge player!

**Board 2**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 8 7 5 2

♥ K 4

♦ K 9 7

♣ Q 8 5

♠ A Q 9

♥ A 7 5 3

♦ A J 6 4

♣ A K

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 6 3

♥ J T 9 8 2

♦ Q T 2

♣ 9 7 4

♠ K J 4

♥ Q 6

♦ 8 5 3

♣ J T 6 3 2

West	North	East	South
	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3NT by North

to your ♠J. Play your ♣J (and another one if necessary) to establish the ♣ suit. Win whatever red card they play next with dummy's Ace. Play the ♠Q to your ♠K and cash your established ♣s. Dummy's other red Ace will be your ninth trick.

You'd have to be very careless to miss this one.

**Baker Entries 6**

South is to play 3NT. West leads the ♠5.

Winners: ♠=3 ♥=1 ♦=1 ♣=2 Total = 7

Needing two winners you will naturally consider your 5-card ♣ suit. After unblocking the ♣ A K you will need two entries to your hand; one to lead the ♣J and drive out the ♣Q, then a second to enjoy your good ♣s.

The ♠ suit will provide one entry easily, but should you depend on the ♥Q for the second entry?

No, for two reasons. Firstly the ♥Q only gives you a 50% chance of being an entry. But more importantly, you already have your two sure entries in ♠s. As long as you take the first trick with dummy's ♠A both your ♠K and ♠J can be entries.

Win the ♠A. Play off dummy's ♣ A K. Lead the ♠9

**Board 3**

South Deals

E-W Vul

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

♠ A 6 4 3

♥ A J 4

♦ A J

♣ A K 8 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 8 5  
♥ K 7 2  
♦ 8 6 4  
♣ Q T 7 5

♠ T 7  
♥ 8 6 5  
♦ K Q 7 3  
♣ J 9 4 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass
All Pass			

3 NT by South

♦s, and you will still get three ♣ tricks, just a different three.

You probably would have played the hand the same way you just did, unblock ♦s, then play ♣ A K and a low ♣ toward the ♣ J 9 trying to get a ♣ entry to dummy.

It is only because the ♣ opening lead gives you the chance for a Cheap-Trick that you are tempted to go wrong.

**Baker Entries 7**

North is to play 3NT. East leads the ♣ 5. You play low from dummy and West plays the ♣ 6.

Winners: ♠ = 1    ♥ = 1    ♦ = 4?    ♣ = 3 Total = 9

Although you have 4 ♦ winners, getting to the last couple might not be so easy. You can make 3 ♦ tricks simply by winning your ♦ A, then overtaking your ♦ J with dummy's ♦ Q. But you need that fourth ♦ winner. Can you get it?

Sure you can, by creating an entry in ♣s. It is likely from the opening lead, (and West's play of a small card), that East has led from ♣ Q T 7 5. If you win the first trick cheaply then you will still make your ♣ A K for three ♣ tricks in all.

So don't win cheaply, win the first trick with the ♣ A. Then unblock your ♦ A J. Next play ♣ K. (on which West discards), and a small ♣ toward dummy's ♣ J 9. You are sure to have a ♣ entry to dummy's ♣s, and you will still get three ♣ tricks, just a different three.

**Board 4**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J T 9 5

♥ A 9 3

♦ 9 8 3

♣ T 8

♠ 8 3

♥ J 7 4

♦ A 6 4 2

♣ 7 6 5 3



♠ K 7 4 2

♥ Q T 8 6

♦ T 7

♣ K 9 2

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3NT by North

you know there is only a single ♦ left out, so you play the ♦J to dummy's ♦A. Now take the ♣ finesse. It works! Next play your ♦5 to dummy's ♦6 and take another ♣ finesse. Both defenders follow so your ♣s are good.

Then your chance of success goes way down. You would have to find East with the doubleton ♣K.

**Baker Entries 8**

South is to play 3NT. West leads the ♠Q. East plays the ♠K, then the ♠2 when you hold up.

Winners: ♠=1 ♥=0 ♦=4 ♣=1 Total = 6

You are going to have to be pretty lucky to make this contract. You cannot touch the ♥ suit because a defender would take the ♥A and it would start raining ♠s.

So you will have to get 3 extra ♣ winners, which means the ♣ finesse absolutely MUST work.

In addition to lucky, you are going to have to be pretty good, too. You will surely have to finesse the ♣s at least twice; that means you need two dummy entries. Can you find them?

Maybe in ♦s. Play the ♦K, then ♦Q, watching the defender's cards carefully. When both follow twice

you know there is only a single ♦ left out, so you play the ♦J to dummy's ♦A. Now take the ♣ finesse. It works! Next play your ♦5 to dummy's ♦6 and take another ♣ finesse. Both defenders follow so your ♣s are good.