

### What card should I lead against a notrump contract?

Top from "perfect sequence" of 3 or more honors: ace from A-K-Q, king from K-Q-J  
Top from "broken sequence" of 3 or more honors: ace from A-K-J, queen from Q-J-9  
Top of touching honors from an interior sequence: jack from K-J-T, ten from Q-T-9  
From a holding of 4 or more cards with at least 1 honor card, lead 4<sup>th</sup> best: 2 from K-8-7-2, 4 from Q-J-6-4-3  
Bottom card from holding of 3 cards with 1 honor or 2 non touching honors: 5 from Q-8-5, 3 from K-J-3  
Top from 3 card holdings with two touching honors: king from K-Q-4, jack from J-T-5  
Top from a doubleton

### What card should I lead against a suit contract?

Most of the time you choose the same card from a given combination, except:

- Don't underlead an ace: ace from A-T-8-6-3
- Don't underlead an unsupported king if you have other choices
- Lead higher of touching honors: king from K-Q-8-5-2 (in NT contract 5 is a good lead)

### What card should I lead from 3 or 4 small cards?

Top of nothing from 3 cards: 8 from 8-5-2  
Second best from 4 cards: 7 from 9-7-6-2

### What suit to lead against NT contracts

When choosing a lead against NT, we compare chances of setting up tricks in a suit and risk of giving away tricks

Leading from a sequence such as Q J T 5 is good and less risky

Leading from a strong 4 card suit such as K J 7 2 and Q J 8 5 is a fair prospect

Leading from a 4 card suit when your second best is low such as K 7 6 2 and Q 8 6 2 is less attractive. Try to select a safer lead

It is usually wrong to lead your strongest suit when it has been bid by opponents

If partner bid a suit, lead it. Unless you have an excellent suit of your own

Be passive against 6NT contract and don't lead away from your honor

### What suit to lead against suit contracts

A singleton particularly spot card in an unbid suit is usually promising

Leading a doubleton is less likely to result in a ruff. Be reluctant to lead a doubleton with an honor

When suspecting a healthy side suit in the dummy, make an attacking lead in an unbid suit

It is rarely a good idea to lead from A x x x or A x x. If you decide to lead from such suit, lead the ace.

Lead a trump because bidding tells that such lead is beneficial and not because you are nervous making an attacking lead!!

Usually make an attacking lead against a small slam in a suit. This is to try to set up a second trick for defense before declarer can establish any discards

### What do experts defenders think when dummy comes down:

- This applies to both defenders as defense is a team game
- Review the bidding and determine what we know of declarer's hand
- Look at partner's lead to determine what is known about the suit led
- Study the dummy and will ask themselves: what will declarer do with his losers
- The dummy is the key for them to adopt an active or passive defense