



## Finesses : direct

**A finesse is the attempt to gain power for lower-ranking cards by taking advantage of the favorable position of higher-ranking cards held by the Opps.**

1 - Direct finesse if successful keeps a particular opponent off lead. A direct finesse requires a tenace holding ex. (A-Q, K-J etc.)

2 - Indirect finesse is a finesse than gains a trick, but may involve losing a trick first.

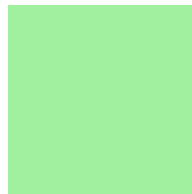
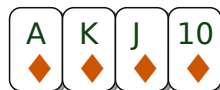
3 - A double finesse is a finesse against 2 honours held by the Opps

Be careful!

- a finesse has an a priori a 50% chance of success.

- In order to succeed, play low cards to honors .

S	W	N	E
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		



### QCM 3846

How to make 4 ♦ tricks? With an 8 card holding and a tenace, you should attempt a finesse and give yourself a chance to make 4 ♦ tricks ... if W holds the Queen. This is a **direct finesse** : it's aim is to capture W's honor.



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### When to use a finesse?

1 - Finessing the King : attempt the coup if team has less than 11 cards in the suit. With 11 cards, play the ace first and hope that the King is stiff in one of the Opp's hand.

2 - Finessing the Queen : attempt the coup with less than 9 cards. With 9 cards, play Ace then King hoping for a 2-2 break

S	W	N	E
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		



#### QCM 3843

**Direct finesse for the Queen** : with only 7 cards, think of the possibility that the Queen may be 3rd or 4th : start with the 9 and try finessing the Queen. If East doesn't play the Queen on the 1st trick, continue with the 10, then Jack



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### Direct finesse

A direct finesse is possible if :

- we have the 2 cards that surround that of the Opp'sa tenance (A-Q, K-J or Q-10)
- and if these 2 cards are in the same hand.

S	W	N	E
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		



[QCM 3845](#)

Are you going to try a direct finesse for the Queen? NO : You don't have a tenance, so a finesse is out of the question. Your only chance of making 3 tricks is if the Queen is 2nd. So play Ace and King up front and hope ...