



Suit handling: the hunt for the jack

Suit handling :You are missing the jack

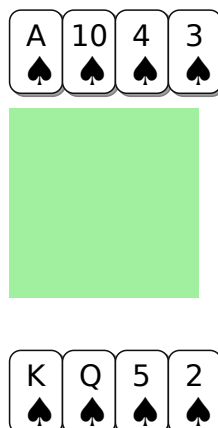
If we assume that communications are not an issue, depending on the number of cards held by your camp and on the honors held, you shall use one of the maneuvers below:

- Suit establishment, hoping for a favorable split amongst the opps : for example If you have 7 cards including ace, king and queen, you'll play them up front and hope for a 3-3 split (probability 36%...no great... but you won't find better !
- The finesse is the beginners' favorite maneuver: the probability it works is, roughly, 50%...but it is not always possible : You need a tenace in one hand or consecutive cards in the other
- A combination of these 2 maneuvers : the 'Probe'e. Playing a high honor first then trying the finesse.



Exercise 4642 :

Direct finesse. you have A R D 10 9 If the jack is in East, you'll always make 4 (probability 50%)



Exercise 4643 :

Your best chance to make 4 tricks is to draw ace king queen upfront and two hope for a 3-3 split of opps cards (36% of cases). No finesse possible (If you play the 10, East will cover with the j...and the opps hold the 9, 8 and 7)



Suit handling: the hunt for the jack

Probabilities when your camp holds 7 cards :

Split Probabilities

- 3-3 - 36%
- 4-2 - 48%
- 5-1 - 14%
- 6-0 - 2%

The odds of finding the jack singleton, doubleton or third are: $36\% + 48\% \cdot (2/6) + 14\% \cdot (1/6) = 54,33\%$ So, with 7 cards led by ace king queen, It is better to draw ace king queen than to try the finesse...



Suit handling: the hunt for the jack

Please note:

- with less than seven cards, try the finesse immediately
 - With 7 cards draw ace king and queen upfront
 - with 8 or nine cards, Play a probe and keep you tenaces
-



Suit handling: the hunt for the jack

Important probabilities !

	probabilities
2 cards missing	
Split 1-1	52%
Split 2-0	48%
3 cards missing	
Split 2-1	78%
Split 3-0	22%
4 cards missing	
Split	50%
Split	40%
Split	10%
5 cards missing	
Split	68%
Split	27%
Split	4%
6 cards missing	
Split 4-2	48%
Split 3-3	36%
Split 5-1 ou 6-0	close to 0
