



On lead in a trump contract

Play the right card from the dummy

In a trump contract, you are certain the leader does not have the Ace : It's a fundamental rule applied by all good players. Thus, it is easy to locate the Ace in the RHO's hand and to choose the right card from the dummy. In the majority of cases, it is not in your best interest to play an honor from the dummy.... This way, you maximize your chances that it may become leading later in the game :

- The Ace can be singleton or second
- The RHO may only have small cards, besides the Ace and may have to play the Ace to make his camp leading

Example

You are in South, playing a 3 ♠ contract. West leads the 10 ♣ ; You have Queen 3 at the dummy.

S	W	N	E
1 ♠	2 ♥	3 ♥	X
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	

K	J	10	4
♠	♠	♠	♠
K	6	2	
♥	♥	♥	
A	Q	7	
♣	♣	♣	
5	4	3	
♦	♦	♦	

Q			
♥			

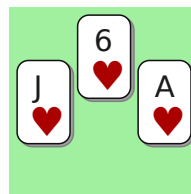
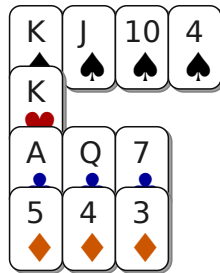
A	Q	9	8	7	3
♠	♠	♠	♠	♠	♠
7	4				
♥	♥				
8	3	2			
♣	♣	♣			
A	Q				
♦	♦				

Exercise 27122 Of course, do not play the King ! Play a small card, the Ace is in East. It may be stiff or doubleton. A good player never leads under an Ace in a trump contract.



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Example



Exercise 27122 suite : Watch carefully on the 2nd round, West that made the trick with its Queen, play the Jack ♥ ; you play small again and the Ace, that was doubleton, comes out. You saved your King, that will later enable you to discard a loser... and to make your contract, if the ♣ finesse is successful...