

REALLY IMPORTANT RULE: Whenever you have touching cards in Dummy and Declarer's hand, the correct play is the same if the cards are interchanged.

Reread this Rule! Again!!

Dummy has three or more cards including the King—LHO leads the 3

K65 Play low from Dummy. If LHO has the Ace, you score two tricks. Some foolish RHO may even play the Ace and give you two tricks.

Q4 If the Queen wins, try to keep LHO off lead

KJ5 Play low from Dummy. This guarantees you two tricks if LHO has the queen. Without the 10, play the Jack from Dummy.

1062.

K102 K109 Play low from Dummy. You already have two tricks. Playing low gives you three tricks if LHO has led from the Jack, or the Queen, or the Queen and the Jack.
or
A94 A42

K105 Play low from Dummy. You already have two tricks. If LHO has led from Q9xx or J9xx, you can score three tricks. That is twice as likely as LHO holding QJxx.
A82

K65 Play low from Dummy unless you need this trick immediately. If LHO has the Ace, you can score the King later. If RHO has the Ace, he will be on lead and your King is protected from attack.
42 **Note:**Playing low also applies if LHO has led a Queen or a Jack through the King in Dummy with nothing in Declarer's hand. Perhaps RHO Is short and will be forced to play the Ace before you play the King.

KJ2 Play the Jack. You have two tricks already. Playing the Jack scores an immediate third trick if LHO has the Queen. If RHO has the Queen, you should not get a third trick. You could delay the Jack finesse by winning the Ace and finessing the Jack later. The advantage of finessing now is that you do not lose the lead if the finesse loses. However, playing low may work if RHO incorrectly plays the Queen or it is singleton.
A65

KQ2 Play low. You have three tricks already. Playing low gives you four tricks no matter who has the Jack.

REALLY IMPORTANT RULE REPEATED: Whenever you have touching cards in Dummy and Declarer's hand, the correct play is the same if the cards are interchanged.

Dummy has the Queen and no higher honor—LHO leads the 3

Q4 Q4 Play the Queen. You get a second trick if LHO led away from the
 or
A2 A54 King.

Q42 Play the Queen if you need a second trick **Now**. Play low if there is no
A65 hurry. After the Ace wins, you will still have Q4 as a stopper in Dummy
 and can still win a second trick later if LHO has the King. Try to keep
 LHO off lead for the rest of the hand.

Q4 Play the Queen. You have two tricks no matter who has the King but if
AJ2 the Queen wins, your AJ is a double stopper if LHO regains the lead. LHO
 may not be able to tell if you have AJ or A5 left and lead the suit giving
 you three tricks. With AJ left, you will try to keep RHO off lead.

Q4 Q42 Play low guarantees you two tricks no matter the location of the King or
 or
A102 A105 Jack.

Q2 Playing low guarantees you one trick no matter the location of the Ace or
J54 King.

Q102 Q102 Play the ten. You have one trick. The ten gives you two tricks if LHO
 or
K4 A4 led from the Jack or the other high honor.

Q10 It's a complete guess. Weak players are more reluctant to lead from a King
A42 so I might play the 10 hoping to force the King. But in an expert game,
 you can flip a coin and see how lucky you are today.

Dummy has the Jack—LHO leads the 3

J2 **J52**
 or
AK4 **AK4** Play the Jack. You have two tricks already. If LHO led away from the Queen, you will get three tricks.

J2
A54 Play the Jack. If LHO led away from both the King and the Queen, you can score an extra trick. Not very likely, but why not try?!

J2 **J42**
 or
A104 **A10** Play low. You already have one trick. Playing low guarantees another trick no matter where the missing King and Queen are. If RHO plays low, your ten will win the first trick. If RHO plays an honor, win the Ace and Eventually your 10 will score a trick.

J42
A95 Play low. Your best chance is if LHO led from K10xx or Q10xx which is twice as likely as having led from KQxx. If RHO plays the King or Queen, win the Ace and the remaining J4 should score a trick over LHO's remaining honor.

J92
A54 The logic is the same as in the above example. We are hoping LHO led from K10xx or Q10xx so play the 9 from dummy and hope RHO plays the King or Queen. The J2 remaining in dummy will later score a trick over LHO's remaining honor.

Dummy has the 10—LHO leads the 3

102
AK4 Play the 10. You have two tricks and your 10 will be a third trick if LHO led from the QJxx

102
AQ4 Play the 10. You have two tricks after the lead. If LHO led from the KJxx, your ten wins and you still have a double stopper against LHO Try to keep RHO off lead.

102
KQ4 Play the 10. You have one trick and can score another if LHO has led away from the Jack or RHO has the Ace. Same if Dummy has 1052 or 1092.

102 Play low. You have one trick and if RHO plays the Queen, you will score a second trick.

KJ4

Dummy has the Ace—LHO leads the 3

A2 Play low. You have one trick with the Ace. Playing low guarantees two tricks no matter who has the King.

Q54

AK2 Play low at NT. You have two tricks and will score three tricks if LHO led away from the Queen. At a suit contract, you might play the Ace if you cannot afford to lose a trick, but if you need three tricks, play low.

J4

AQ2 Play low. You have two tricks and if LHO led away from the King, your Jack will win and you can later finesse the Queen for three tricks.

J4

AQ2 Play low. You have one trick and your best chance for two or even three tricks is to play low. Only if RHO has both the King and Jack, will you win one trick and that would be too unfair for words.

104

AJ2 Playing low guarantees you three tricks no matter who has the Queen.

K104

AJ2 Play low. You have two tricks. Playing low will score three tricks if Lho led from the Queen, the ten, or the Queen and the ten.

K94

A102 Play low. You have one trick. Playing low scores two tricks whenever LHO has the King, the Queen, or the King and the Queen.

J4

**REALLY IMPORTANT RULE REPEATED AGAIN:
Whenever you have touching cards in Dummy and Declarer's
hand, the correct play is the same if the cards are interchanged.**

LHO leads an honor

J32 **J32** LHO leads the King. Win the Ace. In the first example, Dummy's
or **J3** will be a second trick/stopper over LHO's Queen. In the second
A54 **A104** case, the J3 opposite 104 will produce a second trick.

32 LHO leads the King. Play low from your hand if you can afford for LHO
AJ4 to switch. This duck with Ajx is known as the **Bath Coup** (don't ask why).
Your remaining AJ acts as a double stopper against LHO. If LHO
continues the suit, you have two tricks. If LHO switches, you still have a
stopper in the suit. However, if another suit is even more dangerous, win
the Ace and try to keep RHO off lead.

A2 LHO leads the King. Win the Ace because your J10 gives you a second
J103 trick.

A102 LHO leads the Queen. Assuming this is from QJ (usually a good assumption),
K43 play low in Dummy and win the Queen in your hand. You can win a third
trick by finessing the 10 later in the hand.

Q92 LHO leads the Jack. Cover with the Queen. Either the Queen wins or your
A54 Dummy's remaining 92 over LHO's presumed 10 will win a later second
trick.

Q2 LHO leads the Jack. Cover with the Queen. Either the Queen wins or your
A98 98 is a guaranteed second trick eventually.

LHO leads a suit bid by RHO—These examples are of critical importance because you can frequently deduct the location of the missing honors and play accordingly. Remember—RHO bid the suit—Usually guaranteeing five cards or more and usually some honors.

- Q32** LHO leads the 10. RHO surely has the Ajxxx. Play the Queen. If RHO ducks the Queen, you can lead to your King later for a second trick. If RHO wins the Queen, you can later finesse the 9 for two tricks. If you incorrectly play low in dummy, RHO's AJ will be over Dummy's Q3. The same logic would apply if LHO had led the Jack.
- K94**
- J32** LHO leads the 9. You already have two tricks. Cover the 9 with the Jack. RHO surely has the Q10xxx. The 9 is covered by the Jack, the Queen and the King. Then you can finesse RHO's 10 with your A8 for three tricks. Same logic if LHO led the 10.
- AK8**
- A32** LHO leads the Jack. You already have two tricks. RHO surely has the Queen. Win the Ace and finesse the ten at your convenience for a third trick. The same logic would apply if LHO led the Queen.
- K104**

REALLY IMPORTANT RULE REPEATED AGAIN FOR THE FINAL TIME: Whenever you have touching cards in Dummy and Declarer's hand, the correct play is the same if the cards are interchanged.