

Leads against Suit Contracts Listen to the bidding. Avoid suits bid by the opponents.

1. Choose the suit

- Partner's suit
- Your suit – look for strength before length
- The unbid suits
- Short suits
- **Leading a trump** - on **many** hands a trump is the worst suit to lead. Lead trumps if the bidding suggests declarer will cross ruff.

2. Choose the lead

DO NOT LEAD AWAY FROM AN ACE

AK 963 *If you were going to lead from this suit, led the Ace

Solid or nearly-solid sequences eg: <u>K</u> Q76, <u>A</u> K3	Lead low promising an honour 4 th best promising an honour eg: K75 <u>3</u> 3 rd best promising an honour eg: Q10 <u>6</u>	Top of an interior sequence eg: J <u>7</u> 65 2	Doubleton – high/low eg: <u>9</u> 6	Singleton in a side suit ONLY if you have enough trumps eg: Axx in trumps	From small cards lead the top (a high card denies an honour	Unbid Major Suits especially if the opposition ended up in a Minor suit contract.
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<p>Exercise 1 West ♠ A72 ♥ 2 ♦ K864 ♣ 98632</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>1D</td> <td>1H</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2D</td> <td>3H</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S		P	1D	1H	2D	3H	P	P	P				<p>4D - Normal lead of partner's suit – 4th best promising an honour</p>
W	N	E	S															
	P	1D	1H															
2D	3H	P	P															
P																		
<p>Exercise 2 South ♠ 632 ♥ 942 ♦ KQJ7 ♣ A43</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1C</td> <td>1S</td> <td>2H</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4H</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S	1C	1S	2H	P	4H	P	P	P					<p>KD - Lead the top card from an attacking combination. Even if declarer has the ace, you'll set up tricks you can take later. Don't lead the club ace-that's more likely to set up tricks for declarer.</p>
W	N	E	S															
1C	1S	2H	P															
4H	P	P	P															
<p>Exercise 3 South ♠ 1072 ♥ 642 ♦ 9843 ♣ KQ8</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1C</td> <td>1S</td> <td>2H</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4H</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S	1C	1S	2H	P	4H	P	P	P					<p>2S You should almost always lead the suit partner overcalls (with 3 or more, lead low). Although a KQ is sometimes a good attacking combination, it isn't here because you know clubs is LHO's suit.</p>
W	N	E	S															
1C	1S	2H	P															
4H	P	P	P															
<p>Exercise 4 South ♠ K4 ♥ 943 ♦ AJ8 ♣ 87532</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1C</td> <td>1S</td> <td>2H</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4H</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S	1C	1S	2H	P	4H	P	P	P					<p>KS Since partner has shown strength in spades, leading an unprotected honor is safe. If your king holds the trick, you'll lead the 4S to partner's ace and be able to trump the third round. From your high-low leads, partner will know you have only two spades.</p>
W	N	E	S															
1C	1S	2H	P															
4H	P	P	P															

Reference: Opening Leads By Larry Matheny

bakerbridge.coffeecup.com/OLead/deal00.html