

What is standard carding?

Part 2/3

On partner's lead you would show 'Attitude' ie you would tell partner (with the card you play) if you wish them to continue the suit led. So, if you wish partner to continue, play a high card.

Examples:

Partner leads	You hold	You play	Comment
Ace	Q92	9	Partner has promised the King by leading the Ace against a suit contract, you should therefore play the 9 to encourage partner to continue the suit
Ace	92	9	As above, asking partner to continue with the King so that you get a ruff.
Ace	982	2	The play of the 2 should discourage partner from continuing the suit. Clearly if partner has the A, K and Q they'll likely continue. But if they have A, K and J and they continue, then they could be giving away a trick to declarer's Q.

Note:

Sometimes you won't have the perfect cards to enable you to send a clear and unambiguous signal to partner. Don't panic! To help, partner should note the bidding and the cards in dummy.

If you're bothered read on, otherwise don't.

Example

I lead the Ace from AKJ3 and see in dummy the 6,5,4 and partner follows with the 7 and declarer plays the 2. You can see all the cards below the 7. So 7 is the lowest card that partner has (I told you not to bother). So partner has either singleton 7, or Q7 or ??7 without the Q, because with the Q they would have played a higher card (are you still there?). With Q7 it's best not to play the Q...it means something quite specific. Singleton 7?....If declarer's bidding has shown 9/10 cards in 2 other suits then it's likely that they have a singleton and not your partner.....but no guarantee :)

Part 3/3 Discards