

# Trick One Play

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Kootenay Jewel Bridge Club

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The following examples have been mostly taken from Fred Gitelman's Bridge Master 2000.

They are all 3NT contracts with a fourth best spade lead. The top hand is dummy and the bottom hand of each example is the declarer's hand or the closed hand.

## How to Play at Trick One- A Summary

- Hold up

- to break communication between the defenders

♠54 ♥AK32 ♦KQJ ♣9876 1A-11

♠A32 ♥654 ♦A32 ♣KQJ10

Win the third round of spades with the ace and hope the opponent with the ace♣ has no more spades.

♠43 ♥K54 ♦K65 ♣A10987 2A-17

♠KQ2 ♥A32 ♦A432 ♣QJ2 Duck opening J♠ lead so the club finesse can be taken.

- to kick out the ace and king in a suit, one needs three stoppers in the suit led or two stoppers and an initial hold-up.

♠543 ♥AK4 ♦KQ4 ♣5432 2A-14

♠AK2 ♥Q32 ♦A32 ♣QJ109 Holdup once because one needs two stoppers and a holdup to kick out the ace and king of clubs.

♠32 ♥432 ♦K2 ♣KQJ1098 1A-25 Cannot set up hearts. Need 3 stoppers

♠AK ♥QJ109 ♦10987 ♣A32 Play to the king♦ for the ninth trick.

- to discard a blocking card

♠54 ♥KQ10 ♦AK87 ♣AK98 3A-16

♠A32 ♥32 ♦Q65432 ♣32

Hold up on spades twice and pitch the 8♣ on the ace♠.

- to get a count on a suit
  - ♠5 ♥AKQJ ♦6543 ♣QJ65 4C-3 Hold up three times to find out how ♥'s are split. If West has 5, cash A♣. If West has 3 or fewer. Finesse ♦ into him. If 4-4, just play A♣ and small to the Queen-Jack.
  - ♠A432 ♥32 ♦AK2 ♣A432
  
- Do not hold up
  - when a switch could be worse
    - to a suit with less stoppers
      - ♠43 ♥K54 ♦QJ1098 ♣765 1A-14 Can't hold up. Fear a club switch. Cash A♦ and give up the king.
      - ♠AK2 ♥A32 ♦A32 ♣A432
    - an unprotected honour could be attacked with the lead through it
      - ♠AQ ♥43 ♦AK654 ♣A765 1B1
      - ♠54 ♥K65 ♦QJ87 ♣KQJ10
      - win the ace, a heart switch kills the contract
      - ♠A65 ♥A6 ♦5432 ♣Q432 2D-7 Win Ace♠, cash AKJ♣ and drive out ♦ace. Need A♥ for Q♣- do not want a heart switch.
      - ♠J432 ♥Q2 ♦KQJ10 ♣AKJ
    - when they can attack an entry to a long suit
      - ♠54 ♥A2 ♦43 ♣Q1076543 4B-23 Defense will attack A♥ entry.
      - ♠AK32 ♥KQJ ♦AQJ2 ♣J2
  
- Preserve an entry to the long suit in dummy or hand
  - Take care where you win the lead, your hand or dummy.
    - ♠A43 ♦432 ♣J109 ♦6543 1A-12
    - ♠K2 ♥AKQJ ♣8765 ♦AK2 Win K♠ on opening lead. Keep A♠ as entry to the thirteenth diamond.
  
- Which Honour to Play
  - Play the Queen and hope the opening leader led from the ace and king.
    - ♠Q52
    - ♠43 If you do not play the Queen, the RHO puts in the ten.
  - Play the ace and RHO will block the suit
    - 10852 Win the ace and East will block the suit with Hx.
    - A3

- Do not leave an honour hanging
  1. ♠Q3  
♠K54 Play the queen and protect the king by throwing LHO in.
  2. ♠J3  
♠K54 Play the Jack and protect the king by throwing LHO in.
- Duck an Honour
  1. ♠Q3  
♠K104 Play the 3 not the queen
  2. ♠J3  
♠Q54 Play the 3 not the jack
  3. ♠J3  
♠A102 Play the 3 not the jack
- Do not duck  
♠A2 ♥KQJ ♦QJ2 ♣AK432 2B-29 Duck because East has doubleton  
♠10987 ♥A32 ♦A1098 ♣65 Honour
- Keep an entry  
♠QJ10 ♥54 ♦42 ♣KJ7432 2A5  
♠A32 ♥A876 ♦A876 ♣AQ win the ace♠ and cash AQ♣

## Bridge Master 2000 Examples

1. Q4                    1A1  
10  
J32                    Duck the queen and then duck the jack which will be a stopper
2. J3                    1A-9  
9                    Q                    Duck the jack and win the queen with the ace. The ten and jack will  
A102                    now be a stopper
3. Q52                    1A-13 Rise with the queen. The only way this makes is if the lead is  
43                    from the ace and king.
4. ♠54 ♥AK32 ♦KQJ                    ♣9876                    1A-11 Hold up in spades twice and hope the long  
♠A32 ♥654 ♦A32                    ♣KQJ10                    spade hand does not have the ace of clubs.
5. ♠A43 ♦432 ♣J109 ♦6543                    1A-12 keep A♠ as entry to 13th diamond.  
♠K2 ♥AKQJ ♣8765 ♦AK2                    Win k♠ and cash AK of diamonds then the 2.
6. ♠43 ♥K54 ♦QJ1098 ♣765                    1A-14 Can't hold up. Fear a club switch  
♠AK2 ♥A32 ♦A32 ♣A432                    Cash A♦ and give up the king.
7. ♠KQ ♥65 ♦765 ♣J109876                    1A-15 Win the ace.  
♠A2 ♥A432 ♦A432 ♣AKQ                    Keep k♠ as entry to dummy's clubs
8. ♠43 ♥KQJ10 ♦765 ♣9876                    1A-23 Hold up in spades twice and hope the long  
♠A52 ♥A76 ♦AQJ ♣KQJ10                    spade hand does not have the A♣.
9. ♠32 ♥432 ♦K2 ♣KQJ1098                    1A-25 Cannot set up hearts. Need 3 stoppers  
♠AK ♥QJ109 ♦10987 ♣A32                    Play to the king♦ for the ninth trick.
10. ♠43 ♥98 ♦765 ♣AKQ654                    1A-29 cannot duck because a heart or diamond  
♠AK5 ♥A765 ♦A432 ♣32                    switch is bad. Lose a club to cater to a 4-1 break
11. ♠K32 ♥2 ♦32 ♣QJ109872                    1A-30 Win the ace of spades and cash A♣ and  
♠AJ ♥A543 ♦KQ65 ♣A54                    then a little one

12. ♠Q ♥AK543 ♦AK43 ♣432 1A-32  
 ♠AJ10987 ♥76 ♦76 ♣A76 win ace of spades and then play the jack
13. ♠AQ ♥43 ♦AK654 ♣A765 1B1  
 ♠54 ♥K65 ♦QJ87 ♣KQJ10 win the ace, a heart switch kills the contract
14. ♠QJ10 ♥54 ♦42 ♣KJ7432 2A5  
 ♠A32 ♥A876 ♦A876 ♣AQ win the ace♠ and cash AQ♣
15. ♠43 ♥432 ♦432 ♣AKQ52 2A9 Win A♠, a heart switch would be bad. Play  
 ♠A86 ♥K65 ♦AKQ ♣10983 1098 under AKQ.
16. ♠A4 ♥Q92 ♦5432 ♣5432 2A10 win the Ace♠ and run the 9♥ thru and  
 ♠32 ♥AJ103 ♦KQJ ♣AKQJ then the Q. You can holdup but it is pointless.
17. ♠43 ♥543 ♦K65 ♣AK765 2A-11 Win opening 8♠ lead with the Jack  
 ♠KJ2 ♥AK2 ♦A432 ♣432 Lose the lead in clubs to West to protect the  
 king. Play small to the A then small to the king.  
 If West plays the queen duck otherwise duck  
 the third round.
18. ♠543 ♥AK4 ♦KQ4 ♣5432 2A-14  
 ♠AK2 ♥Q32 ♦A32 ♣QJ109 Holdup once because one needs two stoppers and  
 a holdup to kick out the ace and king of clubs.
19. ♠543 ♥K3 ♦AK32 ♣5432 2A-15  
 ♠AK2 ♥A2 ♦QJ109 ♣QJ109 Do not holdup because of a possible heart switch
20. ♠43 ♥K54 ♦K65 ♣A10987 2A-17  
 ♠KQ2 ♥A32 ♦A432 ♣QJ2 Duck opening J♠ lead so the club finesse can be  
 taken.
21. ♠432 ♥432 ♦KJ4 ♣K1032 2A-22  
 ♠AK ♥AKQJ ♦A32 ♣7654 Play little to the King♣. If it loses take the  
 diamond finesse.

22. ♠AQ ♥5432 ♦5432 ♣J103 2A-34 Win Ace to avoid a heart switch.  
 ♠J432 ♥AQ ♦AK ♣AQ987 Take the club finesse and hearts are safe
23. ♠543 ♥AJ10 ♦432 ♣K765 2B-3 6♠ is opening lead so spades are 4-4  
 ♠A2 ♥432 ♦AKQJ ♣A432 3-2 break is 68%. Getting one heart trick=76%  
 Cannot hurt holding up.
24. ♠K ♥Q4 ♦8765 ♣KQ9876 2B-6 K♠ wins. Finesse clubs into West to  
 ♠Q32 ♥AK32 ♦A432 ♣A10 protect Qx.
25. ♠K3 ♥A432 ♦32 ♣AK654 2B-13 Win King keeping Ace as entry to  
 ♠AJ2 ♥765 ♦KQJ109 ♣32 the diamonds
26. ♠A2 ♥KQJ ♦QJ2 ♣AK432 2B-29 Duck because East has doubleton Honour  
 ♠10987 ♥A32 ♦A1098 ♣65
27. ♠AJ109 ♥A2 ♦5 ♣QJ10987 2C-1 Win Ace. Heart switch would be bad.  
 ♠2 ♥Q43 ♦AJ109876 ♣AK
28. ♠K43 ♥K1098 ♦5432 ♣A5 2C-10 East overcalled spades. Only hope  
 ♠Q is for the Queen to be a singleton. Duck  
 ♠J2 ♥QJ2 ♦AKQJ ♣K432 in both
29. ♠6543 ♥KQ43 ♦654 ♣A4 2C-16 Win Ace♠. Diamond switch by East will be  
 ♠A2 ♥A102 ♦K32 ♣KQJ32 bad.
30. ♠Q1054 ♥Q43 ♦432 ♣AK4 2C-20 Play low hoping East has a doubleton  
 ♠32 ♥AK2 ♦KQJ109 ♣Q32 honour and plays it to unblock the suit.
31. ♠543 ♥J4 ♦AQ2 ♣AK432 2C-24 win honour from East with Ace and  
 ♠AJ2 ♥KQ32 ♦KJ10 ♣765 lose a club to West.
32. ♠453 ♥6543 ♦A32 ♣AQ4 2C-25 Win honour from East with Ace and  
 ♠AJ2 ♥A2 ♦KJ1098 ♣K32 finesse diamonds into West.
33. ♠A43 ♥J9876 ♦AJ ♣AKQ 2D-1 Win A♠ so Q or J♠ is an entry to ♦'s  
 ♠QJ2 ♥103 ♦KQ432 ♣432

34. ♠A65 ♥A6 ♦5432 ♣Q432 2D-7 Win Ace♠, cash AKJ♣ and drive out ♦ace  
 ♠J432 ♥Q2 ♦KQJ10 ♣AKJ Need A♥ for Q♣-do not want a heart switch.
35. ♠4 ♥432 ♦432 ♣A109876 2D-22 East wins the ace and plays the jack-  
 ♠Q1032 ♥AK5 ♦AKQ ♣QJ5 Duck the jack.
36. ♠J4 ♥K5 ♦A32 ♣J87654 2D-23 Go up with Jack and then protect the  
 ♠K32 ♥A432 ♦Q54 ♣AK9 king by finessing clubs into West.
37. ♠54 ♥2 ♦Q987 ♣J109876 2D-26 The Offering- win the ace. Cash AKQ♣  
 ♠AK32 ♥KQJ10 ♦K2 ♣AKQ Offer the K♦ and then play k♥.
38. ♠54 ♥KQ10 ♦AK87 ♣AK98 3A-16 duck twice-unblock 8♣ on third round of  
 ♠A32 ♥32 ♦Q65432 ♣32 spades
39. ♠10432 3A-18 Duck the Queen  
 ♠Q  
 ♠AJ
40. ♠A52 3A-22  
 ♠J  
 ♠Q102 Duck J♠ now King♠ is pinned
41. ♠7654 ♥A543 ♦KQ43 ♣4 3A-33  
 ♠A32 ♥K102 ♦AJ102 ♣A32 Cannot hold-up. Club Switch would be bad
42. ♠10543 ♥K5 ♦AK ♣QJ1098 3B-16 East has 5 spades AJ9xx  
 ♠Q 9♠ Allow Q♠ to hold the first trick  
 ♠K2 ♥A432 ♦Q32 ♣A432
43. ♠543 ♥AJJ3 ♦65 ♣A5432 3C-1 win opening lead with Jack and lose  
 ♠KJ2 ♥KQ2 ♦AK432 ♣76 lead to West in diamonds
44. ♠A654 ♥32 ♦76 ♣AKQ32 3C-4 Hold up in spades twice and pitch 7♣ on  
 ♠32 ♥AK ♦A5432 ♣7654 Ace♠

45. ♠AK10 ♥432 ♦54 ♣65432 3C-13 Win ace and throw J♠ under it.  
 ♠J2 ♥J109 ♦AKQ32 ♣AKQ If ♣'s or ♦'s don't split, rely on ♠ finesse
46. ♠2 ♥QJ54 ♦AKQJ ♣5432 3C-17 Pop-up play win East's Q♠ with A♠  
 ♠AK10 ♥K32 ♦5432 ♣KQJ Play small heart to the King then play clubs
47. ♠Q54 ♥K ♦J32 ♣QJ10987 3C-30 East opened 1♠. Must play the queen so  
 ♠K32 ♥AQ ♦A654 ♣A432 East wont duck. Finesse clubs into West.
48. ♠J1098 ♥A32 ♦654 ♣654 3D-1 Throw King under East's Ace♠  
 ♠K2 ♥K54 ♦AKQ2 ♣AK32
49. ♠KQ5 ♥432 ♦AK54 ♣Q32 3D-2 Duck the opening lead of the Jack♠.  
 ♠832 ♥AKQJ ♦32 ♣KJ109 Assume East has ♠Ax.
50. ♠5432 ♥AK ♦AK ♣QJ654 3D-3 6♠ shows west has 4 spades  
 6♠ ♠KJ ♥J32 ♦65432 ♣A32 Win the King and then the Ace♣ and a small♣
51. ♠AJ3 ♥432 ♦Q1032 ♣AQ2 3D-5 Win A♠ because a heart switch would be  
 ♠Q2 ♥KJ5 ♦AJ98 ♣K109 bad. West would win Q♥ and clear the  
 suit and still have the K♣ as an entry.
52. ♠K3 ♥654 ♦AK ♣A76543 3D-6 Win K-Keep ace as entry to diamonds  
 ♠AJ2 ♥A32 ♦J109876 ♣2 Let opponents get three spades and Q♦
53. ♠A109 ♥K3 ♦654 ♣J10987 3D-10 West plays K♠. Put Queen under it.  
 ♠Q32 ♥AJ ♦AQJ102 ♣Q32 Need ♠ entries for ♦ finesse. Cannot setup ♣'s
54. ♠J ♥Q108 ♦K432 ♣KQ654 3D-14 win K with A♠. Use hearts as entries.  
 ♠AQ9 ♥AKJ9 ♦Q65 ♣J32 play small ♣ to J and then small♦ to Q  
 Popup play
55. ♠A54 ♥654 ♦654 ♣K543 3D-15 Fear heart switch, Win K♠ and ace♦  
 ♠K32 ♥A32 ♦AQJ32 ♣A2 Lead up to the Queen



56. ♠32 ♥43 ♦K32 ♣AK6543 3D-17 Cash Ace and King♦ and take heart  
 ♠A2 ♥AKJ109 ♦AJ1098 ♣2 finesse in the shorter combined suit  
 if Q♦ does not fall.
57. ♠J109 ♥1098 ♦K32 ♣10987 4B-3 Throw King under East's ace  
 ♠K32 ♥AQJ2 ♦AQJ10 ♣QJ
58. ♠J4 4B-17 Play J. If it wins keep East off lead  
 8♠ ♠K32
59. ♠54 ♥A2 ♦43 ♣Q1076543 4B-23 Don't duck spade opening lead. They  
 ♠AK32 ♥KQJ ♦AQJ2 ♣J2 will attack the heart entry.
60. ♠54 ♥A54 ♦7654 ♣A543 4B-24 West opened 2♠-Duck once.  
 K♠ ♠A32 ♥K32 ♦AQ1032 ♣K2 Play diamond from dummy and duck if  
 East has singleton King. East will pitch k♣  
 if you hold up twice in spades.
61. ♠AQ4 ♥543 ♦AQJ10987 ♣--- 4C-2 Play the Q♠. If it holds, just lose K♦  
 ♠J32 ♥A2 ♦432 ♣KJ1098 If it loses, the A♥ and J♠ are entries  
 to finesse diamonds.
62. ♠5 ♥AKQJ ♦6543 ♣QJ65 4C-3 Hold up three times to find out how ♥'s  
 ♠A432 ♥32 ♦AK2 ♣A432 are split. If West has 5, cash A♣. If  
 West has 3 or fewer. Finesse ♦ into  
 him. If 4-4, just play A♣ and small to  
 the Queen-Jack.
63. ♠54 ♥Q54 ♦65 ♣QJ10987 4C-5 East opened 3♥. Win A♥ and cash AK♣  
 ♠AK32 ♥A32 ♦A432 ♣AK lose a couple of diamonds. Lose a ♥  
 when East only has hearts left.
64. ♠543 ♥543 ♦J6 ♣A5432 4C-18 win A don't want heart switch. play ♦ to  
 ♠J ♠AK2 ♥AK2 ♦Q5432 ♣KQ Jack♦. Dont duck spade return. East will discard  
 A♦.

65. ♠A2 ♥5432 ♦Q32 ♣5432 4C-22 Win With K♠. run K♦ thru then  
 ♠KQ3 ♥AK6 ♦K1054 ♣AK6 cash Q♦ and lead a low diamond towards the 10.
66. ♠543 ♥A54 ♦76543 ♣32 4D-5 East wins ace♥. Now duck two spades to  
 10♠ ♠KQJ2 ♥J32 ♦K2 ♣AKQJ sever communication when the ♦ finesse is taken
67. ♠A2 ♥54 ♦AK54 ♣K6543 4D-17 Win the J♠ then win the A♠ and duck a ♣  
 ♠KJ43 ♦K932 ♦32 ♣AQ2

### My Examples

68. ♠Q2 The Sitting Duck- West leads 4th best. Put in the Queen otherwise  
 ♠K43 it will be a sitting duck for the ace. If West has the ace throw him in  
 to protect Kx.
69. 10852 Win the ace and East will block the suit with Hx.  
 A3
70. ♠A109  
 ♠Q  
 ♠J2 Put Jack under the Queen
71. ♠AJ4 There are five cards higher than the 6 out. You can see 4 of them.  
 ♠6 ? Duck to see which one East has and then take the spade finesse.  
 ♠K8