

CodedNinesAndTens

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http://www.bridgehands.com/J/Jack_Denies_10_Implies.htm

Coded Nines and Tens (Jack Denies, 10 Implies) - An opening lead system designed to show honor holdings. A lead of a 9 or 10 implies either zero or two higher honors in the suit led, while leading a Jack suggests no higher honors. Normal "low from honor" lead carding still applies, as 4th best, etc. When partner leads a 9 or 10, partner generally assumes leader has 2 cards above unless the player in the third seat can see the complimentary card. So if leader plays the 10 and the 9 is in either the dummy or the hand of third seat player, assume zero above; the same is true if the 9 is lead and the 10 is visible. Otherwise, assume partner has 2 cards above the 10 or 9. Particularly against opponent's Notrump contract, leads include:

Suit	Lead
J 10 8 2	Jack - Jack denies (normally top of sequence, maybe broken)
Q J 9 2	9 - shows two higher than lead of nine
A J 10 4	10 - shows two higher
K 10 9 3	9 - shows two higher
Q 10 9 7	9 - shows two higher
J 9 7 5 3	C5 - standard 4th best from an honor
Q 10 9 7	9 - shows two higher
9 7 5 3	C7 or C9- without honor, lead top or next to top
A 10 9 4 2	9 - shows two higher (obviously declarer is in Notrump - do not lead away from an Ace with a 5 card suit when declarer is in a trump suit)
K Q 10 9 2	Q - while 10 seems normal, an better treatment is the lead of the A or Q asks for an unblock of partners honor as J 2 from a doubleton
A K J 10 2	
A K Q 10 2	
A Q J 10 2	
A K J 9 2	A, asking for an unblock or count
A K 10 9 2	
A Q 10 9 2	9 exceptionally. Leading the 10 may confuse partner the lead was from a sequence. It's far better to ensure partner knows leader has at least two honors above the opening lead rather than be misled into believing Declarer has all the honors