

♠♥♦♣ LEAVE THE FINESSES FOR LATER ♠♥♦♣

You are the dealer of this "4 Triple 3", and you pass.

S	undefined
♠	1052
♥	J105
♦	A93
♣	KJ95

West passes and your partner opens 1♦. East passes and you respond 1NT. Your partner invites with a raise to 2NT. This is asking if your response was near the top of your range of 6-9 HCP. Since you do have 9 HCP, you accept the invitation and rebid 3NT.

West leads the ♦7 and you see this Dummy.

N	undefined
♠	A843
♥	Q832
♦	KJ6
♣	A7

West Leads: ♦7

S	undefined
♠	1052
♥	J105
♦	A93
♣	KJ95

Your partner was super aggressive with his invite. But you will do your best to make this contract.

You start by counting top tricks. You have 5 top tricks. One Spade, 2 Diamonds and 2 Clubs. Given the lead you have 1 extra Diamond and you are looking for 3 more tricks.

You have a possible extra Spade if they break 3-3 (36%); two extra Hearts if they break 3-3; and an extra Club if the ♣Q is on-side (50%). That is a lot to ask from your 23 total HCP's.

The question is what suit to work on first.

Since you are going to lose the lead twice to develop the Hearts, it make sense to start with that suit, while you hold on to the stoppers in the other suits.

You win the Diamond lead in your hand and lead to the high Heart in the Dummies. East wins his ♥A and switches to a Spade. You win the ♠A and force out the ♥K.

The Defenders take two more Spades, bring their total up to four tricks. You have to win the rest.

You were very fortunate that the Spades and the Hearts both broke 3-3 and therefore, you don't need the Club finesse. You can take the next seven tricks, 1 Spade, 2 Hearts, 2 Diamonds and the top 2 Clubs. Making 3NT.

This is the entire deal:

15		N undefined		W		N		E		S	
D		♠ A843		P		1♦		P		1NT	
		♥ Q832		P		2NT		P		3NT	
		♦ KJ6		P		P		P			
		♣ A7									
W undefined		E undefined									
♠ 976		♠ KQJ									
♥ K76		♥ A94									
♦ 107542		♦ Q8									
♣ 86		♣ Q10432									
		S undefined									
		♠ 1052									
		♥ J105									
		♦ A93									
		♣ KJ95									
				3NT S						NS: 0 EW: 0	

You can see how this hand should be played by clicking on this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/zz679gvb> , or copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the "Next" button on the bottom to advance through each trick. If you don't want to see the opponents hands, click on the white area in the South hand before you start.

Alternatively, by clicking on "Play" you can play all four hands and see if you can make the hand on your own. <https://tinyurl.com/2p3hmb44>