

1.

Partner is the dealer and opens 1♣. Pass. You bid 1♥ and partner rebids 1♠.

♠ KQJ
 ♥ AJ852
 ♦ A842
 ♣ 7

What do you do now?

Partner can have any one of these hands -

(a)	(b)	(c)
A9xx	A9xx	A109xx
K9x	x	x
x	QJ9	x
AJ9xx	AJ9xx	AJ9xxx

Solution

Bid 2♦ - the fourth suit - to illicit more information. *The FSF bid is forcing TO GAME.* No need to jump in the bidding now.

- On (a) Partner will bid 2♥. After KCB, get to 6♥!
- On (b) Partner will bid 2NT. You reach a sensible 3NT contract.
- On (c) Partner will bid 2S. This shows 5-6 in the blacks. KCB then 6♠!

The play

- a) How do you play the hearts in 6♥?
- b) If you get a diamond lead, duck it to the Q-J-9. ♦K wins and back comes a ♦.
- c) Play 6♠ on the lead of the ♦K.

Solutions

- a) The standard safety play with this combination is the Ace first then small to the 9, unless leftie plays a higher. If leftie shows out, take the king and play back the 9. *This caters for any 4-1 break, try it.*
- b) As soon as you get in, remember to unblock the spades! You will make 4 spades, 3 diamonds, ace and ace.
- c) Win the ace and play ♣A and another club ruffing high. The Q-10 clubs drop on your left. You can now draw, overtaking the last trump once they both follow once. Give up a club only.



2.

N	Robot
♠	KQ653
♥	A10
♦	74
♣	KQ42

Partner opens 1♦ and rebids 2♣ over your 1♠ response.

QUIZ: What now?

4S, 3NT, and even a club game are all possibilities. How can we decide?

Answer: Bid the fourth suit and ask partner to describe his hand further. Bid 2♥ (alertable).

Do remember that as dummy in a club contract, we can revalue our hand to 16 points.

Partner	We will...
• 2S	4S
• 2NT	3NT (partner has denied 3 spades, and is minimum)
• 3C	5C (avoid 3NT as a heart lead is marked)
• 3NT	5C (slam invite, as partner now shows 16-17)

The play: <https://tinyurl.com/yfwbezms>

Reinforce this very important topic by reading

1. <https://www.betterbridge.com/misc/StandardArticles/Standard200609.pdf>
2. <https://bestebidge.com/Exercise/CourseUI.aspx?courseid=5&exercizeid=1>
3. https://www.bridgebum.com/fourth_suit_forcing.php
4. <https://www.larryco.com/bridge-learning-center/print/550>
5. <https://www.andrewrobson.co.uk/article/articles/394>

If you want to improve quickly, study and use this convention please. Until it becomes second nature to you, like stayman and KCB. I assure you it is worth the effort. xxx

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