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# Double Dummy Problems in the 21st Century

Bridge Problems from 2005 to 2022

Volume One: Difficulty Ratings 1-4

## DR1 Problems

1. by Sebastian Nowacki, 2012 [DR1](#)

♠ 73  
♥ 86  
♦ 654  
♣ none

♠ 54  
♥ 7  
♦ 742  
♣ 9

♠ 8  
♥ none  
♦ none  
♣ 876542

♠ 92  
♥ 9532  
♦ 8  
♣ none

South to lead at no-trumps.  
North-South to win six tricks.

3. by Julian Pottage, 2014 [DR1](#)

♠ none  
♥ AK2  
♦ 97532  
♣ 76543

♠ 98765432  
♥ QJ1094  
♦ none  
♣ none

♠ none  
♥ 87653  
♦ 10864  
♣ A982

♠ AKQJ10  
♥ none  
♦ AKQJ  
♣ KQJ10

South to make one heart  
against any lead and defence.

2. by Leigh Matheson, 2013 [DR1](#)

♠ J109  
♥ J109  
♦ none  
♣ 8765432

♠ K32  
♥ 432  
♦ 8765432  
♣ none

♠ 8765  
♥ Q87  
♦ AKQJ  
♣ KJ

♠ AQ4  
♥ AK63  
♦ 109  
♣ AQ109

South to make three no-trumps.  
West leads the ♠J.

4. by Ian Budden, 2014 [DR1](#)

♠ Q7654  
♥ 32  
♦ 5432  
♣ A2

♠ K32  
♥ AKQJ  
♦ none  
♣ 987654

♠ AJ  
♥ 109876  
♦ AKQJ  
♣ K3

♠ 1098  
♥ 54  
♦ 109876  
♣ QJ10

South to make six no-trumps.  
West leads the ♠5.

# Solutions

## DR1 Problems

1.

	♠ 54	
	♥ 7	
	♦ 742	
	♣ 9	
♠ 73		♠ 8
♥ 86		♥ none
♦ 653		♦ none
♣ none		♣ 876542
	♠ 92	
	♥ 9532	
	♦ 8	
	♣ none	

South to lead at no-trumps. North-South to win six tricks.

South cashes the ♦8. If East discards a club, South follows with the ♠2 to East's ♠8 and then the forced club to North's ♣9 catches West in a repeated squeeze. If East instead discards the ♠8, South plays ♥9 and another heart so that West must either concede two spade tricks or let North make two minor suit winners in addition to South's ♠9.

[Problem 1](#)

## 52 Solutions

2.

	♠ K32	
	♥ 432	
	♦ 8765432	
	♣ none	
♠ J109		♠ 8765
♥ J109		♥ Q87
♦ none		♦ AKQJ
♣ 8765432		♣ KJ
	♠ AQ4	
	♥ AK65	
	♦ 109	
	♣ AQ109	

South to make three no-trumps. West leads the ♠J.

North plays the ♠K and South drops the ♠Q! An avoidance play in hearts follows, South winning the second trick if and only if East rises with the ♥Q on North's lead. Assuming East plays low (best), West wins this trick. South wins a spade and three heart tricks, then throws West back in with a spade to win four tricks in clubs.

### Problem 2

3.

	♠ 98765432	
	♥ QJ1094	
	♦ none	
	♣ none	
♠ none		♠ AKQJ10
♥ AK2		♥ none
♦ 97532		♦ AKQJ
♣ 76543		♣ KQJ10
	♠ none	
	♥ 87653	
	♦ 10864	
	♣ A982	

South to make one heart against any lead and defence.

West does best to play three rounds of hearts. North and South both play high on the first two. North plays the ♥4 on the third and South overtakes unless East discards a third spade. If North is now on lead, then the spades can be set up with two ruffs and declarer makes four overtricks. Otherwise East has discarded two spades and either a diamond or club and declarer can establish a winner in the minor suit from which East has discarded, yielding just the seven tricks required.

[Problem 3](#)

4.

♠ Q7654 ♥ 32 ♦ 5432 ♣ A2	♠ K32 ♥ AKQJ ♦ none ♣ 987654  ♠ AJ ♥ 109876 ♦ AKQJ ♣ K3	♠ 1098 ♥ 54 ♦ 109876 ♣ QJ10
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South to make six no-trumps. West leads the ♠5.

On the opening lead North plays low, and South wins with the ♠A. South then cashes four rounds of diamonds, discarding the four heart honours from dummy, and follows with four rounds of hearts, on which dummy sheds four clubs. With four cards left, both defenders are reduced to two cards in spades and two in clubs. South leads the last heart.

- A. If West discards the ♣2, North discards a spade. South then leads the ♣3 to West's (now) bare ♣A. West returns a spade to North's ♠K and South makes the last trick with the ♣K.
- B. If West discards a spade, North discards a club. If East throws a spade, North will make two spade tricks, so East, too, must discard a club. Declarer then crosses to the ♠K and leads a club to the ♣Q, ♣K, and ♣A. West must concede the last trick to the ♣3. [Problem 4](#)

## Double Dummy Bridge Problems from 2005 to 2022 with Full Solutions

This is the first of two volumes forming a sequel to the author's *A Compendium of Double Dummy Problems* (Master Point Press, 2021), containing 134 double dummy problems, ranging from 'very easy' to 'moderate' in difficulty.

The collection is derived from the monthly series of problems that have been presented at the author's website for competitive solving. It features as many as 24 different composers, several of whom made their first appearance at this website. The format follows that of the Compendium, with solutions being given in full. Difficulty ratings are based on suggestions from successful solvers, ranging from 1 to 4. Volume II will cover the more difficult problems rated 5 to 8 (fiendish).



**HUGH DARWEN (UK)** ran monthly solving competitions from 1966 to 2005 in, successively, *Bridge Magazine*, *International Popular Bridge Monthly*, and *Bridge Plus!* Since 2005, these competitions have continued, informally, at his website [www.doubledummy.net](http://www.doubledummy.net).

