

Look at this example in which we can see dummy , our hand and for purposes of elucidation (!) partner's hand too.

e.g	(dummy)	
	J1098	
(partner)	<u>Q</u> 76	(you)
654	AQ3	32
J82	876	<u>K</u> 63
J82		K6543
AQ95		432

Dummy leads the Q Hrts ; we don't have the J Hrts so that doesn't seem to be a reason to cover the Q with the K.

However as it happens it is partner who holds the J and if we do cover the Q with the K then it is partner's J that will become promoted.

So, to the reasons previously mentioned for covering :

- i) we prevent the declarer making two separate tricks
- ii) we may promote a trick for ourselves *we may add..*
- iii) we may promote a trick for partner

You might ask -as I don't know if partner holds the J is it still right to play the K on the Q ? The answer is yes because even if you can't see partner's cards, if it is possible that partner holds the J, then you should cover.

And now we finally get to the nub of the matter. The times when you shouldn't cover an Honour with an Honour are those when there is NO possibility that either you or your partner can promote a trick by covering an Hon with an Hon.

As in this example. Dummy leads the Q Hrts...

e.g	(dummy)	
	J1098	
	<u>Q</u> J10	(defender)
	AQ	632
	9876	K94
		K6543
		43

Should you cover ? Let's see if the reasons for covering apply :-

- i) we prevent the declarer making two separate tricks  
**NO we don't ! -if you cover declarer makes their Ace and Jack and 10 anyway**
- ii) we may promote a trick for ourselves  
**NO we can't ! -we have no other Hon ourself**
- iii) we may promote a trick for partner  
**NO we won't ! -dummy has all the Honours in the suit ( and partner has none).**

P.S. In all the examples so far we have held the K and the Q has been led. If we had in fact held the Q and the J had been led ...

e.g(a)	<u>J</u> 32	e.g(b)	<u>J</u> 102
	I Q54		I Q54

The same thinking would apply. Cover the J in (a) ; don't cover the J in (b)

