

A very simple guide to counting losers

With some holdings it is fairly obvious how many losers you have :

e.g 543 !!!!! you have three losers e.g A43 you have two losers

with some holdings though you may have doubts

e.g AQ4 e.g KJ 3

Here is a VERY simple test you can apply to see how many losers you have.

Imagine that you led the highest card from your holding.

You will know whether it will win or lose.

Then ,imagine that you led the *next* highest card from your remaining holding.

You will know whether it will win or lose.

Then ,imagine that you led the *next* highest card from your remaining holding.

Again you will know whether it will win or lose.

You will thus know how many winners and how many losers your holding is *worth*.

543 You lead the 5 it loses; you lead the 4 it loses ; you lead the 3 it loses; **{3 losers}**

A43 You lead the Ace it wins; you lead the 4 it loses; you lead the 3 it loses.**{2 losers}**

AQ4 You lead the Ace it wins; you lead the Q it loses; you lead the 4 it loses.**{2 losers}**

KJ3 You lead the King it loses; you lead the J it loses; you lead the 3 it loses.**{3 losers}**

When you come to compare { line up } your holding in a suit with that of the other hand:

e.g A43 ----- K76 you can use the same "test"- you will already know how many losers you have in one hand and can see if the other hand reduces that number. If the other hand "covers" your losers with its Honour cards.

e.g A43 ----- K76

Imagine we lead the Ace { it wins } ; imagine we lead the K { it wins } *then* imagine we lead the 7 { it loses } . So we have **{1 loser }**

e.g KJ 3 -----Q53

Imagine we lead the King { it loses } ; imagine we lead the Q { it wins } imagine we lead the J { it wins } . So we have **{1 loser }**

e.g QJ 3 -----1053

Imagine we lead the Q { it loses } ;*then* imagine we lead the J { it loses } *then* imagine we lead the 10 { it wins } . So we have **{2 loser }**

e.g KQ 3 -----1053

Imagine we lead the K { it loses } ; *then* imagine we lead the Q { it wins } *then* imagine we lead the 10 { it loses } . So we have **{2 loser }**

NB. dont get fooled by this type:

e.g K73 -----Q5 This is **2 losers**.

{ lead the K it loses, lead the Q it wins ,lead the 3 it loses} YES you probably know that you can trump the 3 in time BUT that is done after counting losers.

