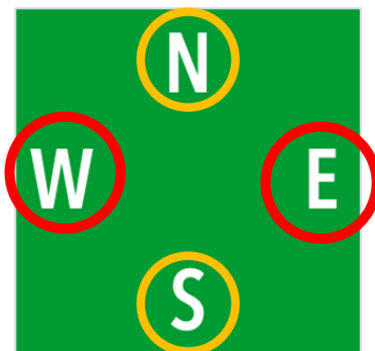


# ♠ ♥ The Beginnings of Bridge ♦ ♣

**Bridge is a Partnership game!** We play with the person opposite us. We assign North, South, East and West to the 4 seats around the table.



**Bridge is a Trick taking game!** If you have played card games such as Hearts, Spades, Pinochle, 21 or Euchre you would be familiar with what a Trick is. If not this is a trick...

## Example of how a TRICK is played

**PLAY IS CLOCKWISE**

**YOU MUST FOLLOW SUIT, IF YOU CAN**

**OPENING LEAD**

**THIS IS A TRICK**

**SOUTH WON THE TRICK SO SOUTH LEADS TO THE NEXT TRICK**

**HIGH CARD IN THE SUIT LED, WINS**

**N/S PARTNERSHIP WINS THE TRICK**



## How to Play Mini Bridge...

- We shuffle and deal out the cards clockwise starting on our left.
- We count our cards face down to make sure we have 13.
- We then organize and sort our hand like so:



- We then count up our High Card Points (HCP)

**Ace = 4 HCP      King = 3 HCP**

**Queen = 2 HCP      Jack = 1 HCP**

**Let's Try Count our Points in the Hand Above!**

- The Dealer, i.e. the person who dealt the cards, then announces their points and again we go around clockwise announcing our points. The side with the most points “Wins” the auction and becomes the Declaring side.
- The Player from the Declaring side with the most HCP can try to find a fit to play with or without Trumps.

- If the Declarer finds a **Fit** with their Partner, the Dummy. They play in **Trumps**

What is a <b>Fit</b> ?	What are <b>Trumps</b> ?
<p>A fit is simply when one side has the majority of the cards in a single suit. We say 8 or more cards. So if the Declarer asks “Partner how many Spades do you have?” and between them they have at least 8, they have a fit and should have Spades as Trumps.</p>	<p>If there is a Suit that is Trumps, they act as the “Master” suit. If there are Trumps it is not just the Highest card that wins tricks but also Trumps. For example if Spades are Trumps and Declater has no more Hearts, if everyone plays a Heart but Declarer plays a Spade... the Spade wins the Trick.</p>

- Once Trumps or No Trumps has been decided, the player to the Left of Declarer makes the Opening Lead. In other words, they play the first card. This marks the end of what we call the Auction!

**Let’s look at some Hands. Count the HCP in each Hand (North, South, East and West). Decide who you think will be the Declarer, Do they have a fit? Will they play in Trump's or No Trumps?:**

**Hand 1:** Bid 1. North: ♠AKJ7, ♥943, ♦875, ♣642. West: ♠10865, ♥KQJ10, ♦K96, ♣J8. East: ♠942, ♥852, ♦QJ10, ♣KQ105. South: ♠Q3, ♥A76, ♦A432, ♣A973.

**Hand 2:** Bid 3. North: ♠KQ109, ♥32, ♦J6, ♣98754. West: ♠876, ♥K6, ♦943, ♣AKQJ2. East: ♠AJ2, ♥Q54, ♦AK52, ♣1063. South: ♠543, ♥AJ10987, ♦Q1087, ♣.

**Now Play and Win Tricks!**