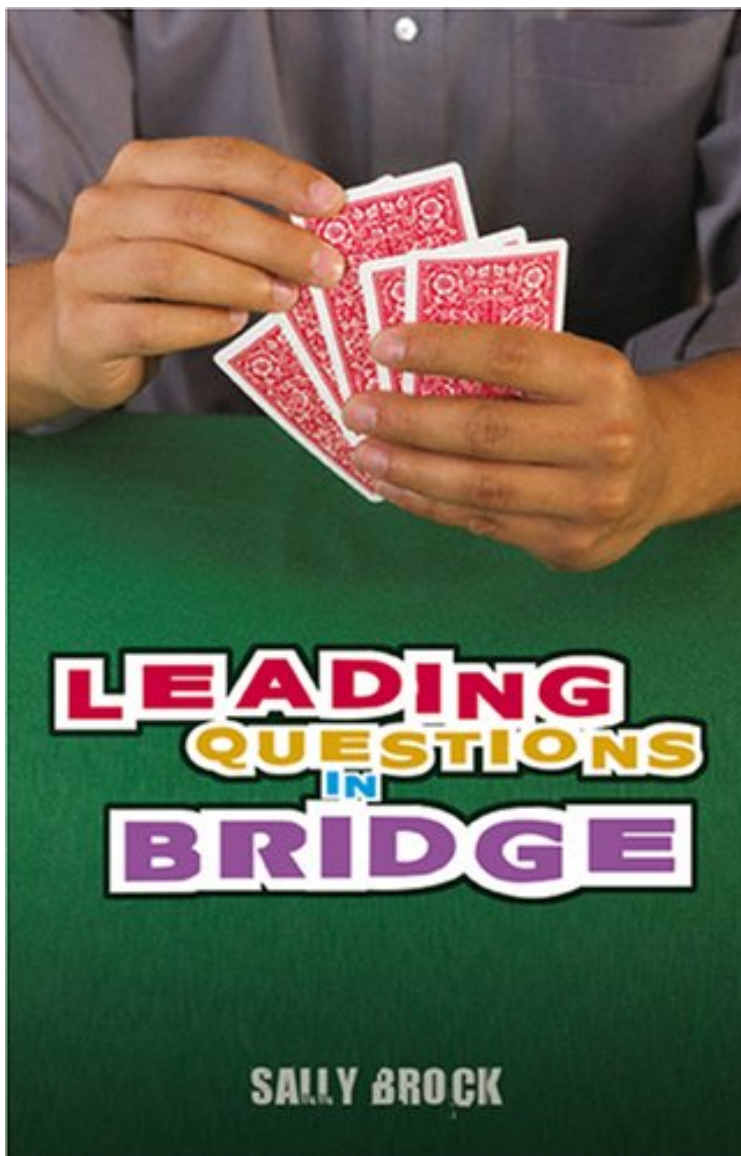


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Leading Questions in Bridge

Sally Brock

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Sally Brock : Leading Questions in Bridge before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Leading Questions in Bridge:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Expert Opening Leads in Bridge By Larry E. Manter This book is geared really to exceptions in leading that the very good player should recognize. I see three steps to making correct leads: 1. The simplistic recommendations in most books, 2. the realization that basic exceptions to basic advice is a valuable thing to know, and 3. that there is still another step to determining the correct lead by recognizing exceptions

even when you've understood the second step. There are probably steps beyond this that I'm not aware of. I think this book is very valuable in making you aware that there is more yet to learn ... but, to me, it does suffer a bit from lack of real organization (and I'm NOT saying that it should really be different - maybe it can't be appreciably). If I can understand (which I generally do) AND apply (which I usually don't) some of it, it's a good thing and will be useful to become an expert opening leader (instead of basic to intermediate and even to the lower steps of advanced). Whether or not you ever become an expert or world class opening leader is another question entirely but it certainly gives you stuff (technical term) to think about ... and this is how you grow as a bridge player, being aware that there is always something more that you should understand. If you aspire to be the next Bob Hamman or Eric Rodwell or Jeff Meckstroth, you NEED to be aware that you can ALWAYS learn and this book is a valuable reminder. If you just want to sharpen your game and will maybe take a thing or two from this book, it's a good thing too. If you're still at the basic or intermediate level of 'understanding' opening leads, this book is probably too advanced for you; if you want to reach the next step, I'd recommend Andrew Robson's Bridge Lessons book on Opening Leads. He is an almost World Class player and his advice seems to be very good as is any book on defense by Eddie Kantar (the next step after basic opening leads is Bob Ewen's book, Opening Leads, but it's long out of print). 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I would recommend Sally Brock's Leading Questions in Bridge to almost anyone ... By Steven Conrad Mike Lawrence's book Opening Leads is the reference on this topic, and Lawrence is a top flight writer, clear and cogent. Given that, I would recommend Sally Brock's Leading Questions in Bridge to almost anyone who asked for a recommendation. This pedagogically excellent book teaches by giving a hand to illustrate every point made. This is not a complete treatise, but it is a fantastic contribution to the literature of opening leads, and I put it at the head of the line--excerpt for those who are near expert and wish to improve to expert. For those people, get Mike Lawrence's book Opening Leads. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Nice coverage of a range of problem types By B. Einhorn I still think Mike Lawrence's Opening Leads is the authoritative book on the subject. But this covers some areas it doesn't. For example, you are on lead against this auction 1H - p - 1NT - p You have 4 spades so you think that declarer doesn't have 4, else they would respond 1 Spade and not 1 heart. The author asks - what if they are using Flannery, where 2D shows a 4=5 hand with 11-15 points. Responded knows opener doesn't have 4 spades and 11-15 so there is no reason for them to bid 1 Spade, and they can instead bid 1NT. Opener can later Reverse to show 4 spades, but that didn't happen. The point of the hand was that opponents' agreements can give you information and you can't always use the same set of leads / assumptions. Chapters like - when to lead trump are especially valuable. The author says early on she was taught to be wary about leading trumps. So she sets out to give clear situations when it's a good idea to do so. Not only is the material clear and well presented, it provides a set of inferences for partner and declarer. If you study this book, and LHO makes an unusual lead, ask "why might they do that? The auction does not indicate a trump lead". Hmmm, I wonder if it's because LHO knows the suits are not splitting well, or the honors are poorly placed, and wants to cut down on dummy ruffs. I'm not sure I agree with the author on all her examples of when to lead unsupported aces. But it's still an excellent book. For all levels.

In this book, a top bridge player writer takes the reader through the questions that need to be asked before selecting an opening lead: to be active or passive, to lead partner's suit or your own, to lead trumps or not, to try a deceptive lead, so on.