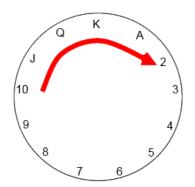
nrich

The Best Card Trick?

Choose two cards of the same suit (from the five that have been selected), and arrange them in order so that you can go from the first (the 'base' card) to the second (the 'secret' card that your partner will 'guess') in a clockwise step of no more than 6.



A step of 5 is needed to get from a base of 10 to the 'secret' 2.

You could not use the 2 as the base card; you'd need more than 6 steps to get from 2 to 10.

Work out the difference between the 'base' card and the 'secret' card.

Each of your three remaining cards has a value*, lowest (I), middle (m) and highest (h). They can be arranged and ranked as follows:

Place the 'base' card on the table to 'tell' your partner the suit of the 'secret' card and the number they will need to start counting from.

Place the three remaining cards in one of the above orders to 'tell' your partner what they will need to add to the 'base' card to get the 'secret' card.

Your partner should now be able to tell you what the 'secret' card is!

* You will need to agree whether Aces are considered high or low. If you have two or more cards of the same value you will need to rank the suits: clubs (c) are lower than diamonds (d) which are lower than hearts (h) which are lower than spades (s) (alphabetical order).