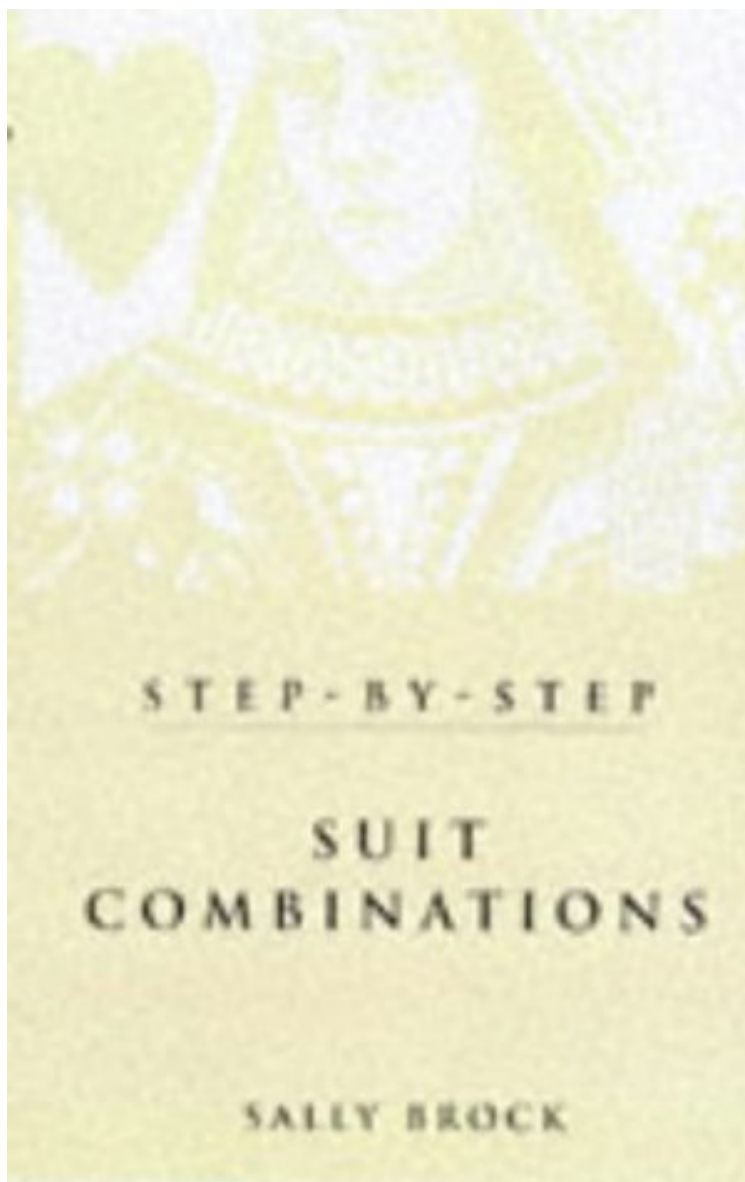


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## Suit Combinations in Bridge

*Sally Brock*

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**Sally Brock : Suit Combinations in Bridge** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Suit Combinations in Bridge:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Truly superb in distilling the essence of probability in bridgeBy ScoglioThis tiny but precious volume suits my needs perfectly as the concepts and tactics for success (i) are independent of bidding systems and (ii) make no assumptions of having a regular partner (as so many books do). It is

wonderfully logical in layout, extremely clear in explanations, and yet concise. Thankfully, no 'expert' pitter-patter about 'what I did in the war', but gracefully crediting famous hands to the circumstances and crediting winning teams by individual (eg p92). Not recommended to victims of ASD however. Kudos to Ms Brock! 19 of 20 people found the following review helpful. Poor explanations, critical errors

By A Customer  
This is a badly conceived, badly executed book. The author starts off with no introduction, no explanation of how to solve card combos, no discussion of the distribution of cards, no theory as to the differences between winning the maximum number of tricks vs winning a predetermined number. She just jumps right into combinations with no explanation as to how to learn them except by dint of memorization. On the \*second\* page she launches into restricted choice. For readers who have yearned for a cogent explanation of this principle, you won't find it here. Brock cops out by simply copying from the Encyclopedia of Bridge. Worse yet, she copies so small a piece that unless you have the Encyclopedia to examine, it's hard to figure out what she's saying. Finally, the fundamental table of probabilities appears in an Appendix. This familiar table shows what the odds are that 5 outstanding cards will break 3-2, 4-1, 5-0, etc. This table has appeared so often and is so important to understanding card play, that most good players have it memorized. Except Brock. Her table is uniquely different: it's wrong. She contends that 4 cards will break 2-2 50% of the time and 3-1 40% of the time. (The correct odds are reversed: 3-1 is 50%, 2-2 is 40%, and 4-0 is 10%). This is a terrible typo as it will mean many readers will learn the card combos incorrectly. But it gets worse! Brock then specifically points out and discusses how unusual it is that even cards would break evenly in the case of 2-2, never aware that she is babbling about nonsense. Impossible to believe this lady could have won the Venice Cup without knowing the correct split on four cards. The bottom line is, I believe, she did not write this or review it. It's a careless hack supposedly authored by someone who couldn't have cared less.

Analyses the correct percentage play of common suit combinations, classified according to the cards which are missing.