

**Lightner Double**  
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Theodore [Lightner](#) invented the idea of doubling a slam to ask for an unusual lead. "Unusual" typically means one of two things:

1. Doubler has a void and wants a ruff.
2. Doubler wants dummy's suit led.

The doubler expects that without alerting his partner to the need for a special lead, the slam will make. [Lightner doubles](#) are not alertable.

Say you are on lead after this auction:

YOU North East South  
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♠  
Pass 3 ♠ Pass 4 NT  
Pass 5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠  
Pass Pass Dbl All Pass

You hold: ♠5 ♥Q J 7 ♦Q 2 ♣10 8 7 6 5 3 2. Likely, partner has a club void, so a club lead is indicated. (It isn't likely a diamond lead is needed based on your hand and the auction).