

# Rule of 2, 3 and 4 in Bridge

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 [bridgebum.com/rule\\_of\\_two\\_three\\_four.php](http://bridgebum.com/rule_of_two_three_four.php)

The Rule of 2, 3 and 4 is a guideline for opening with a weak two bid depending on the vulnerability.

## Rule of 2

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At unfavorable vulnerability (red on white), the recommendation is to be 2 tricks shy of a 2-level contract. In other words, opener should have 6 tricks to open a weak two bid.

Example:

♠ AKQT54  
♥ 5  
♦ 987  
♣ 654

This is the classic example of a weak two. There are 6 probable spade tricks, and it can therefore be opened 2 ♠ .

## Rule of 3

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At equal vulnerability (white on white or red on red), the recommendation is to be 3 tricks shy of a 2-level contract. In other words, opener should have 5 tricks to open a weak two bid.

Example:

♠ 65  
♥ KQJT87  
♦ 843  
♣ 52

There are 5 probable heart tricks, and it can therefore be opened 2 ♥ .

## Rule of 4

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At favorable vulnerability (white on red), the recommendation is to be 4 tricks shy of a 2-level contract. In other words, opener only needs 4 tricks to open a weak two bid.

Example:

♠ JT9874

♥ 5

♦ AT8

♣ 987

3 spade tricks + 1 diamond trick = 4 tricks. At favorable vulnerability, this hand can therefore be opened 2 ♠ .

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