

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 5 4 3 2

♥ 8 3

♦ 7 4 2

♣ A 9 5

 ♠ 9
 ♥ Q J T 7 5
 ♦ A K Q 3
 ♣ K Q 4

 N
 W E
 S

 ♠ Q J T 8 6
 ♥ A 6
 ♦ 9 6
 ♣ J T 7 2

 17
 4 8
 11

 ♠ A K
 ♥ K 9 4 2
 ♦ J T 8 5
 ♣ 8 6 3

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

5♥ by North

Baker Blackwood 1

Your 3♥ bid showed 11-12 points. Decide how you would answer partner's Blackwood 4NT, then on BID above.

The Blackwood response for 1 Ace is 5♦. Partner evidently was hoping for 2, and he signs off at 5♥. He is the Captain so you pass.

Deal 2

East Deals
None Vul

♠ T 7 6 4
♥ T 9 6
♦ J 5 4
♣ 7 3 2

18
1 5
16

♠ K 9 5
♥ A 7
♦ K Q 3
♣ K Q J 6 4

N
W E
S

♠ A 3 2
♥ J 8 5 4 3
♦ 7 2
♣ T 8 5

♠ Q J 8
♥ K Q 2
♦ A T 9 8 6
♣ A 9

Baker Blackwood 2

Your 1NT bid showed 15-17 points and a balanced hand. Decide how you would answer partner's Gerber 4♣, then on BID above.

The Gerber response to show 2 Aces is 4♠. So you bid 4♠ and partner jumps to 6NT, which you pass.

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♣	Pass	1NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	4♠

6NT by North

Deal 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 6 4

♥ A 9 7 3

♦ 6 2

♣ T 8 7 5

♠ A Q J

♥ Q J T 5

♦ 9 7 5

♣ K Q J

N
W E
S

♠ 9 7 5 3 2

♥ 8 6 4

♦ A

♣ 9 6 4 2

16

4 4

16

♠ K 8

♥ K 2

♦ K Q J T 8 4 3

♣ A 3

West

North

East

South

1NT

Pass

4♣

Pass

4♥

Pass

4NT

All Pass

4NT by South

Baker Blackwood 3

Very interesting! If partner's 1NT bid happens to include 3 Aces and one King you can count 13 tricks ♠ o you bid 4♣, definitely Gerber following the 1NT opening. Partner answers 4♥. What do you say next?

You almost refuse to believe it! How can partner have a 1NT opener with only 1 Ace? But you trust your partner so you bid 4NT. Everybody passes and you stare in amazement at partner's 16 points.

Wouldn't it have been funny if partner had thought your 4♣ bid was Stayman? And so his 4♥ bid would have been showing a suit. And then your 4NT bid would have been Blackwood. And then he would have answered 5♦ and you would have passed and made it!

Deal 4

East Deals
None Vul

♠ J T 6
♥ 7 3 2
♦ 9 4 2
♣ T 9 6 2

15
1 4
20

♠ K Q 7
♥ A 6 5
♦ Q T 8 3
♣ K J 4

N
W E
S

♠ 5 4 3 2
♥ 9 8 4
♦ A 7 5
♣ 8 7 5

♠ A 9 8
♥ K Q J T
♦ K J 6
♣ A Q 3

Baker Blackwood 4

With a 20 point balanced hand you open 2NT.
What do you rebid after partner jumps to 4♣?

The 4♣ bid is Gerber and your correct response with 2 Aces is 4♠. Partner now bids 6NT and since he is the Captain you pass.

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	4♠

6NT by North

Deal 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 7 5
 ♥ 7 5
 ♦ A 9 8 7 2
 ♣ K 6 2

9
 7 8
 16

♠ 8 4
 ♥ A J T 8 6 3
 ♦ 6 3
 ♣ A 7 5

	N		♠ Q J 9 6 3 2
W		E	♥ Q
	S		♦ -
			♣ Q J T 9 4 3

♠ A K
 ♥ K 9 4 2
 ♦ K Q J T 5 4
 ♣ 8

West	North	East	South
	2♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

6♥ by South

Baker Blackwood 5

Partner opens a Weak 2-bid and catches you with a blockbuster. The only thing you want to know about his hand now is how many Aces he has. So you bid 4NT. Partner answers 5♥. What do you bid?

That makes it simple, with 2 Aces you bid a confident 6♥. If he had 1 Ace you would have bid an also confident 5♥. If he had zero Aces you would have been in a spot of trouble. And if he had 3 Aces you would have asked him how he could open a Weak-2 with that many points.

Deal 6

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 3 2
♥ 6 4 3
♦ J 7 4
♣ A T 8 2

19
5 3
13

♠ K 5
♥ A 9 8 5
♦ A Q
♣ K Q J 5 4

N
W E
S

♠ Q J T 4
♥ 7 2
♦ 9 5 3 2
♣ 9 7 6

♠ A 9 8 6
♥ K Q J T
♦ K T 8 6
♣ 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
All Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥

6♥ by South

Baker Blackwood 6

You MIGHT say that with 13 points and partner controlling the ♣s you could jump to 2NT, "To show you my points, partner." You might say it but you won't because your first priority is to look for a Major suit fit. You bid 1♥ (skipping ♦s with the two Majors). Partner now jumps to 4♥. What do you say?

Partner says you can make game even if you have a minimum 6 points. So he must have about 20. So you think you can make slam and you bid 4NT. Partner answers 5♥. What do you bid?

Partner shows 2 Aces so you bid 6♥.

Deal 7

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 8 7 2
 ♥ J 7 6
 ♦ 5 2
 ♣ J 6 4

14
 3 4
 19

♠ Q T 6
 ♥ A Q 5
 ♦ T 8 7
 ♣ A Q 5 2

N
 W E
 S

♠ 5 4 3
 ♥ 9 8 4 3 2
 ♦ A 6 3
 ♣ 9 7

♠ A K
 ♥ K T
 ♦ K Q J 9 4
 ♣ K T 8 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	2NT	Pass	1♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	4♣
			6NT

6NT by South

Baker Blackwood 7
 You dealt this hand.

You have 20 points and it would not be terrible to open 2NT. However, strictly speaking you shouldn't open 2NT with two doubletons. So you open 1♦. Partner responds with a jump to 2NT. What do you bid?

With partner's 13-15 added onto your 20, bidding 6NT would be a reasonable bid. However, it costs nothing to check for Aces first, so you bid 4♣. (Everybody agrees this is Gerber, right?) Partner answers 4♠. What do you bid?

Easy, missing one Ace you bid 6NT.

Deal 8

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 6 5
♥ 9 8 7 3 2
♦ Q 7 3
♣ 7 2

11
5 2
22

♠ A Q J 8 7 3

♥ 6

♦ T 8 6

♣ A 6 3

	N		♠ 4
W		♥ J 4	
	E		♦ J 9 5 4 2
	S		♣ T 9 8 5 4

♠ T 9 2
♥ A K Q T 5
♦ A K
♣ K Q J

West	North	East	South
	1♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	6NT
Pass			

6NT by South

Baker Blackwood 8
You dealt this hand.

With 13 points and a good Major suit you naturally open 1♠. Partner responds 3♥. What do you bid next?

We are playing strong jump-shifts by Responder so partner is showing 17+ points. However, you are still stuck with your minimum opening so you just rebid 3♠. Partner bids 4NT. What is your reply?

He asks for Aces so you bid 5♥ showing 2. He now bids 5NT. What do you say?

You have no King. So you reply 6♣ and partner bids 6NT (safer than 6♠).

Deal 9

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 9
♥ J T
♦ A T 9 5 3 2
♣ Q J 7 6

6
8 6
20

♠ 6 4 2
♥ A Q 9 7 4 2
♦ -
♣ 8 5 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q J T 8 7 5 3
♥ 6
♦ 8 7 6
♣ K T

♠ A K
♥ K 8 5 3
♦ K Q J 4
♣ A 9 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♥	Pass	4NT
All Pass	6♦	Pass	6♥

6♥ by South

Baker Blackwood 9

You need to find out about Aces so you bid 4NT. Partner says 6♦. What do you bid?

Partner has shown one Ace and a ♦ void. As to what you bid, that's easy. You have no choice now but to say 6♥. This is a pretty good slam, but it is not cold. Maybe East will not lead a ♣. Or maybe West will have the ♦ A.

Deal 10

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 3
♥ T 8 6
♦ 7 3
♣ J T 9 8 7 5 2

24
1 5
10

♠ K Q 4
♥ K Q J 3
♦ K Q J 5
♣ A K

N
W E
S

♠ J 9 8 6 5 2
♥ A 7 4
♦ 9 4 2
♣ 4

♠ A T 7
♥ 9 5 2
♦ A T 8 6
♣ Q 6 3

Baker Blackwood 10

Not everybody responds to 2♣ openers the same way. But with 9 balanced points 2NT is reasonable. Partner jumps to 4♣. What do you bid?

With 2 Aces your response is 4♠. Partner bids 6NT and you pass.

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
	6NT	All Pass	

6NT by North

Deal 11

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 5
♥ J 5 4
♦ T 9 6 3
♣ Q T 6 4

23
3 2
12

♠ A T
♥ A K 7 6
♦ A 8 5
♣ A K J 5

N
W E
S

♠ 7 2
♥ Q T 9 8 2
♦ 7 2
♣ 9 8 3 2

♠ K Q J 8 6 4 3
♥ 3
♦ K Q J 4
♣ 7

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♣
All Pass	4♦	Pass	7NT

7NT by South

Baker Blackwood 11

Interesting hand. Too bad these only come up in lessons and never at the table! You could jump right into Ace-asking but there is no rush so you say 2♠. Partner now rebids 2NT. What do you say?

Now you know all about partner's hand. 22-24 points, balanced. Now ask for Aces. If you agree that 4♣ is Gerber here then that's what you should bid. If not, then you would have to use Blackwood. Partner answers 4♦. What do you say?

The 4♦ reply says either zero or all four. Put your money on all four and bid 7NT.

Deal 12North Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 5 4

♥ A 8 6 5 4

♦ 9 5 2

♣ 9 2

20

4 2

14

♠ A Q J 2

♥ K Q J

♦ J 6

♣ K Q J 8

N
W
E
S

♠ 6

♥ T 9 7 3

♦ Q 8 7 3

♣ T 6 5 4

♠ K T 9 8 3

♥ 2

♦ A K T 4

♣ A 7 3

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

6 ♠ by South

Baker Blackwood 12

With 15 points and a nice 5-card suit you respond 1♠. Partner jumps to 4♠. What do you say?

Do NOT say "Partner bid a close-out bid so I'll pass." Partner's bid means he thinks you can make 4♠ even though he is only counting you for 6 points. Since you have 15+ now you want to go for more. You bid 4NT and partner answers 5♦. What do you say next?

Partner has 1 Ace so you can go no higher than 6. Although you can't tell for sure that slam will make, remember you used Blackwood just to be sure you weren't missing two Aces. You are not and you have enough points so you bid it. Although you can see that 6NT would have been a great contract you had to take the safer 6♠.

Deal 13

North Deals

Both Vul

♠ 6 5 4
♥ 5
♦ A T 4
♣ 9 7 5 4 3 2

20
4 5
11

♠ A K J 8 3

♥ K Q 7 6

♦ 9 8

♣ A K

N
W E
S

♠ 7
♥ T 9 8 2
♦ K J 6 5 3 2
♣ J 8

♠ Q T 9 2
♥ A J 4 3
♦ Q 7
♣ Q T 6

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 ♠	All Pass	

4 ♠ by North

Baker Blackwood 13
You dealt this hand.

You aren't strong enough to open 2♣ so you bid 1♠. Partner responds 3♠. What do you say?

Partner's limit-raise shows 11-12 points and you revalue your hand up to 22. So you are definitely in slam territory. You hope partner has 2 Aces but you cannot use Blackwood with that worthless doubleton in ♦s. Instead you make a control-showing bid of 4♣. Partner then bids 4♥. What do you bid next?

The good news is that partner's control-showing bid says he has the ♥A. The bad news is that he bypassed ♦s so he does not have the ♦A. Since you may have 2 quick losers in ♦s you sign off at 4♠.

Deal 14

East Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 7
♥ 7 2
♦ 8 6 5 4 2
♣ A 8 5

16
5 2
17

♠ Q 8 5
♥ A K 4
♦ K J T
♣ K T 4 3

N
W E
S

♠ A K 4 3
♥ Q J 8 6
♦ A 9
♣ Q J 6

♠ T 6 2
♥ T 9 5 3
♦ Q 7 3
♣ 9 7 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	4NT	Pass	1NT
All Pass			6NT

6NT by South

Baker Blackwood 14

Decide what you would bid, then on BID above.

You have a textbook 1NT opener, so you open 1NT. Partner says 4NT. What do you bid?

THIS IS NOT BLACKWOOD. Partner's bid is the Quantitative 4NT. He has 16 points and is inviting you to bid slam if you have a maximum opener, but to pass with a minimum. Since your 17 point hand is at the top of the 1NT range you accept the invitation and bid 6NT.

Deal 15

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T
♥ Q T
♦ 9 8 6 4 2
♣ Q J T 8 4

12
5 7
16

♠ 9 6 4
♥ A J 9 5 3
♦ A Q J 3
♣ 7

N
W E
S

♠ A 7 5 2
♥ 2
♦ K T 5
♣ 9 6 5 3 2

♠ K Q J 8 3
♥ K 8 7 6 4
♦ 7
♣ A K

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

6♥ by South

Baker Blackwood 15

You COULD make a Splinter Bid with this hand. You have a singleton ♦ and great trump support. However it is usually not worthwhile Splintering when you have the strong hand that will be taking control. Since what you really want to know is how many Aces partner has you just ask him with a 4NT bid. Partner answers 5♥. What do you bid?

Missing one Ace you bid 6♥.

Deal 16

North Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9 8 5
♥ A T 7 3
♦ 7 2
♣ T 9 8

17
5 3
15

♠ K Q 7 2
♥ Q 4
♦ A Q 8 4
♣ A 5 2

N
W E
S

♠ -
♥ J 9 6 5 2
♦ T 9 6 3
♣ Q 7 4 3

♠ A T 6 4 3
♥ K 8
♦ K J 5
♣ K J 6

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

6♠ by South

Baker Blackwood 16

Decide what you would bid, then on BID above.

You have a good hand, but not good enough to jump-shift at your first turn. So you respond 1♠. Partner now jumps to 3♠. What do you bid?

Partner has 16-18 points and ♠ support. It depends on the Aces so you bid 4NT. His answer is 5♥. What do you say?

You are missing one Ace but 6♠ should be a good slam.

Deal 17

South Deals
None Vul

♠ T 9 8 7 6 2
♥ 8 7
♦ 9 6
♣ K 7 2

15	3	6									
16	16	16									
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center; vertical-align: bottom;">♠</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center; vertical-align: bottom;">K Q J</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center; vertical-align: bottom;">♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">♥</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">A J 4</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">♦ A T 5 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">♣</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">J T 8</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">♣</td> </tr> </table>			♠	K Q J	♦	♥	A J 4	♦ A T 5 3	♣	J T 8	♣
♠	K Q J	♦									
♥	A J 4	♦ A T 5 3									
♣	J T 8	♣									

♠ 4
 ♥ T 9 6 3 2
 ♦ 2
 ♣ A Q 6 5 4 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

6 ♦ by North

Baker Blackwood 17

After toying with the idea of a jump to 6NT, or perhaps a Gerber 4♦, you decide to bid 3♦. Partner rebids 4♦ and it is your turn.

Time to check for Aces. You bid 4NT and partner answers 5. What do you bid?

Tempting though it may be it is too dangerous to try 6NT. So you bid 6♦ which turns out to be laydown while 6NT would have been down 4.

Deal 18

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 6
♥ J 8 3
♦ K 9 6 5 4
♣ Q 7 4 2

18
6 9
7

♠ K T 7 4 2	♦ A	♣ K J 8 6 3
♥ A K		
	♦ Q T 7 5 2	
	♦ Q J T 2	
	♣ A T 9 5	
	♠ -	
	♥ 9 6 4	
	♦ 8 7 3	
	♣ -	

N		
W	E	
		S

West	North	East	South
			3♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

7♠ by North

Baker Blackwood 18
You dealt this hand.

You decide to preempt 3♠ with this hand. Partner's eyes wobble and he jumps straight to 4NT. What do you bid?

With 1 Ace and a void in a lower-ranking suit you should bid 6 of that suit. So you bid 6♣. Partner jumps again, this time to 7♠. What do you b . . . oh never mind.

Deal 19

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 6 2

♥ A 2

♦ T 7 5 3

♣ T 5 3 2

♠ K Q J

♥ J 9 7

♦ K Q J

♣ A Q J 7

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 8 5 4 3

♥ -

♦ A 9 8 6 2

♣ 9 8 4

20

4

12

♠ A 7

♥ K Q T 8 6 5 4 3

♦ 4

♣ K 6

West	North	East	South
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♣
	4♥	All Pass	

4 ♥ by North

Baker Blackwood 19

If you play Jacoby Transfers you may think of transferring partner to ♥s, then bidding the slam. but with this hand there really is no big advantage for partner being the Declarer so you decide to just take the bull by the horns. You bid a Gerber 4♣. Partner says 4♥. What do you bid?

Partner has only a single Ace in his 2NT opener. No slam for your team. You pass and let partner be the Declarer after all!

Deal 20

South Deals

Both Vul

♠ Q T 2
 ♥ -
 ♦ Q 7 5 2
 ♣ K J T 9 5 2

11
 8 7
 14

♠ A 8 4 3
 ♥ Q J 9 8 6
 ♦ A 9 8 4
 ♣ -
 N
 W E
 S

♠ 9 7 6 5
 ♥ T 4
 ♦ J T 3
 ♣ A Q 6 4

♠ K J

♥ A K 7 5 3 2

♦ K 6

♣ 8 7 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	5NT	Pass	4NT
All Pass			7♥

7♥ by South

Baker Blackwood 20

Your 4♣ bid is a Splinter Bid, showing an opening hand with good ♥ support and either a singleton or a void in ♣s. Decide what you would reply to partner's 4NT, then on BID above.

With 2 Aces and a void the correct response is 5NT. Partner now bids 7♥. Notice how he cleverly figured out your void must be in ♣s.