

**Deal 1**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K 10 7 6 3

♥ A 6 5 3 2

♦ J 2

♣ A

11  
12 2  
15

♠ A J 9

♥ 10 9 4

♦ K 3

♣ Q J 10 6 3


 ♠ Q 5 2  
 ♥ 8 7  
 ♦ 10 8 7 6 4  
 ♣ 8 5 4

 ♠ 8 4  
 ♥ K Q J  
 ♦ A Q 9 5  
 ♣ K 9 7 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♠	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
ALL	Pass		
3 NT by North			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid.

You have a sound 2-level overcall. You bid 2 ♣ and partner replies 2 ♠. What is your next bid?

Partner's cue-bid obviously forces you to bid. Partner's hand might be very distributional, but rather than just sticking to ♣s you suggest with 2 NT. This guarantees you have ♠s stopped. Partner likes your suggestion and bids 3 NT.

**Deal 2**

South Deals	♠ 9 6 4
None Vul	♥ 8 6 3
	♦ 8 5 4 2
	♣ 9 5 4
♠ K Q J 10 5	♠ 8 3
♥ Q 10 7	W N E
♦ A J 3	♦ A J 9
♣ 8 7	♦ K Q 9 7



♣ Q J 10 6	♣ A 7 2
	♥ K 5 4 2
	♦ 10 6
	♣ A K 3 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♣
1 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
3 NT by East			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

Balanced hand, poor support for partner's suit, stoppers in their suit and 13 points. You couldn't get a better hand to jump to 2 NT. Partner takes you to 3 NT.

**Deal 3**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K 9 2  
♥ A J 3 2  
♦ 8 3  
♣ A 8 6 5

8  
12 4  
16

♠ 8 3  
♥ K 8 5  
♦ K Q 10 9 6 4  
♣ 7 2

N  
W E  
S

♠ Q 7 6 5 4  
♥ 9 6 4  
♦ J 2  
♣ J 4 3

♠ A J 10  
♥ Q 10 7  
♦ A 7 5  
♣ K Q 10 9

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♣	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 NT
ALL	Pass		
3 NT by South			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid.

With a good 6-card suit and 10 points you make a Weak Jump Overcall to 2 ♦. Partner says 2 NT.

The 2 NT bid is a standard response to a Weak 2-bid. It asks for the identification of any outside high-card if the Weak 2-bidder has more than a minimum. Here you are in the top range for your bid so you show your ♥ K.

That was apparently the missing link for partner, he now says 3 NT.

<b>Deal 4</b>	♠ J 7 6 4		
South Deals	♥ Q J 6 5 3		
None Vul	♦ 10 5 4		
	♣ J		
♠ K Q 10 9 3 2	♠ A 8 5		
♥ 8 4 2	♥ A K 7		
♦ A 7	♦ K J 6		
♣ 9 2	♣ 10 8 6 4		
	♠ —		
5	♥ 10 9		
9 15	♦ Q 9 8 3 2		
11	♣ A K Q 7 5 3		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		
4 ♠ by West			1 ♣

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

You might just try 4♠. Of course if partner has a minimum Weak Jump Overcall that will get you much too high. A better approach is to ask for more information from partner. The bid that asks is 2 NT. Partner replies 3♦.

Partner's 3♦ bid tells you two things. One, he is in the top half of his 6-11 point range. Two, he has a high card (Ace or King) in ♦s. When you construct a hand for him which contains 6 pretty good ♠s and the ♦ A you come up with a hand which will probably make game. Bid 4♠.