

**Deal 1**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 7 5  
♥ Q 10 2  
♦ Q J 9 5  
♣ 10 9 3

<sup>15</sup>  
7    10  
8

♠ A 4  
♥ K J 9 8  
♦ 10 8 7 2  
♣ 8 6 5

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	Pass

Pass

1 NT by North

♠ K 10 8 2  
♥ 7 4  
♦ A K 6 3  
♣ A J 7

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

W	N	E	S
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North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

If partner has a 4-card ♥ suit to match yours you could revalue your hand and add a point for your doubleton ♠. That would give you the 9 points you need for an invitational response.

It is far too risky to play for that possibility. So you just pass.

**Deal 2**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 8 6 2  
♥ K 5 4 2  
♦ 3  
♣ A J 4 2

9  
8 6  
17

♠ A 4  
♥ A J 9 8  
♦ 10 8 7 2  
♣ 8 6 5

N  
W E  
S

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

♠ K Q J 5  
♥ 10 6 3  
♦ A Q 9  
♣ K Q 10

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

3 NT by South

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You have 9 points and a 4-card Major. Just enough for an invitational Stayman sequence. You bid 2 ♣ and partner answers 2 ♠. What do you bid next?

Partner has the wrong Major. Now that you know there is no 8-card Major fit you must go to notrump. And since you don't have the strength to insist on game you say 2 NT which is an invitation for partner to bid 3 NT if he has a maximum.

He has a maximum and he bids 3 NT.

**Deal 3**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 4 2  
♥ Q 10  
♦ Q 7 6 4 2  
♣ K Q 10

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 9 8 3  
♥ A K 5  
♦ A 9 5  
♣ J 9 4

16  
9 6  
9

♠ J 5  
♥ J 8 7 3 2  
♦ 3  
♣ A 8 6 5 2

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠ by North

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

Of course you bid 2 ♣. Partner now bids 2 ♠. What is your next bid?

Partner hit your suit. When you add a point for your doubleton ♣ you are up to 10 points. This is the situation where you have to use your judgement, either to invite or to bid the game yourself.

There is really no right or wrong here, between 3 ♠ and 4 ♠. Those extra T's and 9's swing you to 4 ♠. As you see it will be a close call, but even if you misguess the ♦ finesse you will still establish a ♦ winner for a discard.

**Deal 4**  
South Deals  
None Vul

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

N  
W E  
S

♠ 8  
♥ 10 8 3  
♦ J 9 7 2  
♣ A 10 9 5 2

♠ 9 6 5  
♥ A 9  
♦ A Q 10 5  
♣ K Q 8 6

West      North      East      South  
12      8 5      15

Pass      2 ♣      Pass      2 ♦  
Pass      3 NT      Pass      Pass  
Pass

3 NT by South

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

Both Majors! Lucky you. So you bid a Stayman 2 ♣. Unfortunately partner comes back with 2 ♦. What is your next bid?

Partner doesn't have a 4-card Major so your side doesn't have an 8-card Major fit. Therefore you will play in notrump. And with your 12 points you MUST play in game. So you bid 3 NT.

**Deal 5**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 5  
♥ 10 7 4  
♦ Q J 10 8 6  
♣ J 10 6

♠ 10 9 8 2

♥ K Q 6

♦ A 9 4

♣ A K 5

**16**  
**8 5**  
**11**

♠ K Q J 3

♥ A J 5

♦ 7 2

♣ 9 8 4 3

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠ by North

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

With 11 points and a 4-card Major suit you bid 2 ♣. Partner answers 2 ♠. What is your next bid?

Stayman bidding can be very straightforward. Partner has 4 ♠s, you have 4 ♠s. That makes 8. Partner has 15-17 points, you have 11-12 points. That makes 26-29.

You bid 4 ♠.

**Deal 6**  
South Deals  
None Vul

♠ J 8 6 3 2  
♥ 6 4 3  
♦ 10 8 3  
♣ 7 5

**18**  
**1 5**  
**16**

♠ A 10 9 4  
♥ K J 10 7  
♦ A J  
♣ K Q 3

♠ 7  
♥ A 8 2  
♦ 7 6 5 2  
♣ J 10 9 8 4

N  
W E  
S

West      North      East      South  
Pass      2 ♣      Pass      1 NT  
Pass      6 NT      Pass      Pass  
Pass  
6 NT by South

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You have a very big hand. Enormous. But you also have two 4-card Majors, so the first step is Stayman. You bid 2♣ and partner replies 2♦. What do you bid next?

You have 18 points and partner has 15, 16 or 17. Your total is between 33 and 35. You have enough POINTS for a small slam, not enough for a grand. You have no Major suit fit, and are happy to play notrump.

There is a lot to be said for bidding 6 NT immediately. You could ask for Aces if you like but whether partner shows one or two isn't going to change your decision. Be bold.