

**Deal 1**West Deals  
None Vul

♠ A 2  
 ♥ K Q 10  
 ♦ K Q 10 3  
 ♣ J 9 8 4

**14**  
**15** 8  
 3  
 ♣ 10 2

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Dbl	Pass	<b>2 ♠</b>
Pass	Pass	Pass	
<b>2 ♠</b> by South			

Partner's double asks you to bid 2 ♠ as a relay bid so he can name his suit.

But you don't want him to bid his 6-card suit, your hand is useless unless ♠s are trumps. So ignore the relay request and bid 2 ♠. Everybody passes.

**Deal 2**  
West Deals  
None Vul

♠ K 8 3      ♠ A J 9 7  
♥ A 10 5 4    ♦ J 7 3  
♦ A J 10 9    ♦ K Q 5  
♣ K 3          ♣ Q J 4

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

♠ 4  
14  
15 6  
5  
♣ 10 7 5

N  
W E  
S

West      North      East      South  
1 NT      Pass      Pass      Dbl  
Pass      2 ♣      Pass      2 ♥  
Pass      Pass      Pass  
2 ♥ by South

In the balancing seat it is distribution that counts, not point count. With a 6-card Major suit and a singleton you should not let them play 1 NT. Youdouble.

Partner makes the relay bid of 2 ♣.

You bid your suit, 2 ♥, and everybody passes. Notice that partner had a decent hand, but could not bid over 1 NT in the immediate seat.

**Deal 3**

East Deals

None Vul

**♠ Q J 5 4**  
**♥ A Q 10 9 7**  
**♦ 10**  
**♣ 10 8 7**

	N	
W		E
	S	

**♠ K 2**  
**♥ 6 3**  
**♦ 7 5 3**  
**♣ K J 9 6 5 3**

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

**7**  
**9 15**  
**9**  
**♣ Q**

West	North	East	South
Pass	Dbl	1 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	<b>2 ♣</b>
<b>2 ♣ by South</b>			

You don't have a 6-card suit, nor do you have a 5-4 pair of suits. So even with a singleton you don't want to use DONT here. So you pass.

Partner makes a DONT double in the balancing seat.

Right now you probably have a premonition about what is going to happen next. But there really is nothing you can say other than **2 ♣**.

Your premonition came true. Partner passes and you are left playing **2 ♣** with a singleton. Nobody promised that DONT would always get you to a good contract.

**Deal 4**

West Deals

None Vul

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

<table border="0"> <tr><td>♠ A 10 7 2</td><td>♦ 8 5</td></tr> <tr><td>♥ A 9 5</td><td>♦ 8 2</td></tr> <tr><td>♦ A K 3</td><td>♦ 10 9 6</td></tr> <tr><td>♣ Q 10 7</td><td>♣ A K J 9 8 3</td></tr> </table>	♠ A 10 7 2	♦ 8 5	♥ A 9 5	♦ 8 2	♦ A K 3	♦ 10 9 6	♣ Q 10 7	♣ A K J 9 8 3	<table border="0"> <tr><td>♠ K Q 9 6 3</td><td>♦ 6</td></tr> <tr><td>♥ 6</td><td>♦ Q J 8 4 2</td></tr> <tr><td>♦ 5 4</td><td>♣ 5 4</td></tr> </table>	♠ K Q 9 6 3	♦ 6	♥ 6	♦ Q J 8 4 2	♦ 5 4	♣ 5 4
♠ A 10 7 2	♦ 8 5														
♥ A 9 5	♦ 8 2														
♦ A K 3	♦ 10 9 6														
♣ Q 10 7	♣ A K J 9 8 3														
♠ K Q 9 6 3	♦ 6														
♥ 6	♦ Q J 8 4 2														
♦ 5 4	♣ 5 4														
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<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Dbl	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
2 ♥ by South			

You only have 8 HCP but with such a good 6-card suit you should interfere with a DONT bid. You double and partner surprises you by saying 2 ♥.

There is a reason partner didn't say 2 ♣ (which you were going to pass). And the reason is that he figures you will be better off in his ♥s. Since you trust your partner you pass.

**Deal 5**East Deals  
None Vul

♠ A 9 4 2  
 ♥ 9 3  
 ♦ 8 3 2  
 ♣ 10 5 4 2

8  
 4 15  
 13

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

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

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 NT	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by South			

Since partner has entered the bidding in the immediate seat he should have a pretty good hand, with 9+ cards in ♥s and ♠s.

Usually you are happy to settle for partscore after a DONT sequence, but with such an excellent fit for ♥s your hand is worth a raise.

So you bid 3 ♥ and partner says 4 ♥.