

**Deal 1**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

17  
3 6  
14

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



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

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1 NT  | Pass | 2 ♦   |
| Pass | 3 ♥   | Pass | 4 ♣   |
| Pass | 4 ♦   | Pass | 6 ♥   |
| ALL  | Pass  |      |       |

6 ♥ by North

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.  
What do you bid?

Just hold it a minute and DO NOT say 2 ♥. True, when partner transfers, you almost always just obey and complete the transfer. This is the one time when you don't. You had a 17 point 1 NT opener with 4 ♥s and a doubleton. As soon as partner told you to bid ♥s your hand became worth 18 points because of the good trump support and the doubleton. So you inform partner of this by making the "super-accept" bid of 3 ♥. In other words, you complete the transfer with a jump.

Partner's eyes get big (but you aren't allowed to notice that) and he bids 4 ♣.

What do you bid?

Partner's ♣ bid was not a suit, you already have an agreed suit, ♥s. The ♣ bid was showing you first round control in ♣s, and is a slam try by partner.

You continue the search for slam by showing your first round ♦ control, you bid 4 ♦.

That was all partner needed to hear, he jumps straight to 6 ♥.

**Deal 2**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 9 8 5 3

♥ 7 2

♦ 8 6 4 2

♣ A 3

5  
6 20  
9

♠ 6

♥ Q J 10 9 6 5 3

♦ J 10

♣ J 7 2

N  
W E  
S

♠ A K 7 2

♥ 8 4

♦ Q 5 3

♣ 10 6 5 4

♠ J 10 4

♥ A K

♦ A K 9 7

♣ K Q 9 8

*West**North**East**South*

3 ♥

3 NT

Pass

4 ♠ by East

Pass

Pass

Pass

2 NT

3 ♠

4 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

You open 2 NT and partner responds 3 ♥.  
What do you bid?

You bid 3 ♠, just as partner asked. He  
puts you in game at 3 NT. What do you  
say? Bid or pass?

Bid of course. You have an 8-card ♠ fit so  
you prefer ♠s to notrump.

As you can see, 3 NT would surely go  
down with a ♥ lead, while 4 ♠ is cold.

One hand doesn't mean it will always be  
like this, but usually if you have an 8-card  
fit the Major suit game will be better than  
3 NT.

**Deal 3**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ Q 9 7 4  
♥ 4 2  
♦ 4 3 2  
♣ A 7 5 2

15  
6 3  
16

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



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

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

| West         | North | East | South |
|--------------|-------|------|-------|
|              |       |      | 1 NT  |
| Pass         | 2 ♦   | Pass | 2 ♥   |
| Pass         | 4 NT  | Pass | 6 ♥   |
| Pass         | Pass  | Pass |       |
| 6 ♥ by South |       |      |       |

suit. So you bid 6 ♥.

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦. What do you bid?

You are very close to being strong enough for a "Super-accept", but with this hand you should just complete the transfer to 2 ♥.

Partner now says 4 NT. What do you bid?

If you don't remember Deal 9 go back and look at it now. Partner is not bidding Blackwood, he has about 16 points and is inviting you to bid a slam if you have a maximum. He is also telling you that he has just 5 ♥s and wants you to decide between the suit contract and notrump.

Once you understand partner's bid, your next move is simple. You have a maximum and you prefer to play in the

**Deal 4**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q 6 4

♥ J 6

♦ A K 7 5

♣ J 8 3

6  
15 15  
4

♠ K 10 9 7

♥ 8 2

♦ J 8 6

♣ Q 9 6 5

N  
W E  
S

♠ 8 5 2

♥ Q 10 7 4

♦ Q 10 9 3

♣ 10 4

♠ J 3

♥ A K 9 5 3

♦ 4 2

♣ A K 7 2

| West         | North | East | South |
|--------------|-------|------|-------|
| 1 NT         | Pass  | 2 ♦  | Pass  |
| 2 ♥          | Pass  | 3 ♣  | Pass  |
| 3 NT         | Pass  | Pass | Pass  |
| 3 NT by West |       |      |       |

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.  
What do you bid?

You complete the transfer by bidding 2 ♥.

Partner now says 3 ♣. What do you bid?

Partner has 5 ♥s and probably 4 ♣s.

He is interested in slam and wants help from you in either of his suits. You have a minimum 1 NT opener and no help for him so you try to dampen his enthusiasm by bidding 3 NT. It works.

**Deal 5**

North Deals

None Vul

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

15  
 12 0  
 13

West

2 ♠

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ 9 4

♥ A 8 6

♦ A K 9 7

♣ A 8 6 5

N  
 W E  
 S

♠ A J 10

♥ K Q J 9 3

♦ Q 4 3

♣ 7 2

North

1 NT

Pass

4 ♥

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♦

3 NT

Pass

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦. However, your Right Hand Opponent injects a 2 ♠ overcall.

What do you bid?

You don't want to bid 3 ♥ because partner might have a very weak hand. Since you don't really have anything to add to your opening bid you PASS.

Remember, you have a partner who heard your first bid and he knows more about the hand than you do. And he now bids 3 NT. What do you say now?

Aha! Partner does have a good hand, at least 11 points and with 5 ♥s.

You have a minimum, but with 3 ♥s you prefer the suit game to 3 NT so you bid

4 ♥.

**Deal 6**

East Deals  
None Vul

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

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



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

13  
2 16  
9

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

| West        | North | East | South |
|-------------|-------|------|-------|
|             |       | 1 NT | Pass  |
| 2 ♦         | 2 ♠   | 3 ♥  | Pass  |
| Pass        | Pass  |      |       |
| 3 ♥ by East |       |      |       |

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦. However, your Right Hand Opponent injects a 2 ♠ overcall.

What do you bid?

More often than not it is correct to pass after an opponent overcalls your partner's transfer response. This is because your partner might be very weak, and in any case your partner knows a lot about your hand while you don't know much about his.

However, in this case you know that your side has at least 9 ♥s, and you are weak in ♠s. So you bid 3 ♥, knowing that even if you go down it may be better than letting them play ♠s.