

Deal 1

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 8 3

♥ 7 6

♦ K Q J 10 6

♣ K J 4

12 11
13

♠ K 5
♥ J 10 5 3
♦ 9 7 4 2
♣ 8 7 3



♠ J 10 7 2
♥ Q 4 2
♦ A 5 3
♣ A 9 2

♠ A 9 6 4
♥ A K 9 8
♦ 8
♣ Q 10 6 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	Dbl
Pass			Pass
1 ♥ by North			

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

You have a perfect hand for a Takeout Double. Singleton in their suit, 4-card support for the other three suits and 13 HCP. You Double. Partner responds 1 ♥. What do you say next? [BID pass]

Yes, you like the ♥s. But remember, you forced partner to bid and his response showed 8 or fewer points. You are not strong enough to consider a game so you pass.

Deal 2East Deals
None Vul

♠ J 7 5 2
 ♥ 7 5 2
 ♦ J 4
 ♣ Q 10 9 7

7
 4 12
 17

West
 Pass
 Pass
 Pass
 4♦ by North

♠ A 9 8 3
 ♥ Q J
 ♦ 7 6 5 2
 ♣ 8 4 3

N
 W E
 S

♠ 6
 ♥ 10 6 4 3
 ♦ A K Q 10 9 3
 ♣ K 2

♠ K Q 10 4
 ♥ A K 9 8
 ♦ 8
 ♣ A J 6 5

North East South
 1♦ Dbl
 Pass 2♦
 Pass Pass

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

Naturally you make a Takeout Double. Partner responds 1♦. What is your next call? [BID 2♦]

With 17 HCP and the singleton you are not strong enough to insist on game. On the other hand if partner is at the top of his 0-8 point range then game is likely. A raise to 2♦ invites partner to bid game with a maximum. Partner accepts the invitation.

Deal 3East Deals
None Vul

♠ J 8 5
♥ 9 7
♦ K 9 5 3 2
♣ 10 8 5

3
4 14
19

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

♠ K 6 2
♥ 10 8 5 3
♦ 8 6 4
♣ 9 6 4



♠ 10 9 7 3
♥ A 4 2
♦ A
♣ K Q J 7 2

♠ A Q 4
♥ K Q J 6
♦ Q J 10 7
♣ A 3

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

With 19 HCP and a doubleton you certainly double. What do you bid after partner replies 1 ♥? [BID 3 ♥]

You need to make a strong invitation since partner needs very little for your side to have a game. So you bid 3 ♥. Partner has almost nothing so he passes. Good thing.

Deal 4East Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 7 5
 ♥ 4 3 2
 ♦ K 9 6 4
 ♣ 9 8 4

9
 3 17
 11

♠ K J 8 3
 ♥ Q 7 5
 ♦ 7 3
 ♣ K 6 5 2

N
 W E
 S

♠ 9 2
 ♥ A K J 10 9 6
 ♦ A Q 5
 ♣ Q J

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

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

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

This is certainly not a great hand, but at least the shape is good. You should strive to get into the bidding whenever possible, and with this hand the only way in is to double. Partner jumps to 2 ♠ and it is your bid again. [BID pass]

Partner shows 9-11 points and a ♠ suit. However, he didn't force you to game, and you barely scraped up the double to begin with. So you pass.

Deal 5East Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 7 5
 ♥ 4 3 2
 ♦ Q 9 6 4
 ♣ 9 8 4

9
 2 15
 14

♠ K J 8 3
 ♥ Q 7 5
 ♦ 7 3
 ♣ K 6 5 2

W N E
 S

♠ 9 2
 ♥ A K J 10 9 6
 ♦ K J 5
 ♣ Q J

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 ♥	Dbl
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♠ by North			

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

This is almost the hand you held in Deal 4 - just 3 points stronger in ♦s. So you double, and again partner jumps to 2 ♠. What do you bid? [BID 4 ♠]

That extra 3 points makes all the difference. With that singleton ♥ your hand is now worth at least 16 points. Add partner's 9, T or 11 and you are at game level. Bid 4 ♠.

Deal 6
East Deals
None Vul

♠ 3
♥ 10 8 6 5 2
♦ 10 2
♣ J 10 6 4 3

N
W E
S

♠ A 7 4 2
♥ 9
♦ K Q J 8 5 4
♣ Q 2

♠ J 10 8 6
♥ K Q 4
♦ A 7
♣ A 9 8 5

West North East South

Pass 2 ♦ 3 ♦ 3 ♠

Pass 4 ♠ Pass Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by South

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

You'd really like to have 4-card support for both Majors when you double a Minor. But it's not a requirement. So you double and hear partner respond 2 ♦. East then chips in with 3 ♦. What now? [BID 3 ♠]

Don't let East's bid bother you, he's just trying to push the envelope. You have a good hand and partner's bid shows 12+ points and is forcing to game. Now you have to find the right game, and the best way to start is by showing a 4-card Major suit. You bid 3 ♠.

That was what partner needed to hear, he bids 4 ♠.

Deal 7
East Deals
None Vul

♠ J
♥ 8 6 5
♦ K Q J 7 6
♣ 10 8 4 2

9
7 11
13

N
W E
S

♠ A Q 8 6
♥ 7 4 2
♦ 9 8 3
♣ K 7 5

♠ K 10 7 4 3 2
♥ A J 9
♦ 2
♣ Q J 3

West North East South

Pass 1 NT Pass Dbl

Pass

1 NT by North

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

The minimum requirements for a Takeout Double are 12 points, no more than two of Opener's suit, and at least 3-cards in the other suits. You just squeak by so you double. Partner says 1 NT and it is your bid again. [BID pass]

With no suit fit you can't even count a point for your doubleton so you have just 13 HCP. Partner's bid shows 8-T so you waste no time in passing. Don't worry about the ♠s, partner says he has them covered.

Deal 8
East Deals
None Vul

♠ 3
♥ 8 6 5
♦ 6 4 2
♣ J 10 9 8 4 2

♠ A Q 8 6
♥ 7 4 2
♦ Q 8 3
♣ Q 7 5

N
W E
S

♠ K J 10 7 4 2
♥ A J 9
♦ K 9 7
♣ 3

10
1 12
17

♠ 9 5
♥ K Q 10 3
♦ A J 10 5
♣ A K 6

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

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

Partner is showing you 8-10 points and no 4-card ♥ suit. What do you bid now? [BID 3 NT]

With no Major fit you are happy to play in notrump, knowing partner can stop their suit. Partner's 8-10 points added to your 17 is a probable game so you bid 3 NT.

Deal 9
East Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 10
♥ J 8 5 4
♦ J 10 6 3 2
♣ J 3

5 7
16

♠ 7 6 4 3
♥ 9 6 2
♦ 9 4
♣ A K 8 6

N
W E
S

♠ A J 9 5 2
♥ —
♦ K Q 8
♣ Q 10 7 5 2

♠ K 8
♥ A K Q 10 7 3
♦ A 7 5
♣ 9 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♥ by South			

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

You have 16 HCP and two more points for the fifth and sixth ♥s. That is too strong for a simple overcall. Instead you double. Partner responds 2 ♣. What do you bid? [BID 2 ♥]

You bid 2 ♥, describing your hand as a 1-suited hand, too strong to merely overcall. Partner bids the ♥ game and you pass.

Deal 10

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 4
♥ J 5
♦ K 8 7 3 2
♣ Q 7 6 2

♠ J 9 2
♥ A 9 4 2
♦ Q 9 4
♣ A 8 3

6
11 9
14

N
W E
S

♠ K Q 10 6 3
♥ 10 8 6
♦ 6
♣ K J 10 5

♠ A 8 5
♥ K Q 7 3
♦ A J 10 5
♣ 9 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♣	Pass	1♠	Dbl
Pass	2♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			
2♦ by North			

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

You should double. This is a special case of the Takeout Double, where the opponents have already bid two suits before it gets to you. Since they apparently have at least 20 points, you should have a solid hand with at least 4-4 in the two unbid suits. A hand just like this one.

Partner bids 2♦. What do you say next?
[BID pass]

Just pass. This is obviously a fight for the partscore and you have the advantage because you have found a fit. However, you suspect partner is quite weak.

Deal 11

North Deals	♠ J 8 5 3
None Vul	♥ 10 9 6 2
	♦ Q 9 6
	♣ 7 3
♠ K 2	♠ A Q 10 9 6 4
♥ Q 8 7 5 4	♥ —
♦ 8 3	♦ J 7 4 2
♣ K 8 5 4	♣ 10 6 2

3	7	22
8	7	
22		



<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	2 ♠	Dbl
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by North			

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

Pretty good hand you have. Certainly good enough to make a Takeout Double that forces partner to the 3-level. Partner responds 3 ♥. What do you bid? [BID 4 ♥]

Some questions don't have a correct answer. If partner has ♥ Q x x x along with the ♣ K and ♦ Q he would bid just as he did and slam would be cold. But if he has four small ♥s and nothing else he would bid just as he did and you probably cannot make ten tricks. On balance it is probably best to just bid the most likely reasonable contract, which is 4 ♥.

Deal 12East Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 7 5 3
 ♥ Q 10 6 2
 ♦ 4 3 2
 ♣ 3 2

2 7
20

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



♠ K 6
 ♥ J 9 4
 ♦ K Q 9 7 5
 ♣ Q 8 4

♠ Q J 9
 ♥ A K 8
 ♦ A J 10
 ♣ A J 9 7

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 ♦	Dbl
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 NT by South			

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

You have a perfect 2 NT opening hand. Trouble is, the opponents have already opened. You get around that problem by first making a Takeout Double. Partner replies 1 ♠. What do you bid now? [BID 1 NT]

You could not say 1 NT on your first bid because that would show 15-18 points. Doubling first, then bidding the lowest level of notrump shows 19-20 points. Of course in both cases you must have their suit adequately stopped. Partner does the math and bids 3 NT.

Deal 13East Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 4 3 2
 ♥ Q 6 5 2
 ♦ 9 6 5 3
 ♣ 8

5
 2 11
 22

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

♠ 8 6 5
 ♥ 7 4 3
 ♦ K Q 7 4 2
 ♣ 5 2

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

♠ K Q 9
 ♥ A K 8
 ♦ A J 10
 ♣ A J 9 7

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

You double and partner responds 1♦. What do you bid next? [BID 2 NT]

The pattern continues. Overcall 1 NT with 15-18. Double, then bid notrump with 19-20. Double then jump in notrump with 21-22. So you jump to 2 NT. Partner puts it to 3 NT.

Deal 14West Deals
None Vul

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

18
14 4
 4

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

♠ A K 10 3
 ♥ A J 8 2
 ♦ A Q 6
 ♣ 8 3

♠ 4 2
 ♥ 9 7 6
 ♦ J 9 3
 ♣ Q J 9 5 2

♠ Q 9 6 5
 ♥ Q 4 3
 ♦ 8 5 2
 ♣ 7 6 4

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 1♠]

You have no choice. You absolutely may not pass. So you say 1♠. Partner now bids 2♠. What do you say? [BID pass]

Partner obviously has a good hand. Your response showed 0-8 points and he still found enough strength to invite you to bid game. However, with your 4-point square hand you must decline the invitation.

Deal 15

West Deals	♠ A K J 3
None Vul	♥ 5 2
	♦ K Q 10 6
	♣ K Q 5
♠ 10 8	♠ 7 4 2
♥ A K Q 10 9 6 4	♥ J
♦ A 9 7 2	♦ J 5 3
♣ —	♣ 10 8 7 4 3 2

18	♠ Q 9 6 5
13 2	♥ 8 7 3
7	♦ 8 4
	♣ A J 9 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♥	Dbl	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠ by South

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 1 ♠]

With 7 points you must make a minimum response. Even though ♣s is your best suit you should prefer to show a 4-card Major. So you bid 1 ♠. Partner raises to 2 ♠ and it is your turn to bid. [BID 4 ♠]

Your first response showed 0-8 points. Knowing that, partner still invited you to go on if you were at the high end of the range. With 7 HCP and a doubleton you are right at the maximum for your bid, so you bid 4 ♠.

Deal 16

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q J 10 8 6 3
♥ Q J 7
♦ 5
♣ Q 10

14
11 5
10

♠ 9
♥ A 9 3 2
♦ K 10 6 3
♣ A K 7 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 7 2
♥ 8 5
♦ A 7 4 2
♣ J 9 6 4 2

♠ A 5 4
♥ K 10 6 4
♦ Q J 9 8
♣ 8 3

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Dbl	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♥ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 3 ♥]

Your hand falls in the 9-11 point mid-range response where you make a jump bid. With two decent suits you naturally choose the Major and bid 3 ♥. Partner raises you to game.

Deal 17
West Deals
None Vul

♠ 6 4 2
♥ K Q 6
♦ 7 5
♣ K Q J 10 2

♠ K Q 9 5
♥ A 8 7 4
♦ A J 3
♣ 6 4

N
W E
S
♠ J 8
♥ J 10 3 2
♦ 8 6 4 2
♣ 9 5 3

♠ A 10 7 3
♥ 9 5
♦ K Q 10 9
♣ A 8 7

West *North* *East* *South*
1♣ Dbl Pass 2♣
Pass 2♥ Pass 2♣
Pass 4♠ Pass Pass
Pass
4♦ by South

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 2♣]

Partner has an opening hand and you have an opening hand. Your first priority is to inform partner that your side must reach game. You do this with a 2♣ cuebid. Partner comes back with 2♥. What do you say? [BID 2♠]

With both of you knowing you will reach game, partner has suggested ♥s. You don't care much for that suggestion, but would now consider 3 NT. However, you should first mention your 4-card ♠ suit. Having found the fit, partner bids game.

Deal 18

West Deals

None Vul

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

12
12 4
12



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

♠ K 5 4
♥ Q J 10 8 7 3
♦ Q 4
♣ A 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♠	Dbl	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 4 ♥]

You COULD make a game-forcing cuebid here, but a much better description of your hand is a leap to 4 ♥, the spot where you know you want to play. If partner has any extra strength he will know to bid again. In this case he has a bare minimum and passes.

Notice that if you had made a cuebid, partner would probably end up playing 4 ♥ and the opening ♠ lead would be right through your ♠ K.

Deal 19West Deals
None Vul

♠ 3
 ♥ A K J 9
 ♦ A Q 8 6
 ♣ 8 7 5 3

15
14 9
2

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

♠ J 8 7
 ♥ 10 6 5 3
 ♦ K J 10 3
 ♣ K J

♠ 6 5
 ♥ Q 4 2
 ♦ 9 7 5 4 2
 ♣ 10 9 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♦	Dbl	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	Pass

Pass
2♣ by North

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 1♥]

Don't even think about bidding 1 NT. You are way way too weak for that. Don't even think about passing for penalties. Your ♦ are nowhere near good enough. Partner is forcing you to bid a suit, so you bid your best non-♦ suit, ♥s. Partner now jumps to 2♣. What do you say? [BID pass]

You say pass. Despite partner showing you a big hand you just can't help him.

Deal 20

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A K Q 8 6 4

♥ 8

♦ A 8 5

♣ K 6 2

♠ 2

♥ A K Q J 3 2

♦ K Q 10 9 4

♣ J

♠ 10 7 3

♥ 10 7 5

♦ J 3 2

♣ Q 9 7 4

16
16 3
5

♠ J 9 5

♥ 9 6 4

♦ 7 6

♣ A 10 8 5 3

West North East South

1 ♥ Dbl Pass 2 ♣

2 ♥ 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠

Pass 4 ♠ Pass Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by North

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 2 ♣]

Partner told you to bid, so you say 2 ♣. West repeats his suit and partner then says 2 ♠. What do you bid now? [BID 3 ♠]

By doubling and then bidding his own suit, partner is showing a good hand, at least 17 points. Your hand can be revalued to about 7 points so you are good enough to invite partner to game. You bid 3 ♠ and partner says 4 ♠.

Deal 21
West Deals
None Vul

♠ A 8 4
♥ K Q J 6
♦ 9 2
♣ K Q J 7

♠ K 2
♥ A 5 4
♦ K J 10 6 5 3
♣ 5 3

16
11 8
5

♠ J 9 6 5
♥ 8 7 3
♦ 8 4
♣ A 8 6 4



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

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

Now that East has stolen your response you aren't strong enough to make a free-bid at the 2-level. You pass, West bids 2♦ and partner doubles again. Now what? [BID 3♣]

This is not a penalty double, partner is merely repeating his request for you to name a suit. But now he expects you to choose between ♥s and ♣s.

You bid 3♣ and everybody passes.

You may be one too high, but that still might be a good score if they can make 2♦.

Deal 22
West Deals
None Vul

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

13
12 9
6

N
W E
S

♠ K J 6 4 2
♥ 2
♦ A J 3
♣ 10 9 7 3

♠ 8 3
♥ Q 10 9 6 5
♦ 8 4 2
♣ A 8 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♦	Dbl	1♠	2♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2♥ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 2♥]

After East bids you are no longer forced to respond to partner's Takeout Double. You may pass if you want to.

But if you don't pass you are making what is called a "free bid". You should have 6 or more points and a reason for wanting to bid - like your 5-card ♥ suit.

You bid 2♥ and everybody passes.

Deal 23

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A J 10 6
♥ 10 8
♦ K J 8 4
♣ K 8 4

13
12 13
2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 9 2
♥ A 6 3
♦ A Q 10 3
♣ J 10 9

♠ 5 4
♥ Q 9 7 5 2
♦ 9 5 2
♣ 7 6 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♦	Dbl	Rdbl	1♥
Pass	Pass	2♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		
2♦ by West			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 1♥]

The redouble has taken the force from you - you can pass if you want to. But if you pass, the most likely scenario is that West will also pass. So partner will either have to let them play 1♦ redoubled (which will be a disaster for your side) or take out his own double by bidding some suit. So he will bid a suit and it will almost surely be 1♠.

You can help your side the most by bidding 1♥ immediately. You don't have to worry that partner will believe you have a good hand; both he and West have 13+ points and East's redouble shows T or more. He knows there are no points remaining for you to have.

On this deal your ♥ bid gets passed around to East who bids 2♦, the final contract.

Deal 24

East Deals

None Vul

</div

Deal 25

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 7**♠ J 5 3****♥ K 10 3****♦ A 9 8****♣ A 8 4 2****14
12 6
8**

W	N
S	E

♠ 10 7 4 2**♥ Q J 9 6****♦ 7 4 3****♣ K 5****♠ K 9****♥ 8 5****♦ Q 6 2****♣ Q J 10 9 6 3***West**North**East**South***1♣**

Dbl

Pass

Pass

Pass

1♣× by West

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

You could certainly say 1 NT if you wanted to. You have 8 HCP and a very good ♣ stopper. However, you will probably make a lot more points by letting them play 1♣ doubled.

This is exactly the kind of hand you need to pass and convert partner's Takeout Double to a Penalty Double. Partner should lead a ♣ so you can pull declarer's trumps as soon as possible.