

Deal 1

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 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**

♠ 3
♥ 10 8 6 5 2
♦ 10 2
♣ J 10 6 4 3

14
12 1
13
♣ K 7

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

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

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♦. West then chips in with 3♦. What now?

Don't let West'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 2
South Deals
None Vul

	♠ J		
	♥ 8 6 5		
	♦ K Q J 7 6		
	♣ 10 8 4 2		
♠ 9 5		♠ A Q 8 6	
♥ K Q 10 3		♥ 7 4 2	
♦ A 10 5 4		♦ 9 8 3	
♣ A 9 6		♣ K 7 5	
	♠ K 10 7 4 3 2		
	♥ A J 9		
	♦ 2		
	♣ Q J 3		
West	North	East	South
Dbl	Pass	1 NT	1 ♠
Pass	Pass		Pass
1 NT by East			

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

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.

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 3

West Deals	♠ 9 5 ♥ K Q 10 3 ♦ A J 10 5 ♣ A K 6		
None Vul			
♠ K J 10 7 4 2	♠ 3		
♥ A J 9	♥ 8 6 5		
♦ K 9 7	♦ 6 4 2		
♣ 3	♣ J 10 9 8 4 2		
	♠ A Q 8 6		
	♥ 7 4 2		
17 12 1 10	♦ Q 8 3		
	♣ Q 7 5		
West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Dbl	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?

Partner is showing you 8-10 points and no 4-card ♥ suit.

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 4

South Deals

None Vul

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 7 6 4 3
 ♥ 9 6 2
 ♦ 9 4
 ♣ A K 8 6

♠ A J 9 5 2

5
 16 7
 12

♥ —

♦ K Q 8

♣ Q 10 7 5 2

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

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

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?

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

Deal 5West Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9 2
 ♥ A 9 4 2
 ♦ Q 9 4
 ♣ A 8 3

6
 11 9
 14

♠ 7 4
 ♥ J 5
 ♦ K 8 7 3 2
 ♣ Q 7 6 2

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?

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?

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.