

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 7
♥ A 8 2
♦ 7 6 5 2
♣ J 10 9 8 4

16
5 1
18

♠ K Q 5
♥ Q 9 5
♦ K Q 9 4
♣ A 6 2



♠ J 8 6 3 2
♥ 6 4 3
♦ 10 8 3
♣ 7 5

♠ A 10 9 4
♥ K J 10 7
♦ A J
♣ K Q 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
6 NT by North			

North 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.

Deal 2East Deals
None Vul

♠ 4
 ♥ K 10 9 7
 ♦ K Q J 3
 ♣ A K 8 5

16 5
 16 16
 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 NT	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
6 ♥ by East			

♠ A J 8
 ♥ 5 4 2
 ♦ 7 5 4
 ♣ 10 4 3 2

W N
 S E

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

♠ K 7 6 5 3 2
 ♥ 8 6
 ♦ 9 6 2
 ♣ 9 7

East opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You have another big hand. And with a 4-card Major you start with 2♣. Partner answers 2♥ and it's your turn again.

What with your singleton ♠ you certainly have enough points for slam. But since it's possible partner has only one Ace you check with Blackwood. Partner says 5♥ and you say . . . What?

Missing one Ace you bid 6♥.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 6 3
♥ —
♦ Q 9 4 2
♣ A J 7 6 5 2

10
7 6
17

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K Q 4 2
♥ J 10 7 6
♦ 7 5
♣ 9 3

♠ J 8 7
♥ A 8 4 3 2
♦ J 10 8
♣ 10 4

♠ 9 5
♥ K Q 9 5
♦ A K 6 3
♣ K Q 8

West North East South

Pass 2 ♣ Pass 1 NT
Pass 4 ♥ Pass 2 ♥
Pass

4 ♥ by South

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

This may go against your instincts, but if you're going to play Stayman then you should follow the rules. Granted that you have a great ♠ suit, you also have 4 ♥s. And when you have a 4-card Major you use Stayman. You bid 2 ♣ and partner says 2 ♥.

That is why you used Stayman - to uncover a 4-4 Major suit fit. Having done so you know that you will play in ♥s and you have enough points to bid game. You bid 4 ♥.

Deal 4

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A K Q 4 2
♥ J 10 7 6
♦ 7 5
♣ 9 3

8
10 16
6

♠ 9 5 3
♥ A 8
♦ Q J 10 9 2
♣ J 8 7

N
W E
S

♠ 10 8 6
♥ K Q 5
♦ A 8 6 4
♣ A K 10

♠ J 7
♥ 9 4 3 2
♦ K 3
♣ Q 6 5 4 2

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

East opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

Yes, this is the same hand as Deal 8. Again you bid 2 ♣. This time partner says 2 ♦.

You need to describe your hand clearly to partner with this bid. You want to show a game-forcing hand (11 points or more) with 4 ♥s and 5 ♠s. You do that by now jumping to 3 ♠.

If partner had just 2 ♠s he would have bid 3 NT. Since he has 3 ♠s he bids 4 ♠.

Deal 5
 North Deals
 None Vul

♠ 7 5 3	♦ A Q J 9		
♥ 8 5	♥ K J		
♦ J 10 9 8 3	♦ Q 7 6 4		
♣ A K J	♣ Q 5 3		
	♠ 8 6		
	W N E S		
	♦ 7 4 2		
	♦ A K 5 2		
	♣ 10 9 6 2		
	♠ K 10 4 2		
15 9 7 9	♥ A Q 10 9 6 3 ♦ —		
	♣ 8 7 4		
West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♠ by North			

1 or 2 overtricks by discarding dummy losers on your ♥ suit.

Even when you hold a 6-card Major, if you have 4 cards in the other Major you use Stayman. Partner answers 2 ♠. What do you bid?

You've found an 8-card Major fit and you know there are enough points for game. So you bid 4 ♠.

Yes, but you already knew you had an 8-card ♥ fit since partner's 1 NT promised at least 2 ♥s. In fact, you could play game in either Major. However, it is often better to play in a 4-4 fit rather than a 5-3 or 6-2. This hand shows why. Played in ♥s you will make exactly T tricks with any opening lead. Played in ♠s you will again make T tricks when the defenders start with their 3 ♣ winners. If they start with anything else you are very likely to make