

**Deal 1**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 7 6 5 3 2  
 ♥ 8 6  
 ♦ 9 6 2  
 ♣ 9 7

16  
 3 5  
 16

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♥ by South

♠ 4

♥ K 10 9 7

♦ K Q J 3

♣ A K 8 5

N  
 W E  
 S

♠ Q 10 9

♥ A Q J 3

♦ A 10 8

♣ Q J 6

North

2 ♣

4 NT

6 ♥

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

2 ♥

5 ♥

Pass

South 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 2**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

10  
7 6  
17

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



♠ 9 5  
♥ K Q 9 5  
♦ A K 6 3  
♣ K Q 8

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

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
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 3**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

16  
8 6  
10

♠ 10 8 6  
♥ K Q 5  
♦ A 8 6 4  
♣ A K 10



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

♠ 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 South			

North 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 4**

South Deals

None Vul

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

9  
 7 9  
 15

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



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

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

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

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 1 or 2 overtricks by discarding dummy

**Deal 5**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 7 6

♥ 8 7 5 4 2

♦ K J 9

♣ A 9

15  
8 8  
9

♠ A Q J

♥ K J

♦ Q 7 6 4

♣ Q 6 5 3



♠ K 10 4 2

♥ A Q 10 9 6 3

♦ —

♣ 8 7 4

♠ 8 5 3

♥ —

♦ A 10 8 5 3 2

♣ K J 10 2

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

1 NT

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

This is the follow-up to Deal T. North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

Just like the previous deal with a 4-card Major you use Stayman. This time partner says 2 ♦. Your turn again.

With partner showing no 4-card Major the bidding takes a turn. With your 6 ♥s you are sure of an 8-card fit in the suit. With 11 points you must be sure of reaching game. So you bid 4 ♥.

In this case the strong hand does not become declarer, but the contract is the right one anyway.

**Deal 6**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

9  
8 8  
15

West

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



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

North

East

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

South

1 NT

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

2 NT

Pass

Pass

Pass

2 NT by South

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

Partner has commanded you to bid a 4-card Major if you have one. You have one, so you bid 2 ♠. Partner now says 2 NT. What do you bid?

Partner evidently has 4 ♥s. He also evidently has about 9 points since he is INVITING you to bid 3 NT. With your minimum 15 points you decline the invitation by passing.