

Deal 1

West Deals
None Vul

♠ A J 9 5 2
♥ —
♦ K Q 8
♣ Q 10 7 5 2

16
12 5
7

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

♠ K 8
♥ A K Q 10 7 3
♦ A 7 5
♣ 9 4



♠ 7 6 4 3
♥ 9 6 2
♦ 9 4
♣ A K 8 6

♠ Q 10
♥ J 8 5 4
♦ J 10 6 3 2
♣ J 3

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 2

East Deals

None Vul

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

14
 9 11
 6

West

1 ♠

Pass

2 ♦ by South

♠ A 8 5
 ♥ K Q 7 3
 ♦ A J 10 5
 ♣ 9 4



♠ 7 4
 ♥ J 5
 ♦ K 8 7 3 2
 ♣ Q 7 6 2

North

Dbl

Pass

East

1 ♣

Pass

Pass

♠ J 9 2
 ♥ A 9 4 2
 ♦ Q 9 4
 ♣ A 8 3

South

Pass

2 ♦

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.

Deal 3

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K 2
♥ Q 8 7 5 4
♦ 8 3
♣ K 8 5 4

3
8 7
22

West

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ J 8 5 3
♥ 10 9 6 2
♦ Q 9 6
♣ 7 3



♠ 7
♥ A K J 3
♦ A K 10 5
♣ A Q J 9

North

Pass

3 ♥

Pass

East

2 ♠

Pass

Pass

South

Dbl

4 ♥

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

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?

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 4

East Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 7 5 3
♥ Q 10 6 2
♦ 4 3 2
♣ 3 2

7
2 11
20

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

♠ A 10 4 2

♥ 7 5 3

♦ 8 6

♣ K 10 6 5



♠ Q J 9

♥ A K 8

♦ A J 10

♣ A J 9 7

North

1 ♠

3 NT

East

1 ♦

Pass

Pass

South

Dbl

1 NT

Pass

♠ K 6

♥ J 9 4

♦ K Q 9 7 5

♣ Q 8 4

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

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 ♠.

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.