

**Deal 1**  
 South Deals  
 None Vul

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

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

West	North	East	South
			1 NT

2 ♦	2 NT	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♥ by North



♠ 10 9 6 3 2
♥ A 4 3 2
♦ J 10
♣ 9 5

With 9 points you don't want to sign-off with 2 ♥. But you aren't strong enough to force to game with a 3 ♥ bid either. So you start an invitational sequence by bidding 2 NT.

Partner says 3 ♣. What do you bid?

Now you bid 3 ♥. Partner will realize you have better than a sign-off, but were not good enough to bid 3 ♥ immediately. He has a maximum, and he knows you have a 5-card suit, so he bids 4 ♥.

**Deal 2**East Deals  
None Vul

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

**1**  
**13 16**  
**10**

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

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

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

Partner's bid asks if you have 4 ♠s, and denies a ♥ stopper. (DIRECT DENIES)

You don't have 4 ♠s, nor can you stop ♥s. You have no choice but to bid one of the 4-card Minor suits, so you go up-the-line and bid 4 ♣. Partner bids 5 ♣.

**Deal 3**East Deals  
None Vul

♠ A 8  
 ♥ 7 6 4  
 ♦ A J 9 7  
 ♣ 10 9 6 4

3  
 9 17  
 11

West      North      East      South  
 Dbl      Pass      Pass      Pass  
 2♦× by South

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

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

♠ —  
 ♥ K Q J 10  
 ♦ K 10 8 4 3 2  
 ♣ Q 7 3



It is possible your side can make 3 NT on this deal. You have 9 points, invitational strength, and your ♦ stopper is excellent.

However you should look for an even bigger reward by doubling. South is in serious trouble, and when the opponents make a mistake you should punish them.

**Deal 4**West Deals  
None Vul

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

**10**  
**16 12**  
**2**

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

♠ 7 5 2  
 ♥ J 5 4 3 2  
 ♦ J 6  
 ♣ 6 4 2

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

4 ♠ by West

Partner's 2 NT bid requests that you bid 3 ♣, so you do. He next says 3 ♦.

Partner's bid is game-forcing Stayman, but with a ♦ stopper (SLOW SHOWS). Holding 4 cards in each Major you bid up-the-line, 4 ♥. Partner now bids 3 NT. What do you say?

Partner would not have asked for a 4-card Major unless he held one himself. Since it wasn't ♥s it must be the other one. You bid 4 ♠.