

**Deal 1**

North Deals

None Vul

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

<sup>15</sup>  
7    10  
8

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

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	Pass

Pass

1 NT by North

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

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

W	N	E
S		

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

If partner has a 4-card ♥ suit to match yours you could revalue your hand and add a point for your doubleton ♠. That would give you the 9 points you need for an invitational response.

It is far too risky to play for that possibility. So you just pass.

**Deal 2**East Deals  
None Vul

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

6  
9 17  
8

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

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

East opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You have 9 points and a 4-card Major. Just enough for an invitational Stayman sequence. You bid 2 ♣ and partner answers 2 ♠. What do you bid next?

Partner has the wrong Major. Now that you know there is no 8-card Major fit you must go to notrump. And since you don't have the strength to insist on game you say 2 NT which is an invitation for partner to bid 3 NT if he has a maximum.

He has a maximum and he bids 3 NT.

**Deal 3**  
South Deals  
None Vul

♠ J 5  
♥ J 8 7 3 2  
♦ 3  
♣ A 8 6 5 2

9  
6 9  
16

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

**Deal 4**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 6 5  
♥ A 9  
♦ A Q 10 5  
♣ K Q 8 6

8  
15 12  
5

N  
W E  
S

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

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

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

West opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

Both Majors! Lucky you. So you bid a Stayman 2 ♣. Unfortunately partner comes back with 2 ♦. What is your next bid?

Partner doesn't have a 4-card Major so your side doesn't have an 8-card Major fit. Therefore you will play in notrump. And with your 12 points you MUST play in game. So you bid 3 NT.

**Deal 5**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 5  
♥ 10 7 4  
♦ Q J 10 8 6  
♣ J 10 6

♠ 10 9 8 2

♥ K Q 6

♦ A 9 4

♣ A K 5

**16**  
**8 5**  
**11**

♠ K Q J 3

♥ A J 5

♦ 7 2

♣ 9 8 4 3

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

<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 North

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

With 11 points and a 4-card Major suit you bid 2 ♣. Partner answers 2 ♠. What is your next bid?

Stayman bidding can be very straightforward. Partner has 4 ♠s, you have 4 ♠s. That makes 8. Partner has 15-17 points, you have 11-12 points. That makes 26-29.

You bid 4 ♠.

**Deal 6**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 10 9 4

♥ K J 10 7

♦ A J

♣ K Q 3

18  
5  
16  
1

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 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

<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 East			

East 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.