

**Deal 1**

North Deals	♠ A 6 2
None Vul	♥ 8 7 5
	♦ A K Q
	♣ A 10 9 8

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



17	♠ 9 3
8 7	♥ Q J 10 6 2
8	♦ 7 5 3
	♣ K Q 4

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♥ by North			

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

Partner's command is your wish - you say  
2 ♥.

He now bids 2 NT. What do you say?

Partner's bidding shows 9 points and exactly 5 ♥. He asks that you take him back to ♥s if you have 3 of them. You do. He is asking you to bid game if you have 17 points. You do.

So you bid 4 ♥.

With your 3-3-3-4 distribution you might have been tempted to bid 3 NT instead of 4 ♥. It's a good thing you didn't, they would have killed you in ♠s.

**Deal 2**  
 East Deals  
 None Vul

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

♠ 2

7  
 7  
 11 15

♦ K 8

♣ Q 9 5 4 2

*West*      *North*      *East*      *South*  
 2 ♥      Pass      2 ♠      Pass  
 3 ♠      Pass      Pass      Pass  
 3 ♠ by East

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

The initial response to a transfer is really easy. You bid 2 ♠.

But what do you bid after partner then says 3 ♠?

Partner has 6 ♠s and you have 2. So a ♠ contract is fine.

Partner has 9 points and you have 15. So a game contract is too high.

You pass. And you're going to have to play great to make even 9 tricks!

**Deal 3**South Deals  
None Vul

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

8 7 8  
 17

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

West      North      East      South  
     1 NT

Pass      2 ♦  
 Pass      3 ♥  
 Pass      Pass

4 ♥ by South

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

You follow orders and say 2 ♥.

Partner follows up with 3 ♥. What do you bid next?

Partner has 9 points and 6 ♥s. You have 17 points and 3 ♥s. That adds up to 26 points and 9 ♥s. You have enough points for game and enough trumps to play ♥s so you bid 4 ♥.

**Deal 4**West Deals  
None Vul

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

8  
17 9  
6

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

N  
W E  
S

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

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

<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 West			

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

You say 2 ♠ and partner rebids 2 NT.  
What do you bid?

Partner has 9 points and a 5-card ♠ suit.  
He is inviting you to choose a game if you have maximum.

Since you have 17 points you accept the invitation, but with only 2 ♠s you choose 3 NT.

**Deal 5**

North Deals

None Vul

**♠ J 10 7 3 2****♥ A 7 2****♦ 8 2****♣ Q 7 4****17  
7 9  
7****♠ A K****♥ J 6 5****♦ A K J 4****♣ J 8 6 5****♠ 6****♥ 9 4****♦ Q 10 9 6 3****♣ A K 10 9 2****♠ Q 9 8 5 4  
♥ K Q 10 8 3  
♦ 7 5  
♣ 3**

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

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

You obey partner and bid 2 ♥ but he then bids 2 ♠.

What do you bid?

Partner has told you that he has an inviting, 9-point hand with 5 of each Major. He wants you to choose a Major and also decide whether to play game or partscore.

Despite your ♠s being so beautiful there are only two of them so you pick ♥s. And since you have a maximum 17 points you bid the game, 4 ♥.

**Deal 6**East Deals  
None Vul

♠ A K 8 7 3  
 ♥ K 10 9 6 5  
 ♦ 7 5  
 ♣ 9

8  
 10 16  
 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

♠ J 9 6 2  
 ♥ J 3  
 ♦ A 10 3 2  
 ♣ 10 8 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 East			

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

You say 2 ♠. Partner then bids 3 ♥. What do you bid?

Partner has a game forcing hand and is 5-5 in the Majors. He has asked you to choose one of them to bid game in.

With 3 of each you might be inclined to choose your stronger one, ♥s, but in fact that doesn't really matter since partner is probably stronger in ♠s.

What does matter is those minor suits. If the opening lead is a ♣ or ♦, which is very likely, you want the lead to be coming into your hand, not partner's. And in general you would prefer to have the stronger hand remain concealed. So you

bid 4 ♠ where you will be declarer, rather than 4 ♥ where partner would be declarer.