

**Deal 1**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

18  
4 8  
10

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



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

♠ 9 8 5 3  
♥ A 9  
♦ Q 5 4 2  
♣ Q 4 2

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

You dealt this hand. What do you bid?

This would be an ideal hand to open 1 NT - well, it would be with one less point. But with 18 you are too strong to open 1 NT so you open 1 ♣. Partner responds 1 ♠. What do you bid next?

DO NOT fall into the trap of supporting partner's ♠s just because you have such nice help for him. He might have a 4-card suit. Instead, just describe your hand by jumping to 2 NT, showing a balanced hand with 18-19 points. Partner now bids 3 NT and you play it there.

**Deal 2**

West Deals  
None Vul

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

8  
19 6  
7

| West        | North | East | South |
|-------------|-------|------|-------|
| 1 ♦         | Pass  | 1 ♠  | Pass  |
| 2 NT        | Pass  | 3 ♠  | Pass  |
| 4 ♠         | Pass  | Pass | Pass  |
| 4 ♠ by East |       |      |       |

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



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

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

You dealt this hand. What do you bid?

You open 1 ♦ and partner responds 1 ♠.  
What is your next bid?

Do not support what may be a 4-card suit with only 3 cards. Instead, jump to 2 NT, showing 18-19, balanced. Partner rebids the ♠s. What do you say next?

Partner shows a minimum hand, but with 6 ♠s. 3 NT is very tempting, and might work out fine, but with 9 ♠s it is probably better to play the suit game. So you bid 4 ♠ and everybody passes.

Bidding 4 ♠ was a good choice. It makes easily, yet 3 NT might have gone down.

**Deal 3**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

13  
10 9  
8

West

Pass  
2 ♠ by South

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



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

North

1 ♣  
2 ♠

East

Pass  
Pass

South

1 ♠  
Pass

The bidding is shown. Decide what you would say, then BID.

You have plenty good support to raise partner's ♣ suit. But your first priority is to show a 4-card Major suit if you have one. You do, so you respond 1 ♠. Partner raises you to 2 ♠.

Are you tempted to take partner back to ♣s since you have such good support? Don't be. Partner has 4 ♠s, but he might have only 3 ♣s.

Are you tempted to bid 3 ♠ since partner raised you? Don't be. He showed a minimum hand with his single raise and you only have 9 points. Just pass.

**Deal 4**

East Deals  
None Vul

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

7  
13 14  
6

West

♠ 8 2

♥ 10 5 2

♦ 9 6 5

♣ A K 9 6 4



♠ Q J 10 5 4 3

♥ 7 4

♦ J 7

♣ Q 7 2

North

East

South

1 ♦

1 ♥

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by West

The bidding is shown. Decide what you would say, then BID.

Some might jump to 2 NT, "to show partner my point count". Some might jump to 3 ♦, "to force partner to game and show my ♦ support". The wise ones will just bid 1 ♥, striving to find an 8-card Major fit, the first priority of bidding.

You choose the 1 ♥ route, and partner obligingly says 2 ♥. What do you bid next?

Remember "She who knows, goes"? You know of the 8-card Major fit. You know of at least 26 combined points. You know you should bid 4 ♥, so you do.