

Deal 1

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q T 8 7
♥ 7 4
♦ Q 8 2
♣ J 8 7 4

10
5 15
10

♠ A 9 3 2

♥ J T 6

♦ 7 3

♣ K Q 6 5

N
W E
S

♠ K J 6
♥ A 5 3
♦ K 5 4
♣ A T 9 2

♠ 5 4
♥ K Q 9 8 2
♦ A J T 9 6
♣ 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♥	1NT	2♦
		All Pass	

2♥ by North

Baker DONT 1

With T HCP and T red cards you have a good enough hand for an immediate DONT bid. So you bid 2♦, promising that suit and a Major.

Partner responds 2♥.

Don't get carried away, partner isn't really bidding a ♥ suit as much as he is letting you know he doesn't like ♦s. You were only competing for a partscore and here you are in a partscore. You pass.

Deal 2
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ Q J T 8 3
♥ 4
♦ J 9 2
♣ K J 8 4

4
8 16
12

♠ 6 5 4
♥ 9 8 2
♦ A 8 6 5
♣ 9 7 3

♠ K 7
♥ Q 7 5
♦ K Q T 4
♣ A Q T 2

♠ A 9 2
♥ A K J T 6 3
♦ 7 3
♣ 6 5

N
W E
S

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	1NT	Dbl
All Pass		Pass	2♥

2♥ by South

Baker DONT 2
You have a terrible hand but you still cannot pass partner's double. He is requesting you to bid 2♣ as a relay bid so he can name his suit.

You dutifully respond 2♣ and he says 2♥.

You didn't want to bid the first time, this time you definitely pass.

Deal 3

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A 7 6 3
♥ 6 3
♦ A K J
♣ Q J T 2

14
15 7
4

♠ K J 9
♥ A 4
♦ Q 8 7 2
♣ A 9 6 5

N
W E
S

♠ 2
♥ K J 7 5
♦ T 9 6 4
♣ K 8 4 3

♠ Q T 8 5 4
♥ Q T 9 8 2
♦ 5 3
♣ 7

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

2 ♠ by North

Baker DONT 3

OK, you only have 4 HCP. But you have T cards in the Majors. And, you are in the balancing seat. If East is willing to let it die at 1NT your partner must have some strength. So you should use DONT. You bid 2♥, showing both Major suits.

Partner responds 2♠.

Partner prefers ♠s to ♥s. Since you were bare minimum you pass.

Deal 4

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ K Q T 6
♥ A Q T
♦ J T 3
♣ K 8 4

10
15 6
9

♠ 8 3
♥ K J 8 2
♦ 9 6 4
♣ A Q 7 3

N
W E
S

♠ J 4 2
♥ 9 7 5 4
♦ A 8
♣ J T 9 2

♠ A 9 7 5
♥ 6 3
♦ K Q 7 5 2
♣ 6 5

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	Pass	2♦
All Pass			

2♦ by South

Baker DONT 4

Your hand is too balanced to intervene over West's 1NT so you pass.

Then partner overcalls 2♦.

Partner has two suits, ♦s and one of the Majors. If his other suit is ♥s then a 2♥ bid by you would work great. But if his other suit is ♠s anything you say would not be good.

Since you can tolerate ♦s your safest call is pass.

Deal 5

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A 8
♥ A T 5
♦ K 3 2
♣ K Q 8 7 4

10
16 4
10

♠ T 7 5
♥ K Q J 9 8 2
♦ A 9 6
♣ 3

N
W E
S

♠ K 9 6 3 2
♥ 6 3
♦ J T 8 4
♣ T 5

♠ Q J 4
♥ 7 4
♦ Q 7 5
♣ A J 9 6 2

West	North	East	South
1NT	Dbl	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

2♥ by North

Baker DONT 5

With T HCP and a solid 6-card suit this is an ideal DONT bid. You double and partner follows procedure by saying 2♣.

Now you follow procedure by showing your 6-card suit. You bid 2♥ and everybody passes.

Deal 6

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A 2
 ♥ K Q 8 3
 ♦ Q 6 5
 ♣ A J 9 4

14
 16 7
 3

♠ T 7
 ♥ A J 9 7 4 2
 ♦ A 8 2
 ♣ K Q

	N		♠ K 5
W		E	♥ T
	S		♦ K J T 7 3
			♣ 8 7 6 5 3

♠ Q J 9 8 6 4 3
 ♥ 6 5
 ♦ 9 4
 ♣ T 2

West	North	East	South
1NT	Dbl	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

2 ♠ by South

Baker DONT 6

Partner's double asks you to bid 2♣ as a relay bid so he can name his suit.

But you don't want him to bid his 6-card suit, your hand is useless unless ♠s are trumps. So ignore the relay request and bid 2♠. Everybody passes.

Deal 7

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ T 8 6 5 2

♥ T

♦ J T 7 2

♣ A 9 6

5
5 16
14
 ♠ 4
 ♥ K Q 9 8 6 2
 ♦ 8 6 3
 ♣ T 7 5

 N
 W E
 S

 ♠ K Q 3
 ♥ A 5 4
 ♦ A 9 4
 ♣ K 8 3 2

 ♠ A J 9 7
 ♥ J 7 3
 ♦ K Q 5
 ♣ Q J 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♥	All Pass	2♣

2♥ by North

Baker DONT 7

In the balancing seat it is distribution that counts, not point count. With a 6-card Major suit and a singleton you should not let them play 1NT. Youdouble.

Partner makes the relay bid of 2♣.

You bid your suit, 2♥, and everybody passes. Notice that partner had a decent hand, but could not bid over 1NT in the immediate seat.

Deal 8

East Deals
None Vul

♠ J T 9 5 4
♥ A T 7 4
♦ K 8 2
♣ 8

7
8 16
9

♠ K 2
♥ 6 3
♦ 7 5 3
♣ K J 9 6 5 3

N
W E
S

♠ Q 6
♥ K Q 9
♦ A J T
♣ A T 7 4 2

♠ A 8 7 3
♥ J 8 5 2
♦ Q 9 6 4
♣ Q

West	North	East	South
		1NT	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	2♣
All Pass			

2♣ by South

Baker DONT 8

You don't have a 6-card suit, nor do you have a 5-4 pair of suits. So even with a singleton you don't want to use DONT here. So you pass.

Partner makes a DONT double in the balancing seat.

Right now you probably have a premonition about what is going to happen next. But there really is nothing you can say other than 2♣.

Your premonition came true. Partner passes and you are left playing 2♣ with a singleton. Nobody promised that DONT would always get you to a good contract.

Deal 9

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q T 7 3 2

♥ -

♦ K J 8 4 3 2

♣ 4

7

9 16

8

♠ J 4
 ♥ K Q J T 7 4 3
 ♦ 7 5
 ♣ 6 2

	N		♠ A 9 6
W		♥ A 9 6 5	
	E	♦ A Q	
	S	♣ Q T 7 5	

♠ 8 5
 ♥ 8 2
 ♦ T 9 6
 ♣ A K J 9 8 3

West	North	East	South
		1NT	Dbl
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

2♥ by North

Baker DONT 9

You only have 8 HCP but with such a good 6-card suit you should interfere with a DONT bid. You double and partner surprises you by saying 2♥.

There is a reason partner didn't say 2♣ (which you were going to pass). And the reason is that he figures you will be better off in his ♥s. Since you trust your partner you pass.

Deal 10

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ 9 5 4 2
♥ 9 3
♦ J 8 3
♣ Q T 6 2

8
3 16
13

♠ 7
♥ Q J 8 2
♦ K Q T 7 4
♣ 9 7 3

N
W E
S

♠ A T 6
♥ K 5
♦ A 9 5 2
♣ A J 5 4

♠ K Q J 8 3
♥ A T 7 6 4
♦ 6
♣ K 8

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♥	1NT	2♥
All Pass		Pass	4♥

4♥ by South

Baker DONT 10

Since partner has entered the bidding in the immediate seat he should have a pretty good hand, with 9+ cards in ♥s and ♠s.

Usually you are happy to settle for partscore after a DONT sequence, but with such an excellent fit for ♥s your hand is worth a raise.

So you bid 3♥ and partner says 4♥.

Deal 11

East Deals
None Vul

♠ 5 4
♥ J 5 2
♦ J T 7 4 3
♣ Q 4 2

7
4 16
13

♠ A T 3 2
♥ 6 4
♦ 9 8
♣ K T 9 7 5

N
W E
S

♠ K J 9 6
♥ K 9 7 3
♦ A Q 6 5
♣ 8

♠ Q 8 7
♥ A Q T 8
♦ K 2
♣ A J 6 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

2 ♠ by North

Baker DONT 11
You have only 7 HCP but expect partner to have a reasonable hand since West could not keep the bidding open. With your black 2-suiter you bid the lowest one, 2♣.

Partner says 2♦.

Partner's 2♦ bid, the next suit up the line, asks you to name your other suit (or pass if your other suit is ♦s).

You bid 2♠ and everybody passes.

Deal 12

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ Q 9 4
♥ A 4 2
♦ K J 9 4 2
♣ A K

16
17 3
4

♠ A J 7 3
♥ K Q 9
♦ A Q 8 6
♣ 6 3

N
W E
S
♣ Q J T 9 5 4 2

♠ K T 8 6 5 2
♥ J 6 3
♦ T 5
♣ 8 7

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

4 ♠ by North

Baker DONT 12

You would have opened 1NT but West beat you to it. You cannot double for penalties when you use DONT, so you pass.

Partner bids 2♠ in the balancing seat.

The 2♠ bid shows a weak hand, with more strength partner would have first doubled, then bid 2♠.

Still, you know he has a 6-card suit and you also know that every finesse is going to work. You either bid 3♠ or 4♠. Be bold.

Deal 13

East Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9 3 2
♥ J 9
♦ T 8 7 3
♣ 7 6 5

11
2 17
10

♠ A 8 6 4

♥ Q T 8 7

♦ K 6 4 2

♣ Q

N
W E
S

♠ K Q T
♥ A K 6 4 3
♦ A J
♣ T 4 2

♠ 7 5
♥ 5 2
♦ Q 9 5
♣ A K J 9 8 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	1NT	Dbl
		All Pass	

2♣ by North

Baker DONT¹³

This is a perfect hand with which to Disturb the Opponent's No Trump. You double and partner bids 2♣, the relay bid.

What do you say next?

You say pass, of course.

Deal 14

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 4 3
♥ K 9 2
♦ Q T 9 5 3
♣ J 7 3

7
6 17
10

♠ A 7 6
♥ Q T 5 3
♦ J 7 4 2
♣ 8 5

N
W E
S

♠ J T 2
♥ A J 8 7
♦ A K
♣ A T 6 4

♠ K Q 9 8 5
♥ 6 4
♦ 8 6
♣ K Q 9 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	1NT	2♣
All Pass		Pass	2♠

2♠ by South

Baker DONT 14

Partner has two suits, ♣s and something else.

With ♣s your worst suit, you prefer to play in something else. So you bid the next suit up-the-line, which is 2♦.

Partner corrects to 2♠, his "something else" and you pass.

Deal 15

West Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 5

♥ A 5

♦ A J T 7 4

♣ A 6 2

6
16 6
12

♠ 8 7
♥ K Q J T 8 7
♦ 9 6 5
♣ 8 3

N
W E
S

♠ T 9 4
♥ 6 3 2
♦ K Q 3 2
♣ J T 4

♠ A K 6 3 2
♥ 9 4
♦ 8
♣ K Q 9 7 5

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

2♥ by North

Baker DONT 15

You have 12 HCP, certainly enough to use DONT in either seat. With your black 2-suiter you bid the lowest one, 2♣.

Partner says 2♥.

Partner would have bid 2♦, the next suit up the line, to ask you to name your other suit. His 2♥ bid says he wants to play right there.

So you pass.

Deal 16

West Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K 8 5
♥ Q 8 3 2
♦ K T 3
♣ A Q J

14
15 6
5

♠ A 3
♥ J 6 5
♦ A Q 8 6
♣ K 8 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 7 4 2
♥ K T 9 4
♦ 7 5
♣ 4 2

Baker DONT 16

You would have opened 1♦ but after West opens 1NT you must pass.

Partner bids 2♥ in the balancing seat.

The 2♥ bid shows ♥s and ♠s.

You like ♥s better and don't have enough strength to think about game so you pass.

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

2♥ by South

Deal 17

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A 8 3
♥ A Q 9
♦ 7 6 3
♣ K Q J 2

8
16 6
10

♠ K Q J 9 7 5

♥ 5 2
♦ Q 9 5
♣ 8 3

N
W E
S

♠ 2
♥ K 7 6 4
♦ K T 4 2
♣ T 9 6 4

♠ T 6 4
♥ J T 8 3
♦ A J 8
♣ A 7 5

West North East South
1NT 2♠ All Pass

2♠ by North

Baker DONT 17

You have a good 6-card suit but only 8 HCP. This is bare minimum for a DONT bid. The fact that your suit is ♠s should sway you toward bidding.

But with the weak hand you bid 2♠ instead of double. Everybody passes.

Deal 18

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A J T
♥ K J 7
♦ Q J 9 6
♣ A T 7

3
16 4
17

♠ 9 4 2
♥ 8 4
♦ T 8 2
♣ K 8 5 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ 8 6 5 3
♥ Q 9 2
♦ 7 5 4
♣ Q 6 3

♠ K Q 7
♥ A T 6 5 3
♦ A K 3
♣ J 9

West North East South
1NT

All Pass

1 NT by South

Baker DONT 18

With 16 points and a balanced hand you were planning on opening 1NT yourself.

But one of the consequences of playing DONT is that you have no bid to describe this hand. You cannot double because then partner would just bid 2♣ as a relay and you wouldn't know where to go.

So you pass.

Deal 19

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 8 7
♥ Q 4 3 2
♦ A J 7
♣ T 6 3 2

5
7 15
13

♠ K Q T 9 3 2
♥ 9
♦ 8 6 4
♣ 9 7 5

♠ A 5
♥ K J 7
♦ T 5 3 2
♣ A Q J 8

♠ J 6 4
♥ A T 8 6 5
♦ K Q 9
♣ K 4

N
W E
S

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♠	1NT	Pass
		All Pass	

2 ♠ by North

Baker DONT 19

Would you really bid over 1NT with only 5 HCP? In the balancing seat you should. Partner is marked with a pretty good hand, and you have a 6-card Major suit.

You do bid just 2♠ though, rather than a double followed by 2♠, which would show a stronger hand. Everybody passes.

Deal 20

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8
♥ Q 8
♦ 9 4 2
♣ J T 9 7 6 5

5
6 15
14

♠ Q T 7 4 2

♥ K T 9 7 4

♦ 5

♣ 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 6 5
♥ J 3 2
♦ K J T 7 3
♣ A Q

♠ J 9 3
♥ A 6 5
♦ A Q 8 6
♣ K 8 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♥	1NT	Pass
All Pass		Pass	2♠

2♠ by South

Baker DONT 20

You would have opened 1♦ but after East opens 1NT you must pass.

Partner bids 2♥ in the balancing seat.

The 2♥ bid shows ♥s and ♠s.

You have absolutely no preference between the two suits. But you do have a preference as to where the opening lead will be coming from - you'd like West to have to lead through East's strength. Besides you feel like playing the last hand so you say 2♠ and everybody passes.