

Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ A 5
♥ 10 7 4
♦ Q J 10 8 6
♣ J 10 6

16
8 5
11

♠ 10 9 8 2
♥ K Q 6
♦ A 9 4
♣ A K 5



♠ 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 2

South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 8 6 3 2
♥ 6 4 3
♦ 10 8 3
♣ 7 5

18
1 5
16

West

Pass
Pass
Pass

6 NT by South

♠ A 10 9 4
♥ K J 10 7
♦ A J
♣ K Q 3



♠ K Q 5
♥ Q 9 5
♦ K Q 9 4
♣ A 6 2

North

2 ♣
6 NT

East

Pass
Pass

South

1 NT
2 ♦
Pass

South 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.

Deal 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A J 8
 ♥ 5 4 2
 ♦ 7 5 4
 ♣ 10 4 3 2

16
 5 3
 16

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♥ by North

♠ Q 10 9

♥ A Q J 3

♦ A 10 8

♣ Q J 6



♠ 4

♥ K 10 9 7

♦ K Q J 3

♣ A K 8 5

North

1 NT

2 ♥

5 ♥

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♣

4 NT

6 ♥

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You have another big hand. And with a 4-card Major you start with 2 ♣. Partner answers 2 ♥ and it's your turn again.

What with your singleton ♠ you certainly have enough points for slam. But since it's possible partner has only one Ace you check with Blackwood. Partner says 5 ♥ and you say . . . What?

Missing one Ace you bid 6 ♥.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 6 3

♥ —

♦ Q 9 4 2

♣ A J 7 6 5 2

10
7 6
17

♠ A K Q 4 2

♥ J 10 7 6

♦ 7 5

♣ 9 3



♠ J 8 7

♥ A 8 4 3 2

♦ J 10 8

♣ 10 4

♠ 9 5

♥ K Q 9 5

♦ A K 6 3

♣ K Q 8

West

North

East

South

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

1 NT

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

4 ♥ by South

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

This may go against your instincts, but if you're going to play Stayman then you should follow the rules. Granted that you have a great ♠ suit, you also have 4 ♥s. And when you have a 4-card Major you use Stayman. You bid 2 ♣ and partner says 2 ♥.

That is why you used Stayman - to uncover a 4-4 Major suit fit. Having done so you know that you will play in ♥s and you have enough points to bid game. You bid 4 ♥.