

**Deal 1**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 4 2  
♥ A J 2  
♦ 10 5 3  
♣ A J 7 4

**12**  
**11**   **10**  
7

♠ A Q 8 7 6

♥ 7 3

♦ K Q J 7

♣ 9 2

W	N	E	S
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♠ 5  
♥ K Q 10 9 8 5  
♦ 9 8 2  
♣ K Q 5

♠ K 10 9 3  
♥ 6 4  
♦ A 6 4  
♣ 10 8 6 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♠	2 ♥	3 ♠

3 ♠ by North

You would have bid 2 ♠ if East had not overcalled.

Instead, with 4 trumps you can jump to 3 ♠ as a preemptive measure. Partner will not mistake this for a limit raise since you would have cue-bid with 11+ points and support.

The jump to 3 is based on the Law of Total Tricks - bidding to a trick level equal to the number of your side's trumps.

**Deal 2**

East Deals

None Vul

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

11 7  
 10 12

♠ Q 10 9

♥ A

♦ 10 9 8 6 2

♣ J 10 4 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

♠ A K 7 5 2

♥ 8 3 2

♦ K 3

♣ 8 7 6

West	North	East	South
		1 ♥	1 ♠
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		
3 ♥ by East			

Partner has a limit raise or better in ♥s, 11 points or more.

You, however, have a bare-bones minimum. So you rebid a minimum 3 ♥, which partner passes.

**Deal 3**East Deals  
None Vul

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

**12**  
**6 12**  
**10**

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

W	N	E	S

♠ 5 2  
 ♥ A J 9 4 2  
 ♦ J 9 2  
 ♣ A Q 10

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 ♥	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♠ by South			

You have 14 points in support of ♠s; however, partner's overcall does not promise more than 9 points or so.

So you cue-bid 2 ♥, showing a good hand with support and forcing partner to bid again. Partner bids 3 ♠. What do you say?

4 ♠. Partner's jump shows a good overcall, but not enough strength to insist on game when you might have only 11 points. You have plenty extra so you bid the game.

**Deal 4**

	♠ 7		
West Deals	♥ A K Q 10 5 3		
None Vul	♦ J 5		
	♣ 10 9 8 3		
♠ A K Q 6 4 2		♠ J 10 9 8	
♥ 8		♥ J 9 4	
♦ K Q 4		♦ A 8 6 2	
♣ K Q 5		♣ A J	
	♠ 5 3		
10	♥ 7 6 2		
19 11	♦ 10 9 7 3		
0	♣ 7 6 4 2		
West	North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♥	3 ♥	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
6 ♠ by West			

Partner has a limit raise or better in ♠s, 11 points or more.

There is only one thing you want to know now - how many Aces partner holds. So you bid 4 NT to find out. Partner responds 5 ♥. What do you say?

You know you have a loser. Bid 6 ♠.