

Deal 1

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 6 5 2

♥ 10 9 6

♦ A J 8

♣ A 5 4

9
9 7
15

♠ K 9 3

♥ K 7 4

♦ K 6 5

♣ 10 9 7 2



♠ A 7 4

♥ A Q 8 5

♦ Q 7 4

♣ Q J 6

♠ Q J 10

♥ J 3 2

♦ 10 9 3 2

♣ K 8 3

*West**North**East**South*

Pass

2 NT

Pass

1 NT

Pass

Pass

2 NT by South

You dealt so it is your bid. What do you say?

With 4-3-3-3 distribution and 15 points this hand qualifies for a 1 NT opening. You bid 1 NT and partner raises to 2 NT.

Partner's 2 NT bid invites you to bid 3 NT if you are at the top of your 15-17 point range. Since you have only 15 points you decline the invitation.

Deal 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 8 5

♥ J 8 3 2

♦ A 6 2

♣ J 2

9
9 6
16

West

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

♠ 10 9 3

♥ K 7 4

♦ Q J 8 5

♣ K 8 3



♠ A 7 4

♥ A Q

♦ 10 7 4

♣ A Q 10 6 5

North

2 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

3 NT

You dealt so it is your bid. What do you say?

This hand has 17 points and one of the balanced distributions. When you have a hand that meets the requirements you should open 1 NT. Do not worry about the lack of a ♦ stopper, you don't have to have all the suits stopped to open 1 NT. You bid 1 NT and partner raises to 2 NT. What do you bid next?

You should count on partner for 9 points for his invitation. Your 17 brings the total to 26 so you bid 3 NT.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 9 7 3

♥ J 7 3 2

♦ A 4 2

♣ J 2

9
9 7
15

West

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

♠ 8 6 5

♥ K 8 4

♦ Q J 9 5

♣ K 8 3

♠ Q J 10

♥ A Q

♦ 10 8 7

♣ A Q 10 9 5

North

2 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

3 NT

You dealt so it is your bid. What do you say?

Of course you open 1 NT. Partner responds 2 NT. What do you say?

With 15 points you decline invitations, and with 17 points you accept. But with 16 you have to use your judgement. Some players will just automatically bid 3 NT when they have 16 points, preferring to err on the side of boldness than to possibly miss bidding a makeable game. Others prefer to base their decision on how good the hand looks.

With all the Ts and 9s this hand is stronger than 16 points, so you bid 3 NT.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 2
 ♥ J 6 5 4 3 2
 ♦ J 7 3
 ♣ K 4 2

16
 5 4
 15

West

Pass

Pass

4 NT by South

♠ A K 3

♥ A K 7

♦ 10 8 2

♣ Q 10 7 5



♠ Q J 10 5

♥ Q 9 8

♦ A Q 4

♣ A 9 8

North

4 NT

East

Pass

South

1 NT

Pass

You dealt so it is your bid. What do you say?

You open 1 NT. Again. This time partner jumps to 4 NT. What do you bid?

Partner's bid is not Blackwood. It is called a Quantitative 4 NT and he is telling you he has a balanced 16-17 point hand. He is inviting you to bid 6 NT.

With 17 you accept invitations, with 15 you decline. You have 15 so you pass.

As you see, there are 9 easy tricks and you can probably set up another. But you have no chance to make slam.