

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 3
♥ Q 9 6 3
♦ K J 9 4
♣ 10 5 2

16
7 6
11

	N		E	
W				S

♠ A Q 9 7 4
♥ 8
♦ A 6 3 2
♣ K Q J

♠ 10
♥ A 5 4 2
♦ Q 10 8 7 5
♣ 7 6 4

♠ K 8 6 5 2
♥ K J 10 7
♦ —

♣ A 9 8 3

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 NT
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♠ by North			

Your 4 ♦ bid is a Splinter Bid, showing opening hand strength, at least 4 ♠s, and a singleton or void in ♦s. Partner bids 4 NT.

You have 2 Key-Cards, the ♠K and the ♣A. So do you bid 5 ♥?

No. You have two Key-Cards AND a void. So you bid 5 NT. Partner bids 6 ♠.

Deal 2

South Deals	♠ A 10 8
None Vul	♥ K 9 8 4
	♦ K 9
	♣ K 10 6 5
♠ 7 5	♠ 9 6 4 3 2
♥ Q J 3	♥ 5 2
♦ 10 7 5 4 3	♦ 8 6 2
♣ 8 7 3	♣ A 4 2

13	♠ K Q J
3 4	♥ A 10 7 6
20	♦ A Q J
	♣ Q J 9

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2 NT
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

5 ♥ by South

Your partner's 2 NT opener is 20-21 points and the 3 ♣ bid is Stayman. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

You know of 33 points and you know of an 8-card ♥ fit. The math tells you that 6 ♥ should be a good slam but you might as well check Key-Cards, that's why the convention was invented. So you bid 4 NT and partner answers 5 ♥. What do you say?

You say "Darn!" You are missing just one Key-Card, but you are also missing the trump Queen. And with partner holding only a 4-card suit that Queen might well win a trick. Knowing that at best the slam will depend on a trump finesse you pass 5 ♥.

Deal 3

South Deals
None Vul

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

10
1 5
24

♠ A K Q J
♥ A J 10 7
♦ A 5
♣ K Q 10



West	North	East	South
			2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
6 ♥ by North			

With 11 points and a good suit you should make a positive response. So you bid 2 ♥. Partner then says 4 NT. What is your bid?

The 4 NT bid agrees ♥s as trump. You have one Key-Card, the ♥ K, so you bid 5 ♣. Partner bids the ♥ slam.

Deal 4South Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 4
♥ 10 7 2
♦ 10 7 5 2
♣ A 9 7 4

20
4 5
11

♠ K 10
♥ A K 9 8 4
♦ K Q 8
♣ K Q 6

W	N	E	S

♠ 9 6 2
♥ Q J 3
♦ J 9 6
♣ J 10 5 3

♠ A Q J 7 5 3
♥ 6 5
♦ A 4 3
♣ 8 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♠ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Your partner has shown a minimum opening hand, but with 6 ♠s. You are happy with the 8-card trump fit but need to know about Key-Cards. So you bid 4 NT. Partner answers 5 ♠ and it is your bid again.

Partner has two Aces and the ♠ Q. That should be all he needs to make slam so you bid 6 ♠.

Deal 5South Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 6 4 2
 ♥ K J 9 8 5
 ♦ K Q 7 4
 ♣ —

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

9
 7 3
21



♠ A K Q J
 ♥ A Q 10 4 3
 ♦ A J 8

♣ 7

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	6 ♣	Pass	7 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

7 ♥ by North

With 11 points and a good suit you should make a positive response. So you bid 2 ♥. Partner then says 4 NT. What is your bid?

The 4 NT bid agrees ♥s as trump. You have one Key-Card, the ♥ K, but you also have a void in ♣s. You therefore answer 6 ♣. Partner goes all the way to 7 ♥.

Deal 6
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ J
 ♥ 9 5 3 2
 ♦ A 5 2
 ♣ 10 7 4 3 2



♠ K 6 5 2
 ♥ A Q 7 4
 ♦ K 8 6
 ♣ A Q

18
5 2
15

♠ A 10 9 7
 ♥ K J 10
 ♦ Q J 10 3
 ♣ K J

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

5 ♠ by South

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Partner has 15-17 points and 4 ♠s. You have 18 points and 4 ♠s. You plan to bid the slam, but first you check Key-Cards. So you bid 4 NT. Partner says 5 ♣. What do you bid?

You are missing 1 Key-Card. Slam has become less certain. You decide to see if partner has the trump Queen so you bid 5 ♦. Partner bids 5 ♠. What do you say next?

Partner denies having the ♠ Q. Knowing that the best you could hope for would be a finesse to make the slam you give up your quest and pass.