

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

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

Since partner opened 1 NT he has at least 2 ♥s and you are assured of an 8-card fit. The only question is how high. With 10 points you are in the judgement zone.

But unless you play Jacoby Transfers there isn't a method for inviting with this kind of hand. You have to decide for yourself and bid either 2 ♥ or 4 ♥. Take the optimistic view and bid the game.

As you see, it is going to take some luck.

Deal 2

West Deals

None Vul

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

7	♠ A 6 3 2
15 12	♥ Q 9 2
6	♦ 10 3
	♣ 10 6 3 2

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



♠ Q J 10 9 5
♥ 10 4
♦ A 8 7
♣ K Q 9

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

With 13 points you must either bid game or make a bid that forces partner to game. If partner has 3 or more ♠s then the game should be 4 ♠. If partner has only a doubleton ♠ then the game should be 3 NT. Only partner can decide, and the bid that tells him to make the decision is 3 ♠.

Partner has 3 of them so he bids 4 ♠.

Deal 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 10 9 7 4

♥ Q 4 2

♦ 8 4 2

♣ 4 2

♠ A J 3

♥ A J 6 5

♦ K 5

♣ Q J 6 3


 ♠ Q 6 2
 ♥ 10 9 8 3
 ♦ Q J 7 6 3
 ♣ 9

 ♠ 8 5
 ♥ K 7
 ♦ A 10 9
 ♣ A K 10 8 7 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	6 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♣ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

With 16 points you may be in slam range. You should alert partner of your big hand by jumping to 3 ♣. Partner says 4 ♣ and it is your bid again.

Don't make the mistake of bidding Blackwood when you have a doubleton-nothing in a suit. If partner has only one Ace you will be left not knowing what to do. Instead make a control-bid showing your ♦ A. Now partner bids 6 ♣ which ends the auction.

Deal 4West Deals
None Vul

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

9
21 3
 7

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 8 5
 ♥ 9 7
 ♦ K 10 9 8 7 3
 ♣ 9 6 2

♠ J 4 2
 ♥ Q 8
 ♦ J 6 5 4
 ♣ K 7 5 3

West *North* *East* *South*
 2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
 Pass Pass
 3 NT by West

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

You have 5 points, all in ♦s. That will take the partnership total to either 25 or 26, so you have a judgement call. If partner is unable to establish your ♦s then even 2 NT will probably be too high, so you might as well assume that he will be able to use them and bid 3 NT.

You hit the jackpot.