

Deal 1

North Deals	♠ K 10 8
None Vul	♥ A K 9 8 6 4
	♦ —
	♣ A K Q 7

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

19	♠ A 6 5 2
7 3	♥ Q J 5 2
11	♦ K J 3
	♣ 8 2

West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♥ by North			

Your partner's 3 ♥ is a limit-raise, 11-12 points with ♥ support. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

What you want to know is whether partner holds the ♠ A. If you bid 4 NT and he shows two Key-Cards all will be well, you will know they are the two missing Aces. But if he shows just 1 Key-Card you will be in the soup since you can't tell if that Key-Card is the useful ♠ A or the practically useless ♦ A. So you don't use RKCB, you use control-showing and bid 4 ♣. Partner says 4 ♥. What do you bid next?

Partner would have control-bid ♦s if he had the Ace. You may not think that helps but it does since now you can bid RKCB. You bid 4 NT and he answers 5 ♣. What is your next bid?

It was a lot of work but you have figured out that partner holds 11-12 points including one Key-Card which must be the ♠ A. It looks like the slam is a good idea so you say 6 ♥.

Deal 2

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

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

N
W E
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11	♠ A Q 9 7 4
6 7	♥ 8
16	♦ A 6 3 2
	♣ K Q J

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 NT	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♠ by South

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 3

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q J
♥ A 10 7 6
♦ A Q J
♣ Q J 9

♠ 9 6 4 3 2
♥ 5 2
♦ 8 6 2
♣ A 4 2

20
4 3
13



♠ 7 5
♥ Q J 3
♦ 10 7 5 4 3
♣ 8 7 3

♠ A 10 8
♥ K 9 8 4
♦ K 9
♣ K 10 6 5

<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 North			

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 4

North Deals
None Vul

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



♠ 6 5 3	♥ 3
♦ 10 9 8 6 3	♣ J 7 6 2

♠ 7
24
5 1
10
♦ K Q 9 8 5
♦ K Q 7 4
♣ 9 8 3

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

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 5North Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 6 2
♥ Q J 3
♦ J 9 6
♣ J 10 5 3

11
5 4
20

♠ A Q J 7 5 3
♥ 6 5
♦ A 4 3
♣ 8 2

♠ 8 4
♥ 10 7 2
♦ 10 7 5 2
♣ A 9 7 4

♠ K 10
♥ A K 9 8 4
♦ K Q 8
♣ K Q 6

<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 North			

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 ♠.