

**Deal 1**  
South Deals  
None Vul

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

4  
14 7  
15

West      North      East      South  
Pass      Pass      Pass  
1♦ by South

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

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



The bidding has been as shown. It is your turn. Decide what you would say, then on "" above.

You have 14 points but so what. You have no 5-card suit to Overcall. You cannot make a Takeout Double with 4 of their suit. So you pass. It is important to realize that there are hands you would open but cannot overcall with.

**Deal 2**East Deals  
None Vul

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

♠ A 7 5 3  
 ♥ K 10 9 3  
 ♦ K 9 6 4  
 ♣ 5



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

10  
 8 12  
 10  
 ♣ 8 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	3 ♥	1 ♣	1 ♥
Pass		Pass	Pass
3 ♥ by South			

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

With four trumps and 12 points you have a text-book raise to 3 ♥. Partner had a minimum overcall though, so he passed.

**Deal 3**East Deals  
None Vul

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

10      7  
 11      12

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 7 4 3  
 ♥ K 8 3  
 ♦ 6 3  
 ♣ 9 8 4 3

♠ K J 8  
 ♥ 10 9 6  
 ♦ Q 9 2  
 ♣ K Q J 10

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1♣	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
2♥ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid.

With 12 points and a good suit you have a very solid overcall so you bid 1♥. Partner responds 2♥. What do you say?

Partner is showing 6-10 points and three trumps. Your hand revalues to 14 at most so you pass.

**Deal 4**

East Deals

None Vul

**♠ A 10 8 5 2****♥ Q 7 6 2****♦ J 10 3****♣ K****10 7  
10 13**

**♠ 6**  
**♥ K J 9 4 3**  
**♦ K 9 4**  
**♣ 8 7 6 5**

	N		E
W		S	

**♠ 4 3**  
**♥ A 10 5**  
**♦ A 8 7 5**  
**♣ A J 10 2**

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

West	North	East	South
		<b>1 ♦</b>	<b>1 ♣</b>
Pass	Pass	Pass	
<b>1 ♣ by South</b>			

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

You really don't like partner's ♠s, and you do have 8 points. But 8 points is not enough to be considering game, and you would have to bid your ♥s at the 2-level. All things considered it is better to pass while you still aren't doubled.

**Deal 5**East Deals  
None Vul

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

9	10 9	9 4
8 14	♦ K Q J 7 5 2	♦ Q J 7
9	♣ 6 5	

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

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid.

You overcall 2 ♥ and hear partner raise you to 3 ♥. What do you say now?

No matter how many times you check this hand you cannot revalue it any more than 13 points. Since partner has T at the most you reluctantly pass.

**Deal 6**East Deals  
None Vul

♠ Q 6 2  
 ♥ 8 6  
 ♦ Q J 8 6  
 ♣ Q J 5 4

6  
 8 13  
 13

♠ J 8 3  
 ♥ A J 9 2  
 ♦ 10 7  
 ♣ 9 8 3 2

W N  
 S E

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

♠ A K 9 7 5  
 ♥ K 10 3  
 ♦ 9 5 3  
 ♣ K 7

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2♦	2♠	1♦	1♠
Pass		Pass	Pass
2♠ by South			

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

With only 7 points you might not think you have enough to make a "free bid". But in competitive bidding situations like these, where both sides have a fit, bidding is usually better than passing. So you bid 2♠.

You might look at the Law of Total Tricks lesson for more on this subject.