

**Deal 1**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

8  
7 8  
17

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

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



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

North

2 ♦

2 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

2 ♥

4 ♥

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.  
What do you bid?

Partner's command is your wish - you say  
2 ♥.

He now bids 2 NT. What do you say?

Partner's bidding shows 9 points and  
exactly 5 ♥. He asks that you take him  
back to ♥s if you have 3 of them. You do.  
He is asking you to bid game if you have  
17 points. You do.

So you bid 4 ♥.

With your 3-3-3-4 distribution you might  
have been tempted to bid 3 NT instead of  
4 ♥. It's a good thing you didn't, they  
would have killed you in ♠s.

**Deal 2**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

7  
11 7  
15

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

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

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♥.  
What do you bid?

The initial response to a transfer is really easy. You bid 2 ♠.

But what do you bid after partner then says 3 ♠?

Partner has 6 ♠s and you have 2. So a ♠ contract is fine.

Partner has 9 points and you have 15. So a game contract is too high.

You pass. And you're going to have to play great to make even 9 tricks!

**Deal 3**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K J 10 5

♥ Q J

♦ 10 7 5 4

♣ J 3 2

7  
8 8  
17

♠ 8 7 3

♥ A K 10 8 7 2

♦ 9 3

♣ 6 5



♠ Q 9 4 2

♥ 4 3

♦ A 8 6

♣ Q 10 7 4

♠ A 6

♥ 9 6 5

♦ K Q J 2

♣ A K 9 8

West

North

East

South

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

3 ♥

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.  
What do you bid?

You follow orders and say 2 ♥.

Partner follows up with 3 ♥. What do you  
bid next?

Partner has 9 points and 6 ♥s. You have  
17 points and 3 ♥s. That adds up to 26  
points and 9 ♥s. You have enough points  
for game and enough trumps to play ♥s  
so you bid 4 ♥.

**Deal 4**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

9  
8 6  
17

♠ 10 9 8 7 3  
♥ K Q 10  
♦ A 4  
♣ 10 7 3



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

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

3 NT by South

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♥.  
What do you bid?

You say 2 ♠ and partner rebids 2 NT.  
What do you bid?

Partner has 9 points and a 5-card ♠ suit.  
He is inviting you to choose a game if you  
have maximum.

Since you have 17 points you accept the  
invitation, but with only 2 ♠s you choose  
3 NT.

**Deal 5**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 6  
 ♥ 9 4  
 ♦ Q 10 9 6 3  
 ♣ A K 10 9 2

7  
 9 7  
 17

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

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



♠ A K  
 ♥ J 6 5  
 ♦ A K J 4  
 ♣ J 8 6 5

North

2 ♦

2 ♠

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

2 ♥

4 ♥

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.  
 What do you bid?

You obey partner and bid 2 ♥ but he then  
 bids 2 ♠.

What do you bid?

Partner has told you that he has an  
 inviting, 9-point hand with 5 of each  
 Major. He wants you to choose a Major  
 and also decide whether to play game or  
 partscore.

Despite your ♠s being so beautiful there  
 are only two of them so you pick ♥s. And  
 since you have a maximum 17 points you  
 bid the game, 4 ♥.

**Deal 6**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

10  
6 8  
16

♠ A K 8 7 3  
♥ K 10 9 6 5  
♦ 7 5  
♣ 9



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

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

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠ by South

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♥. What do you bid?

You say 2 ♠. Partner then bids 3 ♥. What do you bid?

Partner has a game forcing hand and is 5-5 in the Majors. He has asked you to choose one of them to bid game in.

With 3 of each you might be inclined to choose your stronger one, ♥s, but in fact that doesn't really matter since partner is probably stronger in ♠s.

What does matter is those minor suits. If the opening lead is a ♣ or ♦, which is very likely, you want the lead to be coming into your hand, not partner's. And in general you would prefer to have the stronger hand remain concealed. So you

bid 4 ♠ where you will be declarer, rather than 4 ♥ where partner would be declarer.