

Deal 1

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 6 4
♥ 9 8 3 2
♦ K 5 3
♣ Q 7 2

♠ K Q J 3

♥ A J 5

♦ 7 2

♣ 9 8 4 3

N

W

E

S

♠ A 5

♥ 10 7 4

♦ Q J 10 8 6

♣ J 10 6

♠ 10 9 8 2

♥ K Q 6

♦ A 9 4

♣ A K 5

11
5 8
16

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
| | | | 1 NT |
| Pass | 2 ♣ | Pass | 2 ♣ |
| Pass | 4 ♣ | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | | | |
| 4 ♣ by South | | | |

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

With 11 points and a 4-card Major suit you bid 2 ♣. Partner answers 2 ♣. What is your next bid?

Stayman bidding can be very straightforward. Partner has 4 ♠s, you have 4 ♠s. That makes 8. Partner has 15-17 points, you have 11-12 points. That makes 26-29.

You bid 4 ♣.

Deal 2
South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 8 6 3 2
♥ 6 4 3
♦ 10 8 3
♣ 7 5

18
1 5
16

♠ A 10 9 4
♥ K J 10 7
♦ A J
♣ K Q 3

♠ 7
♥ A 8 2
♦ 7 6 5 2
♣ J 10 9 8 4

N
W E
S

West North East South
Pass **2 ♣** Pass 1 NT
Pass 6 NT Pass Pass
Pass
6 NT by South

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You have a very big hand. Enormous. But you also have two 4-card Majors, so the first step is Stayman. You bid 2♣ and partner replies 2♦. What do you bid next?

You have 18 points and partner has 15, 16 or 17. Your total is between 33 and 35. You have enough POINTS for a small slam, not enough for a grand. You have no Major suit fit, and are happy to play notrump.

There is a lot to be said for bidding 6 NT immediately. You could ask for Aces if you like but whether partner shows one or two isn't going to change your decision. Be bold.

Deal 3

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|------|-------|
| South Deals | ♠ 4 | | |
| None Vul | ♥ K 10 9 7 | | |
| | ♦ K Q J 3 | | |
| | ♣ A K 8 5 | | |
| ♠ K 7 6 5 3 2 | ♠ A J 8 | | |
| ♥ 8 6 | ♥ 5 4 2 | | |
| ♦ 9 6 2 | ♦ 7 5 4 | | |
| ♣ 9 7 | ♣ 10 4 3 2 | | |
| 16 3 5 16 | ♠ Q 10 9 ♥ A Q J 3 ♦ A 10 8 ♣ Q J 6 | | |
| West | North | East | South |
| | | | 1 NT |
| Pass | 2 ♣ | Pass | 2 ♥ |
| Pass | 4 NT | Pass | 5 ♥ |
| Pass | 6 ♥ | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | | | |
| 6 ♥ by South | | | |

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You have another big hand. And with a 4-card Major you start with 2♣. Partner answers 2♥ and it's your turn again.

What with your singleton ♠ you certainly have enough points for slam. But since it's possible partner has only one Ace you check with Blackwood. Partner says 5♥ and you say . . . What?

Missing one Ace you bid 6♥.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 6 3
♥ —
♦ Q 9 4 2
♣ A J 7 6 5 2

10
7 6
17

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | N | |
| W | | E |
| | S | |

♠ A K Q 4 2
♥ J 10 7 6
♦ 7 5
♣ 9 3

♠ J 8 7
♥ A 8 4 3 2
♦ J 10 8
♣ 10 4

♠ 9 5
♥ K Q 9 5
♦ A K 6 3
♣ K Q 8

West North East South

Pass 2 ♣ Pass 1 NT
Pass 4 ♥ Pass 2 ♥
Pass

4 ♥ by South

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

This may go against your instincts, but if you're going to play Stayman then you should follow the rules. Granted that you have a great ♠ suit, you also have 4 ♥s. And when you have a 4-card Major you use Stayman. You bid 2 ♣ and partner says 2 ♥.

That is why you used Stayman - to uncover a 4-4 Major suit fit. Having done so you know that you will play in ♥s and you have enough points to bid game. You bid 4 ♥.