

**Deal 1**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

18  
4 8  
10

♠ A J 10  
♥ Q 10 7  
♦ K J 6  
♣ A K 8 3



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

♠ 9 8 5 3  
♥ A 9  
♦ Q 5 4 2  
♣ Q 4 2

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

You dealt this hand. What do you bid?

This would be an ideal hand to open 1 NT - well, it would be with one less point. But with 18 you are too strong to open 1 NT so you open 1 ♣. Partner responds 1 ♠. What do you bid next?

DO NOT fall into the trap of supporting partner's ♠s just because you have such nice help for him. He might have a 4-card suit. Instead, just describe your hand by jumping to 2 NT, showing a balanced hand with 18-19 points. Partner now bids 3 NT and you play it there.

**Deal 2**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

19  
7 8  
6

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by South

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



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

North

1 ♦

2 NT

4 ♠

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♠

3 ♠

Pass

You dealt this hand. What do you bid?

You open 1 ♦ and partner responds 1 ♠.  
What is your next bid?

Do not support what may be a 4-card suit with only 3 cards. Instead, jump to 2 NT, showing 18-19, balanced. Partner rebids the ♠s. What do you say next?

Partner shows a minimum hand, but with 6 ♠s. 3 NT is very tempting, and might work out fine, but with 9 ♠s it is probably better to play the suit game. So you bid 4 ♠ and everybody passes.

Bidding 4 ♠ was a good choice. It makes easily, yet 3 NT might have gone down.

**Deal 3**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 3

♥ 7 4 3 2

♦ A Q 10 9

♣ J 10 5

8

9 10

13

♠ J 10 9 6

♥ 8 5

♦ 7 4 2

♣ A K 8 3



♠ A K 7 4

♥ K Q 9 6

♦ J 8

♣ 9 7 6

♠ 8 5 2

♥ A J 10

♦ K 6 5 3

♣ Q 4 2

West

North

East

South

Pass

1 ♠

Pass

1 ♣

Pass

Pass

2 ♠ by North

2 ♠

The bidding is shown. Decide what you would say, then BID.

You have plenty good support to raise partner's ♣ suit. But your first priority is to show a 4-card Major suit if you have one. You do, so you respond 1 ♠. Partner raises you to 2 ♠.

Are you tempted to take partner back to ♣s since you have such good support? Don't be. Partner has 4 ♠s, but he might have only 3 ♣s.

Are you tempted to bid 3 ♠ since partner raised you? Don't be. He showed a minimum hand with his single raise and you only have 9 points. Just pass.

**Deal 4**

North Deals

None Vul

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

14  
 7 6  
 13

West

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

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



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

North

1 ♦

2 ♥

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♥

4 ♥

The bidding is shown. Decide what you would say, then BID.

Some might jump to 2 NT, "to show partner my point count". Some might jump to 3 ♦, "to force partner to game and show my ♦ support". The wise ones will just bid 1 ♥, striving to find an 8-card Major fit, the first priority of bidding.

You choose the 1 ♥ route, and partner obligingly says 2 ♥. What do you bid next?

Remember "She who knows, goes"? You know of the 8-card Major fit. You know of at least 26 combined points. You know you should bid 4 ♥, so you do.