

Deal 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ A J 8
♥ 5 4 2
♦ 7 5 4
♣ 10 4 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q 10 9
♥ A Q J 3
♦ A 10 8
♣ Q J 6

16
5 3
16

♠ K 7 6 5 3 2
♥ 8 6
♦ 9 6 2
♣ 9 7

West North East South
Pass 1 NT Pass 2 ♣
Pass 2 ♥ Pass 4 NT
Pass 5 ♥ Pass 6 ♥
Pass Pass Pass

6 ♥ by North

North 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 2

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A K Q 4 2
♥ J 10 7 6
♦ 7 5
♣ 9 3

6
10 17
7

♠ J 8 7
♥ A 8 4 3 2
♦ J 10 8
♣ 10 4

N
W E
S

♠ 9 5
♥ K Q 9 5
♦ A K 6 3
♣ K Q 8

♠ 10 6 3
♥ —
♦ Q 9 4 2
♣ A J 7 6 5 2

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

East 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 ♥.

Deal 3

North Deals	♠ 10 8 6
None Vul	♥ K Q 5
	♦ A 8 6 4
	♣ A K 10

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

16 8 6 10	♠ A K Q 4 2
	♥ J 10 7 6
	♦ 7 5
	♣ 9 3

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♠ by South			

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

Yes, this is the same hand as Deal 8. Again you bid 2 ♣. This time partner says 2 ♦.

You need to describe your hand clearly to partner with this bid. You want to show a game-forcing hand (11 points or more) with 4 ♥s and 5 ♠s. You do that by now jumping to 3 ♠.

If partner had just 2 ♠s he would have bid 3 NT. Since he has 3 ♠s he bids 4 ♠.

Deal 4West Deals
None Vul

♠ A Q J 9
 ♥ K J
 ♦ Q 7 6 4
 ♣ Q 5 3

7
 15 9
 9

W	N
S	E

♠ 8 6
 ♥ 7 4 2
 ♦ A K 5 2
 ♣ 10 9 6 2

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

♠ 7 5 3
 ♥ 8 5
 ♦ J 10 9 8 3
 ♣ A K J

<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 West			

Even when you hold a 6-card Major, if you have 4 cards in the other Major you use Stayman. Partner answers 2 ♠. What do you bid?

You've found an 8-card Major fit and you know there are enough points for game. So you bid 4 ♠.

Yes, but you already knew you had an 8-card ♥ fit since partner's 1 NT promised at least 2 ♥s. In fact, you could play game in either Major. However, it is often better to play in a 4-4 fit rather than a 5-3 or 6-2. This hand shows why. Played in ♥s you will make exactly T tricks with any opening lead. Played in ♠s you will again make T tricks when the defenders start with their 3 ♣ winners. If they start with anything else you are very

likely to make 1 or 2 overtricks by discarding dummy losers on your ♥ suit.

Deal 5
South Deals
None Vul

♠ K 10 4 2
♥ A Q 10 9 6 3
♦ —
♣ 8 7 4

♠ 8 5 3
♥ —
♦ A 10 8 5 3 2
♣ K J 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ 9 7 6
♥ 8 7 5 4 2
♦ K J 9
♣ A 9

♠ A Q J
♥ K J
♦ Q 7 6 4
♣ Q 6 5 3

9
8
15

West North East South
Pass 2 ♣ Pass 1 NT
Pass 4 ♥ Pass 2 ♦
Pass

4 ♥ by North

This is the follow-up to Deal T. South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

Just like the previous deal with a 4-card Major you use Stayman. This time partner says 2 ♦. Your turn again.

With partner showing no 4-card Major the bidding takes a turn. With your 6 ♥s you are sure of an 8-card fit in the suit. With 11 points you must be sure of reaching game. So you bid 4 ♥.

In this case the strong hand does not become declarer, but the contract is the right one anyway.

Deal 6East Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 3
 ♥ K Q 7 4
 ♦ 7 6 4 3
 ♣ A 8 2

8
 9 15
 8

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

W N E
 S

♠ K 10 4 2
 ♥ A 3
 ♦ Q J 9 5
 ♣ K Q 7

♠ A J 9
 ♥ 6 5 2
 ♦ K 8 2
 ♣ 10 5 4 3

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

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

Partner has commanded you to bid a 4-card Major if you have one. You have one, so you bid 2 ♠. Partner now says 2 NT. What do you bid?

Partner evidently has 4 ♥s. He also evidently has about 9 points since he is INVITING you to bid 3 NT. With your minimum 15 points you decline the invitation by passing.