

Deal 1

South Deals
None Vul

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

11	8	9
4	17	Q J 10 7 5
		♦ A K Q 3
		♣ K Q 4

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

5 ♥ by South



♠ Q J 7 6 5	♥ A 6	♦ 9 7 2	♣ J 10 7
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Your 3 ♥ bid showed 11-12 points. Decide how you would answer partner's Blackwood 4 NT, then on BID above.

The Blackwood response for 1 Ace is 5 ♦. Partner evidently was hoping for 2, and he signs off at 5 ♥. He is the Captain so you pass.

Deal 2East Deals
None Vul**♠ A 10 7 6****♥ J 6 5****♦ 7 4 2****♣ 8 7 3****♠ K 9 5****♥ A 7****♦ K Q 3****♣ K Q J 6 4****♠ 4 3 2****♥ 10 9 8 4 3****♦ J 5****♣ 10 5 2****♠ Q J 8****♥ K Q 2****♦ A 10 9 8 6****♣ A 9****18**
5 1
16

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	6 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 NT by South			

Your 1 NT bid showed 15-17 points and a balanced hand. Decide how you would answer partner's Gerber 4 ♣, then on BID above.

The Gerber response to show 2 Aces is 4 ♠. So you bid 4 ♠ and partner jumps to 6 NT, which you pass.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8
♥ K 2
♦ K Q J 10 8 4 3
♣ A 3

♠ 6 3 2
♥ A 8 6 4 3
♦ —
♣ 9 8 6 5 2

16
4 4
16

♠ A Q J
♥ Q J 10 5
♦ 9 7 5
♣ K Q J

N
W E
S

♠ 10 9 7 5 4
♥ 9 7
♦ A 6 2
♣ 10 7 4

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

Very interesting! If partner's 1 NT bid happens to include 3 Aces and one King you can count 13 tricks ♠o you bid 4 ♣, definitely Gerber following the 1 NT opening. Partner answers 4 ♥. What do you say next?

You almost refuse to believe it! How can partner have a 1 NT opener with only 1 Ace? But you trust your partner so you bid 4 NT. Everybody passes and you stare in amazement at partner's 16 points.

Wouldn't it have been funny if partner had thought your 4 ♣ bid was Stayman? And so his 4 ♥ bid would have been showing a suit. And then your 4 NT bid would have been Blackwood. And then he would have answered 5 ♦ and you would have passed and made it!

Deal 4East Deals
None Vul

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

15
1 4
20

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q 7
 ♥ A 6 5
 ♦ Q 10 8 3
 ♣ K J 4

♠ 4 3 2
 ♥ 8 7 4
 ♦ A 9 7 4
 ♣ 9 6 2

♠ A 9 8
 ♥ K Q J 10
 ♦ K J 6
 ♣ A Q 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	2 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	6 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 NT by South			

With a 20 point balanced hand you open 2 NT. What do you rebid after partner jumps to 4 ♣?

The 4 ♣ bid is Gerber and your correct response with 2 Aces is 4 ♠. Partner now bids 6 NT and since he is the Captain you pass.

Deal 5

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A K

♥ K 9 4 2

♦ K Q J 10 5 4

♣ 8

♠ Q J 9 5 2

♥ 5

♦ 8

♣ K J 10 9 4 3



♠ 10 7 6 3

♥ Q 7

♦ A 9 7 2

♣ Q 6 2

16
7 8
9

♠ 8 4

♥ A J 10 8 6 3

♦ 6 3

♣ A 7 5

West

North

East

South

2 ♥

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♥

Pass

6 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♥ by South

Partner opens a Weak 2-bid and catches you with a blockbuster. The only thing you want to know about his hand now is how many Aces he has. So you bid 4 NT. Partner answers 5 ♥. What do you bid?

That makes it simple, with 2 Aces you bid a confident 6 ♥. If he had 1 Ace you would have bid an also confident 5 ♥. If he had zero Aces you would have been in a spot of trouble. And if he had 3 Aces you would have asked him how he could open a Weak-2 with that many points.

Deal 6

North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q J 7 4
♥ 7 4
♦ J 9 7 4
♣ 10 8 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 5
♥ A 9 8 5
♦ A Q
♣ K Q J 5 4

♠ 10 3 2
♥ 6 3 2
♦ 5 3 2
♣ A 9 7 2

♠ A 9 8 6
♥ K Q J 10
♦ K 10 8 6
♣ 3

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

6 ♥ by South

You MIGHT say that with 13 points and partner controlling the ♣s you could jump to 2 NT, "To show you my points, partner." You might say it but you won't because your first priority is to look for a Major suit fit. You bid 1 ♥ (skipping ♦s with the two Majors). Partner now jumps to 4 ♥. What do you say?

Partner says you can make game even if you have a minimum 6 points. So he must have about 20. So you think you can make slam and you bid 4 NT. Partner answers 5 ♥. What do you bid?

Partner shows 2 Aces so you bid 6 ♥.

Deal 7

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 4 2
♥ 9 8 7 6 3 2
♦ A 2
♣ 9 7

♠ A K
♥ K 10
♦ K Q J 9 4
♣ K 10 8 3



♠ 9 8 7 5 3
♥ J 4
♦ 6 5 3
♣ J 6 4

19
5 2
14

♠ Q 10 6
♥ A Q 5
♦ 10 8 7
♣ A Q 5 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	6 NT		
6 NT by South			

You dealt this hand.

You have 20 points and it would not be terrible to open 2 NT. However, strictly speaking you shouldn't open 2 NT with two doubletons. So you open 1 ♦. Partner responds with a jump to 2 NT. What do you bid?

With partner's 13-15 added onto your 20, bidding 6 NT would be a reasonable bid. However, it costs nothing to check for Aces first, so you bid 4 ♣. (Everybody agrees this is Gerber, right?) Partner answers 4 ♠. What do you bid?

Easy, missing one Ace you bid 6 NT.

Deal 8

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 5
♥ 9 8 4 2
♦ Q 5 3 2
♣ 10 8 5 2

¹¹
₂ 5
₂₂

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A Q J 8 7 3
♥ 6
♦ 10 8 6
♣ A 6 3

♠ K 6 4
♥ J 7 3
♦ J 9 7 4
♣ 9 7 4

♠ 10 9 2
♥ A K Q 10 5
♦ A K
♣ K Q J

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	5 NT
Pass	6 ♣	Pass	6 NT
ALL	Pass		
6 NT by South			

You dealt this hand.

With 13 points and a good Major suit you naturally open 1 ♠. Partner responds 3 ♥. What do you bid next?

We are playing strong jump-shifts by Responder so partner is showing 17+ points. However, you are still stuck with your minimum opening so you just rebid 3 ♠. Partner bids 4 NT. What is your reply?

He asks for Aces so you bid 5 ♥ showing 2. He now bids 5 NT. What do you say?

You have no King. So you reply 6 ♣ and partner bids 6 NT (safer than 6 ♠).

Deal 9

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A K	♥ K 8 5 3	♦ K Q J 4	♣ A 9 3
♠ Q 10 9 8 7	♥ 6	♦ A 9 6 5 2	♣ Q 10
20			
8 6			
6			
	♠ 6 4 2	♥ A Q 9 7 4 2	♦ —
	♣ 8 5 4 2		



West North East South

Pass	4 NT	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	6 ♦
Pass			Pass
6 ♥ by South			

You need to find out about Aces so you bid 4 NT. Partner says 6 ♦. What do you bid?

Partner has shown one Ace and a ♦ void. As to what you bid, that's easy. You have no choice now but to say 6 ♥. This is a pretty good slam, but it is not cold. Maybe West will not lead a ♣. Or maybe East will have the ♦ A.

Deal 10

North Deals	♠ K Q 4
None Vul	♥ K Q J 3
	♦ K Q J 5
	♣ A K

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

24	♠ A 10 7
5 1	♥ 9 5 2
10	♦ A 10 8 6
	♣ Q 6 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	2 ♣	Pass	2 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	6 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 NT by South			

Not everybody responds to 2 ♣ openers the same way. But with 9 balanced points 2 NT is reasonable. Partner jumps to 4 ♣. What do you bid?

With 2 Aces your response is 4 ♠. Partner bids 6 NT and you pass.

Deal 11

South Deals

None Vul

♣ 7

♠ 5

♥ J 10 8 4 2

♦ 6 2

♣ Q 10 8 4 2

	N		E	
W				S
	♦ 10 9 7 3		♣ 9 6 3	

♠ A 10

♥ A K 7 6

♦ A 8 5

♣ A K J 5

West

North

East

South

2 ♣

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

2 NT

Pass

4 ♣

Pass

4 ♦

Pass

7 NT

Pass

Pass

7 NT by South

Interesting hand. Too bad these only come up in lessons and never at the table! You could jump right into Ace-asking but there is no rush so you say 2 ♠. Partner now rebids 2 NT. What do you say?

Now you know all about partner's hand. 22-24 points, balanced. Now ask for Aces. If you agree that 4 ♣ is Gerber here then that's what you should bid. If not, then you would have to use Blackwood. Partner answers 4 ♦. What do you say?

The 4 ♦ reply says either zero or all four. Put your money on all four and bid 7 NT.

Deal 12

North Deals	♠ A Q J 2
None Vul	♥ K Q J
	♦ J 6
	♣ K Q J 8

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

N
W E S

♠ K 10 9 8 3
♥ 2
♦ A K 10 4
♣ A 7 3

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♠ by South

With 15 points and a nice 5-card suit you respond 1 ♠. Partner jumps to 4 ♠. What do you say?

Do NOT say "Partner bid a close-out bid so I'll pass." Partner's bid means he thinks you can make 4 ♠ even though he is only counting you for 6 points. Since you have 15+ now you want to go for more. You bid 4 NT and partner answers 5 ♦. What do you say next?

Partner has 1 Ace so you can go no higher than 6. Although you can't tell for sure that slam will make, remember you used Blackwood just to be sure you weren't missing two Aces. You are not and you have enough points so you bid it. Although you can see that 6 NT would have been a great contract you had to take the safer 6 ♠.

Deal 13
South Deals
None Vul

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

11
4 5
20

N
W E
S

♠ 7
♥ 10 5
♦ A 5 4 3 2
♣ J 9 8 7 5

♠ A K J 8 3
♥ K Q 7 6
♦ 9 8
♣ A K

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♠ by South			

You dealt this hand.

You aren't strong enough to open 2 ♣ so you bid 1 ♠. Partner responds 3 ♠. What do you say?

Partner's limit-raise shows 11-12 points and you revalue your hand up to 22. So you are definitely in slam territory. You hope partner has 2 Aces but you cannot use Blackwood with that worthless doubleton in ♦s. Instead you make a control-showing bid of 4 ♣. Partner then bids 4 ♥. What do you bid next?

The good news is that partner's control-showing bid says he has the ♥ A. The bad news is that he bypassed ♦s so he does not have the ♦ A. Since you may have 2 quick losers in ♦s you sign off at 4 ♠.

Deal 14

East Deals

None Vul

♠ J 10 2
♥ 10 9 5 3 2
♦ Q 4
♣ 9 8 7

16
3 4
17

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

	N
W	E
	S

♠ A K 4 3
♥ Q J 8 6
♦ A 9
♣ Q J 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	4 NT	Pass	1 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	6 NT
6 NT by South			

Decide what you would bid, then on BID above.

You have a textbook 1 NT opener, so you open 1 NT. Partner says 4 NT. What do you bid?

THIS IS NOT BLACKWOOD. Partner's bid is the Quantitative 4 NT. He has 16 points and is inviting you to bid slam if you have a maximum opener, but to pass with a minimum. Since your 17 point hand is at the top of the 1 NT range you accept the invitation and bid 6 NT.

Deal 15

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 5 2

♥ —

♦ K 5 4 2

♣ Q 10 9 8 3 2



♠ K Q J 8 3

♥ K 8 7 6 4

♦ 7

♣ A K

♠ A 10

♥ Q 10 2

♦ 10 9 8 6

♣ J 6 5 4

16

5

12

♠ 9 6 4
♥ AJ 9 5 3
♦ A Q J 3
♣ 7

West North East South

1 ♥

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♥

Pass

6 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♥ by South

You COULD make a Splinter Bid with this hand. You have a singleton ♦ and great trump support. However it is usually not worthwhile Splintering when you have the strong hand that will be taking control. Since what you really want to know is how many Aces partner has you just ask him with a 4 NT bid. Partner answers 5 ♥. What do you bid?

Missing one Ace you bid 6 ♥.

Deal 16North Deals
None Vul

♠ J 8 5
 ♥ A 6 3 2
 ♦ 7 6 3
 ♣ 10 9 8

¹⁷
 5 3
₁₅

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

♠ A 10 6 4 3
 ♥ K 8
 ♦ K J 5
 ♣ K J 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6♠ by South

Decide what you would bid, then on BID above.

You have a good hand, but not good enough to jump-shift at your first turn. So you respond 1♠. Partner now jumps to 3♠. What do you bid?

Partner has 16-18 points and ♠ support. It depends on the Aces so you bid 4 NT. His answer is 5♥. What do you say?

You are missing one Ace but 6♠ should be a good slam.

Deal 17

North Deals	♠ K Q J
None Vul	♥ A J 4
	♦ A 10 5 3
	♣ J 10 8

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

W	N
S	E

♠ A 5 3
♥ K Q 5
♦ K Q J 8 7 4
♣ 9

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♦ by South

After toying with the idea of a jump to 6 NT, or perhaps a Gerber 4 ♣, you decide to bid 3 ♦. Partner rebids 4 ♦ and it is your turn.

Time to check for Aces. You bid 4 NT and partner answers 5 ♥. What do you bid?

Tempting though it may be it is too dangerous to try 6 NT. So you bid 6 ♦ which turns out to be laydown while 6 NT would have been down 4.

Deal 18

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 6
♥ J 8
♦ K Q J 10 9 6 5 4 2
♣ 4

18
7 8
7

♠ K 10 7 4 2
♥ A K
♦ A
♣ K J 8 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ —
♥ Q 10 7 5 3 2
♦ —
♣ A Q 10 9 7 5 2

♠ A Q J 9 8 5 3
♥ 9 6 4
♦ 8 7 3
♣ —

West North East South

Pass 4 NT Pass 6 ♣
Pass 7 ♠ Pass Pass

Pass
7 ♠ by South

You dealt this hand.

You decide to preempt 3 ♠ with this hand. Partner's eyes wobble and he jumps straight to 4 NT. What do you bid?

With 1 Ace and a void in a lower-ranking suit you should bid 6 of that suit. So you bid 6 ♣. Partner jumps again, this time to 7 ♠. What do you b . . . oh never mind.

Deal 19

South Deals	♠ A 7		
None Vul	♥ K Q 10 8 6 5 4 3		
	♦ 4		
	♣ K 6		
♠ 10 9 8 6 5 4 2	♠ 3		
♥ —	W N E S		
♦ A 8 7 6 3	♦ 10 9 5 2		
♣ 2	♣ 10 9 8 5 4 3		
	♠ K Q J		
12	♥ J 9 7		
4 4	♦ K Q J		
20	♣ A Q J 7		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by South			

If you play Jacoby Transfers you may think of transferring partner to ♥s, then bidding the slam. but with this hand there really is no big advantage for partner being the Declarer so you decide to just take the bull by the horns. You bid a Gerber 4♣. Partner says 4♥. What do you bid?

Partner has only a single Ace in his 2 NT opener. No slam for your team. You pass and let partner be the Declarer after all!

Deal 20

South Deals	♠ A 8 4 3
None Vul	♥ Q J 9 8 6
	♦ A 9 8 4
	♣ —

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

♠ KJ
11
6 9
14
♦ K 6
♣ 8 7 3



West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 NT	Pass	7 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

7 ♥ by South

Your 4 ♣ bid is a Splinter Bid, showing an opening hand with good ♥ support and either a singleton or a void in ♣s. Decide what you would reply to partner's 4 NT, then on BID above.

With 2 Aces and a void the correct response is 5 NT. Partner now bids 7 ♥. Notice how he cleverly figured out your void must be in ♣s.