

The Jacoby 2NT convention

Reminder

23/12/15

The convention is to bid 2NT when partner has opened 1 of a major.

2NT shows

13+ points (so game forcing, may include distributional points for doubletons)

4+card trump support

No shortage in a side suit (as you would have bid a splinter bid)

Remember if you play Jacoby 2NT you **must not** use 2NT over 1 of a major to show 11/12 points balanced.

Typical hands to bid 2NT Jacoby might be:

Over 1♣, bid 2NT with:

♠ A 8 6 3

♥ Q 8 4 3

♦ K Q 7

♣ K 3

Over 1♥, bid 2NT with:

♠ K Q 2

♥ K J 7 6

♦ A 9

♣ Q 7 4 3

Opener rebid:

With at least five of the major suit and 4+ in a second suit, bid that suit at the three level.

With a singleton or void (preferably in a minor) bid that suit at the four level (splinter)

With 15+ balanced bid 3NT

With none of the above and a good 13+ and a longer suit (usually at least 6), bid 3 of the major

With none of the above (ie a minimum) sign off in 4 of the major (although partner may bid on)

Notes:

Prefer to show a shortage (splinter) rather than a second suit, unless it is a particularly good second suit.

Generally we only play the Jacoby 2NT over a major suit opening, not a minor.

So after you open 1♥ and partner bids 2NT, what would you bid with these:

1♥ - P - 2NT - P

?

♠ A Q 6 3

♥ Q 8 4 3

♦ K Q 7

♣ K 3

Ans: 3NT (15+ balanced)

1♥ - P - 2NT - P

?

♠ K 2

♥ A Q 7 5 2

♦ K Q 7 3

♣ J 4

Ans: 3♦ (5+ hearts and 4+ diamonds)

1♥ - P - 2NT - P

?

♠ A Q 3
♥ Q J T 6 5 2
♦ A Q 4
♣ 7

Ans: 4♣ (splinter)

1♥ - P - 2NT - P

?

♠ Q J 6
♥ A Q 9 8 5 3
♦ A K
♣ 5 3

Ans: 3♥ (good 13+ and a six card suit)

1♥ - P - 2NT - P

?

♠ K 8
♥ A T 8 6 4 3
♦ Q 6 2
♣ K 2

Ans: 4♥ (minimum)

1♥ - P - 2NT - P

?

♠ K 9 3
♥ A K 7 5 3
♦ A J 7 3
♣ 7

Ans: 4♣ (splinter, prefer this, rather than show a second suit)

1♥ - P - 2NT - P

?

♠ K 5
♥ A Q T 8 6
♦ K Q J T 4
♣ 5

Ans: 3♦ (this time it is a good second suit and well worth showing)

1♥ - P - 2NT - P

?

♠ Q 8
♥ Q 8 7 3 2
♦ A J 7 3
♣ Q J

Ans: 4♥ (minimum, not worth showing the second suit)

Depending on openers rebid, partner should have a good idea where the bidding is heading and can sign off, cue bid or bid RKCB.