

Mistakes to avoid in responder second bid

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Indicating partner the wrong point range

Bids of 1NT, rebidding our suit or supporting partner at the lowest level indicate a point range of 6-10.

West	North	East	South
	1♦	pass	1♠
pass	2♦	pass	??

K♠ J♠ 9♠ 8♠ 7♠ 4♠ K♥ J♥ 9♥ 8♥ 7♥ 4♥	A♥ 2♥ A♥ 2♥	8♣ 2♣ 8♣ 2♣	K♦ 7♦ 4♦ 4♦ K♦ 7♦ 4♦ 4♦
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To repeat our suit with **2♠** is wrong because it will tell partner we are in the 6-10 point range.

The correct bid is **3♠**

Indicating partner the wrong point range

West	North	East	South
	1♦	pass	1♥
pass	2♣	pass	??

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

To bid **2♥** or even **3♥** is wrong because it indicates respectively the point range of 6-10 and 11-12 and we have 15.

Since we don't have enough hearts to bid **4♥** we need the artificial bid of **2♠** to continue the auction.

Not making an effort to find a 5-3 fit in a major suit

When we have 5 cards in a major suit and partner didn't support us in the first round of the auction, we can still have a fit when he has 3 cards.

Before deciding to play in no trump, we should give partner one last chance to give us a three card fit.

West	North	East	South
	1♦	pass	1♥
pass	1NT	pass	??
A♠ 3♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠	A♥ J♥ 8♥ 3♥ 2♥ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠	K♣ 9♣ 8♣ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠	A♦ 7♦ 2♦ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠

To bid **3NT** “is lazy”, if partner has 3 cards in hearts **4♥** will be a statistically superior contract.

We need the artificial bid of **2♣** to continue the auction.

Improper use of artificial bids

As a general rule, we should only use artificial bids when we don't have natural alternatives available.

West	North	East	South
	1♦	pass	1♥
pass	1♠ ¹	pass	??

Hand diagrams showing the cards for each player:

- West:** 10♠, 5♠, 10♥, 5♥
- North:** K♥, 9♥, 7♥, 6♥, 5♥, A♣, 8♣, 4♣
- East:** A♦, 8♦, 4♦, 3♦, 3♦
- South:** A♦, 6♦, 3♦, 3♦

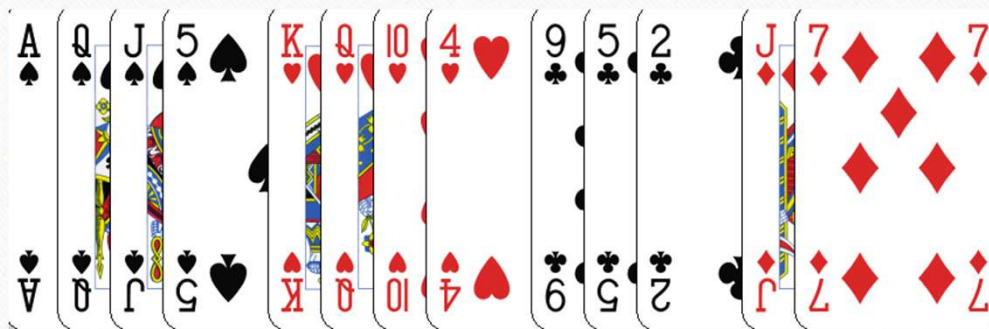
It would be useful to know if partner has 3 hearts but bidding **2♣** here would be a mistake.

This is because it would be the artificial fourth suit bid, which is 'forcing to game', and we only have 11 points.

In this situation, we should limit ourselves to invite partner to game with **2NT**

Improper use of artificial bids

West	North	East	South
	1♦	pass	1♥
pass	2♣	pass	??



We have enough points to use the fourth suit with a bid of **2♠**, but that would be a mistake as it is a completely useless bid.

With enough points for game, no fit in the majors and good spade stoppers, **3NT** is the only correct bid.