

R IS FOR REVERSE

A REVERSE by the opener occurs when he bids his second suit in such a manner that his Partner has to go past the two level to return to opener's first suit.

To summarize a reverse by opener:

1. Shows 16 17 + H.C.P.
2. Five or more cards in the first suit
3. Four or more cards in the second suit and
4. Is forcing for one round

Examples of the reverse auctions after a one level response:

OPENER	RESPONDER
1 Club 2 Diamonds	1 Heart
1 Club 2 Diamonds	1 Spade
1 Diamond 2 Hearts	1 Spade
1 Heart 2 Spades	1 NT

You'll note that in each of these auctions, if the responder – who has not promised more than 6 H.C.P. wants to go back to opener's first bid suit, she has to go to the three level. Taking a preference at the 3 level is the hallmark of an opener reverse. There's no such thing as a reverse at the one – level.

As responder, if you don't have at least 16-17 H.C.P., DON'T REVERSE.

	A7	OPENER 1 Diamond	
	AK65	2 HEARTS (REVERSE)	
	AKJ983	3 CLUBS (ASKS STOPPER)	
	9		
Q8 2 CLUBS			K1065 PASS
974 PASS			J102 PASS
Q7			1054 PASS
AQJ1086			743
	J9432	1 SPADE	
	Q83	2 SPADES	
	62	3 NO TRUMP	
	K52		

What is your next bid on each of these auctions?

1. You Hold: KQ6 AQ107 7 Q10864 - 1 Club by you – 1 Spade by partner – your bid??
2. You Hold: KQ6 AQ107 7 Q10864 1 Club by you – 1 Diamond by partner – your bid??
3. You Hold: KQ194 AKQ753 Void KJ3 1 Heart by You – 1 NT by partner – your bid??
4. You Hold J7532 J53 A6 974 1 Club partner – 1 Spade you – Partner 2 Diamonds - you?
5. You hold: K6 73 AQ86 AQJ85 - 1 club by you – 1 Spade by partner your bid????
6. You Hold: KQ10 K853 J63 1086 1 Club by partner – 1 Heart you – 2 diamonds – your bid?

All reverse hands are unbalanced

Reverse is a 1 round force

Strong Jump Shift is forcing to game

When you jump in a suit that's already been bid, it's invitational

Reverse should be called Forward

If you don't play reverses, then don't reverse

No reverse at the 1 level

ARTICLE: Bridge Player's Survival Kit by Leslie Shafer

Similarities of reverses and jump shift

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February 2021 Bridge Bulletin Relearning Bridge – part 11 by Karen Walker