

## UNUSUAL 2 NT (Not an Alert)

The convention's used to describe a two-suited hand after the opponents open the bidding at the 1 level. (It's not on over a weak two)

Convention card, check 2 lowest, this is usually the minors, comes up mostly after your right-hand opponent opens 1 heart or 1 spade and you bid 2 NT directly. This shows at least 5-5 in the two lowest unbid suits, in this case, the minors.

The high-card point count is based partly on vulnerability and partly on distribution, including suit length and quality.

1 Heart – 2 NT shows at least 5 Clubs and 5 Diamonds.

1 Spade – 2 NT also shows Clubs and Diamonds.

1 Club – 2 NT shows Diamonds and Hearts

1 Diamond – 2 NT Shows Clubs and Hearts

REMEMBER : 2 NT over a minor NEVER includes spades.

Advantages: (1) you describe your hand in 1 bid. (2) It's pre-emptive, forcing the opponents to compete at the 3 level. (3) Facilitates finding sacrifices against your opponent's vulnerable games. (4) You can compete for the final contract.

Partner opens 1 Heart, Opponent bids Unusual 2 NT – 4 Hearts by you is pre-emptive  
You have to double, then bid game to show opening hand or better.

Partner opens 1 Heart, Opponent bids 2 NT – Double by you is penalty oriented, can set 1 suit or both  
Example – 74 Q42 AJ43 KJ74

You and your partner have to decide what 1 Heart, Opponent Unusual 2 NT, what's 3 Hearts?  
What's 3 Diamonds?, what's 3 clubs?

My suggestion – 3 of partner's major over Unusual 2 NT is a good 2 level raise,  
2 Diamonds or 3 Clubs, is a Limit Raise with values in that suit., or shows a Stopper in that suit, looking for NT

Bidding Question: You hold: 983 7 KJ543 AQ96

Opponent opens 1 Spade, you pass, 2 Spades, Pass, Pass to you? Feels right to balance,  
Can't double, partner will surely bid hearts, SOLUTION: 2 NT, can't be natural, you passed 1 spade, must be minor-suit take-out.

Remember: when partner bids Unusual 2 NT and you have a fit and a GOOD sacrifice,  
Do it right away, take up the opponent's room. You hold xx xxxx xx Q10xxx , bid 5 clubs.

AKQ93 DEALER – 1 SPADE  
J1053 ????  
52  
A5

J1072  
A62 ????  
Q3  
Q972

84 2NT - Unusual  
9  
AJ874  
KJ1084

65  
KQ874 ????  
K1096  
63

You get to finish the auction, bid for South, West, and North.

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7652  
J96 PASS  
8732  
K4

3  
A10732  
Q9 2 NT- Unusual  
A10952

QJ98  
K85 Your Bid?  
K4 and why?  
Q863

AK104  
Q4 DEALER – 1 DIAMOND  
AJ1065  
J7

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TIPS: When all your honor cards are in you two long suits, add 1 extra “purity” point.

When fortunate enough to have a powerful trump suit and being forced to ruff, tend not to ruff with your lowest trump. That tiny trump might be your only entry to dummy.

It is dangerous to count extra points for short suits and long suits before the bidding starts.

After partner has limited his hand and you know what the final contract should be, bid it!  
The one who knows, goes!

Jumps to game by the describer are NOT shut-out bids, they convey points.

Jumps to game by the decider ARE shut out bids.