



Revision

When partner opens 1 of a suit, if you have less than 6 high card points you pass.

N	E	S	W	<u>West</u>
	1♥	P	P	♠ J 10 9 8
				♥ K 9 5 4
				♦ 4 3 2
				♣ 7 4

If you have six or more high card points and four of partner's suit, especially if your partner bid a major, you raise the suit according to your high card point count.

N	E	S	W	<u>West</u>
	1♥	P	3♥	♠ J 10 9 8
				♥ K 9 5 3
				♦ A K 4
				♣ 7 4

In this example West has eleven High Card Points. The jump-raise to 3♥ shows partner four or more hearts and ten to twelve high card points.



Otherwise

If you have six or more HCP, but not four of your partner's suit, you will choose from three options:

1. Reply by bidding a different suit ("changing suit") at the one level, or
2. Reply by bidding a different suit at the two level, or
3. Reply by bidding 1NT.

Changing Suit at the One Level

If you have four or more cards in another suit that you can bid at the one level, make a change-of-suit reply to that suit.

N	E	S	W
	1♥	P	1♠

West

♠ A K J 10 9

♥ K 9 5

♦ A J 9

♣ 7 4

- A change of suit is a **forcing** bid – opener must make a rebid, opener must not pass.
- This is a "wide-ranging" bid and promises your partner that you have at least **six** high card points, but you **may have a lot more.** (You will get another chance to bid.)
- It promises at least four cards in the suit bid, and the suit is usually the longest, or equal longest, suit in the hand.
- It doesn't necessarily deny support for the first suit bid, it asks opener for more information.



Reply Changing Suit at the TWO Level

If you cannot bid a new suit at the one level, but have a different suit that can only be bid at the two level,

and

you have 10+ HCP (or perhaps a quality 9 high card points), make a change-of-suit reply to that suit.

N	E	S	W
	1♥	P	2♦

West

♠ A K J
♥ K 9 5
♦ A J 9 8 7
♣ 7 4

- A change of suit is a forcing bid – opener must make a rebid, opener must not pass.
- This is a “wide-ranging” bid and promises your partner that you have at least ten high card points, but you may have a lot more. (You will get another chance to bid.)
- You need to have at least TEN high card points, because you increase the number of tricks your side must make to eight.
- It promises at least four cards in the suit bid, and the suit is usually the longest, or equal longest, suit in the hand.
- It doesn't necessarily deny support for the first suit bid, it asks opener for more information.

Note special case: You show a five-card heart suit if you change suit over 1♠ opening to 2♥, otherwise, a bidding a four-card suit is fine.



What if you have 6, 7, 8 or 9 HCPs and no suit to bid at the one level and cannot raise partners opening suit?

N	E	S	W
	1♥	P	1NT

West

♠ A Q J

♥ 4 3 2

♦ 10 5

♣ 7 6 5 4 3

This is sometimes called the “dustbin” bid. There is a whole list of things you cannot bid:

- ♣ You cannot Pass because you have more than 5 HCP
- ♣ You cannot bid 1♠ because you don't have four spades
- ♣ You cannot bid 2♣ because you don't have 10+ HCPs
- ♣ You cannot bid 2♦ because you don't have four diamonds or 10+ HCPs
- ♣ You cannot bid 2♥ because you don't have four hearts or 6-9 HCPs
- ♣ So, you bid 1NT

In the next lesson, we will look at opener's second bid, known as a re-bid.