

Quantitative Bidding

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Description: *Quantitative* bidding is a *conventional* system used to find a NT slam contract after *partner* has made a natural NT bid. It is based on the combined HCP of both hands, and, while it appears a “*sledge-hammer*” approach, it provides the flexibility to achieve the optimum contract level, with a safe exit into 4NT.

Rationale:

- ◆ 33 chcp is sufficient for a NT small slam contract. *At most, 1 ace is missing!*
- ◆ 37 chcp is sufficient for a NT grand slam contract. *Not missing any aces!*

When to use: Its usages are;

- In response to partner’s opening NT bids, also holding a balanced hand. Less likely, but possible, it can also be used when opener makes a natural NT re-bid (*Partnership agreement.*)

Pre-requisites; Your hand should be balanced, and must contain;

- ❖ Sufficient strength to add to partner’s indicated strength to achieve ≥ 33 chcp. *E.g. Partner has opened 2NT (20-22 hcp and a balanced hand). If you have 11 hcp, your combined hcp is 31-33, you can invite opener to bid a small slam. Opener will accept holding a maximum 22 hcp, else exit into a safe 4NT contract when they do not!*

Benefits; The convention may lead to a slam score against other pairs who only bid a 3NT contract yet make 12 tricks.

Invoke; **Quantitative** bidding is invoked by responding to partner's NT bid with a **[4NT{A}]**, or higher NT bid, according to **your hcp** in the tables below. The tables include opener's follow up bidding options to set the contract.

Table 1

Opener has bid 1NT (weak)				
Your hcp	Your Bid	Opener's hcp		
		12	13	14
19	[4NT]	31	32	33
20	invite	32	33	34
21	[6NT]	33	34	35
22	sign-off	34	35	36
23	[5NT]	35	36	37
24	invite	36	37	38
25+	[7NT]	37	38	39
		Your combined hcp		

Table 2

Opener has bid 2NT				
Your hcp	Your Bid	Opener's hcp		
		20	21	22
11	[4NT]	31	32	33
12	invite	32	33	34
13	[6NT]	33	34	35
14	sign-off	34	35	36
15	[5NT]	35	36	37
16	invite	36	37	38
17+	[7NT]	37	38	39
		Your combined hcp		

Table 3

Opener has re-bid 1NT			
Your hcp	Your Bid	Opener's hcp	
		15	16
17	[4NT]^{inv}	32	33
18	[6NT] sign-off	33	34
19		34	35
20		35	36
21	[5NT]^{inv}	36	37
22	[7NT] sign-off	37	38
23+		38	39
		Your combined hcp	

Opener's follow-up bid(s)	
1	[NB]
2	Jump raise to [6NT]
3	Simple raise to [6NT]
4	Jump raise to [7NT]

Table 3. This table illustrates a partnership agreement to use Quantitative bidding when opener **re-bids** 1NT, showing 15-16 hcp.
E.G. **[1C>>1H>>1NT>>4NT(A)]**