

FORCING AND NON-FORCING BIDDING SEQUENCES

Following 4th suit forcing by responder (game force)

When Responder uses 4th suit forcing (FSF) he will have at least an 11 count and may only have values for 2NT unless a major fit is found. Most auctions after 2NT are game forcing (GF) but it is possible that there is no fit and Opener is just showing his distribution:

1♣ - 1♥
1♠ - 2♦
3♣

Responder may have 5-4 or maybe 5-5 and an 11count, and Opener may be 4-5 in the blacks.

If Responder bids a suit after his 4th suit bid then this is FG. He could have made a limited natural bid instead of 4th suit if he wasn't strong enough to bid to game.

Responder reverses (FG)

1♣ - 1♥
2♣ - 2♠

New suit at the three level (Forcing)

1♠ - 2♦
2♠ - 3♣

Jump by responder into opener's first suit (NF)

1♣ - 1♥
1♠ - 3♣ limit bid (8-loser, 11-12 TPs)

1♣ - 1♦
1♥ - 3♣ limit bid (8-loser, 11-12 TPs)

Jumps to the four level

1♦ - 1♠
1NT - 4♦ slam interest

1♠ - 2♣
2NT - 3♣ slam interest (playing 2NT as FG)

1♠ - 2♣
2NT - 4♣ slam interest with excellent self-supporting suit (typically AKJ10xxx)

Opener raises the first response

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1♥ - 2♣ }
3♣ - 3♥ }
} 3-hearts
} limit bid | 1♣ - 1♦ }
2♦ - 3♣ }
} minor to minor – limit bid |
| 1♥ - 2♦ }
3♦ - 3♥ }
} minor to major
} for better scoring | 1♦ - 2♣ }
3♣ - 3♦ } – limit bid |
| 1♠ - 2♣ }
3♣ - 3♠ }
} 3-spades
} – limit bid | 1♥ - 1♠ }
2♠ - 3♥ }
} major to major – limit bid (3-card
} support) – limit bid |
| 1♠ - 2♦ }
3♦ - 3♠ }
} – limit bid | 1♠ - 2♥ }
3♥ - 3♠ } GF with 3-card ♠ suit |
| 1♣ - 1♥ }
2♥ - 3♣ }
} would only have 4-card ♥ suit, and worried partner has raised with 3-card
} support – limit bid | |
| 1♣ - 1♠ }
2♠ - 3♣ }
} would only have 4-card ♠ suit, and worried partner has raised with 3-
} card support – limit bid | |
| 1♦ - 1♥ }
2♥ - 3♦ } | |
| 1♦ - 1♠ }
2♠ - 3♦ } | With these last three auctions, Opener should bid 3M when he has 4-card support |

Miscellaneous

1♣ - 1♥ 3♣	good 6 card suit and 7 tricks. Any rebid, below game, by responder is forcing (one round force)	1♣ - 1♥ 1NT - 2♠	reverse by responder (forcing)
1♣ - 1♦ 3♦	6-loser hand (would have bid 2♦ with a 7-loser hand)	1♣ - 1♥ 2♠	jump rebid, by opener, is forcing to game
1♣ - 1♥ 2♦	reverse following a one level response sets up a 1-round force after 1-level Responder bid	1♦ - 2♣ 2♠ - 2NT	Game forcing after a 2-over-1 reverse

1♦ - 1♥ 2♦ - 3♥	encouraging but not forcing	1♥ - 2♣ 2♠ - 3♥	Game forcing after a 2-over-1 reverse
1♦ - 1♠ 1NT - 3♦	Game forcing and suggesting a 5-card ♠ suit	1♥ - 1NT 3♦	jump in a minor, by opener, is forcing for one round
1♥ - 2♥ 3♥	only pre-emptive	1♥ - 2♥ 3♦	trial bid (game try) – forcing to 3♥
1♥ - 1♠ 3♠	6-loser hand	1♥ - 1♠ 1NT - 3♥	forcing to game with 3-card ♥ support
1♠ - 1NT 3♥	5-4 and forcing to at least 3♠	1♠ - 3NT	4333 balanced raise with 13-15 HCPs
1♥ - 2♣ 2♦ - 3♥	3-card support, 8-loser hand		