LANDY

Defence to 1NT

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LANDY

Landy is a common defence to a 1NT opening by the opposition.

It works in a similar way to Stayman when your partner has opened 1NT and you hold a four card major suit.

The artificial 2♣ Landy bid (alerted by partner) shows your partner you have at least a 4/4 holding in both majors with the **majority of your points being in the majors**

After a 1NT bid by the opposition your bid choices are:

Pass	0 to 14 with no 5 card suit or 4/4 in the majors.
2♣ Landy	8 to 14 with at least 4/4 in the majors. Note the weaker the points the longer the suits need to be.
2♦/♥/♠	10 to 14 and at least a 5 card suit.
3♣	10 to 14 and a good 5 card suit or 6 card suit.
Double	15+ points a Double of a 1NT is for penalties.

Note that if you are on lead with a good point count but can not double and you can see 6 or 7 tricks, be happy to defend if the vulnerability is in you favour.

Below are some hands that are suitable for a 2♣ Landy overcall.

A) ♠ KQJ4
♥ AQJ6
♦ 9852
♣ 5

With 13 points and two good majors this hand is ideal for a 2♣ Landy overcall.

B) ♠ AQ73
♥ KQT72
♦ 842
♣ 5

11 points and a 5/4 shape with the points in the majors.

C) ♠ QJT62
♥ KQT75
♦ 64
♣ 4

Lower point count of 8 but with 5/5 in the majors this hand also in suitable for the 2♣ Landy overcall.

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Answering the 2♣ Landy bid.

You must respond in your longest major with 0 to 9 points.

If you have equal length in the majors with 0 to 9 points you bid 2♦ and partner will choose their better major.

With 13+ points and no 4 card major you bid 2NT

With major support (4+ cards) you bid either 3♥/♠ with 8 losers or 4♥/♠ with 7 losers.

With 10 to 12 points bid 2♦ then support the major with a fit at the 3 level, bid 2NT or pass.

Table.

Pass	Only when you hold low points, less than 3 cards in the majors and a 7+ card ♣ holding.
2♦	Relay; asking partner who bid 2♣ Landy to choose their better major.
2♥/♠	3+ cards in that major but only 0 to 9 points.
2NT	13+ points and no 4 card major.
3♥/♠	4+ card support with 8 losers.
4♥/♠	4+ card support with 7 losers.

The 2NT response will come up very rarely and this is when the 2♣ Landy overcaller needs to add points together and bid appropriately.

The Pass option is **ONLY** available when you hold a 7+ ♣ suit and low points otherwise you must bid.

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Play Hands

Exp 1

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♣	P
2♠	P	P	P

North opens 1NT.
East with two 5 card major suits and 10 points bids 2♣ Landy.
West with minimum points chooses their longer major and bids 2♠. East passes.

West
♠ Q64
♥ 72
♦ QJ52
♣ T843

East
♠ AKT72
♥ QJT84
♦ 63
♣ 7

Contract 2♠ West

Lead ♣K

North
♠ J93
♥ A93
♦ KT4
♣ KQJ2

West
♠ Q64
♥ 72
♦ QJ52
♣ T843

East
♠ AKT72
♥ QJT84
♦ 63
♣ 7

South
♠ 85
♥ K65
♦ A987
♣ A965

As soon as East bids 2♣ Landy, North/South are unable to find the best contract of 2NT. 2NT North will make losing the first 5 ♠ tricks.

West ends up playing in 2♠. 2♠ will make taking 5♠ tricks and setting up the long ♥ suit in East giving us another 3 tricks for a total of 8.

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Exp 2

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♣	P
2♦	P	2♥	P
P	P		

East bids 2♣ Landy.
West with two majors of equal length and 0 to 9 points bids 2♦. This bid asks their partner to bid their longer / preferred major suit.
East chooses 2♥ their longer major to end the auction.

West
♠ 964
♥ T73
♦ K543
♣ J98

East
♠ QJT3
♥ AK954
♦ Q62
♣ 4

Contract 2♥ East Lead ♣K

North
♠ AK2
♥ Q86
♦ JT7
♣ A652

West
♠ 964
♥ T73
♦ K843
♣ T98

East
♠ QJT3
♥ AK954
♦ Q62
♣ 4

South
♠ 875
♥ J2
♦ A95
♣ KQJ73

East bids 2♣ Landy.
West responds 2♦, bid your better major partner, East bids 2♥.
2♥ by East might just make or go one down but this should still give East / West a good score because North / South can make nine tricks in NT.

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Exp 3

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♣	P
3♥	P	4♥	P
P	P		

East bids 2♣ Landy
West responds 3♥ to show 4+ card support and a 8 loser hand.
The ♦Q downgraded as a loser.
With only 6 losers East bids game.

West
♠ 4
♥ AK62
♦ Q872
♣ 8542

East
♠ AKT63
♥ QJT87
♦ T
♣ 73

Contract 4♥ West

Lead ♦A

North
♠ QJ7
♥ 943
♦ AK95
♣ AT9

West
♠ 4
♥ AK62
♦ Q872
♣ 8542

East
♠ AKT63
♥ QJT87
♦ T
♣ 73

South
♠ 9852
♥ 5
♦ J643
♣ KQJ6

West can make their 4♥s but it will take careful play.
We count our losers in East / West : 0♠, 0♥, 1♦ and 2♣ = 3.
North / South win the first three tricks.
What happens if we draw out all the trumps when we get in, we will end up with a ♠ loser because we only have one ♥ trump left in West.
The answer is to play two rounds of trumps and then play the ♠A.
This creates a void in West and we now play a small ♠ trumping in West
We now play a small ♦ over to the East hand which we trump.
Now a 2nd small ♠ from East trumping with our last trump in West.
Another small ♣ or ♦ trumping in East.
It is now we draw out the last trump from North before cashing our ♠s from the top.

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Exp 4

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♣	P
2NT	P	3♥	P
3NT	P	P	P

East bids 2♣ Landy
West with only 2 cards in both majors bids 2NT which shows 13+ points and no 4 card major.
East now shows their 5 card ♥ holding and the higher end point count. West if they had 3♥s would bid the game in ♥s but as they only have two sign off in 3NT.

West
♠ 93
♥ K4
♦ AQJ7
♣ AT842

East
♠ KQJ7
♥ QJT63
♦ 8
♣ K93

Contract 3NT West Lead ♦2

North
♠ A852
♥ A75
♦ KT32
♣ Q7

West
♠ 93
♥ K4
♦ AQJ7
♣ AT842

East
♠ KQJ7
♥ QJT63
♦ 8
♣ K93

South
♠ T64
♥ 982
♦ 9654
♣ J65

West counts their straight away off the top winners; 0♠, 0♥, 1♦ and 2♣ = 3
The small ♦ lead gives us a forth trick. We will make our remaining tricks in the ♠ and ♥ suits once we have removed the aces from the North hand.

How do we know that North holds both aces?

In a competitive auction you can normally work out someone's point count by the bidding.

North opened 1NT (12 to 14). Declarer can see both their hand and dummy so can add up their points; 12 in dummy East and 14 in West giving a total of 26.
26 plus the guaranteed 12 in North leaves South with a maximum of 2 points, therefore no aces.

On a ♦ lead declarer can make 11 tricks only losing the two major suit aces.

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