

# Stayman Foundation

(DLM ref : HBSET8)

<div><div><div>♠ AQ3</div><div>♥ K76</div><div>♦ Q75</div><div>♣ K432</div></div><div><div>♠ 10952</div><div>♥ QJ108</div><div>♦ KJ8</div><div>♣ 108</div></div><div><div>♠ 87</div><div>♥ 94</div><div>♦ A10643</div><div>♣ J976</div></div><div><div>♠ KJ64</div><div>♥ A532</div><div>♦ 92</div><div>♣ AQ5</div></div></div>	<div>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td></tr><tr><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♦ denies holding a 4-card major. South bids the obvious game. East leads a fourth highest ♦4. West rises with ♦K (third hand high) and returns ♦J, allowing the defenders to take the first five tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South		1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass			
West	North	East	South														
	1NT	Pass	2♣														
Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT														
All Pass																	
<div><div><div>♠ 109532</div><div>♥ A109</div><div>♦ J108</div><div>♣ 87</div></div><div><div>♠ KJ64</div><div>♥ Q532</div><div>♦ 92</div><div>♣ AQ5</div></div><div><div>♠ AQ</div><div>♥ K876</div><div>♦ Q75</div><div>♣ K432</div></div><div><div>♠ 87</div><div>♥ J4</div><div>♦ AK643</div><div>♣ J1096</div></div></div>	<div>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♥ shows four hearts and possible four spades as well. 3♥ confirms the heart fit and is a game try. With a maximum 1NT East raises to game. South cashes ♦A K and switches to ♣J. Maybe declarer wins ♣A and leads ♥2. Provided North plays low (as second hand) the defenders will come to two trump tricks to beat the contract.</p>	West	North	East	South			1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass
West	North	East	South														
		1NT	Pass														
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass														
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass														
<div><div><div>♠ KJ64</div><div>♥ KJ32</div><div>♦ 92</div><div>♣ AQ10</div></div><div><div>♠ 872</div><div>♥ Q105</div><div>♦ AK64</div><div>♣ 864</div></div><div><div>♠ 10953</div><div>♥ 94</div><div>♦ Q1083</div><div>♣ K97</div></div><div><div>♠ AQ</div><div>♥ A876</div><div>♦ J75</div><div>♣ J532</div></div></div>	<div>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1NT</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♥ shows four hearts and possible four spades as well. North has enough for game. Maybe West cashes ♦A K and switches to ♣J. Declarer tries ♣10, hoping West has ♣K but East wins ♣K. East returns a club. Declarer wins dummy's ♣A, crosses to ♥A, successfully finesses dummy's ♥J and cashes ♥K, drawing the last trump. He should make the rest of the tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South				1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass	
West	North	East	South														
			1NT														
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥														
Pass	4♥	All Pass															

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<div><div><div>♠ 8 7</div><div>♥ 9 4 2</div><div>♦ A J 6 4 3</div><div>♣ 9 7 6</div></div><div><div>♠ A Q 3</div><div>♥ K 7 6 3</div><div>♦ 8 7</div><div>♣ K J 4 3</div></div><div><div>♠ K J 6 4</div><div>♥ A 5</div><div>♦ Q 9 2</div><div>♣ A Q 5 2</div></div><div><div>♠ 10 9 5 2</div><div>♥ Q J 10 8</div><div>♦ K 10 5</div><div>♣ 10 8</div></div></div>	<div>Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <div>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♥ shows four hearts and possible four spades as well. 3NT says that East doesn't have four hearts, and therefore must have four spades (otherwise he wouldn't have bid Stayman). North leads ♦4, fourth highest. If declarer asks for dummy's ♦Q South takes ♦K and returns a diamond, but what if declarer plays low from dummy? South must try ♦10. It wins and the defenders take the first five tricks. ♦K must be held back to prevent dummy's ♦Q being a winner.</div>	West	North	East	South	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass				
West	North	East	South														
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass														
2♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass														
<div><div><div>♠ A Q J 9</div><div>♥ K 7 6 3</div><div>♦ 7 2</div><div>♣ K 9 5</div></div><div><div>♠ 6 5 4</div><div>♥ Q J 10 8</div><div>♦ A 6 4</div><div>♣ J 8 2</div></div><div><div>♠ 3 2</div><div>♥ 9 4 2</div><div>♦ K Q J 10</div><div>♣ Q 10 7 6</div></div><div><div>♠ K 10 8 7</div><div>♥ A 5</div><div>♦ 9 8 5 3</div><div>♣ A 4 3</div></div></div>	<div>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <div>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♥ shows four hearts and possibly four spades as well. 2NT is a game try and says that South doesn't have four hearts, and therefore must have four spades (otherwise he wouldn't have bid Stayman). With four spades as well as four hearts North prefers a spade contract, and being maximum for 1NT he bids game. East leads ♦K Q and a third diamond. Declarer ruffs, but if he draws trumps he is one trick short. He might cash ♠A K and ♥A K and start a cross ruff in the red suits. This way he makes six trump tricks.</div>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass	
West	North	East	South														
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣														
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<div><div><div>♠ 6 5 4</div><div>♥ J 10 8</div><div>♦ A 6 5</div><div>♣ J 8 6 2</div></div><div><div>♠ K 10 8 7</div><div>♥ A 5</div><div>♦ 9 8 4 3</div><div>♣ A 4 3</div></div><div><div>♠ A Q J 9</div><div>♥ Q 7 6 3</div><div>♦ 7 2</div><div>♣ K 9 5</div></div><div><div>♠ 3 2</div><div>♥ K 9 4 2</div><div>♦ K Q J 10</div><div>♣ Q 10 7</div></div></div>	<div>Board 6 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>3♠</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <div>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♥ shows four hearts and possible four spades as well. 2NT is a game try and says that West doesn't have four hearts, and therefore must have four spades (otherwise he wouldn't have bid Stayman). With four spades as well as four hearts East prefers a spade contract, but being minimum for 1NT he settles for 3♠. South leads ♦K Q and a third diamond. Declarer ruffs, but if he draws trumps he is one trick short. He should cash ♥A and lead a heart to his ♥Q and South's ♥K. Later declarer cashes ♠A K and cross ruffs in the red suits. This way he makes six trump tricks.</div>	West	North	East	South	2♣	Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass	2♥	Pass			3♠	All Pass
West	North	East	South														
2♣	Pass	1NT	Pass														
2NT	Pass	2♥	Pass														
		3♠	All Pass														

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<div><div><div>♠ 62</div><div>♥ AQ654</div><div>♦ AQJ</div><div>♣ 753</div></div><div><div>♠ 985</div><div>♥ 109</div><div>♦ 985</div><div>♣ AKQ82</div></div><div><div>♠ KJ103</div><div>♥ 873</div><div>♦ 10432</div><div>♣ J10</div></div><div><div>♠ AQ74</div><div>♥ KJ2</div><div>♦ K76</div><div>♣ 964</div></div></div>	<div>Board 7 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</div> <div><div><div>West</div><div>North</div><div>East</div><div>South</div></div><div><div>Pass</div><div>3♥</div><div>Pass</div><div>1NT</div></div><div><div>All Pass</div><div></div><div></div><div>4♥</div></div></div> <div><p>It would be inappropriate for North to use Stayman because he is looking for a 5-3 major fit, not a 4-4 fit.</p><p>East leads ♣J. The defenders cash three club tricks but declarer makes the rest with the aid of a successful spade finesse.</p></div>
<div><div><div>♠ 10</div><div>♥ 9432</div><div>♦ 32</div><div>♣ QJ9654</div></div><div><div>♠ J654</div><div>♥ AQJ6</div><div>♦ J65</div><div>♣ A3</div></div><div><div>♠ Q32</div><div>♥ 5</div><div>♦ AKQ87</div><div>♣ K872</div></div><div><div>♠ AK987</div><div>♥ K1087</div><div>♦ 1094</div><div>♣ 10</div></div></div>	<div>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all</div> <div><div><div>West</div><div>North</div><div>East</div><div>South</div></div><div><div>1NT</div><div>Pass</div><div>3NT</div><div>All Pass</div></div></div> <div><p>It would not be sensible for East to use Stayman to: 'check whether West has four hearts before bidding 3NT. If he does West will respond 2♥, East will jump to 3NT and West (assuming that East has four spades) will correct to 4♠.</p><p>North leads ♣Q. Declarer can win ♣K and finesse ♥J for his ninth trick. Even if the finesse had failed he would have a ninth trick in ♥Q.</p></div>
<div><div><div>♠ A942</div><div>♥ 62</div><div>♦ AK76</div><div>♣ J63</div></div><div><div>♠ 753</div><div>♥ KJ98</div><div>♦ J10</div><div>♣ KQ109</div></div><div><div>♠ KQJ108</div><div>♥ 1075</div><div>♦ 932</div><div>♣ A8</div></div><div><div>♠ 6</div><div>♥ AQ43</div><div>♦ Q854</div><div>♣ 7542</div></div></div>	<div>Board 9 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</div> <div><div><div>West</div><div>North</div><div>East</div><div>South</div></div><div><div></div><div>1NT</div><div>All Pass</div><div></div></div></div> <div><p>South would like to find a 4-4 heart fit (if one exists) but he dare not risk it because he is unprepared for a 2♠ response to Stayman. If South then tried to rescue himself with 2NT North would think he had 11-12 points.</p><p>Declarer can cash four diamond tricks because the suit breaks 3-2, and a successful heart finesse gives him a seventh trick.</p></div>
<div><div><div>♠ 753</div><div>♥ J983</div><div>♦ J10</div><div>♣ KQ109</div></div><div><div>♠ 6</div><div>♥ AKQ4</div><div>♦ Q854</div><div>♣ 7542</div></div><div><div>♠ A942</div><div>♥ 62</div><div>♦ AK76</div><div>♣ J63</div></div><div><div>♠ KQJ108</div><div>♥ 1075</div><div>♦ 932</div><div>♣ A8</div></div></div>	<div>Board 10 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</div> <div><div><div>West</div><div>North</div><div>East</div><div>South</div></div><div><div>2♣</div><div>Pass</div><div>1NT</div><div>Pass</div></div><div><div>2NT</div><div>All Pass</div><div>2♠</div><div>Pass</div></div></div> <div><p>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♠ shows four spades and denies four hearts. 2NT shows 11-12 points.</p><p>Declarer can cash four diamond tricks because the suit breaks 3-2, bringing his total to eight.</p></div>

<div><div><div>♠ 9765</div><div>♥ K432</div><div>♦ Q8765</div><div>♣ -</div></div><div><div>♠ J42</div><div>♥ J9</div><div>♦ A10</div><div>♣ KQ6542</div></div><div><div>♠ A108</div><div>♥ Q1086</div><div>♦ 94</div><div>♣ A1083</div></div><div><div>♠ KQ3</div><div>♥ A75</div><div>♦ KJ32</div><div>♣ J97</div></div></div>	<div>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</div> <div><div><div>West</div><div>North</div><div>East</div><div>South</div></div><div><div>Pass</div><div>2♣</div><div>Pass</div><div>1NT</div></div><div><div>All Pass</div><div></div><div></div><div>2♦</div></div></div> <div><p>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♦ denies holding a 4-card major, which North passes. Note that North was prepared for any response to his 2♣ enquiry: he would have happily passed any rebid by South.</p><p>The most noteworthy card-play point here is that after drawing trumps declarer avoids two spade losers by twice leading up to his ♠K Q. The 3-3 spade break may even give him a third spade trick.</p></div>
<div><div><div>♠ 107</div><div>♥ 75</div><div>♦ K10854</div><div>♣ A643</div></div><div><div>♠ AQ2</div><div>♥ K62</div><div>♦ A763</div><div>♣ 952</div></div><div><div>♠ 96543</div><div>♥ AQ43</div><div>♦ 92</div><div>♣ 87</div></div><div><div>♠ KJ8</div><div>♥ J1098</div><div>♦ QJ</div><div>♣ KQJ10</div></div></div>	<div>Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</div> <div><div><div>West</div><div>North</div><div>East</div><div>South</div></div><div><div>1NT</div><div>Pass</div><div>2♣</div><div>Pass</div></div><div><div>2♦</div><div>Pass</div><div>2♠</div><div>All Pass</div></div></div> <div><p>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♦ denies holding a 4-card major. 2♠ is a sign off. The obvious implication of this sequence is that East has four hearts as well as four spades.</p><p>South starts with three rounds of clubs. Declarer ruffs, finesses ♠Q, cashes ♠A and leaves the last trump out because it is a winner. Now he cashes ♥K A Q and ruffs his losing heart in dummy. He makes nine tricks.</p></div>
<div><div><div>♠ AQJ</div><div>♥ 763</div><div>♦ Q1053</div><div>♣ K52</div></div><div><div>♠ 9862</div><div>♥ AQ1098</div><div>♦ 92</div><div>♣ A8</div></div><div><div>♠ 1073</div><div>♥ KJ54</div><div>♦ AK87</div><div>♣ 93</div></div><div><div>♠ K54</div><div>♥ 2</div><div>♦ J64</div><div>♣ QJ10764</div></div></div>	<div>Board 13 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</div> <div><div><div>West</div><div>North</div><div>East</div><div>South</div></div><div><div>Pass</div><div>1NT</div><div>Pass</div><div>2♣</div></div><div><div>All Pass</div><div>2♦</div><div>Pass</div><div>3♣</div></div></div> <div><p>2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♦ denies holding a 4-card major. 3♣ is a sign off.</p><p>Declarer is in a good contract, but West starts with ♦9, top of a doubleton. East cashes ♦A K and leads a diamond for West to ruff. West can now cash ♥A and ♣A for one off.</p></div>

<div><div><div>♠ QJ10</div><div>♥ Q754</div><div>♦ 8</div><div>♣ AJ743</div></div><div><div>♠ 9754</div><div>♥ 10986</div><div>♦ 543</div><div>♣ 109</div></div><div><div>♠ K86</div><div>♥ AK</div><div>♦ KJ10976</div><div>♣ 82</div></div><div><div>♠ A32</div><div>♥ J32</div><div>♦ AQ2</div><div>♣ KQ65</div></div></div>	<div>Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♦</td><td>1NT</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>The 1NT overcall shows 16-18 points and preferably two stoppers in the opposition suit. 2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♦ denies holding a 4-card major. North bids the obvious game.</p> <p>West leads ♦4, his partner's suit and second highest because it is a suit without an honour. East's ♦K loses to declarer's ♦A. Declarer now takes five club tricks and plays ♠Q for a finesse. When East has ♠K he makes ten tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♦	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
West	North	East	South														
		1♦	1NT														
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦														
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<div><div><div>♠ K75</div><div>♥ 1098</div><div>♦ 543</div><div>♣ 10953</div></div><div><div>♠ A43</div><div>♥ KJ32</div><div>♦ A62</div><div>♣ KQ6</div></div><div><div>♠ QJ102</div><div>♥ Q754</div><div>♦ 8</div><div>♣ AJ74</div></div><div><div>♠ 986</div><div>♥ A6</div><div>♦ KQJ1097</div><div>♣ 82</div></div></div>	<div>Board 15 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♦</td></tr><tr><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>The 1NT overcall shows 16-18 points and preferably two stoppers in the opposition suit. 2♣ is Stayman, asking for a 4-card major and guaranteeing he holds one unless his next bid is 3♣. 2♥ shows four hearts and possible four spades as well. East bids the obvious game.</p> <p>North leads ♦4, his partner's suit and second highest because it is a suit without an honour. South's ♦9 loses to declarer's ♦A. Declarer should now draw trumps, cash his clubs (discarding a diamond) and play ♠Q, taking a finesse. Declarer probably expects the finesse to win because he is only missing 13 points and South opened the bidding, but it fails. He makes eleven tricks</p>	West	North	East	South				1♦	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass
West	North	East	South														
			1♦														
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass														
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<div><div><div>♠ Q87</div><div>♥ J63</div><div>♦ AK8</div><div>♣ AQ107</div></div><div><div>♠ AK</div><div>♥ 10</div><div>♦ QJ10972</div><div>♣ KJ85</div></div><div><div>♠ 642</div><div>♥ 987542</div><div>♦ 653</div><div>♣ 9</div></div><div><div>♠ J10953</div><div>♥ AKQ</div><div>♦ 4</div><div>♣ 6432</div></div></div>	<div>Board 16 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>3♠</td></tr><tr><td>1♦</td><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>The 1NT overcall shows 16-18 points and preferably two stoppers in the opposition suit. It would be inappropriate for South to use Stayman because he is looking for a 5-3 major fit, not a 4-4 fit.</p> <p>West leads ♦Q, won by ♦K. Declarer starts drawing trumps. Eventually he tackles the clubs: a low club to ♣10. This wins. Later he successfully leads a club to dummy's ♣Q. Eleven tricks made. At some stage he will discard the fourth club in his hand on ♦A.</p>	West	North	East	South				3♠	1♦	1NT	Pass		Pass	4♠	All Pass	
West	North	East	South														
			3♠														
1♦	1NT	Pass															
Pass	4♠	All Pass															