

Major Suit Opening Bids

Requirements for opening with a major suit at the one level:

- a) 13+ HCP (counting for length)
- b) 5+ cards in the suit

Responses to a major suit opening bid:

- a) Pass with 0-5 HCP
- b) Raise partner with support (at least 3 or more cards in the suit)
 - 1. Single raise- 6-9 HCP
 - 2. Jump raise- 10-12 HCP
 - 3. Raise to game- 13+ HCP
- c) Bid a new suit at the 2 level- 10+ HCP and at least four cards in the suit (1H-P-2C)
- d) Bid a new suit at the 1 level- 6+ HCP and at least four cards in the suit (1H-P-1S)
- e) Rebid NT without support for partner's suit
 - 1. 1NT- 6-9 HCP
 - 2. 2NT- 10-12 HCP
 - 3. 3NT- 13-15 HCP

Somethings to remember:

- a) With 6 or more HCP you should respond with some bid. Do not pass, as partner could have enough for game.
- b) Raises and NT responses all have upper limits, so opener may pass.

c) A new suit response has no upper limit. Therefore, opener must make another bid.

d) With both major suits of five cards each open with 1S.

What would you open the bidding with the following?

a) J7654 AKQ6 K87 9

b) AK A76542 8765 9

c) AKQJ 876 A3 8765

d) AQ876 KJ7 AQ76 8

e) 98 KJ765 AQJ87 9

What would you respond after 1H-P-?

a) 987 Q87 A765 876

b) K7 76 A8765 9876

c) Q543 76 87 KJ765

d) 987 Q87 A765 AJ8

e) 76 J7 AQ765 K872