

4 Suit Transfers

Make the Most of the Captain's Chair

references:

[http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/Commonly_Used_Conventions/
jacobytransfers.pdf](http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/Commonly_Used_Conventions/jacobytransfers.pdf)

<http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/commonlyusedconventions.pdf>
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4 Suit Transfers

Recommended NT System

- * Stayman
- * Garbage Stayman
- * Crawling Stayman
- * Smolen
- * Major Suit Transfers
- * Minor Suit Transfers
- * Texas Transfers

4 Suit Transfers

Rationale

- * Why are transfers important?
- * Allows the strong hand to play
 - * Usually a 0.5-1.5 trick advantage
 - * Opening lead comes up to NT opener's high cards
- * Puts responder in control of the auction
 - * Can show weak, invitational, or strong hands

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Jacoby (Major Suit) Transfers - Basics

- * Bid the suit **below** your 5+ card major
 - * 1NT-2♦! shows 5+ ♥
 - * 1NT-2♥! shows 5+ ♠
- * Responder is captain, NT opener **always** completes/accepts the transfer
 - * Super-accept: jump to 3 or bid new suit
- * Responder shows his hand:
 - * Weak: Pass
 - * Invitational: Bid 2NT with 5, or bid 3 with 6+ ♥ / ♠
 - * Strong: Bid game

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Jacoby (Major Suit) Transfer Examples

* Responder: ♠ Axxxx ♥ Txxx ♦ xx ♣ xx

* Transfer to ♠, then pass

* Responder: ♠ x ♥ QJTxx ♦ Kxxx ♣ JTx

* Transfer to ♥, then invite with 2NT (NOT 3♥)

* INT-2♦!- 2♥-2NT- 3♥-P- (opener is not inviting!)

* Responder: ♠ AJxxxx ♥ xxx ♦ QJx ♣ x

* Transfer to ♠, then invite with 3♠

* Responder: ♠ QTxxx ♥ Kx ♦ KQxxx ♣ x

* Transfer to ♠, then force to game with 3♦

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Super-Accepting

- * Always have 4 trumps (follow the LAW)
- * Have 16-17 HCPs with prime values
- * Std: Jump to 3 (MAX with 4 trumps)
- * Ciaffone: Jump to 3: MIN w/4 (nuisance)
- * Ciaffone: Bid next step up: MAX w/4
 - * Responder re-transfers and passes to decline
 - * Responder accepts by bidding new 2nd suit or re-transfers and bids new suit to splinter

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Teaser Answer

* Auction: 1NT-2♣- 2♦-2♠- ??

- * Not GF, and not Garbage, therefore invitational
- * Started with Stayman, so must have 4 card major
- * Opener denied 4 in a major,
Responder must be 5♠ and 4♥ invitational

* What about 4♠ and 5♥ invitational?

- * **NOT:** 1NT-2♣- 2♦-2♥-, this is Garbage
- * 1NT-2♦!- 2♥-2♠- this is 4♠ and 5♥

* **NOTE:** invitational auctions end at 2-level

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Minor Suit Transfers - Inferior Solutions

- * 2♠ relays to 3♣, pass or correct to 3♦
- * Advantage: 1NT-2NT is natural
- * 2♠ is Minor Suit Stayman,
2NT transfers to 3♣, 3♣ transfers to 3♦
- * Advantage: can show hands with both minors
- * Advantage: Strong hand always plays contract
- * Responder can only show weak hands
- * NT opener cannot super-accept

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Minor Suit Transfers - A Better Way

- * Bid 2 steps below your minor
 - * 1NT-2♠ shows any strength with 6+♣
 - * 1NT-2NT shows any strength with 6+♦
- * Gap: the step in-between (either NT or ♣)
- * Gap: a super-accept in the minors
 - * By partnership agreement, gap is either +/-
 - * Bidding gap with Gap+ means super-accept: not minimum with 3+ cards in suit including A/K/Q
 - * Accepting transfer with Gap+ is negative

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Minor Suit Transfer Examples

* Responder: ♠xx ♥Qxx ♦xx ♣Qxxxxx

* Gap+: 1NT-2♠!- 2NT!-3♣-, or 1NT-2♠!- 3♣-

* Gap-: 1NT-2♠!- 3♣-, or 1NT-2♠!- 2NT!-3♣-

* Responder: ♠x ♥KJx ♦AJxxxx ♣xxx

* Gap+: 1NT-2NT!- 3♦-, or 1NT-2NT!- 3♣!-3NT-

* Gap-: 1NT-2NT!- 3♣!-3♦-, or 1NT-2NT!- 3♦-3NT-

* Responder: ♠Kx ♥xx ♦AQxxxx ♣QJx

* Gap+: 1NT-2NT!- 3♣!-3♠-..., or 1NT-2NT!- 3♦-3NT-

* Gap-: 1NT-2NT!- 3♦-3♠-..., or 1NT-2NT!- 3♣-3NT-

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Review

- * Major suit transfers are announced, Minor suit transfers are alerted
- * Majors: bid suit below,  to ,  to ,
Minors: 2 steps below,  to , NT to 
- * Super-accept:
 - * Majors: jump to 3-level, or bid new suit
 - * Minors: bid the gap, if playing gap+

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Review Examples - Stayman & Transfers

* ♠ Jxxxx ♥ Txx ♦ KTxx ♣ x

* 1NT-2♥!- 2♠-P-

* ♠ KQx ♥ AKx ♦ Axxxx ♣ Txx

* ♠ x ♥ Axx ♦ JTxx ♣ Txxxx

* 1NT-P-

* ♠ AKJx ♥ QJxx ♦ Qxx ♣ Kx

* ♠ KJxxx ♥ xx ♦ xxx ♣ KQx

* 1NT-2♥!- 2♠-2NT- 3♠-

* ♠ Axx ♥ KQxx ♦ Qx ♣ Axxx

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Review Examples - Stayman & Transfers

* ♠ xxx ♥ AQx ♦ xx ♣ QJTxx

* 1NT-2♣- 2♥-2NT-

* ♠ AQ ♥ xxxx ♦ AQx ♣ Kxxx

* ♠ QJxxx ♥ xx ♦ xxx ♣ xxx

* 1NT-2♥!- 3♠-

* ♠ Kxxx ♥ AQx ♦ QJ ♣ AJxx

* ♠ Qxx ♥ Kx ♦ QJTxxx ♣ xx

* (gap+) 1NT-2NT!- 3♣!-3NT- ♠ KJ ♥ Axxx ♦ Kxx ♣ AQxx

* (gap+) 1NT-2NT!- 3♦!- ♠ KJx ♥ Axxx ♦ xx ♣ AKQx