

Bidding Really Strong Hands



Try to Get Partner's Help

When You Have a Powerhouse Hand

- Before you make a bid, give a bit of thought to how you expect the bidding to go.
- If you plan to open 2 ♣, you expect partner to say 2 ♦ , now you bid your hand, what will partner say?
- Some hand are pretty easy.

Consider This Hand

♠ K Q 2

♥ A Q J 9

♦ A K

♣ K J 4 3

Easy hand. 23 points. You open 2 ♣, partner says 2 ♦, you bid 2nt. Partner can guide you to the best contract. Stayman, Transfers, etc.

Now Consider This Hand

♠ A K Q 9 7

♥ A 8

♦ 5

♣ A K Q 4 3

22 points. You open 2 ♣, partner says 2 ♦,
Now you bid 2 ♠, and partner says 3 ♥, and
where are you going to go.

When You Have a Strong One-Suiter, With Slam Interest

♠ 8
♥ A K Q 9 8 6 5
♦ K Q J
♣ A Q

Opener	Responder
2 ♣	2 ♦
3 ♥	

A Jump to the 3 level shows a suit you want to play even opposite a void. You can begin control bidding immediately.

With a Hand Not Quite as Strong



♥ A K Q 9 8 6 5 4

♦ A 7 4

♣ K 4

Opener Responder

2 ♣

2 ♦

4 ♥

Establishes the trump suit, shows slam interest but now quite as strong as a jump to the three level. .

With a Hand Still Weaker



♥ A Q J 9 8 6 5 4

♦ Q 7 4

♣ 4 2

Opener Responder
4 ♥

Establishes the trump suit, shows slam interest but now quite as strong as a jump to the three level. .

When Partner Opens 2 ♣

- Usually, you want to get out of partner's way, to allow partner to show the big hand, then do what you can to help partner get to the best contract.
- So, the most common response to partner's 2 ♣ opening is 2 ♦.

When Partner Bids No Trump After 2 ♣ Do The Math.

- You know partner's hand exactly.
- You are team captain, responsible to get to the best contract.
- 2 ♣,, 2 ♦...2nt = 22-24 – Stayman and transfers are on.
- 2 ♣,, 2 ♦...3nt = 25-27 – Transfers are on.
- 2 ♣,, 2 ♦...4nt = 28-30 -

2 ♣... 2 ♦...2nt

Hand A

♠ 10 9 7
♥ K 10 8
♦ 10 7 5
♣ J 7 4 2

4 points
Bid 3nt

Hand B

♠ A 9 7
♥ Q 10 8
♦ 10 7 5
♣ Q J 4 2

9 points
Bid 4nt

Hand C

♠ A Q 7
♥ K 10 8
♦ 10 7 5
♣ Q 7 4 2

11 points
Bid 6nt

2 ♣... 2 ♦...2nt

Hand A

♠ 10 9 7 4

♥ K 10 8

♦ 5

♣ J 7 4 2

4 points

Bid 3 ♣

Hand B

♠ 10 9 7

♥ K J 8 5 3 2

♦

♣ A J 4 2

9 points

Bid 4 ♦

Hand C

♠ A K J

♥ K 10 8

♦ 10 7 5

♣ Q 7 4 2

13 points

Bid 5nt

Some Hands You Will Bid Your Own Suit

- You must have at least 9 points.
- You must have a good suit.
 - At least 5 cards
 - Two of the top three honors or three of the top five.
- You must consider how convenient it is for openers to show their suit.
- What do you think partner will bid?

Consider These Two Hands

Hand A

♠ 4

♥ K Q 10 9 5

♦ 5 4 3

♣ A J 10 2

2 ♥

Hand B

♠ K Q 10 9 5

♥ 4

♦ 5 4 3

♣ A J 10 2

2 ♦

Suppose This is Your Hand

Hand C

♠ 4

♥ K 9 5

♦ 5 4 3

♣ A K J 10 8 2

3 ♣

Hand D

♠ K 8 5

♥ 4

♦ K 4 3

♣ Q J 10 8 7 2

2 ♦

Suppose This is Your Hand

Hand E

♠ K Q J 9 5 4

♥ 5

♦ A 5 4

♣ J 2

2 ♠

Of Course You Will Support Partner Whenever You Can

Responder

♠ K J 9 5 4

♥ 5 3 2

♦ K 9 5 4

♣ 2

Opener

2 ♣

2 ♥

Responder

2 ♦

4 ♥

Of Course You Will Support Partner Whenever You Can

Responder

♠ K J 9 5 4

♥ 5 4

♦ K 8 5 4

♣ 8 2

Opener

2 ♣

2 ♥

3 ♥

Responder

2 ♦

2 ♠

4 ♥

Of Course You Will Support Partner Whenever You Can

Responder

♠ Q 5 4

♥ 5 2

♦ Q J 8 5 4

♣ K 2

Opener

2 ♣

2 ♥

3 ♠

Responder

2 ♦

3 ♦

3 nt