

Common Sense Bidding

**Common
sense is a
flower that
doesn't grow
in everyone's
garden.**

fb/sun gazing

♠ A 9 ♥ K 9 7 3 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 ♣ J 10

North	East	South	West
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1 ♦	pass	1 ♥	pass
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1 ♠	pass	??	
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- 2 ♣ Fourth suit forcing. The 4th suit is often an artificial bid but is forcing to game.
- You might bid 3 ♦, but that would be invitational, not forcing. Partner might pass.
- If you bid 2 ♣, then 3 ♦, partner is forced to game.

♠ A 9 ♥ K 9 7 3 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 ♣ J 10

North	East	South	West
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----	----	1 ♥	pass
------	------	-----	------

2 ♠	pass	??	
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- 2 ♠ is a weak jump-shift. Partner has from 4 to 7 or 8 points.
- Your bid is **pass**.

♠ A 9 ♥ K 9 7 3 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 ♣ J 10

North East South West

---- 1 ♠ ??

- Pass is an option, but playing matchpoints, a **double** is a reasonable bid. .
- If partner bids clubs, you'll have to pass and hope she has a 5-card suit.
- 2 ♥ is a dangerous overcall with such a weak suit.

♠ A 9 ♥ K 9 7 3 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 ♣ J 10

North	East	South	West
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1 ♣	pass	1 ♥	pass
-----	------	-----	------

2nt	Pass	??	
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- 3 ♦ NMF. .
- You are headed for a slam, but you need to decide if it will be hearts or no trump.

♠ A 9 ♥ K 9 7 3 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 ♣ J 10

North East South West

--- ---- 1 ♠

Pass 2 ♣ ??

- Pass. .
- With an opening bid on your left and a 2-level response on your right and your 14 points, partner is dead busted.
- It is unlikely that partner will have more than three points.

New Hands

♠ 9 ♥ A Q J 10 7 5 2 ♦ 7 6 2 ♣ 7 2

North	East	South	West
---	----	3 ♥	Dble
pass	4 ♠	??	

- Pass is your bid.
- It is tempting to bid 5♥ when it looks like they are cold for 4♠.
- Your partner knows your hand.
- If a sacrifice is right, it is partner's decision.

♠ 9 ♥ Q 10 9 6 4 ♦ J 9 8 6 2 ♣ 4 2

North East South West

1 ♥ pass ??

- 4 ♥ is your bid
- The main purpose is to keep the opponents out of the bidding.
- With this distribution, your partner might just make the contract.

♠ A K 9 4 ♥ Q 10 9 5 ♦ 2 ♣ A K J 2

North	East	South	West
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----	-----	1 ♣	pass
------	-------	-----	------

1 ♥	pass	??	
-----	------	----	--

- 4 ♥ is your bid
- Partner may have only 6 points, but your hand counts 20 points as dummy in support of hearts.

♠ 4 ♥ A K 7 3 2 ♦ A Q 2 ♣ K 10 5 4

North	East	South	West
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1 ♣	pass	1 ♥	pass
-----	------	-----	------

4 ♥	pass	??	
-----	------	----	--

- 4 nt. is your bid
- Partner's response to your 1 ♥ response shows 19 or 20 points.
- You want to learn if your side has the controls to bid 7 or must you stop at 6.

♠ Q 4 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ A 9 7 2 ♣ A 10 5 4

North	East	South	West
-----	----	1 ♦	pass
1 ♠	pass	1nt	Pass
2 ♣	pass	??	

- 2 ♥. Partner's club bid is NMF, asking if you have 3 spades.
- Since you do not have 3 spades and your hand is a minimum opening bid. 2 ♥ is the conventional response.

♠ J ♥ K Q 7 2 ♦ A Q 7 2 ♣ A J 10 4

North	East	South	West
-----	----	1 ♦	pass
1 ♠	pass	1nt	Pass
2 ♣	pass	??	

- 2 nt. Partner's club bid is NMF, asking if you have 3 spades.
- Since you do not have 3 spades, but you do have extra values, 2nt is the conventional response. .

♠ 3 ♥ K Q J 8 7 2 ♦ K 10 7 2 ♣ K10

North East South West

----- ---- 1 ♥ pass

1 ♠ pass ??

- 2 ♥ . You have a strong, 6-card heart suit and a weak side suit.
- It is best to rebid your 6-card suit.

♠ 3 ♥ K 10 8 7 5 2 ♦ A K J 2 ♣ Q10

North East South West

----- ---- 1 ♥ pass

1 ♠ pass ??

- 2 ♦ . You have a weak 6-card suit and a strong side suit.
- It is best to show the side suit.

♠ 9 3 ♥ Q10 8 7 ♦ J 8 7 ♣ Q J 7 4

North	East	South	West
-------	------	-------	------

1 ♦	pass	1 ♥	pass
-----	------	-----	------

2 ♠	pass	??	
-----	------	----	--

- 3 nt. Partner's jump shift is absolutely game forcing. .
- Since you are in a game-forcing auction, you can use fast arrival to show no interest in anything beyond game.

♠ 3 ♥ A10 8 7 ♦ A 10 9 8 7 ♣ A 10 9

North	East	South	West
-------	------	-------	------

1 ♦	pass	1 ♥	pass
-----	------	-----	------

2 ♠	pass	??	
-----	------	----	--

- 3 ♦. Partner's jump shift is absolutely game forcing.
- Since you are in a game-forcing auction, you can show your diamond fit with partner to encourage slam exploration.

♠ K10 9 8 3 ♥ K 7 ♦ A 10 7 ♣ K10 9

North	East	South	West
----	-----	1 ♠	pass
2 ♦	pass	??	

- 2nt. If you play 2/1, you're in a game forcing auction. If you play S.A., partner has 11+ points.
- In either case 2nt is your correct bid.
- Note the middle cards, good for no trump. .

♠ K 8 6 5 3 ♥ 7 ♦ A 10 7 ♣ K 9 7 2

North East South West

---- ----- 1 ♠ pass

2 ♦ pass ??

- 3 ♦ If you play 2/1, you're in a game forcing auction, but here your hand is not well suited for no trump.. .
- You may still end up in no trump, but you should show your fit with partner's diamonds and let partner decide. . . .

♠ J 8 6 3 ♥ 7 5 ♦ K J 9 4 ♣ A 5 2

North	East	South	West
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1 ♠	pas	2 ♠	pass
-----	-----	-----	------

3 ♦	pass	??	
-----	------	----	--

- 4 ♠. Partner's diamond bid is a help-suit game try. You have help in diamonds,
- You have a max for your spade raise and help in the diamond suit. Bid the game. .