

The Negative Double



The Negative Double


- A conventional double, used by the responder after:
 - Opener bids 1 of a suit.
 - The next bidder makes an overcall.
- The negative double promises:
 - At least six points
 - At least 4 cards in the unbid major suit(s) and tolerance for other unbid suits.
 - May also have a 5- card suit with a hand too weak to bid at the two-level.

Negative Double Example 1

Negative
double
showing at
least 6 points
and at least 4
hearts.

Opener 1 



East 1 

Responder
Double

Negative Double Example 2

Negative double showing 4-4 in the major suits. Might be 4-3, with a weak hand.

Opener 1 



East 1 

Responder Double

Negative Double Example 3

Negative double showing at least 6 points and 4-4 in the major suits. Might have 5-4 with a weak hand.

Opener 1 



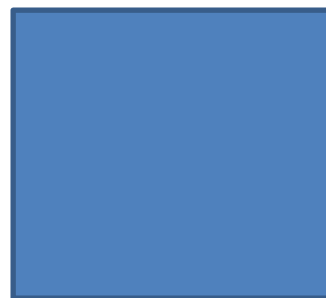
East 2 

Responder Double

Negative Double Example 4

Negative
double
showing at
least 6 points
and at least 4
spades.

Opener 1 



East 2 

Responder
Double




Rebid by Opening Bidder





- You open the bidding, LHO bids and partner makes a negative double. You can:
 - With 4 cards in the suit indicated by partner, bid the appropriate level of that suit.
 - Rebid a 6-card suit.
 - Bid no trump with a stopper in the opponent's suit.
 - Cue bid opponent's suit, with a strong hand and no stopper.
 - Bid partner's suit with 3-cards (last choice)

You	LHO	Partner	RHO
1 ♦	1 ♠	double	pass
2 ♥			



♠ 4 2
♥ J 9 7 3
♦ A J 10 5
♣ A K 7





Opening bidder's
rebid after
partner's
negative double.
Example 1

You	LHO	Partner	RHO
1 	1 	double	pass
3 			

 K J 4 2
 J
 A K J 10 7
 A 10 7

Opening bidder's
rebid after
partner's
negative double.
Example 2

You	LHO	Partner	RHO
1 	1 	double	pass
3 nt			

 K J
 Q J 8
 A K 10 7 6
 K Q 9

Opening bidder's
rebid after
partner's
negative double.
Example 3

You	LHO	Partner	RHO
1 ♦	1 ♠	double	pass
2 ♦			

♠ J 8 5
♥ 9 8
♦ A K J 10 7 4
♣ K J

Opening bidder's
rebid after
partner's
negative double.
Example 4

You	LHO	Partner	RHO
1 ♣	1 ♠	double	pass
3 ♣			

♠ J
♥ K 9 8
♦ A K 3
♣ K Q J 8 4 2

Opening bidder's
rebid after
partner's
negative double.
Example 5

You	LHO	Partner	RHO
1 ♣	1 ♠	double	pass
2 ♥			

♠ J 3 2
♥ K 9 8
♦ A K 8
♣ Q J 8 4

Opening bidder's
rebid after
partner's
negative double.
Example 6

Bidding After a Negative Double

Consider the bidding of the negative doubler, after opener has rebid.

Partner	RHO	You	RHO
1 ♣	1 ♠	double	pass
2 ♥	pass	4 ♥	pass

♠ A 3
 ♥ K J 9 8
 ♦ K 8 3
 ♣ Q 8 4 2

Negative
 doubler's rebid.
 Example 1

You have game-going points.
 Opener shows a fit with your suit.

Partner	RHO	You	RHO
1 ♣	1 ♠	double	pass
2 ♥	pass	pass	pass

♠ 3 2
 ♥ K J 9 8
 ♦ Q 8 3
 ♣ J 8 4 2

Negative
 doubler's rebid.
 Example 2

Opener shows a fit, but has a minimum opening hand. Your side is not in the game range.

Partner	RHO	You	RHO
1 ♣	1 ♠	double	pass
3 ♥	pass	4 ♥	pass

♠ 3 2
 ♥ K J 9 8
 ♦ J 8 3
 ♣ A 8 4 2

Negative
doubler's rebid.
Example 3

Opener shows a fit, and has an invitational hand. With 10 points, you're willing to accept the invitation.

Partner	RHO	You	RHO
1 ♣	1 ♠	double	pass
3 ♣	pass	pass	pass

♠ 5 3 2
 ♥ Q J 9 8
 ♦ 9 8 3
 ♣ A 8 4

Negative
doubler's rebid.
Example 4

Opener shows an invitational hand, with no fit for your suit. You have no reason to bid any further. .

Partner	RHO	You	RHO
1 ♣	1 ♠	double	pass
2 ♣	pass	3 nt	pass

♠ A 3 2
 ♥ K Q 9 8
 ♦ Q 8 3
 ♣ A 8 4

Negative
doubler's rebid.
Example 5

Opener does not have a fit with your suit, but you have game points with a stopper in the opponent's suit. No trump looks like the best game.

Partner	RHO	You	RHO
1 ♦	1 ♠	double	pass
2 ♥	pass	3 ♥	pass

♠ 3 2
 ♥ K J 9 8
 ♦ Q J 3
 ♣ A J 8 4

Negative
doubler's rebid.
Example 6

Opener shows a fit with your suit with your suit, but you don't have enough to bid game. You can make an invitational bid with this hand.

Partner	RHO	You	RHO
1 ♦	1 ♣	double	pass
2 ♥	pass	pass	pass

♠ J 10 3 2
 ♥ K J 9 8
 ♦ 7 3
 ♣ A 8 4

Negative
doubler's rebid.
Example 7

Opener shows a minimum hand, and you've found a fit. No reason to bid any more.

Partner	RHO	You	RHO
1 ♦	1 ♥	1 ♠	pass
2 ♠	pass	pass	pass

♠ J 10 8 3 2
♥ J 9
♦ K 7 3
♣ A 8 4

Negative
doubler's rebid.
Example 8

Notice you don't use a negative double, in this case. With 4 spades you can bid the suit at the one level. Partner knows you have 5 cards.

Partner	RHO	You	RHO
1 ♦	1 ♠	double	pass
2 ♥	pass	pass	pass

♠ J 10
 ♥ Q 9 8 7 5 3
 ♦ K 7 3
 ♣ Q 8 4

Negative
doubler's rebid.
Example 8

You double here even though you have a 5-card suit, because you do not have enough points to bid a suit at the two level.