

Partner Opens at the 3-level
or Higher

How to Respond

Partner Makes a High Preempt

- At the 3-level expect:
 - A 7-card suit
 - 10 points or less
 - Most of the points in the long suit.
 - A respectable suit.
 - Two of the top three honors
 - Three of the top five honors.
- At the 4-level
 - All of the above with an 8-cards suit.

Response Options

- You can pass. With a bad hand that is the best bid.
- You can extend the preempt.
- You can bid game with the intention of making it.
- You can bid 3 no trump, *rarely with the right hand.* .

Partner Opens 3

♠ K 2
♥ K 10 7 3
♦ 10 5
♣ A Q 9 4 3

♠ A Q 4 3 2
♥ K 7 5 3
♦ 10 5
♣ J 3

♠ Q 10
♥ A Q 10 7 5 3
♦ 5
♣ K J 4 3

Pass with hands like this.

When You Don't Have a Fit - Pass

♠ A Q 8 7 3

♥

♦ A 8 7 5

♣ Q 9 4 3

Partner Opens

3 ♥

♠ 2

♥ K Q 5 3

♦ K J 10 5

♣ A J 7 3

Partner Opens

3 ♠

♠

♥ A Q 10 7 5 3

♦ A 8 6 4 2

♣ K 3

Partner Opens

4 ♠

3 nt might be tempting, but not a good option..

3 No Trump is Rare

- When you bid 3nt, you are not asking partner opinion. You expect to make it.
- You need to have close to 9 tricks in your hand.

Here Are Some Possible 3 No Trump Responses

♠ 2
♥ K 3
♦ A K Q J 8 5 3
♣ A J 3

Partner Opens
3 ♠

♠ K Q J
♥
♦ K Q 10 9
♣ A Q J 10 8 3

Partner Opens
3 ♥

♠ K 4
♥ A Q 7
♦ A J 2
♣ Q J 8 3 2

Partner Opens
3 ♦

Game is Usually in Partner's Suit

- Don't consider high-card strength in making game decisions.
- Quacks will not be very helpful.
- Base your game decision on aces and kings, and good distribution.

Put Partner in Game With Hands Like These

♠ Q
♥ A 3
♦ A K 8 5 3
♣ A J 8 7 2

Partner Opens
3 ♠

♠ A K Q 7
♥ A 3
♦ K Q 10 7 4 2
♣ 3

Partner Opens
3 ♥

Here's a Hand I Held at the Club

♠ A 7 2

♥ A K Q J 10 5 3

♦ 5 3

♣ 7

♠ K J 10 9 8 6 4 3

♥ 8 6

♦ 3

♣ A 4

Partner Opens

4 ♠

Sometimes You Can Bid a New Suit

- New suit bids are forcing, one round.
- Unless your new suit is a game.
 - Example 4 ♣...pass....4 ♠.
 - Like the 3 nt bid, new suit bids are rare.
- Partner can:
 - Support your suit with honor small or 3 cards.
 - Rebid partner's suit with no support.
 - Show first round control of a new suit, with support in your suit.

Example of New Suit Bids

♠ 3
♥ A K J 10 5 3
♦ 8 3
♣ A K 7 4

Partner opens 3 ♦
You bid 3 ♥

♠ A J 10 9 8 6 4
♥ 8 6
♦ 3
♣ A 4

Partner opens 3 ♥
You bid 3 ♠

You Don't Pass With All Bad Hands

- You can raise partner's 3-level major suit to the 4 level when your side has 10 trump, good distribution and not unfavorable vulnerability.
- Raise a minor suit preempt to the 5 level with lots of trump and really good distribution.
- Don't follow this rule blindly.
 - Think about vulnerability.
 - Think about distribution
 - Think about high cards in side suits.

Examples of When to Raise Partner's Preempt

♠ K 3 2
♥ 3
♦ J 10 8 5 3
♣ 9 8 7 4

Raise partner's 3 ♠ to 4 ♠, even if RHO has not bid.

♠
♥ J 9 4
♦ A 10 8 6 5 3
♣ Q 8 7 4

Raise partner's 3 ♥ to 4 ♥, even if RHO has not bid.

♠ Q 7 6 5 3
♥ 4
♦ K 10 8 6
♣ 8 7 4

Raise partner's 3 ♦ to 5 ♦, with favorable vulnerability... With even vulnerability Maybe. With unfavorable vulnerability ... forget it.

Let's Try A Quick Quiz

On the following hands, partner has made a preemptive bid. What is your correct response?

Quiz No. 1 Even Vulnerability

♠ A Q 9 3 2

♥ 5

♦ A Q 8

♣ Q 8 7 4

Your bid Pass
Don't make a bad
situation worse.

Partner opens 3♥

Quiz No. 2 Even Vulnerability

♠ 2

♥ Q 7 5

♦ K Q J 8 2

♣ J 10 7 4

Your bid 4 ♥

Extend the
preempt.

Partner opens 3 ♥

Quiz No. 3 Even Vulnerability

♠ K

♥ K Q 5

♦ A 8 6 4 2

♣ A 10 7 4

Your bid 4 ♠

You expect
partner to make
this one.

Partner opens 3 ♠

Quiz No. 4 Even Vulnerability

♠ J 7 6 2

♥ 5

♦ A 8 6 4 2

♣ 10 7 4

Your bid 4 ♠

Extend the
preempt. .

Partner opens 3 ♠

Quiz No. 5 Favorable Vulnerability

♠ A 2
♥ J 7 5 3 2
♦ J 6 4 2
♣ K 7

Your bid 5 ♦
Extend the
preempt. .

Partner opens 3 ♦
The next player
doubles.

Quiz No. 6 Unfavorable Vulnerability

♠ A 2

♥ J 7 5 3 2

♦ J 6 4 2

♣ K 7

Your bid **pass**.
Too risky with
unfavorable
vulnerability .

Partner opens 3 ♦
The next player
doubles.