

**Audrey Grant Bridge Basics I**

**An Introduction or a Refresher**

**Sedona Bridge Center**

**Minor Suit Opening Bids and Responses**

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# Developing Extra Tricks

- **Promotion**
- **Length**
- **Trumping in dummy**
- **Finesse**

# Finesse

You are East/West. How many spades tricks can you make? How would you play it?

North

♠ ?

West

♠ 9 8 2

East

♠ A Q 3

South

♠ ?

# Finesse

Always play toward the card you hope will take a trick. If North has the missing King, you make 2 tricks.

	<b>North</b>	
	♠ K 7	
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>
♠ 9 8 2		♠ A Q 3
	<b>South</b>	
	♠ J T 6 5 4	

# Finesse

Always play toward the card you hope will take a trick. If South has the missing King, you make only 1 trick.

North

♠ J 7

West

♠ 9 8 2

East

♠ A Q 3

South

♠ K T 6 5 4

# Finesse

You are East/West. How many spades tricks can you make? How would you play it?

North

♠ ?

West

♠ K 3

East

♠ 7 2

South

♠ ?

# Opening the Bidding – with 13+ points

**First** priority is to open 1 NT if the hand qualifies

**15-17 points & a balanced hand**

**Second** priority is to open 1 of a Major Suit

**(Hearts or Spades)**

**13 – 21 points & a five card suit**

**Opening the Bidding – with 13+ points**

**All other hands**

**Don't qualify for No Trump or One of a Major Suit**

**13 – 21 points**

**Open 1 of a Minor Suit – Either Clubs or Diamonds**



# **Minor Suit Opening Bids and Responses**

**The 1 ♣ and 1 ♦ Opening Bid**

**13 to 21 Valuation Points**

**A three card or longer suit**

## The 1 ♣ and 1 ♦ Opening Bid

### Better minor

**With two, 3 card minor suits, open 1 ♣**

**With two, 4 card minor suits, open 1 ♦**

**Otherwise, open the longer minor**

**How would you open this hand?**

**♠ K 8 4**

**♥ A 9**

**♦ Q J 7 5**

**♣ K 8 3 2**

**How would you open this hand?**

**♠ K 8 4**

**♥ A 9**

**♦ Q J 7 5**

**♣ K 8 3 2**

**1 ♦ – 13 HCP's and 4/4 in the minors.  
Open 1 diamond.**

**How would you open this hand?**

**♠ A Q 9 4**

**♥ 8**

**♦ A K 3**

**♣ A J 8 7 5**

**How would you open this hand?**

**♠ A Q 9 4**

**♥ 8**

**♦ A K 3**

**♣ A J 8 7 5**

**1 ♣ – 18 HCP's and 1 length points,  
open 1 Club, planning to jump  
if partner responds.**

**How would you open this hand?**

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

**How would you open this hand?**

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

**1 ♦ – With 14 HCP's, open the better minor,  
or diamonds.**



**How would you open this hand?**

**♠ A K J 6**

**♥ K Q 4**

**♦ K 7 2**

**♣ K 9 3**

**How would you open this hand?**

♠ A K J 6  
♥ K Q 4  
♦ K 7 2  
♣ K 9 3

**1 ♣ – With 19 HCP's and 3/3 in the minors,  
open the club**

**How would you open this hand?**

**♠ A Q 3**

**♥ Q 7**

**♦ K Q 10 9 6**

**♣ Q 9 8**

**How would you open this hand?**

♠ A Q 3  
♥ Q 7  
♦ K Q 10 9 6  
♣ Q 9 8

**1 NT – With 15 High Card Points (HCP's)  
and 1 length point, open this  
balanced hand 1 NT.**

**How would you open this hand?**

♠ 8  
♥ Q 10 7 5 3  
♦ A K J 10 6  
♣ K 4

**How would you open this hand?**

♠ 8

♥ Q 10 7 5 3

♦ A K J 10 6

♣ K 4

**1 ♥ – With 13 High Card Points (HCP's)  
and 2 length points, open the  
higher ranking suit first.**

## **Responding to Opening Bids of 1 ♣ or 1 ♦**

**As opener has a greater range of values (13 to 21 points), there are no signoff bids by responder after a minor suit opening bid.**

## **Responder's First Priority** **Finding a 4/4 Major suit fit**

**With 6 or more points, and a four card major suit, responder bids 1 of the major**

**This bid is forcing if responder is an unpassed hand**



## **Responder's Priority – Finding a 4/4 Major suit fit**

### **Responders Choice of Suits**

**With a choice of four card major suits, bid the  
lowest ranking suit.**

**With a choice of five card major suits,  
bid the higher ranking suit**

**Called “bidding up the ladder”**

# Responding to a Minor or Major Suit opening Bid

**A new suit is forcing if responder is not a passed hand.**

**Guideline – If responder has not limited his hand, a new suit by responder is a forcing bid.**

**Opener must bid again**

**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

♠ 8 2  
♥ J 7 6 3  
♦ Q 9 8 6 4  
♣ 9 3

**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

♠ 8 2  
♥ J 7 6 3  
♦ Q 9 8 6 4  
♣ 9 3

**Pass** – With 3 High Card Points and 1 length point, responder passes

**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

**♠ A J 8 4**

**♥ 9 2**

**♦ 8 6**

**♣ K J 10 5 3**

**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

♠ A J 8 4  
♥ 9 2  
♦ 8 6  
♣ K J 10 5 3

**1 ♠ – With 9 High Card Points (HCP's) and  
1 length point, responder bids 1 spade.**

**Even with 5 clubs, we will search first for a  
4/4 major suit fit with opening bidder.**

**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

♠ A Q 8 3  
♥ K J 9 6 5  
♦ Q 7  
♣ 5 4

**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

♠ A Q 8 3  
♥ K J 9 6 5  
♦ Q 7  
♣ 5 4

**1 Heart** – With 12 High Card Points (HCP's) and 1 length point, responder bids 1 heart. With a choice of suits, bid the longer.



**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

♠ Q 9 7 5 3  
♥ 8 4  
♦ K Q 8 6 5  
♣ 7

**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

♠ Q 9 7 5 3  
♥ 8 4  
♦ K Q 8 6 5  
♣ 7

**1 Spade** – With 7 High Card Points (HCP's) and 2 length points, responder bids 1 spade. With a choice of five card suits, bid the higher ranking suit.

**Again, we prioritize the major suit.**

**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

♠ K J 7 5  
♥ Q J 6 2  
♦ 8 3  
♣ A 7 5

**Your partner opens 1 ♣.  
How would you respond with this hand?**

♠ K J 7 5  
♥ Q J 6 2  
♦ 8 3  
♣ A 7 5

- 1 ♥** – With 11 High Card Points (HCP's), responder bids 1 heart. With a choice of four card suits, bid the lower ranking suit. Bid up the ladder.

## **Deal out hand # 13**

**Place the hand face up dummy style**

**Bid the hand**

**Plan the play**

**Pick up cards, except for dummy**

**Play the hand**

## **Responder's Second Priority – No Trump (Invitational)**

**The partnership will consider No Trump ahead of a minor suit contract.**

**6 - 10 points: Respond 1 NT**

**11 - 12 points: Respond 2 NT**


**13 - 15 points: Respond 3NT**

**Your partner opens 1 .**  
**How would you respond with this hand?**

 **Q 9 4**

 **K 7 3**

 **J 8 3**

 **Q 6 5 3**





**Your partner opens 1 .**  
**How would you respond with this hand?**

**♠ Q 9 4**  
**♥ K 7 3**  
**♦ J 8 3**  
**♣ Q 6 5 3**

**1 NT – With 8 High Card Points and no four card major, responder bids 1 NT.**



**Your partner opens 1 .**  
**How would you respond with this hand?**





** K J 5**  
** Q J 7**  
** 9 7 4 2**  
** A J 5**

**Your partner opens 1 .**  
**How would you respond with this hand?**





**♠ K J 5**  
**♥ Q J 7**  
**♦ 9 7 4 2**  
**♣ A J 5**

**2 NT - With 12 High Card Points and no four card major, responder bids 2 NT.**

**Your partner opens 1 .**  
**How would you respond with this hand?**





** A J 7**  
** K 10 9**  
** Q J 4**  
** K 9 7 2**

**Your partner opens 1 .**  
**How would you respond with this hand?**



** A J 7**  
** K 10 9**  
** Q J 4**  
** K 9 7 2**

**3 NT - With 14 High Card Points and no 4  
card major, responder bids 3 NT.**

**Your partner opens 1 .**  
**How would you respond with this hand?**

** Q 10 8 5**  
** K 7 5**  
** 10 4**  
** A 10 8 3**

**Your partner opens 1 .**  
**How would you respond with this hand?**

** Q 10 8 5**  
** K 7 5**  
** 10 4**  
** A 10 8 3**

**1  - With 9 High Card Points and 1 four  
card major, responder bids 1 spade.**

## **Deal out hand # 14**

**Place the hand face up dummy style**

**Bid the hand**

**Plan the play**

**Pick up cards, except for dummy**

**Play the hand**

## **Responder's Third Choice** **Raising Opener's Minor Suit**

**With no 4/4 major suit fit, and a hand that is not suitable for No Trump, the partnership may agree to play in a minor suit.**



# **Responder's Third Choice Raising Opener's Minor Suit**

## **Raising Opener's Minor Suit**

**6 - 10 Points: Raise to the two level**

**11 - 12 Points: Raise to the three level**





**13 + Points: Get to the game level**

## **Responder's Third Choice Raising Opener's Minor Suit**

**Remember that partner may have opened a minor suit with only 3 cards in the suit.**

**Responder can consider raising a minor with four-card or longer support.**

**Raising Opener's Minor Suit Your partner opens 1 .**  
**How would you respond with this hand?**

 8 4  
 6 3  
 K J 7 5 3  
 Q J 6 2

**Raising Opener's Minor Suit -Your partner opens 1 ♦.  
How would you respond with this hand?**


♠ 8 4  
♥ 6 3  
♦ K J 7 5 3  
♣ Q J 6 2

**2 ♦ - With 7 High Card Points and one length point, five card support, responder bids 2 diamonds.**

**Your partner opens 1 **  
**How would you respond with this hand?**

 **9 8 3**

 **7**

 **A Q 9 8 5 2**





 **K 10 3**

**Your partner opens 1 ♦  
How would you respond with this hand?**

**♠ 9 8 3  
♥ 7  
♦ A Q 9 8 5 2  
♣ K 10 3**

- 3 ♦ – With 9 High Card Points (HCP's),  
and two length points, six card  
support, responder bids 3 diamonds.**

**Your partner opens 1 **  
**How would you respond with this hand?**

** K 9 4**  
** Q J 7**  
** A J 9 4**  
** K 8 3**

**Your partner opens 1 ♦  
How would you respond with this hand?**

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

**3 NT – With 14 High Card Points (HCP's),  
responder bids 3 no trump.**



**Your partner opens 1 **  
**How would you respond with this hand?**

** 9 6 4**

** 4**

** A K 6**

** K Q 10 8 7 4**

**Your partner opens 1 ♦  
How would you respond with this hand?**

**♠ 9 6 4**

**♥ 4**

**♦ A K 6**

**♣ K Q 10 8 7 4**

**2 ♣ – With 12 High Card Points (HCP's), a  
six card suit, responder bids  
2 clubs, a game forcing bid.**

# **Opener Rebids After Responder Has Bid a New Suit**

**The new suit by responder is a forcing bid as responder has not limited his hand.**

**Opener must bid something. Options are:**

**Raising responder's suit with support**

**Bidding a new suit at the one level**

**Bidding a new suit at the two level**

**Bidding No Trump shows balanced hand**

**Rebidding opener's original suit**

# **Opener's Rebid – Raising Responder's Suit**

**Minimum** Hand – 13 to 16 points – Raise to two level

**Medium** Hand – 17 to 18 points – Raise to three level

**Maximum** Hand – 19 to 21 points – Raise to game level

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

1 ♦

?

**Responder  
(partner)**

1 ♠

♠ J 7 5 3

♥ A 8 3

♦ K Q 8 7

♣ K 10

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

**1 ♦**

**2 ♠**

**Responder  
(partner)**

**1 ♠**

**♠ J 7 5 3**

**♥ A 8 3**

**♦ K Q 8 7**

**♣ K 10**

**2 ♠ – With 13 High Card Points (HCP's), and four card spade support, bid 2 spades.**

**Responder's bid is forcing.**

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

1 ♦

?

**Responder  
(partner)**

1 ♠

♠ A 10 8 3

♥ 4

♦ A Q 7 5 4 2

♣ K 8

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

**1 ♦**

**3 ♠**

**Responder  
(partner)**

**1 ♠**

**♠ A 10 8 3**

**♥ 4**

**♦ A Q 7 5 4 2**

**♣ K 8**

**3 ♠ – With 13 High Card Points (HCP's), and 4 dummy points, as well as four card spade support, bid 3 spades.**



# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♦

?

Responder  
(partner)

1 ♠

♠ K Q 8 5

♥ 3 2

♦ A K J 6

♣ A Q 5

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

**1 ♦**

**4 ♠**

**Responder  
(partner)**

**1 ♠**

**♠ K Q 8 5**

**♥ 3 2**

**♦ A K J 6**

**♣ A Q 5**

**4 ♠ – With 19 High Card Points (HCP's), and 1 dummy point, as well as four card spade support, bid 4 spades or game.**

# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♣

?

Responder  
(partner)

1 ♥

♠ K J 7 4

♥ 9 4

♦ K J 3

♣ A J 8 7

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

1 ♣

1 ♠

**Responder  
(partner)**

1 ♥

♠ K J 7 4

♥ 9 4

♦ K J 3

♣ A J 8 7

**1 ♠ – With 13 High Card Points (HCP's), opener bids 1 spade as responder has made a forcing bid (1 heart) and may hold 4 spades.**

# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♦

?

Responder  
(partner)

1 ♥

♠ K 9 5

♥ Q 7

♦ A J 8 5 2

♣ Q 10 5

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

**1 ♦**

**1 NT**

**Responder  
(partner)**

**1 ♥**

**♠ K 9 5**

**♥ Q 7**

**♦ A J 8 5 2**

**♣ Q 10 5**

**1 NT – With 12 High Card Points (HCP's), and 1 length point, opener bids 1 NT with a minimum balanced hand.**

# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♦

?

Responder  
(partner)

1 ♥

♠ A Q J

♥ J 4

♦ A Q 8 4

♣ K Q 7 3

# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♦

2 NT

Responder  
(partner)

1 ♥

♠ A Q J

♥ J 4

♦ A Q 8 4

♣ K Q 7 3

**2 NT – With 19 High Card Points, opener jumps to 2NT (showing 18 / 19 pts. and a balanced hand).**



# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♦

?

Responder  
(partner)

1 ♠

♠ 5

♥ K 6 3

♦ A K 7 5 2

♣ A J 8 4

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

**1 ♦**

**2 ♣**

**Responder  
(partner)**

**1 ♠**

**♠ 5**

**♥ K 6 3**

**♦ A K 7 5 2**

**♣ A J 8 4**

**2 ♣ – With 15 High Card Points opener rebids 2 clubs showing at least a four card club suit and an unbalanced hand.**

# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♣

?

Responder  
(partner)

1 ♥

♠ 7 4 3

♥ 4

♦ A 8 5

♣ A K J 8 7 4

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

**1 ♣**

**2 ♣**

**Responder  
(partner)**

**1 ♥**

**♠ 7 4 3**

**♥ 4**

**♦ A 8 5**

**♣ A K J 8 7 4**

- 2 ♣ – With 12 High Card Points (HCP's), and 2 length points, opener rebids 2 clubs showing a five or six card club suit and and a minimum unbalanced hand.**

# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♣

?

Responder  
(partner)

1 ♥

♠ 4

♥ A 5

♦ K 8 2

♣ A Q J 10 8 7 4

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

**1 ♣**

**3 ♣**

**Responder  
(partner)**

**1 ♥**

**♠ 4**

**♥ A 5**

**♦ K 8 2**

**♣ A Q J 10 8 7 4**

- 3 ♣ – With 14 High Card Points (HCP's), and 3 length points, opener rebids 3 clubs showing a minimum six card club suit and medium unbalanced hand.**

# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♦

?

Responder  
(partner)

1 NT

♠ Q 8 2

♥ K J 4

♦ A 10 8 4

♣ K 9 3

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

**1 ♦**

**Pass**

**Responder  
(partner)**

**1 NT**

**♠ Q 8 2**

**♥ K J 4**

**♦ A 10 8 4**

**♣ K 9 3**

**Pass – With 13 High Card Points (HCP's), and no length points, opener passes with this balanced hand.**



# How would you bid this hand?

Opener  
(you)

1 ♦

?

Responder  
(partner)

1 NT

♠ A K 8 3

♥ 3 2

♦ K Q 7 5

♣ J 10 4

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

**1 ♦**

**Pass**

**Responder  
(partner)**

**1 NT**

♠ A K 8 3

♥ 3 2

♦ K Q 7 5

♣ J 10 4

**Pass - Although opener has a 4 card major, it will not be worth showing as responder has denied holding a 4 card major.**

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

1 ♣

2 ♥

**Responder  
(partner)**

1 ♥

?

♠ K 9 7 5

♥ Q 10 7 4

♦ Q 6 2

♣ 8 4

## How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

1 ♣

2 ♥

**Responder  
(partner)**

1 ♥

pass

♠ K 9 7 5

♥ Q 10 7 4

♦ Q 6 2

♣ 8 4

**Pass – Opener has shown a minimum hand with 13-16 points. With partner's 7 points, the hand belongs in partscore. Responder should pass.**

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

1 ♣

2 ♥

**Responder  
(partner)**

1 ♥

?

♠ 7 6 3

♥ A 10 8 7 5

♦ K 4

♣ K 8 5

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

1 ♣

2 ♥

**Responder  
(partner)**

1 ♥

3 ♥

♠ 7 6 3

♥ A 10 8 7 5

♦ K 4

♣ K 8 5

**3 ♥ – Responder has 10 HCP's and 1 length point and should invite game by bidding 3 hearts.**

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

1 ♣

2 ♥

**Responder  
(partner)**

1 ♥

?

♠ 5 4

♥ A J 9 7 6 3

♦ A 9 4

♣ Q 7

# How would you bid this hand?

**Opener  
(you)**

1 ♣

2 ♥

**Responder  
(partner)**

1 ♥

4 ♥

♠ 5 4

♥ A J 9 7 6 3

♦ A 9 4

♣ Q 7

**4 ♥ – Responder has 11 HCP's and 2 length point and should bid game. "the person in the know goes!"**