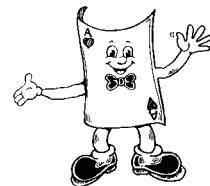


THE ONLY FORCING BID RESPONDER CAN MAKE

BASIC GUIDELINES FOR BIDDING



- When looking for a fit, both opener and responder should avoid rebidding their own five-card suit. This is even true when responder has a five-card major suit.
- After the opening bid, most new suit bids show four cards. However, we make an exception for a 2♥ response to a 1♠ opening bid; responder needs five hearts.
- **A new suit by responder is forcing.** That means responder does not have to — and usually should not — jump in a new suit to show a good hand. Later in the auction, responder might have occasion to make up a new suit bid in order to force opener to provide more information.
- Bids of old suits are NOT forcing. Any time you bid a suit mentioned already by either you or your partner, you show your strength. An old suit at the two-level shows a minimum hand; an old suit at the three-level shows a medium hand. Don't bid an old suit below game if you have a maximum hand.
- Notrump bids show strength and are NOT usually forcing. After the opening bid, 1NT by opener or responder shows a minimum hand. 2NT is generally invitational but not forcing.
- When responder bids a major on the one level and then rebids in a new suit, opener's top priority is often to show delayed (three-card) support for responder's major.

EXERCISE 1: As responder, what is your rebid on the auction shown?

HAND 1		HAND 2		HAND 3		HAND 4		HAND 5	
Partner	You	Partner	You	Partner	You	Partner	You	Partner	You
1♦	1♥	1♦	1♠	1♣	1♥	1♦	1♥	1♦	1♥
	1♠		2♦		2♣		1♠		2♦
♠ K 2		♠ A 10 9 8 6		♠ Q 9 7 6		♠ K J 9 7		♠ K 7 4 3	
♥ A Q J 9 8 6		♥ A K 9 7		♥ K 8 7 5		♥ A 8 5 4		♥ A 9 6 3	
♦ 7 5 3		♦ 9 7		♦ A Q 7		♦ K 4 3		♦ 6	
♣ 5 4		♣ 7 5		♣ J 3		♣ 9 3		♣ Q 10 8 2	

EXERCISE 2: As responder, what is your rebid on the auction shown?

HAND 6		HAND 7		HAND 8		HAND 9		HAND 10	
Partner	You	Partner	You	Partner	You	Partner	You	Partner	You
1♣	1♥	1♦	1♥	1♣	1♥	1♣	1♦	1♦	1♥
	1♠		2♦		2♣		1♠		2♣
♠ 3 2		♠ A 6 4		♠ A 10 9 6		♠ Q 7 6 5		♠ K Q 6 4	
♥ A Q 9 8 6		♥ K J 9 7 5		♥ K J 7 5		♥ K J 5 4		♥ A Q J 7 4	
♦ K J 3		♦ 7 5		♦ A Q		♦ A Q 4 3		♦ 9	
♣ K 7 5		♣ K 9 7		♣ 9 3 2		♣ 9		♣ Q 10 8	

ANSWERS TO EXERCISES

Exercise 1: 1) 3♥; 2) 2♥; 3) 2NT 4) 3♠; 5) Pass.

Exercise 2: 6) 2♦; 7) 2NT; 8) 3NT; 9) 4♠; 10) 2♠.