

8. RESPONSES TO OPENING BIDS

Describe strength, minimum length, or specific meaning.

1. Your response to your partner's opening 1♣:

1♣ 1♦ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1♦, what does your 1♦ promise?

Example 1: 1♦ 6+ (4), forcing

Example 2: 1♦ Negative, 0-7

1♣ 1♥ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1♥, what does your 1♥ promise?

Example 1: 1♥ 6+ (4), forcing

Example 2: 1♥ 8+ (5)

1♣ 1♠ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1♠, what does your 1♠ promise?

Example 1: 1♠ 6+ (4), forcing

Example 2: 1♠ 8+ (5)

1♣ 1NT This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1NT, what does your 1NT promise?

Example 1: 1NT 6-9, denies a 4-card major

Example 2: 1NT 8-10, balanced ... as in Precision

1♣ 2♣ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♣, what does your 2♣ promise?

Example 1: 2♣ 6-9 (5), denies 4-card major

Example 2: 2♣ 8+ (5)

Example 3: 2♣ 6-9 (6)

Example 4: 2♣ Game invitational, (5+) no 4-card major

Example 5: 2♣ 6-9 (4) ... as in Acol

1♣ 2♦ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is*

no interference by opponents, and you respond 2♦, what does your 2♦ promise?

- Example 1: 2♦ Weak, < 6 points (5)
- Example 2: 2♦ 8+ (5)
- Example 3: 2♦ 18+ (4)
- Example 4: 2♦ 16+ (5), game force

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♣ 2♥ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♥, what does your 2♥ promise?

- Example 1: 2♥ Weak, < 6 points (5)
- Example 2: 2♥ 4-7 (6)
- Example 3: 2♥ 18+ (4)
- Example 4: 2♥ 16+ (5), game force

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♣ 2♠ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♠, what does your 2♠ promise?

- Example 1: 2♠ Weak, < 6 points (5)
- Example 2: 2♠ 4-7 (6)
- Example 3: 2♠ 18+ (4)
- Example 4: 2♠ 16+ (5), game force

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♣ 2NT This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2 NT, what does your 2 NT promise?

- Example 1: 2 NT 10-12, balanced, no support
- Example 2: 2 NT 12+, 4-card support, game force.
- Example 3: 2 NT 11-13 or 16+, balanced

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♣ 3♣ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♣, what does your 3♣ promise?

Example 1: 3♣ 10+ (5) [SAYC]

Example 2: 3♣ 4-7 (7)

Example 3: 3♣ Weak, < 8 points (5)

Example 4: 3♣ 10-12 (4) [Acol]

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1♣ 3♦ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♦, what does your 3♦ promise?

Example 1: 3♦ Weak, <6 (7)

Example 2: 3♦ 4-7 (7) etc...

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♣ 3♥ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♥, what does your 3♥ promise?

Example 1: 3♥ Weak, <6 (7)

Example 2: 3♥ 4-7 (7) etc...

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♣ 3♠ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♠, what does your 3♠ promise?

Example 1: 3♠ Weak, <6 (7)

Example 2: 3♠ 4-7 (7) etc...

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♣ 3NT This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3 NT, what does your 3 NT promise?

Example 1: 3 NT 12+, denies a 4-card major

Example 2: 3 NT 14-15, balanced

Example 3: 3NT 13-15, balanced

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♣ 4♣ This means if your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 4♣, what does your 4♣ response promise?

Example 1: 4♣ Natural

Example 2: 4♣ Gerber etc...

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

Other If your partner opens 1♣ *and there is no interference by opponents* and you play any other type of response that has a specific meaning other than those above, you must write it in this space.

2. Your response to your partner's opening 1♦:

1♦ 1♥ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1♥, what does your 1♥ promise?

Example 1: 1♥ 6+ (4), forcing

Example 2: 1♥ 8+ (5), forcing

1♦ 1♠ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1♠, what does your 1♠ promise?

Example 1: 1♠ 6+ (4), forcing

Example 2: 1♠ 8+ (5), forcing

1♦ 1NT This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1NT, what does your 1NT promise?

Example 1: 1NT 6-9, denies a 4-card major

Example 2: 1NT 8-10, balanced

1♦ 2♣ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is*

no interference by opponents, and you respond 2♣, what does your 2♣ promise?

Example 1: 2♣ 10+ (4), forcing

Example 2: 2♣ 6-9 (6)

1♦ 2♦ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♦, what does your 2♦ promise?

Example 1: 2♦ 6-9 (5)

Example 2: 2♦ 8+ (5), forcing

Example 3: 2♦ 18+ (4)

Example 4: 2♦ Game invitational, denies 4-card major (5+)

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 2♥ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♥, what does your 2♥ promise?

Example 1: 2♥ Weak, < 6 points (5)

Example 2: 2♥ 4-7 (6)

Example 3: 2♥ 18+ (4), forcing

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 2♠ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♠, what does your 2♠ promise?

Example 1: 2♠ Weak, < 6 points (5)

Example 2: 2♠ 4-7 (6)

Example 3: 2♠ 18+ (4), forcing

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 2NT This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2 NT, what does your 2 NT promise?

- Example 1: 2 NT 10-12, no support
 Example 2: 2 NT 12+, 4-card support, game force.
 Example 3: 2 NT 11-13 or 16+, balanced

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 3♣ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♣, what does your 3♣ promise?

- Example 1: 3♣ Weak, < 6 points (7)
 Example 2: 3♣ 4-7 (7)

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 3♦ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♦, what does your 3♦ promise?

- Example 1: 3♦ 10+ (5)
 Example 2: 3♦ 4-7 (7)
 Example 3: 3♦ Weak, < 8 points (5+)
 Example 4: 3♦ 10-12 (4)

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 3♥ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♥, what does your 3♥ promise?

- Example 1: 3♥ Weak, <6 (7)
 Example 2: 3♥ 4-7 (7) etc...

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 3♠ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♠, what does your 3♠ promise?

- Example 1: 3♠ Weak, <6 (7)
 Example 2: 3♠ 4-7 (7) etc...

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 3NT This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3NT, what does your 3NT promise?

Example 1: 3NT 12+, denies a 4-card major

Example 2: 3NT 14-15, balanced

Example 3: 3NT 13-15, balanced.

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 4♣ This means if your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 4♣, what does your 4♣ response promise?

Example 1: 4♣ Natural, Weak, < 10 points

Example 2: 4♣ Gerber etc...

*If you would never bid like this under any circumstances, then leave this space blank or put in a dash.

1♦ 4♦ This means if you partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 4♦, what does your 4♦ response promise?

Example 1: 4♦ Natural, Weak, <10 points

Example 2: 4♦ Forcing to at least 5♦ (5+), no 4-card major, 16+ points... A strong slam try.

Other If your partner opens 1♦ *and there is no interference by opponents* and you play any other type of response that has a specific meaning other than those above, you must write it in this space.

3. Your response to your partner's opening 1♥:

1♥ 1♠ This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1♠, what does your 1♠ response promise?

Example 1: 1♠ 6+ (4), forcing

Example 2: 1♠ 11-15 (5)

- 1♥ 1NT This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1NT, what does your 1NT response promise?
- Example 1: 1NT 6-9, no support, denies 4 spades.
- Example 2: 1NT 6-12, forcing
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- 1♥ 2♣ This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♣, what does your 2♣ response promise?
- Example 1: 2♣ 10+ (4), forcing
- Example 2: 2♣ 8-9 HCP (5), forcing
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- 1♥ 2♦ This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♦, what does your 2♦ response promise?
- Example 1: 2♦ 10+ (4), forcing
- Example 2: 2♦ 8-9 HCP (5), forcing
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- 1♥ 2♥ This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♥, what does your 2♥ response promise?
- Example 1: 2♥ 6-9, (3), non-forcing.
- Example 2: 2♥ 6-9 (4)
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- 1♥ 2♠ This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♠, what does your 2♠ response promise?
- Example 1: 2♠ Weak, <6 points, (6)
- Example 2: 2♠ Bergen raise. 4-card support in ♥'s, 10-12, exactly 8 losers, limit raise.
- Example 3: 2♠ 18+ HCP, (4), forcing
- Example 4: 2♠ 16+ HCP. (5, or support for partner). Game force.
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- 1♥ 2NT This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2NT, what does your 2NT response promise?

Example 1: 2NT 10-12 HCP, no support, denies 4 card ♠'s.

Example 2: 2NT Jacoby 2NT. Game force in ♥'s.

1♥ 3♣ This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♣, what does your 3♣ response promise?

Example 1: Bergen Raise in ♥'s. 6-8 HCP, 4-card support, 9 or 10 losers.

Example 2: 18+, (4), forcing.

Example 3: Weak, < 10 points, (7)

Example 4: 16+, (5+ or support for partner), game force.

1♥ 3♦ This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♦, what does your 3♦ response promise?

Example 1: Bergen Raise in ♥'s. 9 -11 HCP, 4-card support, 9 losers.

Example 2: 18+, (4), forcing.

Example 3: Weak, < 10 points, (7)

Example 4: 16+, (5+ or support for partner), game force.

1♥ 3♥ This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♥, what does your 3♥ response promise?

Example 1: 10-12 HCP, 3+ support, 8 losers.

Example 2: Bergen Raise in ♥'s. 4+ hearts, 0-5 HCP.

1♥ 3♠ This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♠, what does your 3♠ response promise?

Example 1: Weak, <6 points (7)

1♥ 3NT This means if you partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3NT, what does your 3NT response promise?

Example 1: 12+ HCP, balanced, no support.

Example 2: 10-12 HCP, balanced.

Other If your partner opens 1♥ *and there is no interference by opponents* and you play any other type of response that has a specific meaning other than those above, you must write it in this space.

4. Your response to your partner's opening 1♠:

1♠ 1NT This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 1NT, what does your 1NT response promise?

Example 1: 1NT 6-9, no support.

Example 2: 1NT 6-12, forcing

1♠ 2♣ This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♣, what does your 2♣ response promise?

Example 1: 2♣ 10+ (4), forcing

Example 2: 2♣ 8-9 HCP (5), forcing

1♠ 2♦ This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♦, what does your 2♦ response promise?

Example 1: 2♦ 10+ (4), forcing

Example 2: 2♦ 8-9 HCP (5), forcing

1♠ 2♥ This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♥, what does your 2♥ response promise?

Example 1: 2♥ 10+ (5), forcing.

Example 2: 2♥ 10-12 (4)

1♠ 2♠ This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♠, what does your 2♠ response promise?

Example 1: 2♠ 6-9 (3+), non-forcing

Example 4: 2♠ 6-9 (4)

1♠ 2NT This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2NT, what does your 2NT response promise?

Example 1: 2NT 10-12 HCP, no support, denies 4 card ♠'s.

Example 2: 2NT Jacoby 2NT. Game force in ♠'s.

1♠ 3♣ This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♣, what does your 3♣ response promise?

Example 1: Bergen Raise in ♠'s. 6-8 HCP, 4-card support, 9 or 10 losers.

Example 2: 18+, (4), forcing.

Example 3: Weak, < 10 points, (7)

Example 4: 16+, (5+ or support for partner), game force.

1♠ 3♦ This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♦, what does your 3♦ response promise?

Example 1: Bergen Raise in ♠'s. 9 -11 HCP, 4-card support, 9 losers.

Example 2: 18+, (4), forcing.

Example 3: Weak, < 10 points, (7)

Example 4: 16+, (5+ or support for partner), game force.

1♠ 3♥ This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♥, what does your 3♥ response promise?

Example 1: 3♥ Weak, <6 points, (7)

Example 2: 3♥ Bergen raise. 4-card support in ♠'s, 10-12, exactly 8 losers, limit raise in ♠'s.

Example 3: 3♥ 18+ HCP, (4), forcing

Example 4: 3♥ 16+ HCP. (5, or support for partner). Game force.

1♠ 3♠ This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3♠, what does your 3♠ response promise?

Example 1: 3♠ Bergen Raise, 4-card support in ♠'s,

0-5 HCP

Example 2: 3♠ 10-12, (3+ support), exactly 8 losers.

Example 3: 3♠ 10-12 (4-card support)

1♥ 3NT This means if you partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 3NT, what does your 3NT response promise?

Example 1: 12+ HCP, balanced, no support.

Example 2: 10-12 HCP, balanced.

Other If your partner opens 1♠ *and there is no interference by opponents* and you play any other type of response that has a specific meaning other than those above, you must write it in this space.

5. Your response to your partner's opening 1NT:

As per above, this means if you partner opens 1NT *and there is no interference by opponents*, what does your response mean?

1NT 3♣

1NT 3♦

1NT 3♥

1NT 3♠

1NT 3NT

1NT 4♣

1NT 4♦

1NT 4♥

1NT 4♠

Other

6. Your response to your partner's opening 2♣:

2♣ 2♦ This means if you partner opens 2♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♦, what does your 2♦ response promise?

Example 1: Negative (less than 1 ½ qt's) or waiting

Example 2: 0 or 1 control

Example 3: 0-3 HCP

2♣ 2♥ This means if you partner opens 2♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♥, what does your 2♥ response promise?

Example 1: Natural (5+ card suit), Positive (1 ½ qt's or better)

Example 2: 2 controls – 1 Ace or 2 Kings

Example 3: 4-6 HCP

2♣ 2♠ This means if you partner opens 2♣ *and there is no interference by opponents*, and you respond 2♠, what does your 2♠ response promise?

Example 1: Natural (5+ card suit), Positive (1 ½ qt's or better)

Example 2: 3 controls – specifically 1 Ace and 1 King

Example 3: 7-9 HCP

2♣ 2NT

Example 1: 8-9 HCP, balanced

Example 2: 3 controls – specifically 3 Kings

2♣ 3♣

Example 1: Natural (5+ card suit), Positive (1 ½ qt's or better)

Example 2: 4 controls – 2 Aces or 4 Kings or 1 Ace and Kings.

2

Example 3: 10-12 HCP

2♣ 3♦

- Example 1: Natural (5+ card suit), Positive (1 ½ qt's or better)
- Example 2: 5 controls – 2 Aces and 1 King or 1 Ace and 3 Kings.
- Example 3: 13-15 HCP

As per above, the following means if you partner opens 1NT *and there is no interference by opponents*, what does your response mean?

- 2♣ 3♥
- 2♣ 3♠
- 2♣ 3NT

7. Your response to your partner's opening 2♦:

As per above, this means if you partner opens 2♦ *and there is no interference by opponents*, what does your response mean?

- 2♦ 2♥
- 2♦ 2♠
- 2♦ 2NT

Example 1: Asking for an outside Ace or King, forcing.

- 2♦ 3♣
- 2♦ 3♦
- 2♦ 3♥
- 2♦ 3♠
- 2♦ 3NT
- 2♦ 4♣

Other

8. Your response to your partner's opening 2♥:

As per above, this means if you partner opens 2♥ *and there is no interference by opponents*, what does your response mean?

2♥

2♠

2♥

2NT

Example 1:

Asking for an outside Ace or King, forcing.

2♥

3♣

2♥

3♦

2♥

3♥

2♥

3♠

2♥

3NT

2♥

4♣

2♥

4♥

9. Your response to your partner's opening 2♠:

As per above, this means if you partner opens 2♠ *and there is no interference by opponents*, what does your response mean?

2♠

2NT

Example 1:

Asking for an outside Ace or King, forcing.

2♠

3♣

2♠

3♦

2♠ 3♥

2♠ 3♠

2♠ 3NT

2♠ 4♣

2♠ 4♥

2♠ 4♠

Other

10. Your response to your partner's opening 2NT:

As per above, this means if you partner opens 2NT *and there is no interference by opponents*, what does your response mean?

2NT 3♣
Example 1: Stayman
Example 2: Natural

2NT 3♦
Example 1: Transfer to 3♥
Example 2: Natural

2NT 3♥
Example 1: Transfer to 3♠
Example 2: Natural

2NT 3♠
Example 1: Transfer to 4♣, relay to 4♦
Example 2: Natural

2NT 3NT

2NT 4♣
Example 1: Gerber

2NT 4♦
Example 1: Transfer to 4♥

2NT 4♥
Example 1: Transfer to 4♠

2NT 4♠
Example 1: Transfer to 5♣

Other