

## BIDDING

### INVITATIONAL BIDS

By Responder  
Partner Opens 1NT

# Bridge Lab

with the Monroes

When partner opens the bidding 1NT (15-17) and right-hand opponent passes, Responder invites with 8-9 points. Responder may explore for a major suit fit before making an invitational raise to 2NT.

<b>Partner Opens 1NT</b> <b>15-17 POINTS</b>	<b>Responder's Strength</b> <b>8-9 Points</b>	<b>Responder's Bids</b> <b>Invite to Game</b> 1. Raise to 2NT with no Major Suit interest or fit. 2. Raise an 8-card Major Suit fit to the 3-level
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<b>QUANTITATIVE</b>	RAISE TO 2NT to invite with no major suit fit
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<b>TOOLS</b>	<b>EXPLORE FOR AN 8-CARD MAJOR SUIT FIT</b>			
<b>ASK</b>          <b>STAYMAN</b>  <b>Bid 2♣</b>	<p><b>ASK</b> OPENER "Do you have a 4-card Major Suit?"</p> <p>2♦ = <b>NO</b> Bid 2NT</p> <p>2♥ - <b>YES</b> I have 4-hearts    2♠ = <b>YES</b> I have 4-spades</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: #0056b3;"><b>Do you have an 8-card fit with Opener's Major suit?</b></p> <p><b>YES</b> = Raise the major suit to the 3-level</p> <p><b>NO</b> = Bid 2NT</p>			
NOT RECOMMENDED WITH BALANCED 4-3-3-3 SHAPE	1N    2♣ 2♥    3♥	8-CARD HEART FIT RAISE TO 3♥	1N    2♣ 2♥    2N	NO HEART FIT RAISE TO 2NT
	1N    2♣ 2♠    2N	NO SPADE FIT RAISE TO 2NT	1N    2♣ 2♦    2N	NO-MAJOR SUIT FIT RAISE TO 2NT

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TOOLS	EXPLORE FOR AN 8-CARD MAJOR SUIT FIT						
<p style="text-align: center; color: #c00000; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">TELL</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 20px;">JACOBY TRANSFER</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 10px;">5 OR MORE CARDS IN A MAJOR SUIT</p>	<p style="color: #c00000; font-weight: bold;">TELL OPENER “I have 5 or more cards in the transfer Major suit.”</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2♦ transfers Opener to bid 2♥ (5 or more hearts)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2♥ transfers Opener to bid 2♠ (5 or more spades)</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">NOTE: Opener may have as few as 2 cards in the transfer major suit.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transfer then bid 2NT with a <b>5-card</b> major suit.</li> <li>2. Transfer then raise the major suit to the 3-level with <b>6 or more</b> cards.</li> </ol>						
	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%; border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">1N</td> <td style="width: 15%; padding: 2px 5px;">2♥*</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">*TRANSFERS OPENER TO BID 2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">2♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">3♠*</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">*<b>6 OR MORE</b> ♠S = 8-CARD FIT. RAISE TO THE 3-LEVEL TO INVITE</td> </tr> </table>	1N	2♥*	*TRANSFERS OPENER TO BID 2♠	2♠	3♠*	* <b>6 OR MORE</b> ♠S = 8-CARD FIT. RAISE TO THE 3-LEVEL TO INVITE
	1N	2♥*	*TRANSFERS OPENER TO BID 2♠				
	2♠	3♠*	* <b>6 OR MORE</b> ♠S = 8-CARD FIT. RAISE TO THE 3-LEVEL TO INVITE				
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2♠	2N*	* <b>5</b> ♠S = UNKNOWN FIT. RAISE TO 2NT TO INVITE					
<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">5 OR MORE CARDS IN A MAJOR SUIT</p>							

### When Does the 1NT Opener Accept the Invitation?

- 17 points (top of the range)
- 16 points with UPGRADES
  - 10s and 9s
  - Touching (working) honor cards
  - Good shape (4-3-3-3 is worst)

## Responder (8-9 points) Invites After Partner Opens 1 NT

### No Majors, bid 2 NT

**Board 1**

South Deals

♠ K J 9 3 2 ♥ 10 5 2 ♦ 4 3 ♣ K J 7	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="border: none;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ 10 7 ♥ A 9 7 3 ♦ K 9 6 ♣ 6 4 3 2	♠ A Q 5 ♥ K Q J ♦ A 10 8 7 ♣ 10 9 8
N							
W							
E							
S							

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 N <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3 N
All pass			
			1. 0-3 ♥s & 0-3 ♠s, 8-9 Points

**Contract:** 3 NT South, 9 Tricks  
**Lead:** ♠ 3, 4th highest, East plays ♠ 10  
**Sure Tricks:** 2-♠, 1-♦, 1-♣ = 4.

**Play:** South wins the ♠ Q and lead the ♣ 10 for a double finesse. The ♦ Q is led from Dummy, a repeating finesse. Then promote ♥s before winning the ♠ A.

### 5-♥s, 8-9 points

**Board 2**

South Deals

♠ Q 3 2 ♥ 8 3 ♦ Q J 8 6 ♣ J 10 7 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="border: none;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ A J 9 5 4 ♥ Q 9 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ K 3 2	♠ K 7 6 ♥ A 10 7 2 ♦ A K 9 ♣ Q 9 6
N							
W							
E							
S							

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 N <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4 ♥
All pass			
			1. 5-♥s, 8-9 points

**Contract:** 4 ♥ South, 10 Tricks  
**Lead:** ♦ Q, Seq., East plays ♦ 10  
**Losers (N):** 2-♠, 1-♥, 1-♦, 2-♣ = 6.

**Play:** South wins the ♦ A and plays the ♥ AK, (nine-never). A ♠ is led toward the ♠ K, and a ♣ is led toward the ♣ Q, indirect finesses.

### 6-card ♠ Suit

**Board 3**

South Deals

♠ K 8 7 3 ♥ K 10 9 6 ♦ 9 3 ♣ Q 4 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="border: none;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ 10 ♥ 5 4 3 2 ♦ Q 10 6 4 2 ♣ A K 2	♠ A 6 ♥ A Q J ♦ A J 5 ♣ 10 9 8 6 5
N							
W							
E							
S							

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠ <sup>1</sup>	All pass	
			1. 6-♠s, 8-9 points

**Contract:** 3 ♠ South, 9 Tricks  
**Lead:** ♥ 10, top of interior sequence  
**Losers(N):** 2-♠, 1-♥, 1-♦, 2-♣ = 6.

**Play:** The free ♥ finesse wins. South wins the ♠ A and leads toward the ♠ QJ. South wins the ♦ K and leads toward the ♦ AJ.

### Stayman Finds No 8-card Fit

**Board 4**

South Deals

♠ 9 8 4 ♥ J 8 6 ♦ A Q J 9 ♣ 8 6 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="border: none;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ K 5 2 ♥ K 10 9 2 ♦ 8 5 2 ♣ J 10 2	♠ A 10 7 ♥ Q 7 3 ♦ K 10 4 3 ♣ A K 4
N							
W							
E							
S							

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 N	Pass	3 N
All pass			

**Contract:** 3 NT South, 9 Tricks  
**Lead:** ♦ Q, Top of interior sequence  
**Sure Tricks:** 1-♠, 1-♥, 3-♣ = 5.

**Play:** South wins the ♦ K then the ♣ AKQ9. South leads the ♠ Q for a repeating finesse. ♠ split 3-3 and the ♥ A is the entry for the last ♠.

## Responder (8-9 points) Invites After Partner Opens 1 NT

### 4-4 ♥ Fit, Invite & Accept

#### Board 5

South Deals

	♠ Q J 9		
	♥ A 10 9 4		
	♦ 9 4		
	♣ Q 4 3 2		
♠ 6 4 2	N	♠ K 10 8 5 3	
♥ Q 8 6	W	♥ 7 2	
♦ Q J 10	E	♦ K 8 5 3 2	
♣ 9 7 6 5	S	♣ K	

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

9			
5 9			
17			
West	North	East	South
			1 N
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4 ♥
All pass			
1. 4-♥s, 8-9 points			

**Contract:** 4 ♥ South, 10 Tricks  
**Lead:** ♦ Q, Seq., East plays ♦ 8  
**Losers:** 1-♠, 1-♥, 2-♦, 1-♣ = 5.

**Play:** South has a 2-way ♥ finesse, 50% either way. For the ♠ finesse, lead the ♠ Q. For the ♣ finesse, lead the ♣ 2. Watch entries to Dummy.

### Implied 4-4 ♠ Fit, Not Accepted

#### Board 6

South Deals

	♠ J 9 4 2		
	♥ A J 5		
	♦ J 10 5 3		
	♣ Q 4		
♠ K 10 6 3	N	♠ 8	
♥ Q 9 3	W	♥ 10 6 4	
♦ 6 4 2	E	♦ A Q 9 7	
♣ 10 5 2	S	♣ A J 9 6 3	

	♠ A Q 7 5		
	♥ K 8 7 2		
	♦ K 8		
	♣ K 8 7		

9			
5 11			
15			
West	North	East	South
			1 N
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 N	Pass	3 ♠ <sup>1</sup>
All pass			
1. 4-♠s, 15 points			

**Contract:** 3 ♠ South, 9 Tricks  
**Lead:** ♣ 2 (or ♦ 2), East plays ♣ J  
**Losers:** 2-♠, 2-♥, 2-♦, 2-♣ = 8.

**Play:** South takes finesses in ♥s, ♠s, and ♦s by leading the lowest card in each suit.

### No 4-4 Major Suit Fit

#### Board 7

South Deals

	♠ 8 5		
	♥ K J 6 4		
	♦ A 7 6		
	♣ 10 9 7 5		
♠ Q J 10 9	N	♠ 7 3 2	
♥ Q 10 7	W	♥ 8 3 2	
♦ 3 2	E	♦ K J 10 5 4	
♣ K J 8 6	S	♣ A 2	

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

8			
9 8			
15			
West	North	East	South
			1 N
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	2 N <sup>1</sup>	All pass	
1. 4 ♥s, 8-9 points			

**Contract:** 2 NT South, 8 Tricks  
**Lead:** ♠ Q, Seq., East plays ♠ 2  
**Sure Tricks:** 2-♠, 2-♥, 1-♦ = 5.

**Play:** South wins the ♠ A and the ♥ A. ♥s are finessed and won (3-3 split). A small ♦ is led toward the ♦ Q, an indirect finesse. 8 tricks is all.