

Responder's New Suit Bids

Responder's new suit bids

If a limit bid is not possible, responder can bid a new suit, looking for an alternative fit.

A **major** suit fit is by far the best.

It is important to bid your suits in the correct order.

The same rules apply to Responder as they do to Opener.

- Longest suit
- Lower available 4-card suit
- Higher ranking 5-card suit
- Try and keep the bidding as low as possible to give you room to find a **fit**.

Responder's bids

Important – Responder's **new suit** is **forcing**

They are **unlimited** bids and can have a wide range of points (6-28)

Responses to the opening bid with NO FIT

- Bid & change suit at 1-level 6+ 4+ suit
- Bid & change suit at 2-level 10+ 4+ minor/5+ Hearts (**don't jump**)
- Bid 1NT 6-9 denies a 4+ card suit at the 1-level

Examples

Opener		Responder
♠ 95		♠ J8764
♥ AQ854		♥ K2
♦ A954		♦ KQJ32
♣ K8		♣ 6
1♥	–	1♠

Opener		Responder
♠ 8		♠ AK54
♥ AQJ5		♥ 9876
♦ KJ542		♦ AQ3
♣ K87		♣ 54
1♦	–	1♥

Opener		Responder
♠ 8		♠ A43
♥ AQJ53		♥ 98
♦ KJ52		♦ AQ643
♣ K87		♣ Q32
1♥	–	2♦

Opener		Responder
♠ 85		♠ AK43
♥ AQ854		♥ K2
♦ A954		♦ 3
♣ K8		♣ AJ9432
1♥	–	2♣

Opener		Responder
♠ 8		♠ J76
♥ AQJ5		♥ 98
♦ KJ542		♦ AQ
♣ K87		♣ J95432
1♦	–	1NT

Opener		Responder
♠ 8		♠ A43
♥ AQJ53		♥ 982
♦ KJ52		♦ Q64
♣ K87		♣ Q932
1♥	–	1NT

Opener's rebids after a new suit response

- Support partner's suit 4+ in that suit (3+ if responder has bid 2 of a major)
- Bid NT Balanced
- Bid a new suit 4+ in the 2nd suit (5+ first suit if it is a higher ranking suit)
- Rebid own suit 5+ in the suit

Opener supports Responder's Suit

It is important to support partner's suit if possible, particularly in a major

After 1♥ – 1♠			
2♠	12-15	4-card support	single raise
3♠	16-17	4-card support	invitational raise
4♠	18-19	4-card support	game raise

Opener rebids a new suit – showing an unbalanced hand

After 1♥ – 1♠		
2 nd suit below the barrier *	12-15	
2 nd suit above the barrier *	16-19	

* The barrier is explained below

Opener rebids their own suit – showing an unbalanced hand

After 1♥ – 1♠		
2♥	12-15	5+ suit
3♥	16-17	6+ suit
4♥	18-19	6+ suit

Opener bids Notrumps – showing a balanced hand

After 1♥ – 1♠		
1NT	15-17	
2NT	18-19	

After 1♥ – 2♣		
2NT	15-17	
3NT	18-19	

The barrier

The barrier applies to the Opener and is their original suit at the 2-level. eg if the Opener bids 1♣ the barrier is 2♣. If Opener bids 1♥ the barrier is 2♥ etc. If the Opener bids a suit above the barrier, they must have at least 16 HCP.



Examples of below the barrier (1 2-15 HCP)

1♦ – 1♠ 2♦ * 2♦ is the barrier	1♠ – 2♣ 2♥ * 2♠ is the barrier
1♦ – 1♥ 1♠ * 2♦ is the barrier	

Examples of above the barrier (16+ HCP)

1♦ – 1♠ 2♥ * 2♦ is the barrier	1♣ – 1♥ 2♦ * 2♣ is the barrier
1♦ – 1♠ 3♣ * 2♦ is the barrier	