



Quick Reference

Simple Overcalls and Advancer Bidding

Simple Overcalls

LHO makes an Opening SUIT bid. Partner makes a Simple Overcall.

What does Partner's Overcall bid mean?

*** Simple Overcall on the 1-level**

- 8 – 16 hcp
- 5+-card Suit

- Vulnerability matters!

Equal or Favorable Vulnerability: You can make a Simple Overcall on the 1-level with just one high honor (Ace or King) when you are closer to 8 hcp.

Unfavorable Vulnerability: You need extra values to make a Simple Overcall on the 1-level in Unfavorable Vulnerability.

You really need 2+ honors on the 1-level in Unfavorable Vulnerability.

- Consider Hand Quality overall in the Overcall hand

Closer to 8 hcp? At least the Ace or King, maybe even 2 honors.

Closer to 16 hcp? Any kind of suit, any kind of Vulnerability is okay.

*** Simple Overcall on the 2-level**

Need more strength (points).

Should always make a Simple Overcall on the 1-level if you still can.

Do not jump when making a Simple Overcall

You may bid a Simple Overcall on the 2-level if you can no longer bid on the 1-level.

You must meet the requirements to bid on the 2-level

- 10 – 16 hcp
- 5+-card suit

- Vulnerability Matters!

*Equal or Favorable Vulnerability: Should really have 2 of the top 3 honors
At the very least, 3 of the top 5 honors*

*Unfavorable Vulnerability: *sigh* This one can get you into trouble.*

Absolutely – 2 of top 3.

A 6th card would be great, but 5 cards okay with 2 of top 3 honors.

You might consider Passing

*** Simple Overcall on the 3-level**

Need even more strength.

- 14, 15, 16 hcp. 13 hcp might be enough if your points are in your suit.
- 6+-card suit (not 5). 2 of the top 3 honors.

You are going out on a limb. You need the goods to Overcall on the 3-level.



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Advancer Bidding

Advancer has NO FIT for Overcaller Suit

Pass **Fewer than 10 hcp**

Bid own, new suit **10+ hcp and own 5+-card suit with a good honor – Ace or King**

* *Closer to 10 hcp:*

Advancer needs to have 2+ cards in Overcaller's suit.

If Overcaller doesn't like Advancer's suit, Overcaller might rebid the Overcall suit.
Then where will Advancer be?

* *Closer to 12 hcp (Opening-ish points):*

Advancer can get away with a Singleton in Overcaller's suit
because Advancer's points will help.

* *Closer to 14+ hcp:*

Now, Advancer might be able to have a Void in Overcaller's suit.
With that many Advancer points, Advancer will be able to find even a 2nd possible bid
after the first Advancing bid.

Bid NT

Doesn't happen very often!

* Need Stoppers in Opener's suit
Ace or KQx or KJT

* Points: Must make up the difference from Partner's Overcall baseline

Did Partner Overcall on 1-level? Could have just 8 hcp.
Did Partner Overcall on 2-level? Could have just 10 hcp.

Advancer and Overcaller need about 18 points together for 1NT.
Advancer and Overcaller need about 18-23 points together for 2NT
Advancer and Overcaller need about 24-25 points together for 3NT.

Advancer does NOT often bid NT.
There are other, better choices for Advancers.



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Advancer Bidding

Advancer has Fit for Overcaller suit

Up-to-9 Advancer Points (including Distribution)

3-card support

Simple Raise to 2-level

(8-card Fit)

You are showing only 3-card support for Overcall suit

You most likely have 6 – 9 total Advancing points.

Might you have fewer than 6 points?

Maybe... but be very careful.

If you have only a Regular Fit with Overcaller, you need extra points

4-card support

Competitive Raise to the 3-level (9-card Fit)

You are showing, specifically, 4-card support for Overcall suit

You most likely have 6 – 9 total Advancing points.

You could shave off a point or two and Advance with 5 pts, 4 pts.

Be careful! You have extra length in the trump suit with a 9-card Fit

With extra length, you will likely end up with remaining trump

on both sides of the table. Yeah!

That might allow you to make this Competitive Raise

with a little less than 6 points. Trial and Error to decide.

5+-card support

Preemptive Raise to the 4-level (Game level) (10+-card Fit)

You are showing 5+-card support for Partner's 5+-card Overcall suit.

You have 10+ cards together.

BIG FIT!!

Bid Game!

Points do not matter! Any point count will do, even zero points

Bid Game with a 10+-card Fit

Advancer Bidding

Advancer has Fit for Overcaller suit

10+ Advancer Points (including Distribution)

3-card support

4-card support

Cuebid Raise Using Opponent's Suit

With 10+ Advancer points, Advancer needs a different way of showing a Fit in Overcaller's suit.

If Advancer bids 2-level, it shows 3-card support and up-to-9 points

If Advancer bids 3-level, it shows 4-card support and up-to 9 points

Therefore, Advancer cannot use the 2-level raise or 3-level raise if holding 10+ points. It would be misleading.

*Since Advancer needs a different way of showing 10+ points and support for the Overcaller suit, Advancer should use a **CUEBID** to convey points and shape.*

Cuebids! A Cuebid is when you bid the Opponent's suit.

You never bid the Opponent's suit and mean that suit.

You would have a Fit with Opponent, not Partner.

Therefore, bidding Opponent's suit must mean something else.

**As Advancer, a Cuebid of Opponent's suit
shows 10+ Advancer points and
3- or 4 – card support for Partner's Overcall suit.**

What will Overcaller Rebid after Advancer's Cuebid?

First, Overcaller MUST bid. If Advancer has bid the Opponent's suit, don't leave them there! Advancer does NOT have Opponent's suit! Overcaller must return to the Overcall suit.

Second, you and Partner will have to decide on a range to work with.
Here's my suggestion for Overcaller's Rebid.

Overcaller: Add Distribution

15+ Overcall points:

14 Overcall points

12-13 Overcall points

8-11 Overcall points

Bid Game in Overcall suit

Bid Game or Bid the Invitation to Game in Overcall suit

Bid the Invitation to Game in Overcall suit

Bid the 2-level in Overcall suit

Advancer Bidding

Advancer has Fit for Overcaller suit

Bidding One More

Simply put:

Never allow the Opponents to play in their acknowledged Fit at only the 2-level.

The Opponents are likely to take their necessary 8 tricks and make a 2-level contract.

They will earn a positive score and hand you a negative score.

Your Mantra:

**“ I Would Rather
Dance the Macarena
Naked,
Covered in Honey
Next to an Anthill
At Burning Man,
Than to Allow the Opponents
To Play in a Fit
At Only the 2-level “**

Bidding One More means

- * Advancer has a Fit for Overcaller
- * Advancer bids Fit on 3-level
 - Either Overcall and Advancer will go Down 1 in their Fit on the 3-level for a smaller negative score,
 - Or Advancer will entice Opener and Responder to bid on the 3-level. Perhaps they cannot make their contract.
- * Advancer points do not matter. It's the Fit between Overcaller and Advancer that matters when Bidding One More

What if Advancer does not have a Fit for Overcaller?

Should Advancer bid One More to stop Opener and Responder from playing in a 2-level Fit? Advancer should bid something -some suit, NOT NT!

This concept, however, is harder and will take you some time to discover and practice.