

COUNTING HIGH-CARD POINTS (HCP) Aces - 4 Kings - 3 Queens - 2 Jacks - 1	Opener Bids 1H or 1S Responder Has Fit in Major Suit	5-3 Fits	Opener Bids 1C or 1D Responder Should Search for Major Suit	4-4 Fits	Opener Bids 1C, 1D, 1H or 1S Responder Does NOT have a new Major Suit
<p>OPENING BIDS</p> <p>1H or 1S 12-20 hcp and 5+ cards in Major Any 5 cards. 5-5: Open Spades</p> <p>1NT 15-17 hcp and Balanced Hand No Voids, No Singletons, ≤ 1 DbItn 4-3-3-3, 4-4-3-2, 5(minor)-3-3-2</p> <p>1C or 1D 12-20 hcp and 3+ cards in Minor Any 3 cards. 4-4: Open Diamonds</p> <p>Responders - General Thoughts:</p> <p>Did Opener bid 1H or 1S? *Look for 3-card Support to continue bidding the Major suit. This is the 5-3 Fit. Use the Responder Ranges to show Opener how much help you can give in the suit.</p> <p>Did Opener bid 1C or 1D? *Look for a 4+-card Major suit to bid in auction. You hope that Opener also has 4 cards in that Major suit. If so, you have found the 4-4 Fit.</p> <p>Use the Responder Ranges to show Opener how much help you can give in the suit.</p> <p>Did Opener bid any 1-level suit? *If you can't switch to a Major suit, look for a Fit with Opener's Minor suit (if Opener bid a Minor suit). *If you can't switch to a Major suit and you can't raise Opener's Minor suit, bid NT.</p>	<p><u>Responder has 3+ cards in Major.</u></p> <p>The partnership has the 5-3 Major-suit Fit.</p> <p>Responder adds Distribution: 1-Doubleton, 2-Singleton, 3-Void</p> <p>Responder now bids in Major suit to show total Responding points: Minimum Resp 6-9 points Raise to 2-Level Medium/Inv Resp 10-12 points Raise to 3-Level Maximum Resp 13+ points See Opener's Rebid</p> <p>Now Opener knows the partnership has a Fit. Opener adds Distribution</p> <p>Opener's Rebid:</p> <p>Opener bids in suit or passes, depending on whether partnership has potential for game.</p> <p>Opener has 12-15 points Can afford the 2-level 16-18 points Can afford the 3-level 19-20 points Can afford the 4-level</p>		<p>The Opener does not have a 5-card Major suit. Opener <i>might</i> have a 4-card Major.</p> <p>If Responder has a 4+-card Major suit, the partnership might find the 4-4 Major-suit Fit.</p> <p>Responding in a New Suit on the 1-level Responder needs 4+ cards in a Major suit and 6+ hcp</p> <p><i>Responder is showing the bottom of points in Responding hand. There is no way to show the upper limit of points.</i></p> <p>Therefore, A New Suit By Responder Is Forcing For Opener For One Round - Allowing The Auction To Return To Responder For More Bidding.</p> <p>Responding in a New Suit on the 2-level Responder needs 5+ cards in a Major suit and 10+ hcp</p> <p><i>NOTE: Responder should ALWAYS bid on the 1-level if still available. Responder should only bid a new suit on the 2-level if the 1-level is used up. However, then Responder must meet 2-level requirements.</i></p> <p>Opener's Rebid with a Fit in Responder's Major: Opener bids in suit or passes, depending on whether partnership has potential for game.</p> <p>Opener has 12-15 points Can afford the 2-level 16-18 points Can afford the 3-level 19-20 points Can afford the 4-level</p>		<p>Opener bids 1C or 1D. Responder does not have a 4+-card Major suit with which to explore a Fit.</p> <p><u>Minor Suit Raise (with distribution)</u> Responder needs 5+ cards to go with Opener's 3+ cards in the Minor Suit opening. 2C or 2D 6-9 points 3C or 3D 10-12 points 5C or 5D The partnership needs 28 points. The invitational level in a Minor suit is still the 3-level (just like the Major suit).</p> <p>Opener bids any 1-level suit. Responder cannot bid a new Major suit. Responder cannot raise the Opener's Minor suit (if a Minor suit was bid).</p> <p>Responder may bid NT.</p> <p><u>Responding in NT:</u> <i>This response says, "I don't think we have a chance of finding a trump suit together. Let's play in some level of NT."</i> 6-9 hcp 1NT "Junk Drawer" 10-12 hcp 2NT Balanced Hand 13-16 hcp 3NT Balanced Hand</p> <p>Opener's Rebid: Can you get to 25 points together? Get there.</p>

<p><u>1NT Openings and Responses</u></p> <p>Opener bids 1NT: 15-17 hcp and Balanced Hand Responder needs 10 points for a game; 8-9 Invite</p> <p>Responder - Stayman Bids 2C: 4-and-only-4 card Major and 8+ hcp</p> <p><i>Opener bids 2S, 2H to show 4 -card Major or Opener bids 2D - No 4-card Major</i></p> <p>Responder continues to bid in Major-Suit Fit or Returns to appropriate level of NT</p> <p>Responder - Jacoby Transfer Bids 2D as Transfer to Hearts: 5+ cards and 0+ hcp Bids 2H as Transfer to Spades: 5+ cards and 0+ hcp</p> <p><i>Opener bids transferred suit!</i></p> <p>Responder bids suit again or returns to NT based on shape and points:</p> <div> <p>Jacoby Responder 2nd bid</p> <table> <tr> <td colspan="2">5-and-only-5 cards in Major</td><td colspan="2">6+ cards in Major</td></tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td><td>0-7</td><td>Pass</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td><td>8-9</td><td>3H / 3S</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>3NT</td><td>10+</td><td>4H/ 4S</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <p><i>Opener may bid again. If Responder returns to NT, Opener may correct back to suit with a sure 8-card Major-suit Fit. If Responder does not bid game, Opener may continue to game with a sure 25 points.</i></p>	5-and-only-5 cards in Major		6+ cards in Major		Pass	0-7	Pass		2NT	8-9	3H / 3S		3NT	10+	4H/ 4S		<p><u>Preemptive Weak Openers</u></p> <p>*5-9 hcp *Long Suit (6+ cards) *Vulnerability Matters *2/3 Honors or 3/5 Honors *No outside 4-card Major</p> <p>8 cards: 4C 4D 4H 4S 7 cards: 3C 3D 3H 3S 6 cards: --- 2D 2H 2S</p> <p>Responder: Usually Passes.</p> <p>Big FIT (10+ cards)? Bid Game <i>More nuance later</i></p> <p><i>Preempts can also be Overcalls. Same requirements. Preemptive Overcalls MUST be a jump from Opener's Standard 1-level suit opening bid.</i></p>	<p><u>OVERCALL BIDS</u></p> <p><u>Simple Overcalls</u> Opener bids a suit (not NT)</p> <p>Opponent wants to bid a new suit (not NT) <i>Opponent needs</i> *5+ cards and 8-16 hcp for 1-level Overcall *5+ cards and 10-16 hcp for 2-level Overcall *6+ cards and 14-16 hcp for 3-level Overcall Opponent needs to have a very good Overcall suit if the point count is closer to 8 hcp. Opponent may have any quality suit if point count is closer to 16 hcp.</p> <p><u>Advancer:</u> For now, treat Overcalling Partner as an Opening Partner. FIT? 6-9 points (with Dist) Raise to 2-level 10+ points (with Dist) Raise to 3-level</p> <p>No FIT? Probably Pass unless Advancer has good 5+-card suit and Opening points Simple Overcalls are NEVER a jump.</p> <p><u>Preemptive Weak Overcalls</u> <i>Opener bids a Standards 1-level suit Opening.</i></p> <p>Opponent has *5-9 hcp *Long Suit (6+ cards) *Vulnerability Matters *2/3 Honors or 3/5 Honors *No outside 4-card Major</p> <p>8 cards: 4C 4D 4H 4S 7 cards: 3C 3D 3H 3S 6 cards: --- 2D 2H 2S</p> <p>Responder: Usually Passes.</p> <p>Big FIT (10+ cards)? Bid Game <i>More nuance later</i> Preemptive Overcalls are ALWAYS a jump.</p>	<p><u>Playing NT Hands</u></p> <p>* Opening Lead by Opponents: 1. Top of a Sequence (3 honors and a 4th card) 2. 4th down in Longest, Strongest suit</p> <p>* Count the number of winners you have already.</p> <p>* Find the suit(s) that are probably going to have extra winners in them.</p> <p>You are looking for PROMOTABLE suits: K Q J (missing the Ace) Q J T (missing the Ace / King)</p> <p>You are looking for LENGTH in suits: 8+ cards. You play the suit over and over, losing in it if you must. Eventually, the Opponents will be void and you will have winning cards.</p> <p>* Work on THOSE suits first – keep your sure winners until you create some extra winners</p> <p><u>Playing Trump Hands</u></p> <p>* Opening Lead by Opponents: 1. Top of Touching Honors (2 connected honors) 2. 4th down in Longest, Strongest suit</p> <p>* Look for problems / losing cards.</p> <p>* Pull the Opponents’ trump from them as your first job.</p> <p>* Try to void suits where you have a problems so that you can use remaining trump on those suits.</p>
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