

Good bidding is the result of clear partnership agreements and bidding according to your agreements. Trust your partner and listen to them.

THE BONES OF BIDDING

What can you do with 10 to 12 points?

YOUR PARTNERSHIP IS ON A QUEST TO FIND A MAJOR SUIT FIT.

1. When partner opens the bidding, remember to classify your hand by strength:

0 – 5 points	Sub-minimum.
6 – 9 points	Minimum
10 – 12 points	Invitational
13 or more points	Game Forcing

2. You can bid one over one. This bid shows 6 or MORE points. If partner opens one of a minor, your primary obligation is to bid 4-card majors up the line. This was your obligation with 6 to 9 points, and it remains your obligation with 10 to 12 points.

Partner opens 1 club	
AK98 QJ32 J4 873	Respond 1 heart
AKQJ9 J32 74 873	Respond 1 spade
KJ84 AKJ7 K2 QJ2	Respond 1 heart

3. You can bid 2 over one. This bid shows 10 or MORE points. But remember that with 10 to 12, you must always show a 4-card major first, if you have one.

If partner opens 1 spade	You can bid 2 clubs or 2 diamonds.
	You can bid 2 hearts to show FIVE hearts.
If partner opens 1 heart	You can bid 2 clubs or 2 diamonds.
If partner opens 1 diamond	You bid 2 clubs.

4. With 10 to 12 points and a fit for partner's opening bid of 1 of a MINOR, you can make a Jump Raise to 3 of the minor to show 10 to 12 points and no 4-card major. You must have at least 4 diamonds to jump to 3 diamonds, and you must have 5 clubs to jump to 3 clubs.

5. Most of the games bid in a round of bridge are MAJOR SUIT games. Knowing how to bid your MAJOR SUIT games is an indispensable skill. That's why, when we have a MAJOR SUIT FIT with partner, we absolutely must know how to tell her that we have 10 to 12 points. There are two types of bids that show 10 to 12 points and a fit:

LIMIT RAISE 10 to 12 with 4 or more trump
DELAYED RAISE 10 to 12 with 3 trump

LIMIT RAISE

10 to 12 points and four trump

Jump-raise to 3 of partner's suit. Ex: 1heart – pass – 3 hearts

Partner opens 1 spade and you hold
KQ63 KJ87 J96 74

Bid 3 spades, inviting partner with
your 4 trump and 11 points.

DELAYED RAISE

10 to 12 points and three trump

DO NOT jump-raise to 3 of partner's suit.
Instead, bid a new suit AND THEN RAISE.

Partner opens 1 spade and you hold
KQ6 KJ87 63 Q974

Bid 2 clubs. If partner next bids 2 diamonds, bid to 2 spades.
Your first bid shows 10 or more points, your second bid shows your trump fit
and limits your count to no more than 12 (because you made the cheapest
possible re-bid of spades).

But what if partner does not bid 2 diamonds?

If he bids 2 spades, bid 3 spades.

If he bids 2NT, bid 3 spades.

If he should happen to bid 2 hearts, jump to 4 hearts. You have a double fit.
Prefer to play a 4-4 fit instead of a 5-3 fit, if you have a choice.