

Responding to One Notrump

The 1NT opener holds 15 to 17 HCPs.
Game of 3NT requires about 26 HCPs.

Responder's Basic Requirements

- With 0 - 7 HCPs.....Pass
- With 8 - 9 HCPs.....Bid 2NT
- With 10 - 15 HCPs.....Bid 3NT

The range of 8 - 9 is INVITATIONAL
The range of 10 - 12 is GAME FORCING

Examples:

1. K54 A103 J984 653
Bid 2NT
2. A54 A103 K984 653
Bid 3NT
3. J6 986 AQJ87 653
Bid 2NT
4. J6 Q4 AQJ873 653
Bid 3NT
5. 6 K4 AQJ875 7543
Bid 3NT

Note that responder's hand need not be balanced. Don't aim for a minor suit when you have enough points to invite game or to bid game.



**When Responder has
a 4 (FOUR) card major
use the Stayman Convention**
FOUR 4 FOUR 4 FOUR

K875 AJ85 542 97
With this hand, responder has two FOUR card majors, and should use the Stayman Convention.

The Stayman Convention

**Responder bids 2 Clubs (artificial)
over the 1NT Opening.**

The bid of 2 Clubs says: "I have a 4 card major. Do you have a 4 card major?"

opener	responder
1NT	2

Responder says nothing about clubs.
He is asking opener a question:
"Do you have a 4 card major?"

Responder needs 8 or more HCPs.

Opener's response to 2 Clubs.

With one 4 card major, opener bids it.

With two 4 card majors, ♣ opener bids 2 Hearts (bid majors UP the line).

With no 4 card major, opener bids 2 Diamonds.

Responder's 2nd Bid

If Opener has bid YOUR major

- Raise to 3 with 8 or 9 points
- Raise to 4 with 10 to 15 points

If Opener has bid 2 Diamonds
(denying any 4 card major)

- Bid 2NT with 8 or 9 HCPs
- Bid 3NT with 10 to 15 HCPs

If Opener has bid spades when you have hearts

- Bid 2NT with 8 or 9 points
- Bid 3NT with 10 to 15 HCPs

If Opener has bid hearts when you have spades

- Bid 2 Spades with 8 or 9 points
- Bid 3NT with 10 to 15 points.

Opener Sets the Final Contract

If Responder has jumped to 4 of Opener's major, then Opener passes.

If Responder has jumped to 3NT, Opener passes.

But if Opener has 4 hearts and also 4 spades, Opener should bid 4 spades.

KJ84	AQ97	K108	K9
opener	responder		
1NT	2♣		
2♥	3NT		
4♠			

(Responder must have 4 spades because he didn't jump to 4 hearts.)

If Responder has bid 2NT when you have bid spades,

Pass with 15 points & maybe 16
Bid 3NT with 17 & maybe 16

If Responder has bid 2 Spades when you have bid 2 Hearts,

With 4 spades
pass with minimal strength
bid 4 spades with maximum

Without 4 spades
bid 2NT with minimal strength
bid 3NT with maximum



**When Responder has
a 5 (FIVE) card major
use Jacoby Transfer Bids
FIVE 5 FIVE 5 FIVE**

K8754 AJ8 542 97

With this hand, Responder has a FIVE card major and should use a Jacoby Transfer.

Jacoby Transfers

With a 5 card major (or longer), Responder bids the suit just lower than his major.

With 5 hearts, bid 2 Diamonds
With 5 spades, bid 2 Hearts.

Opener must now bid Responder's actual suit.

If Responder bid 2 diamonds,
Opener MUST bid 2 hearts.

If Responder bid 2 hearts,
Opener MUST bid 2 spades.

Next Responder shows his point count.

With 8 or 9 HCPs, bid 2NT
With 10 to 15 HCPs, bid 3NT,

Opener sets the final contract.

If Responder has jumped to 3NT, Opener chooses between 3NT and Responder's major (with 3 of the major, choose 4 of that major).

If Responder has bid just 2NT, Opener chooses between
Pass.....2 of the major, minimal
3NT.....2 of the major, maximal
3♥ or ♠ 3 of the major, minimal
4♥ or ♠ 3 of the major, maximal

When Responder has a 6 card suit

KQ9754 K8 875 95

With the hand above, Responder bids 2 hearts and then raises opener to 3 spades, guaranteeing 8 trump.

K8 KQ9754 QJ8 95

With this hand, Responder bids 2 Diamonds and then raises opener to 4 hearts, guaranteeing 8 trump.

Jacoby Transfers can be used when Responder has 0 – 7 points.

In fact, you MUST use the Transfer bid when you are weak.

87542 6 7543 964

Over partner's opening bid of 1NT, bid 2 Hearts, and then pass when partner bids 2 Spades. It looks bad, but 1NT will be even worse.

A2 J10865 8753 94

Over partner's opening bid of 1NT, bid 2 Diamonds, and then pass when partner bids 2 Hearts.

PRACTICE

What is responder's 1st bid over partner's opening of 1NT

1. KJ5 Q32 9754 865
2. KJ5 Q32 K754 865
3. KJ5 Q32 K754 K65
4. KJ54 Q32 K75 K65
5. KJ54 Q32 K75 965
6. KJ54 Q32 9754 65
7. KJ543 Q32 K97 42
8. 54 AK986 AJ9 Q97
9. 54 976532 A32 85
10. 54 AJ9 AK986 Q97

Look at the following auction:

opener	responder
1NT	2♣
2♥	??

What should responder bid next with each of the following hands?

11. K7 AJ84 K864 984
12. 97 AJ84 K864 984
13. AJ84 97 K864 K73
14. AJ84 97 K864 973

opener	responder
1NT	2♣
2♠	??

15. AJ84 97 K864 973
16. AJ84 97 K864 K73
17. 97 AJ84 K864 984
18. K7 AJ84 K864 984



	opener	responder	
	1NT	2♦	
	2♥	??	
19.	8 J109753	Q42 964	
20.	8 KJ9753	AJ4 J64	
21.	87 AQ975	Q85 854	
22.	K7 AQ975	K85 854	

	opener	responder
	1NT	2♣
	2♠	2NT
	??	

What should opener bid next with each of these hands?

23.	AJ84	A7	K864	K73
24.	AJ84	AK	Q864	K73

	opener	responder
	1NT	2♥
	2♠	2NT
	??	

25.	AJ84	A7	K864	K73
26.	AJ84	AK	Q864	K73
27.	A7	AJ8	QJ64	K732
28.	A7	AJ8	KJ64	A732

	opener	responder
	1NT	2♦
	2♥	3NT
	??	

29.	AJ84	AK	Q864	K73
30.	A7	AJ8	KJ64	A732

30. 4 Hearts
29. Pass
28. 3NT
27. Pass
26. 4 Spades
25. 4 Spades
24. 3NT
23. Pass
22. 3NT
21. 2NT
20. 4 Hearts
19. Pass
18. 3NT
17. 2NT
16. 4 Spades
15. 3 Spades
14. 2 Spades
13. 3NT
12. 3 Hearts
11. 4 Hearts
10. 3NT
9. 2 Diamonds
8. 2 Diamonds
7. 2 Hearts
6. Pass
5. 2 Clubs
4. 2 Clubs
3. 3NT
2. 2NT
1. Pass