

Responsive Bidding

General Idea

- Once Partner opens, you need to determine two things:
 - Is game an option? (25+ HCP combined)
 - What is our best fit? (8-card fit in major preferred)
- Priorities: (ranked)
 1. Show support for Partner's **major** suit (minors less important)
 2. Introduce your **major** suit(s)
 3. Show No-Trump shape, stoppers (for bidding to 3NT)
 4. Show support for minor suit(s), introduce your own

What you need

- 6+ HCP – that is all if Partner opens at the 1-level (1♣/♦/♥/♠)!
- **To support Partner's suit:**
 - 3+ cards in a major (opening 1♥/♠ promises five cards, so that ensures a fit)
 - 6-9 HCP: raise Partner to 2♥/♠
 - 10-12 HCP: raise Partner to 3♥/♠
 - 13-16 HCP: raise Partner to 4♥/♠
 - 5+ cards in a minor (but only do so if you have to – usually just for **weak hands!**)
- **To bid a new suit:**
 - Did the Opponent bid over your Partner's bid?
 - Then you need 5 cards in the new suit
 - (*One exception: Partner opens 1♣, Opponent bids 1♦. You can bid a 4-card major suit, 1♥/♠. If you have both 4-card majors, bid X!*)
 - Did the Opponent pass after your Partner bid?
 - Then you need 4 cards in the new suit (prioritize lowest 4-card major)

Other Responses

- Partner opens and you have an opening strength hand:
 - You can bid “2-over-1”
 - A new suit at the 2-level forces the contract to end in game (at least)
 - Ex: Partner opens 1♥, You bid 2♦ -> this auction is forced to game
 - Still prioritize four-card majors
 - Ex: Partner opens 1♥, You bid 1♠ -> you have an unlimited number of HCP (if you have not previously passed)
- Partner opens 1♥/♠ (not for 1♣/♦), you have 6-11 HCP:
 - None of the following apply:
 - If Partner opened 1♥, you have 4+ spades (bid 1♠)
 - You do not have 3+ card support for Partner (raise Partner in that suit)
 - Then bid 1NT -> “forcing 1NT”
 - Partner must bid again, then you can bid your suit, pass, or raise/correct Partner

Some examples – Partner opens 1♣(♥). What if opponent overcalls with 1♦?



Some examples – Partner opens 1♣(♥). What if opponent overcalls with 1♦?



- 1♣ – (Pass) –: 1♥
- 1♣ – (1♦) –: X
- 1♥ – (Pass) –: 2♥



- 1♣ – (Pass) –: 1♦
- 1♣ – (1♦) –: 3NT natural (shows stopper, HCP for game)
- 1♥ – (Pass) –: 2♦ Game Forcing 2/1 (most likely going to 3NT)



- 1♣ – (Pass) –: 1♠
- 1♣ – (1♦) –: 1♠
- 1♥ – (Pass) –: 2♥



- 1♣ – (Pass) –: 3♣ (weak)
- 1♣ – (1♦) –: 3♣ (weak)
- 1♥ – (Pass) –: 1NT forcing (pass 2♣, correct 2♦ to 2♥)



- 1♣ – (Pass) –: 1♠ (rebid 2♥ next time most likely)
- 1♣ – (1♦) –: X
- 1♥ – (Pass) –: 3♥



- 1♣ – (Pass) –: 1♦
- 1♣ – (1♦) –: 1NT natural (shows stopper) (or pass)
- 1♥ – (Pass) –: 1NT forcing (most likely bid ♦ next time)

A Sample Auction

- Partner's open (1♦):
 - 3+ ♦s, 12+ HCP
- My response (1♥):
 - 4+ ♥s, 6+ HCP
- Partner's rebid (2♥):
 - 4+ ♥s as well – we have a fit!
- My rebid (4♥):
 - We have enough points for game (25+), so let's go there.

D Bidding Board 5

N Robot Remove

WEST **NORTH** **EAST** **ajer95**

Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

W Robot Remove

E Robot Remove

S ajer95 **3+** 4♥ S NS 0 EW 0

Hand distributions:

- North (Robot):** A♥, J♥, 9♥, 3♥, Q♠, Q♦, 10♦, 7♦, 3♦, K♣, Q♣, 9♣, 2♣
- West (Robot):** Q♥, 7♥, 5♥, 2♥, A♠, J♠, 9♠, 4♠, J♦, 8♦, 6♦, A♣, 4♣, 9♦
- East (Robot):** 6♥, 10♠, 8♠, 7♠, 5♠, 3♠, 2♠, J♣, 7♣, 6♣, 5♣
- South (ajer95):** K♥, 10♥, 8♥, 4♥, K♠, 6♠, A♦, K♦, 9♦, 2♦, 10♣, 8♣, 3♣