

How can I raise thee? Let me count the ways....

There is a bridge saying to which I subscribe to - "Support with support!" As soon as a fit is found, share the good news immediately. For example, you open 1♦ with A9xx, -, AQ10xxx, Kx and partner responds 1S. DO NOT SAY 2♦ or 3♦ PLEASE - your correct bid is 3♠. This hand revalues to 18 points in support of spades.

Similarly, this applies also when responding after partner opened.

1♥ - 2♥	1♥ - 3♥	1♥ - 4♥
6-9 points	10-11 pts	preemptive
xx, Qxx, KJxxx, xx	xx, AQx, KJxxx, xxx	x, QJxxx, KQxxx, xx
x, Qxxx, J10xxxx, xx	x, AQxx, Jxxxxx, Jx	-, QJxx, AQxxxx, xxx

With a singleton, 4+ trumps, and 12-15 points, use a "Splinter Bid"

1♥ - 3♠	1♥ - 4♣	1♥ - 4♦
x, AQ9x, AQxx, xxxx	Kxx, Axxxx, Kxxx, x	Kxx, AQxx, x, Kxxxx

With 3-card support only but a game-going hand (12-15 points revalued),

Option 1

1♥ - 3NT
Kx, Kxx, AQxx, J9xx
Flat, no shortages
Partner can cue or 4♥

Option 2

1♥ - 2♣
2B*- 4♥ *B = Bananas
xx, Kxx, Axx, KQJxx
Pinpoints source of tricks

With 12+ points and FOUR trumps, use the JACOBY 2NT bid

Go 2NT with any of the following hands -

AKxx, KQxx, xxx, xx AKQx, KQxx, AKxx, x KQxxx, KQxx, Ax, xx

Opener rebids as follows

1. With a shortage he bids it Axx, KQxxx, Axxx, x (3♣)
2. With a GOOD 2nd suit (5+) he jumps in it x, AJxxx, AKQxx, xx (4♦)
3. 4♥ = Minimum, no shortage xx, AKJxx, QJx, Kxx
4. 3NT = 16+ bad trumps AKx, Q9xxx, Axx, Ax
5. 3♥ = Max hand, all good! AKx, KQxxx, Axx, Qx → There-after the first person who bids the trump suit 4♥, has signed off.

**In lesson 2: 12-May → Opener opens, responder bid, OPENER splinters!;
Raises in competition: 1♥ - (2♣) - ? What is 2♥/3♣/3♥/4♣/4♥ ?**