

NT System Responses

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1NT responses

Invitational Balanced Hands

Quantitative 4N

Gerber

Stayman and Transfers

 Predominantly Majors

 Minors

Slam Interest

Control Bidding

Card

15-17 NT

Stayman

Transfers to Hearts and Spades including Texas Transfers
Texas ON in All Systems through 3♦ interference

Transfers to Clubs and Diamonds (4-Way)

Invitational 2NT (May go through Stayman)

Few 3 Level Bids discussed

Balanced Hand Responses (Standard Instruction)

0to7	Pass
8to9	Invite
10to15-	Bid 3N
15+to17	Bid 4N
18to19	Bid 6NT or Gerber
20to21	Bid 5NT (forcing to 6NT optional 7NT)

Balanced Hand Responses (Augmented)

0to7	Pass
8to10	Pass or Invite or Bid 3N
11to15-	Bid 3N
15+to17	Bid 4N
18to19	Bid 6NT or Gerber
20to21	Bid 5NT (forcing to 6NT optional 7NT)

Invitational Hands

8-10 HCP

8-10 HCP

Pass, Invite, or Game

For my mentees, I have often said pass with a balanced 8 count.

Invite with 9

Bid Game with 10+

8-10 Texture Guideline Rule of 16

Count HCP plus
Number of cards (including high cards) that are
rank 8+ that combine with high cards

Pass with 13-
Invite with 14-15
Bid Game with 16+

9 Count

♠ A75

♥ K62

♦ J52

♣ J732

Another 9 count

♠ AT9

♥ K97

♦ JT8

♣ J987

8 Count

♠ QJT

♥ QT9

♦ JT98

♣ QT8

Pass or Invite

♠ A72

♥ Q63

♦ A542

♣ 654

Semi Balanced

♠ K74

♥ 83

♦ QT9

♣ KT973

Credit your 5 card Suit

Summary of Balanced Invite

♠ K74

♥ 83

♦ QT76

♣ K973

Your spot cards should help you decide to pass or invite or bid game. I would pass this one.

Quantitative 4NT

With a Transfer

With Stayman

Direct

Transfer and 4NT Example

♠ K9743

♥ K8

♦ QJT

♣ AK9

A Quantitative 4NT bid after a transfer says “I have 5 spades and about 16 HCP. You decide”

Should partner answer with Aces first?

Talk to your partner about what to do after a quantitative raise

1N-transfer-response-4N or 1N-4N

4N is non forcing but do you have enough Aces to bid slam?

My thoughts:

With 3 Aces and a Max NT, partner can bid slam. Otherwise, answer for aces. Agree whether KCB is for the named Major or not, or KCA if not or if no suit has been named. Responder 5♠ after opener's Ace showing bid is asking to pass or correct.

Gerber

♠ K9743

♥ KQT

♦ AJT9

♣ KQ

Does your partnership open 1NT with 14 HCP?

Stayman

Garbage Stayman

♠ 974

♥ QT86

♦ JT984

♣ 6

Inviting with Stayman

♠ QT4

♥ Q832

♦ QT8

♣ K76

1N-2♣-2♥-3♥

1N-2♣-2♦-2N

1N-2♣-2♠-2N

Inviting with Stayman

♠ QT43

♥ Q83

♦ QT8

♣ K76

Partner could have both major suits for his 1NT opener.

If partner responds 2♥ after you bid Stayman, what do you do with 4 spades?

1N-2♣-2♥-2♠ after 2♥

Showing an invitational hand and exactly 4 spades.

After 2♠, partner can pass, bid 2N, or 3N or 4♠. Partner probably shouldn't bid 3♠. You've flipped captaincy.

Major Suit 5/4 and 5/5 *options* (Modern Standard)

With 5 hearts and 4 or 5 spades and < invitational values, use Stayman and rebid hearts if partner bids 2 Diamonds, or pass if partner bids hearts or spades.

With 4 hearts and 5 spades and < invitational values, transfer to spades and pass

With 4 hearts and 5 spades and invitational values, use Stayman and rebid spades if partner bids 2 Diamonds. Raise Hearts or Spades to the three level to invite.

With 5 hearts and 4 spades, and invitational values, transfer to hearts and then bid spades.

With 5 hearts and 5 spades and invitational values, transfer to spades and bid three hearts.

With 5 hearts and 5 spades and GF values, transfer to hearts and jump to three spades.

4/5 but < invite

♠ AQ74

♥ 98653

♦ 742

♣ 2

Stayman

If partner bids 2♦, bid 2♥ to play.

5/4 but < invite

♠ AQ742

♥ 9865

♦ 742

♣ 2

Transfer to spades and pass

May miss a 4/4 Heart fit

4/5 invitational

♠ AQ74

♥ K8653

♦ 742

♣ 2

Transfer to Hearts, then
bid 2 Spades

5/4 invitational

♠ AQ743

♥ K865

♦ 742

♣ 2

Bid Stayman, then bid
Spades if partner bids 2♦

5/5 invitational

♠ AJ743

♥ K8653

♦ 74

♣ 2

Transfer to Spades, then
bid 3 Hearts.

Forcing with Stayman

Stayman and then a Minor

♠ JT

♥ AJ52

♦ Q

♣ KQ9872

Slam interest in the minor. Possible with this hand. Stayman and then a minor shows the minor, but not necessarily a major. What do you do if partner doesn't bid ♥?

Stayman and then a Minor

♠ JT

♥ AJ52

♦ Q

♣ KQ9872

With opponents passing,
1N-2C!-2S?-3C! (forcing)

This may show 4 hearts
and 5+ clubs and mild slam
interest in clubs. Does not
necessarily show hearts.

Standard says any rebid
other than 3N is a Q bid in
support of clubs.

How do you bid your controls?

NT Bidder

♠ AKQ8

♥ K4

♦ A873

♣ JT5

Responder

♠ JT

♥ AJ52

♦ Q

♣ KQ9872

1N-2♣-2♠-3♣-3♦!-3♥!-3♠-4♦-??

Stayman, Major Fit

♠ AJ52

♥ AT

♦ 9

♣ KQ9872

Stayman

♠ AJ52

♥ AT

♦ 9

♣ KQ9872

With opponents passing,
1N-2♣!-2♠ -?

Partner has shown a suit
you like. What do you do
now? Do you have a bid
that is a slam try?

♠ AJ52

♥ AT

♦ 9

♣ KQ9872

Standard action is Gerber, agreeing on spades as trump and asking for Aces. No problem with that BUT..

A Suggestion:

Responder bids 3 of the OTHER major to show slam interest in opener's named suit after Stayman.

♠ KQ743

♥ Q42

♦ A8

♣ AT5

♠ AJ52

♥ AT

♦ 9

♣ KQ9872

Showing
Controls

I don't know
how to make a
Queen ask with
Gerber

1NT-2♣-2♠-3♥!-4♣!-4♦!-4♠-4N!-5♦!-5♥!-5N!-7♠?

3H-Artificial, agrees on spades trump, slam try

4C-1st or 2nd round control

4D-1st or 2nd round control of diamonds

4S-No control in hearts

5D-3 Key Cards

5H- Asking for the trump queen

5N-Have the trump queen, no extra honors.

Transfer Auctions

Majors

Minors

Super Accept of Transfer

1NT-2♥-3♠

Shows 4+ spades and Max Values

1NT-2♥-3♣-3♥

3♣ shows 3 Spades and Max and ♣ values

3♥ is a re-transfer

4NT becomes Ace asking, not quantitative

6 Card Minor suits:
Bail or Invite or Bid Game

♠ JT7

♥ J85

♦ T

♣ KT9872

Don't hesitate to "BAIL" with a bad hand

Invitation with 4-Way xfer

♠ Q8

♥ J85

♦ T4

♣ KJ9643

1N-2♠-2N!-3N

Without transfer

♠ Q8

♥ J85

♦ KJ9643

♣ T4

If you play 3♦ as
invitational, partner can bid
3N with help in Diamonds.

1N-2♠-3♣-???

Pass or Bail or Invite

♠ 874

♥ 83

♦ 742

♣ AK9832

Bid Game (3NT)

♠ 874

♥ 83

♦ 742

♣ AK9832

How should partner play
the club suit?

Playing the suit

 AK9832

 76 ops have 5

Duck a trick

 Q76 ops have 4

Q first

Transfer Opportunities

5M-4m

♠ 7

♥ AJT86

♦ K93

♣ AQ94

Opener Rebid

♠ AJ4

♥ KQ5

♦ AT84

♣ J83

Xfer and new minor shows 5+M 4+m GF

4♥ is “fast arrival”

Transfer Opportunities

5M-4m

♠ 7

♥ AJT86

♦ K93

♣ AQ94

Opener Rebid

♠ AQJ4

♥ Q5

♦ AT8

♣ KJ83

Xfer and new minor shows 5+M 4+m GF

3♦ is slam interest in ♣

Mild Slam Interest

♠ KT9743

♥ AK8

♦ T

♣ AT9

Transfer to 2♠, then bid 4
Another Flip Captaincy.

Delayed Texas Transfer

GF 6M-4M

♠ KQ9742

♥ KQT8

♦ 98

♣ 6

With 6-4 shape, bid Stayman and then “delayed Texas” if partner doesn’t bid a major.

1NT response Summary

Invitational Balanced Hands

Quantitative 4N

Gerber

Stayman and Transfers

 Predominantly Majors

 Minors

Slam Interest

Control Bidding

See you at the Tables!

Bonus Slide: Kokish Relay

2♣-2♦-2N shows 22-23/24 (not forcing opposite a bust)

2♣-2♦-2♥ is artificial and asks partner to bid 2♠ after which:

2N is 24/25+ Balanced and Forcing

Ranges can be modified.

With a heart suit, opener rebids hearts or bids a new suit after 2♠ which cancels the “strong balanced” message.

2♣-2♦-2♥-2♠-3N can be employed for a trick taking hand or for an even stronger balanced hand, depending on partnership agreement.