

New Minor Forcing

New Minor Forcing (NMF) is a method to show an invitational (or better) hand and inquire about partner's support in your Major.

Definition:

After 1 minor – 1 Major – 1NT

2 of the other minor is conventional (NMF)

It is an invitational (or better) bid and asks if partner has 3 cards in the bid Major and whether opener is a minimum or a maximum.

For example: 1D – 1S – 1N – 2C. 2C is artificial and says nothing about clubs. It asks partner if she has 3 spades and how strong he is.

For example: 1C – 1H – 1N – 2D. 2D is artificial and says nothing about diamonds. It asks partner if he has 3 hearts and how strong he is.

Examples: Partner opens 1D – You bid 1S – Partner bids 1N

KJxxx		KQxxx		KQJxx		QTxxx	
KJx	bid 2C	ATx	bid 2C	xxx	bid 2S	xxx	bid 2C
QJT		xx		xx		AKQ	
xx		Qxx		xxx		xx	

This agreement is designed to help responder decide on the strain: NT or the bid Major.

More examples: Partner opens 1C – You bid 1H – Partner bids 1N.

KJx		KQJ		KJx		Kxx	
QTxxx	Bid 2D	ATxxx	Bid 2D	ATxx	Bid 2N	QJTxx	Bid 2H
KQx		xx		Kxx		xxxx	
Qx		QT9		xxx		x	

Suppose you hold: KQJxx QTxx xx xx. Partner opens 1C – you bid 1S – partner bids 1N. What do you bid now? 2H. Is 2H forcing? No even though it is a new suit because with an invitational hand or better, you would bid NMF (2D).

Let's look at opener's rebid after NMF: Opener opened 1D, 1S, 1N, 2C (NMF):

Kx		Kxx		Kx		Kx		Kx	
Kxx	Bid 2N	Kx	Bid 3S	QTxx	Bid 2H	QJx	Bid 3N	QJx	Bid 2D
ATxx		AQxx		Axxx		Axxx		AJxxx	
Qxxx		Qxxx		KJx		KJxx		Qxx	

Summary: New Minor Forcing is a bid made by responder after opener has opened a minor, responder has bid a Major, and opener has rebid 1N. It helps responder decide level and strain. Responder bids 2 of the other minor which asks if opener has three of responder's Major and how strong opener is. Opener supports the Major with three and bids something else if he doesn't have 3. Opener also bids the minimum he can with a minimum hand and jumps with a maximum hand.

Two Way New Minor Forcing

Two Way New Minor Forcing (2WNMF) is an extension to NMF to show an invitational or game forcing hand after a 1NT rebid by opener.

Definition:

After 1 minor – 1 Major – 1NT

2C asks partner to bid 2D. Most likely it is an invitational hand but occasional it will be passed.

2D is a game force.

For example: 1D – 1S – 1N – 2C. 2C is artificial and asks partner to bid 2D.

For example: 1C – 1H – 1N – 2D. 2D is artificial and is a game force. It asks partner to further describe his hand. In particular, does he have 3 hearts.

Examples: Partner opens 1D – You bid 1S – Partner bids 1N

KJxxx		KQxxx		KQJxx		QTxxx	
KJx	bid 2C	ATx	bid 2C	xxx	bid 2S	xxx	bid 2C
QJT		xx		xx		AKQ	
xx		Qxx		xxx		xx	

This agreement is designed to help responder decide on the strain: NT or the bid Major.

More examples: Partner opens 1C – You bid 1H – Partner bids 1N.

KJx		KQx		KJx		Kxx	
QTxxx	Bid 2D	AJTxx	Bid 2D	ATxx	Bid 2N	QJTxx	Bid 2H
KQx		xx		Kxx		xxxx	
Qx		QT9		xxx		x	

Suppose you hold: KQJxx QTxx x xxx. Partner opens 1C – you bid 1S – partner bids 1N. What do you bid now? 2H. Is 2H forcing? No even though it is a new suit because with an invitational hand or better you would bid 2C or 2D.

Let's look at opener's rebid after 2 way NMF: Opener opens 1D, 1S, 1N, 2C

Kx		Kxx		Kx		Kx		Kx	
Kxx	Bid 2D	Kx	Bid 2D	QTxx	Bid 2D	QJx	Bid 2D	QJx	Bid 2D
ATxx		AQxx		Axxx		Axxx		AJxxx	
Qxxx		Qxxx		KJx		KJxx		Qxx	

Let's look at opener's rebid after 2 way NMF: Opener opens 1D, 1S, 1N, 2D

Kx		Kxx		Kx		Kxx		Kx	
Kxx	Bid 2N	Kx	Bid 2S	QTxx	Bid 2N	QJx	Bid 2S	QJx	Bid 2N
ATxx		AQxx		Axxx		Axxx		AJxxx	
Qxxx		Qxxx		KJx		Kxx		Qxx	

Summary: Two Way New Minor Forcing is an extension to NMF after opener has opened a minor, responder has bid a Major, and opener has rebid 1N. It helps responder decide level and strain. Responder bids 2C with an invitational hand and 2D with a game force. After 2C, opener bids 2D and responder will clarify by passing or rebidding his major. After responder rebids the Major, opener passes, or bids 2N, 3M, 4M, or 3N.

XYZ

XYZ is an extension to 2WNMF which is used after the bidding has gone 1X – 1Y – 1Z where X, Y, Z are all suits.

Definition:

After 1 club – 1 diamond – 1 Heart

After 1 club – 1 diamond – 1 Spade

After 1 club – 1 Heart – 1 Spade

After 1 diamond – 1 Heart – 1 Spade

2C asks partner to bid 2D. Most likely it is an invitational hand but occasional it will be passed.

2D is a game force.

For example: 1D – 1H – 1S – 2C. 2C is artificial and asks partner to bid 2D.

For example: 1C – 1D – 1H/S – 2D. 2D is artificial and is a game force. It asks partner to further describe his hand.

Examples: Partner opens 1D – You bid 1H – Partner bids 1S

KJx	ATx	xxx	xx
KJxxx bid 2C	KQxxx bid 2C	KQJxx bid 2H	QJTxx bid 2C
QJT	xx	xx	QJxxxx
xx	Qxx	xxx	x

More examples: Partner opens 1C – You bid 1H – Partner bids 1S.

KJx	KQx	KJx	Kxx
QTxxx Bid 2D	AJTxx Bid 2D	ATxx Bid 2N	QJTxx Bid 2H
KQx	xx	Kxx	xxxx
Qx	QT9	xxx	x

Let's look at opener's rebid after 2D:

Opener opens 1D, 1H, 1S, 2D

Kxxx	Kxxx	Kxxx	KJxxx	Kxxx
Kx Bid 2N	Qx Bid 2N	QT Bid 3D	Qx Bid 2S	QJx Bid 2H
ATxx	AQxxx	AJxxx	AQJxxx	AJxxx
Kxx	Kx	xx	--	x

Summary: XYZ is an extension to 2WNMF after opener opens a minor, responder responds at the one level and opener rebids at the one level (1H or 1S). Responder bids 2C with an invitational hand and 2D with a game force. After 2C, opener bids 2D and responder will clarify by passing or rebidding his major. After 2D, opener further describes his hand.

Advantage to XYZ. Besides the obvious advantage of finding level and strain, occasionally, after 2D, it makes finding a slam easier or decide between 3N and 4 of a Major.

For example, after 2D, responder can raise opener's opening minor to explore a slam in that minor. Since we are in a game force, the exploration can go slowly and easily.