

"have fun with nothing"

strong ♣-canape style:

<http://www.henry654.fws1.com>

- 1♣ any 15-19 (except 6+♦ or 4+/5+ minors) or any 22+
- 1♦ 5+ minors, 12-19 or any 20-21
- 1♥♠ 4♥/♠ and other 5+card suit or  
6+ ♥/♠, 10-14
- 1SA balanced, may have 5 in major, 10/13-14
- 2♣ 4+ ♣ and 5+ card major or  
6+ ♣, 10-14
- 2♦ 4+ ♦ and 5+ card major, 10-14
- 2♥♠ weak
- 2NT- light preempt with ♣/♦ or sound with ♥/♠
- 3♣/♦ sound preempt; 3♥/♠ - light preempt

**Competitive bidding** 3rd and 4th hands or over strong 1♣ open 0-14

**Ace Asking**

**References**

## 1 ♣ Opening

(\*) any 15-19 hand, except for 6+ ♦ or 4+/5+ in minors (opens 1♦)

(\*\*) any game forcing hand (generally 22+ )

Note: 20-21 hands ("Almost Acol") and 12-19 hands with minimum 6♦ or 4+-5+ in minors open 1♦

**1♣-1♦:**

*The responder bids 1♦ with either weak (0-6 ) or strong (12+ ) hand, any distribution.*

**1♣-1♦-1♥/♠/NT/2♣/♦:**

After 1♦ response opener uses system's "opening" 1♥ to 2♦ with 15-19 and the bidding proceeds as after 10-14 1st hand opening - the point ranges for inv and game forcing bids are adjusted accordingly.

**1♣-1♦-2♥/♠/NT 3♣/♦**

With game forcing hands opener jump-bids naturally with 5 card suit, or bids 2NT with 22-23 , and 3NT with 24-26

**1♣-1♥/♠/NT/2♣/♦:**

*With 7-11 responder bids system's "opening" 1♥ to 2♦.*

The bidding proceeds as after 1st hand 10-14 opening with point ranges changed accordingly.

**1♣-2♥=7-11** artificial, showing 4-5 in minors,

opener can then bid:

2♠ – asking, inv+

2NT – 2-2 in majors, min

3♣ - shortness in ♥, min

3♦ – shortness in ♠, min

3♥ - shortness in ♥, max

3♠ – shortness in ♠, max

3NT - 2-2 in majors, max

2NT – inv, with min pass, with max bid longer minor or singleton with 5-5

3♣/♦ sign off

3♥/♠ – 5+ cards, gforce

3NT – sign off

4♣/♦ – preemptive

**1♣-2♠/3♣/♦/♥/♠= 4-6** long suit

**1♣-2NT=7-11** , artificial, showing 6+ ♦

opener can then bid:

3♣ – asking for singleton and strength (with minimum return to 3♦ even with singleton)

3♦ – sign off

3♥/♠ 5+ cards, gforce

## 1♦ Opening

6+ ♦ or 4+-5+ in minors, 12-19 (no 4 in major if 19 or less), or  
20-21 any distribution ("Almost Acol")

*1♥ = 0-3 , any distribution, negative*

*1♠ = 4-? , waiting, unable to bid 1NT or 2♣/♦*

1NT = 16-19

2♣/♦ = 12-15 natural

2♥/♠ 3♣/♦ 5+cards, 20-21

2NT balanced 20-21

*1NT = 8-10 , both majors stopped*

2♣/♦ = 12-15

2♥/♠ = 20-21 5+ cards

2NT = 16+ forcing

3♣/♦ = 15-16 invitational

*2♣/2♦ = 10+ , 4+ cards*

2♥/♠ = 20-21 5+ cards

2NT = 15+ forcing

3♣/♦ = 12-14 invitational

*2♥/♠ = 6 cards, invitational*

*3NT = limit with majors stopped*

*3 and 4 level responses = preemptive – correct ♣ to ♦ with 6+ ♦*

## 1♥-♠ Opening

10-14 4 cards and 5+ cards in other suit OR 6+ cards,

(with 5-5 in majors bid weaker one first=the only case where opened suit is 5 cards long, with 4 cards in minor and 5 cards in major open 2 in minor)

**1♠ over 1♥**= 5 cards, asks to raise with 3 card-fit, bid 1NT with singleton spade and bid minor or 6-card ♥ suit with doubleton spade.

**1NT**= forcing. This bid can be made even with 0 , generally with balanced hands

5-card other or 6-card ♥/♠ suit on 2 level

with maximum and 6-card or 7-card ♥/♠ suit on 3 level

second bid by the responder:

pass = 0-10

return to suit opened (♥/♠) - sign off

2 NT = invit to game without fit,

suit raise= invitational with fit,

unbid suit: asking for stopper in that suit, inv or better

ladder response :

(1) min + stopper, (2) min no stopper (3) max +stopper,

(4) max no stopper (5) min + singleton (6) min + void

(7) max + singleton (8) max + void

**2♣/♦**= natural 5+ cards, forcing to 2NT

**2♥/♠**= raise with 4 cards, limit or less

**2♥ over 1♠**= 5+ cards, forcing to 2NT

**2♠/ 3♣/3♦**= weak jump shift (wjs)

**3♥/♠**= raise with 5 cards, sign off

**double jump in new suit**= fit + side suit, preemptive (not a splinter or ace-asking)

**4♥/♠**= raise with 6 cards, sign off

## 1NT Opening

10-14 non-vul, 13-14 vul: balanced, can be with 5-card suit (4432, 4333 or 5332)

If opps double, bid your 5 cards suit or pass, if responder and LHO pass, opener bids 5 card suit or redoubles to find best 4-4 or 4-3 fit) If RHO bids, use **Lebensohl**

*Answers to 1NT Opening*

### **2♣ - Modified Puppet Stayman -invitational**

Bid 2♥ or 2♠ with a 5 card major, 3♣ or 3♦ with a 5 card minor or bid 2♦ with any other hand. After 2♦ you bid 4 card majors up the line.

**2♦/2♥/2♠/3♣ - after 10-14 and 7-11**

(i.e. 1NT and 1♣ - 1NT) "openings"=sign off ,  
after 15-19 "opening" (i.e. 1♣-1♦-1NT)=transfers (3♣=inv)

**2NT - Game Forcing**

After 1NT - 2NT:

- \* 3♣ - Puppet Stayman (the most common rebid)
- \* 3♦ - 5♥
- \* 3♥ - 5♠
- \* 3♠ -lack of 4 card major minimum
- \* 3NT - lack of 4 card major, maximum

After 1NT - 2NT - 3♣:

- \* 3♦ - One or both four card majors
- \* 3♥ - 5♥
- \* 3♠ - 5♠
- \* 3NT - Neither 4 nor 5 of either major

After 1NT - 2NT - 3♣ - 3♦:

- \* 3♥ - 4♠
- \* 3♠ - 4♥
- \* 3NT - No interest in a four card major, was interested in a five card major

### **3♦ - Minor Suit Slam Try (1 or 2 suited)**

This shows a hand that is interested in a minor suit slam. It is similar to Minor Suit Stayman. This bid is game forcing and asks opener to show his shape.

The responses are:

3♥ - At least 4♣ (then 3♠ by responder shows interest in ♦) (4♣ is then ace-asking bid)

3♠ - At least 4♦ (4♣ is then ace-asking-bid)

3NT - Neither 4♣ nor 4♦ (4♣ is then ace-asking bid)

4♣ - both 4♣ and 4♦ (4♥ and 4♠ are then used for ace-asking instead of conventional 4♣/4♦ asking bids)

### **3♥/3♠ - Forcing**

When your partner opens a Weak NT, and you have a game forcing hand which is unbalanced and contains at least one 5 card or longer major, you should forego the 2NT response and bid the longer major at the three level. This action is forcing to game, shows length in the bid suit and asks partner to:

Bid 3NT with only 2 card support (4♣ is then ace-asking bid assuming bid major as trumps)

Raise to 4 with 3+ card support and minimum

use 4♣ ace-asking bid with 3+ card fit and maximum

### Opening 2♣

4+ ♣ and 5+ cards major OR 6+ ♣, 10-14

2♦ = asking bid, 0-? HC

2 in major – 5+ cards

2♠ over 2♥ – natural, inv

2NT – inv

3♣ – inv

3♦ – forcing, can be short

opener further describes his hand by bidding shortness or extra cards in already bid suits (whichever is cheaper) or NT

raise the major – inv

3♥ over 2♠ = 5+ cards, gforce

3NT – sign off

2 NT – 6+ ♣ and max

3♣ – sign off

3♦ – forcing, can be short

opener shows singleton in major or bids 3NT

3♥/♠ 5+ cards forcing

3NT – sign off

3♣ – 6+ ♣ and min

3♦ – forcing, can be short

opener shows singleton in major or bids 3NT

3♥/♠ 5+ cards forcing

3NT – sign off

3 in major – 6+ cards and max

2♥/2♠ = 6+ cards, sign off

2NT = 4-3-3-3 inv

3♣ = ♣ fit, forcing

3♦/♥/♠ = 7+ cards, sign off

3NT = 4-3-3-3 – pass or correct if you have a major

## Opening 2 ♦

4+ ♦ and 5+ in major, 10-14

2♥= pass or correct if you have ♠

2♠= asking partner to pass with ♠ or return to ♦

2NT= conventional asking bid (inv or better)

3♣- ♥ and max

3♦ – ♠ and max

3♥ – ♥ and min

3♠ – ♠ and min

3♦/4♦/5♦= preemptive

3♣/♥/♠= 5+ cards, game force

3NT= 4-3-3-3 sign off

**2 ♥/♠ Opening** - preemptive

2NT= asking for singleton – with minimum opener rebids opening suit,

with max bid singleton or NT

new suit – 5+ cards and fit

**2 NT Opening:** light preempt in a minor or sound preempt in a major

**3 ♣/♦ Opening** - sound preempt

**3 ♥/♠ Opening:** light preempt

**new suit**= 5+ cards and fit, asking for honor in that suit, without honor return to opening suit otherwise bid singleton or NT

**raise**= preemptive

**3 NT Opening:** gambling

**4 ♣/♦ Opening**– 8 to 8 and ½ tricks on ♥/♠ respectively

**4 ♥/♠ Opening**– preemptive, 4NT is RKC0314 Blackwood

**3rd and 4th Hand Openings** : 1♥/♠-2♣/♦ openings: open with 0-14 instead of 10-14, further bidding is identical as after normal opening: 0-11 = minimum, 12-14 = maximum.

**After Opponent interferes** - All bids are the same as if there was no interference, double (up to 3♠) is showing some bid that was blocked by interference, most often 1NT (after 1♥/♠) or 2♦ (after 2♣) asking bids.

In competitive situations at level 3 or higher, after 1♥-2♦ Openings/Overcalls when the second suit of opener is not known, bidding new suit by responder shows potential fit.

**After Opponents Open (natural)**–

Standard bidding, incl. Lebensohl over weak 2

**After Opponents Open 1♣ (strong and artificial)**

1NT 16-18 balanced, double -takeout

other bids same as 3rd or 4th hand opening (see top of this page)

**Other:**

Cappeletti unless agreed otherwise.

Negative, support and responsive double up to 3♠

**In addition to standard 4NT RKC0314,**

**Bidding 4♣ or 4♦**, by either opener or responder, is **ALWAYS** strength/ace-asking bid (means you give up playing 4♣ or 4♦)

**Exceptions:** (1) opponents said something, in that case 4♣/4♦ can be bid naturally, if you or partner bid them previously (2) 1♥/♠/2♣/♦ "opener" never asks for aces, if he goes over 3NT in describing his distribution, responder uses the other two suits instead of 4♣/♦ to ask for aces, cheapest suit 4♣ or higher (bypass NT) instead of 4♣, next suit instead of 4♦. Direct jump to 4♣/♦ in response to 1♥/♠ "opening" is preemptive: fit + side suit.

4♣: assuming that lower of partner's suits is trumps

4♦: assuming that higher of partner's suit is trumps

**Answers:**

- **cheapest bid shows minimum** of what has been shown already, if 10-14 has been shown, it shows 10 to bad 12, if 10-12 has been shown, it shows 10 to bad 11. After such negative response, **bidding next non-trump suit is further ace-asking bid (following scheme below). Only having additional values, responder can immediately show aces:**

- 2nd step: 0 or 3 aces (king of assumed trumps counts as ace)

- 3rd step: 1 or 4 aces

- 4th step: 2 aces, no trump queen or extra length

- 5th step: 2 aces, + trump queen or extra length

After ace-showing response, next non-trump suit (bypass NT) is a question for trump queen.

After trump queen has been shown/denied,

next non-trump suit (bypass NT) is asking for specific kings,

2nd non-trump suit (bypass NT) is asking for number of kings.

2NT Opening light preempt on minors or sound preempt on majors: **Krzysztof Martens**, in *Wladyslaw Izdebski "Nowoczesny Brydz - Konwencje" ("Modern Bridge - Conventions")* Wydawnictwa Polskiego Związku Brydza Sportowego (PZBS) (Publishing House of Polish Union of Sport Bridge), Warszawa 1996, ISBN 83-903323-3-7:

"Almost Acol" - minor opening followed by bidding 2 level major, 2NT or 3 in minor: **Grzegorz Gardynik**, in *"Swiat Brydza" ("Bridge World")* monthly published by PZBS, Wladyslaw Izdebski, Editor, ISSN-0867-7743:

"1NT - Ultimate Preempt" - bidding after weak NT by **Tony Melucci**, 1995 King of Bridge (best high school senior in the US) <http://www.crl.com/~tonym/1NT.html> :

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