

2: Notrump openings and overcalls

Opening requirements 1NT 15-17 points 2NT 20-21 pts (balanced)

Can have a 5-card suit, usually a minor. Therefore 1 length point can be included.

1NT Overcall requirements (after opps open 1 of a suit):

Direct seat?

Passout (balancing) seat?)

Who is the captain?

Game requirements: ~25 pts (3NT); ~26 pts (4♥, 4♠); ~28-29 pts (5♣, 5♦)

Responder, with a strong hand (10+ pts): Get to game or, perhaps, slam

Responder, with an invitational hand (8-9 pts): Invite game in a major suit (if fit is found) or notrump

Responder, with a weak hand (0-4 pts): Look for a low level escape

Responder, with 5-7 pts: Pass is often the best option unless you have a 5+ card major – partner has a good chance of making the contract

Stayman requirements: usually invitational or better (8+ pts) with a 4-card major

Transfer requirements: 5+ card major, any point range

Relay to a minor suit: usually 6+ card suit

Responses to 1 NT

2C?

2D, 2H?

2S?

2NT?

Opener's allowed rebids: over 2C response?

over 2D?

over 2H?

over 2S?

over 2NT?

Let's work some examples. Partner opens the bidding 1NT. What is your bid and how should the bidding continue?

1.

♠ KQ64	Open	Res
♥ 98	1NT	___
♦ QJ84	___	___
♣ K52	___	___

2.

♠ KQ64	Open	Res
♥ QJ94	1NT	___
♦ 84	___	___
♣ K43	___	___

3.

♠ KQ642	Open	Res
♥ QJ84	1NT	___
♦ 86	___	___
♣ K5	___	___

4.

♠ K964	Open	Res
♥ QJ94	1NT	___
♦ 84	___	___
♣ K43	___	___

5.

	Open	Res
♠ 82	1NT	—
♥ Q986	—	—
♦ KJ43	—	—
♣ K43	—	—

6.

	Open	Res
♠ A642	1NT	—
♥ K9863	—	—
♦ 84	—	—
♣ 95	—	—

7.

	Open	Res
♠ 2	1NT	—
♥ A986	—	—
♦ Q843	—	—
♣ K983	—	—

8.

	Open	Res
♠ 9642	1NT	—
♥ 9852	—	—
♦ QJ84	—	—
♣ 5	—	—

9.

	Open	Res
♠ 82	1NT	—
♥ AK986	—	—
♦ Q84	—	—
♣ K983	—	—

10.

	Open	Res
♠ 96	1NT	—
♥ AK9852	—	—
♦ QJ8	—	—
♣ 54	—	—

11.

	Open	Res
♠ 82	1NT	—
♥ AQ986	—	—
♦ Q84	—	—
♣ 983	—	—

12.

	Open	Res
♠ 96	1NT	—
♥ AJ9852	—	—
♦ Q86	—	—
♣ 54	—	—

13.

	Open	Res
♠ J9643	1NT	—
♥ 6	—	—
♦ Q843	—	—
♣ 983	—	—

14.

	Open	Res
♠ 962	1NT	—
♥ 8	—	—
♦ Q862	—	—
♣ J8754	—	—

15.

	Open	Res
♠ 643	1NT	—
♥ 6	—	—
♦ 843	—	—
♣ KJ9863	—	—

16.

	Open	Res
♠ 9643	1NT	—
♥ 6	—	—
♦ AKJ854	—	—
♣ 73	—	—