



Responding to an Opening Bid of 1NT

♠ AQ52	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K73
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ J97	♥ 653										
♦ KQ6	♦ 92										
♣ 953		♣ KQ842									

West East
1NT Pass

With a balanced hand and only 8 points **East** passes
Note we do not bid 5-card minors!

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		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ J97	♥ 653										
♦ KQ6	♦ A9										
♣ 953		♣ KJ842									

West East
1NT 2NT
Pass

East knows the partnership has between 23 and 25 points He makes an *invitational raise* to 2NT
West is minimum, and passes

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		N									
W			E								
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♥ K97	♥ 653										
♦ KQ6	♦ A9										
♣ 953		♣ KJ842									

West East
1NT 2NT
3NT Pass

This time **West** is maximum, and accepts the invitation

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		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ K97	♥ 65										
♦ KQ6	♦ A9										
♣ 953		♣ AKJ652									

West East
1NT 3NT
Pass

East knows the partnership has at least 25 points
He bids the most likely game
(6-3-2-2 with a 6-card minor plays better in no-trump)

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		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ J72	♥ KQ9653										
♦ KQ6	♦ 972										
♣ 953		♣ 8									

West East
1NT Pass

East has a very weak hand and for now must pass.
Later we will describe alternative ways to bid this hand

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		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ J72	♥ KQ9653										
♦ KQ6	♦ AJ7										
♣ 953		♣ 8									

West East
1NT 4♥
Pass

This time **East** has 13 points, so the partnership has enough for game. **West** opened 1NT, so he has at least 2 hearts. The partnership has an 8-card heart fit.
East does not have a balanced hand, so he bids 4♥ rather than 3NT