



Responding to an Opening Bid of One of a Suit

When partner opens 1♣, 1♦, 1♥ or 1♠:

Pass with 0-5 points
Bid with 6 points or more.

Weak responses

♠ 74 ♥ AQ975 ♦ AK63 ♣ J3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		♠ KJ2 ♥ 10843 ♦ J7 ♣ Q954	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<i>West</i>		<i>East</i>										
1♥		2♥										
Pass												

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	N											
W		E										
	S											
<i>West</i>		<i>East</i>										
1♥		1NT										
Pass												

West opens 1♥. East makes the weak response of 2♥
 This bid shows 6-9 points, ie, 6, 7, 8 or 9 points.
 It also shows 4+ heart cards - support for partner's suit
 The bid of 2♥ is **raising partner's suit - a single raise**.
 West knows partner has a maximum of 9 points,
 and he has only 14, so game is not possible. He passes.

West, with the same cards, opens 1♥ again
 East cannot support partner with just 2 hearts,
 does not have 4 spades - so he bids 1NT.
 The **1NT response** is also weak with 6-9 points
 Again, West knows his side does not have enough
 for game and passes

With 6-9 points make a weak response to an opening bid of one of a suit.
2 of the same suit with trump support (at least 4 cards)
1NT with no trump support

Game responses

♠ 72 ♥ AQ975 ♦ AK63 ♣ J3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		♠ AJ3 ♥ K832 ♦ Q4 ♣ A954	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<i>West</i>		<i>East</i>										
1♥		4♥										
Pass												

♠ 72 ♥ AQ975 ♦ AK63 ♣ J3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		♠ KQ10 ♥ J6 ♦ Q1095 ♣ AQ54	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<i>West</i>		<i>East</i>										
1♥		3NT										
Pass												

West opens 1♥.
 East has 4-card support, so EW have at least 8 hearts
 East has 14 points, so EW have at least 26 points
 26 points are enough for game, so East bids game.

With the same hand West opens 1♥ again
 East cannot support partner with just 2 hearts
 He knows the partnership has at least 26 points
 He has a balanced hand, so he bids 3NT

The 4♥ bid is **raising partner's suit - a raise to game**.

The **3NT response** shows 13-15 points in a balanced hand.

When partner bids game West passes unless he has a *very* strong hand, when slam may be possible