



## Lesson 60 Examples

### 4<sup>th</sup> Suit Forcing after Opener's Change of Suit Rebid

♠KQ832	N	♠J10
♥AK732	W E	♥QJ4
♦8	S	♦KJ1054
♣63		♣A74
1♠		2♦
2♥		3♣
3♥		4♥

A slightly pushy 3♣ from East but it is a good 12 count. West repeats ♥ to show 5-5+ and East bids the best game.

♠AK852	N	♠J4
♥Q5	W E	♥AKJ43
♦J4	S	♦873
♣AK74		♣Q63
1♠		2♥
3♣		3♦
3♥		4♥

Opener's high reverse of 3♣ is game forcing. Since East's 2♥ already promised a 5-card suit, West would have raised immediately with 3-cards. So the later support can only be a doubleton. With no ♦ stop, East chooses the 5-2 fit.

♠AJ86	N	♠102
♥KQ873	W E	♥AJ
♦A753	S	♦K962
♣-		♣KQ983
1♥		2♣
2♦		2♠
3♠		3NT

It is still possible to find a 4-4 fit in the 4<sup>th</sup> suit on the rare occasions when there is one. East bids 2♠ planning on bidding 3♦ next time. But when West raises the 4<sup>th</sup> suit to show 4-card ♠, East can see that 3NT should be best. If East happened to also have 4-cards in spades they would raise to 4♠.

### Other 4<sup>th</sup> Suit Forcing situations

♠J2	N	♠A10753
♥AJ10642	W E	♥K
♦K7	S	♦Q2
♣KQ5		♣A9863
1♥		1♠
2♥		3♣
3♦		3♥
4♥		

Having limited their hand with 2♥ (12-14(15) hcp), West is worth a positive move (3♦) after East shows a strong hand. 3NT, 4♥ or ♠ are possible from West's point of view. East does better to show ♥K than bid 3NT on ♦Qx.

♠AQJ52	N	♠K73
♥K32	W E	♥A4
♦QJ86	S	♦K103
♣K		♣AQ862
1♠		2♣
2♦		2♥
2NT		4♠
?		

Here East knows that ♠ will be best after West's 2♦ but a slam could be missed if they just jump to 4♠. The solution is to use 4<sup>th</sup> suit forcing and then jump to 4♠, showing a hand too strong for an immediate jump. West should bid on and get to slam.

♠KQ1065	N	♠J4
♥A83	W E	♥74
♦KQ3	S	♦AJ64
♣Q2		♣AJ963
1♠		2♣
2NT		3♦
3♥		3♠
4♠		

When East bids 3♦, West can see that there may be a weakness in ♥ in 3NT. 4<sup>th</sup> suit forcing persuades East to show ♠Jx and the best game is reached.

### When not to use 4<sup>th</sup> Suit Forcing

♠KQ865	N	♠A3
♥A2	W E	♥QJ93
♦AQJ7	S	♦K64
♣84		♣K1053
1♠		2♣
2♦		3NT

Don't use 4<sup>th</sup> suit forcing when you have a descriptive, natural alternative. Here 3NT shows your hand perfectly, since you have a good heart holding.

♠A62	N	♠QJ753
♥AQ952	W E	♥K6
♦KQ64	S	♦J103
♣7		♣A92
1♥		1♠
2♦		2NT
3♠		4♠

East is not strong enough for 3♣ (you would need a **good** 12 hcp or more). So, despite the iffy club holding, 2NT is the only sensible bid. West shows 3-card ♠ support on the way to 3NT and East is happy to choose spades.

♠J2	N	♠K10743
♥A9762	W E	♥K5
♦A3	S	♦J84
♣KJ72		♣A96
1♥		1♠
2♣		2NT

No good rebid for East. This is the reason why some people play 4<sup>th</sup> suit not forcing to game (they can bid 2♦ here). Perhaps 2NT is the least lie, even though Jxx is not really a stopper.