



Lesson 24 Examples

How doubles work in practice:

EW Vul	♠ -
Dealer W	♥ J108732
	♦ 986
	♣ 10542
♠ A8653	♠ K742
♥ 94	♥ K65
♦ K72	♦ QJ103
♣ KQJ	♣ A9
	♠ QJ109
	♥ AQ
	♦ A54
	♣ 8763

You sit South, and West is dealer

West opens 1♠ and East naturally raises to game with his 13 HCP and 4-card support.

You think "I have 2 trump tricks and 2 aces, 4 tricks in defence. This game will not make".

You can double to let E/W know they are unlucky this time.

Here 4♠ must fail, and if North leads a heart it goes 2 down. NS score 200 for 1 down doubled, 500 for 2 down.

Big scores!

The bidding went:	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♠	Pass	4♠	Double
	Pass	Pass	Pass	

Another example:

			♠ 975
			♥ A4
			♦ AQ107
			♣ J1082
West	North	East	
1NT	2♦	?	

Partner opens 1NT and North overcalls 2♦

We can assume that North has a 6-card diamond suit (something like KJ9864) and some high cards outside. East's thoughts are: "Partner has 12-14 HCP and a balanced hand. He has at least 2 diamonds, and we have at least 23HCP between us. It is unlikely that North can make 8 tricks in diamonds with at most 17 HCP and 7 trump between the N/S hands".

So he doubles!

Where the Double applies:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♥	Pass	3NT	Double
4♥	Pass	Pass	?

South doubles because he does not think 3NT will make.

If everybody passes the final contract is 3NT doubled.

But what if West bids again?

4♥ has not been doubled - the double of 3NT does not apply.

If South believes 4♥ will not make either he can double again.

If he is unsure he can pass.

The double applies only if the doubled contract is the final contract

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	Double	Redouble	5♠
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	

North thinks 5♦ is going down, so he doubles

West is confident that partner will make 5♦, and redoubles

If South, West and North pass the final contract is 5♦ redoubled

But South has doubts and bids 5♠. Now all the doubles are cancelled

East expresses the view that 5♠ will not make

Everybody passes, and 5♠ doubled is the final contract.



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Examples of computing scores after a penalty double

We reach 2♥ doubled. We are not vulnerable, and we succeed in making 9 tricks. We score 570 as follows:

Trick points (4x30)	120
Overtrick	100
Game bonus	300
Extra bonus	<u>50</u>
	570

The more common scores gradually become familiar!

Final contract 2♠, making 8 tricks

undoubled	110/110
doubled	470/670
redoubled	840/1240

Final contract 3NT, making 9 tricks

undoubled	400/600
doubled	550/750
redoubled	800/1000

Final contract 1NT, making 7 tricks

undoubled	90/90
doubled	180/180
redoubled	560/760

When is double penalty?

Note the difference from takeout doubles: most doubles are for takeout

- Penalty doubles apply
- 1) when opponents have reached game.
 - 2) When they open 1NT – no takeout double if they have not bid a suit!
 - 3) when partner has made a limit bid in no-trump so you know he is balanced with a certain number of points.

In other situations you should assume that double is for takeout.