

Lesson 48 Examples

Examples of the takeout double

- **♦**K1042
- **♥**KO64
- ♦ KJ52
- *****6

A perfect double of a 1 stopener - minimum points but perfect distribution. With support for all the unbid suits you can afford to double quite light — you almost certainly have an 8-card fit where you can play.

- **♦**Q83
- ♥AK3
- ♦Q9754
- **.**Q7

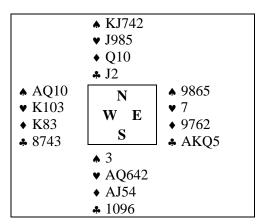
If RHO opens 1♠ you cannot overcall 2♠ (this (suit is not good enough). You have opening values, but no special length in the unbid suits. With a balanced 12-13HCP it is best to pass.

- **♦**A93
- ♥AQ8
- ♦ OJ83
- **\$**984

A bad double of 1 *****: 4333 shape, no 4 card major, minimum opening points

- ♦AJ32
- **♥**AQ97
- **♦**J53
- **♣**J4

Much better, with 4-cards in both majors and shorter clubs The relative weakness in diamonds is less important



A hand from the World Championships in Chile.

South opened 1♥ and the great Norwegian star Helgemo made a frivolous takeout double.

North made a pre-emptive raise to 3♥

As East Helness decided to bid 44, expecting a 4-4 fit.

North doubled for penalties, and that cost 1100.

At the other table in the match the Dutch West passed over $1 \checkmark$. He did not have four spades, his hand was not short in hearts, and he had only 12 HCP

The Norwegian North-South played in 3♥ and went down

The Takeout double on hands that are too strong for any other action.

- **♦**AKQ965
- **♥**A7
- ♦AQ3
- **♣**J7

Too strong for a jump overcall, also too strong for a simple overcall of 1 ♠!

So we start with "double", then bid spades next time. *Double then bid a new suit shows a strong hand – 17HCP or more.*

- **♦**K6
- **♥**AKQ8764
- ♦8
- **♣**AK6

Far too strong for any overcall. Start with a double, then jump to game in hearts. A very strong sequence. Note that doubling then bidding a new suit cancels the original meaning of the double - you no longer promise support for all unbid suits.

- $\bigstar KJ7$
- **♥**AQ7
- ♦AJ103
- **♣**AJ9

You want to bid 1NT, but that shows a good 15-18HCP, not 20. With a balanced hand too strong for 1NT start with "double", then bid NT at your next turn. Eg 1 ◆ - dbl - 1 ♠ - Pass - 1NT. Double then 1NT shows 19-21 HCP balanced.



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Responding to the takeout double

A When Third Hand Passes:

- **♦**Q63
- **v**95
- ◆J6432
- **♣**762

Horrible! But you must not pass just because you are weak. Bid 1 , your cheapest 3-card suit

- eg
- **♦**K1043 **♥**986
- ◆ K7
- **♣**Q973

A happy 1 . With a choice bid a major rather than a minor.

- 1 ♦ Dble Pass ?
 - **♦**AQ965
 - **♥**62
 - ♦ K65
 - **\$**543

The 5-card suit makes this worth a jump to 2 • - you could be much worse! Imagine partner opened 1 • and you are raising him.

- **♦**AJ9654
- **v**3
- ♦K7 ♣10863

Worth a jump to 3. If partner does not have support he has a strong hand.

- **♦**K73
- **y**96
- ♦OJ106
- **.**0943

1NT. You have stoppers in diamonds and can rely on partner to stop the majors. 1NT shows 6-9 HCP

- **♠**9
- **♥**Q63
- ◆987 **&**KOJ764
- **3..** It is rare to jump in a minor, but this suit is well worth bidding.
- **♦**95
- **♥**K5
- ♦KJ6
- **A**O9753

3NT. Diamond stoppers plus a long minor you hope to run. Partner will guard the majors

1 → - Dble - 1 → -?

- ♠KQ86
- **♥**KJ86
- ♦A984
- **.**7

2. Bidding their suit is a *cuebid*, showing opening strength and forcing to game. Now you look for the best fit

B When Third Hand Raises

eg 1 ♦ - Dble - 2 ♦ - ?

RHO has relieved you of your responsibility to bid, so if you do you show some values.

- **♦**K854
- **y**96

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- **♦** K62
- **4**10943
- 2♠. When you have enough to raise an opening bid of 1♠ to 2♠ you have enough to bid now. By doubling partner has effectively bid both majors at once.

♠KJ94

♦A832

. 1054

v96

- **♦**K1065
- **♥**Q1063
- **♦**987
- **♣**K4
- **Dbl.** If partner opened 1 v or 1 A you would raise, but you do not know which is his better major. You can show both majors at once with a *responsive double*, a return takeout double saying "you choose".
- **♦**K10932
- **v**3
- **♦**86
- **♣**09843
- **2..** You can afford to add points for distribution when partner has shown length in the majors. Bid spades while you have the chance.

When Third Hand bids a new suit

- eg 65
- **♥**K1063
- **♦**J63
- **♣**K1043
- 2♥. The fact that RHO has bid does not prevent you from making your normal response. You would raise an opening bid of 1♥ to 2♥, so you can bid 2♥ now.
- **♦**92
- **♥**K3
- ♦ KJ105
- **♣**KQ543
- **2NT**. In response to a double2NT shows about 10-12 HCP and a double stopper in diamonds. No need to worry about a spade stopper partner has spades.

Dbl. This double says "I would

not pinched my bid." At least 4

have happily bid 1 if RHO had