



Transfers over 1NT

Transfers are a very popular *conventional* way of saving bidding space over a 1NT opening bid.

We have already looked at 2♣, an *artificial* response to 1NT which *asks* partner whether he has a 4-card major.

Using Transfers other 2-level responses are artificial also.

2♦/2♥ *show* at least 5 cards in hearts/spades, the suit **above** the suit you have actually bid.

Opener bids the suit you have really shown, and you have a second chance to bid - you can describe your hand more fully

Eg 1NT 2♦ 1NT 2♥ The 2♦ and 2♥ responses are forcing.
 2♥ 2♠ Opener must complete the transfer. He has no choice

Some possible auctions after responder uses a Transfer

Opener	Responder
1NT "I have 12-14 HCP in a balanced hand"	2♦ "I have 5+ hearts. Please bid 2♥"
2♥ "whatever you say, partner"	Pass "I have a weak hand with 5+ hearts. You can play in 2♥". 2NT "I have 11-12 HCP, enough to invite game, with 5 hearts. If you are minimum - pass, or bid 3♥ with 3-card support Otherwise pick a game, 3NT with 2 hearts, 4♥ with 3+" 3NT "I have 13+HCP, enough for game, with 5 hearts. Please choose a game, 3NT with 2 hearts, 4♥ with 3+" 3♥ "I have a 6+card heart suit and 10-11 points. Pass if you are minimum with 2 hearts, otherwise raise to 4♥" (3♥ invites game in hearts, NOT no-trump. You can raise to 4♥ with a doubleton opposite 6 cards) 4♥ "I have a 6+card heart suit and game values. You play it."
1NT "I have 12-14 HCP in a balanced hand"	2♥ "I have 5+ spades. Please bid 2♠."
2♠ "As instructed"	Just the same as after 1NT-2♦-2♥ Pass is the weak take-out to spades 2NT is game invitational with 5 spades 3NT is "choose a game", 3NT or 4♠ 3♠ invites game in spades. 4♠ is to play

Note: Whenever you take up a new convention it affects your other bids. 2♦, 2♥ and 2♠ are all artificial.

Also, you need not bid 3♥ and 3♠ to show game forcing hands with 5-cards in the suit you have bid.
 With these hands you bid 1NT-2♦-2♥-3NT or 1NT-2♥-2♠-3NT.

So 3♣/3♦/3♥/3♠ are all the same: good hands with a 6+card suit and some interest in slam.
 (we will talk about slams soon!)