



Lesson 29 Examples

Examples of bidding majors upwards at the one-level

♠ AQJ2	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 53
N					
W E					
S					
♥ K952	♥ J64				
♦ Q105	♦ A92				
♣ K6	♣ QJ975				
West		East			
1♥		1NT			
Pass					

West opens 1♥ with 4-4 in the majors (too strong for 1NT)
 East, not strong enough for 2♣, makes a weak 1NT response
 With 15 points West knows there is no game, and passes.
Why does West never bid his beautiful spade suit?
East's 1NT bid denies 4 cards in either major
 There is no 8-card major fit

♠ K8	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ Q105
N					
W E					
S					
♥ KJ83	♥ Q54				
♦ AQJ87	♦ 92				
♣ J8	♣ Q10743				
West		East			
1♦		1NT			
Pass					

West opens his longest suit, diamonds
 East makes a weak response of 1NT, West passes.
Why does West not bid his hearts?
By responding 1NT partner has denied 4 spades

♠ Q7	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ AJ84
N					
W E					
S					
♥ AQ83	♥ J4				
♦ AJ1087	♦ Q92				
♣ Q6	♣ 9743				
West		East			
1♦		1♠			
1NT		Pass			

This time West's longest suit is diamonds
 East responds 1♠
 West bids 1NT, showing 15-17 points in a balanced hand
 East has not enough for game, and passes
Why does West not bid his hearts?
When East bids 1♠ he does not definitely deny 4 hearts.
 He would bid 1♠ with 5+spades and 4 hearts. But he will not often have this.
 It is risky for West to bid 2♥: if East does *not* have 4 hearts what can he bid?
 1NT is safer: if East *does* have 4 hearts he can bid 2♥ now.

When partner shows a 4-card major – raise with 4-card support

♠ A5	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K964
N					
W E					
S					
♥ QJ962	♥ A1083				
♦ KQ4	♦ J8				
♣ K63	♣ Q72				
West		East			
1♥		3♥			
4♥		Pass			

West opens his longest suit. East makes a limit raise to 3♥
 West is not minimum, and accepts the invitation
Why does East not bid his spades?
 When you have found one 8-card fit in a major, look no further!

♠ AQ53	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K964
N					
W E					
S					
♥ 62	♥ A1083				
♦ KQ974	♦ J8				
♣ K6	♣ Q72				
West		East			
1♦		1♥			
1♠		3♠			
4♠		Pass			

West opens 1♦, his longest suit
 East bids 1♥, **bidding 4-card majors upwards**
 West rebids his second suit. He must have 5 diamonds, because with 4-4 he opens 1NT (with 12-14 HCP), or 1♠ (with 15+HCP)
East knows there is an 8-card fit in spades, and makes the same limit raise he would make if partner had opened 1♠.

Whenever supporting partner's major is an option – raise him



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Examples of looking for the 8-card major suit fit

♠ 10872	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ KJ65
N					
W E					
S					
♥ AKQ83	♥ 94				
♦ AJ7	♦ Q86				
♣ 2	♣ KQJ3				
West		East			
1♥		1♠			
2♠		4♠			

West opens his longest suit. When East responds 1♠ he makes a **limit raise** to 2♠. East knows partner has *a minimum opening bid*, but with 12 points he bids 4♠. Why does West not rebid his beautiful hearts? **Always raise partner's major!** If you do not raise at once partner 'knows' you do NOT have 4-card support

♠ K872	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 653
N					
W E					
S					
♥ 83	♥ KQ54				
♦ AQJ87	♦ 92				
♣ A6	♣ K743				
West		East			
1♦		1♥			
1♠		1NT			

West opens 1♦, and when East bids 1♥ he rebids his second suit, 1♠. With only 2 diamonds and 3 spades East does not expect an 8-card fit so bids 1NT (With 11-12 points bid 2NT to invite game) *Why does East not bid clubs? When partner has bid 2 suits he is unlikely to have 4 cards in a third*

♠ 72	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ Q983
N					
W E					
S					
♥ KQJ6	♥ 82				
♦ AQ42	♦ J1053				
♣ A93	♣ K65				
West		East			
1♥		1♠			
1NT		Pass			

West opens his major suit, hearts. He rebids 1NT (rather than show his 4-card minor) because he has a balanced hand. The 4-4 diamond fit is never found but 1NT is a perfectly good contract.

If West had 4 spades he would raise partner, not bid 1NT. If East had 4 hearts he would raise hearts, not bid 1♠. There is no danger of missing a 4-4 major fit

♠ Q104	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K96
N					
W E					
S					
♥ A53	♥ KQ74				
♦ KQ83	♦ A942				
♣ AJ9	♣ 104				
West		East			
1♦		1♥			
1NT		3NT			

West, with a balanced hand too strong for 1NT, opens his longest suit. Even with 4-card support East shows his hearts. West rebids 1NT, East raises to 3NT.

Look for the 4-4 major fit even when you have a known fit in a minor. With two balanced hands prefer to play in 3NT rather than 5 of a minor. 3NT is easier to make

♠ KQ752	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 9
N					
W E					
S					
♥ Q4	♥ AJ105				
♦ AQ6	♦ J82				
♣ K107	♣ AQ853				
1♠		2♣			
2NT		3NT			

West opens his longest suit. East, with enough for a 2-over-1, bids his longest suit. West rebids 2NT, East raises. *Why does West not rebid spades? 2NT describes his hand better: 15+HCP balanced. Why does East not bid hearts? West has denied 4 hearts.*

♠ 7	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ KQ832
N					
W E					
S					
♥ AQJ65	♥ 832				
♦ K874	♦ Q105				
♣ A63	♣ J7				
1♥		1♠			
2♦		2♥			
Pass					

West shows 5+♥s and 4+♦s. East **gives preference** to hearts. West has a minimum opener and passes. *Why does East not pass 2♦ when his diamonds are better than his hearts? By bidding a second suit partner shows at least 5-cards in hearts, may have only 4 diamonds.*

♠ KQ752	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A84
N					
W E					
S					
♥ Q4	♥ 105				
♦ AQ6	♦ J82				
♣ K107	♣ AQ853				
1♠		2♣			
2NT		3♠			
4♠					

West opens his longest suit and rebids 2NT over the 2-over-1 2♣. *East shows 3-card spade support in case partner has 5.* East cannot have 4 spades (he would raise at once, not bid 2♣) so with 4 spades West would bid 3NT. With 5 he chooses the 8-card fit