



## Lesson 52 Examples

### Examples of the Negative Double

♠952	N	
♥K754	W E	
♦AJ63		
♣53	S	

West North East South  
- - 1♣ 1♠  
??

One reason for overcalling is to give opponents problems.  
Without the overcall West bids 1♥, but 2♥ shows 10+HCP, 5+hearts.  
He cannot raise partner, and he cannot bid 1NT. Yet he is worth a bid.  
The solution to his problem is the **Negative Double**, an extension of the takeout double. In the same way as a takeout double, the Negative double shows *length in the unbid suits*, and *no good 5-card suit to bid*.

	N	♠975
W E		♥AQJ3
S		♦864
		♣954

West North East South  
1♦ 1♠ Db1  
The Negative double here shows 4 hearts and at least 6 points. This is a minimum!

	N	♠96
W E		♥KQ54
S		♦K7
		♣AQ962

West North East South  
1♦ 1♠ 2♣  
A normal forcing 2over1 response. You are strong enough to bid hearts next time.

	N	♠96
W E		♥KQ54
S		♦73
		♣KQ962

West North East South  
1♦ 1♠ Db1  
You have enough to bid 2♣ but not to bid a new suit later. The **negative double** shows 4 hearts in case you have a major suit fit

	N	♠K2
W E		♥AQ953
S		♦K94
		♣1087

West North East South  
1♠ 2♦ 2♥  
No need for anything fancy when you can make your normal bid. 2♥ shows 5+cards and 10+HCP

	N	♠AQ82
W E		♥K654
S		♦J7
		♣943

West North East South  
1♦ 2♣ Db1  
The auction has got too high for 1♥. The negative double allows you to show both majors at once

	N	♠63
W E		♥95
S		♦KQ93
		♣AJ942

West North East South  
1♠ 2♥ Db1  
This one needs to be a little stronger – partner must go to the 3-level to support you.



## Lesson 52 Examples

### Negative Doubles at the One-level

	♠54				
	♥J7				
	♦KQJ82				
	♣K963				
♠AQ106	<table><tr><td>N</td></tr><tr><td>W   E</td></tr><tr><td>S</td></tr></table>	N	W   E	S	♠K973
N					
W   E					
S					
♥Q8		♥K1052			
♦95		♦63			
♣AJ1072		♣Q84			
	♠J82				
	♥A9643				
	♦A1074				
	♣5				

	♠A52				
	♥KJ1084				
	♦76				
	♣K93				
♠Q106	<table><tr><td>N</td></tr><tr><td>W   E</td></tr><tr><td>S</td></tr></table>	N	W   E	S	♠KJ973
N					
W   E					
S					
♥7		♥Q52			
♦AQ93		♦J108			
♣AQ1054		♣86			
	♠84				
	♥A963				
	♦K542				
	♣J72				

West North East South  
1♣ 1♦ 1♥ 3♦

A partscore hand. East-West, not playing the **Negative double**, sold out to 3♦, making 9 tricks

1♣ 1♦ Dbl 3♦  
3♠ Pass Pass Pass

At another table East made a Negative Double.

Over a 1♦ overcall this shows **4-4 in the majors**. Finding the 4-4 spade fit was worth +140.

West North East South  
1♣ 1♥ 1♠ 2♥

2♠ Pass Pass Pass

Over a 1♥ overcall the Negative double shows **precisely 4 spades**. With 5 or more spades East can bid 1♠, which allows West to raise safely with 3 cards

	♠AQ1092										
	♥A74										
	♦K8										
	♣653										
♠KJ7	<table><tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>E</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr></table>	N			W	E			S		♠63
N											
W		E									
		S									
♥KQ1062	♥J85										
♦Q53	♦A1074										
♣A8	♣QJ92										
	♠854										
	♥93										
	♦J962										
	♣K1074										

West North East South

1♥ 1♠ Dbl Pass  
1NT All Pass

Over a 1♠ overcall the Negative Double shows support for both unbid suits. West has no second suit, but he can rebid 1NT just as he would without the interference. 1NT shows **stoppers** in the suit overcalled.



## Lesson 52 Examples

### Negative Doubles at the Two-level and higher

	N	♠Q2
W	E	♥AQ53
	S	♦964
		♣Q1087

West North East South  
1♠ 2♦ Dbl

After an overcall at the 2-level East's double shows **4 hearts** and about 10+ HCP. Ideally he has tolerance for clubs also

	N	♠AQ62
W	E	♥K1065
	S	♦J7
		♣983

West North East South  
1♦ 2♣ Dbl

A 2♣ overcall annoyingly uses up the 1-level. East can show both majors at once with a Negative Double. (You may do this with less than perfect shape: say 3-4 in the majors. But like all takeout doubles you should have support for all unbid majors)

	N	♠AQ63
W	E	♥95
	S	♦Q102
		♣A742

West North East South  
1♦ 3♥ Dbl

The pre-emptive overcall gives East a serious problem. The Negative double shows the values to bid but no good suit and no primary support.

### Opener's response to a Negative Double

♠A9	N	
♥K754	W	E
♦J2		S
♣AQ853		

West North East South  
1♣ 1♠ Dbl Pass  
2♥

West bids his 4-card heart suit. This is NOT a reverse: he is simply 'supporting' partner's known suit

♠J95	N	
♥AK643	W	E
♦7		S
♣A1082		

West North East South  
1♥ 1♠ Dbl Pass  
2♣

West bids his second suit. This does not *guarantee* 5 hearts, but a minimum hand will be unbalanced and likely to be at least 5-4

♠A2	N	
♥AK94	W	E
♦KQ976		S
♣72		

West North East South  
1♦ 1♠ Dbl Pass  
3♥

You would have raised a 1♥ response to 3♥, so you are worth a 'raise' to 3♥ now.

### The Penalty Pass

	♠Q7	
	♥QJ972	
	♦A1086	
	♣J5	
♠AK643	N	♠2
♥4	W	♥AK105
♦K932	E	♦QJ5
♣AK7	S	♣108642
	♠J10985	
	♥863	
	♦74	
	♣Q93	

West North East South  
1♠ 2♥ Pass Pass  
Dbl Pass ???

Playing Negative Doubles East cannot bid over 2♥. (Double would show diamonds & clubs). So he passes. When the bidding comes back to West at 2♥ he can make a **re-opening takeout double**, showing length in all the unbid suits. East passes, converting the takeout double to a penalty double. He makes a **Penalty Pass**.