

# 3 Responder's Limit Bids

Opener needs 12-19 HCP, or 20+ TP to open the bidding. The responder should respond with 6 (half of the opener's requirements). This is potentially enough for game.

Limit bids are very useful. There are 2 types:

1. Notrump responses with no fit
2. Same suit responses - with a fit

## 1. Choosing trumps - finding a fit

If you have 4-card support for the opener's suit, you have found the **FIT** you were looking for. You need **8+ cards** between you for a fit, and partner has promised at least a 4-card suit with the opening bid.

♠ K 5  
 ♥ A Q 7 6  
 ♦ J 10 4 3  
 ♣ K Q 5

Partner opened 1♥. You have a fit as you have a 4-card heart suit. Tell partner you would like hearts to be trumps.

## 2. Choosing notrumps - no fit

If you don't have a fit, respond in notrumps.

♠ A 2  
 ♥ A Q 9 2  
 ♦ Q J 10 8  
 ♣ J 9 6

Partner opened 1♠. You don't have a spade fit so you are probably better off in notrumps. Suggest to partner that this is the best option from your point of view.

## 3. Choosing the best level

- a) pass - game is not possible
- b) minimum response
- c) close to game response
- d) game

## Responder's Limit Bids with a fit

If you have 4-card support for the opener's major suit, you have found the fit you were looking for. How high you bid depends on your points.

Opener	Responder
1♥	2♥ = 6-9     minimum
1♥	3♥ = 10-12     close to game
1♥	4♥ = 13+     game

## Responder's Limit Bids with no fit

If you don't have 4-card support for the opener's major suit, you should bid notrumps. How high you bid depends on your points.

Opener	Responder
1♥	1NT = 6-9     minimum
1♥	2NT = 10-12     close to game
1♥	3NT = 13+     game

Partner opens 1♥. What is your response?

♠ K87  
 ♥ J764  
 ♦ K32  
 ♣ A73     Bid 3♥ - showing 10-12 HCP + 4 trumps

♠ QJ6  
 ♥ Q72  
 ♦ J764  
 ♣ A74     Bid 2NT - showing 10-12 HCP and no fit

♠ A6  
 ♥ K104  
 ♦ JT43  
 ♣ AK84     Bid 3NT. No fit, and enough for game.