

5. Responder changes suit

♥ Responder changes suit

When partner opens 1-suit, responder with 6+ HCP makes a limit bid if possible.

(Limit bids = notrump bids and same suit bids)

If a limit bid is not possible, responder should bid a **new** suit at a **MINIMUM** level.

New Suit Response

1-level = 6+ unlimited

2-level = 10+ unlimited

forcing = opener **MUST** bid again

Changing the suit is quite different from making a limit bid because you don't show all your hcp straight away. Keep the bidding as low as you can to leave more room to explore for a fit.

If you don't have 10 hcp, you can't change suit at the 2-level. You will have to bid 1NT.

Choosing the Best Suit

- longest suit
- lowest available 4-card suit
- higher-ranking 5-card suit

Partner opens 1♥. What is your response?

♠ Q982 Bid 1♠. Keep the bidding as low as possible when changing suit.
♥ T2
♦ A65
♣ AT76

Important!

Note that a 1♠ bid is lower than 2♣ in this instance. Make the most economical bid available.



Keep the bidding as low as possible when you are changing suit.

♦ Opener's rebid after a new suit

If the responder has changed suit then the opener must bid again.

- Support responder's major suit (best)
- Bid notrumps (later lesson)
- Bid second suit
- Rebid own suit (last resort)

♠ 85 1♥ 1♠
♥ KJ1076 2♣
♦ A6 Open 1♥ and bid 2♣
♣ AQ43 after partner's 1♠
 response

♠ K872 1♥ 1♠
♥ KJ1076 2♠
♦ A5 Open 1♥ and bid 2♠
♣ J3 You have found a fit!

♠ KQ72 1♥ 1♠
♥ KQJ76 4♠
♦ AK5 Open 1♥ and bid 4♠
♣ 4 This time you have a fit
 and enough hcp for
 game.

♠ K8 1♥ 1♠
♥ KJ10762 2♥
♦ A65 Open 1♥ and bid 2♥
♣ 43 after partner's 1♠
 response.