

10. 2-level Strong Openings

♠ Opening 2NT

The 2NT opening bid is similar to the 1NT opening only much stronger- **20-22**. It's not forcing. The responder normally chooses the final contract immediately.

♠ A94	♠ AKQT	♠ QJ7
♥ AQJ	♥ KJ92	♥ AJ6
♦ KQJT	♦ A72	♦ AKJT8
♣ K43	♣ A6	♣ A7

Open 2NT on all of the hands above.

Responses to 2NT

As partner is very strong, you only need 4 hcp to bid game. The choice of game is yours. If you are balanced, bid 3NT. If you have a long major suit, bid game in that suit. If you are really weak, you can pass. 2NT is a limit bid and is therefore not forcing.

Responder's choices:

- pass
- bid game
- choose whether to play the hand in a suit contract or notrumps.

♠ 92	♠ 643	♠ 987
♥ Q97654	♥ KJ9	♥ AJ6
♦ KT	♦ J72	♦ QT843
♣ Q43	♣ 9854	♣ 106

4♥	3NT	3NT
You have a fit	balanced	also balanced



After a limit bid such as 2NT, responder is normally in charge.

♥ Opening 2♣

2♣ opening is an artificial bid. It shows **20+** hcp and is forcing to game. Partner must keep bidding until game is reached even with no points at all.

♠ AK4	♠ AKQT	♠ AK4
♥ AQJ8	♥ KJ9	♥ AJ
♦ KQJT	♦ AK2	♦ AKJT98
♣ K4	♣ A63	♣ 87

Open 2♣ on all of these. All you are saying is that you have an extremely strong hand.

Responses to 2♣

- 2♦ = 0-7 points. Any shape
- 2♠♥3♣♦ = 8+ unbalanced. 5+ cards
- 2NT = 8+ balanced

Partner opens 2♣. What do you respond?

♠ A84	♠ K96543	♠ A9876
♥ QJ84	♥ 643	♥ K87
♦ T765	♦ 32	♦ 8
♣ J4	♣ 65	♣ J764

2NT	2♦	2♠
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Opening Bids at the 2 level

2♣	20+ hcp, any shape
<u>Responses</u>	
2♦	up to 7 hcp
2♥,♠,3♣,♦	8+ hcp, <u>5+ card suit</u>
2NT	8+ hcp, balanced
2NT	20-22 hcp, balanced
<u>Responses</u>	
3 suit	4+ hcp, 5-card suit
4 suit	4+ hcp, 6-card suit
3NT	4+ hcp, balanced