

Practice Hands

Board 1
North Deals

♠ A 9 4		♠ 6 5 3
♥ 8 7		♥ A K J 4
♦ 10 8 7 5		♦ K Q 9
♣ 10 9 6 4		♣ Q J 5

♠ K J 7 2		♠ Q 10 8
♥ Q 10 9 2		♥ 6 5 3
♦ A 3		♦ J 6 4 2
♣ K 8 3		♣ A 7 2

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
	1 NT
2 ♣ ¹	2 ♥ ²
4 ♥ ³	Pass

- Stayman Convention.
Question: Do you have 4 cards in ♥ OR ♠?
- Answer: I have 4 cards in ♥ (I may also have 4 cards in ♠)
- Decision: Let's play in 4 ♥

Stayman and Transfers

Board 2
East Deals

♠ J 10 2		♠ Q 5 3
♥ A Q 8 5 3 2		♥ J 7
♦ K 4		♦ J 9 8 3
♣ J 5		♣ A 9 7 2

♠ 9 6 4		♠ A K 8 7
♥ 10 9		♥ K 6 4
♦ 10 7 6		♦ A Q 5 2
♣ K Q 10 6 4		♣ 8 3

<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT
2 ♦ ¹	2 ♥ ²
4 ♥ ³	Pass

- transfer to ♥
- Bid as requested
- Decision: Let's play in 4 ♥

Board 3
South Deals

♠ 8 6 2		♠ A J 5
♥ 7 4 3		♥ K Q J 9
♦ K Q J 10 2		♦ 7 5 4
♣ 3 2		♣ Q 10 8

♠ K Q 4 3		♠ 10 9 7
♥ 10 8 6		♥ A 5 2
♦ A 9 3		♦ 8 6
♣ A K 9		♣ J 7 6 5 4

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
1 NT	2 ♣ ¹
2 ♠ ²	3 NT ³
Pass	

- Question: Do you have 4 cards in ♥ OR ♠?
- Answer: I have 4 cards in ♠ but NOT in ♥
- Decision: Let's play in 3 NT

Lead: ♦ K

Declarer has 8 tricks and needs to create another trick which can only come in ♥. Declarer should delay winning the ♦ A and hope that whichever defender wins the ♥ A has no more ♦ to play. (The bridge term for this is "DUCK", to delay winning)

Board 4
West Deals

♠ K Q 5		♠ 7 4 2
♥ A 8 6		♥ J 10 3
♦ K Q 4		♦ A 6 5 3
♣ A K 3 2		♣ J 9 5

♠ A 9 3		♠ J 10 8 6
♥ 9 7 4		♥ K Q 5 2
♦ J 9 8		♦ 10 7 2
♣ Q 10 8 7		♣ 6 4

<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>
2 NT ¹	3 ♣ ²
3 ♦ ³	3 NT ⁴
Pass	

- Balanced hand with 20-22 points
- Stayman Convention.
Question: Do you have 4 cards in ♥ OR ♠?
- Answer: I DON'T have 4 cards in ♥ OR ♠
- Decision

The Stayman Convention can also be used in response to a 2 NT opening bid. 3 ♣ becomes the question and 3 ♦/3 ♥/3 ♠ are the answers.

Board 5
North Deals

♠ A 7 3
♥ Q 4
♦ A Q 8 2
♣ K Q 9 6

♠ K 9 6 5
♥ A 9
♦ K 6 5
♣ 10 7 4 3

♠ J 10 8
♥ K 6 5
♦ J 10 7 4
♣ A 5 2

♠ Q 4 2
♥ J 10 8 7 3 2
♦ 9 3
♣ J 8

<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	2 ♦ ¹
2 ♥ ²	Pass ³

1. Transfer to ♥
2. I bid 2 ♥ as requested
3. I have no interest in GAME and have 5+ cards in ♥

After her partner's 1 NT opening South decides with such a low point count that she wants to play in 2 ♥. She employs a transfer response (2 ♦) to ask North to bid 2 ♥ and then subsequently passes.

Board 6
East Deals

♠ 6 5 4
♥ A 10 7
♦ K J 7
♣ J 10 7 6

♠ K Q 8
♥ K 8 3
♦ A 4 2
♣ A 5 4 2

♠ J 10 3 2
♥ Q 6 5 4
♦ Q 9 8 6 3
♣ —

♠ A 9 7
♥ J 9 2
♦ 10 5
♣ K Q 9 8 3

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
1 NT	Pass
2 ♦ ²	2 ♣ ¹
	Pass ³

1. Stayman Convention
2. I don't have 4 cards in ♥ or ♠ but not in ♥
3. Then let's go with ♦ as trumps

East has a weak unbalanced hand with no interest to bid GAME. By using 2 ♣ (Stayman) East can find a reasonably good trump suit.

Board 7
South Deals

♠ 9 5
♥ K 7 4
♦ J 2
♣ K Q J 10 5 2

♠ J 8 3
♥ 8 6
♦ A 8 6 4
♣ 9 8 7 3

♠ A 7 6 2
♥ A J 9 3
♦ 10 9 7 5
♣ 4

♠ K Q 10 4
♥ Q 10 5 2
♦ K Q 3
♣ A 6

<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>
3 NT ¹	1 NT
	Pass

1. Enough strength for game with no interest in having ♥ or ♠ as trumps.

With such a good source of tricks (♣) and 10 points North wants to play in a GAME contract. A contract of 3 NT (9 tricks) will most likely be easier to achieve than a contract of 5 ♣ (11 tricks). North-South have 6 tricks in ♣ and can create three or more tricks via high card promotion. However there are also three aces to lose which means that a contract of 5 ♣ will likely fail.

Board 8
West Deals

♠ 10 8
♥ K 10 7
♦ Q 10 6 5 4
♣ A 9 3

♠ K 6 5 3 2
♥ Q 8 5 2
♦ J 3
♣ 7 5

♠ Q 4
♥ A J 4 3
♦ A 9 7
♣ K Q 8 2

♠ A J 9 7
♥ 9 6
♦ K 8 2
♣ J 10 6 4

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
Pass	1 NT
2 ♣ ¹	2 ♥ ²
Pass ³	

1. Stayman Convention.
Question: Do you have 4 cards in ♥ OR ♠?
2. Answer: I have 4 cards in ♥
3. Decision: Great, we have a fit

With a weak hand and length in both major suits, responder (West) uses a 2 ♣ response (STAYMAN) to try to find a major suit fit. If East had answered 2 ♦ (no 4 card major), West would then bid 2 ♠. When East answers 2 ♥, West is happy to PASS.

Board 9

North Deals
E-W Vul

♠ 6 2	♠ K Q 10 7	♠ 9 5 4
♥ A 10 9 5	♥ 8 7	♥ K Q 6 4
♦ 9 7 4	♦ A J 10 8 5	♦ K 6 3
♣ J 8 7 2	♣ A Q	♣ 10 9 6

North	South
1 ♦ ¹	1 ♠
3 ♠ ²	4 ♠ ³
Pass	

1. Even with 16 points, without a balanced hand North should not open 1 NT.
2. I agree with ♠ and have a medium opener (15-17 points)
3. Decision :We have enough combined strength to go for GAME.

North's hand (5422) is not considered balanced (4333, 4432, 5332). With a 5422 distribution (medium strength or better), open then 5 card suit and rebid the 4 card suit.

Board 11

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 7 6	♠ A 8 4 2	♠ 10 3
♥ 7 6	♥ A K 10 4 2	♥ J 9 3
♦ 9 7 6 4	♦ J 3	♦ A 8 2
♣ A K 8 5	♣ 10 6	♣ J 7 4 3 2

North	South
2 ♦ ¹	1 NT
2 ♠ ³	2 ♥ ²
Pass	4 ♠ ⁴

1. Transfer to ♥ (5+ card ♥ suit)
2. Bid 2 ♥ as requested
3. I also have 4+ cards in ♠ and enough strength for GAME
4. We have a fit in ♠

Board 10

East Deals
Both Vul

♠ 7 4	♠ K J 10 8	♠ A Q 6 5 3
♥ A J 7 6 5	♥ 2	♥ K Q 4
♦ 3 2	♦ J 10 8 5 4	♦ 9 6
♣ K Q 6 3	♣ 9 8 2	♣ A J 5

West	East
2 ♦ ¹	1 NT
3 ♣ ³	2 ♥ ²
Pass	4 ♥ ⁴

1. Transfer to ♥ (5+ card ♥ suit)
2. Bid 2 ♥ as requested
3. I also have 4+ cards in ♣ and enough strength for GAME
4. We have a fit in ♥

Board 12

West Deals
N-S Vul

♠ A K 4 2	♠ J 9 7	♠ Q 6 3
♥ Q J 7	♥ A 9 5	♥ K 10 4 3 2
♦ A K 9 2	♦ 10 7 6 4	♦ 8 5
♣ A 7	♣ J 10 4	♣ Q 6 2

West	East
2 NT ¹	3 ♦ ²
3 ♥ ³	3 NT ⁴
4 ♥ ⁵	Pass

1. 20-22 points and a balanced hand
2. Transfer to ♥ (5+ card ♥ suit)
3. Bid 3 ♥ as requested
4. I have exactly 5 cards in ♥ and enough strength for GAME
5. We have a fit in ♥