

# Basic Doubles Supplemental

More information: <https://bridge.careytutor.com>

# Takeout Doubles - Examples

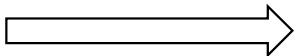
*Opening bid of 1 Diamond for each of the following hands:*

1) ♠AK82 ♥KJ83 ♦32 ♣A76  **Double**

- 15 high-card points plus 1 shortness point. Support for unbid suits, especially the two majors.

2) ♠AQJT85 ♥AQ3 ♦6 ♣KJ43  **Double**

- 17 high-card points plus 2 shortness points. Some support in unbid suits, but a great spade suit that you can bid if partner bids 1 Heart. You could overcall 1 Spade instead, but Double shows a stronger hand.

3) ♠J52 ♥K3 ♦A4 ♣AKJ863  **Bid 2 Clubs**

- 16 high-card points. No good support in hearts or spades. Without major suit support, prefer to overcall in your strong suit.

4) ♠AJ62 ♥Q ♦AK73 ♣Q943  **Pass**

- 16 high-card points. Spade support but no heart support. Many points in opener's suit (Diamonds). Not balanced, so no 1 No Trump overcall. Without support in both unbid majors, bid cautiously. Wait to see how the bidding progresses. Maybe opponents will fail.

# Penalty Doubles - Examples

*After bidding 1H – pass – 4H – ?:*

1) ♠A82 ♥AK983 ♦32 ♣A76  **Double**

- You have great hearts and at least four winners (3 aces and the king). Double for penalty.

*After bidding 1NT – pass – 2NT – pass – 3NT – ?*

2) ♠T85 ♥KQJT5 ♦A94 ♣K5  **Double**

- The other team barely has 26 high card points (16 or 17 for the opener, 8 or 9 for the responder). But you have at least three (and probably four) heart winners plus the ace and maybe the king. Double for penalty.

*After bidding 1H – ?*

3) ♠6 ♥QJ8654 ♦A73 ♣AQ9  **Pass**

- Yes, you have 6 good hearts (the opponents' bid suit). But per our rules, a double of a 1-level bid is for takeout. Plus, even if it weren't, once doubled, the other team will bid again and probably find a spade fit. So, pass quietly and see what develops.

# Follow-up Reading

- BridgeBears has many useful beginner articles:
  - Read the articles on Takeout Doubles at <https://web.archive.org/web/20240305071141/https://www.bridgebears.com/bridge-card-game/bidding/>.
- The ACBL provides a succinct but informative article on responses to takeout doubles:
  - [http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/Commonly\\_Used\\_Conventions/takeout\\_double.pdf](http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/Commonly_Used_Conventions/takeout_double.pdf)
- BetterBridge provides a summary of the basic takeout doubles and responses:
  - <https://www.betterbridge.com/misc/StandardArticles/Standard200711.pdf>
  - <https://www.betterbridge.com/misc/StandardArticles/Standard200801.pdf>