

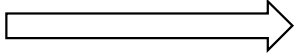
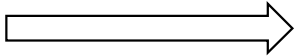
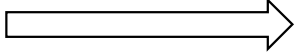
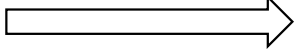
Basic Beginning Bridge Lesson 3 – Supplementary

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

Other Opening Bid Rules to Explore

- Rule of 20
 - In first or second seat, add your high card points and the length of your two longest suits. If greater than 20, plan to open the bid. I find this aggressive, but some players rely on it.
- Third Seat Opening
 - In third seat, some players plan to open with 11 total points and a good suit (KQTxx or better). Partner should be aware that a third-seat opening bid is “light.”
- Rule of 15
 - In fourth seat, add your high card points plus your # of spades. If 15 or greater, plan to open the bidding.
- Law of Total Tricks
 - In competitive auctions (both sides bidding), your side can generally take as many tricks as the total length of your longest combined suit. E.g., if you have 8 trumps in both hands, you should be able to take 8 tricks.

Opening 1 Bids - Examples

- 1) ♠98632 ♥K8 ♦AJ632 ♣A  ***Open 1 Spade***
• 12 high-card points plus 2 length points. Two 5-card suits – pick the highest-ranking; suit strength doesn't matter.
- 2) ♠AK82 ♥A983 ♦A ♣9643  ***Open 1 Club***
• 15 high-card points and unbalanced hand. No 5-card suit – bid the longest minor (clubs).
- 3) ♠A982 ♥3 ♦Q654 ♣AK83  ***Open 1 Diamond***
• 13 high-card points. No 5-card suit – bid the longest minor (bid diamonds if 4 – 4).
- 4) ♠JT762 ♥AKQ98 ♦K3 ♣9  ***Open 1 Spade***
• 13 high-card points plus 2 length points. Two 5-card suits – pick the higher-ranking; suit strength doesn't matter.

When to Open a 12-Point Hand?

Open:

1) ♠AK632 ♥84 ♦KT632 ♣3 → *Open 1 Spade*

- 10 high-card points plus 2 length points. Two good 5-card suits, all high cards in those suits.

Don't Open:

2) ♠QJ32 ♥K ♦QJ32 ♣QJ43 → *Pass*

- 12 high-card points. Mostly Q and J; singleton K; no long suit. Better for defense.

Open:

3) ♠KJ6432 ♥AQ43 ♦32 ♣3 → *Open 1 Spade*

- 10 high-card points plus 2 length points. Long suit, good side suit, all high cards in those suits.

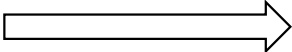
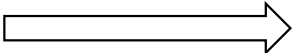
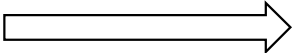
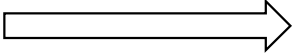
The Strong Two Club Bid

- An opening bid of 2 Clubs (artificial) is used for all strong hands.
 - 22+ high card points (fewer if unbalanced with a long, strong suit)
 - Usually good for at least 9 tricks (10 tricks if best suit is a minor)
 - Always (almost) **forcing to game** – responder cannot pass below game
- Responses:
 - 2 Diamonds (artificial) – a weak hand or a hand without a strong 5-card suit
 - 2 Hearts – 5+ hearts headed by the KJ or better, 8+ high card points
 - 2 Spades – 5+ spades headed by the KJ or better, 8+ high card points
 - 2 No Trump – 8+ high card points and balanced
 - 3 Clubs – 6+ clubs headed by the KJ or better, 8+ high card points
 - 3 Diamonds – 6+ diamonds headed by the KJ or better, 8+ high card points

Two Club Opener Rebids

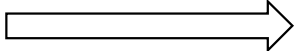
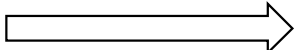
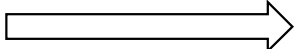
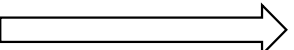
- Generally rebid **naturally**.
 - Show your long and strong suit if you have one.
- Two special bids:
 - Rebid 2 No Trump: 22 – 24 high card points and balanced
 - Responder can pass with a very weak hand.
 - Rebid 3 No Trump: 25 – 26 high card points and balanced

2-Club Opening Bids - Examples

- 1) **♠AKJ632 ♥K8 ♦AK63 ♣A**  ***Open 2 Clubs***
- 22 high-card points plus 2 length points. Two diamond losers and two potential heart losers (9 winners). Strong spade suit. Plan to rebid spades to show a strong suit (5+).
- 2) **♠AK82 ♥AQ83 ♦A2 ♣KQ3**  ***Open 2 Clubs***
- 22 high-card points and balanced hand. No 5-card suit. Plan to rebid 2 NT after opening 2 clubs.
- 3) **♠AKQ2 ♥3 ♦AQ54 ♣AK83**  ***Open 1 Diamond***
- 22 high-card points and unbalanced. Take a chance that partner will not pass and bid 1 diamond, planning to jump in NT (if partner bids hearts) or jump in spades (jump shift).
- 4) **♠AKQT762 ♥KQJ9 ♦A3 ♣9**  ***Open 2 Clubs***
- 19 high-card points plus 3 length points. Good side suit; no wasted high cards in club singleton. 3 losers, 10 winners. Plan to rebid spades to show a strong suit (5+).

2-Club Response Bids - Examples

After partner opens 2 clubs, your hand is:

- 1) **♠98632 ♥K8 ♦932 ♣J32**  ***Bid 2 Diamonds***
 - 4 high-card points. Two diamonds is a “waiting” bid to see what partner bids next.
- 2) **♠KQ982 ♥A83 ♦65 ♣963**  ***Bid 2 Spades***
 - 9 high-card points and strong spade suit.
- 3) **♠A82 ♥A3 ♦9654 ♣T983**  ***Bid 2 No Trump***
 - 8 high-card points. Balanced hand. Two aces (strong).
- 4) **♠KT7 ♥J43 ♦Q532 ♣Q65**  ***Bid 2 Diamonds***
 - 8 high-card points and a balanced hand. However, many of the points are queens and jacks (weaker). The 2 diamond bid is “waiting”, even though your hand isn’t really “weak.”

Follow-up Reading

- The ACBL robot-based playing tool is available at <http://www.learn2playbridge.com/map>. Begin the bidding section with some of the hands from:
 - High Card Points
 - Distribution Points
 - 2C Opening and Responding to Partner 2C Opening

- A Teacher First has a summary of opening bidding :
 - <https://www.ateacherfirst.com/bridge-lessons/step1/>
 - Read “Lesson 1 – Opening 1 of a Suit”, pages 1 – 4.