

# Mini-Lesson: Strong Two Clubs Opening Bid

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

# Objective for Mini-Lesson

- Main objectives:
  - Learn how to make a strong two clubs opening bid
  - How to respond to a strong two clubs opening bid
- Secondary objectives:
  - Hand requirements
  - Responses and rebids

## Opening Bidder Point Ranges

**12 - 15 Points – minimum**

**16 - 18 Points – medium**

**18 - 21 Points – strong**

**22+ Points – massive**

# Where Does the 2C Opening Fit?

2 No Trump

**2 Clubs**

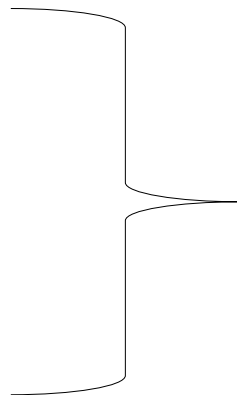
1 No Trump

1 Spade

1 Heart

1 Diamonds

1 Club



20 – 21 HCP and balanced

**22+ HCP**

15 – 17 HCP and balanced

12 – 21 total points

# The Strong Two Club Bid

- An opening bid of 2 Clubs (artificial) is used for all massive 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 (usually) below game
- Responses:
  - 2 Diamonds (artificial) – a weak hand or a hand without a strong 5-card suit
  - 2 Hearts – 8+ high card points, 5+ hearts headed by the KJ or better
  - 2 Spades – 8+ high card points, 5+ spades headed by the KJ or better
  - 2 No Trump – 8+ high card points and balanced
  - 3 Clubs – 8+ high card points, 5+ clubs headed by the KJ or better
  - 3 Diamonds – 8+ high card points, 5+ diamonds headed by the KJ or better

# Two Club Opener Rebids

- Generally, rebid **naturally**.
  - Show your long and strong suit if you have one.
- Two special rebids:
  - Rebid 2 No Trump: 22 – 24 high card points and balanced
    - Responder can pass with a very weak hand.
  - Rebid 3 No Trump: 25 – 27 high card points and balanced

## Practice – Two Clubs Opening Bid

- Do you have enough total points to open the bidding?
- If you are the first to bid, what would you bid?
- How many high card points does the responder have?
- How does the responder's hand support (or not support) the opening bidder's hand?
- What would the responder bid? What would opener rebid?

# The Full Set of 2-Level Opening Bids

2 No Trump

2 Spades

2 Hearts

2 Diamonds

**2 Clubs**

20 – 21 HCP

5 – 10 HCP, long hearts, KJTxxx

5 – 10 HCP, long hearts, KJTxxx

5 – 10 HCP, long hearts, KJTxxx

**22+ HCP, 9 – 10 tricks in 2C hand**

# Summary

- Strong two club opening bid
  - 22+ points, 9 – 10 tricks in the opening hand
- Responses to strong two club opening bid
  - 2D: with no strong 5-card suit and (usually) fewer than 8 points
  - Any other suit: a long, strong suit (KJxxx or better) plus 8+ points
  - 2NT: 8+ high card points (A and K better than Q and J) and balanced
- Rebids
  - Natural bidding of actual suit(s)
  - 2NT for 22 – 24 high card points; 3NT for 25+ high card points