

## More Responses to 1NT

With balanced hands and less than 8 points we pass we bid 2NT with 8-9 and 3NT with more but with unbalanced hands we should explore the possibility of a major fit. If responder has a 5-card major or even a 4 card major it is possible that a fit in this suit will yield 10 tricks. So we need to tell declarer about our Major holding.

“Stayman” and “Transfers” do just this.

### Stayman

**If you have a 4 card major and** at least 8 points and have at least a doubleton then you should bid 2♣ after opener's 1NT. This asks your partner if he has a 4 card major. You would do this with the following hands;

♠ AK92 ♥ 54 ♦ Q753 ♣ 654	♠ 82 ♥ 8632 ♦ KQJ3 ♣ A54	♠ AK93 ♥ AK92 ♦ 4 ♣ AT92
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But not with;

♠ T942 ♥ K4 ♦ Q753 ♣ Q54	♠ K92 ♥ A54 ♦ Q753 ♣ Q54	♠ 92 ♥ 54 ♦ AKQ753 ♣ 654
Pass not enough points	No 4 card major bid 3NT	No 4 card major bid 3NT Those diamonds will be worth a lot in NT

Opener will bid 2♦ if he doesn't have a 4 card major, 2♥ if he has 4 Hearts and 2♠ if he has 4 Spades.

Remembering that you are captain of the hand (because 1NT **limits** opener's hand). You will then decide the correct place to be.

### Transfers

**If you have a 5 card major** it would make sense to bid it but if this suit became trumps then you would be playing the hand and partner's beautiful hand would be dummy for all the world to see and the defence would have a better understanding on how to defeat the contract. So we will bid the suit below our 5 card major.

2♦ would therefore promise a 5-card Heart suit and **REQUIRES** the 1NT opener to bid 2♥ (no but after all he must have at least 2 Hearts). Similarly;

2♥ would therefore promise a 5-card Spade suit and **REQUIRES** the 1NT opener to bid 2♠ (no but after all he must have at least 2 Spades)