

Responding without a fit

If you have a fit you can show this by raising partners suit.

After 1 ♥/♠	2 ♥/♠ shows 6-9 TPs
	3 ♥/♠ shows 10-12 TPs
	Another suit followed by 4 ♥/♠ shows 12+ TPs
After 1 ♣/♦	2 ♣/♦ shows 6-9 TPs 5 clubs or 4 diamonds
	3 ♣/♦ shows 10-12 TPs and a fit
	3 NT shows 12+ HCPs

But what if you do not have a fit;

- You can bid a new suit at the 1 level which shows 6+ HCPs and 4 cards in that suit
- You can bid 1 NT which shows 6-9 HCPs may be unbalanced
- You can bid a new suit at the 2 level which shows 10+ pts and a 5 card suit.
- You can bid 2NT which shows balanced hand 10 -11 HCPs.
- You can bid 3NT which shows balanced hand and 12-15 HCP

Supporting partners suit or bidding NT are called "Limit Bids. You have cut the range of your hand to 3 or 4 pts.

Because partner know more about your hand now than you know about his he becomes the **"Captain" of the hand**". Partner will set the level and denomination of the hand. He may require more information from you but it is his/her decision.

Some examples;

Openers Bid	meaning	Responders Bid	Meaning
1 ♥	12+ HCPs, 5+ Hearts	1 ♠	<3 Hearts 4 Spades 6+ HCPs
1 ♥	12+ HCPs, 5+ Hearts	1NT	<3 Hearts, <4 Spades 6-10 HCPs
1 ♠	12+ HCPs, 5+ Spades	1NT	<3 Spades 6-10 HCPs
1 ♠	12+ HCPs, 5+ Spades	2 ♦	<3 Spades, 5 Diamonds, 10+ HCPs
1 ♣	12+ HCPs, 3+ Clubs	1 ♥	4+ Hearts, 6+ HCPs
1 ♣	12+ HCPs, 3+ Clubs	1 ♦	4+ Diamonds, <4 Hearts and spades, 6+ HCPs
1 ♦	12+ HCPs, 3+ Diamonds	1 ♠	4+ Spades, 6+ HCPs
1 ♣	12+ HCPs, 3+ Clubs	1NT	<4 Diamonds, Hearts and Spades 6-9 HCPs

A new suit by responder is unlimited unless he had a chance to open the bidding but could not ie they have already passed. Opener does **NOT** know how many points responder has and therefore **MUST bid again.**

No one is *Captain* yet and so opener must continue to describe his hand