

Major Suit Game Trials

- After your partner has raised a major suit to the 2-level, a **non-jump bid in a new suit**, shows interest in game.
- It shows a suit where you have some length, but are typically weak – and are looking for support in that suit from your partner.
- Typically shows a medium hand (about 16pts) or 6 losers in total.
- This bid in a new suit must be below the level of **3 of your agreed major**. Above this level it is a control-showing cue bid, showing slam interest.
- This convention is also known as Help Suit Game Trial Bids, or Weak Suit Game Trial Bids.

West (16pts / 6L)	East
♠ J 7 2 ♥ A Q 10 6 4 ♦ K Q 10 ♣ A 2	
1♥	2♥

West (16pts / 6L)	East
♠ J 7 2 ♥ A Q 10 6 4 ♦ K Q 10 ♣ A 2	
1♥	2♥
2♠	

West (16pts / 6L)	East (8pts)
♠ J 7 2 ♥ A Q 10 6 4 ♦ K Q 10 ♣ A 2	♠ A 6 ♥ K 7 3 2 ♦ J 9 3 ♣ 10 9 8 7
1♥	2♥
2♠	4♥ (1 spade loser)
Pass	

Responding to a Game Trial

- With 0 or 1 loser in the suit, jump to 4 of your major.
- With 2 losers in the suit, bid 3 of your major with a minimum (6-7pts) or 4 with a maximum.
- With 3 losers in that suit, bid 3 of your major, regardless of strength.

To count your losers in a suit:

Count the ace, king or queen as a winner – everything else is a loser.

Only look at your top 3 cards. (This is the same method used in the Losing Trick Count scheme of hand evaluation).

West (16pts / 6L)	East (8pts)
♠ J 7 2	♠ 10 9 8
♥ A Q 10 6 4	♥ K J 3 2
♦ K Q 10	♦ J 9
♣ A 2	♣ K 10 9 7
1♥	2♥
2♠	3♥
Pass	

West (16pts / 6L)	East (6pts)
♠ J 7 2	♠ 10
♥ A Q 10 6 4	♥ K 8 5 3
♦ K Q 10	♦ 9 8 7 3 2
♣ A 2	♣ K 10 4
1♥	2♥
2♠	4♥
Pass	

West (14pts-5½ L)	East (8pts)
♠ A Q 10 6 4	♠ K 7 3 2
♥ 2	♥ 8 5 4
♦ K Q J	♦ 9 8 7 3
♣ Q 8 7 2	♣ K J
1♠	2♠
3♣	4♠
Pass	

West (16pts / 6L)	East (6pts)
♠ A Q 10 6 4	♠ K 7 3 2
♥ 9 8 7	♥ J 5
♦ K Q J	♦ 9 8 7 3
♣ A 2	♣ Q 8 4
1♠	2♠
3♥	3♠
Pass	

West (17pts)	East (6pts)
♠ K 7 2	♠ Q 4 3
♥ A Q 10 6	♥ K 8 5
♦ K Q 10	♦ 9 8
♣ K 9 2	♣ J 10 7 4 3
1♥	2♥
2NT	Pass

West (17pts)	East (6pts)
♠ K 7 2	♠ J 4
♥ A Q 10 6	♥ K 8 5 2
♦ K Q 10	♦ 9 8
♣ K 9 2	♣ J 10 7 4 3
1♥	2♥
2NT	3♥
Pass	

West (11pts)	East (11pts)
♠ J 4 2	♠ A 7 5
♥ A 9 7 6	♥ K 10 8 5 2
♦ K Q J 7 6	♦ A 8
♣ 9	♣ 7 4 3
1♦	1♥
2♥	3♣
4♥	

Major Suit Game Trials

- Game trial bids are NOT alertable, as they show a suit with at least 3 cards in it (no matter how weak the suit).
- There are other forms of game trial bids, such as bidding a real second suit, so partner can use his judgement to see how well it fits.
- Do not use with 5 losers or less (too strong)
- Do not use with 7 losers or more (too weak)
- <https://mrbridge.co.uk/library/single-magazine.html?issue=189#189/page/20-21>
- https://mrbridge.co.uk/assets/docs/library/articles/bidding/game_tries.pdf