

# Jacoby 2NT

## Jacoby 2NT

- A popular convention that uses a 2NT response to an opening bid of 1 or a major to show support for the major (4+ cards) and 13+ points.
- Gives up on the natural meaning of a 2NT response to show 10-12pts with a balanced hand.
- 1♥ : 2NT, or 1♠ : 2NT
- 2NT is forcing and artificial. It should be alerted.
- Allows a slam to be investigated at a lower level
- Very popular in 5-card major systems like Standard American, but can also be used in Acol.
- 1♣ : 2NT and 1♦ : 2NT are natural (10-12pts, no 4-card major)

## Opener's Rebid

- After 1♥ : 2NT, or 1♠ : 2NT
- With a distributional hand, priorities are:
  - A new suit at the three level shows a singleton or void (alertable)
  - A jump in a new suit at the four level shows a good 4+ second suit
- Otherwise
  - A jump to game in the major suit shows a minimum hand (11 to 13) – typically 7 losers
  - 3NT shows a medium hand (14-15) (alertable) – typically 6 losers
  - A rebid of the major at the three level shows a maximum 16-19 – typically 5 losers or less

West ♠ A K 7 4 3 ♥ 9 ♦ K Q J 8 ♣ J 4 2	West    East 1♠      2NT 3♥
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Shows a singleton or void in hearts

West ♠ A K 7 4 3 ♥ 9 2 ♦ K Q J 8 ♣ J 4	West    East 1♠      2NT 4♦
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Shows a good 4+ card second suit, containing at least 2 honours

West	West	East
♠ 4 3 2	1 ♥	2NT
♥ K Q 9 7 6	4 ♥	
♦ Q J 8		
♣ K 3		

4♥ Shows a dead minimum – 7 losers

West	West	East
♠ 4 3	1 ♥	2NT
♥ K Q 9 7 6	3NT	
♦ K Q J		
♣ K 3 2		

3NT (alertable) shows 14-15pts – 6 losers

West	West	East
♠ 4 3	1 ♥	2NT
♥ A K 9 8 7 6	3 ♥	
♦ A K 2		
♣ K 2		

3♥ shows a maximum 5 losers or less

Continuing the auction...

If opener shows a singleton or void

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

Continuing the auction...

If opener shows a good 2<sup>nd</sup> suit

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

Otherwise, consider your combined strength

West	West	East	East
♠ A Q 8 7 5	1 ♠	2NT	♠ K J 9 3
♥ K 6	3NT	4 ♠	♥ A 8 7 2
♦ 10 6 3 2			♦ A 7
♣ A J			♣ 9 8 4 (8 losers)
14-15pts, 6 losers			

In Competition

If there is a suit overcall, Jacoby 2NT is *off*

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

If there is a double, Jacoby 2NT is *off*

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

I recommend you use 2NT after an intervening double as Truscott 2NT (also known as Jordan 2NT) to show a limit raise (10-12pts) in your partner's major.

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

- If you don't play Jacoby 2NT, the normal way to bid these hands, is using a delayed-game raise, but this bidding sequence is often not very revealing

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

Note:

1 ♠ : 4 ♠ is always relatively weak (pre-emptive game raise)

1 ♠ : 3 ♠ is invitational (10-12pts)

After opener's rebid, a new suit is a Cue-Bid

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

Don't use Jacoby 2NT if you have a singleton or void

West	East	East
1 ♠	4♥	♠ Q 10 9 3 2
		♥ 7
		♦ A K 2
		♣ K 8 4 2

## Recommended Slam Conventions

- Roman Key Card Blackwood (RKCB)
- (Control Showing) Cue Bids
- Splinter Bids
- Jacoby 2NT