

4. BASIC RESPONSES

Jump raises - minors	1m-3m: 10-12 TP, 5+ cards (limit). 4m/5m: 13-15 TP, unbalanced
Jump raises - Majors	1M-3M: 10-12 TP, 3+ support (limit). 1M-4M: 13-15 TP
Jump shifts after minor opening	
Jump shifts after Major opening	
Responses to strong 2 suit open.	2♦ = 0-7 (no A+K); 2NT = 8-11, no 5-card suit; suit = 8+, 5+ cards
Responses to 2NT opening	Bid game with 5+ HCP. Stayman and transfers apply

5. PLAY CONVENTIONS

Show priorities	Versus Suit (or both)	Versus NoTrump (if different)
Leads Sequences:		
Four or more with an honour		
From 4 small		
From 3 cards (no honour)		
In partner's suit		
Discards		
Count		
Signal on partner's lead:		
Signal on declarer's lead:		
Notes		

6. SLAM CONVENTIONS

4♣ Gerber ☒	Only directly over 1NT
4NT: Blackwood ☒ RKCB	Quantitative over 1NT
Asking Bids ☐ Cue Bids ☐	Blackwood 4NT: 5♣ 0/4, 5♦ 1, 5♥ 2, 5♠ 3 aces
5NT asks for kings (6♣ 0/4, 6♦ 1, 6♥ 2, 6♠ 3) — only when all 4 aces held	

7. OTHER CONVENTIONS

Stayman	Jacoby transfers (optional)
Blackwood (5NT kings)	Gerber (over 1NT only)
Weak twos	Weak jump overcalls
Takeout doubles	Cue bid of opp's suit after partner's X

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Total Points (TP) = HCP + distribution once an 8+ fit is found:
void 5, singleton 3, doubleton 1 (Jx / Qx at face value only)
Responder must bid with 6+ HCP. New suit forcing; 2-level needs 10+



**AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE
FEDERATION LTD.**

STANDARD SYSTEM CARD

ABF Nos.
& Names:

Basic System: Basic Standard American — 5-card majors, 15-17 1NT, strong 2♣ (23+), weak twos
Brown Sticker ☐ Classification: Green ☐ Blue ☐ Red ☐ Yellow ☐

1. OPENING BIDS Describe strength, min.length, or specific meaning Canapé ☐

1♣ 3+ cards. Equal minors (incl. 4-4): 1♣ * 1♥ 5+ cards *
1♦ 3+ cards, longer minor * 1♠ 5+ cards *

1NT 15-17 HCP, balanced, no 5-card major may contain 5 card Major ☐

1NT Responses 2♣ Stayman: 8+ HCP with a 4-card major	
2♦ Transfer: 5+♥, 0+ HCP	2♠ 6+ minor: opener bids 3♣
2♥ Transfer: 5+♠, 0+ HCP	2NT 8-9 balanced, invitational
(Dbl)	other No transfers: 2♦/2♥/2♠ = 0-7, to play

2♣ 23+ HCP, or 17+ HCP with 10 winners (3 losers max). Rebid 2NT = 23-24 bal; 3NT = 25-27 bal

2♦ Weak: 6-10 HCP, strong 6-card suit

2♥ Weak: 6-10 HCP, strong 6-card suit

2♠ Weak: 6-10 HCP, strong 6-card suit

2NT 20-22 HCP bal, no 5-card major 3NT Not used (25-27 bal: via 2♣)

other * 12+ HCP, or 11+ with a 6-card suit or two 5-card suits. 3-level: 6-10, strong 7-card suit; 4-level: 6-10, 8-card suit

2. PRE-ALERTS

Nil — natural system	

3. COMPETITIVE BIDS / OVERCALLS

Doubles Takeout: 12+, 3+ in unbld suits, ≤2 in opp's suit; or any 17+ Negative DBL thru
Pass partner's takeout X only with 6 of opp's suit Responsive DBL thru

Jump overcalls Weak: 6-10, strong 6-card suit Unusual NT

1NT overcall: (immediate) 15-18 bal, winner in opp's suit (re-opening)

Immediate cue: (minor) (Major)

Over: Weak Twos Opening Threes

Opponent's transfers

Opponent's 1NT

Overcalls: 1-level 8-17 HCP, 2-level 11-16 HCP; strong 5+ suit (suit quality 7-9)

Double / triple jump overcall: 6-10 HCP, strong 7- / 8-card suit (pre-emptive)

8. RESPONSES TO OPENING BIDS

Describe strength, minimum length, or specific meaning

1♣ 1♦ 4+, 6+ HCP	2♦	3♦
1♥ 4+, 6+ HCP	2♥	3♥
1♠ 4+, 6+ HCP	2♠	3♠
1NT 6-9, no 4-card M	2NT 10-12, invitational	3NT 13-15 HCP
2♣ 6-9 TP, 5+♣	3♣ 10-12 TP, 5+♣	4♣ 13-15 TP, unbal
other 5♣ = 13-15 TP, unbalanced (prefer 3NT if possible)		
1♦ 1♥ 4+, 6+ HCP	2♥	3♥
1♠ 4+, 6+ HCP	2♠	3♠
1NT 6-9, no 4-card M	2NT 10-12, invitational	3NT 13-15 HCP
2♣ 10+ HCP, 4+♣	3♣	4♣
2♦ 6-9 TP, 5+♦	3♦ 10-12 TP, 5+♦	4♦ 13-15 TP, unbal
other 5♦ = 13-15 TP, unbalanced (prefer 3NT if possible)		
1♥ 1♠ 4+, 6+ HCP	2♥ 6-9 TP, 3+♥	3♦
1NT 6-9, NF, any shape	2♠	3♥ 10-12 TP, 3+♥
2♣ 10+ HCP, 4+♣	2NT 10-12, no fit, inv.	3♠
2♦ 10+ HCP, 4+♦	3♣	3NT 13-15, no fit
other 4♥ = 13-15 TP, 3+♥. 1-level response only needs 6+ (1♠ fine with 10+).		
1♠ 1NT 6-9, NF, any shape	2♠ 6-9 TP, 3+♠	3♥
2♣ 10+ HCP, 4+♣	2NT 10-12, no fit, inv.	3♠ 10-12 TP, 3+♠
2♦ 10+ HCP, 4+♦	3♣	3NT 13-15, no fit
2♥ 10+ HCP, 4+♥	3♦	4♣
other 4♠ = 13-15 TP, 3+♠.		
1NT 3♣ 5+♣, slam interest	3♠ 5+♠, slam interest	4♦
3♦ 5+♦, slam interest	3NT 10-14, to play	4♥ 10-14 TP, 6+♥
3♥ 5+♥, slam interest	4♣ Gerber (aces)	4♠ 10-14 TP, 6+♠
other 4NT quantitative. No transfers: 3-suit = 10+, 5+, GF		
2♣ 2♦ 0-7 (no A+K)	2NT 8-11, no 5-card suit	3♥
2♥ 8+ HCP, 5+♥	3♣ 8+ HCP, 5+♣	3♠
2♠ 8+ HCP, 5+♠	3♦ 8+ HCP, 5+♦	3NT
other Opener rebids 2NT = 23-24 bal; 3NT = 25-27 bal		
2♦ 2♥ 15/16+, 5+, forcing	3♣ 15/16+, 5+, forcing	3♠
2♠ 15/16+, 5+, forcing	3♦ Pre-emptive	3NT
2NT 16+ TP, strong inv.	3♥	4♣
other All raises pre-emptive — opener must pass		

Notes After a transfer: 2NT = 8-9, 3NT = 10-14; raise own 6-card suit: 3-level 8-9 TP, game 10-14 TP; new suit = very unbalanced, GF. 2♠-3♣: responder passes or bids 3♦.

Opening 3: partner raises to game with a good opening hand, or pre-emptively

2♥ 2♠ 15/16+, 5+, forcing	3♦ 15/16+, 5+, forcing	3NT
2NT 16+ TP, strong inv.	3♥ Pre-emptive	4♣
3♣ 15/16+, 5+, forcing	3♠	4♥ Pre-emptive / to play
other		
2♠ 2NT 16+ TP, strong inv.	3♥ 15/16+, 5+, forcing	4♣
3♣ 15/16+, 5+, forcing	3♠ Pre-emptive	4♥
3♦ 15/16+, 5+, forcing	3NT	4♠ Pre-emptive / to play
other		
2NT 3♣ Stayman	3♠	4♦
3♦ Transfer to ♥	3NT To play	4♥
3♥ Transfer to ♠	4♣	4♠
other Bid game with 5+ HCP		

9. CONVENTIONS

Unusual NT:

4th Suit Forcing One round ☐ Game force ☐

NT Checkback ☐ Priorities:

Defence to 3NT opening

Defence to Opening Twos

Multi 2♦

RCO style 2-s

Other 2-s

Defence (1♣) :

to

strong (2♣) :

1♣ / 2♣

Over 1NT Interference

Lebensohl - other uses

Take out of 4 level pre-empts 4♣/4♦

4♥

4♠

10. OTHER NOTES

Opener rebids NT: 1NT = 12-14; after 1M: 2NT 15-17, 3NT 18-19; after 1m: 2NT 18-19

Opener raises responder's major (4 cards): 12-15 TP 2-level, 16-18 3-level, 19+ game

Rebid own 6-card suit: 12-15 2-level, 16-18 3-level, 19+ game. New lower suit = 5+ in 1st

Responder's rebid: 6-9 minimum; 10-12 invitational (jump); 13-15 game

Advancing takeout X: 0-7 cheapest, 8-11 jump, 12+ cue; or NT 6-9 / 10-12 / 13-15

Advancing overcall: raise 7-11 / 12-14 / 15+ TP; new suit 10+ forcing; NT 8-11 / 12-14 / 15+

Source: Basic Standard American, The Bridge Centre © Mary Elson 2016