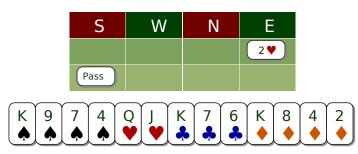


Overcalls after a weak 2 opening

The various overcalls are:

- With an unbalanced hand call your long suit or double.
- With a balanced hand call 2NT but you also need between 15 and 17HCP and two stoppers in the opening suit!

Careful! You can only use a Michael after a one level opening.



Problem E1257 PASS. Your hand is too weak to double. No aces and the hearts honors are worthless!



Problem E1270 2NTThe important thing here is to have heart stoppers. It doesn't matter if you don't have a spade stopper. Your Partner will usually take care of that!

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Double

To double you need:

- a three-suited distribution,
- with your high cards in those suits!

An overcall in a suit needs:

- a strong suit of at least 5 cards at the two level (ie 2 spades over a 2 heart opening), and more like 6 cards at the three level.
- One exception to keep in mind : after a 2♥ opening, the bid of 3♠ is propositional game you have to have a strong ♠ with 6 cards and a 2nd zone hand..



Problem E1253 3 & Don't double with a diamond void in spite of the 4 spades. Bid your strong 6-card suit.

	S	W	Ν	E	
				2 💙	
	X				
A K		4 2 k	87	6 A ♣ ◆	

Problem E1256 A nearly perfect takeout double for the other 3 suits!

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With two-suiters (2 suits of at least 5 cards with the high cards concentrated in those suits):

- 4 clubs = the other major and clubs
- 4 diamonds = the other major and diamonds
- Cue bid = the minors at least 5-4
- 4NT = the minors at least 6-5



Problem E1278 4 diamondsIt's up to your Partner to choose between spades and hearts.



Problem E5145 4NT with a violent minor two suiter. If your side goes down at the 5 level, you will often notice that your opponents would have won game in a major suit...

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The NT overcall

- 2NT shows 15-17HCP and two stoppers in the opening suit. (At level one we recommend 16-18HCP). If you only have 15HCP you need extra value, for example high cards backed up by solid intermediate cards.
- 3NT indicates:
 - either a strong balanced hand with solid stoppers
 - or an independent minor suit with a strong stopper.



Problem E1270 2NTThe important thing here is to have heart stoppers. It doesn't matter if you don't have a spade stopper. Your Partner will usually take care of that!