



Strong two-suiters

Two-suiters

A hand is a two-suiter if it contains: one suit of at least five cards and another of at least four. To describe his two-suiter, the Opener must bid his 2nd suit at the 2 level.

There are 3 types of two-suiter:

The minimum two-suiter, non-forcing with 12-17HCP. This allows the responder to stay at the 2 level when returning to the opening suit.

The reverse, forcing for a round with 17HCP or more. The second suit, bid at the 2 level, is higher-ranking than the first bid suit. The responder is thus obliged to go to the 3 level to return to the opening suit.

The jump reverse, game-forcing, as from about 20HCP.

S	W	N	E
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
Pass			



Problem E4673 1♠ The 2nd suit bid by the Opener at the 1 level doesn't promise a strong two-suiter. He may only have 4 ♣.

S	W	N	E
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♥			



Problem E1212 1♠ Strong two-suiter : the Responder will be forced to bid at the 3 level in order to indicate preference for the Opener's first suit.



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A round forcing bid requires at least 17HCP .. as your Partner may only have 5

- To bid a strong two-suiter, the lower ranked suit has to be longer than the higher-ranked suit.
- It's not possible to bid a strong two-suiter with a 5-5... because you have to open with the more expensive suit !
- Note that the weak two-suiter and the strong two-suiter overlap when the Opener has 17HCP.
- If Responder has bid at the 2 level, promising at least 11HCP, a strong two-suiter can be bid with 15HCP. The point count has now been lowered.

S	W	N	E
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT			



Problem E4830 1NT It's not possible to bid CO!
2♥ promises at least 17HCP.

S	W	N	E
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♥			



Problem E4829 2♥ all the conditions have been met : 18HCP and a 5 carder which is a lower-ranked suit than the 4 carder.



Strong two-suiters

Important!!!

Your strength doesn't always allow you to bid your two-suiter, especially when your 5 carder is a minor suit and not a major suit... Don't lull your Partner into a false understanding about the strength of your hand.



Strong two-suiters

Be Careful! Important rule concerning the strong two-suiter

A strong two-suiter no longer exists if the Responder has already bid a suit higher, thus disallowing Opener to rebid his suit at the 2 level.

S	W	N	E
1 ♣	1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥			



Problem 20148 With this bidding sequence, Opener could have a 1st zone hand. Responder bids 2♦, ruling out the possibility of Opener to rebid ♣ at the 2 level. The aim of the 2♥ bid is to find the best contract.