



Gerber convention

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In response to a 1NT opening,

- 4NT is a quantitative bid, asking the opener to bid a small slam if he holds a maximum hand (16-17 HCP).
- The Gerber 4♣ is a convention bid, asking the opener how many Aces he has... It is a very easy to remember convention, and very useful when the responder holds a strong unbalanced hand

S	W	N	E
		1 NT	Pass
4 ♣			



Problem E20526 The only thing that matters here is to know how many Aces the opener has in hand. If he's got 2 of them...small slam, indeed !



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Developments

The responses to a 4♣ Gerber conventional bid are quite usual :

- 4♦ 4 or 0 Ace
- 4♥ 1 Ace
- 4♠ 2 Aces
- 4NT 3 Aces

5♣ is K asking, with the same response system

A	8	K	9	5	K	6	K	Q	J	9	8	2
♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
S		W		N		E						
1 NT		Pass		4 ♣		Pass						
4 ♠												
Q	J	7	6	A	Q	J	7	A	J	7	7	6
♠	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦

Problem E20528 In response to his partner's 4♣ (Gerber), the opener bids 4♠ to show 2 Aces. The responder will safely call a small NT slam. Had the partner used a 4NT quantitative bid, they would have missed this slam, as the opener has a minimum 1NT opening hand.
