



Responses to overcalls in a suit (without fit)

The replies without a fit in the partner's suit

Your Partner who has just overcalled can have between 8 and 17HCP (with more than 18HCP he would have doubled). The principles:

- Changes of suit at the one level are forcing
- 2 over 1 are non forcing
- 2 over 2 are forcing

A cue bid is often used to show strength and makes the sequence forcing.

If the player in 3rd seat bids, no bid is forcing unless made with a jump.

S	W	N	E
	1 ♥	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣			

J	3	10	6	A	K	Q	7	6	3	10	9	3
♠	♠	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦

Problem E4860 A response 2 over 1 is non forcing.

S	W	N	E
	1 ♦	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠			

A	Q	J	5	3	J	10	K	6	5	3	10	3
♠	♠	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦

Problem E4861 A response at the one level is forcing.



Responses to overcalls in a suit (without fit)

WITHOUT a fit and WITHOUT a stopper in the opener's suit

- With less than 7-8HCP: PASS
- At the one level with at least 4 strong cards and a minimum of 8HCP: change of suit forcing
- With at least 6 cards and between 8 and 12HCP: change suits 2 over 1. This is non forcing.
- Without a strong suit to bid and with 10 or so HCP: cue bid the opener which makes the sequence forcing. This bid doesn't promise a fit with your Partner, nor a stopper in the opener's suit (an investigating bid).

S	W	N	E
	1 ♦	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠			

A	Q	J	5	3	J	10	K	6	5	3	10	3
♠	♠	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦

Problem E4861 2 spades Show your nice spades with at least 8HCP

S	W	N	E
	1 ♥	1 ♠	2 ♥
Pass			

4	Q	J	10	9	5	10	8	7	4	A	K	9
♠	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦

Problem E5413 PASS With 5 ♥ and without a fit, you must pass. Your Partner has a ♥ void and if he doubles in the next round, you can pass with glee!



Responses to overcalls in a suit (without fit)

Without a fit and WITH stoppers in the opening suit:

- with 8-12HCP bid 1NT
- with 13-14HCP bid 2NT (with jump)
- if the overcall was at the 2 level, 2NT shows 10HCP and stoppers in the opening suit.

S	W	N	E
	1 ♦	2 ♣	Pass
2 NT			



Problem E1096 2 NT When responding to an overcall at the two level, 2NT proposes game and requires a balanced hand of about 11HCP with of course a stopper in the opening suit.