

Sample Bridge Agreements

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Changes marked in Blue

John to remember

Mary to remember

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Abbreviations

M	Major	X, Y	Any new suit	X	double
m	Minor	GF	Game force	XX	redouble

Hand Evaluation

1. Aces and kings are undervalued in point count; Q's and J's overvalued
2. You can count length points (1 pt for each card in a suit over 4) or shortness points only when you have a fit. Count one or the other, but not both. Shortness points are:

	<u>Declarer</u>	<u>Dummy</u>
Doubleton	1	1
Singleton	2	3
Void	3	3, 4 or 5 (= to number of trumps)

3. Honors are better when they are together. Conversely, stray honors are worth less. (Compare Axx, Kxx, Qxx, Jxxx and AQxx, KJx, xxx, xxx.)
4. Honors are better in your long suits. They make it easier to set up small cards.

(Pages 2-5 not shown for this illustration)

Major Suit Bidding

1. 5-card majors. Always.
2. Responding with support (1M - ??)

	<u>g5-b10</u>	<u>g10-b12</u>	<u>g12+</u>
3 cards	Raise to 2M	Bid new suit, then jump to 3M	Bid new suit, then bid game or otherwise force
4+ cards	Raise to 2M, compete to 3M if necessary	Bid 3M – limit raise	Jacoby 2NT

Special case: With 0-8 points AND shortness, jump to 4M. With more, make sure you get to game.

3. Rebids after Jacoby 2NT (1M - 2NT; ??)

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Shows</u>
a. 3 new suit	shortness (singleton or void) in that suit
b. 4 new suit	5-card suit with 2 of top 3 or 3 of top 5 cards (source of tricks)
c. 3 of major	18+ points, no shortness, generally 5 loser hand
d. 3NT	15-17 points, no shortness, 6 losers
e. 4 of major	12-14 points, no shortness, 7 losers

Any bid in a new suit after the Jacoby Response is a cue bid, asking partner to cue bid as well

Off in competition. See competitive bidding.

4. Games tries – after 1M – 2M, opener can try for game 3 different ways

2 or 3 of new suit	4+ card suit
2NT	5-3-3-2 (any order)
3M	6-card suit

In each case opener has enough to invite game (roughly 16-b19), counting distribution points. Responder use the information from the game try to see well the hands fit. This helps on borderline calls.

5. New Suit Forcing principle (this applies after minor suit openings as well)
 Responder's bid of a new suit is forcing for 1 round. There are 2 exceptions: 1) Responder is a passed hand, and 2) Opener has rebid 1NT (except for New Minor Forcing).

(Pages 7 and following are not shown for this illustration)