

4.1 Super Acceptance of Minor suit Transfers

If opener has a good holding in the transfer suit then he should try for 3NT by making the 'in-between bid'; so 2NT in the case of a transfer to ♣'s and 3♣ when the transfer was to ♦'s. If he has a bad holding, he should simply complete the transfer. In the case of an in-between reply, responder will bid 3NT with a good hand/suit or simply complete the transfer with a bad hand. And the requirements for the in-between bid? There are differing opinions but best is that 3 cards to a top honour (A,K or Q) or any 4 will do. The over-riding consideration for a super-accept is this support for partner's long minor, the overall strength is less important.

When opener super-accepts he promises good support for responder's minor and responder should bid 3NT with a decent suit even if the hand does not quite contain invitational values.

Example 3

West	East	West	East
♠ AJ4	♠ Q93	1NT	2NT (1) (1) transfer to ♦'s
♥ AQ6	♥ 95	3♣ (2)	3NT (3)
♦ Q53	♦ KJ9862	pass	
♣ QJ108	♣ 97		

(2) Let's try 3NT if you have anything remotely decent (a super-accept).

(3) I'm not ashamed of my hand, Barcus is willing.

A good 3NT contract has been reached on minimal values. Note that the important factor in opener deciding to super-accept or not is not whether he is min or max, but whether he has good cards in responder's suit.

And what happens if responder has a miserable hand and opener super-accepts? Then responder simply signs off himself: -

1NT - 2♠ - 2NT - 3♣ - pass or 1NT - 2NT - 3♣ - 3♦ - pass

Example 4

West	East	West	East
♠ AJ4	♠ 853	1NT	2NT (1) (1) transfer to ♦'s
♥ AQ6	♥ 85	3♣ (2)	3♦ (3) (2) super-accept
♦ Q53	♦ J98762	pass	(3) I'll be happy if I go just
♣ QJ108	♣ 97		one down in 3♦.

Responder, of course, may have his sights set on greater things than just 3NT. He is not just limited to 3 of the minor or 3NT, the initial transfer may be any strength and, as we shall see, there are numerous hand types.