

Is It Forcing?

30 Minute Mini Lesson

The Idea of a Forcing Bid



- In bridge bidding, some bids are limited – they have a top and bottom point range.
 - Usually when you bid no trump.
 - Bidding a suit you or your partner have previously bid.
- Other bids are unlimited – they may have a bottom point count but they are unlimited at the top. These bids are usually forcing.
 - Forcing to game
 - Forcing one round

Forcing-to Game-Bids By Opener

- Strong 2 ♣ (22+ points)
- A jump rebid of 2 no trump (18 or 19)
 - Opener 1 ♣ ... Responder 1 ♠ ... Opener 2 nt.
- A jump rebid in a new suit (Jump Shift) 18-21 points.
 - Opener 1 ♥ ... Responder 1 ♠ ... Opener 3 ♦ .
- A cue bid of an opponent's suit (18+ points)

north	east	south	west
1 ♦	pass	1 ♥	1 ♠
2 ♠			

Forcing-to Game-Bids By Responder

- If you play 2 over 1 Game Force, any 2 level, non-jump bid. (1  ... 2 )
- If you play the *Jacoby 2 no trump* convention, a bid of 2 no trump over a major suit opening.
- A new suit followed by a jump in the opener's suit.

Opener

1 

2 

Responder

1 

3 

Forcing-to Game-Bids By Responder

- A Jump bid in a new suit after opener rebids 1 no trump.

Opener

1 

1 nt

Responder

1 

3 

1 Round Force, By Opener

- These bids are forcing for one round of bidding, but not necessarily to game.
- A two-level bid of a suit of a higher rank than the opening suit. (reverse)

– 1 ♣ 1 ♠ 2 ♥ (17+ points and an unbalanced hand).

- A new suit after partner has raised your suit.

– 1 ♠2 ♠ 3 ♣
♣

1 ♠3 ♠ 4

– 1 ♥ 2 ♥ 3 ♦
♦

1 ♥ 3 ♥ 4

1 Round Force, By Responder

- Any non-jump new suit at any level, by a non passed responder.

Opener

1 

Responder

1 

Opener

1 

1 

Responder

1 

1 

1 Round Force, By Responder

- Any non-jump new suit at any level, by a non passed responder.

Opener

1 

2 

Responder

2 

2 

If responder has previously passed, opener may pass a new suit.

1 Round Force, By Responder

- A new suit after partner has raised your suit.

Opener

1 

2 

Responder

1 

2 

Opener

1 

2 

Responder

1 

2 

Invitational Bids by Opener

- These bids are not forcing, but invitational. Partner is encouraged to bid, but may pass.
- With silent opponents, opener raises after responder has supported opener's suit.

Opener Responder

1 ♥

2 ♥

3 ♥

Invitational Bids by Opener

- Opener makes a jump raise of responder's suit

Opener Responder

1  1 

3 

- Opener jump-raises her own suit.

Opener Responder

1  1 

3 

Invitational Bids by Opener

- A raise of responder's 1 no trump bid.

Opener	Responder
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1 	1 nt
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2 nt	
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Invitational Bids by Responder

- A jump raise of opener's suit. (Limit raise)

Opener Responder

1 

3 

Sign Off Bids by Opener

- So called “drop dead” bids. Partner should absolutely pass.
- A rebid your own suit after a 1 no trump response.

Opener Responder

1 

1 nt

2 

Sign Off Bids by Opener

- A game bid after you have made a limited response.

Opener Responder

1  1 nt

3 nt.

Sign Off Bids by Opener

- A game bid after you have made a limited response.

Opener Responder

1 

2 

3 nt.

Sign Off Bids by Opener

- Works the same way with a minor suit.

Opener Responder

1 ♥

2 ♥

4 ♥

Forcing or Non-Forcing (1)

Opener

1 

1 

Responder

1 

??

Forcing or Non-Forcing (2)

Opener

1 

2 

??

Responder

1 

2 

Forcing or Non-Forcing (3)

Opener

1 

2 

Responder

1 

??

Forcing or Non-Forcing (4)

Opener

1 

??

Responder

2 

Forcing or Non-Forcing (5)

Opener

1 

2 

Responder

2 

??