

Openers Rebids After a 3♣ Response ("Constructive" Raise)

- 3♦ This is typically played as a **help suit game try**, showing game interest with 4+ diamonds and 14-16 points. (Alternatively, it can be played as a **short suit game try**, showing a diamond singleton or void and interest in game.) Responder is expected to sign off in 3♥/♠ with minimum values, or bid 4♥/♠ with maximum values.

Opener	Responder
♠AT	♠8652
♥AQ873	♥KT92
♦AJT8	♦KQ4
♣63	♣T7

Opener	Opp 1	Responder	Opp 2
1♥	Double	3♣ (1)	Pass
3♦ (2)	Pass	4♥ (3)	All pass

- 3♣ is a constructive raise, showing 7-10 points and 4-card support.
- 3♦ is a game try.
- 4♥ places the final contract. Responder likes his diamond honors after hearing 3♦.

- 3♥ If the agreed suit is **hearts**, then this is a signoff bid. If the agreed suit is **spades**, then this is typically played a **help suit game try**, showing game interest with 4+ hearts and 14-16 points. (Refer to the description of 3♦.)

Opener	Responder
♠KT93	♠AJ5
♥AKJ43	♥QT52
♦J8	♦95
♣T5	♣9763

Opener	Responder
1♥	3♣ (1)
3♥ (2)	Pass

- 3♣ is a constructive raise, showing 7-10 points and 4-card support.
- 3♥ is a signoff.

- 3♠ If the agreed suit is **spades**, then this is a signoff bid. If the agreed suit is **hearts**, then this is typically played as a strong and natural bid, showing 4+ spades and

interest in slam. Responder is expected to do something intelligent at his next turn (sign off in 4♥, cue-bid an ace, etc.).

Opener	Responder
♠AK843	♠QJ52
♥A932	♥KQ5
♦J8	♦8762
♣T9	♣53

Opener	Responder
1♠	3♣ (1)
3♠ (2)	Pass

- 3♣ is a constructive raise, showing 7-10 points and 4-card support.
- 3♠ is a signoff. Note that it would be a mistake to bid 3♥, which would show game interest and 14-16 points.

Openers Rebids After a 3♦ Response ("Limit" Raise)

- 3♥ If the agreed suit is **hearts**, then this is a signoff bid. If the agreed suit is **spades**, then this is typically played a "help suit game try", showing game interest with 4+ hearts and 14-16 points. (Refer to the description of 3♦.)
- 3♠ If the agreed suit is **spades**, then this is a signoff bid. If the agreed suit is **hearts**, then this is typically played as a strong and natural bid, showing 4+ spades and interest in slam.

Opener's Rebids After 1♥ - 3♥ ("Preemptive" Raise)

Pass Shows less than 18 points.

- 4♥ Shows 18+ points in an uncontested auction. In competition, however, this may be a sacrifice.

Opener	Responder
♠83	♠T52
♥AKQ32	♥J654
♦J87	♦5
♣AT9	♣Q7654

Opener	Responder
1♥	3♥ (1)
Pass	

1. 3♥ is a preemptive raise, showing 0-6 points and 4-card support.

Opener's Rebids After 1♠ - 3♥ (Game-Forcing Raise)

3♥ is an unbalanced, game-forcing raise with a singleton or void. Opener can sign off in 4♠ with a minimum and no interest in slam. If opener is interested in slam, however, he can bid 3♠ as a relay bid asking for responder's short suit. The purpose of these "ambiguous splinters" is to avoid giving the defenders too much information when opener wants to sign off in game.

3♠ Artificial relay. Responder is expected to bid his singleton or void at the 4-level:

- 3NT - Club singleton/void
- 4♣ - Diamond singleton/void
- 4♦ - Heart singleton/void

Opener	Responder
♠AK843	♠QJ52
♥A5	♥KQ42
♦T987	♦5
♣KQ	♣A65

Opener	Responder
1♠	3♥ (1)
3♠ (2)	4♣ (3)

1. 3♥ is an unbalanced game-forcing raise.
2. 3♠ asks responder to disclose his short suit.
3. 4♣ shows a singleton or void in diamonds.

At this point, opener likes his hand because he can envision all his diamond losers getting ruffed in dummy. He can proceed with **Blackwood** or whatever slam methods the partnership uses.

Opener's Rebids After 1♠ - 3♠ ("Preemptive" Raise)

Pass Shows less than 18 points.

4♠ Shows 18+ points in an uncontested auction. In competition, however, this may be a sacrifice.

Opener	Responder
♠AKQ843	♠T952
♥AK32	♥Q5
♦J8	♦8762
♣T	♣653

Opener	Responder
1♠	3♠ (1)
4♠ (2)	Pass

- 3♠ is a preemptive raise, showing 0-6 points and 4-card support.
- 4♠ is a good bet with 17 HCP and extra shape. Note that in standard bidding methods, the auction might simply go 1♠ - Pass - Pass - Pass.

Opener's Rebids After 1♥ - 3♠ (Game-Forcing Raise)

3♠ is an unbalanced, game-forcing raise with a singleton or void. Opener can sign off in 4♥ with a minimum and no interest in slam. If opener is interested in slam, however, he can bid 3NT as a relay bid asking for responder's short suit. The purpose of these "ambiguous splinters" is to avoid giving the defenders too much information when opener wants to sign off in game.

3NT Artificial relay. Responder is expected to bid his singleton or void at the 4-level:

- 4♣ - Club singleton/void
- 4♦ - Diamond singleton/void
- 4♥ - Spade singleton/void

Opener	Responder
♠A5	♠KQ42
♥AK843	♥QJ52
♦KJT9	♦5

♣T5

♣A983

Opener

Responder

1♥

3♠ (1)

3NT (2)

4♦ (3)

4♥(4)

Pass

1. 3♠ is an unbalanced game-forcing raise.
2. 3NT asks responder to disclose his short suit.
3. 3♦ shows a singleton or void in diamonds.
4. 4♥ is a signoff. Opener has 15 HCP but wasted values in diamonds.

Source: bridgebum