

## Pass, Overcall or Double (POD)

When your Right-Hand Opponent opens the bidding, you will often be faced with three choices: Pass, Overcall or Double.



### Hands that would have Opened 1NT:

If you would have opened 1NT, and you have their suit stopped, then overcall 1NT. RHO Opens 1♦ (nobody vul.); what do you do with:

(A)	(B)	(C)
♠AK	♠KQJ	♠QJ32
♥KJ2	♥AQ2	♥KJ2
♦KQJ	♦KJ87	♦73
♣107652	♣762	♣AKQ7
_____	_____	_____

Vulnerability plays a role in a 1NT overcall. If vulnerable, you could have up to 18. You won't have a bad 15. If not vulnerable, you can be a little loser.

Note: X, then bid NT= 18/19-20/21

### Hands with Length in the Opponent's Suit:

These are hands to be wary of. Possession of opening bid values doesn't mean you must take action. If you double without support for all unbid suits, you need 18+. Sometimes, the best alternative is to overcall with a 4-card suit.

RHO opens 1♥. Neither side is vulnerable. What is your call?

(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)
♠J8	♠AKJ10	♠A6	♠A108	♠5
♥AKJ8	♥A432	♥KQ52	♥AQ1083	♥QJ53
♦AQ63	♦3	♦A1086	♦QJ32	♦KQ62
♣AJ3	♣J542	♣642	♣2	♣KQ64
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

## Pass, Overcall or Double (POD) - continued

### Hands with 5-4-3-1 distribution:

This distribution is good for a takeout double, but there are strength issues. You don't want to lose a 5-card major; yet if you double and then bid it, you are showing 18+. If your 5-card suit is a minor, you are more likely to make a takeout double (and just ignore the suit later on). Note: If your opponents open in your 3-card suit, you seldom double with 5-4-3-1 shape (you can't afford to hear partner answer in your singleton). Nobody vul, RHO opens 1♦; what do you do:

(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)	(M)
♠J874	♠AJ1083	♠A62	♠8	♠AQJ8
♥AK8	♥AQ32	♥KQ52	♥A832	♥AQJ53
♦3	♦3	♦6	♦QJ932	♦2
♣A9653	♣542	♣87642	♣AQ2	♣KQ4
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

### Hands with a Doubleton in an Unbid Major:

For a takeout double, along with opening bid values, your partner counts on you to have at least 3-card support for all unbid majors. If in doubt (borderline) make your takeout double (as opposed to "pass") decision based on your holding in the unbid majors. RHO opens 1♦ (nobody vulnerable); what is your action?

(N)	(O)	(P)	(Q)	(R)
♠74	♠83	♠Q2	♠A5	♠A8
♥AJ98	♥AKJ9	♥K852	♥A832	♥AQJ
♦KQ4	♦532	♦KQ4	♦KQ2	♦43
♣AQ93	♣AQ42	♣A642	♣AK102	♣KJ9874
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____