

HELP SUIT GAME TRIES

Help suit game tries are made after a simple raise of a major by responder, or after a major suit response to an opening bid and a raise to two by opener.

When to make a Help Suit Game Try: a HSGT by opener shows a strong hand, and a “problem suit” of 3+cards including an honor, opener bids the suit she needs “help” in to go to game.

A HSGT by responder typically shows a hand with 9-11 high card points with chances for game if opener has “help” in responder’s side suit.

Examples by opener: AQ1054 5 AK76 K93 1 Spade – 2 Spades –
3 clubs is a HSGT in clubs

74 A109654 AJ96 A 1 Heart – 2 Hearts –
3 diamonds is a HSGT

AKQ72 A7 6 98543 1 Spade – 2 Spades –
3 clubs is a HSGT

Examples by responder: K5 QJ1063 K876 43 1 Club – 1 Heart –
2 hearts – 3 diamonds is a HSGT

KQ765 QJ72 J867 1 Diamond – 1 Spade –
2 spades – 3 hearts is a HSGT

KQ853 K9 6 108643 1 Diamond – 1 Spade –
2 spades – 3 clubs is a HSGT

WHEN TO ACCEPT: accept with AKQ or better, as well as a hand with a Singleton and 4 trump.

If game is likely, **BID GAME**, do not make a HSGT.

NOTE: HSGT are not done in response to minor suit openings, because you want to play NT and need to bid stoppers, not problem suits.

You: AKJ93 J64 2 AK54 - Partner: Q85 8532 KJ85 Q8
AUCTION: 1 Spade - 2 Spades - 3 Hearts (HSGT) 3 Spades (don't accept)

You: AKJ93 J64 2 AK54 - Partner: Q85 KQ85 8532 J8
AUCTION: 1 Spade - 2 Spades - 3 Hearts (HSGT) 4 Spades (accept the HSGT)

You: AKJ93 J64 2 AK54 - Partner: Q852 8 97652 QJ5
AUCTION: 1 Spade - 2 Spades - 3 Hearts (HSGT) 4 Spades (singleton w/4 trump)

REMEMBER: You're not being asked good hand or bad hand, only whether or not you have the right kind of help. If Partner makes a HSGT in Clubs or diamonds, and you have help in another suit, show it below game level. Example: 1 Spade - 2 Spades - 3 Clubs (HSGT) 3 Diamonds, no help in clubs, have help in diamonds, same if I bid hearts instead of diamonds.

You should not both "ask light" and "accept light". I recommend asking light and accepting heavy. To accept, responder should have both help in the help suit requested, and a non minimum.

OPENER: AQ853 AQ Q952 AJ - AUCTION 1 Spade – 2 Spades – 4 Spades

**OPENER: AKQ742 8 KJ2 K53 - AUCTION 1 Spade – 2 Spades – 4 Spades ,
Hope partner has some useful cards**