

Stayman over 1NT

Over a 1NT opening Stayman is a convention to find a better "fit". By responder bidding 2C they are asking opener to bid a 4 card major. NOTE Stayman must only be used when responder has two 4 card majors or 4 and 5 cards in the major suits. With no 4 card major opener bids 2D.

Your partner has opened 1NT with 12-14 points what should you do with these hands –

1	♠ 10 9 8 6 ♥ A 8 3 2 ♦ 10 9 6 3 2 ♣	You only have 4 points so there are only 16-18 points between you. So bid 2♣. And no matter what your partner bids pass. 2♦, 2♥ or 2♠ should be better than 1NT
2	♠ 10 8 6 4 ♥ Q 9 7 5 3 ♦ 8 ♣ K 4 2	Bid 2♣ and if opener bids a major then pass because you don't have enough points between you to go further. If the opener bids 2♦ then bid 2♥ (a weak takeout). Opener will know that you have 4 spades and probably 5 hearts.
3	♠ Q J 5 3 ♥ A J 3 2 ♦ K Q 10 ♣ K 5	Don't bid Stayman. You have a balanced hand with 16 points and you know opener has 12-14 points. So you have at least 25+ points between you so go straight to 3NT.
4	♠ Q J 3 2 ♥ A J 6 2 ♦ 10 4 ♣ 6 3 2	Pass. Don't bid Stayman because if opener bids 2♦ you do not have a 5 card major or even 11-12points to bid 2NT.
5	♠ A K 6 4 2 ♥ Q 10 9 7 ♦ 8 6 3 ♣ J	Bid 2♣ If opener bids 2♦ then you bid 2♠ (showing a five card suit). Opener should then pass.
6	♠ K 10 6 2 ♥ 8 ♦ 10 7 ♣ A 10 9 7 5 2	Bid 2♣. The opener will assume you are bidding Stayman and that you have two four-card majors. Whatever the opener bids you should respond with 3♣ (a weak takeout). The opener should then pass.