

Stayman over a competitive 1NT bid.

Remember, an opening bid of 1NT shows 12-14 HCP and a balanced hand.

An overcall (competitive bid) of 1NT over 1C, 1D, 1H or 1S shows 15-17 HCP and a balanced hand with at least 2 stops in opener's suit.

In the following example North is dealer and has bid 1D, East has made a competitive bid of 1NT. What should West do?

	W	N	E	S
EAST		1D	1NT	P
♠ K 8 7	?			
♥ A J 3 2				
♦ A J 9				
♣ K J 10				
(17 points)				

West's possible responses:

10+ HCP	<p>Game is on because East/West have at least 25 HCP between them.</p> <p>Bid 2♣, Stayman, holding 4 cards in 1 or both majors.</p> <p>If East denies a major (by bidding 2♦) or bids the 'wrong major', bid 3NT.</p> <p>If East bids the 'right' major, raise to 4 of the major.</p>
8-9 HCP	<p>Game is still possible, especially if East/West have an 8-card major suit fit.</p> <p>Bid 2♣, Stayman, holding 4 cards in 1 or both majors.</p> <p>If East denies a major (with 2♦) or bids the 'wrong major', bid 2NT, invitational.</p> <p>If East bids the 'right' major, raise to 3 of the major, invitational.</p>
0-7 HCP	<p>Game is not on. Pass with a balanced hand or make a weak take-out with a 5 or 6 card suit.</p> <p>Partner will then also pass and try to use your long suit to make extra tricks.</p>