

In the examples above we found the heart fit, equally we might have found a spade fit.

C. Invitational Hands (11-12 points) – game might, or might not, be on.

Our plan is to try to find a fit in a major suit and then invite our partner to game, so we bid Stayman, and over the response we invite to game either in an agreed major or in no-trumps:

e.g. 1NT 2♣
2♠ 3♠

We have found our spade fit. Responder invites opener to bid game (4♠) if they have the maximum 14pts. If not pass.

1NT 2♣
2♦ 2NT

We have no fit in the major suits. Responder invites opener to bid game (3NT) if they have the maximum 14pts. If not pass.

D. Strong Hands (13+ points) – game should be on.

Our plan is to try to find a fit in a major suit and then jump to game, so we bid Stayman and over the response we bid game, either in an agreed major or no trumps.

e.g. 1NT 2♣
2♠ 4♠

We have found our spade fit. Responder bids game (4♠).

1NT 2♣
2♦ 3NT

We have no fit in the major suits. Responder invites opener to bid game (3NT) if they have the maximum 14pts. If not pass.

If opener holds **both spades and hearts** they bid hearts in reply to responder's stayman enquiry ?

E. Invitational Hands (11-12 points) – game might, or might not, be on.

East	West		
♠ A 9 4 3	♠ K Q 8 2	1NT	2♣
♥ K 7 5 4	♥ 9 3	2♥	2NT
♦ 8 2	♦ K Q 9 6	3♠	
♣ K Q 5	♣ J 10 4		

East (12pts) opens 1NT. West bids Stayman promising a four card major and 11pts or more. East bids 2H to say "I have four hearts and may have four spades". West bids 2NT, therefore does not have hearts but has 11 or 12 points. West now knows East does not have hearts and therefore must have spades and so bids 3S. NB if East has 14pts they bid 4S.

F. Strong Hands (13+ points) – game should be on.

East	West		
♠ A 9 4 3	♠ K Q 8 2	1NT	2♣
♥ K 7 5 4	♥ A 3	2♥	3NT
♦ 8 2	♦ K Q 9 6	4♠	
♣ K Q 5	♣ J 10 4		

As above but West holds 15pts and must bid 3NT (game) which East converts to 4S.