

Responding to Partner's Negative Double

What Are the Options?

- Bid responder's suit at the appropriate level—shows a 4+-card fit with partner's suit. (Bid partner's suit with only 3 as a last resort.)
- Bid NT at the appropriate level—denies a fit with partner's suit and shows stoppers in the opponent's suit.
- Rebid your suit at the appropriate level—shows a 6+-card suit (or maybe 5) and denies a fit in partner's suit.
- Bid another suit naturally—shows a two-suited hand; reverses still apply.
- Cue bid the opponent's suit—a strong hand that lacks a stopper in the opponent's suit; forcing.
- Pass—converts to penalty if RHO has not bid; if RHO bids, it denies a fit with partner's suit and suggests a minimum hand.

Examples:

Auction	Opener's Hand	Opener's Rebid
1D ? P 1H X	AQ93 K54 KT764 7	1 Spade (4 spades and a minimum hand 11-14)
1D ? P 1H X	KQJ6 J AKQ74 865	2 Spades (4 spades and an intermediate hand 15-17)
1D ? P 1H X	AKQ7 K5 QT7532 A	3 Spades (4 spades and a maximum hand 18-19)
1C ? P 1S X	KJ3 QJ6 AT K8642	1NT (denies 4 hearts and shows a stopper in spades—balanced minimum hand 11-14)
1C ? P 1S X	AJ AJ5 K92 KQT76	2NT (denies 4 hearts and shows a stopper in spades—balanced maximum hand 18-19)
1C ? P 1S X	KQ 5 K754 AJ9763	2 Clubs (6+ clubs, maybe 5, minimum hand 11-15)

P	1D ?	1S	J53 AK AKJ9763 7	3 Diamonds (6+ diamonds, maybe 5, invitational hand 16-18)
P	1C ?	1S	KQ 5 KQ54 AQJ97	2 Diamonds (natural, reverse, 17+ points, forcing one round)
P	1D ?	1H	J7 6532 AKQ5 AKQ	2 Hearts (cue bid, strong and forcing, tends to show a good hand that lacks a stopper or a fit for partner's suit)
P	1C ?	1H	AQT 753 AK 98654	1 Spade is the best lie.
P	1D ?	2C	AQJ Q5 A943 6432	2 Spades is the best lie.
P	1C ?	1S	852 985 AK KQ986	2 Clubs is the best lie.
P	1H ?	2D	KQ KQJ95 J75 Q86	2 Hearts is the best lie.