

More on Transfers (Improver level)

NG34Bridge

If we play transfers (and Stayman) over a 1NT opening it is logical to play them in other sequences where the opener has opened or overcalled with a natural NT bid. The appropriate adjustments are made to the point counts for responding depending on the point range of the No Trump bid.

1. 2NT Opening (20-22 points)

We follow the same principles as after a 1NT opening:

- Transfer then 3NT show exactly five cards in responder's suit.
- Transfer then 4♥ or 4♠ shows 6 cards in responder's suit
- Transfer then a second suit below 3NT shows at least 5-4 shape.

WEST EAST		EAST
2NT	3♦	♠ Q 8 4
3♥	3NT	♥ K Q 8 7 6
		♦ 4 2
		♣ J 7 6

East transfers to hearts and then bids 3NT showing exactly five hearts. With two hearts, West will pass. With three or more hearts West will convert to 4♥.

After a 2NT opening, transfers allow us to sign off in three of a major with a very weak hand which would not be possible if not playing Transfers.

WEST EAST		EAST
2NT	3♥	♠ J 9 8 7 6 5
3♠	Pass	♥ 6
		♦ 4 3 2
		♣ 9 7 6

East's hand is unlikely to contribute much if partner plays in 2NT and game in spades has little chance, however, East can sign off in 3♠ using a transfer followed by Pass.

2. The sequence 2♣ – 2♦ – 2NT (23-24 points)

Follow same principles as after a 2NT opening. We need very little to bid to game!

3. 1NT Overcall (15-18 points)

Following a 1NT overcall the Transfer responses will be similar to those after a 1NT opening. Bid to game with 9-10 points, invite with 7-8 points.

Make sure to discuss with partner whether you are playing Transfers 'on' or 'off' in response to a 1NT overcall.

4. 2NT Overcall after a Weak Two opening (16-18 points).

Follow same principles as after a 2NT opening. Bid to game with 9 points or good 8, otherwise pass.