

# 13a: Transfers

Transfers are the way of showing a 5+ major suit or a 6+ minor suit after a 1NT opening (Stayman by comparison, asks for a 4-card major). The advantages of transfers are:

- the NT hand is declarer when responder is weak
- responder can describe their hand more accurately
- the partnership can play a weak major or minor suit contract

## Response options to 1NT:

2♣	Stayman - asks for a 4-card major (Improvers' Lesson 1)
2♦	Transfer to hearts - shows 5+hearts - any point count
2♥	Transfer to spades - shows 5+spades - any point count
2♠	Relay to 3♣ – transfer to a 6+ card minor and 0-7 HCP
2NT	11-12 HCP, no 4+ card major

NB:

- Transfers do not apply when the opponents double or bid a suit
- Opener must accept the transfer by bidding the implied suit

*Examples of transfers*

1NT – 2♦  
2♥ – ?

1NT – 2♠  
3♣ – ?

## Responder's subsequent action

After a major Transfer (2♦ or 2♥):

<b>Pass</b>	Weak hand
<b>2NT</b>	Invitational (11-12) with exactly 5 of transferred major
<b>3-level bid</b> of the transferred major	Invitational (10-11) with 6+ of that major
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> suit</b>	Shows at least 5/4 and forcing 1 round
<b>3NT</b>	Enough for game with exactly 5 of the transferred major
<b>4-level bid</b> of the transferred major	Enough for game with 6+ of that major

### After a minor transfer (2♠):

Responder passes opener's 3♣ with a weak 6+ card club suit

Responder converts opener's 3♣ to 3♦ with a weak 6+ card diamond suit

Note; With 8 -11 HCP and a long minor it is usually better to pass and play in 1NT rather than in 3♣ or 3♦

With 12+ HCP and a long minor, bid 3NT.

### Opener's subsequent action

#### After 3♣ or 3♦ invitational:

Pass    minimum hand and no honour in the minor.

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3NT    maximum hand and good support in the minor or  
         holds the missing honour in the minor.

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### Example hands and bidding

#### A) Responder with a minimum hand

	West	East	Bidding	
1.	♠ AQ8	♠ 643	West	East
	♥ 1063	♥ A97542	1NT	2♦
	♦ AQ74	♦ J82	2♥	pass
	♣ 863	♣ 7		

	West	East	Bidding	
2.	♠ AQ8	♠ 643	West	East
	♥ 1063	♥ 7	1NT	2♠
	♦ AQ7	♦ K96542	3♣	3♦
	♣ 8643	♣ J72	pass	

#### B) Responder with an invitational hand

	West	East	Bidding	
3.	♠ AK8	♠ 643	West	East
	♥ 106	♥ AK754	1NT	2♦
	♦ AQ74	♦ 852	2♥	2NT
	♣ 8632	♣ A9	pass	

	West	East	Bidding	
4.	♠ AK8	♠ 64	West	East
	♥ 106	♥ AK7543	1NT	2♦
	♦ AQ74	♦ 852	2♥	3♥
	♣ 8632	♣ K9	pass	

	West	East	Bidding	
5.	♠ AQ84	♠ K762	West	East
	♥ Q8	♥ KJ964	1NT	2♦
	♦ AQ74	♦ KJ2	2♥	2♠
	♣ 863	♣ 4	4♠	pass

### C) Responder with Game Forcing hand

<b>6.</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>Bidding</b>	
	♠ AK8	♠ 643	<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>
	♥ 106	♥ AK754	1NT	2♦
	♦ AQ74	♦ K52	2♥	3NT
	♣ 8632	♣ A9	pass	

<b>7.</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>Bidding</b>	
	♠ AK82	♠ 643	<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>
	♥ 1063	♥ AK754	1NT	2♦
	♦ AQ74	♦ K52	2♥	3NT
	♣ 86	♣ A9	4♥	pass

<b>8.</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>Bidding</b>	
	♠ AK8	♠ 64	<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>
	♥ 106	♥ AK7543	1NT	2♦
	♦ AQ74	♦ K52	2♥	4♥
	♣ 8632	♣ K9	pass	