

Welcome



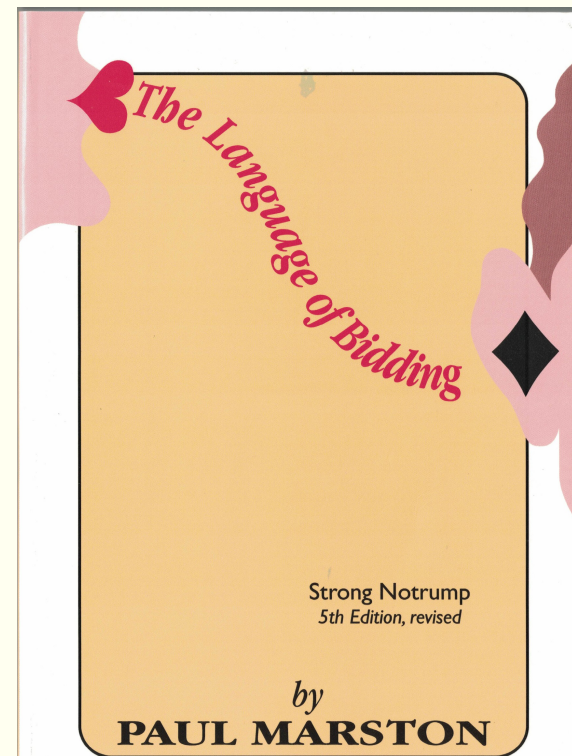
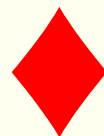
The Language of Bidding

Eight weeks covering half of Paul Marston's book "The Language of Bidding, Strong No Trump"

Stuart Craig

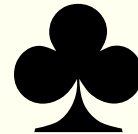
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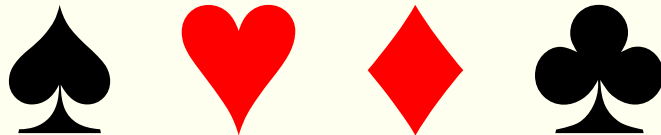
Summary

- 1) Opening bids, 1 level
- 2) First Response
- 3) Opener's rebid
- 4) Responder's rebid
- 5) No trump opening
- 6) Strong 2 Clubs
- 7) Weak Twos
- 8) Revision



Hand Valuation

- High card Points (Ace = 4, King = 3, Queen = 2, Jack = 1)
- Balanced (4-3-3-3, 4-4-3-2 or 5-3-3-2) or Unbalanced (otherwise)
- Opening points (HCP plus length of longest two suits)
- Location of honours (in long suits or short suits, together or separated), intermediates



Approximate HCP Requirements

*Reasonably Balanced
Hands*

3NT, 4♥ or 4♠: 25-26

5♣ or 5♦: 29

6♣, 6♦, 6♥, 6♠ or 6NT: 33

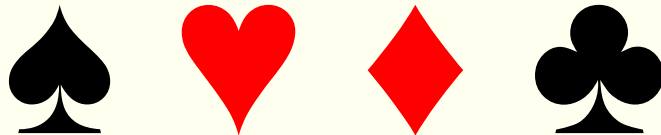
7♣, 7♦, 7♥, 7♠ or 7NT: 37

Unbalanced Hands

Quite variable

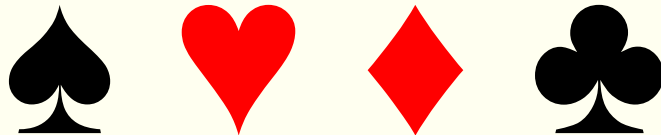
depending on length of
suits and fit

Add distribution points
once fit is found











Opening Bid Requirements, 1 level

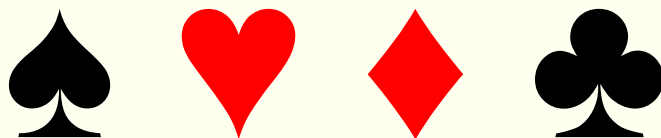
- Minimum is about half HCP needed for game
 - Usually open with 12 HCP, always with 13 HCP
 - Rule of 20: Add up your opening points (HCP plus the lengths of longest two suits). If 20 or over, consider opening with honours in long suit(s)
- Maximum is 19 HCP



Examples

	Q 9 8 3
	A 9 2
	7 5
	A K 6 5
Hand 1	

	Q 9 3
	7 6 3
	9 8 3
	A K J 5
Hand 2	



Examples

♠ K
♥ Q 6 4 2
♦ A 5
♣ J 9 6 5 4 2

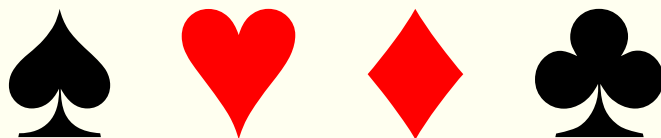
Hand 1

- Togetherness of honours
- Honours in long suit

♠ K Q 10 9 7 6
♥ A 10 7 2
♦ 5
♣ 6 2

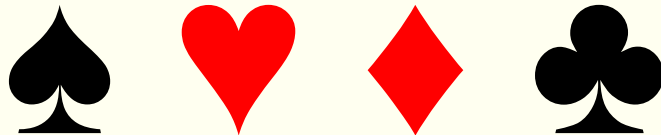
Hand 2

- Intermediates
- Long spades



What to Open

- With a balanced 15-17 HCP open 1NT (even with a 5 card major)
- Otherwise with a 5 card major, open one of that major (open 1♠ with both majors)
- Otherwise open 1 of your longer minor
- With equal length minors, open 1♣ with 3-3 and 1♦ otherwise (i.e. with 4-4, 5-5 or 6-6)



Examples

♠	K Q 9 7 6
♥	K Q 5
♦	6 4
♣	A Q 7
	Hand 1

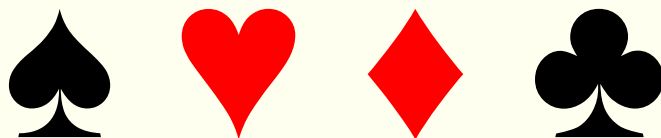
♠	K 10 9 5
♥	A J 9 8 5
♦	Q 4
♣	Q 4
	Hand 2

♠	A 7 6 4 3
♥	Q 5
♦	A Q 8 7 3 2
♣	—
	Hand 3

♠	K Q 10
♥	J 2
♦	A 8 4 3
♣	K 9 8 5
	Hand 4

♠	A 8 4 3
♥	K 9 8
♦	K J 5
♣	Q 10 2
	Hand 5

♠	A 9 7 6
♥	K
♦	A K 8 5
♣	K Q J 9
	Hand 6



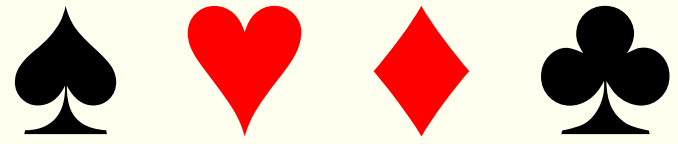
Opening in Third Seat

- You may pass partner's response
- This allows you to open light and pass when it is your next turn to bid

♠	K Q 10
♥	K Q 10 4 2
♦	8 6 4
♣	6 3
Hand 1	

♠	A K J 2
♥	7 5 4
♦	Q J 7 2
♣	8 2
Hand 2	

♠	K J 7 5 4
♥	6
♦	A Q 7 6
♣	7 4 3
Hand 3	



Opening in Fourth Seat

- With 10-11 points, it is likely strength is evenly matched
- If you have spades, the opponents must raise the level to outbid you

♠	K	Q	10	4	2
♥	K	Q	10		
♦	8	6	4		
♣	6	3			
Hand 1					

♠	A	K	J	2	
♥	7	5	4		
♦	Q	J	7	2	
♣	8	2			
Hand 2					

♠	K	8			
♥	Q	8	3		
♦	A	J	7	6	
♣	Q	9	5	3	
Hand 3					

