

THE STRONG 2C BID & RESPONSES

2C opening: Either a balanced 22+ points, or a self-sufficient suit that is no more than one trick short of game. (4-loser hand for major suit, 3-loser hand for minor suit.)

Popular modern responses:

- 2D shows at least an ace or king, game forcing
- 2H is artificial and negative, no ace or king
- 2NT shows at least 5 hearts with 2 of top 3 honors
- 2S shows at least 5 spades with 2 of top 3 honors
- 3C shows at least 5 clubs with 2 of top 3 honors

Opener's rebid of 2NT shows balanced 22-24 points.

Play "systems on" over 2NT rebids....transfers, Stayman.

If responder bids 2H over 2C and opener rebids 2NT, responder is allowed to pass.

If responder bids 2H over 2C and opener then bids a suit, it is a one-round force....responder must bid again.

If opener bids 2C and next player overcalls, responder passes to show at least an ace or king and doubles to show a bust hand.

Beware of opening 2C with 3 four-card suits! Subsequent bidding can be problematic. With AQxx, AQxx, A, KQJx, open 1C. If partner cannot respond, game is unlikely.