

Weak Two Opening Bids

You've been dealt a "nice" six-card suit but not enough HCP to open the bidding. If you wait to bid, the opponents will have an easier path to discover a fit and judge their strength. The weak two convention allows you to immediately make an opening bid which describes a limited hand, provides partner with a lead suggestion if you defend and takes away one or two levels of bidding space.

Weak Two Guidelines

Suit Quality:	Using sound preemptive bidding theory, your suit will have 2 of the top 3 honors or 3 of the top 5 honors and at least 5 HCP.
HCP:	5-10 HCP.
Distribution:	6-3-2-2, 6-3-3-1, 6-4-2-1, 6-4-3-0. The four card suit should not be a Major.
Outside Strength:	The hand should contain no more than an outside Ace or King.
Table Position:	In 1 st seat you have 2:1 odds that you are preempting the opponents; 2 nd seat is more disciplined as the preempt odds fall to 1:1. In 3 rd seat, less discipline is required, just as for a one level opening. In 4 th seat, a two openings describes a 12-14HCP hand with a 6-card suit.

Responses to a Weak Two Opening

With a hand which is unlikely to produce game but with support, immediately raise to your combined level of trump, provided you have some shape; be conservative at unfavorable vulnerability. These raises are *to play*, they are *not invitational*.

With a good hand, investigate game possibilities by bidding a new suit or 2NT (Ogust), a conventional bid which asks Opener to further describe her hand.

Responding to Ogust (All Alertable!)

Opener's Rebid	Meaning
3♣	Bad Suit, Bad Hand (5-7HCP)
3♦	Good Suit (2 of top 3 or 6+HCP), Bad Hand
3♥	Bad Suit, Good Hand (8-10HCP)
3♠	Good Suit, Good Hand
3NT	AKQxxx

Responder then places the contract; in particular, a bid below game is to play. A new suit by Responder at the two-level is to play (Alertable!). At the three-level, it is forcing for one-round and asks for support, xxx or Hx.

Quiz 6

Fill in your opening bid and your response if partner bids 2NT.

	Your Hand	Call		Your Hand	Call
1.	♠ 6 ♥ AQJ864 ♦ QT4 ♣ T83		2.	♠ 42 ♥ 965 ♦ KQT984 ♣ 87	
3.	♠ KT2 ♥ QJT942 ♦ T52 ♣ K6		4.	♠ AKJ875 ♥ ♦ 7654 ♣ 973	

The opening bid by partner is two spades, what is your call?

	Your Hand	Call		Your Hand	Call
5.	♠ QT86 ♥ 9 ♦ 983 ♣ KJT86		6.	♠ 6 ♥ 63 ♦ 964 ♣ AKQT643	
7.	♠ 762 ♥ QJ ♦ AT62 ♣ T874		8.	♠ AJ974 ♥ AQ32 ♦ 2 ♣ 872	