

Stayman II

This lesson addresses bidding sequences when Partner opens 1NT and Responder is 5-4 in the majors. There are invitational and game forcing sequences.

Responder Holds 5-4 in the Majors

In the following chart, distribution patterns refer to Responder's major holding:

- 5-4 hands with less than invitational values use Jacoby transfers and Pass (give up finding 4-4 fit)
- 5-4 invitational hands (8+ to 9) rebid the 4-card major when Opener rebids 2♦
- 5-4 game forcing hands (10+ points) jump in the 4-card major when Opener rebids 2♦ (Smolen)
- All 5-5 hands use Jacoby transfers

When you hold a 5-card suit in one major, rebidding the other major 4-card requires an Alert from Partner.

Examples:

1	♠JT742 ♥ Q963 ♦ T9 ♣ 83	Transfer to ♠ and Pass
2	♠AT74 ♥ KJ963 ♦ T ♣ 873	i. If Opener rebids 2♦ rebid 2♠!; Opener places contract, i.e. you will Pass any rebid by Opener. ii. If Opener rebids a major, raise to game.
3	♠QT974 ♥ JT96 ♦ 42 ♣ A5	i. If Opener rebids 2♦ rebid 2♥!; Opener places contract. ii. If Opener rebids a major invite game by raising the major.
4	♠KQ74 ♥ A9863 ♦ Q73 ♣ 6	i. If Opener rebids 2♦ jump to 3♠!; Opener places contract in game, e.g. 3NT (Opener does not have 3-card ♥ suit). ii. If Opener rebids a major, raise to game.

Quiz 27: Stayman II

Your Partner opens 1NT and the bidding proceeds as shown. Pick your response and write it using the ___ in the “1st Response” column. If you choose 2♣ for Stayman, write in the “2nd Bid” column, your bid if Partner bids 2♦, 2♥, or 2♠ (top to bottom).

	1 st Response	2 nd Bid	Your Hand		1 st Response	2 nd Bid	Your Hand
1.	1NT – P – ____	— — — —	♠ AQT54 ♥ 9532 ♦ 7 ♣ K84	2.	1NT – P – ____	— — — —	♠ K865 ♥ T9653 ♦ 5 ♣ JT4
3.	1NT – P – ____	— — — —	♠ AK32 ♥ 97632 ♦ 643 ♣ Q	4.	1NT – P – ____	— — — —	♠ KQJT ♥ QT63 ♦ 82 ♣ 765
5.	1NT – P – ____	— — — —	♠ AQ72 ♥ KQT43 ♦ 5 ♣ KQ8	6.	1NT – P – ____	— — — —	♠ JT53 ♥ K8432 ♦ JT87 ♣ -