

# Simple Stayman convention

**1.** 2C response to 1NT opening – self alerting in Australia/New Zealand, does not need to be alerted unless opponents have bid

- Does not mean clubs – can no longer use weak takeout to 2C
- Promises at least one 4 card major
- Promises enough strength to invite game (generally 8+HCP)

**2.** Opener rebids

- 2D = no 4 card major – does not mean diamonds – should be alerted
- 2H = 4 card heart suit (and maybe 4 spades)
- 2S = 4 card spade suit and not 4 hearts

**3.** Responder rebids – all consistent with basic bidding principles – Don't forget to revalue hand for shortages if a fit is found!

- Raises bid major to 3 level with fit and invitational strength (eg 8-9 HCP)
- Bids 2NT without fit and invitational strength (eg 8-9 HCP)
- Bids game in major with fit and game points (eg 10+ HCP)
- Bids 3NT without fit and game points (eg 10+ HCP)
- Explore slam when in the slam interest zone

**4.** Opener

- Passes with minimum
- Goes to game with maximum
- Can bid 3S (minimum) or 4S (maximum) confident of 4-4 fit if he had bid H with both majors and partner denied H fit

**5.** Similarly 3C Stayman over 2NT opening – should be alerted – in order to choose between 3NT and 4H/S