

## Simple Overcalls: Advancer Responses

Responding to your partners overcall can be tricky. Here are some simple guidelines for advancer responses.

**Supporting Partners Suit** – If you have 3+ card support for your partner’s overcall:

- **Simple Raise** – You can raise partner with 6 to 9 support points (HCP plus distribution).
- **Cue Bid with 10+ Support Points** – With a limit raise or better you can start with a cue bid of the opponent’s opening suit. Partner will return to their suit at the lowest level with a minimum hand. Partner can jump raise or bid a second suit with stronger hands looking for game.
- **Preemptive Jump Raises** – With 5-9 support points and extra trump (4+ but never 4-3-3-3 distribution) you can make a preemptive jump raise of partners suit. 9 trump can play on the 3-level, 10 on the 4-level, etc. modified by the vulnerability. If you are vulnerable versus non-vulnerable opponents, bid one level lower than usual.

### Bidding New Suits

- **1-Level:** 5+ card majors at the 1-level with 8+ HCP.
- **2-Level:** 5+ card suit and 12+ HCP
- **1NT:** 8-11 HCP. Partner could be on 8 HCP so without trump you need a little more than the 6-9 HCP you would need opposite a known opening hand.
- **2NT:** 12-14 HCP.

### Example Hand #1:

♠A 8 4 2  
♥J 3  
♦J 8 7  
♣Q 6 4 3



♠7 6  
♥A 4 2  
♦K Q 10 4 3  
♣K J 8

<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>
1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass	3 ♦

East with a solid diamond suit can overcall 2♦. West raises with three trumps and 8 HCP similar to if East opened.

## Simple Overcalls – Advancer Responses

For the bidding shown, evaluate your hand and decide what you should overcall.

### Hand #1



♠A Q 9 6 4  
♥K 2  
♦Q 10 6  
♣9 7 3

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East (You)</i>
1 ♣	1 ♦	Pass	?

### Hand #2



♠J 2  
♥K Q J 5 3  
♦10 7 5  
♣A Q 3

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East (You)</i>
1 ♦	1 ♠	Pass	?

### Hand #3



♠A 9 4  
♥K 9 6 4  
♦A 10 8 2  
♣9 3

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East (You)</i>
1 ♣	1 ♥	Pass	?

### Hand #4



♠Q 9 8 2  
♥6  
♦K 10 8 7 2  
♣10 9 3

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East (You)</i>
1 ♣	1 ♠	Pass	?

### Answers

Hand #1: 1♠, you can show your 5 card spade suit at the 1-level. If partner does not have Spades you can support diamonds later.

Hand #2: 2♥, with 13 HCP and 5 good hearts you can afford to bid a new suit at the 2-level.

Hand #3: 2♣ showing a limit raise or better for partner's suit (Hearts).

Hand #4: 3♠, preemptive raise with 4 trump.