



PERSONAL
T·R·U·S·T

for the personal touch

— CELEBRATING 40 YEARS —

Raise Responders Major.
When, Why and How.



W	N	E	S
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥

S South
♠K7
♥AQ97
♦Q76
♣Q654

W	N	E	S
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	?

S South
♠K7
♥AQ9
♦Q765
♣Q654

Almost every time you play bridge you are facing the situation where you open 1C/D/H and your partner bids 1M.

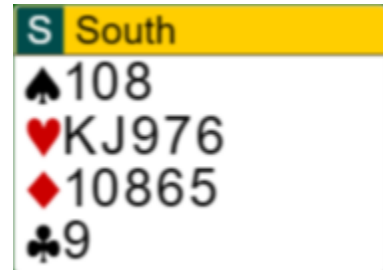
With 4-card support you just raise to the proper level. Or use an artificial raise, like splinter

With 3-c support, it's not that easy.

Your options are 1NT or 2H

4 card support

Before we address that, we need to agree on how many points you need to bid 1M over your P:s opening. I recommend 4+ points and a 5-card suit



When P opens 1C, bid 1H

N North			
♠	KJ6		
♥	AQ54		
♦	K74		
♣	KQ7		
W	N	E	S
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♥		
S South			
♠	108		
♥	KJ976		
♦	10865		
♣	9		

When we have agreed to bid 1M with as little as 4p, we need to be able to stop before we get to high. Today many bid 4H with 18-19 bal and 4-c support.

I don't recommend that

I certainly don't want to be in game with these hands

N North			
♠	A76		
♥	AQ54		
♦	4		
♣	AKJ106		
W	N	E	S
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♦		
S South			
♠	108		
♥	KJ976		
♦	10865		
♣	9		

North still has 18 points,
but the game is easy made
Just give South the Queen
of Clubs and the slam is
laydown. (if H doesn't break 4-0)
North can afford a 4D splinter bid

What to do with 4-c support and 18-19 bal?

N North			
♠	KJ6		
♥	AQ54		
♦	K74		
♣	KQ7		
W	N	E	S
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
S South			
♠	108		
♥	KJ976		
♦	10865		
♣	9		

I suggest you use an artificial raise like 1C-1H; 3D.
The rule is 3M-1, the suit below 3M.
This will not work after 1D-1H,
then you just bid 3H with 18-19 bal
If Responder is strong he can make
a cuebid over 3D, if he is slammish
opposit 18-19 bal

North would surely like to stop in 3♠

N svebje					
♠	10743				
♥	AQ2				
♦	864				
♣	872				
W	N	E	S		
			1♣		
P	1♠	P	3♥		
P	3♠	P	P		
P					
♠	AK65				
♥	K653				
♦	K2				
♣	AJ6				

When do you jump to 3H after RP:s 1H?

N North
♠876
♥AJ65
♦8
♣AK876

N North
♠76
♥AQ65
♦87
♣AK1086

N North
♠KJ76
♥AK65
♦7
♣A1086

N North
♠76
♥AK65
♦7
♣A108765

These hands doesn't have many points, but have good playing strength. They are well worth a jump raise. Especially since you treat 18-19 differently

When do you jump to 4H after Reponders 1H?

N	North
♠	97
♥	AK54
♦	4
♣	AKJ865

I think this is a typical hand.
should be 6-4 and good playing
strength.

It should be stronger if you splinter
in D

When do you raise with 3-c support?

When you have an unbalanced hand!

Don't raise with a bal hand with scattered values without a 5-c suit.

1NT					2H					2H					2H					2H				
W	N	E	S		W	N	E	S		W	N	E	S		W	N	E	S		W	N	E	S	
Pass 1♥ Pass 1NT					Pass 1♥ Pass 2♥					Pass 1♥ Pass 2♥					Pass 1♥ Pass 2♥					Pass 1♥ Pass 2♥				
S South					S South					S South					S South					S South				
♠K7					♠76					♠7					♠7					♠Q765				
♥AQ9					♥A75					♥A75					♥A75					♥A75				
♦Q765					♦K97					♦AQ975					♦Q974					♦4				
♣Q654					♣AQ1087					♣Q875					♣AQ1076					♣AQ1076				

South has a NT oriented hand, so he should bid 1NT

N North				
♠AK106				
♥10653				
♦108				
♣J86				
W	N	E	S	
			1♦	
Pass 1♥		Pass 2♥		
Pass		Pass		
S South				
♠J4				
♥AQ7				
♦KQ64				
♣Q1052				

Suit oriented hands

S South
♠ 65
♥ A76
♦ 854
♣ AK543

S South
♠ A865
♥ A76
♦ 7
♣ A6543

S South
♠ 65
♥ A76
♦ A975
♣ A654

S South
♠ 5
♥ A76
♦ AJ975
♣ A974

NT oriented hands

S South
♠ K108
♥ J106
♦ KQ105
♣ K107

S South
♠ Q1084
♥ A106
♦ K7
♣ KJ97

S South
♠ 84
♥ A106
♦ KQ87
♣ KJ107

S South
♠ Q9
♥ A106
♦ K107
♣ KJ1076

West has a typical suit oriented hand. 7♣ is on without a ♠ lead

The screenshot shows a Bridge Base online game interface. The browser address bar is partially visible, showing <https://www.bridgebase.com/tools/>. The game board displays the following information:

- Top Left:** A score of 12.
- North (N):** psotogul
 - ♠ K1072
 - ♥ Q8742
 - ♦ 9754
 - ♣
- West (W):** [Redacted name]
 - ♠ A85
 - ♥ A
 - ♦ AK632
 - ♣ AJ75
- East (E):** [Redacted name]
 - ♠ J93
 - ♥ 965
 - ♦ J
 - ♣ KQ10863
- South (S):** svebje
 - ♠ Q64
 - ♥ KJ103
 - ♦ Q108
 - ♣ 942
- Contract:** 3NT W
- Score:** NS: 0 EW: 0
- Navigation:** Rewind, Previous, Next, Options, GIB, Play
- Logo:** Bridge Base

PRO:s on raising with 3-c support

Partner may have 5. Trump suit found!

Partner may not dare to rebid his Major with only 5-card

You have an unbalanced suit oriented hand, perhaps a weak doubleton where where a 4-3 part score is better than 1 NT

Cons on raising with only 3-c support

Partner has a weak 4-c suit and 1NT would be a much better contract

You can't make a 2NT invite which you could do if OP rebid 1NT

If you raise without a 5-c suit you have no place to go if he inquires with 2NT, You will end up in 3NT which could be too high

When your P raises your M that could be on a 3-c suit you need to inquire if he has 4-c supp.

BUT!! You can only do that if you have close to game strength 11+p.

If OP is allowed to raise without a 5-c suit you must be prepared to play in 3NT.
Otherwise its best to stay in 2H!

If responder bids 3 in your opened minor it's invitational values with only 4-c M and 4+ support in OP:s suit.

Otherwise you need to pass 2H.

You don't "rescue" from the 2-level to the 3-level

If you accept the rule that you don't raise with 3-c support unless you have 5-c in your opened minor, you are well placed.

South should bid on, e.g. 3D

N North				
♠	654			
♥	KQ87			
♦	K6			
♣	KJ98			
W	N	E	S	
				1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥	
Pass	3♣			
S South				
♠	87			
♥	A106			
♦	A85			
♣	AQ1065			

3C is safe

N North				
♠	654			
♥	KQ87			
♦	K6			
♣	KJ98			
W	N	E	S	
				1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥	
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass	
Pass				
S South				
♠	87			
♥	J65			
♦	A85			
♣	AQ1065			

South showed his shape with extras

N North				
♠	Q4			
♥	AQ87			
♦	864			
♣	KJ98			
W	N	E	S	
				1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥	
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠	
Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass	
S South				
♠	AK82			
♥	1065			
♦	3			
♣	AQ1065			

2S is Nat with 4S, inv+, south could have bid 4D

N North				
♠	QJ74			
♥	AQ87			
♦	84			
♣	K98			
W	N	E	S	
				1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥	
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠	
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass	
S South				
♠	AK82			
♥	1065			
♦	3			
♣	AQ1065			

The 2NT inquiry bid.

After 1C-1H;2H-2NT is inquiry,
but 1C-1H;2H-2S is Nat

With 4-c support OP bids 3H with min or 4H with max.
He may also make a spl jump with 4-c supp.

If he only has 3-c support, he rebids a 5-c opening suit or
3 in a lower 4-c suit.

With neither he bids 3 NT

Responses if P bids 2NT

3C to show 5C

W	N	E	S
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
S South			
♠76			
♥A75			
♦K97			
♣AQ1087			

3C to show
1-3-5-4

W	N	E	S
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
S South			
♠7			
♥A75			
♦AQ975			
♣Q875			

3C to show 5

W	N	E	S
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
S South			
♠7			
♥A75			
♦Q974			
♣AQ1076			

3C to show 5

W	N	E	S
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
S South			
♠Q765			
♥A75			
♦4			
♣AQ1076			

You must bid 3NT

W	N	E	S
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
S South			
♠76			
♥AQ9			
♦Q765			
♣KQ65			

When responder has 5-c M

Now he knows you have a trump fit, so he can invite by raising to 3M, bid a side suit, inquire or make spl jumps with slam interest

The X-Y NT over 1NT

After 1m-1M;1NT :

2C=relay to 2D, then pass or 2M as invite, 2NT relay to 3C

2D=GF, then Nat up the line

2M= sign off

2OM=NF, 5-4 in M

2NT=bal invite

After 1m-1M;2NT (18-19)

3C=relay to 3D, then pass or 3M as invite, 3NT = slam try in opened minor

3D=GF relay, then Nat up the line

3M=sign off

3OM=invite 5-4 in M

Use X-Y to
invite with
5H

N North				
♠ J65				
♥ KJ1085				
♦ K98				
♣ K9				
W	N	E	S	
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT	
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass	
Pass				
S South				
♠ K7				
♥ AQ7				
♦ Q765				
♣ Q654				

Invite with 3H or 3D

N North				
♠ J65				
♥ KJ1085				
♦ A98				
♣ K9				
W	N	E	S	
			1♣	
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥	
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♥	
Pass Pass Pass				
S South				
♠ 87				
♥ AQ7				
♦ Q65				
♣ AQ1064				

Sign off

N North				
♠ J65				
♥ J10865				
♦ K98				
♣ K9				
W	N	E	S	
			1♣	
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT	
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass	
Pass				
S South				
♠ K7				
♥ AQ7				
♦ Q765				
♣ Q654				

Isn't it dangerous to rebid a 5-c Major over OP:s 1NT?

Normally not. If your P opened 1NT you would always transfer to a 5-c Major.

The only risk is if OP rebid 1NT with a singleton in your Major. That's why I recommend you to never rebid NT with a spl in P:s suit.

This is also applicable if it goes 1H-2D; do not bid 2NT with a spl in diamonds.

Try to find another bid. P will expect you have at least xx in D.

If you have a strong hand and 3-c support?
You can't make a simple raise, you have to find
another bid and hope to get back to show support.

W	N	E	S
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠

S South
♠AQ76
♥A75
♦4
♣AQ1076

Bid 1S, if your P bids something you can
show H support, perhaps with a jump. Then
your shape and strength will be clear.
If your P passes 1S you have stayed at a safe
level 😊

