

Forcing One Notrump Response to a Major Suit Opening

Partner opens with “1 Heart” or “1 Spade”.

Normally a 1 Notrump response shows 6-10 points.

Playing the **forcing notrump response**, this changes to 6-12 points.

Opener bids a second time to allow Responder to bid again.

☺ Advantages:

- ⇒ When weak Responder has a long suit
- ⇒ Direct Limit Raise can promise *four* trumps
- ⇒ Two-over-one responses become stronger

☹ Disadvantages:

- ⇒ One Notrump may have been the best contract.

Opener's Rebid:

- ⊕ If Opener would normally have rebid, make same rebid.
- ⊕ With a minimum balanced hand, bid a three-card minor.

Two Ranges for a Forcing Notrump:

⊕ Minimum Range: 6-9 Points

- ⇒ 2 of Opener's original major (shows two-card support)
- ⇒ a new suit (shows a six-card or longer suit)
- ⇒ pass denies either of the above

⊕ Invitational Range: 10-12 Points

- ⇒ 3 of Opener's original major (a *three-card* limit raise)
- ⇒ Jump to 3 of a new suit (shows a six-card or longer suit)
- ⇒ 2NT (may have an unbid five-card suit)
- ⇒ 3 of Opener's second suit (at least four-card support)

Forcing Notrump by a Passed Hand - very useful