

Transfers in detail

- Red suit transfers with Weak, Intermediate or Strong Hands
- When to use transfers
- When are transfers *off*
- Transfers and Stayman (week 2)
- The 2♠ response to 1NT (week 2)

Transfers with a weak 5+ card major

West (12)	East (5)
♠ J 5 4	♠ Q 10 9 8 7 2
♥ 9 7 2	♥ 8 4
♦ A J 4	♦ K 9 8
♣ K Q J 2	♣ 10 4

West	East
1NT	2♥
2♠	Pass

West (13)	East (3)
♠ 9 5 4	♠ 7 6 2
♥ K 7	♥ Q J 9 8 6
♦ A 9 7	♦ 8 3
♣ K Q J 2	♣ 10 4 3

West	East
1NT	2♦
2♥	Pass
Pass	

The weaker your hand, the more desirable it is to play in your 5+ card suit.

Transfers with a strong hand and a 6-card major

West (12)	East (13)	West	East
♠ A 5 4	♠ Q J 10 8 7 2	1NT	2♥
♥ 9 7 2	♥ A 4	2♠	4♠
♦ A 10 4	♦ K Q J 3	Pass	
♣ A 9 7 2	♣ 6		

West (13)	East (14)	West	East
♠ A K 5 4	♠ J 7	1NT	2♦
♥ A 7	♥ Q J 10 8 6 2	2♥	4♥
♦ Q 10 2	♦ K J 8	Pass	
♣ 10 9 6 4	♣ A Q		

Transfers with a strong hand and a 5-card major

West (12)	East (13)	West	East
♠ A 5 4	♠ Q J 10 8 2	1NT	2♥
♥ 9 7 2	♥ A 4	2♠	3NT
♦ A 10 4	♦ K Q J 3 2	4♠	Pass
♣ A 9 7 2	♣ 6		

West (13)	East (14)	West	East
♠ A K 5 4	♠ J 7	1NT	2♦
♥ A 7	♥ Q J 10 6 2	2♥	3NT
♦ Q 10 2	♦ K J 8	Pass	
♣ 10 9 6 4	♣ A Q 7		

Transfers with an intermediate (11-12) hand
and a 5-card major

West (12)	East (11)
♠ A 5	♠ Q J 10 8 2
♥ 10 9 7 2	♥ A 4
♦ A 10 4	♦ K J 9 3
♣ A 9 8 2	♣ 10 6

West	East
1NT	2♥
2♠	2NT
Pass	

West (14)	East (11)
♠ A K 5	♠ Q J 10 8 2
♥ K 7 2	♥ A 4
♦ 10 8 7 2	♦ K J 9 3
♣ A 9 7	♣ 10 6

West	East
1NT	2♥
2♠	2NT
4♠	

Transfers with an intermediate (11) hand and a
6-card major

West (12)	East (11)
♠ A 5	♠ Q J 10 8 7 2
♥ 10 9 7 2	♥ A 4
♦ A 4 2	♦ K J 9
♣ A 9 8 2	♣ 10 6

West	East
1NT	2♥
2♠	3♠
Pass	

West (13)	East (11)
♠ A K 5	♠ Q J 10 8 7 2
♥ 10 7 2	♥ A 4
♦ Q 8 7 2	♦ K J 9
♣ A 9 7	♣ 10 6

West	East
1NT	2♥
2♠	3♠
4♠	

Summary of transfer responses to 1NT

	0-10 Weak		11-12 Intermediate		12-13+ Strong	
6+ hearts	1NT	2♦	1NT	2♦	1NT	2♦
	2♥	Pass	2♥	3♥	2♥	4♥
5 hearts	1NT	2♦	1NT	2♦	1NT	2♦
	2♥	Pass	2♥	2NT	2♥	3NT

	0-10 Weak		11-12 Intermediate		12-13+ Strong	
6+ spades	1NT	2♥	1NT	2♥	1NT	2♥
	2♠	Pass	2♠	3♠	2♠	4♠
5 spades	1NT	2♥	1NT	2♥	1NT	2♥
	2♠	Pass	2♠	2NT	2♠	3NT

A 12-point hand with a 6-card suit, should be upgraded to strong.

When should you use transfers?

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	2♥	

West	North	East	South
1♦	1NT (15-17)	Pass	2♥

West	North	East	South
2NT	Pass	3♦	

West	North	East	South
2♦ (Weak)	2NT (16-19)	Pass	3♦

West	North	East	South
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT (23-24)	Pass	3♦	

You should also use Stayman in the same five situations.

Alerts and Announcements

West	North	East	South
1NT†	Pass	2♥*	

† Announced as “12-14”

*Announced as a transfer to spades

West	North	East	South
2NT†	Pass	3♦*	

† Announced as “20-22”

*Announced as a transfer to hearts

Alerts and Announcements

West	North	East	South
1♦	1NT (15-17)	Pass	2♥*

*Alerted

West	North	East	South
2♦† (Weak)	2NT (16-19)	Pass	3♦*

† Announced as “Weak”

*Alerted

West	North	East	South
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT (23-24)	Pass	3♦*	

*Alerted

When are transfers *off*?

West	North	East	South
1NT	2♦	2♥	

East

♠ A 5 2

♥ Q J 9 7 6 5

♦ 10

♣ 10 6 2

West	North	East	South
1NT	Dbl	2♥	

By agreement with partner, you can use transfers over a **double**, but I recommend other treatments e.g. Halmic defence.

Transfers or Stayman?

With 5:4 distribution in the majors, start with Stayman if invitational (11-12)

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♥	3♥

East (11)
♠ Q 10 8 7 2
♥ K Q 5 4
♦ A 9
♣ 10 2

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♠	4♠

Transfers or Stayman?

With 5:4 distribution in the majors, start with Stayman if invitational (11-12)

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♦	3♠

East (11)
♠ Q 10 8 7 2
♥ K Q 5 4
♦ A 9
♣ 10 2

3♠ is invitational, showing 5 spades.

If you are not playing transfers, 3♠ in this sequence is forcing.

Transfers or Stayman?

With 5:4 or 5:5 distribution in the majors, start with transfers if strong (13+)

West	East
1NT	2♥
2♠	3♥
3NT	Pass

East (13)
♠ Q J 8 7 2
♥ K Q J 4
♦ A 9 2
♣ 10

West	East
1NT	2♥
2♠	3♥
3NT	4♥

East (13)
♠ Q J 8 7 2
♥ K Q J 4 2
♦ A 9
♣ 10

2♠ Response to 1NT

Three possible uses:

1. 2♠ shows a long minor
2. 2♠ =11, 2NT=12
3. 2♠ =11 or a long minor, 2NT=12

Bids that have an artificial or potentially unexpected meaning are alertable*

Option 1: 2♠ shows a long minor

In response to 1NT, 2♠ shows a long minor. Opener **must** rebid 3♣. Responder will pass or convert to 3♦.

West	East
1NT	2♠*
3♣*	Pass

East
♠ 10 2
♥ 8 5 3
♦ 10 2
♣ A J 7 4 3 2

*Alertable

West	East
1NT	2♠*
3♣*	3♦
Pass	

East
♠ 10 2
♥ 8 5 3
♦ K J 7 4 3 2
♣ J 2

Option 2: 2♠=11, 2NT=12

West	East
1NT	2♠*
2NT/3NT	

East (11)
♠ K Q 7
♥ A J 5
♦ 10 9 7
♣ J 7 4 3

*Alertable

West	East
1NT	2NT
Pass/3NT	

East (12)
♠ K Q 7
♥ A J 5
♦ 10 9 7
♣ Q 7 4 3

If you have 11-12pts with one or more 4-card major, you should normally use Stayman, so cannot use 2♠=11, 2NT=12

Option 3: 2♠=11 *or* a long minor

Combines the first two schemes:

In response to 1NT, 2♠ shows *either* 11pts *or* a long minor

Opener **must** rebid as follows:

2NT with 12-13pts

3♣ with exactly 14pts (a maximum)

West (14)	East (11)
♠ J 5 4	♠ Q 6 3
♥ J 7 2	♥ Q 10 6
♦ A Q 4	♦ K 9 8 7
♣ K Q J 2	♣ A 9 2

West	East
1NT	2♠*
3♣*	3NT

*Alertable

West (12)	East (11)
♠ J 5 4	♠ Q 6 3
♥ J 7 2	♥ Q 10 6
♦ A 10 4	♦ K 9 8 7
♣ K Q J 2	♣ A 9 2

West	East
1NT	2♠*
2NT	Pass

Option 3: 2♠=11 *or* a long minor

West (12)	East
♠ J 5 4 2	♠ 6 3
♥ A 7 2	♥ J 8 6
♦ J 4	♦ K 10 9 8 7 2
♣ K Q J 2	♣ 9 2

West	East
1NT	2♠*
2NT	3♦
Pass	

*Alertable

West (14)	East
♠ J 5 4 2	♠ 6 3
♥ A 7 2	♥ 10 8 6
♦ A Q 4 2	♦ 7 3
♣ K 2	♣ Q J 9 5 4 3

West	East
1NT	2♠*
3♣*	Pass