

# D.O.N.T.

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DONT stands for Disturbing the Opponents' No-Trump, and it is used (surprise, surprise) when the opponents open 1NT. Here is the DONT scheme:

- X A one-suited hand
- 2♣ Clubs and a higher suit
- 2♦ Diamonds and a higher suit
- 2♥ Hearts and a higher suit
- 2♠ Natural, weaker than doubling and then bidding 2♣

Two-suited bids show at least 5-4 (one way or the other) and at least 8 points (slightly more or less depending on vulnerability and shape). Because DONT gives up the penalty double, most people prefer to use DONT over the strong 1NT rather than the weak 1NT, which you will want to double for penalties much more often.

## When Partner Doubles

When partner doubles, showing a one-suited hand, you must bid 2♣, which is completely artificial and asks partner to show his suit. If it is clubs, he will pass your 2♣ bid. If it is diamonds, he will bid 2♦. If it is hearts, he will bid 2♥ and if it is spades, he will bid 2♠. If you have a super-duper suit of your own, you may judge to bypass the 2♣ relay. For example:

♠A K T 9 8 7 2 ♥3 2 ♦9 7 ♣10 2

Opp1	Pard	Opp2	You
1NT	X!	Pass	?

Bidding 2♠ here is probably better than bidding 2♣.

When partner doubles and you have a good, balanced hand (at least 14 HCP), you are allowed to pass the double for penalties.

## When Partner Bids Two of a Suit

When partner bids 2♣, you can pass with three-card support or better, or you can bid 2♦, the cheapest step response. 2♦ says, "Partner, I don't have club support for you, so please show your second suit. If it is diamonds, pass. If it is hearts or spades, please bid 2♥ or 2♠, respectively."

The same applies if partner bids 2♦. If you do not have diamond support, you may bid 2♥ to ask partner to pass with hearts, or to bid 2♠ with spades.

When partner overcalls 2♥, showing the majors, you can either pass or correct to 2♣.

When partner bids 2x and you have a good hand (at least 14 HCP), you may bid 2NT, which is forcing and asking for clarification.

If partner overcalled 2♣, his rebids are:

- 3♣ Bad hand with clubs and an unspecified suit
- 3♦ Good hand with clubs and diamonds
- 3♥ Good hand with clubs and hearts
- 3♠ Good hand with clubs and spades

If partner overcalled 2♦, his rebids are:

- 3♣ Bad hand with diamonds and hearts
- 3♦ Bad hand with diamonds and spades
- 3♥ Good hand with diamonds and hearts
- 3♠ Good hand with diamonds and spades

If partner overcalled 2♥, his rebids are:

- 3♣ Bad hand with better hearts than spades
- 3♦ Bad hand with better spades than hearts
- 3♥ Good hand with better hearts than spades
- 3♠ Good hand with better spades than hearts

## In Competition

If partner overcalls 2x and gets doubled, your possible responses are:

- Pass: Indicates tolerance for the suit bid
- XX: Asks for partner's second suit
- New suit: Natural, nonforcing

If partner overcalls 2x and the opponents bid 2y, your possible responses are:

- Pass: Natural, nonforcing
- X: Asks for partner's second suit
- New suit: Natural, nonforcing