

# Advanced No-trump Bids: Puppet Stayman

NOTRUMP OPENING BIDS	
1NT 15 to 17	3 ♣ puppet
14 to 17	3 ♦ 5-5 invitational
5-card Major common <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 ♥ singleton
System on over $\times$ , 2c	3 ♠ singleton
2 ♣ Stayman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Puppet <input type="checkbox"/>	
2 ♦ Transfer to ♥ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 ♦, 4 ♥ Transfer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Forcing Stayman <input type="checkbox"/>	Smolen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2 ♥ Transfer to ♠ <input type="checkbox"/>	Lebensohl <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (fast denies)
2 ♠ --> 3C	Neg. Double <input type="checkbox"/>
2NT --> 3D	Other: Advanced Jac
	Conventional NT Openings
	Pre-accept
	2NT 20 to 21
	Puppet Stayman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Transfer Responses:
	Jacoby <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Texas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	3 ♣ minors-inv.
	3NT to
	gambling

The purpose of Puppet Stayman is to explore for an 8-card major suit fit.

A Direct 3C Response to a NT Bid is Puppet Stayman:

- Responder bids 3C over opener's 1NT is Puppet Stayman (2C would be regular Stayman).
- Responder bids 3C over opener's 2NT is Puppet Stayman (there is no regular Stayman here).
- When opener bids 2C, responder bids 2D and opener rebids 2NT, responder's 3C is Puppet Stayman (there is no regular Stayman here).

## Requirements:

- Must have enough points for a at least a game-going contract in no trump or a major suit.
- Must have ruffing potential with at least a doubleton somewhere.
- Shape:
  - At least one 3-card major - example: 3/2/4/4
  - Or, two 3-card majors - example: 3/3/2/4
  - Or, a 3-card major and a 4-card major - example: 3/4/4/2
  - Or, a 4-card major - example: 4/2/5/2
  - Or, two 4-card majors - example: 4/4/3/2
  - Not 5/4 in the majors - start with regular Stayman and use Smolen if necessary

## Advanced Puppet Stayman

### Opener's Rebids to Responder's 3C Bid:

- 3NT = No 5-card or 4-card major
- 3H[3S] = 5-card heart[spade] suit
- 3D = 4 cards in one or both majors

### Responder's Rebids to Opener's 3NT Rebid:

- Pass = With no major suit fit will play at NT
- 4C[4D] = Natural showing strong 5-card minor with slam interest.
- 4NT = Quantitative
- 5C = "High" Gerber
- 6NT = Signoff

### Responder's Rebids to Opener's 3H[3S] Rebid:

- 3NT = Signoff, no major suit fit.
- 4C[4D] = Natural showing strong 5-card minor with slam interest.
- 4H[4S] = Signoff
- 4NT = Quantitative
- 5C = "High" Gerber
- 6NT = Signoff

### Responder's Rebids to Opener's 3D:

- 3NT = No 4-card major.
- 3H = You hold 4 spades; if opener has 4 spades he bids 4S, otherwise he bids 3NT.
- 3S = You hold 4 hearts; if opener has 4 hearts he bids 4H, otherwise he bids 3NT.
- 4D = You hold 4-cards in both majors; opener bids game in his 4-card major.

### Responder's Rebids After Opener Bids 4H[4S]:

- Pass, will play it there
- 4NT = Quantitative
- 5C = "High" Gerber
- 6NT = Signoff