

# Mike's Advice

## Bridge



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### More 2/1 Auctions

#### 1♥-2♣: Opener's rebid problems

Opener	Responder
1♦	2♣
2♦	

First, let's look at the 2♦ rebid. This is an easy bid to define: If opener has five or more diamonds he rebids his suit. A 2♦ bid says:

1. I have five or more diamonds.
2. I may have a four-card major.
3. I may have a minimum, but I could have a good hand, too.
4. I may have club support that I decided not to show now.

In general, if you have five diamonds you should rebid them. The main exception is when you have an obvious 2NT rebid. You can bid 2NT with some hands that include five diamonds.

Here are some examples to show the range of hands opener may have for 2♦.

♠A53 ♥763 ♦QJ873 ♣AQ

Bid 2♦ with this hand, a minimum with five diamonds. Nothing special here except for notrump cheerleaders who feel they should always bid 2NT to show a balanced hand. 2NT is awful bridge. With no heart stopper, there is no reason to bid notrump. At least, not yet.

♠K42 ♥A983 ♦AQ763 ♣9

Bid 2♦. Do not bid 2♥. If you bid 2♥, you deny five diamonds. Remember this. If your partner has four hearts, he was planning on showing his club suit first and then bid hearts later. He might have:

♠A3 ♥KJ102 ♦42 ♣AK864.

If so, he correctly responded 2♣ with the intention of showing hearts next. He chose to bid that way

because his bidding would show both suits and also his distribution. If hearts is the right suit, you'll find out soon enough.

♠AKJ5 ♥43 ♦AJ1084 ♣K3

Bid 2♦. 2♠ would *not* be a reverse. It would merely show four spades and deny five diamonds.

♠53 ♥K3 ♦AQ107653 ♣A8

Bid 2♦. A 3♦ bid would show a better hand and a much better suit. Jumping in your suit shows a solid suit, much like when you jump in your major after a 2/1 response from partner.

♠K643 ♥AJ75 ♦K9764 ♣—

Definitely bid 2♦. If partner has a major, he will show it next.

Opener	Responder
1♦	2♣
2♥/2♠	

Now let's look at a 2♥ or 2♠ rebid. When you rebid a major suit after partner's 2♣, you show a hand that:

1. Does not have five diamonds.
2. Has a four-card major.
3. Does not want to bid 2NT or 3NT

Hands that bid two of a major all have one thing in common: *They do not have a five-card diamond suit.*

♠QJ73 ♥532 ♦AQJ4 ♣K3

Bid 2♠. If you had proper stoppers for notrump, bidding 2NT might be okay. This hand has three low hearts, so bidding notrump is not acceptable. When you bid 2♠, you deny having four hearts so your partner does not have to show hearts if he has them.

♠63 ♥AKJ3 ♦J873 ♣A42

Bid 2♥. Your partner knows you do not have five diamonds and he

now knows you have four hearts. If partner can raise hearts, he will. Otherwise, he will bid spades if he has them because you have not denied them yet.

♠AQ73 ♥Q873 ♦J832 ♣A

Bid 2♥. When opener rebids a major he *does not* show extra values. In a way, these sequences start out as a scramble in search of a fit. Extra values, if any, may be shown later.

♠KJ72 ♥QJ73 ♦AQ3 ♣82

You might bid 2NT with this hand since it looks like a notrump hand. 2NT does not deny a four-card major. Partner should next show a four-card major if he has one.

♠A763 ♥AKJ3 ♦AK106 ♣9

Bid 2♥. Find the best trump suit, if one exists, and then start wondering about a slam. If you bid 2♥, but squandered the bid, you become a bad bidder. If your hand is poor, you are a bad bidder. If you have a fit, your partner will find it. If you awarded a contract, you would be a defender on up by Phillip *New York Times*.