



Gambling 3NT

answers and defense

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This Topic provides you with hands where you are able to use the Gambling 3NT convention. As described in the expert Guru-convention sheet, you open 3NT if you hold a solid 7+ card suit in a minor, without too much on the side. In this document we will give you a responsive structure, as well as a suggested defense should the opponents happen to use this particular convention.

When is your hand is suitable for a 3NT opening? By agreement you show a solid seven card minor suit, without Aces or Kings in a side suit. Both parts of this agreement are crucial information to enable partner to judge whether to pass 3NT, run to 4 or 5♣/♦ or to make a slam try. An eight card suit might be possible, but six or nine card suits are not.

You only use this convention in first or second seat. In third or fourth seat, a 3NT opening still implies a long minor but that minor now no longer needs to be solid and you can have (much) more on the side. Partner will always pass a third or fourth hand 3NT opening.

A popular structure to deal with a 3NT opening is described below. Note that in some of the sequences, opener doesn't disclose his minor. Responder will always understand which is opener's long minor, because it is a solid suit,

You	Partner	You
3NT	pass	stoppers in all three side suits
	4♣	pass or correct
	4♦	slam interest, asking for shortness
	4♥/♠	natural, to play
	4NT	asks minor and shows slam interest (asking for eight card suit primarily)
		5♣/♦ to play (7 card)
		6♣/♦ to play (8 card)
	5♣	pass or correct
	5♦	to play (also used to right side the contract if partner can see that the solid minor is diamonds)

You	Partner	You
3NT	4♦	4♥/♠ shortness ♥/♠
		4NT shortness other minor
		5♣/♦ natural, no shortness (7222)

Suggested defense

They	You	They	Partner
3NT	dbl	values, after that:	double of 4♣/♦ shows values by partner
	4♣	both majors	
		Pass	4♦ asks longest/best major
			4♥/♠ to play
	4♦	one major, 6+♥ or ♠	
		Pass	4♥ pass or correct
			4♠ natural
	4♥/♠	5+ major/5+ minor, two suiter	
		Pass	4NT Slam Invitational and asks minor
			5♣ pass or correct