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## Reverse

This Topic provides you with hands where you have a strong hand with a 5+ card in a minor and a side four card suit.

You open with 1♣ or 1♦ and partner answers with 1M, above your four-card side suit.

Bidding two in your second suit is called a reverse bid. You show extra values and at least a 5-4 distribution.

For beginning bridge players, this is a difficult concept. Intermediate players are more familiar with this, but they still can benefit from solid agreements about the bidding following the reverse bid.

2NT is most often used as a way to bid the weak hands, resulting in direct support bids being forcing.

If you agree to bid that way, then only 2NT and a rebid of responder's major are possible weak hands. The rest of the bids are game forcing.

In general

- a rebid of the major on the two-level is natural and non-forcing
- a bid in the fourth suit is game-forcing and looking for the best strain
- supporting one of openers suits is natural and game forcing
- bidding 2NT is a puppet to 3♣. Opener will bid 3♣ without extra values after which responder can pass/support one of openers suits to show a weak hand or bid something else with a strong hand.

You	Partner	You	Partner
1♣	1♠	2♥	16-20 points, 4♥ and at least 5♣
		2♠	natural weak, non-forcing
		2NT	puppet to 3♣, to play 3♣ or 3♥ or some other stronger hand
		3♣	natural, forcing to game
		3♦	fourth suit, no fit, no ♦ stopper, forcing to game
		3♥	natural, forcing to game
		3♠	natural, forcing to game, good suit
		3NT	natural, to play, shows a minimum game forcing hand (8-11)

With a minimal reverse hand, opener will bid 3♣. With a maximum hand, game forcing opposite partner's 1M bid, opener has to bid something else.

You	Partner	You	Partner	You	Partner
1♣	1♠	2♥	2NT	3♣	no extra values
				pass	weak, to play
				3♦	fourth suit, general extra strength, shows stopper in ♦
				3♥	natural, to play, opener can still raise
				3♠	natural, forcing to game, bad suit
				3NT	natural, extra values
				3♦	extra strength, looking for best strain
				3♥	5♥ and 6♣
				3♠	3♠, forcing
				3NT	to play, extra strength

A similar structure can be deployed after a 1NT response from partner. Because partner cannot have a four-card major anymore, bids in these suits show values rather than real suits.

<b>You</b>	<b>Partner</b>	<b>You</b>	<b>Partner</b>
1♣	1NT	2♥	2♠ values, game forcing
			2NT puppet to 3♣, to play 3♣
			3♣ natural, game forcing
			3♦ values, game forcing
			3♥ values, game forcing
			3♠ splinter
			3NT to play

Finally, we should mention the possibility of the jump reverse. Holding 5♥ and 6♣ you really want to show your length in these two suits. Bidding 2♥ over partner's 1♠ response shows extra values. That's why a lot of people use a jump to 3♥ to show a 5♥ 6♣ hand without extra values.

<b>You</b>	<b>Partner</b>	<b>You</b>	<b>Partner</b>
1♣	1♠	3♥	5♥ and 6♣, 12-14