

# 4-WAY MINOR SUIT TRANSFERS

## ( OVER PARTNER'S 1-NT OPENING )

**A. Minor Suit Transfers:** Transferring to either Minor suit (Clubs or Diamonds) reflects a similarity to Major suit transfers to which one is normally accustomed. Such transfers, however, customarily evidence a **6-card Minor suit** holding as opposed to at least a 5-card Major suit. The reason is that when you are weak and wish to play in **3C** or **3D**, you normally require six cards (not five) in the Minor in order to produce a more makeable contract than **1-NT** from which you are departing.

1-NT	"2S" (Alertable)	(Shows at least 6-Clubs)
1-NT	"2-NT" (Alertable)	(Shows at least 6-Diamonds)

**B. Opener's Response to Minor Suit Transfers:** Notice that Minor suit Transfers, used as stated herein, are two levels below the desired suit. Opener, therefore, has two possible re-bids that do not go past Responder's intended suit. The Responder may wish to know how strong Opener's holding is in the directed suit in cases where a "**Gambling 3-NT**" holding is held by the Responder. If the Opener holds a good fit in Responder's suit (at least **K-X-X**), Opener makes a "**Super Acceptance**" or "**Break From the Transfer**" by bidding the in-between bid ("**2-NT**" over "**2S**" and the in-between bid of "**3C**" over "**2-NT**"). On all other hands, where a super acceptance holding is not present, the Opener will accept (or complete) the transfer and bid 3 of Responder's referenced suit. Thus, when Opener replies with a bid in Responder's suit, this is known as "**accepting the transfer**"; whereas if Opener bids the in-between suit, Opener is making a "**super-acceptance**" in case a Game-level contract is feasible.

(1)	<u>Opener's Bids</u>	<u>Responder's Bid</u>
	1-NT	"2S"
	3C (Completing the Transfer) (No Honors in the Minor suit referenced)	
	1-NT	"2S"
	"2-NT" (Breaks the Transfer) (A "Super-Acceptance")	

(2)	<u>Responder's Hand</u>	<u>Responder's Bids</u>	<u>Opener's Bid</u>
	XX		1-NT
	XX	"2S" (Transfer to Clubs)	3C
	KXX	Pass	
	QXXXXX		

(3)	<u>Responder's Hand</u>	<u>Responder's Bids</u>	<u>Opener's Bid</u>
	XX		1-NT
	XX	"2-NT" (Transfer to Diamonds)	"3C" (Break)
	AQXXXX	3-NT (Gambling-Game Attempt)	
	XXX		

**C. Responder's Invitational NT:** Since the "2-NT" bid by Responder is used to denote a transfer to Diamonds, it is no longer available when Responder, holding 9-10 HCP's wishes to invite Opener to 3-NT. In such instances, therefore, Responder must bid a Stayman "2C" and then re-bid an invitational 2-NT notwithstanding the absence of a 4-card Major suit holding. A sequence such as 1-NT - "2C" - 2(D, H, S) - 2-NT no longer guarantees that Responder holds a 4-card Major suit. **Responder's "2-NT" bid is, thus, Alertable** in that it may, or may not, evidence one or more 4-card Major suit holding(s).

(4)	<u>Responder's Hand</u>	<u>Responder's Bids</u>	<u>Opener's Bid</u>
	QXX		1-NT
	KX	"2C"	"2D," 2H, 2S
	AXXX	2-NT (Invitational)	
	XXXX		

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**D. Responder's Sign-Off in a Minor:** One of the most common purposes for a Minor suit Transfer is to sign off in a long suit when the Responder wishes to place the contract in what he/she believes is a more likely makeable contract than Opener's 1-NT.

(5)	<u>Responder's Hand</u>	<u>Responder's Bids</u>	<u>Opener's Bid</u>
	XX		1-NT
	KXX	"2-NT"	"3C" (Super-Acceptance)
	JXXXXX	3D (Sign-off - No Interest in Game)	
	XXX	(Not-with-Standing Opener's Super Acceptance)	
	(or)		
		"2-NT"	1-NT
		Pass	3D

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**Additional Note:** Some Partnerships have the reverse responses to the Minor suit transfers when utilizing 4-way transfers. In this reverse from that which is listed above, Opener will bid the Minor suit referenced when holding a "Super-Acceptance," and will take the transfer in the suit referenced when not holding one.

<u>Opener's Bids</u>	<u>Responder's Bid</u>
1-NT	"2S"
"2-NT" (A Break in the transfer)	
(Absence of any Honors in the suit referenced)	
1-NT	"2S"
3C (A "Super-Acceptance")	