

Reopening double

Reopening double is a form of takeout double bid by the opener himself, after his left-hand opponent has overcalled and partner has passed. As normal takeout double, it shows support for unbid suits:

West	North	East	South
1♣	1♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl			

West's double denotes shortness in spades, and invites partner to bid his best suit. A suitable hand would be e.g. ♠7 ♥AJ85 ♦K63 ♣AQ1052. The partner should bid his longest suit on the lowest level with approximately 0-6 points, 1NT with 5-7 points and stopper in spades, (as he would bid 1NT immediately with 8-10 points), and jump in a suit with 7+ points. Finally, he can pass for penalties with 5 or more cards in spades.

In the past, reopening doubles used to show extra values as well. However, with the inclusion of negative double, responder cannot double for penalties anymore and must pass with length and strength in the overcalled suit. In order to protect against such situations, opener is obliged to double even with thin values, whenever his distribution is suitable. Some pairs even go so far that they **require** some form of reopening in all cases.

From http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Takeout_double

For even more information, go to:

http://books.google.com/books?id=LWQoVuWzF_cC&pg=PA135&lpg=PA135&dq=reopening+double&source=web&ots=Zhbzqkp9Vq&sig=c4IZ6ZDpkODt9glgZJNHK223OA0&hl=en

Sample of what can be found there:

The **reopening double** is exactly what its name implies. Let's say that you dealt yourself the following:

You
♠ A K 6 3
♥ A K 5 3
♦ K 10 7 2
♣ 2

You open 1♦. LHO overcalls 2♣ and partner and RHO pass. Since you are not about to allow the opponents to play unmolested in 2♣, you now reopen the bidding with a **double**. If it looks a lot like a takeout **double**, that's because it *is* a lot like a takeout **double**. The only difference is that this **double** is made by the opener, in the passout seat. What happens now depends a great deal on partner's hand. He could have all sorts of combinations:

Partner 1
♠ 8 7 5 4 2
♥ 10 4
♦ 6 4 3
♣ 8 6 5

Partner 2
♠ 8 7
♥ 10 4
♦ Q 9 8 6 3
♣ 8 7 4 3

Partner 3
♠ 4 2
♥ Q 2
♦ 8 4 3
♣ A Q 10 7 5 3