

# Forcing and Non-Forcing Bids

An opener has few forcing bids. A 2C opening is forcing. A reverse or a jump shift force responder to bid again. Either the opener or the responder can force by bidding the opponent's suit (cue bid). Opener or responder can also force by bidding a new suit after the a suit has been raised.

Any time a responder bids a **new suit** (over a non-no trump bid), the opener is forced to bid again. Any time the opener has limited his hand by bidding no trump, a new suit is not forcing.

If the responder has a strong hand, it is better to force the opener to keep bidding by keeping the bidding low as long as possible rather than jumping. However, if the opener rebids no trump, jumping to show strength is required.

*Note: Most duplicate players play that an immediate jump is weak and non-forcing, and this bid is alertable.*

Opening	Response	Forcing or Non-Forcing (Is Opener FORCED to bid again?)
1C	1D	<b>F N</b>
1S	2C	<b>F N</b>
1S	1NT	<b>F N</b>
1S	2S	<b>F N</b>
1H	3H	<b>F N</b>
1C	3C	<b>F N</b>
1N	2N	<b>F N</b>
1S	2H	<b>F N</b>
1H	3D	<b>F N</b>

When does the responder have to bid again?

Opening	Response	Rebid by Opener	F or N? (Must responder bid again?)
1C	1D	1H	<b>F N</b>
1C	1H	1S	<b>F N</b>
1S	2C	2N	<b>F N</b>
1S	1N	2H	<b>F N</b>
1S	1N	3H	<b>F N</b>
1H	2C	2D	<b>F N</b>
1S	2H	3C	<b>F N</b>
1C	1H	2N	<b>F N</b>

Whenever the opener rebids 1NT, then no bid by the responder can be forcing, EVEN IF HE NAMES A NEW SUIT. You are simply asking your partner to choose between your two suits. (At least 5-4). Notice you bid the higher ranking suit first to give your partner a chance to go back to the first suit at the 2-level if necessary.

Opening	Response	Rebid by Opener	Rebid by Responder	F or N? (Is Opener Forced to bid again?)
1H	1S	1N	2D	<b>F N</b>
1H	1S	1N	2C	<b>F N</b>
1D	1S	1N	2H	<b>F N</b>

If responder is a passed hand, can he make a forcing bid? \_\_\_\_\_