

OPENER'S REVERSE

NG34Bridge

(A NEW SUIT REBID 'ABOVE THE BARRIER')

With acknowledgements to NoFear

Opener's jump rebids show 16+ points.

ALSO any **new suit** rebid that is *higher than opener's first suit at the next level up* shows 16+ points.

1♥ 2♣ shows 12-18 points

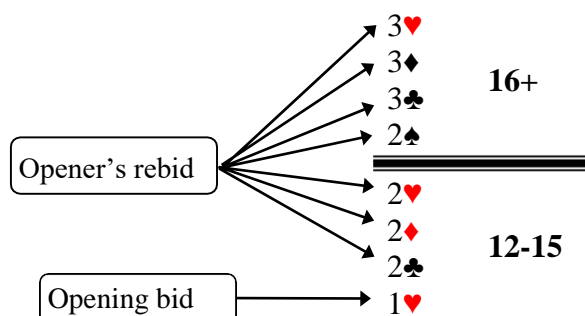
2♦

but

1♥ 2♣ shows 16 points unlimited

2♠

An example of the 'barrier' when the opening bid is 1♥



Imagine a 'barrier' just above your first suit at the next level up. Any **new** suit rebid above the barrier shows 16+ points. In the example above the opening is 1♥ so the barrier is between the 2♥ and 2♠ rebids.

Any opener's rebid of a new suit above the barrier is **forcing** (partner must bid again). All other opener's rebids are not forcing.

Why does the opener need extra values to bid above the barrier? Consider the following hands:

West

♠ 7
♥ K 8 6 5
♦ Q J 10 4 2
♣ A Q 5

12

East

♠ A Q 6 3
♥ 10 4
♦ 9 7 5
♣ 8 4 3 2

6

West has a 2 suited hand and is hoping to be able to show both his suits.

<div style="color: red; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">X</div>	West	North	East	South	<p>If West rebids 2♥ after East's 1♠ response then East will have to go to the 3 level to show preference for West's first suit, diamonds.</p> <p>With only 18 points between the two hands the level is now too high and we won't make 9 tricks.</p>
	1♦ → 2♥	pass pass	1♠ 3♦	pass	
<div style="color: green; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">✓</div>	West	North	East	South	<p>With only 12 points West must not bid his second suit "above the barrier". He should simply rebid his first suit.</p>
	1♦ → 2♦	pass pass	1♠ pass	pass	

Here are some examples showing opener's expected point range.

Remember that opener only shows as stronger than minimum hand if he **jumps** (in any suit) or bids a **new suit** above the barrier.

1♥ 2♦	1♠	Opener has 12-18 points. After the 1♠ responding bid the 2♦ rebid is not a jump and not a new suit.
1♥ 2♠	1♠	Opener has 12-18 points. Not a jump and not a new suit (same suit as responder bid).
1♥ 3♣	2♣	Even though the bidding has reached the 3 level, opener may only have 12 points. Not a jump and not a new suit (same suit as responder bid).
1♠ 2♥	2♦	Opener has 12-18 points. It is a new suit but it is not 'Above the Barrier'. (After a 1♥ opening bid the 'Barrier' level is 2♥.)
1♥ 2♦	2♣	Opener has 12-18 points. It is a new suit but it is not 'Above the Barrier' (After a 1♥ opening bid the 'Barrier' level is 2♥.)
1♥ 2♠	2♣	Opener has 16+ points. It is not a jump BUT a) Opener has bid a new suit that neither side has bid and b) It is 'Above the Barrier' (After a 1♥ opening the 'Barrier' level is 2♥)
1♥ 3♦	2♠	Opener has 16+ points. It is not a jump BUT a) Opener has bid a new suit that neither side has bid and b) It is 'Above the Barrier' (After a 1♥ opening the 'Barrier' level is 2♥)

In the last two examples, if opener had only 12-15 points he simply rebids his first suit and is unable to show the 2nd suit.