

Jacoby vs Texas Transfers Master
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Your partner opens 1 NT (15-17) and you have an unbalanced hand. You may want to

- A. Play a part score contract in your 5+ card suit.
- B. Invite game either in your 5 card suit or notrump or invite game in your 6+ suit
- C. Force to game in either your 5 card suit or notrump or bid game in your 6+ suit
- D. Give partner a choice of two 5 card suits
- E. Investigate for slam.

Mechanics:

Jacoby Transfers (5+ card suit)	Texas Transfers (6+card suit)
After partner opens 1NT:	After partner opens 1NT:
A response of 2♦ asks opener to bid 2♥	A response of 4♦ asks opener to bid 4♥
A response of 2♥ asks opener to bid 2♠	A response of 4♥ asks opener to bid 4♠
Transfers to minors available	Not generally used to transfer to minors

Jacoby transfers handle A, B, C and D just fine. Texas transfers give you a way to invite slam without getting past game in your suit.

Exercises

1. ♠ 63 ♥ J86532 ♦ Q104 ♣ 64

2. ♠ KQ872 ♥ K93 ♦ 95 ♣ 742

3. ♠ AK763 ♥ 4 ♦ 72 ♣ AQJ95

4. ♠ 3 ♥ KQJ985 ♦ KQ72 ♣ K5

5. ♠ KJ5 ♥ AQ8652 ♦ 65 ♣ 92

6. ♠ QJ98642 ♥ 83 ♦ 76 ♣ A5

7. ♠ J4 ♥ K108752 ♦ A2 ♣ KQJ

Answers

1. ♠ 63 ♥ J86532 ♦ Q104 ♣ 64
Bid 2D, then pass partner's 2H
2. ♠ KQ872 ♥ K93 ♦ 95 ♣ 742
Bid 2H, then after partner's 2S, bid 2NT – shows five with 8 or 9 points
3. ♠ AK763 ♥ 4 ♦ 72 ♣ AQJ95
Bid 2H, then after partner's 2S, bid 3C – shows 2 five card suits
4. ♠ 3 ♥ KQJ985 ♦ KQ72 ♣ K5
Bid 2D; then after partner's 2H, bid 4NT (or 4D and then 4NT)
5. ♠ KJ5 ♥ AQ8652 ♦ 65 ♣ 92
Bid 2D, after partner's 2H bid 4H (or bid 4D Texas immediately)
6. ♠ QJ98642 ♥ 83 ♦ 76 ♣ A5
Bid 2H and then jump to 4S (or bid 4H Texas immediately)
7. ♠ J4 ♥ K108752 ♦ A2 ♣ KQJ
You want to let partner know you are interested in slam. If playing Texas transfers, bid 2H and then jump to 4H. (If you were only interested in game you would have responded 4D immediately.) This is primary benefit of Texas. Smaller benefit – make it harder for opponents to interfere. Generally Texas on over interference.

NAMYATS

Namyats shows a strong 4-of-a-major opening. [*Namyats is Stayman spelled backwards.*]

4♣ = A strong 4♥ opening

4♦ = A strong 4♠ opening

Strong is often defined as 8 or 8½ playing tricks, good honors and usually an A or K outside.

Contrast

A. ♠5 ♥KQJ10753 ♦43 ♣54 with

B. ♠-- ♥AQJ10876 ♦KQ32 ♣43

Wouldn't you like to make life difficult for the opponents by preempting 4♥? The first hand is a normal preemptive hand. But the second is too good – you might miss slam if partner has a good but not great hand.

Playing Namyats you can distinguish between these two hands. Open A with 4♥; open B with 4♣ to tell partner you have a long heart suit with extras. The exact amount of extra depends on vulnerability and position. If vulnerable, a 4-level preempt is sound to begin with so a Namyats opening is better than sound. However, if you have a hand that deserves a 2♣ opening, do so.

Responses

After a Namyats opening, partner

- With no slam interest, signs-off in 4-of-the-shown major.
- With mild slam interest, bids the in-between step. For example, after a 4♦ opening, you hold ♠2 ♥A8765 ♦AJ54 ♣K83 . Bid 4♥ to say: I have some interest in slam – if you have a little extra (better than a sound preempt), please cooperate with me. It says nothing about hearts.
 - If opener has nothing extra, she places the contract in game
 - If opener has extra, she asks for aces, cuebids or does something other than bid game
- With definite slam interest, cuebid, ask for aces or do something else intelligent.

When is it on?

Discuss with partner if it is on in all four seats or not.

What do you give up?

You lose the ability to open a 4-level preempt in a minor. Some get around that by opening 3NT to show a 4-of-a-minor preempt. Conventional Namyats responses over a double are still on. Responder's bids are natural after any overcall.

Exercises

A	Opener	Responder	B	Opener	Responder
	♠AKJT9872	♠3		♠62	♠KT5
	♥A9	♥KQJ873		♥AKJT9875	♥Q63
	♦J	♦T98		♦J	♦KQT3
	♣K5	♣643		♣K5	♣AJT
C	Opener	Responder			
	♠A9	♠KQ5			
	♥AKJ98742	♥Q63			
	♦J	♦KQT3			
	♣K5	♣AJT			

A

Opener	Responder
♠AKJT9872	♠3
♥A9	♥KQJ873
♦J	♦T98
♣K5	♣643
Opener	Responder
4♦ (1)	4♠ (2)
Pass	

1. 4♦ shows 7+ strong spades and 8-9 tricks.
2. 4♠ is a signoff.

B

Opener	Responder
♠62	♠KT5
♥AKJT9875	♥Q63
♦J	♦KQT3
♣K5	♣AJT
Opener	Responder
4♣ (1)	4♦ (2)
4♥ (3)	Pass

1. 4♣ shows 7+ strong hearts and 8-9 tricks.
2. 4♦ is a relay. With 15 HCP and heart support, responder is interested in slam.
3. 4♥ indicates a minimum. Opener only has 8 winners (7.5 hearts, 0.5 clubs).

C

Opener	Responder
♠A9	♠KQ5
♥AKJ98742	♥Q63
♦J	♦KQT3
♣K5	♣AJT
Opener	Responder
4♣ (1)	4♦ (2)
4♠ (3)	4NT(4)
5♥ (5)	6♥ (6)
Pass	

1. 4♣ shows 7+ strong hearts and 8-9 tricks.
2. 4♦ is a relay. With 17 HCP and heart support, responder is clearly interested in slam.
3. 4♠ is a cuebid. With approximately 9 winners (1 spade, 7.5 hearts, 0.5 clubs), opener is willing to go beyond 4♥ to probe for slam.
4. 4NT is Blackwood, asking for aces.
5. 5♥ shows two aces.
6. 6♥ is a signoff.