

# Forcing and Limit Bids

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Acob consist of two types of natural bids – forcing and limit.

A limit bid is one which has an upper limit on the points it can contain, a forcing bid does not.

Forcing bids require partner to bid, usually for just one round but sometimes until game is reached

Sometimes limit bids can also be forcing bids.

## Standard forcing bids:

New suit initial response at the lowest level (1♦ – 1♥, 1♦ – 2♣, but not 1♦ – 1♠ – 2♦ – 2♥), forcing for one round.

Reverse (rebid of new suit at higher level than two of the first suit, but without jumping, showing at least 4 points more than minimum), forcing for one round. Reverses can be opener (1♦ – 1♠ – 2♥) or responder (1♦ – 1♥ – 2♦ – 2♠)

Bids of opponent's suit

Take out doubles (although they may be passed for penalties)

New suit after transfer (akin to a reverse: 1NT – 2♦ (Trf) – 2♥ – 2♠)

Jump Preference (1♥ – 1♠ – 2♦ – 3♥)

Strong opening bids (2♣, 2♦)

Sometimes a situation may be forcing even if a bid is not, so 1♥ – 2♣ – 2NT is forcing to game as you have at least 25 points between you (and is why you rebid 2NT even with 19 points).

## Non-Forcing Bids

Opener's minimum rebid (1♥ – 1♠ – 2♦)

Simple Preference (1♥ – 1♠ – 2♦ – 2♥)

Suit Rebids (1♥ – 1♠ – 2♥, 1♥ – 1♠ – 3♥) or Raises (1♥ – 2♥, 1♥ – 3♥)

NT bids (except unusual!)

## Agreed forcing bids / situations

Some partnerships play additional forcing bids, for example:

A 2 over 1 response (1♥ – 2♦) is forcing to 2NT

In protective position, after 1n – 2n by opponents, you may not pass.