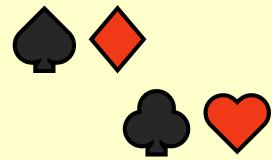


Bridge on Sundays



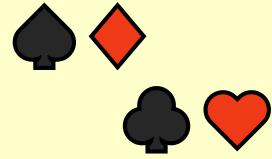
Reverse Bidding

A so-called reverse bid has the following characteristics:

- Opener's first suit must be minimum of 5 cards with 16+ points. The points can be shaded if opener's second suit is also a 5 card suit.
- Opener's rebid must either be in a higher ranked suit at the 2 level (low level reverse), or a lower ranked suit at the 3 level (high level reverse). Preference to partner's first suit has to be at the three level
- A change of suit at the 1 level is not a reverse, nor is bidding a lower ranked suit at the 2 level. A simple raise of responder's suit is not a reverse. Be clear on the difference between a hand showing two suits and a reverse hand.
- A high level reverse should show a minimum of 18 points (forcing to game).
- Responder can make reverse responses but these can show only an opening hand. The first response suit is longer than the second.
- A jump re-bid by opener in the same suit shows a 6 card suit and a minimum of 16 points. Not strictly a reverse.
- Low level reverse bids are highly encouraging but not absolutely forcing to game.
- With two 4-cards suits, do not reverse but bid NTs to show the values. 4-4-4-1 hands may force you to make a *faux* reverse.

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Reverse Bidding

Some examples:

- Opener 1♦, Responder 1♥, opener 2♠ (a low level reverse)
- Opener 1♠, Responder 2♦, opener 3♣ (a high level reverse)
- Opener 1♦, responder 1NT, opener 2♣ (a low level reverse but highly encouraging since responder is known not to hold 4 cards in hearts)
- Opener 1♥, responder 1♠, opener 3♠. A reverse
- Opener 1♣, responder 1♦, opener 3♥ (a high level reverse showing 6-5 distribution, game forcing and slam invitational)
- Opener 1♥, responder 1♠, opener 3♥ (not a reverse but showing 6 cards in ♥s and 16+ pts)