

Strong 2C opening:

Open 2C when you expect to be in game opposite 3hcp

Common Approach

Responses:

- 2♦ 0-6 points, (negative response)
- 2♥ 7+ points and 5+ hearts.
- 2♠ 7+ points and 5+ spades.
- 2NT 7+ points no 5 card suit
- 3♣ 7+ points and 5+ clubs.
- 3♦ 7+ points and 5+ diamonds.

With positive response, we are always going to game or slam

- We take it slowly if we are interested in slam, we can start cue bidding
- Any jump shows a weaker hand, not interested in slam
- If opener bids NT, Stayman applies
- If responder bids 2NT, Stayman and transfer applies
- Barron (4NT or 5NT) by either can be initiated

With negative response:

- If opener bids NT, it is not forcing (so with 25+ points, opener should bid 3NT as partner may pass 23-24 2NT bid)
- If opener bids a suit, it is forcing for 1 round

Superior approach

Responding to 2C opening - With 9hcp responder is looking for slam. We also use transfer bids so strong hand becomes declarer.

- 2C – 2D indicates 0-4hcp or 9+hcp
 - 2 of suit by opener is natural 5+ cards
 - 2NT by opener, continuation as per 2NT opening
 - Opener assumes 0-4 points with slam being unlikely. With 9+ points responder will take beyond game.
- All other bids shows 5-8hcp
 - 2H = 5+S
 - 2S = balanced hand no 5 card suit to Queen (or better). After 2NT by opener, continuation as per 2NT opening
 - 2NT = 5+C unbalanced
 - 3C = 5+D unbalanced
 - 3D = 5+H unbalanced

Opener accepts the transfer with 3 card support. All other bids are natural. Opposite a 5-8hcp if a good fit is found slam is likely.