

Michael's Cue Bid

Michael's is a cue-bid that promises a two-suited hand, with at least five cards in each suit. There is no point minimum for making a Michael's although obvious factors like vulnerability should be considered.

Michael's promises at least a 5-card holding in the 2 Majors when bid over a minor ($1\text{minor} > 2\text{minor}$); or at least 5 cards in the other Major and an unnamed minor when bid over a Major ($1\text{Major} > 2\text{Major}$)

Many players use point ranges for Michael's to exclude 11-15 HCP and bidding that point range normally.

Michael's is not used over Artificial Bids (i.e. Precision, Flannery, Mini Roman, Strong 2♣).

Lastly, when responder has equal length in the partner's two suits, it is recommended to bid the major.

Examples of Michael's:

Bid	Typical Meaning
1♣ > 2♣	Shows 5 Spades and 5 Hearts (or more).
1♦ > 2♦	Shows 5 Spades and 5 Hearts (or more).
1♥ > 2♥	Shows 5 Spades and 5 of an unnamed minor (or more). Responder bids 2NT to inquire which minor [Alert].
1♠ > 2♠	Shows 5 Hearts and 5 of an unnamed minor (or more). Responder bids 2NT to inquire which minor [Alert].

Bid	Typical Meaning
1♦ > P > 1NT > 2♦	Shows 5 Spades and 5 Hearts (or more). Since one partner has already passed, more care should be given to point count and vulnerability.
2♦ > 3♦	After a weak 2♦ bid, Cue-bidding Diamonds shows 5 Spades and 5 Hearts (or more). Since this is bid at the 3-level, more care should be given to point count and vulnerability.
1♣ > 2♣ > P > 3♣	Responder has raised the cue bid – indicating a game or slam potential hand.
1♦ > 2♦ > P > 3♣	Overcaller has made a bid showing 5-5 in the Majors and Responder bids a Minor. Responder is showing a total lack of support for either Major and indicates a long/strong holding in Clubs.

To learn more about this convention/our books (*Beginning Bridge Using 2 Over 1*, *Beyond Beginning Bridge Using 2 Over 1*, and *The 2/1 Gold Card System* series) visit www.DiamondBooksPublishing.com.