

New Minor Forcing (NMF)

Following an opening bid, if responder bids a major, opener should assume responder is bidding a 4-card suit. When opener's 2nd bid is 1NT/2NT they are denying 4-card support in responder's suit. However, WHEN responder rebids a NEW minor suit lower than their first bid, they are employing New Minor Forcing.

New Minor Forcing attempts to locate a 4-4 (the unbid Major) or 5-3 major suit fit. The bid says nothing about the new minor, the bid is strictly conventional (**Alertable**), both artificial and forcing.

Opener's 1NT bid typically shows 12-14 points. NMF bidder indicates 10+HCP, 5 Spades and possibly 4 Hearts – OR alternatively 5 Spades and a 5-card holding in the new minor. It is also possible the NMF bidding is simply making a forcing bid.

Sequences are as follows:

1m > 1M > 1NT (or 2NT) > 2♣/2♦ = NMF [Alertable];
or 1♥ > 1♠ > 1NT (or 2NT) > 2♣ = NMF [Alertable]

Opener's prioritized rebids are:

1.	Other major with 4 cards in suit [Alert] .
2.	Responder's major with 3 cards support [Alert] . By partnership agreement, opener should jump if holding 14+ HCP (i.e. 1♣ > 1♠ > 1N > 2♦ > <u>3♠</u>) and is game forcing.
3.	NT if the first 2 conditions are not met [Alert] .

Examples of New Minor Forcing:

Bid	Response	Typical Meaning
1♣ > 1♠ > 1N > 2♦ >	2♥ [Alert]	With 4 Hearts: Opener rebids 2♥ with 12-13 HCP.
	3♥ [Alert]	Opener rebids 3♥ with 14+ HCP.

Bid	Response	Meaning
1♣ > 1♠ > 1N > 2♦ >	2♠ [Alert] 3♠ [Alert]	<p>With 3 Spades (AND lacking 4-card Heart suit):</p> <p>Opener rebids 2♠ (denying 4 Hearts) with 12-13 HCP.</p> <p>Opener rebids 3♠ (denying 4 Hearts) with 14+ HCP.</p>
1♣ > 1♠ > 1N > 2♦ >	2N [Alert] 3NT [Alert]	<p>NMF bidder indicates 5 Spades and possibly 4 Hearts:</p> <p>If Opener does not have 4 Hearts or 3 Spades, He bids:</p> <p>2NT with 12-13 HCP</p> <p>3NT with 14+ HCP</p> <p>However, responder maintains captaincy and may continue forcing bids.</p>

Bid	Response	Meaning
1♦ > 1♠ > 1N > 2♣ > 2♥ >	2NT or 3NT [Alert]	<p>After Opener shows 4-card support in the other major (first priority), Responder's 2NT/3NT denies 4-card Heart support. Opener bids 3♠/4♠ to show 3-card Spade support in addition to the 4-card Heart support.</p>
1♦ > 1♠ > 1N > 2♣ >	2♦	<p>Partnership agreements vary when opener bids 2♦ however Opener typically has a highly unbalanced hand or a hand clearly without a stopper in one suit.</p>
1♥ > 1♠ > 1N > 2♣		<p>Many play "New" Minor Forcing principles apply after an opening bid of 1♥.</p>