



MARTY BERGEN'S

SECRETS TO WINNING BRIDGE

Number 1

Modern Doubles

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Worth Knowing about Negative Doubles

- A. They have no upper limit in strength.
The same is also true for all other doubles!
- B. The only Negative Double that promises both unbid suits is 1♣ – (1♦) – Dbl.
- C. Unbid suits promised at the two level:
If 2 unbid majors, double shows 1 or 2 majors.
If 1 unbid major, double shows that major.
If no unbid majors, double shows 1 or 2 minors.
- D. They don't promise shortness in the opponent's suit, but four cards is rare.
- E. A Negative Double followed by a new suit at the two or three level is weak.

Opener Rebids after Responder's Double

- 1. All jumps are invitational.
- 2. The only forcing bid is a cue-bid.
This bid is forcing to game, but says nothing else about opener's hand.
- 3. Opener may be stuck, and be forced to:
 - rebid a 5-card suit; OR
 - bid a new suit with 3 cards; OR
 - bid 1NT with no stopper in opponent's suit.
- 4. A double jump to 3NT promises a strong unbalanced hand with a long suit.
- 5. Should opener pass partner's double?

At 1 or 2 level – rarely. Only with both length (4+ cards) and strength in the opponent's suit.

At 3 level – sometimes. Opener will usually have four cards in the opponent's suit.

At 4 level – often, if no convenient bid.