



## Tool Kit: Quantitative Bidding

The joint High Card Point Count between two balanced hands is a good guide to the number of tricks that can be made in No Trumps.

37-40 HCP generally makes 13 tricks **(Grand Slam)**

33-36 HCP generally makes 12 tricks **(Small Slam)**

25-32 HCP generally makes 9-11 tricks **(Game)**

23-24 HCP generally makes 8 tricks **(Part Score)**

19-22 HCP generally makes 7 tricks **(Part Score)**

When an auction establishes that there are two balanced hands opposite each other, one of the hands has usually made a limit bid giving a HCP range within 1-4 HCP;

A quantitative bid is used in reply to either:

directly bid the contract, usually 1NT, 3NT, 6NT; or 7NT; or else to make an invitational bid:

2NT inviting raise to game: Pass or 3NT;

4NT inviting raise to small slam: Pass or 6NT;

5NT forcing raise to small or grand slam: 6NT or 7NT.

Quantitative Examples

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>	
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	South change of suit reply is non-committal as to strength, but forcing for one round
2NT	Pass	4NT	Pass	North shows 17-18 HCP balanced; South (15 HCP balanced) invites raise to 6NT if maximum.
6NT	Pass	Pass	Pass	North assesses and raises

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>	
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	South change of suit reply is non-committal as to strength, but forcing for one round
2NT	Pass	5NT	Pass	North shows 17-18 HCP balanced; South (19 HCP balanced) forces a raise to 6NT if min (17) or 7NT if max (18).
6NT	Pass	Pass	Pass	North assesses and goes for the small slam.



## Gerber – Another way to ask!

Gerber is good for finding slams in No Trumps in auctions with no natural suit bidding. It's particularly useful when the No Trump slam depends on "running" a long suit, often a minor, and the asking partner needs to make sure of the "stops".

### Asking how many Aces

A bid of 4♣ asks partner to count his aces and report

The bid is forcing, partner must reply.

4♦ shows 0 or 4 Aces

4♥ shows 1 ace

4♠ shows 2 aces

4NT shows 3 aces

### Asking how many Kings

A bid of 5♣ asks partner to count his kings and report

5♦ shows 0 or 4 Kings

5♥ shows 1 King

5♠ shows 2 Kings

5NT shows 3 Kings

### Asking how many Queens

A bid of 6♣ asks partner to count his queens and report

The bid is forcing, partner replies as above, but at the 6 level.

Gerber Examples

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>	
1NT	Pass	4♣	Pass	South has a really strong hand and immediately asks for Aces
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass	North Replies: 3; South asks: How many Kings?
5♦	Pass	6♣	Pass	North Replies: 0; South asks: How many Queens?
6♥	Pass	7NT	Pass	North Replies: 1; South decides on the grand slam!

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>	
2NT	Pass	4♣	Pass	South has a strong hand and immediately asks for Aces
4NT	Pass	6NT	Pass	North Replies: 3; South decides on the small slam!
Pass	Pass			