

Date	Page	Type	Errata -- EZ-Expert Bidding Tools, Second Edition
2025-06	143	Delete	For R2 2H/2S: "& 5-card clubs"
2025-06	144	Improve	5. Append: Better would be to subtract a point for 4-3-3-3 and pass this 8-loser hand.
2025-06	145	Index	Bergen's artivles are Sep & Oct; index; also change p 311. "revised from Bergen's articles ... his methods".
2025-06	213	Index	"second negative" (at the * below the chart).
2025-06	37	New	Add an indented option under the checked indented option: <i>Exception 1:</i> in competition, the jump raise of a minor suit is weak. Change the other exception to Exception 2, and change other text accordingly.
2025-06	39	Improve	Update "Invitational Jump Shifts" from the article of that name.
2025-06	180	Fix	4 lines from bottom, the bid showing 4 spades and a minimum is 3S. The jump accept in either major is optional when vulnerable.
2025-06	186	Fix	Standard super-accept. After a Jacoby transfer, the standard super-accept is a jump to three of the major, showing at least 4-card support and a maximum hand. Gary and I play the super-accepts charted on page 180, which are Marty Bergen's invention.
2025-03	175	Imprv	Change "5-card-major Stayman" to "Low-Information puppet Stayman (LIPS)."
2025-03	175	New	<i>Insert before Key Features:</i> Rule: Any transfer response to a notrump opening denies holding a 4-card major suit. This rule should be standard; however, because it is seldom articulated, players casually violate it. The following interconnected corollaries are definitely standard in North America: Rule: After a Stayman response, responder showing a minor suit forces to game. Rule: After a transfer to a minor suit (whether or not a size ask), responder's new suit at the three level shows a singleton or void in the suit.

2025-03	175 New	<p><i>Append to Backstory:</i></p> <p>Our rule and its two corollaries are definitely best when playing a strong 1 NT opening. Both corollaries usually poll about 85% on Bridge Winners. Most experts, including Kit Woolsey and Chris Compton [ref: Rasmussen], use both sequences to explore for either the correct game or a slam. A contingent I would call "blasters" use these sequences only as slam tries; they may get lucky when they bid 3 NT on game hands with shortness. Experts prefer skill, even if they leak some information. However, Monty Page and Mark Bartusek [ref: Helfgott] prefer blasting at matchpoints.</p> <p>For consistency, our rules are probably better when the strength of the 1 NT opening varies with the vulnerability.</p> <p>When our 1 NT opening is weak, Randy Thompson [ref: Goetze] points out that we need to optimize for escape:</p> <p>-- After a Stayman response, responder's minor suit isto play. -- After a transfer to a minor suit (whether or not a size ask), responder's new suit at the three level is natural, 4+ cards - the way to show this hand.</p> <p>This plan, with its exceptions to our rules, is standard in the UK - they have a history of ACOL and weak 1 NT openings. Frances Hinden [ref: Granville] says that UK players with heavy American influence may not assume this plan.</p>
2025-03	181 Imprv	... Transfers after transfers, which is more comprehensive than the one paragraph in the Nelson reference. It also appears superior to the alternatives in the Helfgott reference and the upside-down version in the Chorush reference.
2025-03	181 Index	Transfers after transfers.
2025-03	190 Imprv	Change "5-card-major Stayman" to "Low-Information puppet Stayman (LIPS)." Also pages 192-193, perhaps elsewhere.
2025-03	192 Imprv	Rework chart. Refer to "Two-Way 3D after Size Ask or Clubs" on Bridge Winners.
2025-03	303 Imprv	Change the heading "5-Card-Major Stayman" to "Low-Information Puppet Stayman (LIPS)." Change bullet "one 4-card major" to "[two or] one 4-card majors." Define responder's 2D bid over opener's 3C as showing four cards in both majors (and keep the asterisk); gray this box. (No change to *note.)
2025-03	306 Imprv	<p>Replace first sentence of Backstory with: We found out about this 2 NT response in 2023, but have yet to play it. Justin Lall called his version puppet Stayman, after the original. However, that's a terrible name, because many folks assume they know how it works. We called it 5-card-major Stayman. Now we are changing to Mike Nelson's name for it, low-information puppet Stayman (LIPS). [Index Lall, Nelson & LIPS.]</p> <p>Replace the second sentence for note 2 with: Opener's 3H asks (grabbing that suit). Responder bids 3S with long hearts and 3NT with spades.</p>

2025-03	311 Add	<p>Matthews, Pete Jr, et. al.; "Two-Way 3D after Size Ask or Clubs," © 2025, https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/two-way-3d-after-size-ask-or-clubs/.</p> <p>Nelson, Mike, et. al.; "A Comprehensive System of Responses to 1NT," © 2018, https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/a-comprehensive-system-of-responses-to-1nt/.</p> <p>Helfgott, Leonard, et. al., "Second Suit After Jacoby Transfer" (poll), © 2020, https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/second-suit-after-jacoby-transfer/.</p> <p>Chorush, Ira, et. al.; "A better Smolen," © 2012, https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/a-better-smolen/.</p> <p>Granville, Richard, et. al.; "Meaning of 3M after transfer to a minor suit?" (poll), © 2016, https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/meaning-of-3m-after-transfer-to-a-minor-suit/.</p> <p>Hillyard, Robin, et. al.; "A scenario" (poll), © 2016, https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/a-scenario/.</p> <p>Goetze, Michael, et. al.; "Standard followups to Minor Suit Transfers" (poll), © 2015, https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/standard-followups-to-minor-suit-transfers/.</p> <p>Rasmussen, Bob, et. al.; "Priorities in a minor suit transfer auction," © 2024</p>
2025-02	93 New	<p>Marty Bergen, "Opener rebids after a 1NT response to 1H – part 2," in the Jan 2025 <i>Bridge Bulletin</i>, p. 59.</p> <p>(A) AKQ10-AJ654-64-75: our approved rebid is 2C, but wait! "As I have repeatedly written and stated, 'any suit headed by four honors should be treated as if it had an additional card.'" A fine plan: open 1S on this "5-5" hand.</p> <p>(D) AJT-AKT2-53-AT9: "This is not a 17-point hand! ... The only correct rebid is 3 NT." On page 50, we have a choice, the expert meaning of 3 NT, showing a balanced hand with six cards in the major, or like 2 NT, only stronger. It looks like Bergen is in the latter camp, but wait! This heart suit has four honors and thus should be treated as six cards long. This hand works for either choice.</p>
2025-02	147 Alt	<p>Mike Lawrence tackles "Responder's bid after opener's reverse" in the Dec 2024 <i>Bridge Bulletin</i>, p. 50. The article describes an incompatible alternative to the "two-way slow-down" of this book. Lawrence, a multiple world champion, outstanding author, and an obvious candidate, has been nominated for the Bridge Hall of Fame. His method for reverses is surely a worthy alternative.</p> <p>Lawrence's article is aimed at intermediate players and is based on the auction {1D-1S; 2H}. He mentions using the cheaper of the fourth suit and 2NT to show a weak hand (what we call the slow-down bid). However, he does not define responder's 3NT after the slow-down bid. Instead, he suggests the immediate jump to "3 NT shows a fat 9 up to a so-so 11 points ... [or] a wretched 12." With slam interest (e.g., AQ64-Q6-JT9-KQT6), Lawrence says responder should rebid something other than 2NT or 3NT. After a reverse into hearts, that could be the fourth suit (3C here), "showing game values [and] ... usually undefined."</p> <p>Lawrence's method is eminently playable and simpler than two-way slow-down after a reverse into hearts. However, he does not say how responder can differentiate ways to 3NT after a reverse into hearts. The fourth suit (oM) is used up, and 2NT is usually natural but non-forcing. We could use two-way slow-down here, but then why not over both categories of reverse?</p> <p>We have a worthy alternative to the book here, so the partnership should make an active decision on which way to play.</p>
2025-02	176 Note	<p>James Marsh Sternberg, MD, tackles "When should I open 1NT?" in the Dec 2024 <i>Bridge Bulletin</i>, p. 61. The article is a clear expression of ideas consistent with this section of this book.</p>

2025-02	183 New	Update [G] for my article "Simulation: Stayman and a Minor."
2025-02	198 Alt	Jerry Helms, in his column in the Dec 2024 Bridge Bulletin, p. 53, tackles the lead-directing double of our Jacoby transfer. His preference is that accepting the transfer "means we have a home," that is, either 3+ card support or a stopper in the doubled suit. If your partnership plays that redouble is an offer to play, then consider the Helms method. However, it does not tell responder whether we have enough trumps to compete to the three level. It's better for bidding garden-variety deals, if the redouble shows doubleton support with a stopper. We agree with Helms that a pass should show a doubleton without a stopper.
2025-02	282 Index	lebensohl:over weak two-bid.
2025-02	282 Fix	Two lines below the line starting "10.", insert "we" at the start of the line.
2025-02	283 Index	Meckwell:over 1 NT.
2025-02	283 Index	multi-Landy:over 1 NT.
2025-02	284 New	<p>Over a weak 1 NT opening (could be weaker than 14), acting in the direct seat promises the strength of at least a decent opening bid.</p> <p>Meckwell can seldom resolve overcaller's 5-4 holdings, either major-minor or both majors; but the opponents are also in the dark. Even 4-4 can be OK! Meckwell never forces the partnership to the three level, so we can often make a nuisance of ourselves without suffering for it. If our intent is to disturb the 1 NT opening while assisting our defense, then Meckwell is highly suitable. We don't need that much accuracy when we plan to get out at the two level. Playing Meckwell, it's clearly a mistake to go to the three level with less than 4-card support for a two-suiter.</p> <p>Multi-Landy. If we would like to seriously contest the partscore, or to consider a game, then multi-Landy seems better. It's more accurate. That's what we want when we hope to declare. That accuracy can be a disadvantage when an opponent declares.</p>
2025-02	298 Index	Mark Bartusek.
2025-01	0	File emptied by second edition.