

Answers for Quiz #1 - Opening Bids

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Count HCP (High Card Points – Ace = 4, King = 3, Queen = 2, Jack = 1) plus points for length (+1 pt for 5th card in a suit, +1 for 6th card, etc.)

Bid	Bid	Points	Analysis
#1	1♥	17 HCP +1 for length = 18 pts	Bid your 5-card major.
#2	1♣	12 HCP	No 5-card major — open in a minor. Bid longer minor, but with exactly 3 cards in each minor, bid 1♣.
#3	1♦	13 HCP	No 5-card major — open in a minor. More diamonds than clubs, so bid 1♦.
#4	1♣	14 HCP	No 5-card major — open in a minor. More clubs than diamonds, so bid 1♣.
#5	1♠	17 HCP +1 for length = 18 pts	Bid your 5-card major. Bid on length, not strength.
#6	1♦	14 HCP	No 5-card major — open in a minor. Bid longer minor but with exactly 4 cards in each, bid 1♦.
#7	1♦	18 HCP	No 5-card major — open in a minor. Bid longer minor, which is 1♦. (You should have 3 of a suit to open the bidding with that suit. Be aware that some players may open this hand with 1♣ [the “short club”] which must be alerted. Opening 1♣ with this hand is not recommended.)
#8	1♠	16 HCP + 2 for length = 18 pts	Bid your 5-card major. With equal length in both majors, bid higher-ranking major, bid 1♠. “High five!”
#9	1♥	16 HCP +3 for length = 19 pts	With two 5+-card majors, bid the longer one. Bid 1♥. If both majors were equal length, bid the higher-ranking one, but in this hand, hearts are the longer suit.
#10	1♥	16 HCP + 1 for length = 17 pts	Even though hearts are not strong, it’s important to show length in opening bids; you are bidding a 5-card major. Bid on length, not strength.
#11	1♣	14 HCP + 2 for length = 16 pts	No 5-card major — open in a minor. Bid longer minor, in this case, your only minor, so bid 1♣. Easy one!
#12	1♦	14 HCP	No 5-card major — open in a minor. Bid longer minor. With exactly 4 cards in both minors, bid 1♦, even though clubs are stronger. Some may prefer to bid the better minor, 1♣, because the clubs are considerably stronger than the diamonds. For a beginner, it is better to follow the basic rules for now.
#13	Pass	9 HCP + 1 for length = 10 pts	Not enough points to open the bidding. Note: In 3 rd seat, after two passes, this hand may be opened 1♠.
#14	1♣	12 HCP	No 5-card major — open in a minor. With more clubs than diamonds, bid 1♣.
#15	1♠	12 HCP + 1 for length = 13 pts	Bid your 5-card major. It’s not a great-looking suit, but you do have 5 of them.
#16	1♦	14 HCP + 2 for length = 16 pts	No 5-card major — open in a minor. Bid longer minor. With more than 4 and exactly the same number of each, bid higher-ranking minor. Bid 1♦. “High five!”