

# RESPONDING WITH 1NT

# 1NT

## THE DUSTBIN BID

# 6 - 9



A responding bid of 1NT is a rather odd bid!

It is the only No Trump bid that doesn't mean a Balanced Hand.

It simply shows a point count.

1. It says 'I don't have 4 cards in my partner's suit'
2. and 'I don't have a suit I can bid at the 1 level'
3. and 'I don't have enough points to bid at the 2 level'

We call it the 'Dustbin Bid' as it catches all those rubbish hands with 6-9 points where there is nothing else you can bid. Remember, you always bid with 6+ points. 1NT is your last resort if you can't bid anything else.

After partner opens 1♥ we must respond with 6 points. A response of 2♦ would promise 9+ points. So we bid 1NT.

West	East	East
1♥	1NT	♠ 9 8 2
		♥ 7
		♦ K J 8 6 3 2
		♣ Q 8 4
Notice East doesn't have a balanced hand		

### Exception

The exception is after a 1♣ opening. Responder can now always show a new suit at the 1 level (or support clubs), so it's best to reserve the 1NT response for slightly stronger hands with no 4 card major, i.e. 8-10 points.