

Takeout Doubles (Chapter 8), Slam Bidding (Appendix), Penalty Doubles

Takeout Double: 13-17 pts, shortness in opener's suit and 3+card support for all unbid suits, or 18+ pts (too strong to overcall).

Opener's partner (responder) bids a new suit at the one-level, raises opener, or bids 1NT with 6-9 pts. With 10+ pts, responder redoubles.

The doubler's partner passes with less than 6 pts if responder has bid, but if responder passes, the doubler's partner makes a minimum bid with 0-8 pts, jumps with 9-11 pts, and bids game with 12+ pts. With stoppers in opener's suit and no suit of your own, bid 1NT with 8-10 HCP, 2NT with 11-12, 3NT with 13+. With 4-4-4-1 distribution, cue bid opponent's suit to ask doubler to pick his best suit.

Rebids by takeout doubler:

With 13-15 pts, pass if partner bid at cheapest level, pass with 13-14 pts if partner jumped, raise one level if partner jumped.

With 16-18 pts, raise one level if partner bid at cheapest level, bid game if partner jumped.

With 19-21 pts, jump raise if partner bid at cheapest level, bid game if partner jumped, bid your own suit.

Distinguishing a penalty double from a takeout double: A takeout double

1. Neither doubler or his partner has previously made a bid
2. Opposition has bid either one or two suits
3. It is either the doubler's first or second turn to bid.