Red Suit Transfers - Summary Sheet

Partner opened 1NT

You are now 'in control of the auction'.
It is up to you to decide how high you wish to go, and in what strain.

Frequently a suit contract will play better than a no trump contract – opponents will not be able to 'run' a weak suit, and you will frequently make an extra trick for a better score.

'Better' contracts will frequently be in a major suit based on an 8-card fit.

Red suit transfers

So how do you find this fit?
If you have a 5-card major suit you tell partner the good news by bidding the suit below;
so 2♦ promises at least 5 Hearts and requests partner to bid 2♥,
and 2♥ promises at least 5 Spades and requests partner to bid 2♠.

Two bids for the price of one

The real strength of this convention is that you get 2 bids for the price of one.
With a weak hand you can transfer and then pass,
and with a stronger hand you can transfer and then make a further bid.

Further bid?

Following the transfer bid and partner's completion:-

a bid in a new suit is natural and forcing (usually game-forcing);
a raise of the transferred bid to the 3-level is invitational (11 or 12) on a 6-card suit – partner will either pass or raise to 4;
a raise of the transferred suit to the 4-level is a game contract, to play;
a rebid of 2NT shows a 5-card major and invitational values in a balanced hand – partner can either sign off with Pass or 3 of the major or raise to 3NT or 4 of the major;
a rebid of 3NT shows a 5-card major and is a game contract on a balanced hand, although partner might correct to 4 of the major

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	K T 8 4 3 Q 7 4 J 5 3 6 5	Partner opened 1NT. Bid 2♥. Partner will bid 2♠, then you pass.

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	K T 8 7 4 3 Q J 4 K Q 3 5	Partner opened 1NT. Bid 2♥. Partner will bid 2♠, then you raise to 3♠ (invitational with a 6-card suit). Partner will pass with a minimum or raise to 4♠ with a maximum.

Stronger opening bids

Transfer bids of 3♦ and 3♥ are used in exactly the same way over opening bids of 2NT (20 – 22), and the artificial sequence 2♣, 2♦, 2NT (23 – 24).