

2Dlay Convention

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2Dlay Introduction

The 2Dlay “To Delay” convention is used by a one-of-a-major opener to rebid when responder has bid 2♣ over the major opening. It allows responder bidding space to show hand types, while still giving responder the opportunity to find out what opener would have bid naturally.

2Dlay Details

After 1♥-2♣, or 1♠-2♣, opener bids 2♦ on any hand that would normally rebid 2♦, 2NT, or 3♣. Over opener’s 2♦ 2Dlay rebid, responder can now bid 2♥, which asks opener to describe which of these hand types were held – opener now bids:

- 2♠: A hand that would have rebid 2♦ over 2♣.
 - 2NT: A hand that would have rebid 2NT over 2♣.
 - 3♣: A hand that would have rebid 3♣ over 2♣.
 - 3♦: A hand with 5 or longer ♦s, with extra values.
- After these rebids, bidding continues naturally.

Also over 2♦, responder can bid:

- 2♠: This shows 3 card or longer support for opener’s major and asks opener to “shape out”: to describe hand further.
- 2NT: Balanced hand, and if 2♣ was 2/1 style, this is game forcing.
- 3X: Natural, distributional, with ♣s as long suit.

Using this style, opener has available the 2NT and 3♣ rebids over 2♣, which are used to show:

- 2NT: 18-19 balanced/semi-balanced.
- 3♣: 5♣s (so 2♦ followed next by 3♣ only has 4♣s).

The 2Dlay convention makes it possible for the partnership to define a 2/1 2♣ response to a major suit opening as “game force, clubs or balanced”, with responder’s 2NT rebid (i.e. after opener bids again) showing the balanced game force.

2Dlay Examples

- a)
- | | | | |
|---------|--------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| ♠ AJ832 | ♠ K6 | 1♠-2♣— | 2♦ was 2Dlay, 2NT game force |
| ♥ KQ3 | ♥ A872 | 2♦-2NT— | balanced (if 2♣ was 2/1 game force), |
| ♦ T9 | ♦ KJ7 | 3NT | 3NT by opener with nothing more to |
| ♣ QT4 | ♣ K653 | | show. |
- b)
- | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|----------------------------------|
| ♠ AQJ93 | ♠ K2 | 1♠-2♣— | 2♦ was 2Dlay, 2♥ asked, and 3♣ |
| ♥ 32 | ♥ T8 | 2♦-2♥— | showed the ♣ fit. Now natural |
| ♦ 64 | ♦ AQT5 | 3♣-3♦— | bidding finds the problem in ♥s. |
| ♣ AQT3 | ♣ K9852 | 3♣-4♣— | |
| | | 4♣-Pass | |
- c)
- | | | | |
|---------|---------|--------|---------------------------------------|
| ♠ 42 | ♠ A87 | 1♥-2♣— | 2♦ was 2Dlay, 2♥ asked, 2♠ showed |
| ♥ AQJ93 | ♥ T | 2♦-2♥— | ♥s & ♦s (like 2♦ naturally over 2♣). |
| ♦ AJT4 | ♦ KQ87 | 2♠-3♦— | Now responder shows the ♦ fit and the |
| ♣ AQ | ♣ K9832 | etc. | partnership can find the best spot. |