

Baron 2♠

When partner opens 1NT most people these days play transfers, so the 2♠ bid is ‘spare’. I explained many of the various options for the bid in “The 2♠ response to 1NT”. This document outlines the Baron 2♠ convention which is fairly popular in the UK and is part of the Standard English System.

2♠ = Either a balanced raise to 2NT with no 4-card major.
 Or a game forcing hand with slam interest and usually no 5-card major.

Opener bids 2NT with a minimum and with a maximum bids a 4-card suit.

With an invitational hand responder will pass 2NT with a minimum or bid 3NT over a suit bid by opener. With a slam seeking hand a 4-4 or better suit fit will always be uncovered if there is one.

When playing Baron 2♠, the direct 2NT response is used when responder has a weak hand with a long minor and wants to play in 3♣ or 3♦.