



## **BALANCED HANDS**

OPENING    **1NT**    12-14 PTS

**THIS IS OUR FIRST BID (ON THE CHART) FOR ALL BALANCED HANDS.**

We shall be going down this chart **STAGE BY STAGE - PAGE BY PAGE**, until we reach 25+ pts!!! Phew!!!

This is our very first stage and introduction to the bidding.

You either have a **BALANCED** or **UNBALANCED** hand.

So let's make a start at the beginning.

When you have finished adding your points and find you have 12+, you can open the bidding, but only when it's your turn.

### **Are you Balanced or Unbalanced?**

**What is a Balanced hand?**

No singleton

No Void

No more than one doubleton.

**SHAPE**      **Balanced** **4-4-3-2**, **4-3-3-3**, **Semi- Balanced** **5-3-3-2**

**5-3-3-2 hands ?**    If the 5 card suit is a major, it's usually best to open and rebid the suit.  
If the 5 card suit is a minor, it's best to open 1NT.

<p><u>You (Opener)</u>      <u><b>4-3-3-3 shape</b></u></p> <p>♠ K75 ♥ AQ5 ♦ K109 ♣ J742 <b>1NT</b> (Limit Bid)</p> <p>Our hand is balanced with <u><b>12-14 pts</b></u> No singleton/void or more than one doubleton. Opening the bidding with 1NT shows partner our shape and point count.</p>	<p><u>You (Opener)</u>      <u><b>4-4-3-2 shape</b></u></p> <p>♠ 7652 ♥ Q10 ♦ AKJ ♣ QJ64 <b>1NT</b> (Limit Bid)</p> <p>Our hand is balanced with <u><b>12-14 pts</b></u> No singleton/void or more than one doubleton. Once again, opening the bidding with 1NT shows partner everything with just the one bid.</p>
<p><u>You (Opener)</u>      <u><b>5-3-3-2- MINOR</b></u></p> <p>♠ 75 ♥ A96 ♦ <b>A9632</b> ♣ KQ7 <b>1NT</b> (Limit Bid)</p> <p>We have a 5-card <b>MINOR</b>. <u><b>12-14 pts</b></u> It's best to open 1NT with a 5 card minor. We do not have a singleton/void or more than one doubleton.</p>	<p><u>You (Opener)</u>      <u><b>5-3-3-2 MAJOR</b></u></p> <p>♠ KQ6 ♥ <b>KQ963</b> ♦ 864 ♣ K4 1♥</p> <p>We have a 5-card <b>MAJOR</b>. <u><b>12-14 pts</b></u> This time we will open and rebid the major. (More on this controversial subject later.)</p>