

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

Stayman

♠ A J 10
♥ A 4 2
♦ 7 6 5 3
♣ K 4 2

♠ K 6 5
♥ J 9
♦ Q J 4 2
♣ 8 7 5 3

12
7 10
11

♠ Q 7 3
♥ Q 10 8 6
♦ K 10
♣ Q J 10 9

♠ 9 8 4 2
♥ K 7 5 3
♦ A 9 8
♣ A 6

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
All pass			
2 NT by North			
Lead: ♣ Q			

North opens 1 NT, showing 12-14 HCP and a balanced Hand. South has at least 11 points and at least one four-card major. South bids 2 ♣, Stayman, asking whether North has a four-card major. North's 2 ♦ denies one. South bids 2 NT inviting to game, and North, with a minimum, passes.

Declarer wins the trick in dummy and immediately plays on spades. Declarer is hoping that at least one of the spade honours will be with West. There is a 75% chance that this will be so. As it happens, the suit breaks 3-3 which will enable eight trick to be made.

The play theme: double finesses

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Board 2
East Deals
N-S Vul

Stayman

♠ Q J 10
♥ Q 7
♦ 8 7 5 2
♣ Q 9 8 4

♠ K 4 3
♥ A J 6 5
♦ K Q J
♣ 7 5 2

7
14 11
8

♠ A 8 5 2
♥ K 3 2
♦ 6 3
♣ J 10 6 3

♠ 9 7 6
♥ 10 9 8 4
♦ A 10 9 4
♣ A K

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	All pass		
4 ♥ by West			
Lead: ♠ Q			

With invitational values (11 or 12 points) and a four-card major, East uses Stayman. West bids 2 ♥, and raises to game after East invites.

On the ♠ Q lead, declarer has two spade losers, so must only lose one heart. This can be achieved by crossing to dummy and taking the double finesse in trumps, hoping the South has at least one of the heart honours.

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Board 3
 South Deals
 E-W Vul

Stayman

♠ A 10 9 8
 ♥ A J 2
 ♦ A 9 5 4
 ♣ 5 3

♠ K 4
 ♥ 8 7 6 5 4
 ♦ K Q J
 ♣ J 8 7

♠ Q 5 3
 ♥ 10
 ♦ 8 7 6
 ♣ Q 10 9 6 4 2

♠ J 7 6 2
 ♥ K Q 9 3
 ♦ 10 3 2
 ♣ A K

13
 10 4
 13

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 NT	Pass	4 ♠
All pass			
4 ♠ by South			
Lead: ♦ K			

With both four-card majors, South shows the heart suit, which promises four cards in that suit but does not deny four spades. North has the values for game and can bid 3 NT. South trusts that partner bid Stayman on a four-card major, and since hearts were not supported, it must be spades.

West leads the ♣ K. South must avoid losing two spades by taking the double finesse in trumps.

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Board 4
 West Deals
 Both Vul

Stayman

♠ Q 5 4 3
 ♥ 6 5
 ♦ K 10 8
 ♣ A Q 10 2

♠ J 9
 ♥ A K J 2
 ♦ 6 5 3 2
 ♣ 7 6 5

♠ A 10 8 2
 ♥ Q 7 3
 ♦ A J 4
 ♣ J 4 3

♠ K 7 6
 ♥ 10 9 8 4
 ♦ Q 9 7
 ♣ K 9 8

11
 9 12
 8

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1 NT by East			
Lead: ♥ 10			

With only nine points, West should not use Stayman, as with only one four-card major, West would need at least 11 points. There are some weak hands on which Stayman can be bid but they are not covered in this set of hands.

On the lead of the ♥ 10, West should win in dummy and play the ♠ J. As North has at least one spade honour, declarer will make two spades, four hearts and a diamond.

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Board 5
North Deals
N-S Vul

Stayman

♠ A Q J 3
♥ A Q 3
♦ 4 3
♣ J 9 5 2

♠ 5 4 2
♥ 6 5 4 2
♦ A 9 8 6 5
♣ 7

14
4 9
13

♠ 8 6
♥ J 10 7
♦ Q J 10 2
♣ K Q 6 3

♠ K 10 9 7
♥ K 9 8
♦ K 7
♣ A 10 8 4

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
All pass			
4 ♠ by North			
Lead: ♦ Q			

With at least 11 points and a four-card major, South uses Stayman. North bids 2 ♠, showing four of the suit but denying four hearts. South can bid game.

The first two diamond tricks are lost. After drawing trumps, declarer takes the double club finesse to avoid losing two tricks in the suit. It is making as long as one club honour is right. This time, both the honours are sitting under the ace.

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Board 6
East Deals
E-W Vul

Stayman

♠ 8 4
♥ 7 6
♦ J 9 5 4
♣ Q 8 6 4 3

♠ J 10 7
♥ A 10 3 2
♦ A Q 2
♣ 10 9 5

3
11 14
12

♠ 9 6 3 2
♥ K Q 4
♦ 10 8 7
♣ A K 2

♠ A K Q 5
♥ J 9 8 5
♦ K 6 3
♣ J 7

West	North	East	South
		1 NT	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass
4 ♥ by East			
Lead: ♣ A			

With at least 11 points and a four-card major, West uses Stayman. East bids 2 ♥ to show a four-card suit. This does not deny four spades. West invites game and East accepts.

Declarer loses two clubs, and must take the double trump finesse to avoid losing two hearts.

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