

GARBAGE STAYMAN

Used with weak hands with no 5-card major to transfer into (although you might use GARBAGE STAYMAN if 4-5 in majors).

- If you have Diamonds and Opener responds 2D to 2C, you drop there.
- If you don't have Diamonds, you must have both majors, because you need to correct if Opener bids 2D.
- If 4-5 in majors, bid Hearts over 2D, then Opener can correct to Spades if needed. Or Opener can bid 3C, if he has not-too-common 2-2-4-5 distribution.

With GARBAGE STAYMAN, when you go 1N-2C-2D-2H/S, you're saying you don't have diamonds, so to be a garbage stayman hand without diamonds you have to have both majors, because you're saying to your partner "either pick a 4-3 fit or run to 3 clubs".

If you just had one 5 card major, you'd still transfer and drop. If you were 5-4, you might still just transfer and drop, but you could bid garbage and then bid your 5 ... if the partner has 3 of the major he's going to drop it there, but if he only has 2 and he has three of the other he's going to pull it to the other. Or bid 3C.

And if you just have one 4 card major, then you have to have diamonds (and you have to have 3 of the other major, in case partner bids it. So they better be 3 good ones).

And also remember that to bid GARBAGE STAYMAN, you have to have a distributional hand where the chance of playing in a suit at the 2 level in a 4-3 fit is at least as good of a chance to score compared to playing in 1NT. You're not just talking "less than 8 points with the right shape" -- you're probably talking, "I don't have any suit stopped and my hand is completely useless in NT". If you have an A or KQ in a suit, let him play 1NT.

1N	- 2C	
2D/2H/2S	- P	Type 1: 1N opener bids what you wanted and you drop there
1N	- 2C	
2D	- 2H/2S	
P		Type 2: correcting to our garbage suit and it drops
1N	- 2C	
2D	- 2H/2S	
2S/3C	- P	Type 3: 1N opener corrects 2H drop to 2S, or 2S to 3C