THE 3NT RESPONSE TO A MINOR OPENING

Opener	Responder
1♣/1♦	3NT

The requirements are:

-- 16-18 HCP, balanced hand, 4-3-3-3 distribution

-- No biddable major suit (Q10xx or better)

-- Strength in the unbid suits

To ask for aces after the 3NT response, opener bids the lowest unbid suit other than clubs (Super Gerber - see section 6-10):

Opener	Responder
1♣	3NT

4♣ - natural rebid of clubs
4♦ - Super Gerber
4♥/4♠ - natural
4NT - invitational notrump raise, Boland applies
5♣ - Miller

Opener	Responder
1♦	3NT

4♣/4♦/4♠ - natural
4♥ - Super Gerber
4NT - invitationl notrump raise, Boland applies
5♣ - Miller

See section 5-6, The Boland Convention, and section 5-7, The Miller Convention.

The Omnibus 2NT response is used with 5-3-3-2 and 4-4-3-2 notrump hands of this strength. See Omnibus, section 3-10.

When the Opponents Intervene

-- When RHO overcalls a minor suit opening at the one level, the meaning of 3NT changes.

South	West	North
1♣	1♦/1♥/1♠	2NT - 11-12 HCP, not forcing
		3NT - 13-16 HCP
		4NT - RKCB

Stoplight (section 4-12) applies to the 2NT response.

With a 17-20 HCP notrump hand, just make a forcing suit response and decide what to do later..

-- When an overcall is at the two level, a necessarily non-jump 2NT response is not forcing, showing 11-12 HCP (no Stoplight), and 3NT shows 13-16 HCP.

-- When an overcall is at the three level, a 3NT response shows 13-17 HCP, 4NT 18-20.

Also see section 6-7, Four Notrump - Blackwood or Natural?