

# Suit Quality Test

## Rule of 6, 7 & 8

### In Direct seat

Reasons to make a simple Suit overcall *not a jump overcall*

1) *Interfere*

Opener	Intervenor	Responder	Advancer
1♣	1♦		

does NOT take up much bidding space

Opener	Intervenor	Responder	Advancer
1♣	1♠		

prevents Responder from bidding 1♦ & 1♥

2) *Lead Directing*

Opener	Intervenor	Responder	Advancer
1♣	1♥		

♥AQ862 2<sup>top</sup>3 you want partner to Lead ♥

♥AT742 you do NOT want partner to Lead ♥

3) *Compete*

Opener	Intervenor	Responder	Advancer
1Suit	?		

to offer a Suit as a place to play, you need

6<sup>orMore</sup> HighCardPoints at the 1 Level

10<sup>orMore</sup> HighCardPoints at the 2 Level

**SQuaT** a good enough Suit

### SuitQualityTest

count the number of cards in your Suit

add the number of Honors in that suit (only count Js & Ts if accompanied by the Q or higher)

if **SQuaT** is 6 or less then Pass, the suit is NOT good enough to bid

if **SQuaT** is 7 then the suit is good enough to make a 1 Level overcall

if **SQuaT** is 8 or more, then the suit is good enough to make a non jump 1 or 2 Level overcall

Opener	Intervenor's Suit	Reason to overcall	Number of Cards	Number of Honors	SQuaT	Call
1♣	♥KQxxx	<i>Interfere Lead Directing Compete</i>	5	2	5 + 2 = 7	1♥
1♠	♥KQxxx	<i>Interfere Lead Directing Compete</i>	5	2	5 + 2 = 7	Pass
1♣	♦JTxxx	<i>none</i>	5	0	5 + 0 = 5	Pass
1♣	♥QTxx	<i>Interfere Compete</i>	5	3	5 + 3 = 8	1♥
1♠	♥QTxx	<i>Interfere Compete</i>	5	3	5 + 3 = 8	2♥
1♣	♠ATxxx	<i>Interfere Compete</i>	5	2	5 + 2 = 7	1♠
1♦	♥AQxxxx	<i>Lead Directing Compete</i>	6	2	6 + 2 = 8	1♥
1♥	♦AQxxxx	<i>Interfere Lead Directing Compete</i>	6	2	6 + 2 = 8	2♦
1♣	♦KQJx	<i>Lead Directing Compete</i>	4	3	4 + 3 = 7	1♦
1♠	♦AKQJ	<i>Lead Directing</i>	4	4	4 + 4 = 8	Pass <i>Must have 5+Suit</i>

**suggested reading:**

Mike Lawrence, *The Complete Book on Overcalls*

<http://www.firstclassbridge.com/SQuaT.htm>

[http://www.mrbridge.co.uk/library/Overcalls\\_1.pdf](http://www.mrbridge.co.uk/library/Overcalls_1.pdf)

<http://www.ronklingerbridge.com/blog/2331/bridge-game-tips-using-suit-quality-test>

<http://www.suffolkbridge.co.uk/content/learn-and-improve/brush-up-your-overcalls.htm>

[http://www.friendsbridge.org.uk/Lessons/Overcalls and Responses.pdf](http://www.friendsbridge.org.uk/Lessons/Overcalls%20and%20Responses.pdf)