

Hand Evaluation I

This is a 1-page summary of a recommended Point Count System for advancing players. It is slightly more aggressive than Seagram's, as it counts length and shortness for dummy after a fit is found. Refinements may be added in future editions.

Process:

1. Initial valuation: Add HCP and Length points; make Adjustment(s)
2. After fit is found: Add for Shortness and extra Declarer trump length

Point Count System:

Initial Valuation	
HCP	A=4, K=3, Q=2, J=1
Length	+1 for each card in suit over 4
Adjust +1	Adjust -1
4441	4333
3+ Aces	No Ace
4 of 5 top honors in suit	Unprotected K, Q or J
3+Tens	4 or more points in Qs & Js
Declarer (Longer Trump) Reevaluation	
6 th or more in trump suit	+2 each
Shortness	Doubleton: +1, Singleton: +2, Void: +3
Dummy (Shorter Trump) Reevaluation	
Shortness	Subtract shortest suit length from trump length

Opening Hands:

- Open Rule of 20 hands (all seats)
- Open all 15 HCP balanced hands with 1NT
- Open light in third seat (10-11 points) when:
 - ✓ enjoying favorable vulnerability and wanting your suit led
 - ✓ holding 7+cards in the majors.

**Suggested
Points
Required**

Contract	Points Required
3NT	25
4 of Major	26
5 of Minor	29
Small slam	33
Grand slam	37

Quiz 25 Hand Evaluation I

Your bid is underlined; opponents' bids, if any, are shown in (...). For example, the first round of bidding shown in #1 below, your LHO bid $1\clubsuit$, your Partner made a Take-Out Double, your RHO Passed and you bid $2\clubsuit$.

Count your points, indicating the total in PC column. Fill in blank(s) with your bid(s) and indicate if it is "to play" i.e., partner must Pass, non-forcing (NF), forcing for 1-round (F) or game forcing (GF):

	Bidding	PC	Your Hand		Bidding	PC	Your Hand
1.	($1\clubsuit$) - X - (P) - <u>$2\clubsuit$</u> (P) - $2\heartsuit$ - (P) - _____	____ ____	♠ AQT4 ♥ KJ52 ♦ 7 ♣ K854	2.	1NT - _____	____	♠ 9754 ♥ AJ96 ♦ KT4 ♣ JT
3.	($1\clubsuit$) - $1\spadesuit$ - ($3\clubsuit$) - _____	____	♠ AK2 ♥ 732 ♦ QJ9742 ♣ T	4.	<u>$1\heartsuit$</u> - $2\clubsuit$ _____	____	♠ QT63 ♥ KQJT2 ♦ 82 ♣ AQ
5.	<u>$1\spadesuit$</u> - $2\clubsuit$ _____	____ ____	♠ AQT7532 ♥ AKT97 ♦ _____ ♣ 3	6.	_____	____	♠ AKJT53 ♥ K84 ♦ T ♣ AKJ