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Which Hand Would You Open 2♥?

♠Ax ♥AKQ10xx ♦AKx ♣KQ or ♠xx ♥AKJ10xx ♦Jxx ♣xx

Before the arrival of weak two bids, the first hand would have been bid a strong, forcing, 2♥. However, hands of this strength aren't very common and good partnerships have now adopted the strong 2♣ bid, which is artificial and forcing, to announce all good hands. This allows bids of 2♦, 2♥ and 2♠ to be used as non-forcing Weak Two bids. The Weak Two bid has a good six card suit, 6-11 hcp, and usually one of the following distributions: 6-3-2-2, 6-3-3-1 or 6-4-2-1. The second hand is a perfect example weak two.

More:	♠AQJxxx	♠x ♠Qx	♠Qx	
	♥xx	♥KQJxxx	♥xx	♥KJ10xxx
	♦xxx	♦Qxxx	♦AKJxxx	♦Axx
	♣xx	♣xx	♣xxx	♣xx

All the above hands are too weak to open with a one bid, but perfect for Weak Two bids.

Responding to Weak Two Bids

The Weak Two bidder should not bid again unless forced or invited by partner! Therefore, if you are the partner, "*He who knows, goes*" is in effect. If you have a game, bid it. If you don't have enough information to bid a game your choices are simple: pass or invite a game ... in partner's suit, your suit, or notrump.

Here are two common bids responder can make to invite:

- I. **Bid a New suit:** By agreement, this is usually natural and forcing for one round.
 - A. Requirements: Responder should have a good opening hand, at least 14 or more hcp, and a good 5 or 6 card suit: ♠xx ♥AKJxxx ♦Kxx ♣Ax. Over 2♦ bid 2♥, over 2♠ bid 3♥
 - B. Opener's rebid: Opener should raise with a doubleton Qx or better, or any 3 or 4 card holding in partners suit. He should rebid his suit with a minimum and no fit, or bid a new suit (dangerous)!
- II. **Bid Two Notrump:** (Asking for additional feature)
 - A. Requirements: Should have a good opening hand and a desire to play a game in opener's suit, or notrump. This can also be used to explore a slam.
Example: ♠xx ♥AQx ♦KQJxx ♣KJx
 - B. Opener's rebid: Weak Two opener bids a "feature" if has an ace or a king *outside* his suit. He rebids his suit with a minimum hand and no feature. He rebids 3NT with a *solid* suit: AKQ10xx

Partnerships that play Weak Two bids use a forcing, artificial 2♣ opening to show strong hands. This bid fits hands with either enough tricks to make game (like the one above) or one trick short. It can also describe a balanced hand that is too strong to open 2NT and not big enough to open 3NT.

It's common practice to use 2♦ as a negative (or waiting) response to a strong 2♣ bid, and 2♥, 2♠, 3♣, or 3♦ as positive responses showing at least a five card suit headed by two or more high honors in that suit.

One last thought: Open Weak Two bids because they're fun. They disrupt the opponents communications and lead to many good results. I just hate it when someone opens a Weak Two against me! No fun.