

When 4NT Asks for Keycards

- 4NT directly over an opening 4 is for takeout.
- In a competitive auction, if 4NT is needed as a takeout, it is a takeout.
- In a constructive auction, 4NT is RKCB only when spades are trump if playing Kickback and Minorwood.

Roman Keycard Blackwood, Kickback, and Minorwood

These bids are described in Kantars "*Roman Keycard Blackwood - The Final Word*." They are briefly summarized below.

If there is no agreed suit, **the last suit bid before 4NT bid is the key card suit.**

Question: Over a natural bid, does a cue bid of the opponents' suit establish an agreed trump suit?

Responses

5	1 or 4 keycards (see Kantar Rules below)
5	0 or 3 keycards "
5	2 or 5 key cards without the trump queen.
5	2 or 5 key cards with the trump queen.
5NT	Even number of key cards and an unspecified void.
6	Odd number of key cards and a void. If clubs are trumps, then it shows a void in another suit.
6	Odd number of key cards and a void if hearts or spades are trumps. If diamonds are trumps, then it shows a void in a higher suit (hearts or spades).
6	Odd number of key cards and a void if spades are trumps. If hearts are trumps, then it shows a void.

Kantar Rules

1. When the opener asks, it is always a 1430 ask.
2. When the responder asks, it is also a 1430 ask unless opener has shown extra values.

The following bids indicate that opener has extra values:

- 1 opening bid
- Opener's jump shift, jump raise, splinter jump, jump in the original suit, jump in notrump, or bidding two suits and then making a third-round jump. Fast arrival jumps are not included
- A reverse after a *one-level* response

Asking For a Side King

After a 5, 5, 5 or 5 response, 5NT guarantees that our side has all five key cards and promises interest in a grand slam, and asks for responder's lowest ranking king excluding the trump king.

If you have significant extra strength or an undisclosed source of tricks (a solid side suit, for example), you can accept the grand-slam try immediately (without answering number of kings) by jumping to seven of your suit.

Asking For the Trump Queen

After a 5 or 5 response, the cheapest step asks for the trump queen. *Show the trump queen if our side has a known 10+card fit.*

5 of agreed suit	(or 6 if necessary) denies the trump queen
other suit	promises the trump queen and shows the cheapest king
4NT	promises the trump queen and denies a biddable side king

After keycard ask and response, a new suit asks for a specific king. One step is no, two steps is yes.

4NT followed by 5NT shows five key cards and asks for number of kings.

D0P1 & R0P1 apply on the four-level. DEPO and REPO apply on the five-level or higher.

Kickback

4 is RKC Kickback 1430 if hearts are agreed.

Minorwood

Four of agreed minor is RKC Minorwood 1430 (except when the opening bid is 2). Then lowest of notrump or minor is signoff.

Over a 2 opening, 4 is RCK Minorwood.