

Ten Steps to Basic Bridge

(5-week series, 2 classes per week)

Syllabus / Winter 2026

Monday Jan 5, 2026	Step 1: Fundamental Concepts. Tricks & Trumps. Declarer. The Dummy hand. High card points. Choosing a Contract. Leads & carding.
Thursday Jan 8, 2026	Step 2: Cardplay & Opening Bids. General cardplay techniques. Choosing and reading opening bids.
Monday Jan 12, 2026	Step 3: Suit Auctions. Responding to Opener's bid. Rebidding as Responder. Forcing Bids. Limit Bids.
Thursday Jan 15, 2026	Step 4: Notrump Auctions. Stayman convention. Jacoby transfers. Relay to Minors. Alerts and Announcements.
Monday Jan 19, 2026	Step 5: Interfering in Their Auction. Takeout Doubles. Simple overcalls. Jump overcalls. Advancing partner's interference.
Thursday Jan 22, 2026	Step 6: Coping With Interference. Negative Doubles. Cuebids to support Opener. Jordan 2NT.
Monday Jan 26, 2026	Step 7: Specialized Opening Bids. Strong Two-Club Opening Bids. Weak-Two Bids. Other preemptive bids.
Thursday Jan 29, 2026	Step 8: Slam Bidding. Direct slam bids. Invitations to slam. Control-showing cuebids. Ace-asking bids (Blackwood and Gerber).
Monday Feb 2, 2026	Step 9: Additional Agreements. Michaels Cuebid. Unusual Notrump. Jacoby 2NT. Alerts and explanations.
Thursday Feb 5, 2026	Step 10: Wrapping Up. Envisioning the likely final contract. Counting winners & losers. Creating winners. Eliminating losers.

All dates/topics subject to change. This syllabus was last revised 2025-Nov-23

Lesson fee: \$15 per person per night, cash/card/tap accepted; discounts for under-25s and returning students. Classes run from 7 pm to 9:30 pm on **Monday & Thursday evenings**. Find additional information at <http://www.pinochle.org/blog>

Class location: Seattle Bridge Center; 1539 NE 145th Street; Seattle, WA 98125

The first lesson of this series is Monday, January 5, 2026

Students are strongly encouraged to kibitz Rookie Duplicate at 7pm Tuesdays (free!)

Contact your instructor, David Dailey, by email via SeattleBridgeCenter@gmail.com or by leaving a voice message at 206/336-3428.