

# Fifth Chair



## Explanation of the Alert at Bridge

During the play of game of bridge, one is required to notify one's opponents anytime you have a private meaning to a particular bid, pre-agreed with your partner, that is NOT a standard type bid.

If for instance, you decided that every time you opened 1 Heart or 1 Spade, and your partner responded, 3D, meaning you hold 6 to 9 high card points, and 4 cards in your partner's suit, is an alert, as it gave information to your partner that was NOT standard bidding practice.

This bid would definitely need to be alerted to your opponents, since it is not standard bidding.

There are now many such instances whereby one uses bids and or doubles that have special meaning.

You are allowed to bid anything you want at the game, as long as YOUR OPPONENTS understand what that bid means to you and your partner.

In online games, self-alerts are the norm and on good playing sites you will be provided with a method of making an alert at the same time you make your unusual bid.