LEFTURN

GETTING STARTED GUIDE

The complete LEFTURN guide.

Everything in the LEFTURN Academy, condensed into one guide you can read right now: how the services work, setup, tokens, MetaTrader 5, VPS, risk, troubleshooting and more.

18
chapters

208
articles condensed

208
quick answers

manage.forex

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Every article in the LEFTURN Academy, condensed. Click any line to jump to it.

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LEFTURN in 10 minutes

LEFTURN INC. is a Canadian company, based in Ontario, that has managed trading accounts for international clients since 2018. It trades prop firm challenges, funded accounts and personal MetaTrader 5 accounts that stay in **your own name**, at your own prop firm or broker. LEFTURN never holds your money: it connects to your account through software running on a Windows VPS that you control.

Two ways to work with LEFTURN

RECOMMENDED FOR BEGINNERS

Standard

The LEFTURN team trades your account for you.

- One flat service fee per account, then a 33% performance fee on payouts
- Retry cover: if we do not pass, your second challenge is traded with no service fee and its cost comes off our fee on your first payout
- You see every trade and can close any trade yourself

FOR EXPERIENCED TRADERS

The Marketplace

You choose the traders who are copied to your account.

- Paid in tokens, per trader, 30 days at a time ($2.50 per token)
- Copy one instrument or all of a trader's pairs, and review trade plans
- No retry cover, because you choose the traders and the risk

The service is chosen per account, so you can run Standard on one account and the Marketplace on another.

What you need before you start

- A free LEFTURN account with a verified email
- A prop firm challenge or broker account in your own name
- A Windows VPS that runs around the clock (Mac, iPhone and Android users connect to it with Microsoft's free Windows App)
- MetaTrader 5 (or TradeLocker for the Copier)
- About an hour for setup
- Your prop firm's rules: profit target, daily loss limit and maximum drawdown

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Setup in six steps

Most people finish setup in about an hour. Prepare everything first, then work through the steps in order.

1 Check your prop firm
Use the free Prop Screener, then buy the challenge in your own name.

2 Get a Windows VPS
QuantVPS is LEFTURN's VPS partner; the Starter+ plan is enough for one account.

3 Create your LEFTURN account
Free at manage.forex. Verify your email; it later links the software to your account.

4 Install MetaTrader 5
On the VPS, signed in to the exact account number you add in your portal.

5 Add the account and pay
Choose Standard or the Marketplace and upload your payment confirmation. Setup files unlock once it is confirmed.

6 Attach the Expert Advisor
Allow both LEFTURN web addresses, attach it to one chart with Algo Trading on, then wait for approval.

Platforms. MetaTrader 5 and TradeLocker are officially released and fully supported. cTrader and Tradovate are available in beta.

Your first 30 days

When	What to expect
Week 1	Setup, validation and approval. Expect little or no trading while your account moves through its stages: added, payment, setup unlocked, detected, approved, live.
Weeks 2 and 3	Learn how your service behaves. Check the dashboard for a minute a day; close nothing you do not have to.
Day 30	Your first review. For the Marketplace it is also the first renewal; for Standard it is roughly a third of a typical evaluation.

Judge the month by the rules, not the profit figure. The question is whether every limit was respected. A challenge typically takes around three months.

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Costs and key rules at a glance

	Standard	Marketplace
Who trades	The LEFTURN team	Traders you choose
Up-front cost	One flat service fee per account	Tokens per trader, shown before you confirm
Ongoing cost	33% of each payout you receive; no monthly charge	Tokens at each 30-day renewal while a subscription is active
If a challenge fails	Second challenge traded with no service fee; its cost comes off our fee on your first payout	No cover
Your control	Watch every trade, close any trade	Pick traders and instruments, review trade plans, close any trade
Best for	Beginners and people who want it done for them	People with a trading preference who want to choose

Tokens in four lines

- One token costs $2.50. Tokens you buy never expire and can be sent to a friend.
- New members get 25 free-trial tokens, valid for 14 days. One trial per person; nothing renews and no card is needed.
- A subscription is per trader and per account, and uses tokens when it starts and at each 30-day renewal.
- Tokens are for the Marketplace only. Standard uses no tokens.

Rules that protect your account

- Never send passwords of any kind in chat, email or screenshots. LEFTURN never needs your prop firm dashboard, email or banking login.
- Do not open your own trades on a managed account: it changes the risk LEFTURN is managing.
- Keep the VPS and MetaTrader 5 running. Closing the Remote Desktop window is fine; shutting the VPS down stops trading.
- Enter your prop firm's rules accurately. They are the source of truth for how the account is traded.
- Check that your prop firm allows Expert Advisors and outside management before you buy.

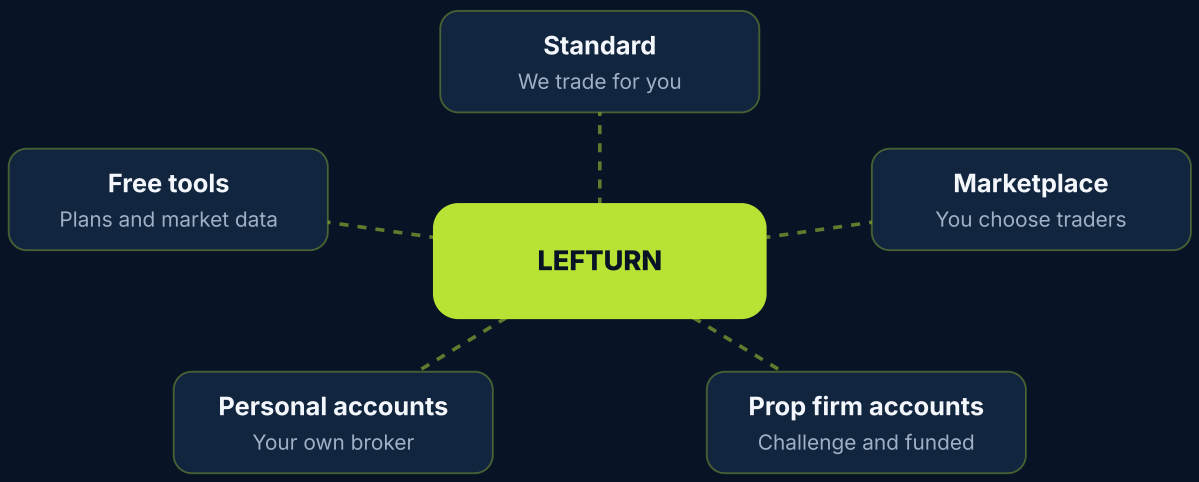
Risk warning. Trading foreign exchange, CFDs and other leveraged products carries a high level of risk and may not be suitable for every investor. You can lose some or all of your capital. No result, challenge pass or payout is promised, and past performance does not guarantee future results.

CHAPTER 1 · 12 ARTICLES

01

Getting Started

Create your free account, pick the right service and get your first trading account live, step by step.



The parts of LEFTURN and how they relate. One account uses one service at a time.

1.1 What Is LEFTURN?
1.2 How to Create Your LEFTURN Account
1.3 How to Navigate the LEFTURN Dashboard
1.4 How to Connect Your First Trading Account
1.5 How to Start Your LEFTURN Demo Trial
1.6 Standard Services vs. the Trader Marketplace
1.7 How to Select a LEFTURN Service
1.8 How to Monitor Account Performance
1.9 Understanding Account Connection Status
1.10 How to Manage Multiple Trading Accounts
1.11 Understanding Your LEFTURN Subscription
1.12 Your First 30 Days With LEFTURN

1.1 What Is LEFTURN?

A plain-English introduction to LEFTURN: who it is for, the two ways to work with it, what is free, what is paid, and what you need before you begin.

- LEFTURN INC. is based in Ontario, Canada, and has managed trading accounts for international clients since 2018.
- There are two ways to work with it: Standard, where the LEFTURN team trades your account, and the Marketplace, where you choose the traders.
- It works on prop firm challenges, funded accounts and personal MetaTrader 5 accounts held in your own name at your own broker.
- Joining, the Market Intelligence tools, published trade plans and trader records are free. Trading services are paid.
- Every account needs a Windows VPS, and no result, challenge pass or payout is promised.

> **What is LEFTURN?**
> LEFTURN is a company that trades and helps manage trading accounts for clients, and a marketplace for copying professional traders. It works with prop firm challenges, funded accounts and eligible personal broker accounts, and has managed accounts for international clients since 2018.

1.2 How to Create Your LEFTURN Account

Registration takes a few minutes. Here is what to have ready, what happens when you verify your email, and the sensible first things to do once you are in.

- Registration is free and needs no credit card and no trading account.
- You must verify your email. Trial tokens are added once you do, and the same email is later checked by the trading software.
- Use an email you will keep. It becomes the identity that links your portal to your trading account.
- One free trial per person: 25 promotional tokens, valid for 14 days, and nothing renews.
- You can look around for as long as you like before adding an account or paying for anything.

> **Is it free to create a LEFTURN account?**
> Yes. Registration is free and needs no credit card. You only pay if you choose a paid service such as challenge passing, account management or a Marketplace trader subscription.

1.3 How to Navigate the LEFTURN Dashboard

Where everything lives in your LEFTURN portal, what each account status means, and how to read the performance figures once your account is live.

- The dashboard changes with your progress: before an account is connected it guides setup, and afterwards it shows live performance.
- Five areas cover almost everything: accounts, payments, setup and downloads, performance and support.
- An account passes through clear stages: added, payment, payment under review, setup unlocked, detected, approved, live.
- The live figures come from your own trading platform: balance, equity, drawdown, open positions and closed trades.
- The Client Area is where you manage accounts and services. The Trader Area is for people who publish trades.

> **Why is my LEFTURN dashboard mostly empty?**
> A new portal has no account connected yet, so it shows setup guidance instead of performance. The full dashboard appears once an account has been paid for where required, connected by the software and approved.

1.4 How to Connect Your First Trading Account

The complete path from an empty portal to a live, connected account: what to prepare, the order of the steps, the two checks the software makes and the mistakes that cause delays.

- The account stays in your name. LEFTURN connects to it for trading; it does not take it over.
- Add the account in your portal first. The software can only connect an account the portal already knows about.
- The Expert Advisor checks your verified portal email and the MT5 account number together. Both must match.
- Setup files unlock after payment approval, and a final approval by LEFTURN activates the account.
- Enter your prop firm's rules accurately. They are the source of truth for how the account is traded.

> **Do I give LEFTURN my trading password?**
> You enter your trading password only into MetaTrader 5 on your own VPS. The LEFTURN Expert Advisor runs inside that platform and identifies the account by your portal email and the account number. Never send a trading password by email or chat.

1.5 How to Start Your LEFTURN Demo Trial

A practical plan for the free 14-day trial: what you need, how to set it up on a demo account, what to test each week, and how to judge the result on day 14.

- Registration is free and the trial gives you 25 promotional tokens, valid for 14 days. No card is needed and nothing renews.
- One trial per person, and your email must be verified before the tokens appear.
- Run the trial on a demo MT5 or TradeLocker account. You see real trade plans and real order handling with no money at risk.
- Use the 14 days to test one trader on one instrument, not to sample as many traders as possible.
- Trial tokens cannot be gifted and expire with the trial. Tokens you buy later never expire.

> **How do I start the LEFTURN demo trial?**
> Register for a free account and verify your email. LEFTURN then adds 25 promotional tokens, valid for 14 days. Connect a demo MT5 or TradeLocker account, choose a Marketplace trader and set your rules for that trader.

1.6 Standard Services vs. the Trader Marketplace

The two LEFTURN services compared at depth: who makes the decisions, who carries the cost of a failure, how fees build up over months, and what each asks of you.

- Standard is a delegated service: LEFTURN decides, trades and carries the cost of a failed challenge through its retry cover.
- The Marketplace is self-directed: you decide which traders, which instruments and how much risk, and there is no failure cover.
- Standard costs a one-time service fee and a 33% performance fee on payouts. The Marketplace costs tokens per trader, every 30 days.
- Standard rewards patience; the Marketplace rewards attention. The right one depends on which of those you can supply.
- The choice is made per account, so many clients use both.

> **What is the main difference between the Standard service and the Marketplace?**
> Who makes the trading decisions. With Standard, LEFTURN's team builds the strategy and trades your account. With the Marketplace, you choose independent traders and set the rules for each one.

1.7 How to Select a LEFTURN Service

A practical way to choose between Standard and the Marketplace for each account you connect: who trades, what you pay, what is covered, and how to decide.

- LEFTURN has two services: Standard, where our team trades the account, and the Marketplace, where you copy traders you choose.
- The service is chosen for each account. You can run Standard on one account and the Marketplace on another.
- Standard is a flat service fee followed by 33% of payouts, and it includes our cover for a failed challenge.
- The Marketplace is paid in tokens per trader for 30 days at a time and has no failed-challenge cover.
- If you have not traded before, or do not want to choose traders, Standard is the simpler starting point.

> **Can I use Standard on one account and the Marketplace on another?**
> Yes. The service is selected for each account. A common setup is Standard on a challenge and a Marketplace team on a funded or personal account.

1.8 How to Monitor Account Performance

A walkthrough of the performance figures your LEFTURN dashboard shows for a connected account, with a routine for checking them and the signs that need attention.

- After approval, the dashboard shows balance, equity, growth, trading days, drawdown and floating profit or loss for the account you are viewing.
- Equity, not balance, is the number that matters while trades are open.
- Three drawdown figures are reported: current, maximum daily and maximum observed. Compare them with your firm's limits.
- A one-minute daily look and a ten-minute weekly review are enough for most accounts.
- The connection line matters as much as the numbers: figures are only as fresh as the last connection.

> **Where do I monitor account performance in LEFTURN?**
> On your portal dashboard. Once the account is approved and linked, it shows balance, equity, growth, trading days, drawdown, floating profit or loss, a performance chart, a performance report and recent closed trades.

1.9 Understanding Account Connection Status

The stages an account passes through before it is connected, what each status is waiting on, how to tell a healthy connection from a stale one, and what to do when it drops.

- An account is not connected the moment you add it. It passes through payment, detection and approval first.
- Each waiting stage is waiting on one thing. Find out which, and you know what to do.
- For MetaTrader 5, the Expert Advisor checks two things together: your verified portal email and the MT5 account number logged in to the terminal.
- Once live, the line to watch is the last connection time. A stale time in market hours means trades may not be arriving.
- Most drops come from the VPS or the platform being closed, not from LEFTURN.

> **Why does my account say it is awaiting approval?**
> The Expert Advisor has reached LEFTURN and matched your verified portal email and your payment-approved account. Final approval by LEFTURN is the last step. Once it is given, the account is linked and the dashboard shows live data.

1.10 How to Manage Multiple Trading Accounts

The practical side of running more than one account in LEFTURN: how accounts are added and kept separate, what each needs on the VPS, and how to watch the combined risk.

- One portal login holds all your accounts. Each account is added separately and has its own status, service and history.
- The service is chosen per account, so Standard and the Marketplace can run side by side.
- Every MetaTrader 5 account needs its own terminal, with the Expert Advisor attached to one chart in that terminal.
- The Expert Advisor matches the terminal's own account number, so a terminal can only ever report the account it is signed in to.
- Risk adds up across accounts. Similar trades on three accounts are one position, three times over.

> **How many accounts can I have in one LEFTURN portal?**
> The portal lists each account you add separately under one login. The practical limit is the capacity of your VPS, since every MetaTrader 5 account needs its own running terminal.

1.11 Understanding Your LEFTURN Subscription

What you actually pay LEFTURN for, and when: the free tools, the one-time Standard fee, the 30-day token subscriptions on the Marketplace, renewals, pausing and refunds.

- Registration, the Market Intelligence terminal, trade-plan previews and trader records are free.
- The Standard service is a one-time service fee per eligible challenge account, plus a 33% performance fee on payouts. It is not a subscription.
- Marketplace subscriptions are per trader and per account, paid in tokens, and use tokens again at each 30-day renewal while active.
- Tokens cost $2.50 each and never expire. Free-trial tokens last 14 days.
- No card is charged automatically for a subscription: renewals draw on the tokens in your wallet.

> **Is LEFTURN a monthly subscription?**
> Not as a whole. The free account costs nothing and the Standard service is a one-time fee plus a share of payouts. Only Marketplace trader subscriptions run in 30-day periods, and they are paid in tokens.

1.12 Your First 30 Days With LEFTURN

A week-by-week plan for your first month: what to prepare, what happens during setup and approval, what to watch once trading starts, and how to review day 30.

- Prepare before you start the clock: check your firm, set up the VPS and install MetaTrader 5 or TradeLocker.
- Week one is setup, validation and approval. Expect little or no trading.
- Weeks two and three are for learning how your service behaves. Close nothing you do not have to.
- Day 30 is the first review: for the Marketplace it is also the first renewal; for Standard it is roughly a third of a typical evaluation.
- Judge the month by whether the rules were respected, not by the profit figure.

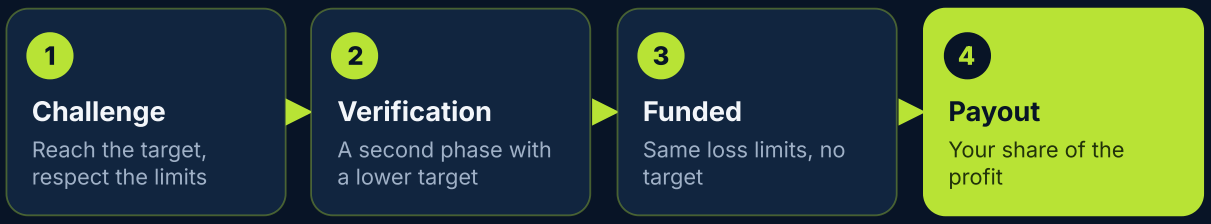
> **How long does it take to get started with LEFTURN?**
> Preparation and setup usually take a few days: checking your firm, setting up a VPS, installing the platform, connecting the account and waiting for approval. Trading then starts when the strategy finds a setup.

CHAPTER 2 · 18 ARTICLES

02

Challenge Passing Services

How prop firm challenges work, what they cost, why traders fail them and how LEFTURN trades them for you.



The usual path of a two-phase prop firm account, from evaluation to payout.

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2.1 The Complete Guide to Prop Firm Challenge Passing Services

What a challenge passing service really does, how the money works, where the risks are, and how to judge one before you trust it with your evaluation.

- A challenge passing service trades your prop firm evaluation for you, under the firm's own rules, until the profit target is reached.
- You still own the account. You bought the challenge, the login is yours, and any payout is paid to you by the firm.
- Good services are built around risk limits first and the profit target second. Speed is the wrong thing to shop for.
- Fees usually combine a one-time service fee with a share of future payouts, so the service earns more only when you do.
- No service can promise a pass. What separates them is how they manage risk and what happens to your money if a challenge fails.

> **What is a prop firm challenge passing service?**
> It is a service that trades your prop firm evaluation on your behalf. You buy the challenge in your own name, the service's traders or software trade it under the firm's rules, and if it passes, the funded account and its payouts belong to you.

2.2 How LEFTURN's Prop Firm Passing Service Works

The whole LEFTURN process in order: choosing a firm, setting up, how we trade your evaluation, what you see along the way, and what happens after a pass or a fail.

- You buy the challenge in your own name. LEFTURN trades it; the account and the payouts stay yours.
- Setup is six steps: choose a firm, get a Windows VPS, create your LEFTURN account, install MetaTrader 5, attach our Expert Advisor, choose the Standard service.
- Every trade is sized to your account and checked against your firm's profit target, daily loss limit and maximum drawdown.
- You see every trade in your portal and can close any trade yourself.
- If we do not pass, you buy a second challenge and we trade it with no service fee. Its cost comes back to you out of our performance fee.

> **How do I start with LEFTURN's prop firm passing service?**
> Check your firm with the free Prop Screener, buy the challenge in your own name, then create a LEFTURN account. Set up a Windows VPS with MetaTrader 5 and our Expert Advisor, add the account in your portal and choose the Standard service.

2.3 How Long Does It Take to Pass a Prop Firm Challenge?

The honest arithmetic behind challenge timelines: targets, risk per trade, win rates, minimum days and why the fast route is usually the one that fails.

- Most firms no longer set a deadline, so the only clock is your own patience. That removes the main reason to rush.
- At around 0.5% risk per trade, an 8% to 10% target needs dozens of trades, which means weeks of trading.
- Tripling the risk does not make passing three times faster. It makes breaking the daily loss limit far more likely.
- Phase 2 has a lower target but still needs time, and the firm's review between phases adds days.
- Judge a challenge by whether the loss limits are intact, not by how quickly the profit number moves.

How long does it take to pass a prop firm challenge on average?
For a two-phase evaluation traded with conservative risk, two to four months is a realistic range, and around three months is typical in LEFTURN's experience. Phase 1 usually takes four to eight weeks and Phase 2 three to five, plus the firm's review time.

2.4 How $50K, $100K and $200K Prop Firm Challenges Work

The same rules in three sizes: what the targets, loss limits, position sizes and payouts look like in dollars, and how to choose the size that fits your budget.

- Targets and loss limits are percentages, so a larger account is not harder or slower to pass. It is the same job with bigger numbers.
- A bigger account costs more to buy and pays more when funded. The ratio between cost and potential payout is similar across sizes.
- Position sizes scale with the account: the same 0.5% risk is $250 on $50K, $500 on $100K and $1,000 on $200K.
- Choose the largest size whose challenge fee you could comfortably pay twice.
- Several smaller accounts can spread risk across firms; one larger account is simpler to run.

Is a $200K prop firm challenge harder to pass than a $50K challenge?
No. The profit target and loss limits are percentages of the account, so the same trading produces the same percentage result at any size. Only the dollar amounts are larger.

2.5 Understanding Prop Firm Challenge Passing Fees

Every fee in challenge passing, who receives it and when: the firm's challenge fee, the service fee, the performance fee, and what a failed challenge costs.

- There are three fees: the challenge fee (to the prop firm), the service fee (to the passing service) and the performance fee (a share of payouts).
- Only the first two are paid up front. The performance fee exists only when a payout does.
- LEFTURN's Standard service is a flat service fee, then 33% of payouts from the funded account.
- If we do not pass, the second challenge is traded with no service fee, and its cost is deducted from our performance fee on your first payout.
- A refund of the challenge fee from your prop firm is yours to keep.

> **What fees do I pay for a prop firm challenge passing service?**
> Three: the challenge fee to the prop firm, a service fee to the passing service for trading the evaluation, and a performance fee taken from payouts once the account is funded.

2.6 How to Choose a Prop Firm Challenge Passing Service

A practical checklist for judging any challenge passing service before you pay: how it controls risk, what access it asks for, how it proves results, and what happens if it fails.

- Ask about risk before price. How much is risked per trade, and what stops a bad day from breaking the daily limit?
- Give trading access only. No service needs your prop firm dashboard, email or banking details.
- Ask for account statements, not screenshots, and check drawdown as well as profit.
- Get the fees and the failed-challenge terms in writing before paying.
- A promise that you will pass is a reason to walk away, not a selling point.

> **What is the most important thing to check in a challenge passing service?**
> How it controls risk. Ask what percentage of the account is risked per trade and what stops several losses in one day from reaching the daily loss limit. A service that cannot answer in numbers is not managing risk by rule.

2.7 What Happens After Passing a Prop Firm Challenge?

The steps between a passed evaluation and money in your account: review, identity checks, the funded login, the rules that still apply, and the first payout.

- A pass is not instant funding. Expect a rule review, identity checks and a contract before the funded login arrives.
- A funded account has no profit target, but the daily and maximum loss limits remain, and some firms add consistency rules.
- Payouts are made per cycle, commonly every 14 or 30 days, as a share of the profit made in that cycle.
- Many firms refund the challenge fee with the first payout. That refund is yours.
- With LEFTURN's Standard service, you update the login in your portal and we keep trading; our fee is 33% of each payout.

> **How long after passing a prop firm challenge do I get a funded account?**
> Usually one to two weeks. The firm first reviews the trading against its rules, then asks for identity documents and a signed trader agreement before it issues the funded login. Timing varies by firm.

2.8 One-Step vs. Two-Step Prop Firm Challenges

The two evaluation models side by side: what each asks for, how their loss limits differ, what each costs in money and time, and which kind of trading each one suits.

- A one-step challenge has one target and no mid-way review. A two-step challenge splits the work across two phases.
- Two-step challenges ask for more total profit, but usually allow larger loss limits.
- One-step challenges often use a trailing maximum loss and a tighter daily limit. Those matter more than the number of phases.
- One-step is quicker on the calendar and usually costs more for the same account size.
- Choose by how much loss room your strategy needs, not by how many phases you want to sit through.

> **Is a one-step prop firm challenge easier than a two-step challenge?**
> It needs less total profit and has no second phase, so it is less work on the profit side. It often has tighter loss limits and a trailing maximum loss, which make it easier to fail. For many strategies the two-step route is safer.

2.9 Understanding Daily and Maximum Drawdown Rules

How prop firms actually measure the daily and maximum loss limits: balance versus equity, static versus trailing, when the day resets, and how breaches happen.

- The daily loss limit caps what an account may lose in one trading day. The maximum drawdown caps what it may lose in total.
- Both can be measured on balance or on equity. Equity-based rules count open trades and are stricter.
- A static maximum drawdown is a fixed floor. A trailing one rises with the account and leaves less room.
- The "day" resets at a time the firm sets, often its server's midnight, not yours.
- Limits are enforced in real time on equity at most firms, so a brief spike can end an account even if price recovers.

> **What is the difference between daily drawdown and maximum drawdown?**
> The daily loss limit caps how much an account may lose within one trading day and resets each day. The maximum drawdown caps the total decline allowed and either never moves (static) or only moves up (trailing).

2.10 How to Choose a Prop Firm Challenge

A buyer's method for prop firm challenges: which rules to compare first, which payout terms decide what you actually receive, and how to score two firms side by side.

- Compare loss limits before anything else. They decide how the account must be traded and how easily it fails.
- Confirm the platform and the permitted trading methods before you pay. An unsupported platform or a banned method ends the plan.
- Payout terms matter as much as the profit split: cycle length, minimums, consistency rules and the fee refund.
- Price is the last comparison, not the first. A cheap challenge with tight rules is the expensive one.
- Buy the largest size whose fee you could afford to pay twice.

> **What is the most important rule when choosing a prop firm challenge?**
> The loss limits. The daily loss limit and the maximum loss, and the way each is calculated, decide how much room the account has and how it must be traded. Compare them before price or profit split.

2.11 What Happens If a Prop Firm Challenge Fails?

A failed challenge step by step: how the firm closes the account, what is and is not lost, the reset and retry options, and how to work out what to do next.

- A failed challenge costs the challenge fee and, if you used one, the service fee. You never owe the simulated losses.
- Failure is automatic: when equity touches a loss limit, positions are closed and the account is disabled.
- There are four ways to fail: the daily limit, the maximum loss, a rule violation, or a deadline.
- Most firms offer a reset or a discounted retry. Whether it is worth taking depends on why the account failed.
- With LEFTURN's Standard service, the second challenge is traded with no service fee and its cost is deducted from our fee on your first payout.

> **Do I owe money if my prop firm challenge fails?**
> No. The evaluation account is simulated, and its losses are not charged to you. What you lose is the challenge fee you paid and any service fee, depending on that service's terms.

2.12 Understanding LEFTURN's Challenge Retry Policy

How LEFTURN's retry cover works when a Standard challenge does not pass: what you buy, what we waive, how the cost comes back to you, and where the cover stops.

- The retry policy is part of the Standard service, where LEFTURN's team trades your challenge.
- If we do not pass, you buy a second challenge from your prop firm and send us the login. We charge no service fee for it.
- The cost of that second challenge is deducted from our 33% performance fee on your first payout.
- Any refund of a challenge fee from your prop firm stays with you.
- The Marketplace has no retry cover, because there you choose the traders and the risk.

> **What is LEFTURN's challenge retry policy?**
> If a challenge traded under our Standard service does not pass, you buy a second challenge and we trade it with no service fee. When that account pays out, we deduct the cost of the second challenge from our performance fee on your first payout.

2.13 Automated vs. Manual Challenge Passing

Robots, human traders, or both: what each approach to passing a prop firm challenge does well, where each one breaks down, and how to tell which you are being sold.

- Automation is excellent at the mechanical parts: sizing positions, placing stops, tracking limits, acting instantly, never tiring.
- People are better at the judgment parts: choosing which strategy fits current conditions, and standing aside when it does not.
- A fully automated challenge fails when the market changes and nobody intervenes. A fully manual one fails through fatigue, emotion and inconsistency.
- Prop firms set their own rules on EAs and copied trades. Check them before choosing either approach.
- LEFTURN combines the two: our team builds and runs the strategy, and software delivers each trade to your account sized to your rules.

Is automated challenge passing better than manual challenge passing?
Neither is better in every respect. Automation is more consistent and disciplined; manual trading adapts to changing conditions. A hybrid, where people supervise and software executes, combines the strengths of both.

2.14 Why Traders Fail Prop Firm Challenges

The real reasons evaluations end early, with the numbers behind them: oversized trades, clustered losses, recovery trading, misread rules, and what to do instead.

- Challenges are failed by breaking loss limits, not by missing targets. Protecting the limits is the whole job.
- Losing streaks are normal. At a 45% win rate, a run of five losses in a row is close to certain within 100 trades.
- Oversized positions turn a normal streak into a breach. Risk per trade is the single most important setting.
- Trading larger to recover a loss, and rushing near the target, cause more failures than bad analysis.
- Many breaches come from rules that were never read: equity-based limits, trailing floors, news and weekend restrictions.

What is the main reason traders fail prop firm challenges?
Breaking the daily loss limit through position sizes that are too large. At 2% risk per trade, three losses in one day exceed a 5% daily limit, and three losses in a row is a common event.

2.15 Understanding Prop Firm Consistency Rules

What consistency rules are, the four forms they take, how the best-day calculation works with real numbers, and how steady risk keeps an account inside them.

- A consistency rule limits how uneven your results or your position sizes may be. It sits on top of the profit target and the loss limits.
- The most common form is the best-day rule: no single day may account for more than a set share of total profit, often between 30% and 50%.
- Breaking a best-day rule rarely ends the account. It usually means you must keep trading until the big day shrinks as a share of the total.
- Some firms apply consistency only in the evaluation, some only at payout, and some not at all. Read your own firm's page.
- Steady risk per trade is the simplest protection. Accounts traded at one fixed percentage seldom come near these rules.

> **What is a consistency rule at a prop firm?**
> It is a condition that limits how uneven your trading may be. The most common version says that no single day may produce more than a set share of your total profit. Others limit position sizes, risk per trade or the minimum number of trading days.

2.16 Managing Multiple Prop Firm Challenges

How to run several challenges at different firms at once when every firm has its own limits, clocks and conditions, without one mistake spreading to all of them.

- Spreading challenges across firms reduces dependence on any one firm. It does not reduce market risk if every account takes the same trades.
- Each account must be sized to its own firm's tightest limit, not to an average of all of them.
- Daily loss limits reset at different times and are calculated in different ways. That alone can break an account that looked safe.
- Each account needs its own trading terminal. One Windows VPS can carry several if it has enough memory.
- Check every firm's terms on running the same strategy across accounts before you buy the second challenge.

> **Can I take challenges at more than one prop firm at the same time?**
> Generally yes: firms do not control what you do elsewhere. What each firm does control is trading on its own accounts, and some have terms about duplicated strategies or copied trades. Read the terms of every firm you use.

2.17 Are Challenge Passing Services Allowed by Prop Firms?

An honest answer: some firms permit outside trading, copy trading or expert advisors and some prohibit them. How to read the terms and what a breach can cost.

- Each prop firm sets its own rules. There is no industry-wide answer, and terms change.
- Many firms have clauses on third-party trading, account management, copy trading or expert advisors. Some prohibit these outright.
- Breaching a firm's terms can mean a closed account, a refused payout and a lost challenge fee, even when the trading was profitable.
- The responsibility for complying with the firm's terms sits with you, the account holder.
- Read the terms yourself, ask the firm in writing if anything is unclear, and choose a firm whose rules fit how the account will be traded.

Do prop firms allow challenge passing services?
It depends on the firm. Each one writes its own terms. Some prohibit third-party trading or copy trading outright, some restrict expert advisors, and some permit these under conditions. You have to read the agreement of the firm you intend to use.

2.18 Understanding Prop Firm Trading Restrictions

The rules beyond the profit target and loss limits: what firms restrict, why, how each restriction changes the way an account must be traded, and how to check yours.

- Restrictions fall into five groups: timing, holding, methods, size and conduct.
- They differ from firm to firm and between a firm's own account types. Read the page for the exact product you bought.
- A restriction breach can close a profitable account. The loss limits are not the only way to fail.
- Evaluation rules and funded rules are not always identical. Check again after you pass.
- Careful, fixed-risk trading with a stop on every position already satisfies most restrictions.

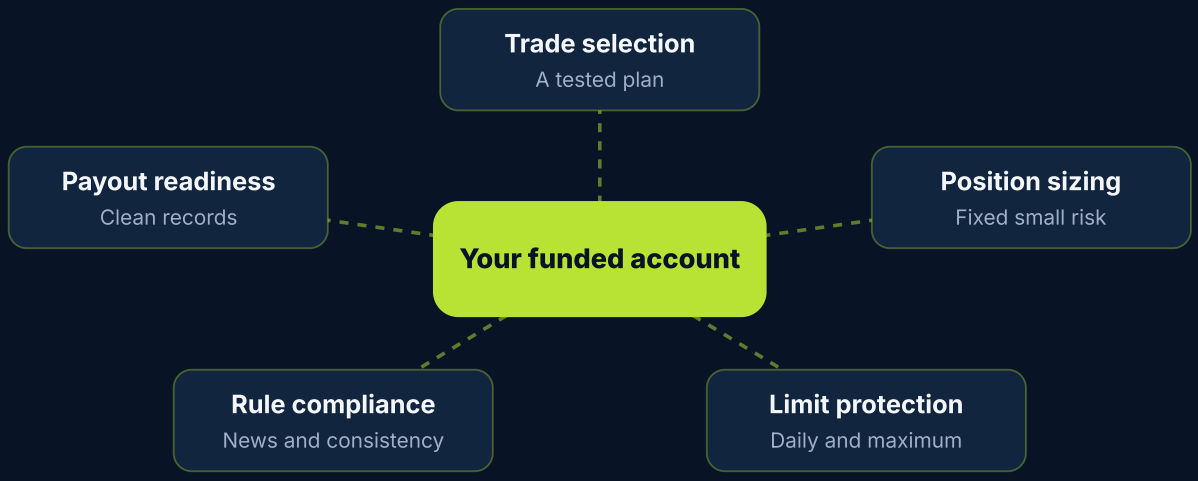
What are the most common prop firm trading restrictions?
Limits on trading around major news, on holding positions over weekends or overnight, bans on methods such as martingale, grid trading and arbitrage, caps on lot size and leverage, and conduct rules such as minimum trading days and inactivity limits.

CHAPTER 3 · 12 ARTICLES

03

Funded Account Management

After the pass: payouts, scaling, consistency rules and keeping a funded account alive.



The five responsibilities a manager carries. Ownership of the account is not one of them.

3.1 How Funded Account Management Works
3.2 How LEFTURN Manages Funded Trading Accounts
3.3 Understanding Funded Account Management Fees
3.4 How Prop Firm Payouts Work
3.5 From Funded Account to First Payout
3.6 Managing Risk After Passing a Challenge
3.7 Challenge Accounts vs. Instant Funded Accounts
3.8 How to Connect an Instant Funded Account
3.9 Understanding Funded Account Scaling Plans
3.10 Protecting a Funded Trading Account
3.11 Reading Funded Account Performance Reports
3.12 Managing Multiple Funded Accounts

3.1 How Funded Account Management Works

A plain guide to having a funded prop firm account traded for you: what the job is, how it differs from passing a challenge, how the money flows and where the risks are.

- A funded account has no profit target. The goal changes from reaching a number once to earning steadily without ever breaking a limit.
- The account stays in your name. The prop firm pays your profit split to you, and the manager is paid from that payout.
- Good management is deliberately unexciting: small fixed risk, a stop on every trade and no pressure to hit a figure by a date.
- The loss limits are the same as in the challenge, and breaking one ends the account. Protecting it comes before growing it.
- Your prop firm's terms decide what kinds of management are permitted. Check them before you start.

> **What is funded account management?**
> It is a service in which a professional trader or team trades your funded prop firm account on your behalf. You remain the account holder and receive the payouts from the firm; the manager is paid an agreed share of those payouts.

3.2 How LEFTURN Manages Funded Trading Accounts

LEFTURN's own process for a funded account, from the day the firm issues it: connection, risk rules, payout cycles, what you see, what we charge and what we ask of you.

- Passing is only the start. On a funded account we trade for consistency: steady risk and no rule breaks, so payouts can be requested cycle after cycle.
- The account stays in your name. Your firm pays you, and LEFTURN's performance fee is 33% of each payout.
- Trades are sized to your balance and tracked against your firm's daily loss limit and maximum drawdown.
- You see every trade on your own platform and in your portal, and you can close any trade at any time.
- Once funded, you can keep our team trading the account or build your own trader team from the Marketplace.

> **What does LEFTURN charge to manage a funded account?**
> On the Standard service the fee is a 33% performance fee on each payout you receive from your prop firm. If a cycle produces no payout, no performance fee is due for that cycle.

3.3 Understanding Funded Account Management Fees

How managers of funded prop firm accounts are paid, what a performance fee is really a percentage of, and what each model costs in good, flat and losing cycles.

- Most funded account managers charge a performance fee: a share of each payout. Some charge a flat monthly fee, and some combine the two.
- Always ask what the percentage is taken from. A share of your payout is smaller than the same share of total profit.
- A performance fee costs nothing in a cycle with no payout. A flat fee is owed every month regardless.
- LEFTURN's Standard service charges 33% of each payout you receive. No payout, no fee.
- With an 80% profit split and a 33% performance fee, you keep 53.6% of the profit made on the account.

> **What is a typical fee for managing a funded account?**
> Most managers charge a performance fee, a percentage of each payout, and some charge a flat monthly amount or a mix of both. LEFTURN's Standard service charges 33% of each payout you receive from your prop firm.

3.4 How Prop Firm Payouts Work

How a prop firm actually pays a funded trader: the split, the calendar, the request and review, the balance reset afterwards, and the reasons a payout can be held back.

- You are paid a share of the profit on a funded account, commonly around 80%, at intervals the firm sets, often every 14 or 30 days.
- A payout is requested by you and reviewed by the firm before it is paid. The review checks your trading against every rule.
- After a payout most firms return the balance to its starting figure, which removes the cushion above your loss limit.
- Many firms refund the challenge fee with the first payout.
- Delays usually come from identity checks, consistency conditions, open trades or a rule query, not from the split itself.

> **How often do prop firms pay out?**
> It depends on the firm. Cycles of 14 or 30 days are common, and the first payout often has its own, sometimes longer, waiting period. Check the payout page of the firm you are using.

3.5 From Funded Account to First Payout

What happens between receiving a funded account and seeing money arrive: the checks, the first cycle, the request, the review and how the payout is divided.

- A funded account has no profit target. You are paid a share of whatever profit exists when a payout is requested.
- Most firms set a waiting period before the first request, commonly 14 or 30 days from the first funded trade, and some add minimum trading days or a minimum profit.
- The firm reviews the trading before paying. A rule break found at this stage can cancel the payout and the account.
- With LEFTURN's Standard service, the firm pays you and you then pay a 33% performance fee on that payout.
- The first cycle should be traded more carefully than the challenge, not less: there is no buffer yet.

> **How long does it take to go from funded account to first payout?**
> Commonly two to six weeks. Verification and the contract take a few days, the first payout cycle is usually 14 or 30 days from the first funded trade, and the firm's review and payment add up to a week.

3.6 Managing Risk After Passing a Challenge

Why the funded stage calls for less risk than the evaluation, how to build a cushion, and the simple rules that keep a funded account alive long enough to pay.

- A funded account has nothing to reach and everything to lose, so the right risk per trade is usually lower than in the evaluation.
- A new funded account has no cushion. The first profit is worth protecting more than any later profit.
- Set your own daily cut-off well inside the firm's daily loss limit. The firm's limit is where the account ends, not where the day should end.
- Know whether your maximum loss is static or trailing. A trailing limit follows the account up and can sit much closer than you think.
- Regular payouts are a risk tool: money withdrawn cannot be lost in the next drawdown.

> **Should I risk less on a funded account than in the challenge?**
> In most cases, yes. There is no profit target pushing you to take risk, and losing the account costs far more than a challenge fee. Many traders use between a quarter and a half of one percent per trade once funded.

3.7 Challenge Accounts vs. Instant Funded Accounts

Two ways into prop trading side by side: pay less and prove yourself first, or pay more and start funded under tighter rules. Costs, limits and timelines compared.

- A challenge account costs less and must be passed before it pays. An instant funded account costs more and can pay from the first cycle.
- Instant funded accounts commonly use a trailing maximum loss and smaller allowances, which leaves less room to trade.
- Per dollar of fee, a passed challenge normally gives far more loss room than an instant account.
- Instant accounts suit people who value time over cost and can trade inside narrow limits. Challenges suit patient capital.
- Whichever route you choose, read the firm's rules on expert advisors, copy trading and account management before paying.

What is the difference between a challenge account and an instant funded account?
A challenge account is an evaluation you must pass before you receive a funded account. An instant funded account skips the evaluation: you pay a higher fee and can request a payout after the first cycle, usually under tighter loss rules.

3.8 How to Connect an Instant Funded Account

A practical walkthrough for connecting an instant funded account: the details to gather, the VPS and platform setup, and the checks that protect a tight loss limit.

- Confirm the firm and the exact product are a fit before anything else. Instant accounts have narrower rules than challenges.
- Gather five things first: login, password, server name, account size, and the loss rules in writing.
- The account runs on a Windows VPS with MetaTrader 5 and the LEFTURN Expert Advisor, or the LEFTURN Copier for TradeLocker.
- Record whether the maximum loss is static or trailing, and whether it is measured on balance or equity.
- Run the connection checks before trading begins. On an instant account the first mistake counts.

Can I connect an instant funded account to LEFTURN?
LEFTURN works with funded accounts on MetaTrader 5 and TradeLocker, with cTrader and Tradovate in beta. Whether a particular instant product is a good fit depends on its rules, so check the firm with the free Prop Screener first.

3.9 Understanding Funded Account Scaling Plans

How prop firms grow a profitable funded account: the conditions, the size steps, what happens to limits and payouts, and when a second account is the better move.

- A scaling plan increases the account's size after a period of profitable, rule-abiding trading. An increase of 25% of the starting balance is common.
- Typical conditions combine a time period, a minimum total profit and a number of payouts. Every firm sets its own.
- Limits scale in dollars because they are percentages. The same percentage risk produces larger positions and larger payouts.
- Scaling rewards consistency, not speed. Raising risk to qualify sooner is the usual way to lose the account instead.
- A second account can reach the same capital faster, at the cost of another fee and another set of rules to respect.

> **What is a funded account scaling plan?**
> It is a prop firm's commitment to increase the size of a funded account when the trader meets stated conditions over a review period, typically a minimum profit, a number of payouts and no rule breaches.

3.10 Protecting a Funded Trading Account

The nine safeguards that keep a funded account open: trading rules, firm rules, technical reliability, account security and payout habits, with the reason for each.

- Funded accounts fail for four kinds of reason: trading losses, rule breaches, technical faults and security lapses. Protection has to cover all four.
- Keep risk per trade small and stop each day well inside the firm's daily loss limit.
- Write the firm's rules on one page and check them before each cycle. Funded agreements often differ from the challenge terms.
- The platform must stay running on a VPS. A closed terminal cannot manage or close a trade.
- Take payouts on schedule. Money withdrawn is beyond the reach of any later mistake.

> **What is the most common reason funded accounts are lost?**
> Breaking the daily loss limit, usually through position sizes that are too large for a normal losing streak. Small risk per trade and a personal daily cut-off well inside the firm's limit prevent most of these cases.

3.11 Reading Funded Account Performance Reports

Three reports describe every funded account. What each one shows, the handful of numbers to check each week, and the patterns that signal trouble before a limit does.

- Three reports matter: the firm's dashboard for rules, the platform report for trades and statistics, and your portal for the service view.
- The most important number on a funded account is not profit. It is the distance left to the daily and maximum loss limits.
- Compare balance with equity every time. A large gap means open trades are carrying profit or loss that the balance does not show.
- Judge performance over whole cycles and months, not single days.
- Rising position sizes, a growing gap between balance and equity, or profit concentrated in one day are warnings worth acting on.

> **Which report matters most on a funded account?**
> The prop firm's dashboard, because the firm applies its own calculation of the loss limits and payout eligibility. The platform report and your portal explain what lies behind those numbers.

3.12 Managing Multiple Funded Accounts

Several funded accounts multiply income and also multiply exposure. How to measure combined risk, stagger payouts across firms and keep the whole set organized.

- Accounts trading the same positions rise and fall together. Measure risk across all of them, in dollars, not account by account.
- Spreading accounts across firms protects against a rule change or a problem at one firm. It does not protect against a losing trade.
- Staggered payout cycles turn irregular lump sums into something closer to a steady income.
- Firms cap total allocation per trader and set their own terms on copying between accounts. Read them for every firm you use.
- Keep one sheet with every account's rules, dates and limits. Confusion between rule sets is how multi-account traders lose accounts.

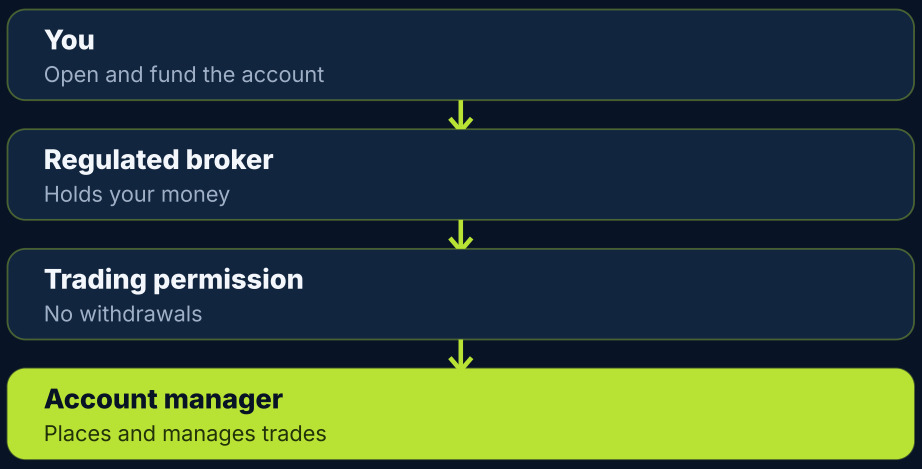
> **Is it risky to run the same strategy on several funded accounts?**
> The percentage risk per account does not change, but the dollars at risk multiply, and the accounts will draw down together. A loss deep enough to close one is likely to close the others at the same time.

CHAPTER 4 · 10 ARTICLES

04

Managed Forex Accounts

Having professionals trade a personal account held in your own name, at your own broker.



Who does what in a properly structured managed account. Money never moves to the manager.

4.1 How to Choose a Forex Account Manager

4.2 Managed Forex Accounts vs. Prop Firm Accounts

4.3 Understanding Forex Account Management Fees

4.4 Understanding the Risks of Managed Forex

4.5 How to Diversify a Managed Forex Portfolio

4.6 Understanding Performance-Based Compensation

4.7 How to Monitor Your Managed Forex Account

4.8 Are Managed Forex Accounts Safe? What Protects You

4.9 Forex Account Diversification: How a Manager Spreads Risk

4.10 Managed Forex Accounts: A Complete Guide for Beginners

4.1 How to Choose a Forex Account Manager

A practical way to judge any forex account manager before you give trading access: who holds the money, how results are proved, how risk is capped and how the manager is paid.

- Your money should stay in an account in your own name at a regulated broker. The manager gets permission to trade and nothing else.
- Judge a record by its drawdown and its length before you look at the return.
- Agree a maximum loss in writing before the first trade, and know what happens when it is reached.
- Prefer fees that are earned from new profit over fees charged whatever happens.
- You should be able to see every trade live and end the arrangement whenever you choose.

> **What does a forex account manager do?**
> A forex account manager places and manages trades on your account on your behalf. The account stays in your name at your broker, and the manager is paid a fee, usually a share of the profit.

4.2 Managed Forex Accounts vs. Prop Firm Accounts

Two ways to have an account traded for you, compared side by side: capital, cost, rules, profit share and risk, with a simple way to decide which fits you.

- In a managed account your own deposit is at risk. In a prop firm account your risk is limited to the fees you paid.
- A prop firm account gives access to far more capital than most people could deposit, but under strict loss rules.
- Managed account profits are yours after the manager's fee. Prop firm profits are split with the firm first.
- A broker account can be held for years. A prop firm account ends the moment a rule is broken.
- Many people use both: a prop firm account for leverage on capital, a personal account for longevity.

> **What is the main difference between a managed forex account and a prop firm account?**
> The capital. A managed account trades your own money at your broker. A prop firm account trades the firm's money after you pass a paid evaluation, and you receive a share of the profit.

4.3 Understanding Forex Account Management Fees

How managers of personal forex accounts are paid: performance fees, high-water marks, management fees and fixed fees, with the arithmetic that shows what each costs.

- Most managers of personal accounts are paid a performance fee: a share of new profit, commonly between 20% and 35%.
- A high-water mark means you pay only on profit above the account's previous peak, so losses must be recovered before any new fee is due.
- Management fees and fixed monthly fees are charged whether or not the account makes money.
- The fee model changes the manager's incentives. Ask who benefits when the account trades more, or takes more risk.
- Get the percentage, the billing period, the high-water mark and the exit terms in writing.

What is a typical performance fee for a managed forex account?
Across the industry, performance fees on personal managed accounts commonly fall between 20% and 35% of new profit. The figure matters less than whether a high-water mark applies and how risk is limited.

4.4 Understanding the Risks of Managed Forex

Every way a managed forex account can lose money or go wrong, from leverage and drawdown to manager behavior and fraud, and the specific control that limits each.

- You can lose some or all of the money in a managed forex account. Fund it only with capital you can afford to lose.
- Losses are harder to recover than they look: a 50% loss needs a 100% gain to get back to the start.
- The biggest avoidable risks are structural: money held by the wrong party, and strategies that hide losses.
- A written maximum drawdown, small risk per trade and a stop on every position limit how bad a bad period can be.
- Being able to see every trade, and to stop at any time, is itself a risk control.

Can I lose all my money in a managed forex account?
Yes, it is possible. Forex is leveraged, and a poorly controlled account can lose most or all of its value. Sensible position sizing and a maximum drawdown limit make a total loss far less likely, but they cannot rule it out.

4.5 How to Diversify a Managed Forex Portfolio

A practical method for spreading one managed account across several LEFTURN traders: who to combine, how much risk to give each, and how to avoid hidden overlap.

- Diversifying one account means splitting a fixed risk budget between traders, not adding more risk for every trader you add.
- Combine traders who differ in instrument, session and style. Three traders on the same pair is one bet made three times.
- Set risk per trade for each trader so that the combined worst day stays inside a limit you chose in advance.
- Watch for hidden overlap: gold and the major currency pairs often respond to the same US dollar move.
- Two to four traders is enough. More than that adds cost and complexity faster than it adds protection.

> **Can I diversify with just one managed forex account?**
> Yes. On LEFTURN one account can copy several Marketplace traders, each limited to chosen instruments, sessions and risk per trade. The account then behaves like a small portfolio.

4.6 Understanding Performance-Based Compensation

Why most account managers are paid from results, how that pay is calculated, the incentive problem hidden inside it, and the safeguards that make it work for the client.

- Under performance-based compensation, a trader earns a share of profit. No profit means no performance pay.
- The model aligns interests on the upside. On the downside the client carries the loss alone, which can reward excessive risk.
- Three safeguards fix most of that: a high-water mark, a written drawdown limit, and the client's ability to see and stop the trading.
- LEFTURN's Standard service on prop accounts is performance-based: a 33% fee on payouts, after a flat service fee for the evaluation.
- The Marketplace is not performance-based. Traders are paid in tokens for a 30-day period, whatever the result.

> **What is performance-based compensation in trading?**
> It is a pay model where the trader or manager receives an agreed percentage of the profit made on the account. If there is no profit in the period, no performance fee is due.

4.7 How to Monitor Your Managed Forex Account

A simple routine for keeping an eye on a personal managed account without interfering: what to check daily, weekly and monthly, and which changes call for action.

- Check four things: equity against balance, drawdown from the peak, position sizes, and whether every trade has a stop loss.
- A glance each day, ten minutes each week and a proper review each month is enough.
- One losing week is normal. A change in how the account is traded is what matters.
- Do not add your own trades or close winners early. Interference changes the risk the manager calculated.
- Decide your stop level in advance, in writing, so that you act on a rule and not on a feeling.

> **How often should I check my managed forex account?**
> A brief look each day to confirm the platform is connected, a ten-minute check each week and a fuller review each month. Checking far more often usually leads to worry and poor decisions.

4.8 Are Managed Forex Accounts Safe? What Protects You

The structure of a managed account protects you from some dangers and not from others. Here is exactly which, and how to check each one before you start.

- Safety has two meanings here: safety from theft or misuse, and safety from trading losses. A good structure addresses the first. Nothing removes the second.
- The strongest protection is custody: your money stays in your own account at a regulated broker, and the manager can only trade.
- Regulation protects you against a broker's failure or misconduct, within limits. It does not cover trading losses.
- Most fraud involves sending money to the "manager" or promised returns. Both are reasons to stop.
- You control the rest: how much you commit, the risk level you agree to, and how closely you watch.

> **Are managed forex accounts safe?**
> The structure can protect you from theft or misuse when your money stays in your own broker account and the manager has trading access only. It cannot protect you from trading losses, which are always possible.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/why-managed-forex-accounts-are-a-secure-investment-option-in-2025/

4.9 Forex Account Diversification: How a Manager Spreads Risk

How diversification works inside one managed forex account: across currencies, strategies, sessions and time, with the limits that marketing tends to leave out.

- Diversification spreads risk so that results depend on many independent decisions instead of one.
- More trades is not more diversification. Five positions that all depend on the US dollar are one bet made five times.
- A manager can diversify across instruments, strategies, trading sessions and holding periods.
- The benefit is a smoother account and shallower drawdowns. It does not raise the return of the underlying strategies and it does not prevent losses.
- In a crisis, markets that normally move apart can move together, so diversification is weakest exactly when it is needed most. Hard risk limits cover that gap.

> **What is forex account diversification?**
> It is the practice of spreading an account's risk across trades that do not depend on the same market, idea or moment, so that a single event cannot cause a large loss.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/why-hiring-us-to-manage-your-forex-account-mitigates-risk-through-diversification/

4.10 Managed Forex Accounts: A Complete Guide for Beginners

What a managed forex account is, who holds the money, how the manager is paid, where the risks are, and how it differs from copy trading and from a prop firm account.

- In a properly structured managed account, your money sits with your own broker, in your name. The manager can trade it but cannot withdraw it.
- Managers are usually paid a performance fee: a share of new profit, calculated above a high-water mark so the same profit is never charged twice.
- A manager reduces the work and the need for skill on your side. It does not remove market risk, and no result can be promised.
- Copy trading and managed accounts use similar technology. The difference is who chooses the traders and who decides the risk.
- Start small, read the agreement, and judge a manager by drawdown and consistency, not by the best month.

> **What is a managed forex account?**
> It is a trading account in your own name at a broker, on which you have authorized a professional to place trades. You keep ownership and control of deposits and withdrawals; the manager makes the trading decisions.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/the-ultimate-guide-to-managed-forex-accounts-for-beginners-in-2025/

CHAPTER 5 · 18 ARTICLES

05

The Trader Marketplace

Choosing traders, reading their records and trade plans, and building your own team.



How a trade travels from a Marketplace trader to your own account.

5.1 How to Get Started With the LEFTURN Marketplace
5.2 How to Discover Traders on LEFTURN
5.3 How to Build Your Own Team of Forex Traders
5.4 How to Compare Marketplace Traders
5.5 How to Read a Trader's Performance Profile
5.6 Understanding the Marketplace Leaderboard
5.7 How to Filter Traders by Trading Style
5.8 How to Find Low-Drawdown Trading Strategies
5.9 How to Find Forex Strategy Providers
5.10 How to Find Gold Trading Strategies
5.11 How to Find NASDAQ and US30 Traders
5.12 Automated vs. Discretionary Marketplace Traders
5.13 How to Subscribe to a Marketplace Trader
5.14 How to Remove a Trader From Your Portfolio
5.15 How to Adjust an Individual Trader's Risk
5.16 How to Monitor Your Trader Team
5.17 How to Have LEFTURN Build a Trader Team for You
5.18 Understanding Marketplace Trader Verification

5.1 How to Get Started With the LEFTURN Marketplace

The whole path from a free account to your first copied trade: what to set up, how the trial tokens work, how to choose one trader and one pair, and what to check in the first two weeks.

- Joining is free, and so is browsing trader records and published trade plans. You pay only when you subscribe to a trader, and you pay in tokens.
- New accounts receive 25 promotional tokens that are valid for 14 days, enough to follow one trader on one instrument for the trial.
- Start with one trader on one instrument. Add a second only after you have watched the first for a couple of weeks.
- Every copied trade starts as a pending order. You can have it placed automatically or be emailed first, and you can keep it, resize it or cancel it.
- The Marketplace has no failed-challenge cover. You choose the traders and the risk, so the outcome is your responsibility.

> **Is the LEFTURN Marketplace free to join?**
> Yes. Creating an account, browsing traders, inspecting their records and reading published trade plans are free. Copying a trader is a paid subscription, paid in tokens.

5.2 How to Discover Traders on LEFTURN

A repeatable way to search the Marketplace: start from your own account, filter by market, session and style, read the plans, and leave with a shortlist of three.

- Start from your account, not from the list: its size, its loss limits and when you can pay attention decide who is suitable.
- The Marketplace lets you narrow traders by market (gold, forex, indices), by session (such as London or New York) and by style.
- Browsing is free. Every trader's record and published trade plans can be inspected before you spend a token.
- Read three or four of a trader's trade plans before you study their returns. How they think predicts how they will behave in a bad week.
- Finish with a shortlist of two or three, then compare them side by side.

> **Is it free to browse traders on LEFTURN?**
> Yes. You can browse every trader, inspect their records and read their published trade plans without paying. Tokens are needed only when you subscribe to copy a trader.

5.3 How to Build Your Own Team of Forex Traders

A team is not a list of good traders. It is a set of roles, a shared risk budget and a plan for adding people one at a time. Here is how to design one.

- A team is defined by roles. Each trader should cover a market, a session or a style that the others do not.
- Decide the total risk the account may carry first, then divide it between traders. Do not set each trader's risk in isolation.
- Subscriptions are paid in tokens per trader and per instrument for 30 days. Taking one instrument from a specialist is often all you need.
- Add one trader at a time and watch for two to four weeks before adding the next.
- Three traders with different roles is a full team for most accounts. More than five is rarely better.

> **How many traders should I copy on one account?**
> Two or three traders with clearly different roles give most of the benefit. Beyond five, additions usually overlap with what you already have and add cost without reducing risk.

5.4 How to Compare Marketplace Traders

Two traders rarely look alike on paper. Here is how to put their records on the same footing, read them month by month and reach a decision you can defend.

- Compare like with like: the same months, and results judged against the risk taken to earn them.
- Return divided by maximum drawdown is the quickest single comparison. It shows how much was earned for each unit of pain.
- Read month by month. Two traders with the same total can have very different worst months.
- A longer record with more trades deserves more trust than a shorter one with better numbers.
- Compare how the traders move together as well. A trader who loses when your existing trader loses adds little.

> **What is the fairest single number for comparing two traders?**
> Return divided by maximum drawdown over the same period. It shows how much each trader earned for the risk they took, and it is not inflated by simply trading larger.

5.5 How to Read a Trader's Performance Profile

A section-by-section guide to a Marketplace trader's profile: what each figure measures, what verification means, how to read the plan history, and what the profile cannot tell you.

- Read the profile in this order: verification and length of record, drawdown, consistency, return, then the published plans.
- Maximum drawdown tells you the worst you would likely have lived through. Read it before the monthly average.
- Positive months show consistency; win rate on its own shows almost nothing.
- The trade plan history is the most useful part: it shows whether the trader does what they say, trade after trade.
- A Top Trader badge marks 10 confirmed challenge passes for clients. It is evidence of a track record, not a forecast.

> **What is the most important figure on a trader's performance profile?**
> Maximum drawdown, read together with the length of the record. It shows the deepest fall you would have experienced, which decides whether you could have stayed long enough to see the average return.

5.6 Understanding the Marketplace Leaderboard

What a leaderboard ranked on consistency and risk tells you, why it differs from a list of the biggest returns, where rankings mislead, and how to use one sensibly.

- The LEFTURN leaderboard ranks traders on consistency and risk, not on who made the most money.
- A return-ranked list rewards whoever took the most risk in a good period. A risk-aware ranking rewards steadier records.
- Every ranking looks backward, and positions move. Treat the leaderboard as a starting list, not a recommendation.
- Always open the full profile: record length, maximum drawdown, positive months and the published plans.
- Build a team across specialties rather than simply copying the top three.

> **How does the LEFTURN Marketplace leaderboard rank traders?**
> It ranks traders on consistency and risk rather than on who made the most money. LEFTURN does not publish an exact formula, so read each trader's full profile rather than relying on the position alone.

5.7 How to Filter Traders by Trading Style

What scalping, intraday and swing trading mean for the account that copies them, and how to narrow the Marketplace to the styles that fit your rules and routine.

- Style is about holding time. Scalpers hold for minutes, intraday traders for hours, swing traders for days.
- Each style stresses a different rule: scalping is sensitive to costs and fills, intraday to the daily loss limit, swing to overnight, weekend and news rules.
- Filter by market, session and style first, then compare records. Comparing a scalper with a swing trader on win rate alone is misleading.
- A trader's published trade plans show their style more reliably than a label does.
- Pick the style that fits your account's rules and your own patience, not the one with the most exciting month.

What trading styles can I filter by on the LEFTURN Marketplace?
The Marketplace lets you narrow traders by market, session and style. Style describes holding time: scalping for very short trades, intraday for trades closed the same day, and swing for trades held for days.

5.8 How to Find Low-Drawdown Trading Strategies

Low drawdown is the right thing to look for and the easiest number to fake. How to tell a controlled strategy from one whose losses simply have not shown up yet.

- Maximum drawdown is the largest fall from a peak to the following low. For copy trading it matters more than return.
- A low figure only means something with enough history: months of trading and a meaningful number of trades.
- Strategies that add to losing positions or trade without stops can show tiny drawdowns for a long time, then lose most of the account at once.
- Compare return with drawdown, check the worst day and the worst month, and read the trade list for position sizes.
- Your own risk setting scales a trader's drawdown up or down on your account. Low for them is not automatically low for you.

What counts as a low drawdown for a trading strategy?
There is no official threshold. As a rule of thumb, a maximum drawdown under 5% over a long record is low, 5% to 10% is moderate and anything above 10% is high for an account with a 10% maximum loss limit.

5.9 How to Find Forex Strategy Providers

A method for finding currency traders to copy: what a strategy provider is, what to verify in a record, how pairs overlap, and how to start small.

- A strategy provider trades their own account; your account copies those trades with your own risk settings. Your money stays in your account.
- Verify before you compare: a record you cannot check is an advertisement, not evidence.
- Look at drawdown, number of trades and length of record before return.
- Currency pairs overlap. Two providers trading different pairs can still be making the same bet on the US dollar.
- Start with one provider and one pair at small risk, and read their trade plans before each trade fills.

> **What is a forex strategy provider?**
> A trader who allows others to copy their currency trades. The provider trades their own account, and a copy service reproduces each trade on followers' accounts, scaled to each follower's balance and settings.

5.10 How to Find Gold Trading Strategies

Gold moves further and faster than currencies. What that means for lot sizes, stops and daily limits, and how to pick a gold trader whose method fits your account.

- Gold typically moves several times further in a day than a major currency pair, so position sizes must be smaller for the same risk.
- On most platforms one lot of XAUUSD is 100 ounces, so a $1 move is $100 per lot. Check your own platform's contract size.
- Judge a gold trader by drawdown and stop discipline first. High returns on gold are easy to produce with oversized positions.
- Gold reacts sharply to US data and interest rate news. Find out how a trader handles those hours.
- One gold trader is usually enough. Two gold traders are close to one position twice the size.

> **Why is gold riskier to copy than a currency pair?**
> Gold usually moves several times further in a day than a major currency pair and can move very quickly around news. A position sized by currency habits can therefore lose far more than intended.

5.11 How to Find NASDAQ and US30 Traders

US index trading has its own rules: symbol names, point values, opening hours and gaps. How to find index traders and copy them without sizing surprises.

- The same index has different symbol names and different contract sizes at different brokers. Check both before copying.
- Index risk is measured in points, not pips. Money at risk is points × value per point × lots.
- Most index activity happens in the first hours after the 9:30 a.m. New York open, so losses concentrate in one part of your day.
- The Nasdaq and the Dow usually move in the same direction. Copying one trader on each is less diversified than it looks.
- Check your prop firm's rules on news, overnight holding and index trading hours before you add an index trader.

What is the difference between NAS100 and US30?
NAS100 follows the Nasdaq 100, which is dominated by technology companies and tends to make larger percentage moves. US30 follows the Dow Jones Industrial Average of thirty large companies, which is usually steadier.

5.12 Automated vs. Discretionary Marketplace Traders

Rule-based programs and human decision-makers fail in different ways. How to recognise each style from its record and plans, and how to use both in one portfolio.

- Automated traders follow fixed rules carried out by software. Discretionary traders decide each trade themselves.
- Automated systems tend to fail when the market changes character. Discretionary traders tend to fail through fatigue, emotion or drift from their own method.
- Most serious traders are hybrids: rules for some steps, judgement for others.
- You can often tell the style apart from trade timing, consistency of size and the shape of the written plans.
- Pairing the two styles can reduce the chance that one failure mode hits your whole portfolio at once.

What is the difference between automated and discretionary traders?
An automated trader uses software to apply rules written in advance, so the program decides each entry and exit. A discretionary trader makes each decision personally at the time, using experience and judgement.

5.13 How to Subscribe to a Marketplace Trader

What happens when you subscribe to a LEFTURN Marketplace trader: the checks to make first, how tokens are used every 30 days, and the settings that decide what is copied.

- Looking is free. Trader records and published trade plans can be read before you spend a single token.
- A subscription is per trader, per account, and per instrument or for all of that trader's pairs. It uses tokens at each 30-day renewal while it is active.
- The exact token price for your account is shown in your portal before you confirm. Tokens cost $2.50 each and do not expire.
- Your settings decide what is copied: instruments, sessions, direction, risk per trade, and whether a written plan is required.
- The Marketplace has no failed-challenge cover. You choose the traders and the risk, so the results are yours.

> **How much does it cost to subscribe to a Marketplace trader?**
> Subscriptions use tokens, which cost $2.50 each. The standard rate on a $100,000 account is 25 tokens per trader per instrument, or 60 tokens for all of a trader's pairs, every 30 days. The requirement depends on account size and the trader, and the exact price is shown in your portal before you confirm.

5.14 How to Remove a Trader From Your Portfolio

A calm procedure for removing a Marketplace trader: how to decide, how to handle open trades and pending orders, what happens to your tokens, and what to review afterwards.

- Decide your removal rules before you subscribe, so the decision is made by a rule and not by a bad week.
- A drawdown inside the trader's historical range is normal. A drawdown beyond it, or a change in behaviour, is a reason to act.
- Deal with open trades and pending orders deliberately. They are on your account, and you can close or cancel them yourself.
- On LEFTURN you can pause a trader at any time. Subscriptions use tokens at each 30-day renewal, and unused tokens do not expire.
- After removing someone, re-check total risk and overlap among the traders who remain.

> **When should I remove a trader from my portfolio?**
> When their drawdown on your account goes clearly beyond their historical range, when their behaviour changes (larger sizes, missing stop losses, different markets), or when their style no longer fits your account's rules. A normal losing streak inside the stated risk is not a reason on its own.

5.15 How to Adjust an Individual Trader's Risk

Each trader you copy can carry a different amount of risk. How the per-trader setting works, how to choose a number for each one, and the mistakes that undo it.

- Risk per trade is set for each trader separately, alongside their instruments, sessions and direction.
- The number means the share of your account you accept losing if one of that trader's trades hits its stop.
- Size each trader by their drawdown and trade frequency, not by how much you like their results.
- Add up the worst case across all traders before you save anything. The account's daily and maximum loss limits apply to the total.
- Change risk at planned reviews and for stated reasons. Raising it after wins and cutting it after losses is how accounts are damaged.

> **Can I set a different risk for each trader I copy?**
> Yes. Risk per trade is one of the settings you choose for each trader on each account, together with instruments, sessions, direction and whether a trade plan is required.

5.16 How to Monitor Your Trader Team

A simple routine for watching the traders you copy: a two-minute daily check, a weekly comparison, a monthly review, and clear triggers for when to act.

- A two-minute daily check catches technical problems: a disconnected account, a missing copy, a limit getting close.
- A weekly check compares your results with each trader's own results. Large gaps point to settings or execution, not skill.
- A monthly review compares each trader with the expectations you wrote down when you added them.
- Decide in advance what would make you cut risk or remove a trader, so you act on rules rather than mood.
- Each 30-day renewal is a natural decision point: keep, adjust or stop.

> **How often should I check my copy trading account?**
> A short daily check for connection, arrived trades and loss limits, a weekly comparison with each trader's results, and a monthly performance review is enough for most people. More frequent checking rarely improves decisions.

5.17 How to Have LEFTURN Build a Trader Team for You

The Fully Managed route explained: LEFTURN selects and manages the traders for your account, you follow every trade, and you skip the tokens and the trader research.

- On LEFTURN's pricing, Option A, Fully Managed, is the route where LEFTURN selects and manages the traders for you.
- You pay a one-time flat service fee by account size. There are no tokens and no monthly subscription.
- If a challenge fails, LEFTURN credits your account: the fee you paid goes toward your next challenge with us.
- You see every trade in your portal and on your own platform, and you can close any trade.
- If you want to pick traders and set preferences yourself, that is Option B, the Marketplace.

> **Can LEFTURN choose the traders for my account?**
> Yes. That is Option A, Fully Managed. LEFTURN selects and manages the traders and the process, sized to your account and your firm's rules.

5.18 Understanding Marketplace Trader Verification

What "verified" means on a trader's record, where the data comes from, what it confirms and what it never can, plus a checklist for doing your own verification.

- LEFTURN looks for six months of verified performance from a trader's statements or a live MT5 connection before they can earn from subscribers.
- A record read from a connected account is much stronger evidence than screenshots or self-reported figures.
- Verification confirms that trades happened and what they returned. It does not confirm that results will continue.
- Every published plan and result stays on the trader's public profile, which lets you check that plans came before trades.
- Read drawdown, stop use and sample size yourself. A badge is a starting point, not a decision.

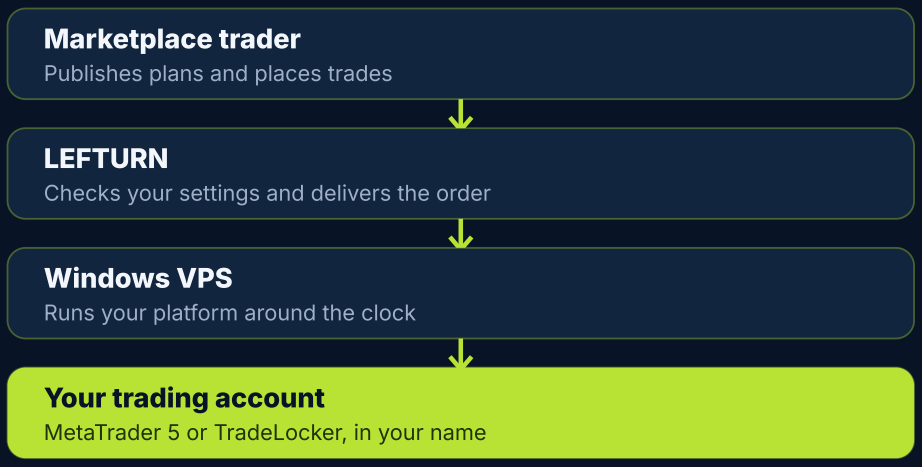
> **What does a verified record mean on LEFTURN?**
> It means the trader's results come from platform-generated trading statements or a live MT5 connection, rather than from screenshots or self-reported numbers. LEFTURN looks for six months of verified performance before a trader can earn from subscribers.

CHAPTER 6 · 13 ARTICLES

06

Copy Trading and TradeLocker

How trades are copied to your account, on MetaTrader 5 and TradeLocker, and the settings that control it.



The four layers of a copied trade. Your account sits at the end of the chain and stays under your control.

6.1 How LEFTURN Copy Trading Works
6.2 Master Trading Accounts vs. Subscriber Accounts
6.3 Understanding Copy Trading Lot Sizes
6.4 Understanding Proportional Trade Copying
6.5 What Is Copy Trading Slippage?
6.6 How Trade Modifications Are Copied
6.7 How Trade Closures Are Synchronized
6.8 What Happens When a Trading Account Disconnects?
6.9 How to Connect TradeLocker to LEFTURN
6.10 How to Copy Trades Between Supported Trading Platforms
6.11 MT5 vs. TradeLocker for Copy Trading
6.12 Copy Trading vs Traditional Investments: An Honest Comparison
6.13 Forex Copy Trading for Beginners: The Complete Guide

6.1 How LEFTURN Copy Trading Works

The full path of a copied trade on LEFTURN, from the trader's written plan to the pending order on your own account, and every point where you decide.

- You choose the traders in the LEFTURN Marketplace and copy them on your own MetaTrader 5 or TradeLocker account. Your funds never leave that account.
- Every copied trade starts as a pending order, which gives you time to read the trade plan and keep the order, change its lot size or cancel it.
- Per-trader settings decide what gets copied: instruments, sessions, direction, risk per trade, and whether you copy only trades that come with a plan.
- Subscriptions are paid in tokens, per trader and pair, for 30 days at a time. There are no long contracts.
- The Marketplace has no failed-challenge cover. You pick the traders and the risk, so the results are yours.

> **How does LEFTURN copy trading work?**
> A Marketplace trader publishes a trade plan, and a matching pending order is delivered to your own MetaTrader 5 or TradeLocker account. Your settings are checked first, and the order fills only if price reaches the entry.

6.2 Master Trading Accounts vs. Subscriber Accounts

The two roles in every copy trading setup: the account that makes the decisions and the account that repeats them, and what does and does not pass between them.

- A master account originates trades. A subscriber account receives instructions based on them. Money never moves between the two.
- What passes from master to subscriber is information: the instrument, direction, entry, stop loss and target. Size is worked out on the subscriber's side.
- One master can feed many subscribers of different sizes, on different brokers, each with their own settings.
- Results differ between the two because of size, price, costs, settings and timing.
- On LEFTURN, the master side is a Marketplace trader's account and the subscriber side is your own MetaTrader 5 or TradeLocker account.

> **What is a master trading account?**
> It is the account where a trader places the original trades. In copy trading it is the source that subscriber accounts follow. It is also called a provider, signal or leader account.

6.3 Understanding Copy Trading Lot Sizes

Why your lot size is not the trader's lot size: the four ways a copied trade can be sized, how rounding and minimums change small accounts, and how to check yours.

- A lot is a unit of position size. On most platforms 1.00 lot of a currency pair is 100,000 units, and sizes move in steps of 0.01.
- Your lot size should come from your account and your risk, never straight from the trader's.
- The four common methods are fixed lots, a multiplier, proportional sizing by balance, and risk-based sizing from the stop loss.
- Rounding to lot steps matters most on small accounts, where 0.01 can be a large share of the intended size.
- On LEFTURN you set a risk per trade for each trader, and you can change the lot size of any pending order before it fills.

> **Why is my lot size different from the trader's?**
> Because your account is a different size and has its own risk settings. A copied trade is sized for your account, so a trader's 2.00 lots might be 0.20 lots or 0.50 lots on yours.

6.4 Understanding Proportional Trade Copying

How proportional copying scales a trader's positions to your account, where the arithmetic breaks down, and how it compares with sizing by risk.

- Proportional copying multiplies the trader's lot size by the ratio of your account to theirs.
- Your percentage risk on each trade then equals the trader's. If they risk 2%, so do you.
- The ratio can be based on balance or on equity; the two differ when trades are open.
- Rounding to 0.01 lots makes small accounts follow poorly, and deposits or withdrawals on either side change the ratio.
- Sizing by your own risk per trade is the alternative when your limits differ from the trader's, as they usually do on prop firm accounts.

> **What is proportional trade copying?**
> It is a sizing method where your lot size equals the trader's lot size multiplied by the ratio of your account to theirs. A $20,000 account following a $100,000 trader takes one fifth of each position.

6.5 What Is Copy Trading Slippage?

Why a copied trade rarely fills at exactly the trader's price, how much that gap can cost over a year, and the design choices that keep it small.

- Slippage is the gap between an expected price and the price actually received. In copy trading, the expected price is the trader's.
- The main causes are delay, a moving market, different brokers and thin liquidity around news or the daily rollover.
- It matters most for scalping: one pip is a quarter of a 4-pip target and one fiftieth of a 50-pip target.
- Market orders accept whatever price is available. Pending limit orders fill at the stated price or better, or not at all.
- On LEFTURN every copied trade starts as a pending order, and running trades can be joined only at the trader's price or better.

What is copy trading slippage?
It is the difference between the price the trader received and the price your copied trade received. It comes from the short delay in copying, movement in the market, and differences between brokers.

6.6 How Trade Modifications Are Copied

What happens to your copy when a trader moves a stop, changes a target, takes partial profit or cancels an order, and which changes you make yourself.

- A modification is any change to an order or position after it is placed: stop loss, take profit, entry price, size, or cancellation.
- Stop and target changes are the most important to follow, because they change the risk and the planned result of the trade.
- A copy can drift from the original when a change is missed, arrives late, or cannot be applied on the follower's broker.
- On LEFTURN, copied trades start as pending orders that you can keep, resize or cancel, and you can set entry, stop loss and take profit offsets per trader and pair.
- Changing a copied trade yourself is allowed, but each change makes your result differ from the trader's.

What is a trade modification in copy trading?
It is any change to an order or position after it is placed, such as moving the stop loss or take profit, changing a pending order's entry price, closing part of the position, or cancelling the order.

6.7 How Trade Closures Are Synchronized

What happens on your account when the trader you copy exits a trade: the chain of events, why your exit price can differ, and what can get in the way.

- A copied trade can end in four ways: its stop loss, its take profit, the trader closing it, or you closing it yourself.
- Stops and targets sit on your own platform and work even if nothing else is running. A manual close by the trader has to travel to your account first.
- Your exit price can differ from the trader's by a little, because the two orders are filled separately. This is normal and usually small.
- A close can only arrive if your platform is running and connected. That is why a Windows VPS is required.
- You can close any copied trade yourself at any time. Closing early changes your result, not the trader's.

How are trade closures synchronized in copy trading?
When the trader closes a position, the copy service detects that the trade has ended and sends a close instruction to each account that copied it. The software next to your trading platform then sends the close order to your broker, which fills it at your account's current price.

6.8 What Happens When a Trading Account Disconnects?

When the link between your account and the copy service drops, some protections keep working and others stop. Here is which is which, and what to do about it.

- When a trading account disconnects, open positions stay open and their stop losses and take profits keep working, because the broker holds them.
- New trades, changes to stops and targets, and closes made by the trader cannot reach your account until it reconnects.
- Closing your Remote Desktop window is not a disconnection. Shutting down the platform or the VPS is.
- Most disconnections come from a restart, a closed platform, a changed password or automated trading being switched off.
- After reconnecting, compare your open trades with the trader's before you do anything else.

What happens to my open trades when a trading account disconnects?
They stay open. Your positions, with their stop losses and take profits, are held on your broker's or prop firm's server and continue to work without any connection from your side.

6.9 How to Connect TradeLocker to LEFTURN

TradeLocker accounts connect to LEFTURN through the LEFTURN Copier on a Windows VPS, not through an Expert Advisor. Here is what to prepare and the order to do it in.

- TradeLocker is officially released and supported on LEFTURN, for both the Standard service and the Marketplace.
- TradeLocker accounts connect through the LEFTURN Copier for Windows, which runs on your VPS. The MT5 Expert Advisor is not used.
- You still need a Windows VPS, even though TradeLocker itself runs in a browser, because the Copier has to stay on around the clock.
- Have your TradeLocker login details, account size and your firm's rules ready before you start.
- The exact screens and steps are in your LEFTURN portal. Follow those, and use this guide for the order and the reasons.

> **Can I use LEFTURN with a TradeLocker account?**
> Yes. TradeLocker is officially released and fully supported on LEFTURN, alongside MetaTrader 5. Both the Standard service and the Marketplace are available.

6.10 How to Copy Trades Between Supported Trading Platforms

A trade placed on one platform can be copied to an account on another, but symbols, lot sizes and order types have to be translated. Here is what changes and what to check.

- A copied trade is rebuilt on your platform from its essentials: instrument, direction, entry, stop, target and risk.
- On LEFTURN, MetaTrader 5 and TradeLocker are officially released and fully supported; cTrader and Tradovate are in beta.
- Symbol names, contract sizes, lot steps and trading hours can differ between platforms and between firms. These are what a cross-platform copy has to reconcile.
- Sizing by risk, not by lot count, is what keeps a copy proportional when contract sizes differ.
- Check the first few copied trades by hand: the money at risk should match your setting, whatever the lot number says.

> **Can I copy a trader who uses MetaTrader 5 onto my TradeLocker account?**
> Yes. On LEFTURN, both MetaTrader 5 and TradeLocker are officially released and supported, and a trade can be reproduced on your account whichever of the two it is on.

6.11 MT5 vs. TradeLocker for Copy Trading

Both platforms are fully supported for copy trading with LEFTURN. This guide explains how trades reach each one, what stays the same, where the real differences are, and how to choose.

- MetaTrader 5 and TradeLocker are both officially released and fully supported by LEFTURN. cTrader and Tradovate are in beta.
- On MT5, the LEFTURN Expert Advisor runs inside the platform. On TradeLocker, the LEFTURN Copier for Windows connects to the account instead.
- Both need a Windows VPS that stays on, and both keep the account in your name with your own risk settings.
- The real differences are practical: how you install, how you check the account, symbol names and lot steps.
- Your prop firm's platform and its rules decide most cases. Check the firm before you choose.

> **Is MT5 or TradeLocker better for copy trading with LEFTURN?**
> Neither is better in principle. Both are officially released and fully supported, and the traders, settings and copying rules are the same. Use the platform your prop firm or broker gives you; if you have a choice, pick the one you will actually check.

6.12 Copy Trading vs Traditional Investments: An Honest Comparison

A fair side-by-side look at copy trading and traditional investing: what each is for, how risk and costs differ, what you control, and where copying could fit in a wider plan.

- Traditional investing owns assets for the long term. Copy trading follows a trader's short-term positions and is a form of active, usually leveraged, trading.
- Neither is "better" in general. They answer different needs, and most people who copy trade do it with a small part of their money alongside traditional holdings.
- Copy trading can lose money quickly. Leverage magnifies both gains and losses, and past results do not predict future ones.
- Traditional investments have their own risks: market falls, inflation, and years when nothing grows.
- Decide the share of your money you can afford to see fall sharply before you decide on the method.

> **Is copy trading better than traditional investing?**
> Neither is better in general. Traditional investing is designed for long-term growth with lower costs and fewer decisions. Copy trading is short-term, leveraged trading with higher risk. Most people who use copy trading keep it to a small part of their money.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/why-copy-trading-is-better-than-traditional-investments/

6.13 Forex Copy Trading for Beginners: The Complete Guide

Everything a beginner needs to understand copy trading: how it works, what you control, how lot sizes are set, what it costs, the risks, and how to start on a demo.

- Copy trading reproduces a chosen trader's trades on your own account. The money stays in your account, in your name.
- You are still making decisions: which traders, which instruments, how much risk, and when to stop. Those choices drive your results.
- Choose traders by drawdown, length of record and consistency. The highest recent return is the worst guide.
- Your trade size should follow your balance and your risk setting, not the trader's lot size.
- Copying does not remove risk. Start on a demo or with a small amount, and add traders slowly.

> **What is copy trading in forex?**
> It is a way of trading in which the trades of an experienced trader you have chosen are reproduced automatically on your own account, in a size that suits your balance and settings.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/how-copy-trading-simplifies-forex-trading-for-beginners-in-2025/

CHAPTER 7 · 9 ARTICLES

07

Tokens and Payments

What tokens are, how subscriptions use them, and how payments and payouts work.



The five facts that describe a LEFTURN token.

7.1 Understanding LEFTURN Tokens
7.2 How to Purchase LEFTURN Tokens
7.3 How to Use Tokens in the Marketplace
7.4 Understanding Your Token Wallet
7.5 Promotional Tokens vs. Purchased Tokens
7.6 How to Send Tokens to a Friend
7.7 How to Receive LEFTURN Tokens
7.8 Do LEFTURN Tokens Expire?
7.9 Understanding Payments and Payouts

7.1 Understanding LEFTURN Tokens

A plain guide to LEFTURN tokens: the price, what a subscription uses every 30 days, purchased versus promotional tokens, and where the tokens go.

- One token costs $2.50, and tokens you buy do not expire.
- Tokens pay for Marketplace trader subscriptions. Each subscription uses tokens at every 30-day renewal while it is active.
- How many tokens a subscription needs depends on your account size, the trader, and whether you copy one instrument or all of that trader's pairs.
- Promotional tokens, such as the 25 free-trial tokens, are a separate kind with their own expiry date.
- Tokens are for the Marketplace only. The Standard service, where LEFTURN trades for you, uses no tokens.

> **What are LEFTURN tokens used for?**
> They pay for Marketplace trader subscriptions. Each subscription uses tokens at every 30-day renewal while it is active. Tokens are not used for the Standard service, where LEFTURN trades your account for a one-time fee and a share of payouts.

7.2 How to Purchase LEFTURN Tokens

Work out how many tokens your trader team needs, what that costs, how a purchase is confirmed and added to your wallet, and how to avoid buying too few or too many.

- Tokens cost $2.50 each. Multiply the tokens you need per 30 days by the number of periods you want to cover.
- A subscription is per trader and per account, and its token requirement depends on account size, the trader, and one instrument or all pairs.
- Tokens are added to your wallet once LEFTURN confirms your payment.
- Purchased tokens do not expire, so buying a little ahead of your next renewal carries no deadline.
- Try the 25 free-trial tokens first. You may not need to buy anything to find out whether the Marketplace suits you.

> **How do I purchase LEFTURN tokens?**
> Sign in to your LEFTURN account, open the token purchase option, enter the number of tokens, and pay the amount shown using one of the payment options displayed. The tokens are added to your Token Wallet once LEFTURN confirms the payment.

7.3 How to Use Tokens in the Marketplace

How tokens turn into trader subscriptions: per trader, per account and per instrument, what happens at each 30-day renewal, and how to budget a team that lasts.

- A subscription is per trader and per account. It covers one instrument or all of the trader's pairs.
- Tokens are used when the subscription starts and at each 30-day renewal while it is active.
- The exact token cost is shown in your portal before you confirm. Nothing is spent until you do.
- Most traders charge per instrument, so a specialist on one market can be all you need.
- A subscription pays for access, not for a result. Choose traders on their record and risk, then give them a fair period.

> **How do I use tokens in the Marketplace?**
> Choose a trader, pick the account and whether you want one instrument or all pairs, set your preferences, check the token cost shown and confirm. The tokens for the first 30 days are used when the subscription starts.

7.4 Understanding Your Token Wallet

How to read your LEFTURN token balance: the kinds of token in it, the entries that move it, how 30-day renewals draw on it, and how to plan ahead.

- Your wallet balance can hold up to three kinds of token: purchased, free-trial and promotional bonus. They do not all behave the same way.
- Tokens cost $2.50 each. Purchased tokens never expire; trial tokens last 14 days; bonus tokens carry the expiry date of their offer.
- Active trader subscriptions draw tokens from the wallet at each 30-day renewal.
- A falling balance usually means a renewal, not an expiry. Check the entry before assuming anything is wrong.
- Plan your balance one renewal ahead, so a subscription never lapses for lack of tokens.

> **What is the LEFTURN token wallet?**
> It is the balance that holds your LEFTURN tokens. Tokens go in when you buy them, receive trial or bonus tokens, or get a gift, and they go out when a trader subscription starts or renews, when you send a gift, or when promotional tokens expire.

7.5 Promotional Tokens vs. Purchased Tokens

The two families of LEFTURN token side by side: free-trial and bonus tokens with a date, purchased tokens without one, and how to plan so none go to waste.

- Purchased tokens cost $2.50 each and never expire. They can be gifted to a friend.
- Free-trial tokens are promotional: 25 tokens for 14 days, one trial per person, email verification, no card. They cannot be gifted.
- Bonus tokens are promotional too. They follow the terms of the offer that created them, including its expiry date.
- Both families pay for the same thing: copying traders in the Marketplace, 30 days at a time.
- Plan promotional tokens around their date; plan purchased tokens around your renewals.

> **What is the difference between promotional tokens and purchased tokens?**
> Purchased tokens are bought at $2.50 each and never expire. Promotional tokens are given free, either as the 25-token free trial or as bonus tokens during an offer, and they expire on a set date.

7.6 How to Send Tokens to a Friend

Which LEFTURN tokens you can gift, how a friend who is new to LEFTURN receives them, what happens to bonus expiry dates, and the checks to make before you send.

- Tokens are sent from your Token Wallet. Purchased tokens and promotional bonus tokens can be gifted.
- Free-trial tokens cannot be gifted. They belong to the account that received the trial.
- A friend who is new to LEFTURN gets an email invite, and the tokens are waiting when they register.
- Bonus tokens keep their original expiry date after they are gifted. Purchased tokens never expire, whoever holds them.
- Check the email address and the amount twice. Treat a sent gift as final.

> **Can I send LEFTURN tokens to a friend?**
> Yes. Purchased tokens and promotional bonus tokens can be sent to a friend from your Token Wallet. Free-trial tokens cannot be gifted.

7.7 How to Receive LEFTURN Tokens

The four ways tokens arrive in your LEFTURN wallet, what to do when someone gifts them to you, and the steps from a token balance to a trader copying on your account.

- Tokens reach your Token Wallet in four ways: free trial, purchase, promotional bonus, or a gift from a friend.
- If a friend gifts tokens and you are new to LEFTURN, you get an email invite and the tokens are waiting when you sign up.
- Purchased tokens do not expire. Trial tokens last 14 days. Bonus tokens carry their own expiry date and are used first.
- Tokens do nothing until you connect a trading account and subscribe to a trader.
- Registration is free, and you can view trader records and trade plans before you use any tokens.

> **How do I receive LEFTURN tokens from a friend?**
> If you already have an account, they are added to your Token Wallet. If you are new, you receive an email invite; register with that email address and the tokens are waiting when you sign up.

7.8 Do LEFTURN Tokens Expire?

Purchased tokens never expire. Free-trial tokens last 14 days and promotional bonus tokens carry their own expiry. How each kind behaves, and how to plan around the dates.

- Purchased tokens do not expire. There is no deadline to use them.
- Free-trial tokens are promotional: 25 tokens that last 14 days from registration.
- Bonus tokens from a promotion carry the expiry date stated in that promotion, and they are used first.
- Gifting does not change a date: gifted bonus tokens keep their expiry, and gifted purchased tokens still never expire.
- A subscription renewing every 30 days is tokens being used, not tokens expiring.

> **Do LEFTURN tokens expire?**
> Tokens you purchase do not expire. Promotional tokens do: free-trial tokens last 14 days, and bonus tokens expire on the date given in the promotion that issued them.

7.9 Understanding Payments and Payouts

What clients pay LEFTURN for each service, how a payment is submitted and confirmed in the portal, and how the performance fee works once a prop firm pays you.

- Registration is free. You pay only for the service you choose.
- Standard is a one-time service fee, then a 33% performance fee on payouts. Marketplace is paid in tokens at $2.50 each.
- Payments are made by following the instructions in your portal, then uploading your payment confirmation. Paying alone does not notify LEFTURN.
- Setup files and token balances unlock once LEFTURN confirms the payment.
- Payouts come from your prop firm to you. LEFTURN's performance fee is paid afterwards, from a payout you have received.

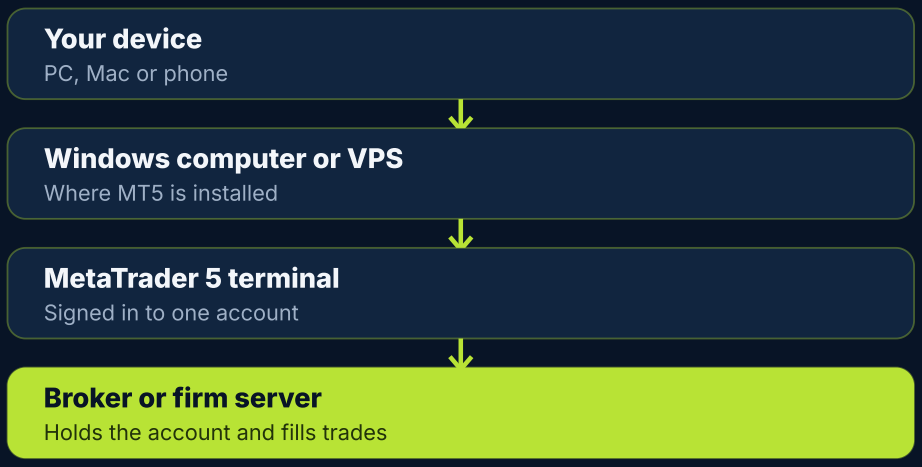
> **How do I pay LEFTURN?**
> Open the payment area for your account in the portal, choose a payment method, send the exact amount to the destination shown, then upload your payment confirmation. LEFTURN reviews it and unlocks your setup once it is confirmed.

CHAPTER 8 · 15 ARTICLES

08

MetaTrader 5 and Expert Advisors

Installing MetaTrader 5, connecting the LEFTURN Expert Advisor and keeping it running.



Where MetaTrader 5 sits between you and your broker.

8.1 How to Download and Install MetaTrader 5
8.2 How to Download the LEFTURN Expert Advisor
8.3 How to Install the LEFTURN Expert Advisor
8.4 How to Enable Algorithmic Trading
8.5 How to Configure WebRequest Permissions
8.6 Understanding Your LEFTURN License Key
8.7 How to Connect the Publisher EA
8.8 How to Connect the Subscriber EA
8.9 Understanding the Controller EA
8.10 How to Verify That Your EA Is Connected
8.11 Understanding EA Input Settings
8.12 How to Update Your LEFTURN EA
8.13 Running Multiple MT5 Terminals
8.14 How to Export Your MT5 Trading Statement
8.15 Common Expert Advisor Installation Mistakes

8.1 How to Download and Install MetaTrader 5

A step-by-step guide to getting MetaTrader 5 onto your own computer from the right source, signing in, confirming the connection and preparing it for an Expert Advisor.

- Get the installer from your broker or prop firm, or from the official MetaTrader 5 site. Never from a link in an unexpected email.
- You need three details to sign in: account number, password and the exact server name.
- A working platform shows moving prices and a connection reading in the bottom-right corner.
- Your own computer is fine for learning the platform. Accounts traded through LEFTURN must run on a Windows VPS that stays on.
- Phones and tablets can watch an account, but they cannot run an Expert Advisor.

> **Where should I download MetaTrader 5 from?**
> From your broker's or prop firm's client area if it offers a download, because that version already lists the firm's servers. Otherwise use the official MetaTrader 5 website. Avoid installers from adverts, forums or unexpected emails.

8.2 How to Download the LEFTURN Expert Advisor

Where the LEFTURN Expert Advisor download lives, what has to be approved before it unlocks, which file you receive and the safety rules for handling it.

- The Expert Advisor is downloaded only from your LEFTURN client portal, after sign-in.
- The download unlocks when your payment is confirmed and the account setup is approved.
- The file is an EX5 program for MetaTrader 5. It does nothing on MT4, cTrader or a phone.
- Only files suited to a payment-approved account are shown, so you are offered the right one.
- Never install the file on a trading account that is not the one registered in your portal.

> **Where do I download the LEFTURN Expert Advisor?**
> From the downloads and setup area of your LEFTURN client portal, after signing in. It is not sent by email and there is no public download link.

8.3 How to Install the LEFTURN Expert Advisor

The complete installation in order: copy the file into MetaTrader 5, allow the two LEFTURN addresses, enable Algo Trading, attach to one chart, fill the inputs and wait for approval.

- Install on the Windows VPS that is signed in to the exact MT5 account number registered in your portal.
- The file goes in File → Open Data Folder → MQL5 → Experts. Then refresh the Navigator or restart MT5.
- Add both LEFTURN addresses under Allow WebRequest, or the program cannot submit your account.
- Attach the Expert Advisor to one chart only, with Algo Trading on.
- After LEFTURN approves the account, your balance, equity, positions and performance chart appear on your Dashboard.

> **Where do I put the LEFTURN Expert Advisor file?**
> In MetaTrader 5 choose File → Open Data Folder, open MQL5 and then Experts, and copy the EX5 file there. Refresh the Expert Advisors list in the Navigator or restart the platform so it appears.

8.4 How to Enable Algorithmic Trading

MetaTrader 5 has three separate switches for automated trading. This guide shows each one, how to tell which is off, and what can turn them off without warning.

- "Algo Trading" is MetaTrader 5's master switch for automated orders. It is off by default.
- There are three switches in the platform: the toolbar button, the Options setting, and a permission inside each Expert Advisor.
- The fourth layer is outside the platform: your broker or firm must allow Expert Advisors on the account.
- Some settings switch Algo Trading off automatically when the account or profile changes. Untick them on a dedicated VPS.
- After any restart, check the button first. It is the most common reason a working setup stops.

> **How do I enable algorithmic trading in MetaTrader 5?**
> Click the Algo Trading button on the toolbar so it shows green, check that Allow algorithmic trading is ticked under Tools → Options → Expert Advisors, and tick Allow Algo Trading on the Common tab of the Expert Advisor's settings.

8.5 How to Configure WebRequest Permissions

MetaTrader 5 blocks Expert Advisors from the internet until you list the addresses they may use. Here is where the list is, what to add for LEFTURN, and how to fix it when it fails.

- WebRequest is the function an Expert Advisor uses to talk to a web service. MetaTrader 5 blocks it unless the address is on your allow-list.
- The list is at Tools → Options → Expert Advisors → Allow WebRequest for listed URL.
- For LEFTURN, add both https://master.manage.forex and https://api.manage.forex.
- If only one address is listed, the Expert Advisor cannot submit your account.
- The list belongs to one terminal. Every MetaTrader 5 installation needs it set separately.

> **Where is the WebRequest setting in MetaTrader 5?**
> Choose Tools → Options, open the Expert Advisors tab, and tick Allow WebRequest for listed URL. The addresses you approve are typed into the list below that option.

8.6 Understanding Your LEFTURN License Key

How LEFTURN decides that an Expert Advisor is allowed to run on your account: the details it checks, where to find them, what each failure message means and how to keep them safe.

- The Expert Advisor is authorized by a match, not by a file: your verified portal email plus the MT5 account number in the terminal.
- Both must match a payment-approved order in your portal before the account enters the approval queue.
- The account number is read from MetaTrader 5 automatically. There is nowhere inside the program to type it.
- The exact details for your account, including the authorized account number, are shown on your portal's downloads page.
- TradeLocker and other platforms have their own setup. Follow what your portal shows for them.

> **Where do I find my LEFTURN license key?**
> For the MetaTrader 5 Expert Advisor there is no separate code to look up. Authorization is the match between your verified portal email and your MT5 account number. Both values are shown on the downloads page of your portal once your setup is unlocked.

8.7 How to Connect the Publisher EA

For traders: what the Publisher EA does, how it differs from the client Expert Advisor, how to install it in MetaTrader 5, and how to check your account is publishing.

- The Publisher EA runs on a trader's own MT5 account. Clients use a different program, the LEFTURN Controller, on the accounts that receive trades.
- Connecting MT5 is part of building your record in the Trader Area, alongside uploading statements and creating trade plans.
- A live connection gives the strongest kind of verified record, because the numbers come from the account.
- Install it on an always-on Windows VPS, attach it to one chart, and use only the values your Trader Area shows.
- Check the Experts and Journal tabs, and your Trader Area, to confirm the connection.

> **What is the Publisher EA?**
> It is the program a LEFTURN trader runs on their own MT5 account, where trades originate. It lets LEFTURN read the account's trading so that the trader's record comes from the account itself.

8.8 How to Connect the Subscriber EA

The account that receives trades needs one program attached to one chart. Here is how to connect it, what LEFTURN checks before it activates, and what you see after.

- The subscriber side uses one program, the LEFTURN Expert Advisor, which the portal calls the LEFTURN Controller. It runs on your MetaTrader 5, on a Windows VPS you control.
- The download unlocks in your portal after your payment is confirmed. There is nothing to install before that.
- The Expert Advisor is matched to you by two things together: your verified portal email and the MT5 account number the terminal is signed in to.
- Attach it to one chart only, allow the two LEFTURN web addresses, and switch Algo Trading on.
- After LEFTURN approves the request, your balance, equity and positions appear on your dashboard.

> **What is the subscriber EA?**
> It is the program on the account that receives trades. At LEFTURN that is the LEFTURN Expert Advisor for MetaTrader 5, which your portal names the LEFTURN Controller. It places LEFTURN's orders on your own account.

8.9 Understanding the Controller EA

A plain explanation of the LEFTURN Controller: its job on your MT5 account, the information it sends, its limits, and the controls that stay in your hands.

- The LEFTURN Controller is the Expert Advisor that links your MT5 account to LEFTURN. LEFTURN's guides also call it the LEFTURN Expert Advisor.
- It has four jobs: identify the account, receive and place orders, manage them, and report the account's status to your portal.
- It works through your trading platform only. It cannot withdraw money, and it has no access to your prop firm dashboard or your bank.
- It is activated only after an automatic identity match and a manual approval by LEFTURN.
- You can see every trade, close any trade, and stop the program at any time.

> **What is the LEFTURN Controller EA?**
> It is the Expert Advisor that connects a MetaTrader 5 account to LEFTURN. It places and manages orders on your account and reports the account's status to your portal. LEFTURN's public guide also calls it the LEFTURN Expert Advisor.

8.10 How to Verify That Your EA Is Connected

A two-minute routine that confirms your LEFTURN Expert Advisor is running, reaching LEFTURN and linked to the right account, with the meaning of each warning.

- "Connected" has four layers: the program is on the chart, the terminal lets it trade, it can reach LEFTURN, and LEFTURN has approved and linked the account.
- Check in that order. A fault in an early layer makes the later ones impossible.
- The Experts and Journal tabs in MetaTrader 5 record what the program is doing and why it failed.
- Your LEFTURN dashboard is the final proof: it shows the connection status, the EA version and the last connection.
- Repeat the check after any VPS restart, MT5 update, password change or new EA version.

> **How do I know my LEFTURN EA is connected?**
> Your LEFTURN dashboard shows the account as live, with the connection online, the EA version and a recent last connection, and with balance and equity updating. On the VPS, the program is on one chart, Algo Trading is on and the Experts tab shows no errors.

8.11 Understanding EA Input Settings

The Inputs tab decides how an Expert Advisor behaves on your account. Here is what LEFTURN's inputs mean, how to complete them and how to avoid costly errors.

- Inputs are values you give an Expert Advisor when you attach it. They are saved with the chart and can be reopened at any time.
- The LEFTURN Expert Advisor asks for your name, the exact portal email, your country, your prop firm, the account or challenge type, and the firm's risk and rule limits.
- There is no account number input. The program reads the account number from the terminal itself.
- Copy rule limits from your firm's own page. LEFTURN treats what you submit as the source of truth for the account.
- Do not change risk settings without LEFTURN's agreement.

> **What are EA input settings?**
> They are the adjustable values of an Expert Advisor, shown on the Inputs tab when you attach it to a chart in MetaTrader 5. They tell the program about your account without changing its code.

8.12 How to Update Your LEFTURN EA

A safe, ten-minute routine for replacing the LEFTURN Expert Advisor with a new version: timing, saving your settings, swapping the file and checking it reconnected.

- Your LEFTURN dashboard shows the EA version and the last connection for each account. Check both before and after.
- Update at a quiet time: ideally with no open positions, and never just before major news.
- Save your inputs as a preset before you start, so you can load them back exactly.
- Remove the old version from the chart, replace the file in MQL5 → Experts, then attach the new one to one chart only.
- Confirm in three places: the chart, the Experts tab, and the EA version in your portal.

> **How do I know if my LEFTURN EA needs updating?**
> LEFTURN tells you when a new version is available, and your dashboard shows the EA version and last connection for each account. Compare the version shown with the one on your setup page.

8.13 Running Multiple MT5 Terminals

How to set up several MetaTrader 5 terminals on one Windows machine so each trading account has its own folder, settings and Expert Advisor, and all of them restart by themselves.

- One MetaTrader 5 terminal holds one trading account login at a time. Each account you want running all day needs its own terminal.
- Give every terminal its own folder, named after the account, and start it in portable mode so its files stay in that folder.
- Expert Advisor files, WebRequest addresses, Algo Trading and the login are set per terminal. Doing them once does not cover the others.
- The LEFTURN Expert Advisor checks the account number signed in to the terminal it runs in, so the right file must sit in the right terminal.
- Put a shortcut for each terminal in the Windows Startup folder so all of them come back after a restart.

Can one MetaTrader 5 terminal run two trading accounts at the same time?
No. A terminal is connected to one trading account at a time. Switching to another login disconnects the first, so each account that must trade continuously needs its own terminal.

8.14 How to Export Your MT5 Trading Statement

The export itself takes a minute. This guide covers the steps, the formats MetaTrader 5 offers, the checks to make before you send it, and how to share it without giving away access.

- Export from the desktop terminal: History tab, right-click, choose the period, then Report.
- Choose All History unless you have been asked for a specific period. A statement that starts after a bad month is the first thing a reviewer questions.
- The HTML report is the standard format. Keep the original file exactly as the platform produced it.
- A statement contains your name, account number and broker, but never your password. Never send a password with it.
- A live, connected account is stronger evidence than any file, because nobody has to trust the file.

How do I export my MT5 trading statement?
In the MetaTrader 5 desktop terminal, open the Toolbox and select the History tab. Right-click inside the list, set the period to All History, right-click again, choose Report and save it as HTML. The file opens in any web browser.

8.15 Common Expert Advisor Installation Mistakes

The mistakes that stop an Expert Advisor from working in MetaTrader 5, grouped by the step where they happen, with the symptom you will see and the fix for each.

- Install in four layers, and check each before moving on: the file, the permissions, the inputs, and keeping it running.
- The file must be in the Experts folder of the terminal you are using. File, then Open Data Folder, always takes you to the right one.
- LEFTURN's Expert Advisor needs both WebRequest addresses and Algo Trading switched on. Missing either one stops it.
- It checks your portal email and the MT5 account number together. Both must match your payment-approved order.
- Read the Experts and Journal tabs. They tell you what went wrong in plain words.

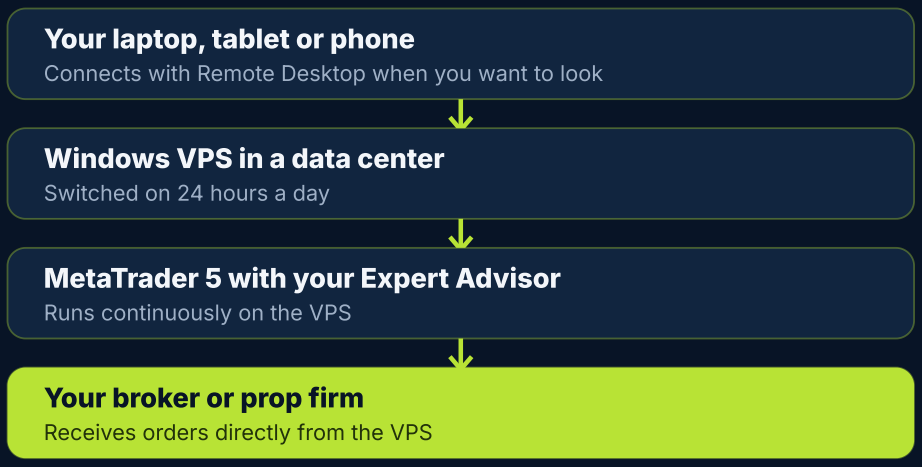
> **Why does my Expert Advisor not show up in MetaTrader 5?**
> It is almost always in the wrong folder. From the terminal you are using, choose File, then Open Data Folder, then MQL5, then Experts, copy the file there and refresh the Navigator. With several terminals, each one needs its own copy.

CHAPTER 9 · 8 ARTICLES

09

VPS and Trading Infrastructure

Why every account needs a Windows VPS, which plan to choose and how to set it up, even from a Mac.



Where each piece runs. Your own device is only a window onto the VPS.

9.1 What Is a Forex Trading VPS?

9.2 Why Automated Traders Use VPS Hosting

9.3 How to Set Up a Trading VPS With QuantVPS

9.4 How to Connect Using Windows Remote Desktop

9.5 How to Install MetaTrader 5 on a VPS

9.6 How to Run Multiple Trading Terminals on a VPS

9.7 How to Choose Trading VPS Specifications

9.8 How to Keep Your Trading VPS Secure and Operational

9.1 What Is a Forex Trading VPS?

What a trading VPS actually is, what runs on it, how you connect from a Mac or phone, what the specifications mean and why LEFTURN requires one.

- VPS stands for virtual private server: your own private Windows desktop running on shared professional hardware in a data center.
- Your trading platform and its software run on the VPS, not on your computer. Closing your laptop changes nothing.
- You connect with Remote Desktop, which is free and works from Windows, Mac, iPhone, iPad and Android.
- A VPS offers constant power, a fast wired connection and a location close to brokers' servers.
- LEFTURN requires a Windows VPS for every connected account, including for Mac and phone users.

> **What does VPS stand for in trading?**
> Virtual private server. It is a private Windows computer created by software on professional hardware in a data center, used to run trading platforms without interruption.

9.2 Why Automated Traders Use VPS Hosting

The specific ways a home computer lets automated trading down, what a single missed exit can cost, and why a monthly VPS fee is the cheap option.

- An Expert Advisor runs on your computer, not at the broker. When the platform stops, so does the strategy.
- Home computers stop for ordinary reasons: sleep mode, updates, power cuts, router restarts, a closed laptop lid.
- The costly failures are missed exits. One unmanaged position can lose more than several years of VPS fees.
- A VPS removes the common causes of downtime and puts the platform close to the broker's server.
- For copy trading and managed services, the same logic applies: the connection software must stay on.

> **Why do automated traders use VPS hosting?**
> Because an Expert Advisor runs on the computer where the trading platform is installed, and stops when that computer sleeps, restarts or loses its connection. A VPS keeps the platform running continuously so the strategy can open, manage and close trades at any hour.

9.3 How to Set Up a Trading VPS With QuantVPS

From ordering the server to a running MetaTrader 5 with the LEFTURN Expert Advisor attached: the whole VPS setup in order, with the checks that prove it works.

- Every LEFTURN account needs a Windows VPS, including for people who use a Mac, an iPhone or an Android phone at home.
- QuantVPS is LEFTURN's VPS partner. The VPS Starter+ plan is enough for one prop firm account.
- You control the server with Remote Desktop, a free app from Microsoft. It feels like using a second computer in a window.
- The setup has five stages: order, connect, prepare Windows, install the platform, test a restart.
- Closing the Remote Desktop window does not stop anything. The server keeps running.

> **Which QuantVPS plan do I need for LEFTURN?**
> VPS Starter+ is enough for one prop firm account running MetaTrader 5 with the LEFTURN Expert Advisor. QuantVPS lists it at $39.99 a month as of November 2026. If you run several accounts, choose a larger plan.

9.4 How to Connect Using Windows Remote Desktop

Connecting to your trading VPS from any device: the three details you need, the steps on Windows, Mac and phone, and what to do when the connection fails.

- You need three details from your VPS provider: the IP address, the username and the password.
- Windows has Remote Desktop built in. Mac, iPhone, iPad and Android use Microsoft's free Windows App.
- Close the window to leave. Never shut the server down or sign out, or your trading software stops.
- A certificate warning on the first connection is normal for a new server.
- Most connection failures are a mistyped password, a wrong IP address or a network that blocks the connection.

> **Is Windows Remote Desktop free?**
> Yes. Remote Desktop Connection is included with Windows, and Microsoft's Windows App for Mac, iPhone, iPad and Android is a free download.

9.5 How to Install MetaTrader 5 on a VPS

Installing MetaTrader 5 on a server is not quite the same as on a home PC. The right installer, the server-side settings and the restart test, step by step.

- Install inside the Remote Desktop window. A copy on your own computer does nothing for a VPS setup.
- Download MetaTrader 5 from your own prop firm or broker, so the platform already lists their trading servers.
- Sign in with the master password, not the investor password, and save the login so the platform reconnects alone.
- Keep the platform light: a few charts, modest history, no news feed. Light platforms stay stable.
- Add the platform to Windows startup and restart the server once to prove it comes back.

Can I install MetaTrader 5 on a VPS from my Mac?
Yes. The installation happens on the Windows server, not on your Mac. You connect with Microsoft's Windows App and do everything inside that window.

9.6 How to Run Multiple Trading Terminals on a VPS

A sizing guide for running several MetaTrader 5 terminals on one server: what each terminal costs in memory and processor, how to measure it, and when to upgrade.

- One account, one terminal. Two accounts on one server means two installations running side by side.
- Memory is the limit you reach first. Add up what each terminal uses, add Windows itself, and keep a quarter of the server free.
- A lean terminal uses far less than a cluttered one. Trimming charts and history is the cheapest upgrade there is.
- Measure, do not guess: Task Manager shows exactly what each terminal uses on your server.
- When memory stays above about 80% or the processor sits near 100%, move to a larger plan before a trade is missed.

How many MT5 terminals can I run on one VPS?
It depends on the server's memory and how lean each terminal is. As a planning rule, allow about 2 GB for Windows, 0.3 to 0.5 GB for each trimmed terminal, and keep a quarter of the memory free. By that rule an 8 GB server carries around ten lean terminals.

9.7 How to Choose Trading VPS Specifications

Every line on a VPS plan page explained for traders: memory, cores, storage, location, latency and uptime, with a simple way to match a plan to your accounts.

- Memory (RAM) is the specification that decides how many terminals a server can run. Size it first.
- Processor cores matter less than people expect for connection-style Expert Advisors, but never go below two for several terminals.
- Storage should be fast (SSD or NVMe). You do not need much of it.
- Location and latency matter most to very short-term strategies. For planned, pending-order trading, reliability matters more than a few milliseconds.
- The server must run Windows, and it must stay on. Uptime is the specification you feel only when it fails.

How much RAM does a trading VPS need?
For one MetaTrader 5 terminal, a 4 GB server is a sensible minimum: Windows uses about 2 GB and a trimmed terminal well under 1 GB. Add roughly 0.4 GB for each extra terminal and keep a quarter of the memory free.

9.8 How to Keep Your Trading VPS Secure and Operational

A maintenance routine for a server that runs your trading: lock it down, make it restart by itself, check it in five minutes a week, and recover quickly from a fault.

- Change the first password on day one and make the new one long and unique. This is the single most effective security step.
- Use the server for trading only. No web browsing, no email, no downloads beyond your platform and the LEFTURN software.
- Let Windows update, but at the weekend, when forex markets are closed.
- Put MetaTrader 5 in Windows startup and test a restart, so the platform returns without you.
- Check the server once a week and keep a short recovery plan where you can find it from your phone.

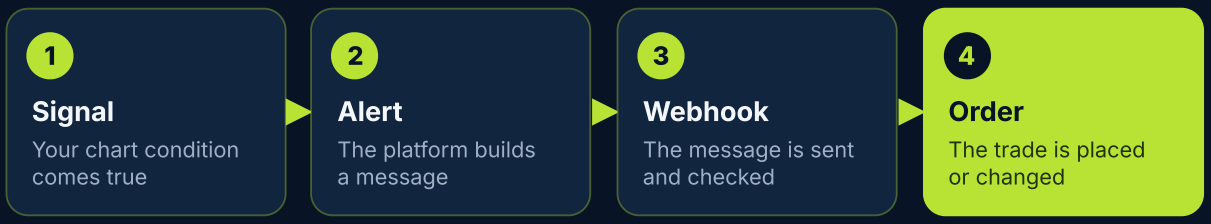
How do I secure a Windows trading VPS?
Change the provider's first password to a long, unique one, keep the Windows firewall and Microsoft Defender switched on, install updates at the weekend, and use the server only for your trading platform and the LEFTURN software.

CHAPTER 10 · 15 ARTICLES

10

Webhooks and Automation

Automating trade signals safely: webhooks, keys, alerts and where people stay in charge.



The four stages between a signal on a chart and an order on an account.

10.1 What Is a Trading Webhook?

10.2 How to Automate Trading Strategies With Webhooks

10.3 How to Create a LEFTURN Webhook Connection

10.4 Understanding Webhook Payloads

10.5 How to Send Automated Buy and Sell Alerts

10.6 How to Automate Pending Orders

10.7 How to Automate Stop Losses and Take Profits

10.8 How to Connect Multiple MT5 Accounts to Alerts

10.9 How to Configure Automated Break-Even Rules

10.10 How to Automate Basket Trading

10.11 How to Implement Trading Session Filters

10.12 How to Test Webhooks Before Going Live

10.13 How to Secure Your Trading Webhook Keys

10.14 How to Troubleshoot Failed Trading Alerts

10.15 AI Forex Trading and Expert Advisors: Why Oversight Matters

10.1 What Is a Trading Webhook?

A trading webhook carries an alert from your charting platform to the system that places the order. Here is how it works, where it fails and when to use one.

- A webhook is a message one system sends to another the moment something happens. In trading, the "something" is an alert on a chart.
- The message is only text. It says what to do, and a separate system decides whether and how to do it.
- A webhook removes the delay and the hesitation between a signal and an order. It does not make the signal any better.
- The chain has several links: the chart, the alert, the internet, the receiving service, the trading platform and the broker. Any of them can fail.
- Test every webhook on a demo account before it is allowed near real money.

> **What is a trading webhook in simple terms?**
> It is an automatic message. When an alert on your chart fires, your charting platform sends a short text message to a web address, and the service at that address turns it into a trading action such as placing an order.

10.2 How to Automate Trading Strategies With Webhooks

A practical plan for turning a rule-based strategy into automatic orders: what must be written down, what to build in which order, and the limits that keep it safe.

- Only a strategy that can be written as complete rules can be automated. "I can tell when it looks right" is not a rule.
- You need five parts: rules, alerts, a message, a receiver and a trading platform that stays switched on.
- Build in order: write, backtest, run on demo, then go live small. Skipping a stage moves the cost of the mistake to your live account.
- Decide the limits first: risk per trade, trades per day, and the loss at which everything stops.
- Automation carries out a strategy. It does not improve one.

> **What kind of strategy can be automated with webhooks?**
> One whose entry, exit, position size and filters can be written as complete rules with no judgment calls. If another person could follow the rules without asking you a question, the strategy can be automated.

10.3 How to Create a LEFTURN Webhook Connection

The preparation, the order of work and the checks for connecting alerts to your LEFTURN account, with the exact details taken from your portal.

- Get the basics working first: a LEFTURN account, a trading account connected through the LEFTURN Expert Advisor or Copier, and a Windows VPS that stays on.
- Take the webhook address, key and message format from your portal and copy them exactly.
- Create one alert, on a demo account, at the smallest size, and confirm it produces exactly one correct order.
- Treat the address and key like a password.
- Whether a webhook connection is available depends on your account. If you do not see it in your portal, ask support before building anything.

> **Where do I find my LEFTURN webhook address and key?**
> In your LEFTURN portal, in the area for the trading account you want to connect. Where a webhook connection is available, the portal shows the address, the key and the message fields. If you cannot see it, contact support, as it may not be enabled for your account.

10.4 Understanding Webhook Payloads

The payload is the message your alert sends. Learn how to read one, what each kind of field does, and the small errors that cause a trade to be refused or misplaced.

- A payload is plain text, usually in a layout called JSON: a list of names and values inside curly brackets.
- Every service defines its own field names. Use the format your service gives you, never one copied from somewhere else.
- A payload answers five questions: who is asking, what to do, in which market, how much, and at what prices.
- Most refused messages come from punctuation: a missing comma, a missing quotation mark or a curly "smart" quote.
- Validate the payload before you save the alert, then prove it with a demo trade.

> **What is a webhook payload?**
> It is the message a webhook delivers. In trading, it is the short text your charting platform sends when an alert fires, telling the receiving service what action to take, in which market and at what size and prices.

10.5 How to Send Automated Buy and Sell Alerts

An automated alert is only as good as its trigger. Here is how to set buy and sell alerts that fire once, at the right moment, with the right instruction.

- Fire on the closed bar, not during it. Intrabar alerts can trigger on a condition that disappears before the bar ends.
- Use separate alerts for buys and sells, each with its own clearly named message.
- Make sure each alert fires once per signal. Duplicates can open duplicate positions.
- Decide in advance what an opposite signal should do to an open trade, and build that decision into your messages.
- Every alert should carry, or be paired with, a stop loss. An entry with no exit plan is not a strategy.

Should my trading alerts fire during the bar or at the close?
For most strategies, at the close. An alert that fires during the bar can trigger on a condition that is no longer true when the bar finishes, so the trade does not match what the chart shows afterwards.

10.6 How to Automate Pending Orders

A pending order waits for price instead of chasing it. Here is how to send limit and stop orders automatically, and how to stop them filling when they should not.

- A limit order waits for a better price; a stop order waits for price to break through a level. Choose the one that matches your idea.
- Set every pending order's price, stop and target in the same message, so it is never left unprotected when it fills.
- Give every pending order an expiry. An order left open indefinitely can fill long after the setup has gone.
- Decide what cancels an order before it fills: an opposite signal, a news window, the end of a session.
- Remember that gaps and fast markets can fill stop orders well beyond their price.

What is the difference between a limit order and a stop order?
A limit order waits for a better price than the current one, such as buying on a pullback. A stop order waits for price to move through a level, such as buying a breakout, and fills at the next available price once triggered.

10.7 How to Automate Stop Losses and Take Profits

Why every automated trade needs its exits attached from the first moment, the ways to define a stop and a target, where they are stored, and how to test them.

- An automated trade should never exist without a stop loss. Attach the stop and the target to the order itself, not to a later message.
- Exits can be sent as exact prices, as distances from the entry, or calculated by rule. Each has its place; mixing them by accident is the commonest error.
- Once the order is placed, MetaTrader 5 stores the stop and the target on the broker's server, so they still work if your charting platform or VPS goes offline.
- Brokers enforce a minimum distance for stops and targets. An exit placed too close is rejected, sometimes with the whole order.
- Test every exit on a demo account before trusting it with a funded or challenge account.

Should the stop loss be sent in the same alert as the entry?
Yes. Attaching the stop and target to the original order means the trade is protected from the moment it opens. Sending the stop in a later message leaves a gap in which the trade has no protection if that message is delayed or lost.

10.8 How to Connect Multiple MT5 Accounts to Alerts

One alert, several accounts: how the signal is routed, why each account needs its own size and symbol mapping, and how to stop one error becoming five.

- One alert should describe the trade idea. Each account should decide its own size, symbol and whether it is allowed to take the trade.
- Size by percentage risk, never by fixed lots, or a small account will copy a large account's position.
- Every MT5 account needs its own terminal, kept running on a Windows VPS.
- Symbol names, contract sizes and trading hours differ between brokers. Map them before going live.
- Add accounts one at a time, and test each on a demo before real money follows the same alert.

Can one alert trade several MT5 accounts at the same time?
Yes. The alert is received once and passed to each connected account, and each account's terminal places its own order. Every account needs its own MetaTrader 5 terminal running with the Expert Advisor attached.

10.9 How to Configure Automated Break-Even Rules

What a break-even rule really does to a strategy, how to choose the trigger and the offset, and why moving the stop too early quietly lowers results.

- A break-even rule has a trigger (when the stop moves) and an offset (where it moves to). Both must be chosen on purpose.
- "Break-even" should include costs. Set the stop a little beyond entry so spread and commission are covered.
- Moving the stop early removes losses, and it also removes winners that needed room to pull back.
- Judge a rule by expectancy over many trades, not by how it feels on the next one.
- Automating the rule removes hesitation. It does not remove gaps and slippage.

> **What is an automated break-even rule?**
> It is an instruction that moves a trade's stop loss to the entry price, usually plus a small offset, as soon as the trade has moved a set distance into profit. It is applied by software, so it happens on every trade without delay.

10.10 How to Automate Basket Trading

A basket is several positions managed as one. Here is how to automate it with a fixed risk budget, clear entry rules and a single exit for the whole group.

- Decide the basket's total risk first, then divide it between positions. Never set the risk per position and discover the total later.
- Positions in a basket usually share a currency or a theme, so they tend to win and lose together.
- A basket needs a basket-level exit: a profit level and a loss level for the whole group.
- Cap the number of positions and the number of additions in the rules, not in your head.
- Adding to losing positions without a hard limit is how baskets end accounts.

> **What does it mean to automate basket trading?**
> It means software opens, sizes, monitors and closes a group of related positions as one unit, following rules you set in advance. The basket has its own total risk, its own profit target and its own loss limit.

10.11 How to Implement Trading Session Filters

A session filter tells an automated strategy when it may trade. Here is how to set the hours, handle time zones and decide what happens to open trades.

- A session filter is a time window. Signals inside it are traded; signals outside it are ignored.
- Define the window in one time zone and convert carefully. Daylight saving moves sessions by an hour twice a year.
- Filter out the daily rollover and the minutes around major news as well as whole sessions.
- Decide separately what happens to new entries and to trades already open.
- Check a filter with the strategy's own results by hour, not with general advice.

> **What is a trading session filter?**
> It is a rule that lets an automated strategy open trades only within set hours, such as the London session. Signals that arrive outside the window are ignored.

10.12 How to Test Webhooks Before Going Live

A staged way to prove an alert-driven setup: check the message, the order, the exits and the failure cases on demo, then go live small.

- Test in stages. Prove the message, then the order, then the exits, then the failure cases.
- Use a demo account at the same broker and with the same symbols as the live account.
- Send every type of alert your strategy can produce, including the ones that close trades.
- Rehearse failures on purpose: a closed terminal, a duplicate alert, a wrong symbol.
- Go live with reduced size and compare each trade with the demo before scaling up.

> **How long should I test a webhook setup on demo?**
> Long enough to see normal variety: usually two to four weeks or a few dozen trades, including a news day and a weekend. Complete every stage of testing, not just a number of days.

10.13 How to Secure Your Trading Webhook Keys

A webhook key lets a message place trades on your account. Here is where keys leak, how to store and rotate them, and what to do if one gets out.

- A webhook key is a password for placing trades. Treat it as one.
- Keys leak through screenshots, shared chart layouts, chat messages, public code and old devices.
- Use a separate key for each purpose, so one leak does not expose everything.
- Limit what a key can do: which account, which instruments, how much size.
- If a key may be exposed, replace it first and investigate second.

> **What is a trading webhook key?**
> It is a secret value that proves an alert came from you. The service receiving the alert accepts the message only if the key is correct, and then treats it as a trading instruction.

10.14 How to Troubleshoot Failed Trading Alerts

A methodical way to find out why an alert did not become a trade: five stages to check in order, the common causes at each, and how to stop it happening again.

- Every alert passes through five stages: it fires, it is sent, it arrives, it is accepted, and the order is filled. Find the first stage that failed.
- Most failures are simple: the alert never fired, the message had a typo, or MetaTrader 5 was not running with algorithmic trading on.
- Check logs before you change settings. Changing several things at once hides the real cause.
- Never paste keys or account passwords into a support chat or email while troubleshooting.
- When you have found the cause, add a check so the same failure cannot pass unnoticed again.

> **Why did my alert fire but no trade open?**
> The message was either not sent to the right address, refused when it arrived, held back because MetaTrader 5 or algorithmic trading was off, or refused by the broker. Check each of those stages in order and stop at the first one that failed.

10.15 AI Forex Trading and Expert Advisors: Why Oversight Matters

What Expert Advisors and AI can and cannot do in forex, the ways automated strategies break, how to judge one honestly, and how people and software work best together.

- An Expert Advisor (EA) is a program that trades automatically in MetaTrader. Most are fixed rules; a few use machine learning models. Both are only as good as their design and testing.
- Automated strategies usually fail for the same reasons: the market changes, the strategy was fitted too closely to the past, or risk was not limited.
- A backtest is a starting point, not proof. Look for out-of-sample testing, a live record and a stated maximum risk.
- The best use of automation is discipline and speed. The best use of people is judgment: knowing when conditions no longer suit the system.
- No EA, AI or human can promise profits. Treat any such promise as a warning sign.

> **What is AI forex trading?**
> It is the use of software, from fixed-rule Expert Advisors to machine learning models, to analyze currency markets and place trades automatically. The software follows its design; it does not understand the market the way a person does.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/ai-trading-in-forex-why-pure-eas-fall-short/

CHAPTER 11 · 7 ARTICLES

11

Troubleshooting

Fast fixes for connection problems, missing trades and other common issues, and how to ask for help.



Every stage has to be in place. A connection problem is a break at one of them.

11.1 Why Is My LEFTURN EA Not Connecting?

11.2 Why Are My Trades Not Copying?

11.3 Why Are My Lot Sizes Different From the Master Trader?

11.4 Why Is My Trading Account Showing as Offline?

11.5 Why Are My Trades Not Closing or Updating?

11.6 How to Reconnect Your Trading Account Safely

11.7 How to Submit a Technical Support Request

11.1 Why Is My LEFTURN EA Not Connecting?

Eight checks, in order of likelihood, for a LEFTURN Expert Advisor that will not connect: Algo Trading, WebRequest addresses, the account number, the email and more.

- The Expert Advisor needs five things at once: a logged-in MT5 terminal, Algo Trading switched on, two web addresses allowed, matching account details, and LEFTURN's approval.
- Check them in order. Most connection problems are Algo Trading being off or a missing WebRequest address.
- The EA checks your portal email and the MT5 account number together. If the terminal is logged in to a different account number, it reports ACCOUNT NUMBER NOT FOUND.
- The Experts and Journal tabs at the bottom of MetaTrader 5 usually name the problem in plain words.
- Never send a password to anyone in chat or by email, including to LEFTURN.

Why is my LEFTURN EA not connecting after I installed it?
The most common causes are Algo Trading being switched off and the two LEFTURN addresses missing from the WebRequest list in Tools, Options, Expert Advisors. Check those two settings first, then the account number and email.

11.2 Why Are My Trades Not Copying?

The reasons a copied trade does not appear on your account, in order of likelihood, and how to tell a real fault from your own settings doing their job.

- A copied trade needs an active subscription, settings that allow it, a connected platform, and a price that reaches the entry.
- Every copied trade starts as a pending order. If price never comes back to the entry, nothing fills, and that is by design.
- A trade outside your chosen pairs, sessions, direction or daily limits is skipped because you told the system to skip it.
- A closed platform, a VPS that is off, or Algo Trading switched off stops every trade, not one.
- Check whether the trade is missing or simply still pending before you assume a fault.

Why are my trades not copying when the trader has a position open?
Usually because your copy is a pending order waiting at the trader's entry price, or because the trade falls outside the pairs, sessions or direction you selected. Check your pending orders and your settings for that trader first.

11.3 Why Are My Lot Sizes Different From the Master Trader?

Why a copied trade is rarely the same size as the trader's: account size, your own risk setting, lot steps, minimums and contract sizes, with worked numbers.

- A copy should match the trader's risk, not the trader's lot number. The same lot on a smaller account is a bigger bet.
- Three things set your size: your account balance, your own risk setting, and your broker's lot rules.
- Sizes are rounded down to your broker's lot step, usually 0.01, so small accounts see the biggest relative differences.
- The same symbol can have a different contract size at a different broker, which changes the lot figure for the same exposure.
- Compare the money at risk as a percentage of your balance. If that is in line with your settings, the size is right.

> **Why are my lot sizes different from the master trader's?**
> Because the size is calculated for your account. It depends on your balance compared with the trader's, the risk per trade you set, the stop loss distance and your broker's lot rules. The aim is the same percentage risk, not the same lot number.

11.4 Why Is My Trading Account Showing as Offline?

What "offline" means for a connected trading account, the six things that cause it, how to check each on your VPS, and how to stop it happening again.

- "Online" means the software on your account contacted LEFTURN recently. "Offline" means it has not.
- The cause is almost always local: the VPS is off or restarted, the platform is closed, the platform lost its login, or Algo Trading is off.
- While the account is offline, new trades cannot be placed on it and changes cannot be delivered.
- Your trades and stop losses already at the broker stay there. Stop losses and take profits held by the broker still work.
- Fix the cause first, then confirm the status in the portal. Do not reinstall anything until you have checked the basics.

> **Why is my trading account showing as offline?**
> Because the LEFTURN software on that account has not contacted LEFTURN recently. The usual reasons are a VPS that is off or restarted, a closed platform, a failed login to the trading server, or Algo Trading being switched off.

11.5 Why Are My Trades Not Closing or Updating?

A troubleshooting checklist, in order of likelihood, for a trade that stayed open after the trader closed, or a stop or target that did not change on your account.

- A copy, a close and a stop change all need the same things: MetaTrader 5 running, connected and allowed to trade.
- Check the platform first. A closed terminal, a restarted VPS or Algo Trading switched off explains most cases.
- Markets close, and brokers refuse stops placed too close to the price. Both block an update without anything being broken.
- If you changed a copied trade by hand, later changes from the trader may not match it.
- You can always close a trade yourself. Do that first if an open position is putting your account at risk.

> **Why is my copied trade still open after the trader closed theirs?**
> The most common reason is that MetaTrader 5 was closed, disconnected or not allowed to trade when the close was sent. Check that the platform is running on the VPS, Algo Trading is on and the EA is attached. Close the trade yourself if you do not want to hold it.

11.6 How to Reconnect Your Trading Account Safely

Step-by-step routines for the five common reconnection situations, with the checks that keep open trades safe and the mistakes that cause duplicates or missed trades.

- Before reconnecting anything, look at what is open on the account and decide what to do with it.
- MetaTrader 5 must be logged in to the exact account number registered in your portal, or the EA will not be accepted.
- Run the LEFTURN Expert Advisor on one chart, in one terminal, for each account. Never in two places at once.
- A new account number, such as a new challenge phase, is a new account to LEFTURN: add it in your portal first.
- Never send passwords in chat or email, including while asking for help with a reconnection.

> **How do I reconnect after my VPS restarted?**
> Connect with Remote Desktop, open MetaTrader 5, check it is logged in to the same account, and confirm the LEFTURN EA is on its chart with Algo Trading on. Then disconnect from Remote Desktop rather than signing out of Windows.

11.7 How to Submit a Technical Support Request

What to check before you write, the details and screenshots that let support find the cause quickly, how to reach LEFTURN, and the information you must never send.

- If open trades are at risk, protect the account first. You can close any trade yourself at any time.
- Run the quick self-checks before writing. They solve most connection problems in minutes.
- Include the account reference, platform, what happened, when (with your time zone) and what you tried.
- Screenshots of the MetaTrader 5 Experts and Journal tabs are the most useful attachments.
- Never send passwords of any kind, in chat, email or a screenshot.

> **What should I include when I submit a technical support request?**
> Your portal email, the trading account number, the platform and service, your firm or broker, what happened, when it happened with your time zone, what you already checked, and screenshots of the MetaTrader 5 Experts and Journal tabs.

CHAPTER 12 · 14 ARTICLES

12

Risk Management

Position sizing, drawdown, stop losses and the habits that keep an account alive.



A drawdown runs from a peak to the lowest point reached before a new high. The deepest one on the record is the maximum drawdown.

12.1 What Is Maximum Drawdown?
12.2 Balance Drawdown vs. Equity Drawdown
12.3 How to Read a MetaTrader Trading Statement
12.4 Understanding Profit Factor
12.5 Understanding Risk-to-Reward Ratios
12.6 Why Win Rate Can Be Misleading
12.7 Understanding Floating Profit and Loss
12.8 How Position Sizing Affects Your Trading Account
12.9 Understanding Martingale and Grid Trading Risks
12.10 Understanding Trading Strategy Recovery Factor
12.11 What Is a Basket Trading Strategy?
12.12 How to Evaluate a Forex Trader's Performance
12.13 How Economic News Can Affect Trading Risk
12.14 How to Recognize Unsustainable Trading Performance

12.1 What Is Maximum Drawdown?

Maximum drawdown is the deepest fall an account has suffered from a peak. Here is how it is measured, what counts as high, and how to use it when you judge a trader.

- Maximum drawdown measures the deepest peak-to-trough decline in an account, usually as a percentage of the peak.
- It is a record of the past. The next drawdown can be deeper, so treat the figure as a minimum for what to expect.
- Losses and recoveries are not symmetrical: a 20% fall needs a 25% gain to recover, and a 50% fall needs 100%.
- Always read maximum drawdown next to the return, the number of trades and the length of the record.
- For prop firm accounts, a strategy's historical drawdown must sit well inside the firm's loss limit, not just below it.

What is maximum drawdown in trading?
It is the largest decline an account has experienced from a high point to the lowest point reached before a new high. It is normally stated as a percentage of the peak value.

12.2 Balance Drawdown vs. Equity Drawdown

Balance counts only closed trades; equity counts open ones too. That single difference explains why two drawdown figures for the same account can tell opposite stories.

- Balance changes only when a trade closes. Equity changes with every tick while trades are open.
- Balance drawdown can stay small while open losses grow. Equity drawdown shows what the account was really worth at its worst moment.
- A large gap between the two is the signature of strategies that hold or add to losing positions.
- Prop firms enforce their loss limits on equity, so equity drawdown is the figure that decides whether an account survives.
- When you judge a trader, look for an equity curve as well as a balance curve.

What is the difference between balance drawdown and equity drawdown?
Balance drawdown counts only losses from closed trades. Equity drawdown also counts the losses on trades that are still open, so it shows how far the account's real value fell at its worst point.

12.3 How to Read a MetaTrader Trading Statement

What every section of a MetaTrader 5 trading statement means, which numbers matter most, and how to spot risk a good-looking report can hide.

- A MetaTrader 5 statement has three parts: the account summary, the list of trades, and the results statistics. The statistics are where the insight is.
- Net profit on its own tells you very little. Read it next to drawdown, profit factor and the number of trades.
- Drawdown is reported three ways (absolute, maximal and relative). Maximal and relative drawdown show how much pain the account went through to earn its profit.
- A very high win rate with a small average win and a large average loss is a warning sign, not a strength.
- Balance-based numbers ignore open trades. Always check floating profit and loss before you trust a statement.

How do I get a trading statement from MetaTrader 5?
Open the History tab at the bottom of the terminal, set the period you want (All History gives the full record), right-click inside the list, choose Report and save it as HTML. The saved file opens in any web browser and can be shared as it is.

12.4 Understanding Profit Factor

Profit factor divides everything a strategy won by everything it lost. Here is how to read it, what range is realistic, and the four ways it can mislead.

- Profit factor = gross profit ÷ gross loss. Above 1.0 is profitable, below 1.0 is losing.
- Over a few hundred trades, sound strategies usually land between about 1.3 and 2.0.
- A very high profit factor usually means too few trades, or losing trades that are still open and not yet counted.
- The figure says nothing about how deep the drawdown was or how large positions were.
- Read it with the trade count, the drawdown and the gap between balance and equity.

What is profit factor in trading?
It is the total profit from winning trades divided by the total loss from losing trades. A profit factor of 1.5 means the strategy won $1.50 for every $1.00 it lost.

12.5 Understanding Risk-to-Reward Ratios

A risk-to-reward ratio compares what a trade can lose with what it aims to make. Here is how to measure it in R, what win rate each ratio needs, and where traders fool themselves.

- Risk is the distance from entry to stop loss; reward is the distance from entry to target. The ratio compares the two.
- Traders measure results in R, where 1R is the amount risked on the trade. A win of twice the risk is +2R; a full loss is −1R.
- Every ratio has a break-even win rate. At 1 to 2 it is 33.3%; at 1 to 1 it is 50%.
- A high ratio is not better by itself. Far targets are hit less often, so win rate falls as the ratio rises.
- Judge a trader by the ratio they actually realized on closed trades, not the one written on the plan.

What is a risk-to-reward ratio?
It compares the amount a trade risks, from entry to stop loss, with the amount it aims to make, from entry to target. Risking 30 pips to make 60 is a ratio of 1 to 2.

12.6 Why Win Rate Can Be Misleading

Win rate tells you how often a trader wins, not whether they make money. Here is the arithmetic behind that gap, and the checks that expose a flattering number.

- Win rate counts winning trades. It does not weigh them. Size matters as much as frequency.
- A strategy is profitable only when win rate × average win is larger than loss rate × average loss.
- Very high win rates are usually produced by small targets, wide or missing stops, and losing trades held open.
- A low win rate with large winners can be an excellent strategy, but it brings long losing streaks.
- Always read win rate with the average win, the average loss, the drawdown and the open positions.

What is a good win rate in forex trading?
There is no good win rate in isolation. What matters is whether the win rate is above the break-even level for that strategy's average win and loss. A 35% win rate is strong if winners are three times the size of losers, and an 80% win rate is weak if losers are six times the size of winners.

12.7 Understanding Floating Profit and Loss

Floating profit and loss is the running result of trades that are still open. Here is how it is calculated, why it decides your real account value, and how to read it on any record.

- Floating profit and loss is the result of open trades at current prices. It becomes realized only when a trade closes.
- Equity = balance + floating P/L. Equity, not balance, is what the account is worth right now.
- Performance statistics such as win rate and profit factor are built from closed trades, so open losses are invisible in them.
- Prop firm loss limits and broker margin rules are applied to equity, which means floating losses count in full.
- A large negative floating figure next to a clean closed-trade record is the clearest warning sign on any statement.

> **What is floating profit and loss?**
> It is the current, unrealized result of all trades that are still open, calculated at the latest market prices. It changes continuously and becomes a realized profit or loss only when a trade is closed.

12.8 How Position Sizing Affects Your Trading Account

The same strategy can pass a challenge or destroy an account depending only on trade size. Here is the formula, the effect of each risk level, and the mistakes to avoid.

- Position size should be calculated from three inputs: account size, the percentage you will risk, and the distance to the stop loss.
- Risk per trade scales everything. Doubling it roughly doubles both the returns and the drawdowns of the same strategy.
- Losing streaks are normal. Size must be small enough that an ordinary streak leaves the account inside its limits.
- On prop firm accounts, size is constrained by the daily and maximum loss limits before anything else.
- A wider stop does not mean more risk if the position is made smaller to match.

> **What is position sizing in trading?**
> It is the process of deciding how large a trade should be, based on how much of the account you are willing to lose if the stop loss is hit. The lot size is calculated from that amount and the distance to the stop.

12.9 Understanding Martingale and Grid Trading Risks

How martingale and grid systems produce smooth profit curves, why the arithmetic always ends in one very large loss, and how to recognize them on a statement.

- A martingale system increases position size after a loss so that one win recovers everything. A grid system adds positions at fixed distances as price moves against it.
- Both turn many small losses into rare, very large ones. The win rate goes up; the size of the eventual loss goes up faster.
- Neither method changes the underlying edge. Doubling down does not improve the odds of the next trade.
- On a prop firm account, the daily and maximum loss limits are usually reached within three or four steps of a doubling sequence.
- The signs are visible on a statement: lot sizes that grow after losses, missing stop losses, and a large gap between balance and equity.

What is the difference between martingale and grid trading?
Martingale increases the size of the next trade after a loss, usually by doubling. Grid trading opens additional positions at fixed price intervals as the market moves against the first one. Many systems combine the two by increasing the size at each grid level.

12.10 Understanding Trading Strategy Recovery Factor

What recovery factor measures, how to calculate it, how to compare strategies of different lengths with it, and where the number can mislead you.

- Recovery factor is net profit divided by maximum drawdown. Higher is better.
- A value of 1 means the strategy has only earned back its worst loss. Values above 3 over a meaningful period indicate profit that was not bought with extreme risk.
- The number grows with time, so compare strategies over the same period or use an annual version.
- It depends on which drawdown is used. Balance drawdown ignores open trades and can flatter strategies that hold losers.
- Use it with profit factor, trade count and the equity curve, never alone.

What is recovery factor in trading?
It is the total net profit of a strategy divided by its maximum drawdown. It shows how many times over the strategy has earned back its worst peak-to-trough loss.

12.11 What Is a Basket Trading Strategy?

How basket trading groups several positions into one managed trade, why correlation decides the real risk, and what to check before copying a basket trader.

- A basket is several positions managed as one, with a shared profit target and a shared loss limit.
- Baskets can express one view across several markets, such as a weak US dollar, or spread one idea across several entries.
- The risk of a basket is not the sum of small trades. If the positions are correlated, it behaves like one large trade.
- A basket with a profit target and no loss limit is a grid by another name.
- Judge a basket trader on equity drawdown, the worst basket in the record, and whether total risk is capped in advance.

> **What is a basket trading strategy?**
> It is a method that groups several positions and manages them as one trade. The trader sets a combined profit target and a combined loss limit, and closes every position in the group when either is reached.

12.12 How to Evaluate a Forex Trader's Performance

A six-step routine for judging any trader's record: is there enough evidence, what did the profit cost in drawdown, and will the method survive a bad month.

- Start with the amount of evidence: at least several months and a few hundred trades across different markets.
- Judge return against drawdown, never alone. Return divided by maximum drawdown is the quickest fair comparison.
- Small, consistent risk per trade with a stop on every position matters more than a high win rate.
- Check what is still open. A large floating loss means the record is unfinished.
- A steady trader with modest returns usually beats a spectacular one after a full year.

> **What is the most important number when evaluating a trader?**
> Maximum drawdown, read together with return. It shows the worst loss the trader has put an account through, and dividing annual return by it gives a fair comparison between traders with different styles.

12.13 How Economic News Can Affect Trading Risk

Why a scheduled news release changes the risk of a trade even when the plan stays the same: spreads, slippage, gaps, and what that does to a stop loss.

- A stop loss is an instruction to exit at the next available price, not a promise of a specific price. Around news, the next available price can be far away.
- Three things change at a release: liquidity drops, spreads widen, and price can jump without trading at the levels in between.
- The result is slippage: the loss on a stopped trade is larger than planned.
- The risk is highest for short-term trades with tight stops and for accounts with strict daily loss limits.
- Standing aside before scheduled high-impact events is a risk decision, not a missed opportunity.

> **Why does my stop loss fill at a worse price during news?**
> A stop loss becomes a market order when its level is reached and is filled at the best available price. During a release, price can jump past the stop level without trading there, so the fill is at the next price the market offers. The difference is slippage.

12.14 How to Recognize Unsustainable Trading Performance

The patterns that tell you a trading record will not last: impossible returns, perfect win rates, growing lot sizes, hidden open losses and more.

- Very high monthly returns compound into figures no one sustains. If the arithmetic is absurd over a year, the risk is too.
- A balance curve with no dips usually means losses are being held open, not avoided.
- Win rates above 90% almost always come with rare losses many times the size of a typical win.
- Position sizes that grow after losing trades are the clearest single warning.
- Short records, added deposits and one lucky market can each make an ordinary result look exceptional.

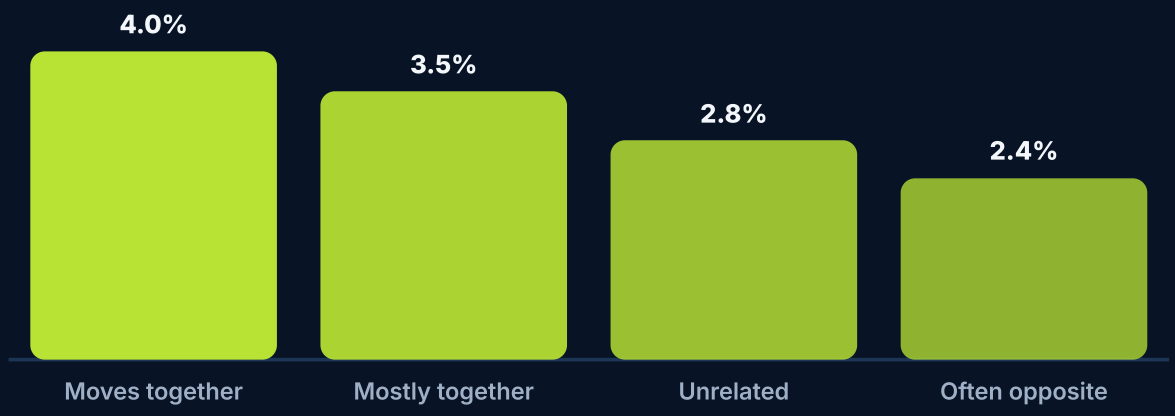
> **What monthly return is realistic for a forex trader?**
> Careful strategies typically average low single-digit percentages per month, with losing months in between. Steady returns of 15% or more per month imply a level of risk that tends to produce an equally large loss eventually.

CHAPTER 13 · 15 ARTICLES

13

Portfolio Diversification

Combining traders, instruments and accounts so one bad stretch does not decide everything.



Monthly swing of two 4% strategies combined half and half, at correlations of 1, 0.5, 0 and −0.3.

13.1 How to Diversify Your Forex Trading Portfolio
13.2 Why Copying Multiple Traders Can Change Portfolio Risk
13.3 How to Combine Forex and Index Trading Strategies
13.4 Combining Gold and Currency Strategies
13.5 How to Diversify Across Trading Sessions
13.6 Understanding Correlation Between Trading Strategies
13.7 How to Allocate Risk Between Traders
13.8 Understanding Conservative Trading Portfolios
13.9 Understanding Balanced Trading Portfolios
13.10 Understanding High-Risk Trading Portfolios
13.11 How to Combine Scalpers and Swing Traders
13.12 How to Identify Overlapping Market Exposure
13.13 When and How to Rebalance Your Portfolio
13.14 How to Evaluate Portfolio Performance
13.15 Building a Portfolio Within Prop Firm Restrictions

13.1 How to Diversify Your Forex Trading Portfolio

The main guide to spreading trading risk: what real diversification is, the four ways to get it, the math behind it, and the mistakes that only look like it.

- Diversification reduces risk only when the parts of a portfolio do not move together. Five strategies that all buy the US dollar are one strategy.
- There are four useful dimensions: instruments, trading sessions, trading styles and the people or systems making the decisions.
- Two equally risky, unrelated strategies combined have about 29% less volatility than either alone. Two that move together have no benefit at all.
- Diversification lowers the depth of drawdowns. It does not remove losses, and it cannot fix a strategy that loses money.
- On a prop firm account the daily loss limit applies to the whole account, so total open risk matters more than the risk of any one trade.

What does it mean to diversify a forex trading portfolio?
It means spreading risk across parts that do not win and lose together: different instruments, trading sessions, strategy styles and traders. The aim is that no single market move or decision can produce a large loss on its own.

13.2 Why Copying Multiple Traders Can Change Portfolio Risk

Adding traders adds positions. Learn how risk stacks when several traders are on one account, how to count it, and how to stop three small risks becoming one big one.

- Every trader you add brings more open positions. Total risk is the sum of all of them, not the risk setting of any one.
- Risk stacks when different traders take the same side of the same market, or of markets that move together.
- The useful number is total open risk: what the account loses if every open stop is hit.
- On a prop firm account, compare total open risk with the daily loss limit, and keep a large margin.
- Fewer, different traders with a fixed total budget beat many similar traders at "small" risk each.

Is copying multiple traders safer than copying one?
It can be, if the traders are different from each other and you share a fixed amount of risk between them. If each added trader simply brings more positions at the same size, the account's total risk rises.

13.3 How to Combine Forex and Index Trading Strategies

Currencies and stock indices are driven by different things at different hours. Here is how to pair them, size them and avoid the days they move as one.

- Currencies are driven mainly by interest rate expectations between two countries. Indices are driven by company profits and investors' appetite for risk.
- Most index movement happens in New York hours; most currency volume is in London and the London to New York overlap.
- The two are usually loosely related, but in a market scare they can move together through the US dollar and the yen.
- Index contracts differ by broker. Always size by money at risk, never by lot count.
- A simple structure is a London currency strategy plus a New York index strategy under one total risk budget.

> **Can I trade forex and indices in the same account?**
> Yes, on most platforms and with most prop firms. Check that your account offers the index symbols you want and whether the firm applies different leverage or position limits to indices.

13.4 Combining Gold and Currency Strategies

Gold is not just another dollar pair. Learn what moves it, how it overlaps with currency trades, and how to size and pair the two in one account.

- Gold responds to US real interest rates, the US dollar and demand for safety. Currency pairs respond to rate differences between two economies.
- Because gold is priced in dollars, buying gold and buying EURUSD are both partly bets against the dollar.
- Gold typically moves more than twice as far in a day as EURUSD. Equal lots are not equal risk.
- One standard lot of XAUUSD is 100 ounces: a $1 move in price is $100.
- Pair gold with currency strategies that have a different driver, such as cross pairs, or a different timeframe.

> **Is gold correlated with forex pairs?**
> Partly. Gold is priced in US dollars, so it often rises when the dollar falls, like EURUSD. It also responds to real interest rates and demand for safety, which can move it independently of currencies.

13.5 How to Diversify Across Trading Sessions

The market changes character through the day. See what each session rewards, how to spread strategies across them, and how to protect a daily loss limit.

- The trading day has three main sessions, Asia, London and New York, plus a busy overlap between the last two.
- Each session rewards a different style: ranges in Asia, breakouts and trends in London, news and index moves in New York.
- A portfolio that trades in only one window takes all its losses in that window.
- Spreading sessions lets you see the morning's result before the afternoon's risk is taken.
- Session times are fixed locally, so their overlap shifts by an hour for a few weeks each year when clocks change.

What are the main forex trading sessions?
Asia, London and New York. In New York time they run roughly from 7 p.m. to 4 a.m., 3 a.m. to noon, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. London and New York overlap from about 8 a.m. to noon, the busiest part of the day.

13.6 Understanding Correlation Between Trading Strategies

Correlation tells you whether two strategies win and lose together. Learn to read it, estimate it from monthly results and use it when you build a portfolio.

- Correlation runs from −1 to +1. At +1 two strategies move in step; at 0 they are unrelated; at −1 they move opposite.
- It is about the timing of gains and losses, not their size or direction over the long run. Two winners can be highly correlated.
- Diversification works when correlation is low. Below about 0.3 the benefit is strong; above 0.7 there is almost none.
- You can estimate it from monthly results with a simple agreement count or a spreadsheet function.
- Correlation changes over time and tends to rise in market shocks, so measure it more than once.

What is correlation between trading strategies?
It is a number from −1 to +1 that shows how closely two strategies' results move together. Near +1 they gain and lose in the same periods, near 0 they are unrelated, and near −1 one tends to gain when the other loses.

13.7 How to Allocate Risk Between Traders

Decide the account's total risk first, then share it out. Three allocation methods with full worked examples, and the rules for changing an allocation later.

- Start with a risk budget for the whole account, set from its loss limits. Individual settings come second.
- Equal allocation is simple and hard to beat when you know little about the traders.
- Allocating by drawdown gives steadier traders more of the budget and volatile ones less.
- A core and satellite split keeps most risk with proven traders and a small share for newer ones.
- Change allocations on a schedule and by rule, never in reaction to last week's results.

How do I allocate risk between traders on one account?
Set a total open-risk budget for the account first, usually about half the daily loss limit. Then divide it between the traders, equally, by drawdown or in tiers, and divide each trader's share by their maximum number of open positions to get their risk per trade.

13.8 Understanding Conservative Trading Portfolios

A conservative portfolio is defined by numbers, not by a label. See the limits that make one, the trade-offs, and a complete worked example.

- A conservative portfolio is defined by measurable limits: about 0.25% to 0.5% risk per trade and no more than about 1.5% at risk in total.
- Every position has a stop loss, and no method that increases size after a loss is used.
- The aim is to keep drawdowns to a small fraction of the account's loss limits, so that ordinary losing streaks are survivable many times over.
- The price is slower progress. Conservative does not mean loss-free.
- It suits funded accounts, larger accounts and anyone who values staying in the game over speed.

What is a conservative trading portfolio?
It is a portfolio built to limit losses first. In practice that means about 0.25% to 0.5% of the account at risk per trade, total open risk held under about 1.5%, a stop loss on every position and no strategies that increase size after losing.

13.9 Understanding Balanced Trading Portfolios

The middle path between cautious and aggressive: the risk figures that define a balanced portfolio, a worked four-trader example, and the signs it has drifted.

- "Balanced" is a set of numbers, not a feeling: moderate risk per trade, a capped worst day, and a drawdown you have decided in advance you can live with.
- A workable definition is 0.5% risk per trade per trader, a worst realistic day near 2%, and an expected maximum drawdown of roughly 8% to 12%.
- Balance comes from mixing markets, sessions and holding times, so that the traders rarely lose on the same day for the same reason.
- Three or four traders is usually enough. Beyond that, extra traders add overlap faster than they add diversification.
- A balanced portfolio drifts. Review it on a schedule and after any change in account type or size.

> **What is a balanced trading portfolio?**
> It is a group of traders or strategies run with moderate risk, typically about 0.5% of the account per trade each, and arranged across different markets, sessions and holding times. The aim is meaningful growth with drawdowns that stay within a limit chosen in advance.

13.10 Understanding High-Risk Trading Portfolios

The arithmetic behind aggressive portfolios: why losses grow faster than gains repair them, the five things that make a portfolio high-risk, and how to contain one.

- High risk is measurable: 1% or more risked per trade, 4% or more that can be lost in a day, and drawdowns of 20% or deeper.
- Losses and recoveries are not symmetrical. A 20% loss needs a 25% gain to repair; a 50% loss needs 100%.
- Concentration, correlation and position sizes that grow after losses raise risk as surely as a higher risk setting does.
- A high-risk profile does not fit a prop firm account. The loss limits are smaller than the drawdowns the profile produces.
- If you choose this profile, cap the money given to it and decide the exit point before you start.

> **What is a high-risk trading portfolio?**
> It is a portfolio in which a normal run of losing trades can remove a large part of the account. Typical markers are 1% or more risked per trade, 4% or more that can be lost in one day, and drawdowns of 20% or deeper.

13.11 How to Combine Scalpers and Swing Traders

Two styles with opposite habits can steady each other. How they differ, where they clash on one account, and how to size each so neither dominates.

- Scalpers earn small amounts often; swing traders earn larger amounts rarely. Their results depend on different market conditions.
- Costs and copying slippage matter far more to a scalper. One pip is a fifth of a 5-pip target and a hundredth of a 100-pip one.
- Size the two by risk per day or week, not by risk per trade, or the scalper's trade count will quietly dominate.
- Check whether your account allows opposite positions on the same symbol before pairing the styles on one instrument.
- Scalping needs a fast, always-on connection. A Windows VPS close to the broker's servers is part of the strategy.

> **Can I copy a scalper and a swing trader on the same account?**
> Yes, if your account and, on a prop firm account, your firm's rules allow both styles. Give them different instruments where possible so they never hold opposite positions on the same symbol.

13.12 How to Identify Overlapping Market Exposure

Three small positions can be one large bet. A step-by-step method for breaking trades into currencies, netting them, and spotting hidden concentration.

- Every currency trade is two positions: long one currency and short another. Overlap hides in the currency the trades share.
- To find it, split each position into its two currencies, add up the risk by currency, and look at the largest total.
- Gold and stock indices overlap with currencies too, mainly through the US dollar and through general risk appetite.
- Overlap also comes from timing: traders in the same session react to the same news at the same moment.
- A sensible ceiling is to keep the risk on any one currency or theme to about twice your normal risk per trade.

> **What is overlapping market exposure?**
> It is when several positions that appear different rely on the same underlying move. Buying EURUSD and buying GBPUSD are two trades, but both are short the US dollar, so a rise in the dollar hurts both at once.

13.13 When and How to Rebalance Your Portfolio

A calm routine for changing a portfolio of traders: three kinds of trigger, a monthly review you can finish in twenty minutes, and what not to react to.

- Rebalancing means returning the portfolio to the risk plan you chose, not chasing whoever did best last month.
- There are three kinds of trigger: the calendar, a threshold being crossed, and a change in the account or a trader.
- A losing week is not a trigger. A drawdown well beyond a trader's own history is.
- Change one thing at a time, smallest change first: adjust risk before removing a trader.
- Write the plan down. You cannot rebalance toward a target that was never stated.

How often should I rebalance my portfolio of traders?
Review it about once a month and make a fuller assessment every 90 days. Most monthly reviews should end with no change. Adjust only when a threshold you set in advance has been crossed or the account or a trader has really changed.

13.14 How to Evaluate Portfolio Performance

Judging the whole account, not each trader alone: five portfolio-level numbers, a worked three-trader example, and how to tell whether diversification is working.

- Judge the combined account first. Individual trader results matter only for what they contribute to it.
- Five numbers cover most of what you need: return, maximum drawdown, return-to-drawdown, profit factor and the share of positive months.
- The test of diversification is whether the portfolio's drawdown is smaller than the sum of the traders' drawdowns.
- A trader who loses money can still be improving the portfolio, and a profitable one can be adding nothing but risk.
- Measure against your own plan and limits. Three months is the shortest period worth judging.

What is the best single measure of portfolio performance?
Return divided by maximum drawdown is the most informative single figure, because it relates what was earned to what was risked. It should still be read with the number of trades and the length of the period.

13.15 Building a Portfolio Within Prop Firm Restrictions

Start from the firm's rules and work backwards: a risk budget drawn from the daily and maximum loss limits, and a team of traders sized to stay inside it.

- The firm's daily and maximum loss limits are the design brief. Everything else is sized to fit inside them.
- Plan to use no more than about half of each limit. The other half is for the days that do not go to plan.
- The number that matters is the risk that can be open at the same moment across all traders, not the risk of one trade.
- Many breaches are rule breaches, not losses: news trading, weekend holding, hedging, consistency rules or lot limits.
- Fewer traders is usually better on a prop firm account. Two or three who do not overlap are easier to keep inside the rules than five.

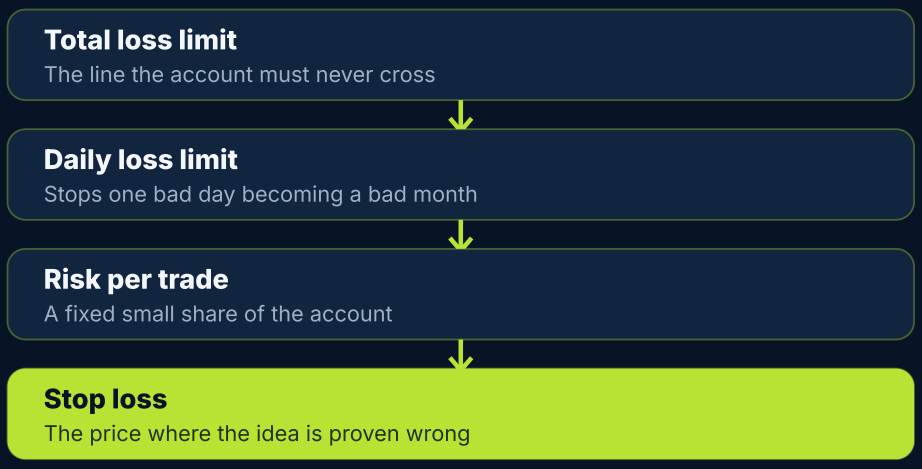
> **How much risk per trade is sensible on a prop firm portfolio?**
> It depends on how many traders and open trades you have. With two or three traders and a 5% daily loss limit, 0.3% to 0.5% per trade usually keeps the worst-case day at or under half the limit. More traders means lower risk for each.

CHAPTER 14 · 4 ARTICLES

14

Trading Strategies

Fundamental analysis, backtesting and improving a strategy without fooling yourself.



The four layers of risk control. Each one catches what the layer below it misses.

14.1 Forex Trading Strategies and Risk Management Explained

14.2 How to Backtest a Forex Strategy and Trust the Result

14.3 Optimizing Forex Trading Strategies Without Overfitting

14.4 Using Fundamental Analysis in Forex Trading Strategies

14.1 Forex Trading Strategies and Risk Management Explained

The main forex strategy types, the risk rules that keep each one alive, and the extra controls to set when someone else's trades are copied onto your account.

- A strategy provides entries and exits. Risk management decides the size, and size decides survival.
- Risk works in layers: a stop loss on each trade, a fixed risk per trade, a daily limit and a total limit.
- Every strategy type has a typical failure. Trend methods lose slowly in ranges; range methods lose quickly in breakouts.
- When you copy traders, their strategy is theirs but the risk settings are yours. Set them before the first trade.
- Several traders or strategies only reduce risk if they do not all hold the same position at the same time.

> **What is forex risk management?**
> It is the set of rules that limits how much an account can lose on one trade, in one day and in total. It covers stop losses, position size, daily limits, drawdown limits and the combined exposure of all open trades.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/forex-trading-strategies-and-risk-management/

14.2 How to Backtest a Forex Strategy and Trust the Result

A step-by-step method for testing a forex strategy on past data, what the results can and cannot tell you, and the errors that make a backtest look better than reality.

- A backtest can only test rules that are written down precisely. "Buy when it looks strong" cannot be tested.
- Include spread, commission and slippage. Many short-term methods are profitable only when costs are left out.
- You need enough trades. Under about 100, the result is mostly chance.
- Keep part of the data unseen and test on it once. Good results on unseen data are worth far more than good results on data you tuned against.
- A backtest shows what happened in the past. It is evidence, not a forecast.

> **What does it mean to backtest a forex strategy?**
> It means applying a strategy's exact rules to historical price data and recording every trade it would have taken, so you can measure how it performed and how deep its losses ran.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/building-winning-forex-strategies-through-backtesting/

14.3 Optimizing Forex Trading Strategies Without Overfitting

What optimization is really for, which settings are worth tuning, how to check the result on unseen data, and the signs that a strategy has been fitted to noise.

- The aim of optimization is robustness: settings that work acceptably across many conditions, not perfectly in one.
- Every setting you tune is another chance to fit noise. Fewer adjustable settings make a more trustworthy method.
- Always keep data the optimizer never sees, and judge the method on that.
- Prefer a broad plateau of good settings to a single sharp peak.
- Expect live results to be worse than optimized ones. Plan your risk around that, not around the best backtest.

> **What does optimizing a forex trading strategy mean?**
> It means adjusting the strategy's settings, such as indicator periods, stop distances and trading hours, and testing each version on historical data to find values that perform well.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/optimizing-forex-trading-strategies-for-peak-performance/

14.4 Using Fundamental Analysis in Forex Trading Strategies

What moves currencies over weeks and months, how to read it without an economics degree, and how to use it as a filter and a risk tool alongside your charts.

- Currencies are priced in pairs, so what matters is the difference between two economies, not one economy alone.
- Interest rate expectations are the main driver. Most other data matters because of what it implies for rates.
- Markets move on surprises. A strong number that was already expected often changes nothing.
- The most useful roles for fundamentals are as a direction filter, a calendar for risk, and a reason to stand aside.
- Fundamentals work over weeks and months. They are a poor tool for timing an entry to the minute.

> **What is fundamental analysis in forex?**
> It is the study of the economic factors that drive exchange rates, chiefly interest rates, inflation, growth, employment and central bank policy. It aims to explain which currency in a pair has the stronger outlook.

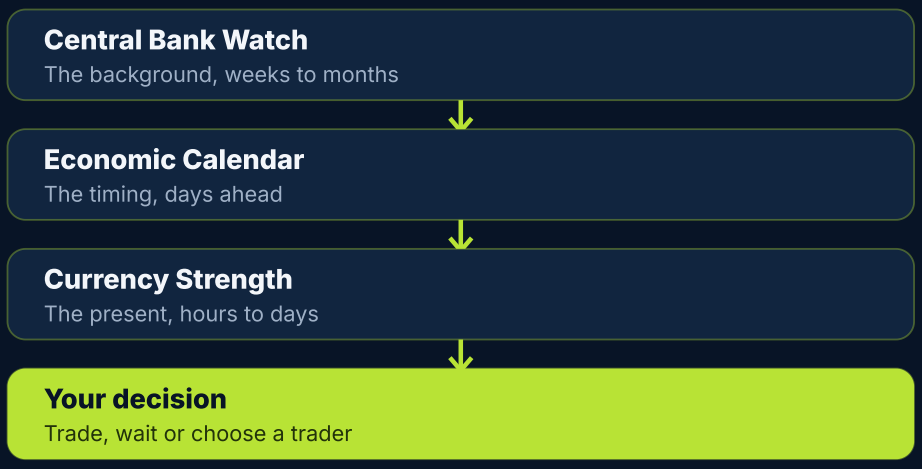
Full article: manage.forex/academy/optimizing-forex-trading-strategies-with-fundamental-analysis/

CHAPTER 15 · 12 ARTICLES

15

Market Intelligence

Central banks, economic data and the free LEFTURN tools for reading the market.



Read from the slowest information to the fastest. Each layer gives context to the one below it.

15.1 How to Use LEFTURN Market Intelligence
15.2 How to Read the Economic Calendar
15.3 How to Configure Economic News Alerts
15.4 Understanding the LEFTURN Central Bank Watcher
15.5 What Does Hawkish vs. Dovish Mean?
15.6 How Federal Reserve Decisions Affect Forex
15.7 Understanding ECB Interest Rate Decisions
15.8 How Inflation Data Affects Currency Markets
15.9 Understanding Currency Strength
15.10 Understanding Gold Seasonality
15.11 Understanding Market Correlations
15.12 How to Prepare for High-Impact Economic News

15.1 How to Use LEFTURN Market Intelligence

The free Market Intelligence terminal explained as a routine: which question each tool answers, how to combine them, and the limits to keep in mind.

- Market Intelligence is free with a LEFTURN account. No trading account or card is needed to explore it.
- Central Bank Watch answers "where is interest-rate policy heading?" The Economic Calendar answers "what is due, and when?" Currency Strength answers "which currencies are leading right now?"
- Use them in order: policy sets the background, the calendar sets the timing, strength shows the present.
- The tools describe the market. They do not tell you to buy or sell, and none of them predicts a result.
- Availability and live data depend on each tool, so check that the information is current before relying on it.

> **Is LEFTURN Market Intelligence free?**
> Yes. Joining LEFTURN and exploring the Market Intelligence tools are free, and no trading account or card is required. Copying traders, challenge passing and account management are separate paid services.

15.2 How to Read the Economic Calendar

A column-by-column guide to economic calendars: impact levels, actual versus forecast, revisions and time zones, with a worked example of reading a release.

- Each calendar row is an event: a time, a currency, an expected impact, and three numbers: previous, forecast and actual.
- The market reacts to the surprise, the difference between the actual and the forecast, not to whether the number is "good".
- Revisions to the previous figure can change the meaning of a release as much as the new number.
- Always convert release times to your own time zone, and check daylight-saving changes.
- Impact ratings are a guide to how much a release usually moves markets, not a promise about this time.

> **What does forecast mean on an economic calendar?**
> It is the expected value of the release, usually an average of economists' estimates. Because traders position for it in advance, the market tends to react to how far the actual figure lands from the forecast.

15.3 How to Configure Economic News Alerts

A practical way to set up news alerts: choose the currencies and impact levels that matter to your trades, pick sensible lead times, and decide in advance what each alert means.

- Alert on the currencies you trade and the events that move them, not on the whole calendar.
- Most traders need only high-impact events, plus a handful of medium-impact releases for their main currencies.
- Two lead times work well: one early enough to manage open trades, one shortly before the release.
- Decide in advance what each alert means for you: stand aside, reduce risk, or simply be aware.
- An alert is a reminder, not a forecast. It tells you when risk rises, not which way price will go.

> **Which economic events should I set alerts for?**
> High-impact releases for every currency you trade or copy, such as central bank decisions, inflation and employment reports. Add medium-impact events only for your main currencies. Low-impact events rarely justify an alert.

15.4 Understanding the LEFTURN Central Bank Watcher

What the Central Bank Watch tool in LEFTURN Market Intelligence follows, how to read rates, decisions and policy tone, and how to fit it into your planning.

- Central Bank Watch follows interest rates, policy decisions and the monetary-policy outlook. It is part of the free LEFTURN Market Intelligence terminal.
- Currencies react to changes in expected interest rates, so the outlook usually matters more than today's rate.
- Policy tone is read on a scale from dovish (leaning toward lower rates) to hawkish (leaning toward higher rates).
- The difference in tone between two central banks often matters more than either one alone.
- Use it to understand the background and to plan around decision dates, not to pick entries.

> **What is the LEFTURN Central Bank Watcher?**
> It is the Central Bank Watch tool in the free LEFTURN Market Intelligence terminal. It follows interest rates, policy decisions and the monetary-policy outlook of major central banks, alongside the Economic Calendar and Currency Strength tools.

15.5 What Does Hawkish vs. Dovish Mean?

What central bankers mean when they sound hawkish or dovish, why a change of tone can move a currency more than a rate decision, and how to read a statement.

- Hawkish means leaning toward higher interest rates to hold inflation down. Dovish means leaning toward lower rates to support growth and jobs.
- Hawkish and dovish describe a direction, not a level. A bank with low rates can sound hawkish, and one with high rates can sound dovish.
- Currencies react to surprises. What matters is how the tone compares with what the market expected.
- All else equal, a more hawkish tone than expected tends to support a currency, and a more dovish one tends to weaken it.
- The reaction to tone is fast and often volatile. Many careful traders stand aside around major central bank announcements.

What does hawkish mean in forex?
Hawkish describes a central bank or policymaker leaning toward higher interest rates, or toward keeping them high, usually because inflation is the main concern. A tone that is more hawkish than expected tends to support the currency.

15.6 How Federal Reserve Decisions Affect Forex

What the Federal Reserve actually decides, how each part of a decision day reaches currency prices, and why the market reacts to the surprise rather than the headline.

- The Fed sets a target range for short-term US interest rates eight times a year. Higher US rates relative to other countries tend to support the dollar; lower rates tend to weaken it.
- Markets price decisions in advance. The move on the day comes from the gap between what was expected and what was delivered.
- A decision day has several parts: the statement, the economic projections, the press conference and, weeks later, the minutes. Each can move the dollar.
- Spreads widen and prices jump around the announcement. Stops can be filled at worse prices than planned.
- The sensible default for most accounts is smaller risk, or none, across the announcement.

How often does the Federal Reserve make interest rate decisions?
The Federal Open Market Committee holds eight scheduled meetings a year, and the dates are published well in advance. Unscheduled decisions are possible in emergencies but rare.

15.7 Understanding ECB Interest Rate Decisions

Who sets euro area interest rates, what the three key ECB rates are, how a decision day unfolds, and what it means for the euro and for the trades you hold.

- The ECB's Governing Council sets policy for the whole euro area at eight scheduled monetary policy meetings a year.
- There are three key rates. The deposit facility rate is the one markets watch most closely.
- The ECB targets inflation of 2% over the medium term, measured by the euro area's harmonised consumer price index.
- The euro reacts to the surprise in the decision and to the tone of the press conference that follows, often in opposite directions.
- EURUSD compares two central banks. An ECB decision must be read alongside the Federal Reserve's path.

How often does the ECB decide on interest rates?
The Governing Council holds eight scheduled monetary policy meetings a year, roughly every six weeks. The calendar is published in advance.

15.8 How Inflation Data Affects Currency Markets

Which inflation reports matter, how to read headline against core and forecast against actual, and why a hot number can lift a currency one month and sink it the next.

- Inflation reports move currencies through expected interest rates: higher inflation than forecast usually means higher rates for longer, which usually supports the currency.
- The market reacts to the surprise, meaning the actual figure compared with the forecast, not to whether inflation is high or low.
- Core inflation, which leaves out food and energy, often matters more than the headline.
- When inflation is so high that it damages confidence in the economy or the central bank, the usual relationship can reverse.
- Release minutes bring wide spreads and price gaps. Decide your exposure before the number, not after.

Why does a currency rise when inflation is higher than expected?
Because traders expect the central bank to keep interest rates higher, or raise them, in response. Higher expected rates make the currency more attractive to hold, so it tends to strengthen.

15.9 Understanding Currency Strength

Strength is always relative. Learn what makes a currency strong or weak, how to measure it across several pairs, and how to use it without stacking the same bet.

- Strength is relative. A pair moves because of the difference between two currencies, so always ask which side is doing the work.
- The main drivers are expected interest rates, economic growth, risk appetite and trade in commodities.
- A strength meter averages a currency's performance across several pairs. It describes the recent past; it does not forecast.
- Pairing the strongest currency with the weakest gives the clearest trend, but trends that everyone can see are often late.
- Several trades built on the same strong or weak currency are one bet. Count exposure by currency, not by pair.

What does currency strength mean in forex?
It describes how a currency is performing against a group of other currencies, not just one. A currency that is rising against most others is strong; one that is falling against most others is weak.

15.10 Understanding Gold Seasonality

The times of year gold has tended to be firmer or softer, the physical demand behind those tendencies, how to check them properly, and how little weight they deserve.

- Seasonality describes average behavior by calendar month over many years. It says nothing certain about the month ahead.
- The commonly cited tendencies are firmer prices early in the year and from late summer into early autumn, with softer periods in spring and early summer.
- The usual explanations are jewelry and gift demand around festivals, weddings and the Lunar New Year, plus investment flows at the start of the year.
- Results change with the years you include. A pattern that depends on the lookback period is weak evidence.
- Use seasonality as background context at most. Position size, stop loss and the news calendar matter far more.

What is gold seasonality?
It is the observation that the gold price has, on average, behaved differently in different calendar months over many years. It is a statistical tendency drawn from past data, not a rule about any particular year.

15.11 Understanding Market Correlations

How the dollar, gold, stock indices, oil and the major currencies tend to move together, why those links change, and how to stop several trades becoming one bet.

- Correlation is measured from −1 to +1. Near +1, two markets move together; near −1, they move in opposite directions; near 0, there is no steady relationship.
- The best-known links: gold and the dollar tend to move inversely; gold tends to move inversely to real interest rates; the yen and Swiss franc tend to gain when stock markets fall.
- Correlations are not constants. They weaken, strengthen and sometimes flip, especially in a crisis.
- Several positions that depend on the same driver should be sized as one position.
- Correlation describes how markets have moved together. It does not explain why, and it does not predict.

> **What is a market correlation?**
> It is a measure of how closely two markets have moved in relation to each other over a period, expressed as a coefficient from −1 to +1. A positive value means they tend to move together, a negative value means they tend to move in opposite directions.

15.12 How to Prepare for High-Impact Economic News

A step-by-step routine for one scheduled release: what to check the day before, how to decide between closing, reducing and holding, and when to return to the market.

- The time of every major release is published in advance. Being surprised by the event is avoidable; only the outcome is uncertain.
- Before the release, count your exposure by currency and by shared driver, not by number of trades.
- There are three choices for open positions: close, reduce or hold. Choose deliberately, and choose before the last few minutes.
- During the release, do nothing new. Spreads are wide and the first move often reverses.
- If you trade a prop firm account, check the firm's rules on trading around news before anything else.

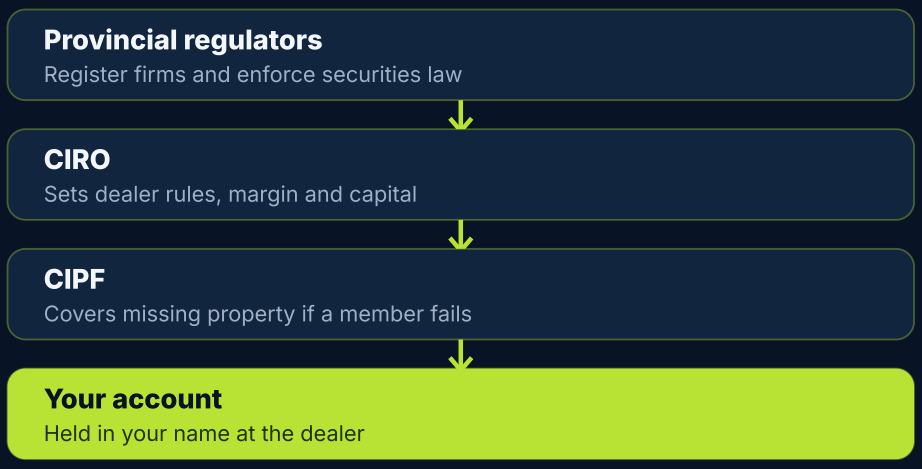
> **What is high-impact economic news?**
> It is the group of scheduled releases most likely to move markets sharply, chiefly central bank rate decisions, inflation reports and employment reports. Economic calendars mark them as high impact.

CHAPTER 16 · 5 ARTICLES

16

Choosing a Broker

Regulated brokers by country: the US, Canada, the UK, Europe and Australia.



The layers that stand behind a regulated Canadian trading account.

16.1 Forex Brokers for Canadian Residents: Rules and How to Choose

16.2 Forex Brokers for European Residents: Rules, Protection and Choice

16.3 Forex Brokers for US Residents: Rules, Risks and How to Choose

16.4 Regulated Forex Brokers for Australian Residents: How to Choose

16.5 Regulated Forex Brokers for UK Residents: How to Choose

16.1 Forex Brokers for Canadian Residents: Rules and How to Choose

Who regulates forex in Canada, how CIRO sets margin, what CIPF protects, which widely used brokers are CIRO-regulated, and how to verify any firm before you open an account.

- In Canada, leveraged forex and CFDs are offered to retail clients by investment dealers registered with provincial securities regulators and regulated by CIRO.
- CIRO sets minimum margin rates for currencies, and it raises them when a currency becomes more volatile. Leverage is the result of those rates, not a number the broker picks.
- CIPF protects property a member firm holds for you if the firm becomes insolvent, up to $1 million for general accounts. It does not cover trading losses.
- A foreign broker that is not registered in your province has none of these protections behind it.
- Check every firm on CIRO's dealer list and the national registration search before you fund an account.

> **Is forex trading legal in Canada?**
> Yes. Canadian residents can trade forex and CFDs through investment dealers registered with provincial securities regulators and regulated by CIRO. Rules on products and eligibility can differ by province, so check that a firm is registered where you live.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/best-forex-brokers-for-canadian-residents-reviews-and-comparisons/

16.2 Forex Brokers for European Residents: Rules, Protection and Choice

How MiFID authorisation and passporting work, the leverage limits and protections that apply across the EU, what investor compensation does and does not cover, and how to check a broker.

- An EU broker is authorised by the regulator of the country where it is based, such as CySEC in Cyprus or BaFin in Germany, under the MiFID II framework.
- Authorisation in one EU country can be "passported" to serve clients in others. The home regulator remains the main supervisor.
- Retail leverage is capped at 30 to 1 on major currency pairs and lower on everything else, with a 50% margin close-out, negative balance protection and a ban on trading incentives.
- Every EU state runs an investor compensation scheme paying at least EUR 20,000 per investor if a firm fails. It does not cover trading losses.
- Check the firm on its home regulator's register and on your own regulator's warning list before you send money.

> **How do I check if a forex broker is regulated in the EU?**
> Find the legal entity, its home regulator and licence number in the footer of the broker's EU site, then search that regulator's register. Also check that the firm appears on your own country's regulator's register as allowed to provide services there.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/best-forex-brokers-for-european-residents-reviews-and-comparisons/

16.3 Forex Brokers for US Residents: Rules, Risks and How to Choose

Who may legally offer forex to US residents, what the leverage, FIFO and no-hedging rules mean in practice, why offshore brokers are a different risk, and how to verify a dealer.

- A firm offering leveraged forex to US retail customers must be registered with the CFTC and be an NFA member. Very few firms are.
- US rules cap leverage at 50 to 1 on major currency pairs and 20 to 1 on others, require first-in, first-out closing, and do not allow hedged positions in one account.
- Retail forex funds do not have the bankruptcy protection that futures customers have, and there is no compensation fund. Dealer capital rules are the main safeguard.
- An offshore broker that accepts US residents without CFTC registration is outside all of these protections, and you have little recourse if money goes missing.
- Check every firm on NFA's BASIC database before you fund an account. It takes two minutes.

> **Which forex brokers can US residents legally use?**
> Firms registered with the CFTC as retail foreign exchange dealers or futures commission merchants that are NFA members. The CFTC's September 30, 2026 report shows Charles Schwab Futures and Forex, GAIN Capital Group (FOREX.com), Interactive Brokers, OANDA Corporation, tastyfx and Trading.com Markets holding retail forex funds. Confirm current status on NFA's BASIC database.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/best-us-and-offshore-forex-brokers-for-us-residents/

16.4 Regulated Forex Brokers for Australian Residents: How to Choose

What an Australian financial services licence means, the leverage limits and protections under ASIC's CFD order, how client money is held, and how to check any broker yourself.

- In Australia, forex is traded mostly as margin FX and contracts for difference (CFDs). A firm that issues them to you must hold an AFS licence from ASIC.
- ASIC's product intervention order limits retail leverage from 30 to 1 on major currency pairs down to 2 to 1 on digital assets, standardises margin close-out, gives negative balance protection and bans certain inducements.
- The current order runs to 23 May 2027. In October 2026 ASIC proposed extending it to 1 April 2031, subject to Ministerial approval.
- Retail client money must sit in a client money account and cannot be used for the firm's hedging or working capital. There is no government compensation fund for CFD clients.
- Check any broker on ASIC's professional registers search before you send money. An overseas firm without an Australian licence sits outside all of these protections.

> **How do I know if a forex broker is regulated in Australia?**
> Find the company name and AFS licence number in the broker's Financial Services Guide or website footer, then search ASIC's professional registers search. The licence should be current and cover dealing in derivatives and foreign exchange for retail clients.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/top-10-regulated-forex-brokers-for-australian-residents/

16.5 Regulated Forex Brokers for UK Residents: How to Choose

What FCA authorisation means, the leverage and protection rules for retail CFD and spread betting accounts, what FSCS does and does not cover, and how to verify any broker yourself.

- A firm offering forex, CFDs or spread betting to UK retail clients must be authorised by the FCA. Check the exact legal entity on the FCA Register.
- Retail accounts carry leverage limits between 30 to 1 and 2 to 1 depending on the instrument, a 50% margin close-out and negative balance protection.
- Client money must be kept separate from the firm's own money. If an authorised firm fails and money is missing, FSCS can pay up to £85,000 per person per firm.
- None of these protections cover trading losses, and opting up to professional client status removes several of them.
- Clone firms copy real brokers' names. Always use the contact details shown on the FCA Register.

> **How do I know if a forex broker is regulated in the UK?**
> Find the company name and FCA reference number in the footer of the broker's UK website, then search the FCA Register. The firm should show as authorised, with permissions to deal with retail clients, and the Register's contact details should match the ones you are using.

Full article: manage.forex/academy/top-10-regulated-forex-brokers-for-uk-residents/

CHAPTER 17 · 14 ARTICLES

17

Become a Marketplace Trader

For traders: publishing trade plans, building a record and earning from subscribers.



The same 3% month, three ways. Figures are illustrations: the funded figure assumes an 80 percent split, the subscriber figure assumes each pays 25 tokens every 30 days.

17.1 How to Monetize Your Forex Trading Strategy
17.2 How to Become a LEFTURN Marketplace Trader
17.3 Understanding Trader Approval Requirements
17.4 How to Submit Your Trading Statement
17.5 How to Create Your Marketplace Trader Profile
17.6 How to Connect Your Master Trading Account
17.7 How to Publish a Trading Strategy
17.8 How Marketplace Traders Earn Tokens
17.9 Understanding Trader Earnings and Payouts
17.10 How to Attract More Subscribers
17.11 How to Promote Your Marketplace Profile
17.12 How to Build a Reputation as a Strategy Provider
17.13 How EA Developers Can Monetize Their Algorithms
17.14 How to Join the LEFTURN Trader Team

17.1 How to Monetize Your Forex Trading Strategy

The realistic ways a profitable trader can earn beyond their own account, what each route costs in time and risk, and where a marketplace fits.

- A strategy earns in proportion to the capital behind it. Monetizing means reaching more capital or more people without taking more risk per trade.
- Every route asks for the same thing first: a record that someone else can check. Months of verifiable results are worth more than any sales page.
- Copy trading income is recurring and scales with subscribers, not with your own balance, but it depends on people staying.
- On the LEFTURN Marketplace, traders receive two thirds of every token their subscribers spend on them.
- No route removes trading risk. Your income rises and falls with your results and with how well you explain them.

What is the easiest way to monetize a trading strategy?
There is no easy way, but the lowest-friction one for a trader with a real record is to keep trading their own account and let others copy it through a marketplace. It needs no sales work beyond a clear profile, and no extra risk.

17.2 How to Become a LEFTURN Marketplace Trader

The path from free registration to your first subscriber on the LEFTURN Marketplace, what happens at each stage, and how to prepare so approval is straightforward.

- Registering as a trader is free. It gives you a LEFTURN client area and a request for your Trader Area.
- LEFTURN reviews the request and opens your Trader Area. You then build your record in private: nothing is public yet.
- You can upload up to three trading statements, connect MetaTrader 5 and create trade plans.
- Monetization needs six months of verified performance. Once approved, you are listed in the Marketplace for $49 a month.
- You earn two thirds of every token your subscribers spend on you.

Is it free to register as a LEFTURN trader?
Yes. Registering as a trader is free and gives you a LEFTURN client area and a Trader Area request. The published cost starts only when you are approved for monetization, at $49 a month for your Marketplace listing.

17.3 Understanding Trader Approval Requirements

What LEFTURN looks for before a trader is listed, why each requirement exists, how reviewers read a record, and how to check yourself before you apply.

- There are two reviews: one to open your Trader Area, and a second, later one for monetization and a Marketplace listing.
- LEFTURN looks for four things: six months of verified performance, risk control, written trade plans, and a specialty.
- "Verified" means the record comes from your statements or from a live MT5 connection, not from screenshots.
- Risk control is defined plainly: a stop loss on every trade and a drawdown you can explain.
- Approval is a review, not a formula. No return figure buys a listing, and a modest, steady record is a strong application.

What are the requirements to be approved as a LEFTURN trader?
LEFTURN looks for six months of verified performance, risk control (a stop loss on every trade and a drawdown you can explain), written trade plans with entry, stop, target and reason before the trade, and a specialty in particular pairs and sessions.

17.4 How to Submit Your Trading Statement

A practical guide to preparing a statement that verifies cleanly: choosing the account, exporting the complete history from MetaTrader 5, and checking it yourself first.

- A statement verifies your past. A live MT5 connection verifies your present. LEFTURN accepts both, and together they are strongest.
- You can upload up to three trading statements in your Trader Area. While you build your record, nothing is public.
- Export the full history, not a flattering window. Gaps and missing months are the first thing a reviewer sees.
- Read your own statement first: period, number of trades, drawdown, stop losses, lot sizes, open trades.
- Never send account passwords with a statement. A statement is a file; it needs no login.

How many trading statements can I submit to LEFTURN?
You can upload up to three trading statements in your Trader Area. Use them for consecutive periods on one account, or for the same strategy on more than one account, so that together they tell one clear story.

17.5 How to Create Your Marketplace Trader Profile

A trader profile has two halves: the record that comes from your account and the words you write yourself. This guide covers both, the order things happen in, and how to describe your strategy so the right clients choose you.

- Your profile has two halves: the verified record from your account, and the words you write. You control only the second, so write it carefully.
- Everything starts private. You build your record and trade plans in your Trader Area, and the Marketplace listing comes after LEFTURN approves monetization.
- Describe a specialty: the instruments and sessions you know best, how long you hold trades, and how you control risk.
- Never promise returns. Clients see your real numbers next to your words, and a gap between the two costs you trust.
- Every plan and result stays on your public profile, so your best marketing is a long, consistent record of written plans.

> **How do I create my Marketplace trader profile on LEFTURN?**
> Register as a trader, which is free and includes a Trader Area request. Once LEFTURN opens your Trader Area, build your record in private with up to three statements, a connected MT5 account and trade plans. The Marketplace listing follows approval for monetization.

17.6 How to Connect Your Master Trading Account

The master account is the one your record and your subscribers' trades come from. This guide covers choosing it, connecting MetaTrader 5, what a live connection proves, and the habits that keep the record clean.

- The master account is where your trades originate. Its history is your record, and its trades are what subscribers copy.
- Connect MetaTrader 5 from your Trader Area. A live MT5 connection counts toward the six months of verified performance LEFTURN looks for.
- Choose one account you will trade only with the strategy you publish, and plan to keep it for a long time.
- Run it on a computer that stays on. A Windows VPS is the reliable choice.
- Everything on the master account is visible. Unrelated trades, missing stops and changes of style all show up in your record.

> **What is a master trading account on LEFTURN?**
> It is the account a Marketplace trader trades from. Its history is the trader's verified record, and its trades are what subscribers' accounts receive as pending orders, sized by each subscriber's own settings.

17.7 How to Publish a Trading Strategy

Publishing a strategy means explaining how you trade before anyone sees a result. Here is what to write, how to plan each trade in public, and what to leave out.

- A published strategy has two layers: a short statement of your method, and a written plan for every trade, published before entry.
- The plan is the proof. Anyone can describe a method; writing the entry, stop, target and reason before the trade shows you actually follow it.
- Publish the rules a follower needs to understand the risk. You do not have to publish the details that make your edge yours.
- Losing trades must stay visible. A strategy that only shows winners is advertising, not a record.
- On LEFTURN, plans are written in your Trade Journal and stay private until you press Share.

What does it mean to publish a trading strategy?
It means explaining your method in advance, in public: what you trade, when, how you choose direction and how much you risk, followed by a written plan for each trade before you enter it. It lets others compare what you said you would do with what you did.

17.8 How Marketplace Traders Earn Tokens

The mechanics of trader income on the LEFTURN Marketplace: what a subscription is worth, the two-thirds share, how renewals work and what really moves the total.

- Income comes from subscriptions, not from trading results. A client pays tokens to copy you for 30 days at a time.
- Traders receive two thirds of the subscription token value from their followers, subject to payout rules and any adjustments or reversals.
- Tokens cost $2.50 each. In LEFTURN's published example, all pairs on a $100K account is 60 tokens ($150) every 30 days, and $100 of that is the trader's.
- Your total depends on four things: number of subscribers, how many instruments each one copies, the size of their accounts, and how long they stay.
- Once approved for monetization, a trader is listed in the Marketplace for $49 a month, so the first subscriptions cover that cost.

How do Marketplace traders earn tokens on LEFTURN?
Clients subscribe to copy a trader and pay for the subscription in tokens every 30 days. The trader receives two thirds of the subscription token value from their followers, subject to payout rules and any adjustments or reversals.

17.9 Understanding Trader Earnings and Payouts

From subscription tokens to money you can count on: how trader earnings build up, why they can be adjusted, what your true costs are and what to confirm before relying on them.

- Earnings are two thirds of the subscription token value from your followers. They are not a share of anyone's trading profit.
- LEFTURN states that earnings depend on client subscriptions and payout rules, and are subject to adjustments or reversals.
- Treat earnings for a period as provisional until they are actually paid.
- Net income is what is left after the $49 monthly Marketplace listing and your own trading and equipment costs.
- Payout timing, method and any minimums are set in the payout rules. Read them in your Trader Area; do not assume.

> **What share of subscription value do LEFTURN traders receive?**
> Under the stated Marketplace model, participating traders receive two thirds of the subscription token value attributable to their followers, subject to payout rules and any adjustments or reversals.

17.10 How to Attract More Subscribers

What clients actually look at before they copy a trader, and the practical changes that earn more subscriptions and keep them renewing.

- Clients compare traders on records, not on promises. Monthly average, maximum drawdown, win rate and positive months are shown on trader records.
- A shallow, explainable drawdown wins more subscribers than a high return, because many clients trade prop firm accounts with hard loss limits.
- Written trade plans published before entry are your best sales material. Members can read them for free.
- A clear specialty, such as one instrument in one session, makes you easy to choose for a client building a team.
- Keeping a subscriber is worth more than finding one. Income renews every 30 days only while the client stays.

> **What is the fastest way to attract more subscribers?**
> There is no shortcut that lasts. Clients compare records and read plans before subscribing, so the reliable route is a verified record with shallow drawdown, a plan published before every trade and a clearly stated specialty.

17.11 How to Promote Your Marketplace Profile

A practical and compliant way to bring readers to your trader profile: what to share, what never to claim, and the risk wording every post needs.

- Promote the record and the plans, not a result. Send people to your profile and let them check it for free.
- Never promise that someone will profit, pass a challenge or receive a payout. No trader can know that.
- Put a short risk statement on every promotional post, including the fact that past results do not predict future ones.
- Show losing trades as openly as winning ones. They are on your public profile regardless.
- A steady weekly routine does more than occasional bursts, and consistency in promotion mirrors consistency in trading.

> **How should I promote my Marketplace profile?**
> Share your published trade plans, review each trade after it closes, explain your method and link to your full record. Let readers check the profile for free and decide in their own time.

17.12 How to Build a Reputation as a Strategy Provider

Reputation is what followers believe about you when they cannot check. Here is how strategy providers earn it over months and lose it in a week.

- Reputation is predictability. Followers trust the provider whose next trade looks like the last hundred.
- How you handle a losing month says more about you than any winning month.
- Communicate before results, not after. A plan published before entry is worth more than an explanation published after a loss.
- Never promise performance. Claims of future returns damage trust the moment they fail, and they are not permitted.
- On LEFTURN, the strongest public signal is earned slowly: the Top Trader gold badge comes after 10 confirmed challenge passes for clients.

> **How long does it take to build a reputation as a strategy provider?**
> Usually more than a year. A record needs to pass through different market conditions, including at least one drawdown, before followers can judge how the provider behaves when things go wrong. On LEFTURN, monetization itself starts after six months of verified performance.

17.13 How EA Developers Can Monetize Their Algorithms

Selling an Expert Advisor, licensing it, or running it on your own account for others to copy. Each route earns differently and asks for different proof.

- Selling an EA earns once; renting, licensing and copying earn repeatedly but demand ongoing work.
- When you sell or rent the file, your results depend on the buyer's broker, settings and discipline. When you run it yourself and others copy, the record is yours.
- Backtests are where an EA starts, not what it is judged on. Live, verifiable results are what buyers and followers trust.
- Protect your code: distribute compiled files only, and tie licences to accounts.
- Never sell an EA with promises of returns. Describe what it does, how it manages risk and when it struggles.

> **What is the best way for an EA developer to make money?**
> It depends on the developer. Selling is easy to start but earns once per copy and invites piracy and support work. Running the EA on your own account and letting others copy it keeps the code private and builds a record you own, but makes your drawdowns public.

17.14 How to Join the LEFTURN Trader Team

LEFTURN is looking for traders who can help clients pass prop firm challenges. Here is what the role involves, who it suits and how to get ready.

- LEFTURN traders help clients pass prop firm challenges. Your trades are copied onto accounts with strict daily and maximum loss limits.
- The work is remote. You trade your own MT5 account and publish written plans; clients copy them with their own risk settings.
- LEFTURN looks for six months of verified performance, risk control, written trade plans before every trade, and a specialty.
- Approved traders are listed for $49 a month and receive two thirds of the token value their subscribers spend on them, subject to payout rules.
- The best preparation is to trade, now, the way a prop firm account needs to be traded.

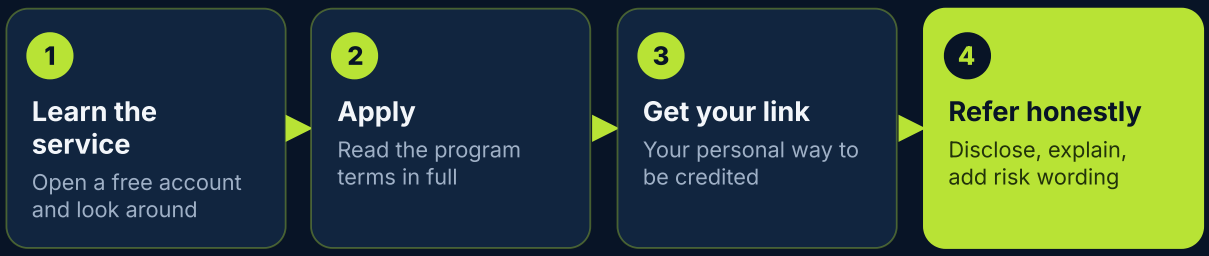
> **How do I join the LEFTURN trader team?**
> Register as a trader for free. LEFTURN reviews your request and opens your Trader Area, where you build a private record with up to three statements, an MT5 connection and trade plans. With six months of verified performance you apply for monetization and, once approved, you are listed in the Marketplace.

CHAPTER 18 · 7 ARTICLES

18

Affiliate Program

Referring clients to LEFTURN: links, codes, commissions and payouts.



The four stages of becoming an affiliate. Most of the effort belongs in the first and the last.

18.1 How to Become a LEFTURN Affiliate

18.2 How the LEFTURN Affiliate Program Works

18.3 Understanding Recurring Affiliate Commissions

18.4 How to Create and Share Your Referral Link

18.5 How to Track Affiliate Registrations and Earnings

18.6 How to Promote LEFTURN on Social Media

18.7 Understanding Affiliate Payments and Marketing Rules

18.1 How to Become a LEFTURN Affiliate

Who a LEFTURN affiliate is, what to have ready before you apply, how honest referrals work, and where the program's exact commission and payment terms are published.

- An affiliate recommends LEFTURN to people it suits and is rewarded for referrals that become customers. It is not a trading role and needs no trading licence of its own, but it does carry rules.
- Know the service before you promote it. The free account and the 14-day trial let you see it from the inside.
- The exact commission, payment schedule and conditions are published by LEFTURN on the program page and in the portal. Read them before you share a link.
- Always disclose that you are an affiliate, never promise trading results, and always include risk wording.
- The best affiliates are specific about who LEFTURN is not for. That honesty is what makes the recommendation worth something.

How do I become a LEFTURN affiliate?
Create a free LEFTURN account, learn how the service works, read the affiliate program terms and apply as the program page describes. Once accepted you receive your personal way of being credited for referrals.

18.2 How the LEFTURN Affiliate Program Works

The mechanics of an affiliate program explained plainly: attribution, when a referral counts, how commissions are approved and paid, and the terms that decide each step.

- An affiliate program has five stages: share, register, purchase, approve, pay. A referral can be lost at any of them.
- Attribution, meaning how the system knows a customer came from you, is done with a personal link, a code or both.
- A commission normally depends on a real, approved payment, not on a click or a registration alone.
- Programs differ on what is commissionable, how long attribution lasts and when money is released. LEFTURN's terms state its own answers.
- Promotion rules are part of the program, not an extra. Breaking them can cancel commissions.

How does the LEFTURN affiliate program work?
You receive a personal way of being identified, such as a link or code. When a new person you referred registers and pays for a LEFTURN service, the sale is checked and a commission is paid to you under the program's terms.

18.3 Understanding Recurring Affiliate Commissions

One-time and recurring commission models compared, with the arithmetic of retention and a checklist for finding out which model a program really uses.

- A one-time commission pays once per customer. A recurring commission pays each time that customer pays again, under the program's conditions.
- Recurring income depends on retention: how many referred customers are still active each month. It always declines over time.
- A recurring model rewards affiliates who refer people the service genuinely suits. Poorly matched referrals leave quickly and earn little.
- Never assume a program is recurring. Look for the words that define which payments are commissionable and for how long.
- Any estimate of future commissions is a guess. Treat it as planning, not as income.

> **What are recurring affiliate commissions?**
> They are commissions paid more than once for the same referred customer, on each qualifying payment that customer makes while they remain active and the program's conditions are met.

18.4 How to Create and Share Your Referral Link

What a referral link is made of, how to check it works, the best places to share it, and the disclosure and risk wording that should always sit next to it.

- A referral link is an ordinary web address with an identifier attached. If the identifier is removed or altered, the referral is not credited.
- Get your link from your own affiliate area, copy it exactly, and test it in a private browser window before sharing it.
- A code, where the program provides one, is the backup for situations where a link cannot be clicked.
- Every place you share the link should also carry a clear disclosure and risk wording.
- One helpful explanation with a link beats the same link posted a hundred times.

> **Where do I get my referral link?**
> From the affiliate area of your own account after you have been accepted into the program. Use that exact link; do not build or edit one yourself.

18.5 How to Track Affiliate Registrations and Earnings

The handful of numbers an affiliate should follow, a simple record to keep beside the portal figures, and how to use both to find what is working.

- Follow four numbers: clicks, registrations, paying customers and commissions. Each one answers a different question.
- The ratios between them tell you more than the totals. A low click-to-registration rate and a low registration-to-customer rate have different causes.
- Keep your own log of what you published and when. The portal shows results; only you know what caused them.
- Commissions pass through stages. Count money as earned only when it is approved, and as received only when it is paid.
- Review monthly, not daily. Small numbers swing widely and mean little in the short term.

> **What should an affiliate track?**
> Clicks on your link, registrations by people you referred, how many became paying customers, and your commissions by status. The ratios between these numbers are more useful than the totals.

18.6 How to Promote LEFTURN on Social Media

Content that earns trust, the disclosure and risk wording every post needs, example phrasing to use and avoid, and a simple weekly plan for affiliates.

- Teach more than you pitch. Posts that explain something get shared and keep being found.
- Disclose that you are an affiliate in every post that recommends LEFTURN, where people will actually see it.
- Never promise or imply profits, challenge passes or payouts, and never show results you cannot stand behind.
- Add risk wording every time. It is short, and it is not optional.
- Do not spam. Unsolicited messages and comment-section links damage you and can break both platform and program rules.

> **What should I post to promote LEFTURN on social media?**
> Mostly useful explanations: how prop firm rules work, how risk is managed, what setup involves. Recommend LEFTURN directly in a minority of posts, with a clear reason, disclosure and risk wording.

18.7 Understanding Affiliate Payments and Marketing Rules

How affiliate commissions move from pending to paid, why some are reversed, what records to keep, and the marketing rules that keep an affiliate in good standing.

- A commission usually passes through stages: tracked, pending, approved, paid. Only the last one is money in your account.
- Commissions can be reversed when the underlying payment is refunded, disputed or found to be invalid.
- LEFTURN's exact commission rates and payment terms are set out in its affiliate program terms. Read them before you promote.
- Always disclose that you earn from a referral, and never promise profits, passes or payouts.
- Keep your own records of referrals, approvals and payments. They make disputes and tax time much easier.

> **When is an affiliate commission actually paid?**
> Usually after it has passed a holding period and been approved, on the payment schedule the program sets. LEFTURN's holding period, schedule and payment methods are set out in its affiliate terms.

GETTING HELP

Still have a question? We reply quickly.

Ask the chat assistant on manage.forex, read the full articles in the LEFTURN Academy, or contact the team directly. Include your account reference in your first message, and never send passwords.

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