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WELCOME TO

KICKSTART’S TRADE PLANNER TEMPLATE

*“Planning without action is futile. Action without planning is fatal.”*

* *Cornelius Fichtner*

Hi Traders!

Trade planning is one of the most critical components of successful trading.

A trade plan is a blueprint, a roadmap which aims to identify the how, the when, and the why for each of our trades – before we’ve even placed a single live trade!

This is a living, breathing document, which will no doubt grow with you as you develop as a trader. Your strategies will evolve and get better over time – so too should this document.

However, you should NOT make major changes to your plan randomly or more than is necessary.

Once set, your plan should act as your guide – helping to minimise discretion from trading, allowing you to adhere more rigorously to your strategy’s rules.

This is a step-by-step guide for setting up *your* own trade plan.

For questions, comments, or concerns, don’t hesitate to write to us at:

[Support@kickstarttrading.com](mailto:Support@kickstarttrading.com)

Let’s Begin.

*PRO TIP: You should establish your trade plan, then consult it regularly. You can also consult your plan as you review your trades.*

*We recommend ALWAYS reviewing your trades, especially in the beginning – even the winning ones.*

*Doing this, will allow you to replicate what you’re doing right, and identify (and fix) what you’re doing wrong.*

*Your trade plan should be easy to read, easy to follow, and easy to implement.*

*As with everything in trading (and in life!) – DON’T overcomplicate things!*

Section 1. Trading Objectives

These can be anything from, “I want to achieve a modest monthly return to supplement my income,” or, “I want to achieve enough gains to purchase a Lamborghini,” the sky is the limit.

However, we highly recommend being ***extremely specific***. We’ll fill in the how and the when later – this is your starting point. This is the “why?”

1. What are your trading objectives? Why are you a trader/seeking to become a trader?
2. What are your short, medium, and long-term goals?
   1. Short:
   2. Medium:
   3. Long-Term:
3. Where do you see yourself in 5 years? What about 10 years?
4. What returns are you aiming to achieve weekly, monthly, and annually?
5. Is your approach open-ended, or will you be trading to set-targets and either a) getting out, or b) conducting active trade management? *(in other words, if your target is $100/day – once you’ve generate $100, will you stop trading? If not, how will you protect your gains?)*
6. *Have you done the following in pursuit of your goals?*
   1. *Acquire an education/training*
   2. *Join a community of like-minded people*
   3. *Find an experienced mentor*
   4. *Enrol in the a Trader Funding Program, such as that offered by the 5%ers, BluFX, FTMO and others, to become an Official KickStart Funded Trader™*

Section 2. Risk Management

*“The market can stay irrational longer than you can stay solvent.”*

* *John Maynard Keynes*

Without proper risk management, your trade plan – and anything you do for that matter – is irrelevant. Trading is not about getting rich quick. Professional traders focus on risk first, profits second.

Consider this – you can have a strategy that only wins 4 out of 10 times and still make money.

Likewise, you could also have a strategy that wins 6 out of 10 times and LOSE money. That’s right.

It all boils down to executing proper risk and equity management – always.

1. *What is your account balance?*
2. *What is the MAXIMUM percentage of your account you are willing/able to risk per trade?* ***(PRO TIP: We recommend NO MORE than 1-2% per trade)***
3. *Does your strategy involve scaling in?* 
   1. *Yes –* 
      1. *How many scale-ins will your strategy typically allow?*
      2. *Going by your answer to the previous question, what is the total risk % on the trade if ALL scaled entries were triggered?*

* + 1. *What is the maximum position size per entry if you are scaling in?*
  1. *No –* 
     1. *Skip to Question 4.*

1. *What is your win percentage? (if you know it. If not, fill this in after 3, then 6, then 9 and finally 12 months of trading to get your average win rate – doing it this way will help you to track your own growth as a trader over time)*
2. *What is the minimum reward/risk ratio your strategy allows?* **(PRO TIP: if your win rate is less than 50%, you should be going for a MINIMUM of 2:1 reward/risk)**

Section 3. Multiple Time-Frame Analysis

At KickStart, we recommend utilising the following time frames, the reason for each and the frequency with which we check each is also listed:

**Daily:** Checked Daily, used to identify major zones, levels, potential “turning points” and major, long-term direction

**2HR:** Checked as needed. Used to identify medium and long-term direction, as well as major support/resistance levels and current Fibonacci boundaries. *Can also be used for entries*.

**15-Min:** Checked as needed. Used to identify early/favourable entry points.

1. *Which time frames does your strategy require for your analysis?*
2. *For what purpose is each time frame used?*
3. *With what frequency will you be checking each time frame listed?*
4. *What timeframes will you execute trades on?*
5. *Is there a time limit beyond which you are not willing to hold your position?*

\*\*BONUS: It’s important that you determine ahead of time which pairs you are going to actively look to trade and which pairs (if any) you’re looking to avoid – trying to take on all available currency pairs is ***NOT*** recommended. Instead, take on 1-3 pairs and stick with them – learn how they move and the individual nuance.

Once you’ve gotten good with those 1-3, look to take on an additional 1-3. But again, DO NOT bite off more than you are able to chew!

Section 4. Macroeconomic & Geopolitical Forces

As you would have learned in the Ultimate Forex Trading Course™, fundamental analysis is a key component of a well-rounded trader’s overall consideration of a particular currency.

While we don’t rely on this exclusively, we do in fact incorporate it into our analysis, and we do utilise a strategy taught in the UFTC for trading fundamentals.

1. *Which major fundamental news events/announcements will you be paying attention to in particular?*
2. *What source(s) will you be using for gathering your news?*
3. *What strategy, if any, will you use to trade fundamental news events/announcements?*
4. *Will you close open positions as a fundamental announcement or event approaches? Or will you hold? If you’re holding, do you have a strategy to protect your gains, if any? If so, what is the plan?*

Section 5. Trading Indicators

1. Do you use any indicators? If so, what are they?
2. Do you use them all the time, or in certain applications only?
3. Is the indicator(s) you’re using an essential component of your entry strategy?

Section 6. Trade Setups – Pre-Trade Checklist

Most trading strategies have between 1 and 10 steps for achieving a valid entry. It is vitally important for your development, that you make note of what these steps are for each strategy you plan on using and create a checklist – something outlining all steps for entry and something you can tick off as you go.

It is important to include clear details about what a setup looks like (what market criteria you’re looking for), what will actually trigger your entry, where you are looking to place your S/L, where you are looking to place your T/P, and finally, what sort of risk and equity management you are going to be deploying and whether or not you plan on actively or passively managing the trade, once you are in it. ***­­­***

*Name of Strategy*:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***What a Setup Looks like***

1. I am finding direction from the (circle all that apply):
   1. Monthly
   2. Weekly
   3. Daily
   4. 4-Hour
   5. 2-Hour
   6. 1-Hour
   7. 15-minute
2. I am looking for the following criteria to be met in order to TRIGGER a trade:
3. I will place my S/L:
4. I will place my T/P:
5. I will be risking no more than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at any given time
6. I will be risking no more than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ per trade, at any given time
7. I will look to deploy trade management strategies when:
8. I will manage my trades by:

**Repeat this page (Ctrl + C, Ctrl + V) for any other Trade Setups/Strategies you are looking to utilise**