



New Trader Starter Guide



Welcome to TD Ameritrade, Where Smart Investors Get SmarterSM. If you're looking to learn new trading strategies, expertly navigate trading platforms, or stay current with the latest market news, TD Ameritrade has a wealth of resources that can help.

For an AI-driven, personalized learning experience, log in to your TD Ameritrade account and visit our [Education Center](#). In addition to education curated just for you, you can also explore our full library of courses, videos, webcasts, and articles, or select a goal-driven pathway designed to help you master a new trading goal.

If you're looking for an intro to thinkorswim or a primer on how to start trading a specific product, here are some resources to get you up to speed.

Getting Started with thinkorswim[®]





To make the most of thinkorswim, check out these step-by-step guides that teach you how to place trades, customize charts, analyze financial data, and more.

Intro to thinkorswim:






For an overview of the thinkorswim trading platform, start with our [thinkorswim[®] Tutorial: Introduction to thinkorswim](#) video.

thinkorswim Basics:

-  **Video:** [thinkorswim[®] paperMoney[®]: Stock Trading Simulator Tutorial](#)
-  **Article:** [How to Scan Stocks on thinkorswim[®]](#)
-  **Video:** [How to Set Up thinkorswim[®] for Trading Options](#)
-  **Guide:** [thinkorswim[®] Web Quick Start](#)





Dive Deeper:

-  **Webcast Series:** [Getting Started with thinkorswim[®]](#)
-  **Webcast Series:** [Getting Started with Mobile Trading](#)
-  **Website:** [How to thinkorswim[®]: A Comprehensive Guide to thinkorswim](#)



Stock Trading Basics

How do you decide which stocks to buy and when to buy and sell them? Check out these articles and videos to learn how to trade stocks with confidence.

Intro to Stocks:

-  **Article:** [What Is a Stock?](#)
-  **Video:** [Stock Order Types: Limit Orders, Market Orders, and Stop Orders](#)
-  **Video:** [How to Buy Stocks in 4 Steps for Beginners](#)
-  **Video:** [Dividend Basics](#)





Dive Deeper:

-  **Course:** [Stocks: Technical Analysis](#)
-  **Webcast Series:** [Getting Started with Stock Investing](#)



Options Essentials

Whether a security is moving up, down, or sideways, there's probably an options strategy for that. If you're new to options trading, read up on all the potential risks and rewards and identify strategies that fit your outlook and objectives.

Intro to Options:

-  **Article:** [What Are Options?](#)
-  **Video:** [How Options Pricing Works](#)
-  **Video:** [How to Set Up Your TD Ameritrade Account to Trade Options](#)
-  **Video:** [How to Trade Options for Beginners: Covered Calls on thinkorswim®](#)

Dive Deeper:

-  **Course:** [Trading Options](#)
-  **Webcast Series:** [Getting Started with Options](#)







Programming from our media affiliate, TD Ameritrade Media Productions Company:
TD Ameritrade Network®: [Your First Trade](#)



Futures Trading Foundation

Looking to protect your portfolio during a downturn or speculate on future price movements? Learn how to expertly navigate the fast-paced futures market.

Intro to Futures:

-  **Article:** [What Are Futures?](#)
-  **Article:** [How to Use Futures to Hedge Against Market Downturns](#)
-  **Video:** [Micro E-Mini Futures Contracts](#)
-  **Website:** [Futures](#)

Dive Deeper:



-  **Course:** [Fundamentals of Futures Trading](#)
-  **Webcast Series:** [Trading Futures](#)



Programming from our media affiliate, TD Ameritrade Media Productions Company:
TD Ameritrade Network®: [Futures](#)

Stay Up-to-Date with the Markets

Looking to adapt your trading strategies to real-time market conditions? Tune in to news, market commentary, and live broadcasts, where experts offer insights you can apply to your own portfolio.

-  ***The Ticker Tape*®:** Design intuitive and thoughtful strategies using our envelope-pushing ideas and commentary from industry thought-leaders.
-  **Trader Talks** and **Investor Insights:** Expand your market knowledge and become a platform-savvy trader by watching TD Ameritrade education coaches as they apply trading strategies in current market conditions.



Market Minute: Market happenings delivered right to your inbox—every market day. Market Minute brings you just what you need to help prepare for the trading day, all in one place.

*TD Ameritrade Network is brought to you by TD Ameritrade Media Productions Company. TD Ameritrade Media Productions Company and TD Ameritrade, Inc. are separate but affiliated subsidiaries of TD Ameritrade Holding Corporation. TD Ameritrade Holding Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Charles Schwab Corporation. TD Ameritrade Media Productions Company is not a financial adviser, registered investment advisor, or broker-dealer.

Content intended for educational/informational purposes only. Not investment advice, or a recommendation of any security, strategy, or account type.

Be sure to understand all risks involved with each strategy before attempting to place any trade.

Options involve risks and are not suitable for all investors. Trading privileges are subject to TD Ameritrade approval. Not all clients will qualify. Please read ***Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options*** before trading options.

Supporting documentation for any claims, comparison, statistics, or other technical data will be supplied upon request.

Futures and futures options trading involves substantial risk and is not suitable for all investors. Please read the *Risk Disclosure Statement* prior to trading futures products.

Futures accounts are not protected by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC).

Futures and futures options trading services are provided by Charles Schwab Futures and Forex LLC . Trading privileges are subject to review and approval. Not all clients will qualify.

Charles Schwab Futures and Forex LLC, a CFTC-registered Futures Commission Merchant and NFA Forex Dealer Member. Charles Schwab Futures and Forex LLC is a subsidiary of The Charles Schwab Corporation.

TD Ameritrade, Inc., member SIPC, a subsidiary of The Charles Schwab Corporation. TD Ameritrade is a trademark jointly owned by TD Ameritrade IP Company, Inc. and The Toronto-Dominion Bank. ©2021 Charles Schwab & Co. Inc. All rights reserved.