Tradingview: The Ultimate Guide For Beginners (2023 Update)

By PriceActionNinja.com

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My forex mentor once told me, "Your charts are your best friends," and trust me, he wasn't joking!

Choosing the perfect chart platform to view price changes and carry out analysis is essential to your success in forex trading.

If you're dreaming of making millions using a free, subpar platform provided by an unknown broker, well, you've got another thing coming.

It's as simple as that.

Nowadays, trading platforms are as common as cats on the internet. So, figuring out which one has the right features and is the best fit for your trading needs isn't a walk in the park.

However, in the past few years, one platform has been playing the game like a boss.

Ever heard of Tradingview?

If you haven't, it's time you did.

Tradingview blends top-notch charts with a bunch of social features. It's user-friendly, loaded with awesome features that most other platforms don't have, and guess what, it's totally **FREE**.

Today, I'll take you on a complete tour of Tradingview and its many features.

I've been using Tradingview for three years now – I switched from MT4 back in 2017. So, I've got all the hacks, tips, and little secrets that'll help you hit the ground running.

Ready to dive in and explore the magic of Tradingview?

Let's roll!

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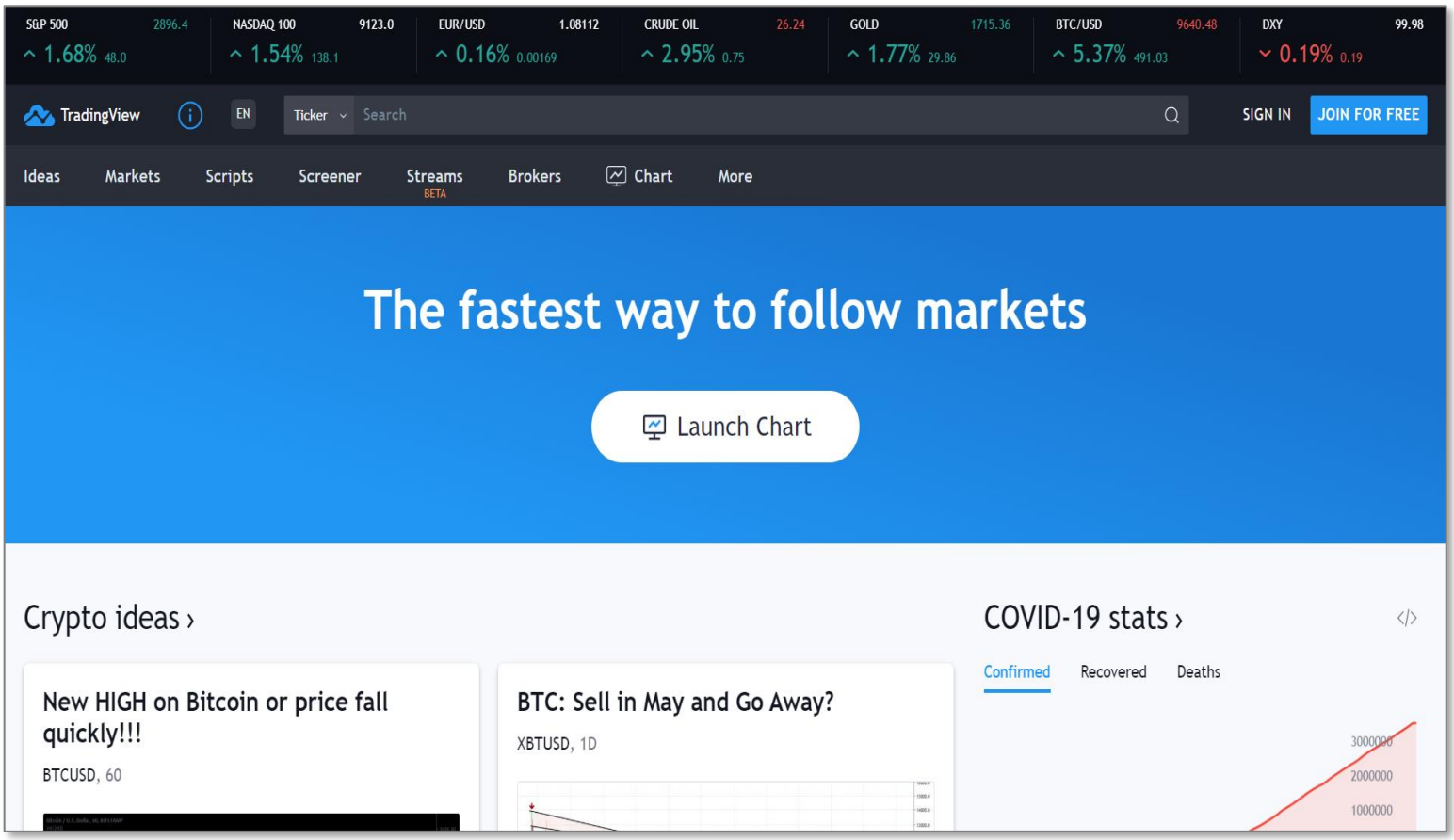
What Is Tradingview And How Does It Work?

Unless you've been living under a rock for the past few years, you've probably heard of or seen something about Tradingview.



Tradingview is a charting platform that shows you charts and lets you analyze prices, kind of like MT4. The big difference, though, is Tradingview provides live charts on the internet. You don't need to download anything or sign up with a broker.

You just pop the website into your device, log in, and you're good to go.

Now, what makes a charting platform really cool are the features it offers.

To put it simply, Tradingview has some of the most useful features for traders out there. It's got everything you could ever want in a charting platform and a bucketload of stuff you didn't know you needed.

The charts come equipped with load of tools that make finding levels and zones a breeze, a wide range of different chart types and timeframes to give you a clear view of price data, and a colossal list of tools/indicators to help make trading decisions.

But wait, there's more...

Tradingview also lets you create and test your own indicators, strategies, and even 'EAs' (those are Expert Advisors - basically, automated trading systems).

You can customize them and see how they'd do...

All within Tradingview, and all for free!

Pretty awesome, right?

On top of all the great charting and analysis features, Tradingview also has some social features built in.

You can publish your own analysis, chat with other traders, follow and leave comments on other traders' analyses...

The options are wide-ranging!

And because they're all built right into the platform, you can access them from wherever you are, even from the chart screen itself. I don't really use these features too much - I guess you could call me the "lone wolf" type of trader - but they're there if you fancy using them.

How To Open An Account With Tradingview

Setting up an account with Tradingview is a piece of cake - it takes just a couple of minutes. Unlike with MT4 or other platforms, you don't need to download any software or sign up with a broker.

Just visit the website, create an account, and boom, you're ready to roll!

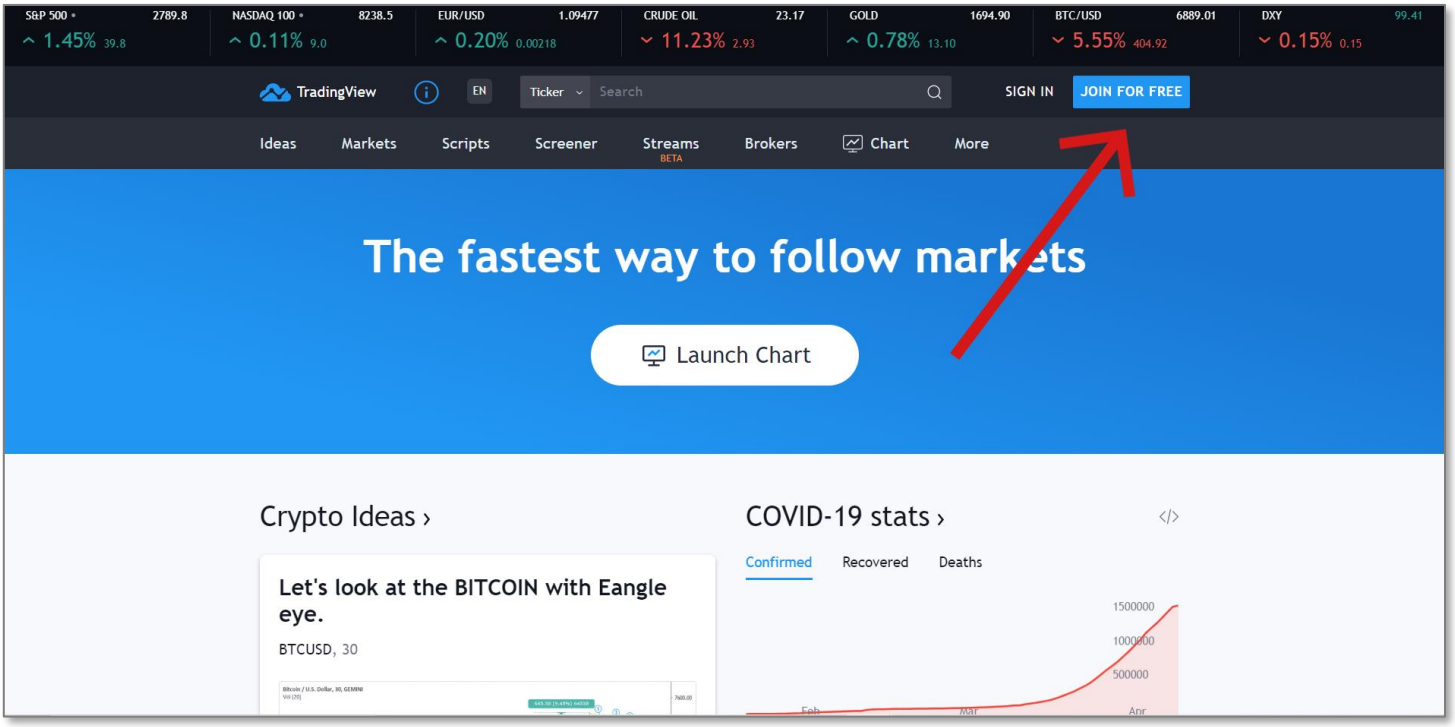
But remember this - **while you can use Tradingview for free, to get the full range of features, you need to create a free account.**

Without an account, you only get access to a few features.

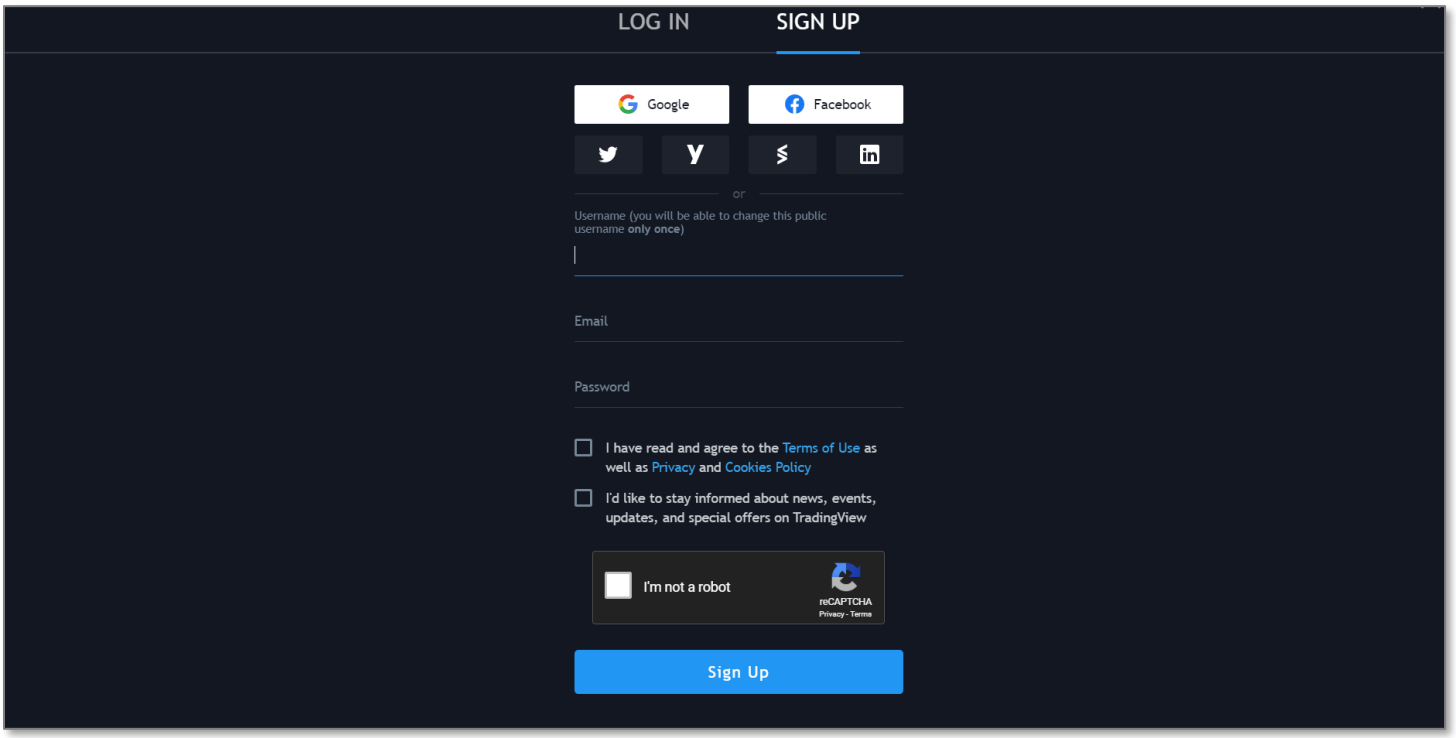
Plus, after about 15 minutes or so, a pop-up ad will block your screen.

It'll tell you to either create a free account or become a pro member if you want to keep viewing charts. With a free account, you'll still see ads, but they won't stop you from conducting analysis.

So, to open an account, just head over to the website...



Click the "Join For Free" button in the top right.



And enter your details.

After you've confirmed your account, you can log in and start exploring charts and analysing prices.

Simple as that!

Now, a free account with Tradingview offers loads of awesome features, but upgrading to a pro account takes things to the next level. It comes packed with special tools that make trading and analyzing a breeze.

Some of these tools, like the strategy tester and market replay tools, actually cost money on other websites.

So, when you think about it, you're getting a sweet deal!

As we go through this guide, I'll dive into some of these features in more depth.

But for now, here's a breakdown of the main features you can get with each version of Tradingview:

Basic (Free, But Email Sign Up Required)

- Access to the charts.
- Ads every 15 (or so) minutes.
- 1 chart per tab.
- 3 indicators per chart.
- 1 saved chart layout.
- 1 indicator template.
- Stock/Forex/Crypto Screener.
- Market Replay Function (only on daily and weekly)
- Volume Profile Indicator
- Strategy Tester

Pro

- Access to the charts.
- No ads.
- 2 charts per tab.
- 5 indicators per chart.
- 5 saved chart layouts.
- Infinite indicator templates.
- Stock/Forex/Crypto Screener.
- Market Replay Function

- Volume Profile Indicator
- Strategy Tester

Pro +

- Access to the charts.
- No ads.
- 4 charts per tab.
- 10 indicators per chart.
- 10 saved chart layouts.
- Infinite indicator templates.
- Stock/Forex/Crypto Screener.
- Market Replay Function
- Volume Profile Indicator
- Strategy Tester

Premium

- Access to the charts.
- No ads.
- 8 charts per tab.
- 25 indicators per chart.
- Infinite saved chart layouts.
- Infinite indicator templates.
- Stock/Forex/Crypto Screener.
- Market Replay Function
- Volume Profile Indicator
- Strategy Tester

Check this comparison on the Tradingview site for a more detailed breakdown of the features that come with each different account type:

Important Note: Not sure if Tradingview is right for you? Get the free trial... Tradingview provides all users a 1-month free trial to try the platform and test all its features. All the pro and pro + features are included, and you have full access to the paid tools I talk about later.

Understanding The Chart Window

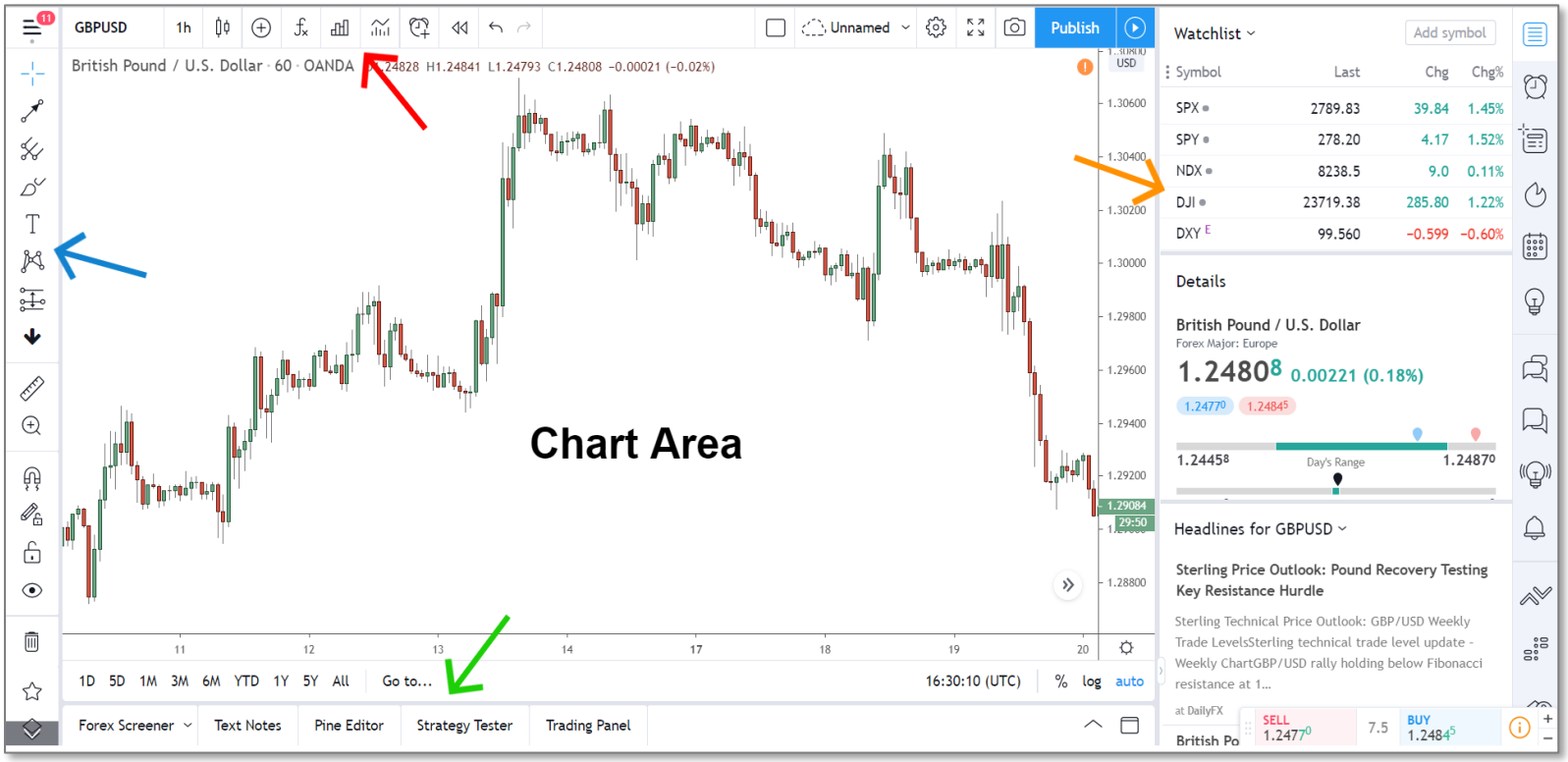
When you first open Tradingview, either with or without a paid account, you'll find yourself on the chart window.

Tradingview's pride and joy here.

This chart window is where you see how the price of a currency, stock, or even a commodity changes over time, plotted on a chart. It's also where you'll find all the cool tools, indicators, and options you can play around with while analyzing the market.

Honestly, this place is where you'll be hanging out the most.

Here's how it looks:



If you're new to this, the screen might seem a little chaotic with all these different buttons and tools.

I know, right?

That's exactly how I felt when I first started using it. And I'm guessing a lot of you are feeling the same way.

But hey, don't sweat it!

While it might look like rocket science now, once you get a handle on a few things, it's way simpler than it looks. Promise. The trading window has four different tabs, and I've marked each one with an arrow.

These tabs are your gateway to all the options for viewing charts and conducting analysis.

From here, you can:

1. Add indicators and tools.
2. Switch between different currency pairs.
3. Draw lines and rectangles and Fibonacci retracements.
4. Check the price of a currency and see news from around the globe.
5. Much, much more...

I'll get into the details of each tab later.

But for now, here's a quick rundown of what each one offers...

Top Menu (Red Arrow)

The top menu is the control room of your chart.

You can use it to switch between different currency pairs, change timeframes, or choose different chart types. Basically, this is where you head first to get your chart ready for analysis.

Chart Area (Not Marked)

The middle of the chart, where you can see the visual price of the currency, is called the chart area.

When you add a tool or an indicator to the chart, it pops up right here. Some indicators will also show up in a graph below the chart.

Want to change the chart settings?

Just right-click and select "**Settings**".

Easy peasy.

Left Side Menu (Red Arrow)

The left side menu is your toolbox. It contains all your favourite drawing tools like rectangles, lines, and fib retracements. There are tons of tools here, and each has a drop-down list with even more goodies.

We'll dive deeper into these later so you can see how they work.

Right Side Menu (Red Arrow)

You probably won't use the right menu a whole lot. It mostly shows the different ways you can socialize on Tradingview. But the top half does have a few nifty trading tools, like the calendar and alerts box.

Bottom Menu (Red Arrow)

For the cool specialized tools that Tradingview offers, you'll need to check out the bottom menu.

The strategy tester and editor I mentioned earlier are here, along with the stock screener and notes tab.

Heads up: Unlike other chart platforms, you don't need to manually save your work every time you use Tradingview. Everything is saved automatically in the cloud as you carry out your analysis.

So, next time you log in, your charts will be just as you left them.

Setting Up The Chart Area

Don't sweat it if all the options on Tradingview seem a bit overwhelming.

In a jiffy, I'm going to guide you through every option, one step at a time, so you'll know exactly what each one does and how it works. But before we jump into that, let's talk about setting up your charts, getting them ready for trading.

We only need to tweak a few things here, so it'll be super quick.

First off, let's change the chart type to a candlestick.

By default, Tradingview shows a line chart.

While this can be useful in some situations - like when you quickly need to spot Support & Resistance (S&R) levels - it doesn't provide detailed information for in-depth analysis.

By switching to a candlestick chart, we can better understand what price is up to and anticipate future prices.

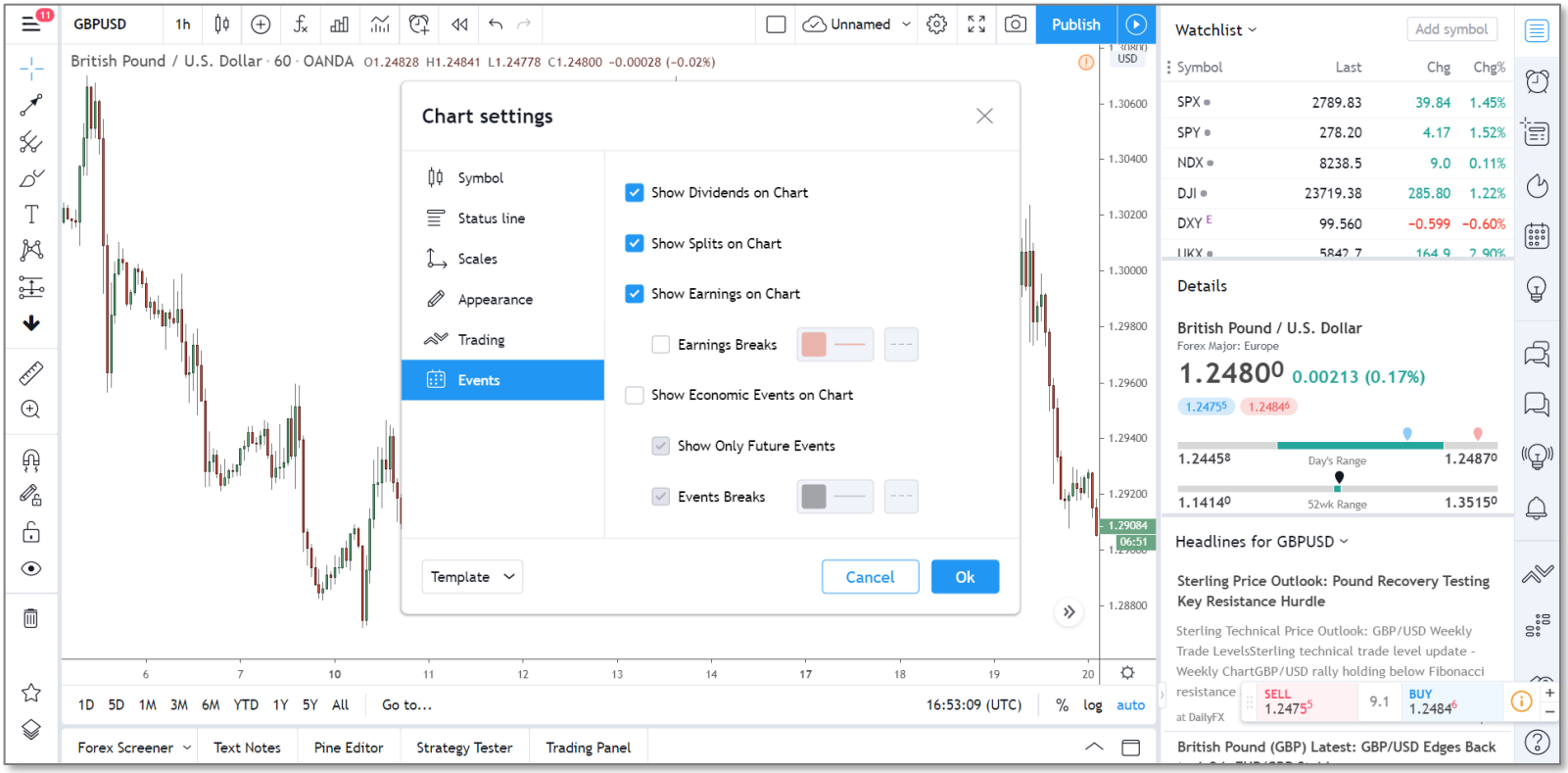
How do you change the chart type, you ask?

Easy.

Click on the small chart icon and select "**Candlestick**" from the drop-down list.

Now that we've got that sorted, it's time to adjust the chart settings.

You'll need to open the chart menu for this.



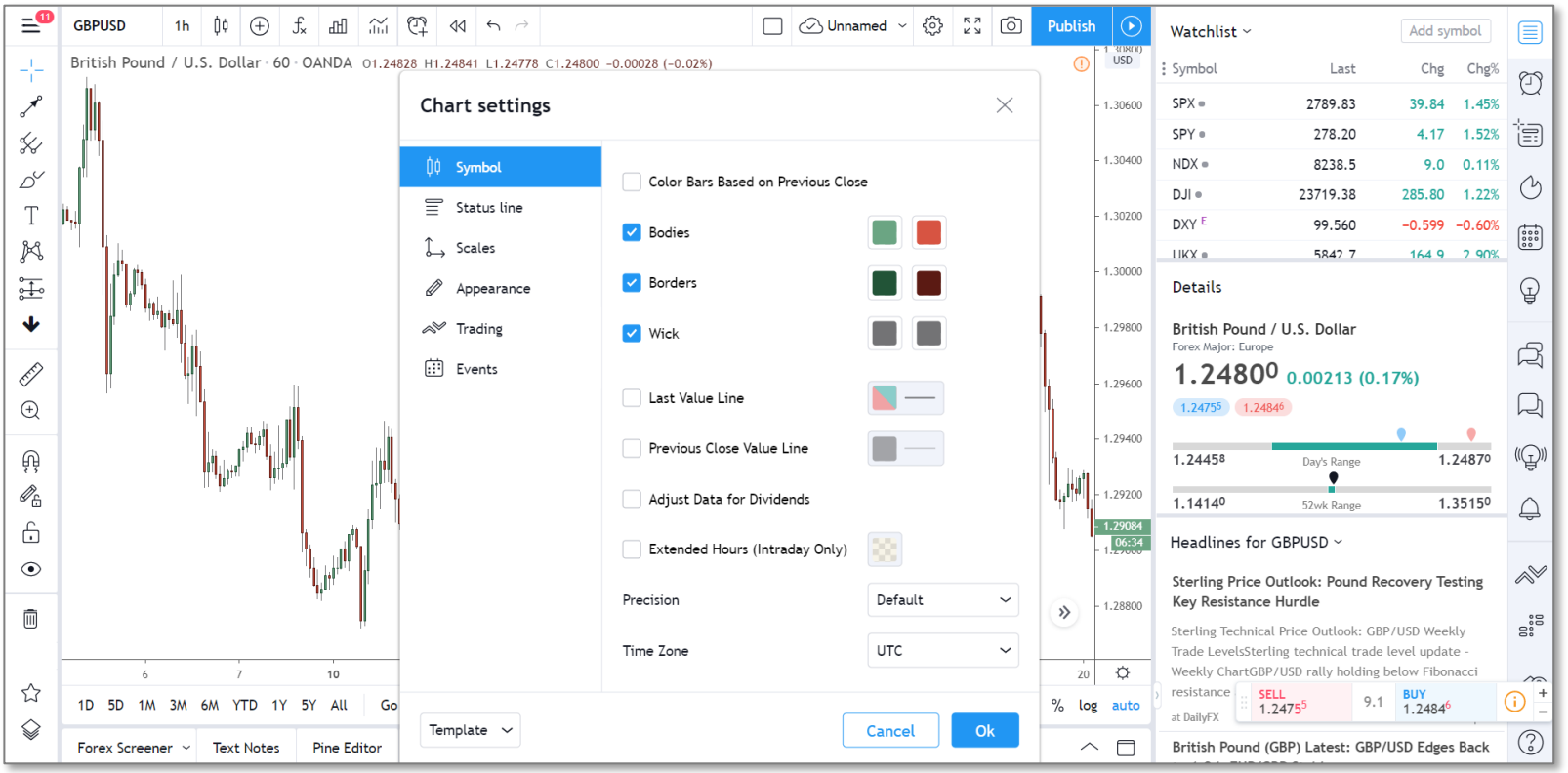
Just right-click on a blank space within the chart area, and then select "**Settings**" from the list that pops up.

The chart menu allows you to tweak what information the chart shows and how it looks - like its colours, the way it displays prices, tabs, and so on. There's a lot you can play around with, but don't worry, we only need to adjust a couple of things.

Let's change the colour scheme of the chart.

You can find this in the **Symbol** tab.

You can stick with the default setting if you want, but I prefer changing the colours to something that stands out more.



Here's an image of how I've done mine, in case you'd like to copy.

Next up – This change is optional, but it can help make spotting potential price reversals way easier.

As many of you might already know, I'm super into psychological levels - prices ending in 500 and 0000. These prices form some of the strongest support and resistance levels in the market.

Most major reversals start after price either hits or nears these levels.

Finding these levels isn't difficult, but constantly marking each one accurately can get tedious.

To make things easier, you can turn the **Horz Grid Lines** setting in the **Appearance** tab to black - or any colour you prefer. The chart will automatically mark most major psychological levels for you.

No need to mark them manually.

Simple, right?

Another great little feature Tradingview provides.

I'll provide more details later, but did you know you can connect your broker/exchange account to Tradingview and trade directly from the chart?

Yeah, that's right!

You can open, close, and manage trades right from the chart window.

No need to keep switching between Tradingview and your broker.

Cool, huh?

There's a **Trading** tab where you can find all the important options related to this. So, once you've connected your broker/exchange account, check the Trading tab to see which settings need to be turned on or off.

Lastly, click on "**Show Economic Events On Chart**" in the Events tab.

This option will display important economic news directly on your chart.

It'll be shown as a small circle with a flag and a number.

The circles line up with the news release times, and the number indicates how many events are scheduled. If you click on the circle, it'll give you a brief description of each event and what impact it might have.

It won't show every piece of news like Forex Factory does, however, so you might want to keep that open somewhere else.

But all the big news?

That'll show up right on your chart when it's time.

Getting To Grips With Tradingview

Time to get into the meat of the guide.

Now I'm going to walk you through the different tools and features on Tradingview and breakdown how to use them. I'll detail each tool and setting in the 4 menus we and explain which I find useful and what I use them for.

By the end of this section, you should have a solid idea of how to set up and use Tradingview.

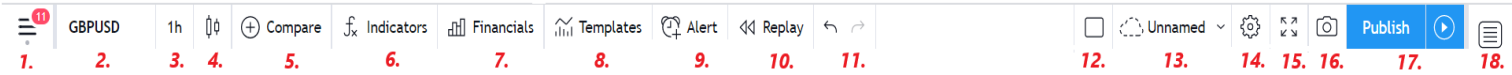
Ready to get started?

Let's go...

Top Menu

Let's start with the top bar menu - I like to call it the main menu.

This is where you'll head after opening a pair. The menu comes packed with essential options for tweaking your chart. You can change the timeframe, select a different pair, and switch between chart types, all from here.



This top bar menu has 18 different options, which I've labelled for you.

Don't freak out... you don't have to adjust all of these when you trade. But, it's still important to know what each does to use the charts correctly.

You'll find all your account settings inside the **Profile** tab (1).

Click it to see a dropdown menu with all your account settings.

You can save the current chart layout, sign out, or turn sharing on or off, all from this menu - keep auto-saving turned on to avoid losing your analysis if you accidentally close the web browser or your PC crashes.

With that covered, let's look at the options...

When you first open a chart, check out the **Pair Selector** (GBP/USD in the picture) to switch to the pair you prefer. Tradingview supports all currency pairs, thousands of international stocks, and commodities, and most of the big indexes.

It even supports Cryptocurrencies if you fancy trading those.

Most pairs also show prices for specific exchanges/brokers - just look to the right of the pair, and it'll say Oanda, FXCM, IG, etc.

At some point, you'll probably want to change to a different timeframe.

To do that, click the **1-hour** button on the right (3).

This menu contains all the short, medium, and long-term timeframes you need for trading, including many not available on other charting platforms - *1-second charts anyone?*

If you decide to get the pro version, you can even create your own custom timeframe if the existing ones don't do it for you.

To set this up:

Scroll down until you see the "**Add**" button.

Enter the interval period and the timescale and then click "**Add**" to add the timeframe to the list and switch over to it on the chart.

Now, here's a fun part - see the tiny gold star next to each time-frame?

Squint a little if you need to!

Take a look again...

These stars aren't for decoration.

Rather, they allow you to set a time-frame as a favourite.

Why is that cool?

Well, your favourite timeframe will always display to the left of the timeframe button. This means you can switch to a different timeframe instantly without having to go through the menu.

Neat little feature if I say so myself.

By default, Tradingview shows a line chart.

But you're going to want to change this to a candlestick ASAP.

Just click on the little bar icon to change the chart type, like I showed you before. Tradingview offers a selection of interesting chart types, like the Renko and Kagi, but the candlestick provides the most detailed information, so stick with that.

Another tool you might not use, but can come in really handy?

"Compare" – Compare the price of two currencies against each other.

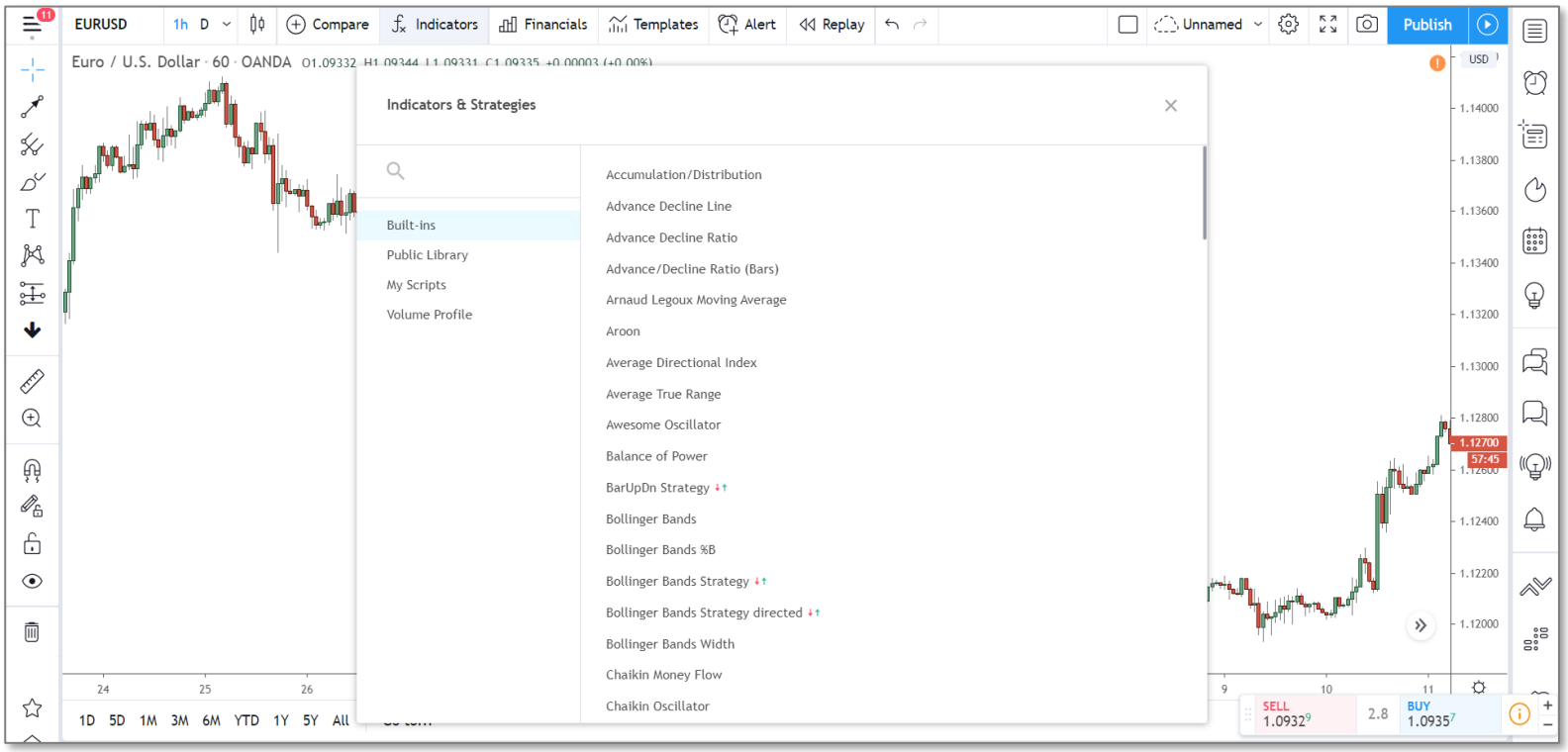
This tool can be used in a couple of different ways, but I mainly use it to check out correlations – how closely price changes on one pair follows another. You can also see the price in a graph at the bottom, instead of having it overlayed on your chart.

Handy if you like keeping your chart window tidy.

Just uncheck the "**Overlay**" box in the compare menu.

Moving on...

The "**Indicators**" section contains all the technical indicators provided by Tradingview. All the popular trading indicators feature here, and Tradingview also has a massive collection of custom indicators created by the community.



The Indicators menu contains for smaller tabs, each containing a different set of tools and indicators.

The most common indicators appear under "Built In's".

The MACD, Moving Averages, and Relative Strength Index all appear here along with all your other favourites.

"**Custom library**" shows custom indicators created by the community.

Important note: Need to tweak the settings of an indicator? Just right-click the line (or graph, depending on the indicator) and hit the "**Settings**" button. A menu with all the settings will pop open.

Which settings you can adjust depends on the indicator, but all the important variables come included.

Adjust colours and display settings by clicking the "**Display**" tab.

Fancy making or editing your own indicator? Click the "**My Scripts**" button and begin coding your heart out!

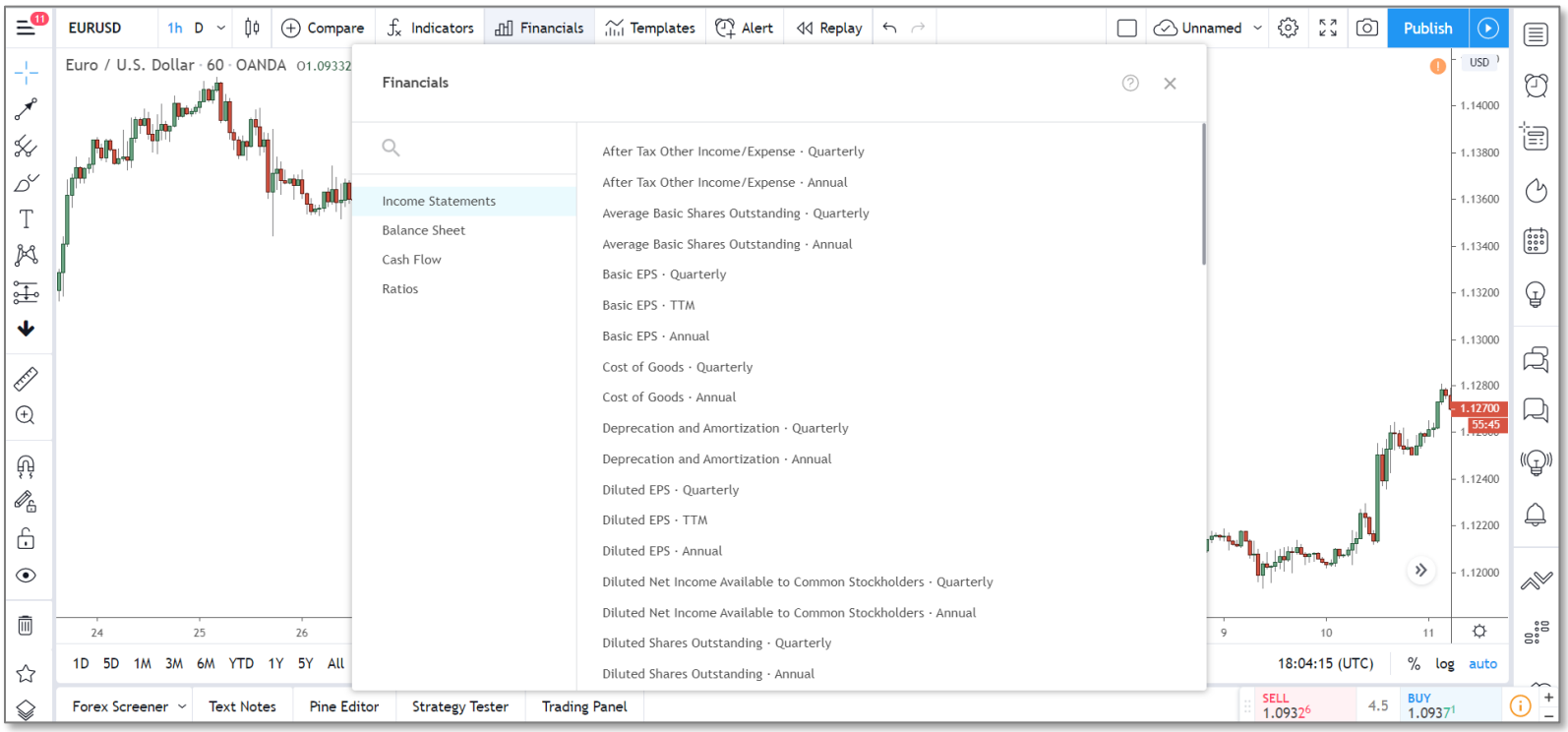
Volume Profile is a Pro account only indicator.

This tool provides an advanced look at volume information and plots the bars vertically on the right of the chart, so you can see the amount of volume building up around different prices.

Next, there's the **Financials** tab.

This is primarily for folks interested in stocks, so skip ahead if forex is your main.

Financials provides information about a stock like earnings, debt, and cash flow. The tab puts each figure in a separate graph below the chart, so the changes are clearly visible over time.



All the key financials are provided, and you can easily switch between them by clicking on the tabs on the left.

Ever get annoyed having to reapply your studies (like indicators and financials) every time you open a new chart?

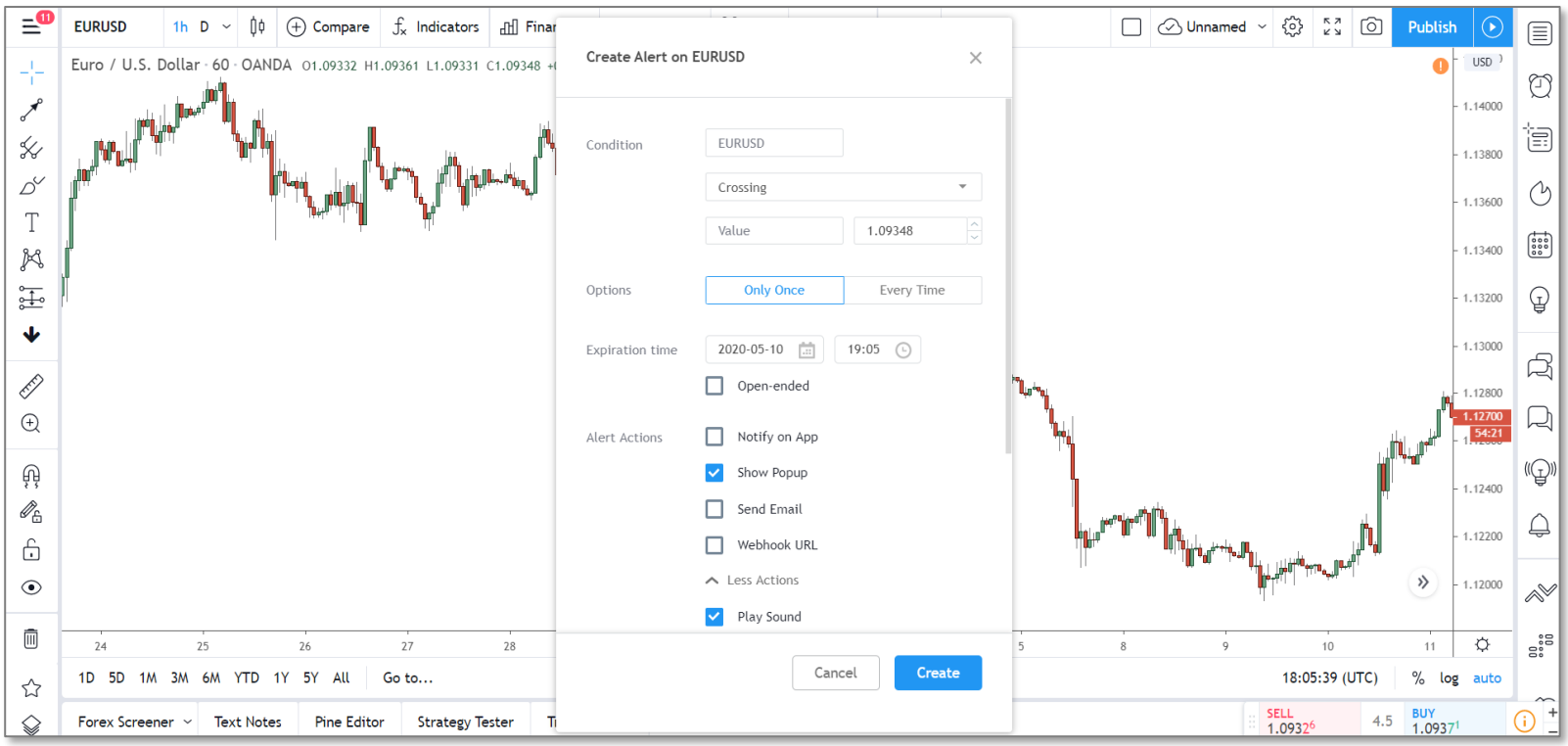
There's a button for that!

Just click on the **Templates** button to save your current chart layout as a template. Whenever you open a new chart, all your studies get reapplied instantly with your saved settings.

3 default templates containing popular tools and indicators are provided, but it's better to create your own.

Lastly, there's the **Alerts** tab, and yeah, it does exactly what you think - it lets you set alerts.

Shocking, right?



Tradingview comes packed with options to set and customize alerts - just look at the range of choices above! Set alerts for various events like when certain support and re-sistance levels are reached, when economic news gets released, or when indicators cross or hit a specific number.

The best part?

These alerts can also be sent to your phone or email, so you'll never miss a beat on the go.

Just a heads up though: For text message alerts, you'll need a paid account. But if you're cool with email, it's totally free!

Setting alerts is easy and can be completed in two ways:

1. The first is to right-click on the price, technical indicator, or level you want to set the alert, then click on "Add Alert". Boom - Tradingview sets the alert for you right there.

2. The second way is to open the Alerts tab and fill in all the details yourself.

You can check all your open alerts by clicking on the alarm clock icon in the right menu.

Easy, right?

Next, let's check out the **Market Replay** button.

This feature is exclusive to Pro accounts only.

Market Replay lets you rewind and play back the market in real-time, just like a video. It's useful for referencing old trades to learn how you could've improved from your wins and losses

Note: The Undo and Re-Do buttons let you correct mistakes.

Now, let's slide over to the right side of the main tab...

These next seven options aren't super important, but nonetheless, they let you do some cool things worth knowing about.

If you want to shake up your chart layout, like placing one currency next to another, or showing different timeframes side by side, tap that little square button (12). Tradingview has multiple layout styles, but to you need to pay to unlock them all.

See the '**Unnamed**' button with a tiny down arrow.

Click here to save the current look of your chart - with all the indicators, lines, drawings, and tools.

It's like taking a snapshot of your work!

Tradingview saves all these images on the cloud (hence the cloud icon) so you can switch between them swiftly.

To save and load your charts, tap the little down arrow.

Quick tip: Keep Auto-saving turned on. If not, you might lose all your hard work if you close the chart.

Remember the small '**Cog**' button?

It takes you to the chart settings menu I showed earlier.

If you want to full screen the chart, hit the icon with the four expanding arrows.

Want to show off your chart in a chatroom or a forum?

Click the small **Camera** button on the right to take a screenshot.

'**Publish**' lets you share your chart analysis on Tradingview for everyone to see.

Tap the button, type a catchy headline, and put your thoughts in the text box below. Once approved, Tradingview will showcase your analysis on the '**Ideas**' page for that pair.

Side Menu

Onto the sidebar menu now.

The side menu shows all the important options for adding drawings to the chart like lines, rectangles, shapes, Fibonacci studies, etc along with some other cool tools exclusive to Tradingview.

Lots of options to go through here, so let's jump right in.

Let's start at the very top with the **Crosshair** selector.

Use this to change your Crosshair.

I prefer keeping mine at the default cross, but feel free to switch it up if that's more your style. You can also find the eraser tool here if you need to clear a shape or line off the chart.

Speaking of lines...

At some point you'll probably want to add support or resistance levels or trend-lines on the chart.

Tradingview has a whole collection of lines and channels for you.

Just head over to the line tab right below the crosshair selector.

Every line type is here, so don't worry, your favourites are covered.

Quick Tip: If you want to instantly make a copy of a line or any other drawing on the chart, hold "Ctrl" while you click it. This is useful if you need to mark a bunch of support and resistance levels or supply and demand zones quickly.

Are pitchforks part of your trading strategy?

If you like using them, head over to the pitchfork tab where you'll find a bunch of handy tools.

There's a whole buffet of pitchfork variations listed here - even some I didn't know existed.

Who would have thought, right?

You'll also find Fibonacci and Gann studies, which include cool shapes like spirals and wedges, and, of course, the fan-favourite retracements.

If you're into supply and demand trading, you're going to love this next tool.

The 'Shapes' tab contains all the main drawing tools Tradingview provides. And yep, that includes rectangles for marking supply and demand zones.

You also get circles, curves, triangles, and arcs.

If those aren't your cup of tea, grab the brush tool and draw whatever you want.

Cool, huh?

Next, there's a '**Text**' tab (or 'T' for short), which allows you to add words to your chart, like titles and boxes.

Keep in mind: To ensure your analysis remains on the chart, you need a free account with Tradingview. Without an account, all your analysis will disappear once you close the website or switch to a different pair.

We're almost at the finish line, only a few more tools to check out...

The '**Patterns**' tab, tucked under 'Text', provides a host of tools that help you mark chart patterns.

Trust me, marking chart patterns can be a pain, especially complex ones like the Gartley and ABC's. But with these tools, you can mark them quickly and without breaking a sweat.

Elliott wave tools are also in this tab, so if you're into waves and corrections, make sure to check them out.

Okay, this next tool is a big deal, so listen up.

The '**Time and Prediction**' tab might seem bog standard, just another tab with some neat tools. But inside, you'll find one of the most helpful tools Tradingview offers:

The '**Short Position and Long Position**' tool.

If you hate calculating risk/reward ratio, profit targets, and the like, you're going to really dig this tool. It takes all those boring calculations and shows them on your chart as adjustable lines.

Moving the lines will adjust risk-to-reward ratio, current profit & loss, profit target, and stop-loss price on the fly.

So, instead of working everything out manually, you can just stick this tool on your chart and slide the lines around.

Cool, huh?

Here's a quick example so you can see how it works...

Let's say I buy (Eur/Gbp at 0.84000 - we'll use a round number to keep it simple.

Usually, I'd have to do the math myself to figure out my risk-to-reward ratio. Plus, I'd be constantly switching back and forth between my broker and chart platform to check my open profit & loss, max risk, stop-loss price, and all that jazz.

This takes time, and when you're in the middle of a trade, every second counts.

But with this tool, I just pop it on the chart and slide the lines to where I want them.

Just like that, all the key information about my trade shows up without me needing to do any calculations or switch back and forth with my broker.

Boom, just like that, I've got all the important info about my trade.

Remember: Use the right tool for the right type of trade. If you're entering short t, don't use the Long Position tool.

The levels will appear all over the place, which is no good.

Also, make sure to input your account balance and trade size into the settings for the tool to spit out the correct information. Simply right-click on the tool, hit "**Settings**", and type in your info.

To tweak the tool's colours and what timeframes it displays on, click the "Style" and "Visibility" tabs.

Lastly, we've got the **Icons** tab.

Icons lets you add arrows, stars, and other cool symbols to jazz up your chart and give it some personality. There's a whole bunch of icons to pick from, so go wild and make your chart uniquely yours.

Chart Buttons

The bottom part of the side tab houses the chart buttons.

Each one of these lets you change or mess around with your chart in some way. Want to get a closer look at the price action.

Use the **Zoom in/out** button.

Got too many drawings cluttering things up?

Just hit **Delete** or **Hide**. It's all in your control.

Only a few different options here, so let's quickly buzz through them.

See the **Ruler** icon at the top?

That's your measure for price.

Drag it from one spot to the next and boom, you'll see the pips, days, and weeks it took for the price to move that distance. You'll find a **Magnifying Glass** below (2), which lets you zoom in and out of the chart.

Pro tip: Hold *shift* and drag your mouse as a speedy shortcut for the ruler tool.

The **Magnet** (3) is a neat way to snap objects (like lines, rectangles) to the closest candlesticks OHLC (open, high, low, close of a candle). It sounds handy, but makes the cursor stick to everything, so it's better to leave it off.

The next two tools, "**Lock All Drawing Tools**" and "**Stay In Drawing Mode**", aren't important, so just leave these unchecked.

If the chart gets too crowded with drawings, click the little **Eye** to hide everything - click again to bring it back.

To wipe the chart of all studies, drawings, and indicators, hit the **Trash Can** button. Click the arrow to further refine what gets wiped.

The **Star** button opens the favourite's menu, which shows your favourite tools.

The **Objects Tree** button, right at the bottom, shows a list of all the drawings and in-dica-tors on the chart.

You can individually hide, delete, and edit each indicator and drawing from this menu.

Important Note: Click the little star next to a tool to save it as a favourite. Your favourites will appear in a separate toolbar on the chart so you can easily switch between them when trading.

Right Menu

The right-side menu mostly shows important information about your pair.

The 3 tabs (black box) show news about the currency, information about its price and lets you create your own watch-list. The far-right side (red box) mainly has buttons for social features, but contains a few useful ones for trading too.

We'll get to the buttons in a minute, let's look at the three tabs first, starting with the most useful: **Watchlist.**

Watch-list lets you create your very own list of pairs to watch, which you can switch between whenever you want. If you want to switch to a different currency, just click on it, and voila!

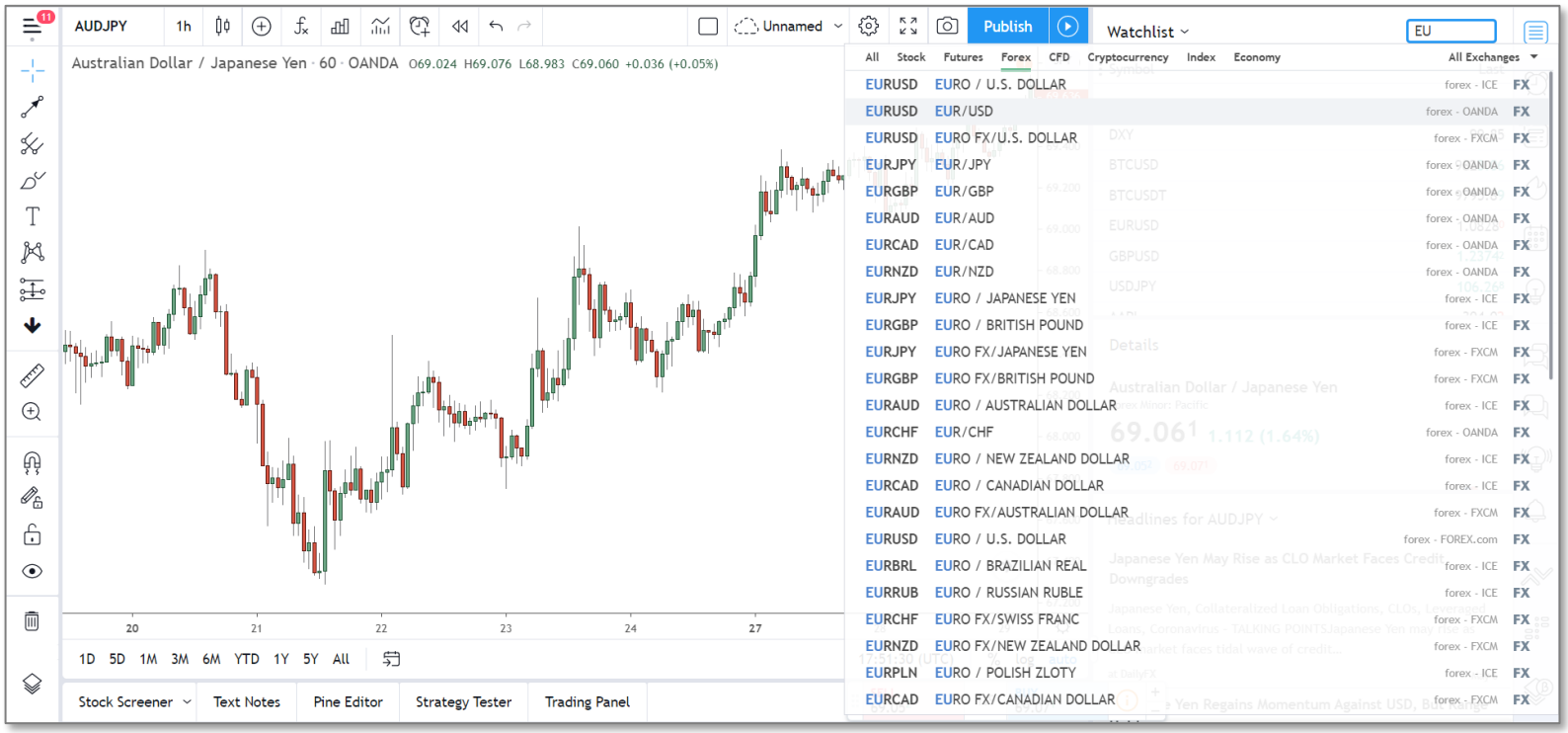
All the analysis you've done on the chart remains right there.

By default, the watchlist only shows the top performers in each sector, so you'll need to remove them one by one to make space for your favourites.

Removing an asset is easy.

Just click on the little 'X' next to its name.

If you want to add a new asset to the watchlist, type it into the '**Add**' box in the top right corner.



Then, go to the sector you're interested in - for us, it's forex - and simply select the ones you want to add to your list.

It's a piece of cake!

You can also adjust the size of the watch-list box to make it smaller or bigger.

Just click one of the edges and then drag it inward or outward. You can make and save as many watch-lists as you want, but remember: if you want to save more than one, you'll need a pro account.

To manage all your watch-lists, just click the watch-list button at the top.

This is where you can save, load, and name your different watch-lists - the one you start with will always be called "**Default**". And with that sorted, let's jump over to the '**Details**' tab...

The "**Details**" tab shows information on which currency/asset you're trading.

The top shows basic information like the current buy/sell prices. You'll find more in-depth info like the daily range, the highs and lows of the past year, and even more by scrolling down.

Click the '**More**' button to see whether technical indicators suggest buying or selling.

Not super useful for us Price Action traders, but hey, it's neat to know.

Next up, we've got the "**Headlines**" tab.

Guess what it does?

Yup, it shows news about the trading pair from all over the globe.

Various forex websites contribute here, so you get a mix of current and upcoming news. I don't use this much - I just focus on the big news - but it's cool to check out every now and then to see what's shaking in the wild world of forex.

Side Menu Buttons

Now, let's look at the "**Side Menu Buttons**".

To the right of the tabs, you'll see a list of different buttons.

Unlike the buttons we've looked at so far, you probably won't use these often. Most open tabs related to Tradingview's social features, like a chat window to talk to other traders or a messages tab to read what people have sent.

I won't bore you with all the details.

I'll just tell you about the main buttons you should know and might find handy.

I've highlighted the key buttons above (the useful ones) by placing them inside small boxes. Some buttons are surrounded by a yellow box - those are for the social aspects of Tradingview.

It's clear what they do, so I'll leave it to you to figure them out.

So, what about those key buttons?

What are they for?

Let's start from the top - the **Alerts** button. Remember when we talked about alerts earlier?

Any alert you set up will appear in this tab. It's like a mini dashboard where you can view all your alerts.

You can also change or delete alerts from here if you need to make some tweaks.

The best way to keep track of upcoming news events is by turning on the "**Show Economic Events**" feature in the chart settings. This will show all the upcoming events on the chart at their release times.

But, another way to check out upcoming news: **By opening the calendar (the button in the green box).**

Just like Forex Factory, Tradingview also has an economic calendar which shows all upcoming news events and predicts their impact on prices.

So, just hit **Calendar** button...

And the calendar will open, showing all the upcoming events.

For anyone interested in stocks, there's a handy feature for you, too. The calendar shows the upcoming earnings announcements. So, if you're not sure when a company will announce its earnings, you can check this calendar!

If you decide to link your broker to Tradingview - I'll get into how to do this later - you'll use the order panel to place and view open orders.

I haven't linked my broker, so the options don't show up for me right now.

But once you set it up, all the options for placing, closing, and managing your open trades and orders will show inside this tab.

Bottom Menu

The bottom menu contains the most advanced tools on Tradingview.

These tools, many of which would cost you money on other sites, can save a ton of time and make your trading experience way easier.

Let's check out the first tool: The screener.

Stock/Forex/Crypto Screener

As forex traders, picking a pair to trade usually boils down to what we like best.

We have our favourite pairs and mostly stick with them, but sometimes we try out other pairs if we see an interesting opportunity.

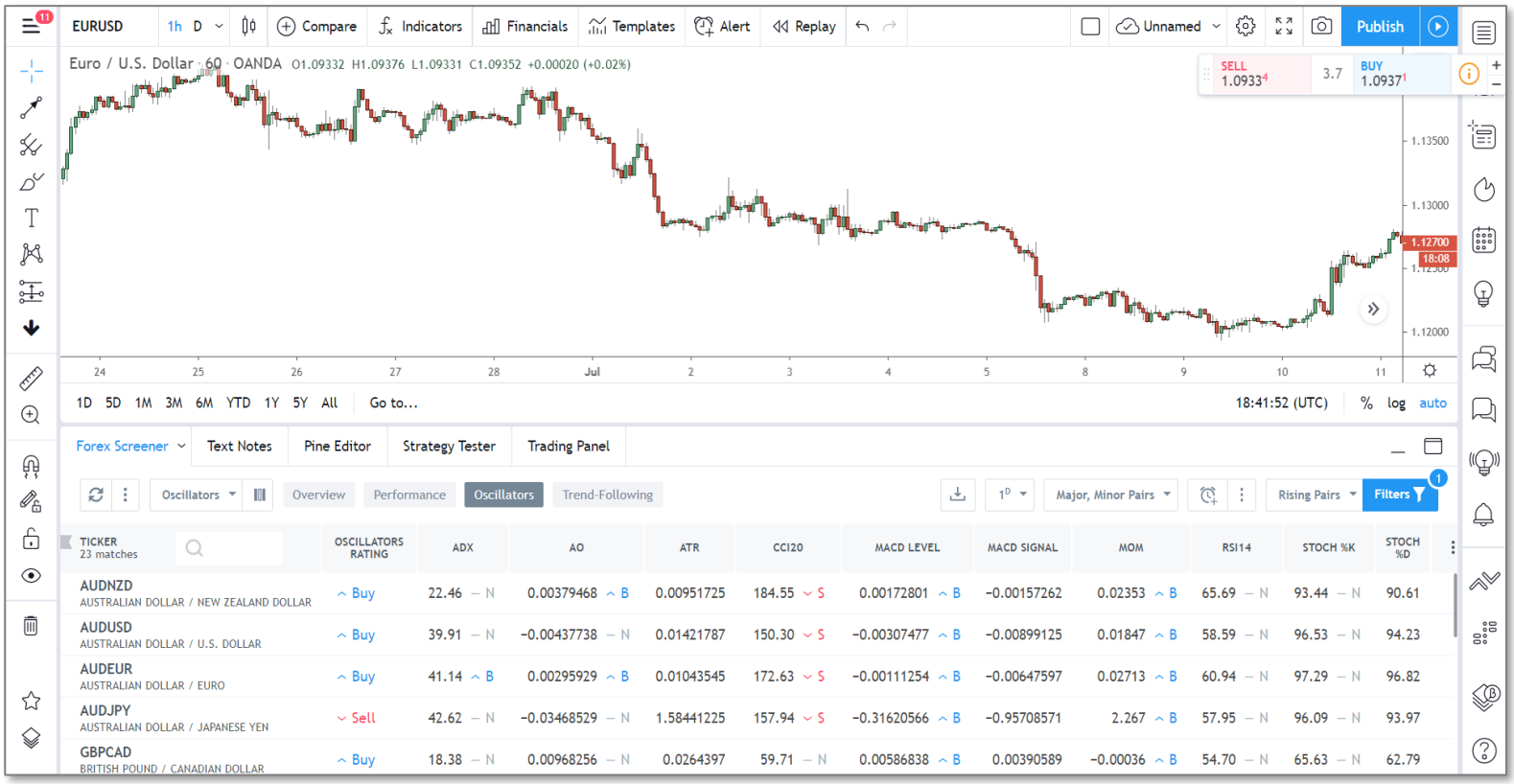
Unfortunately, stock and crypto traders don't have it so easy.

Many stocks and cryptos either hardly move or swing so wildly the spread makes it impossible to make a profit. Traders often have to look through hundreds of stocks and cryptos to find the right ones to trade.

Not only is this super annoying, but it also eats up a ton of trading time.

The good news?

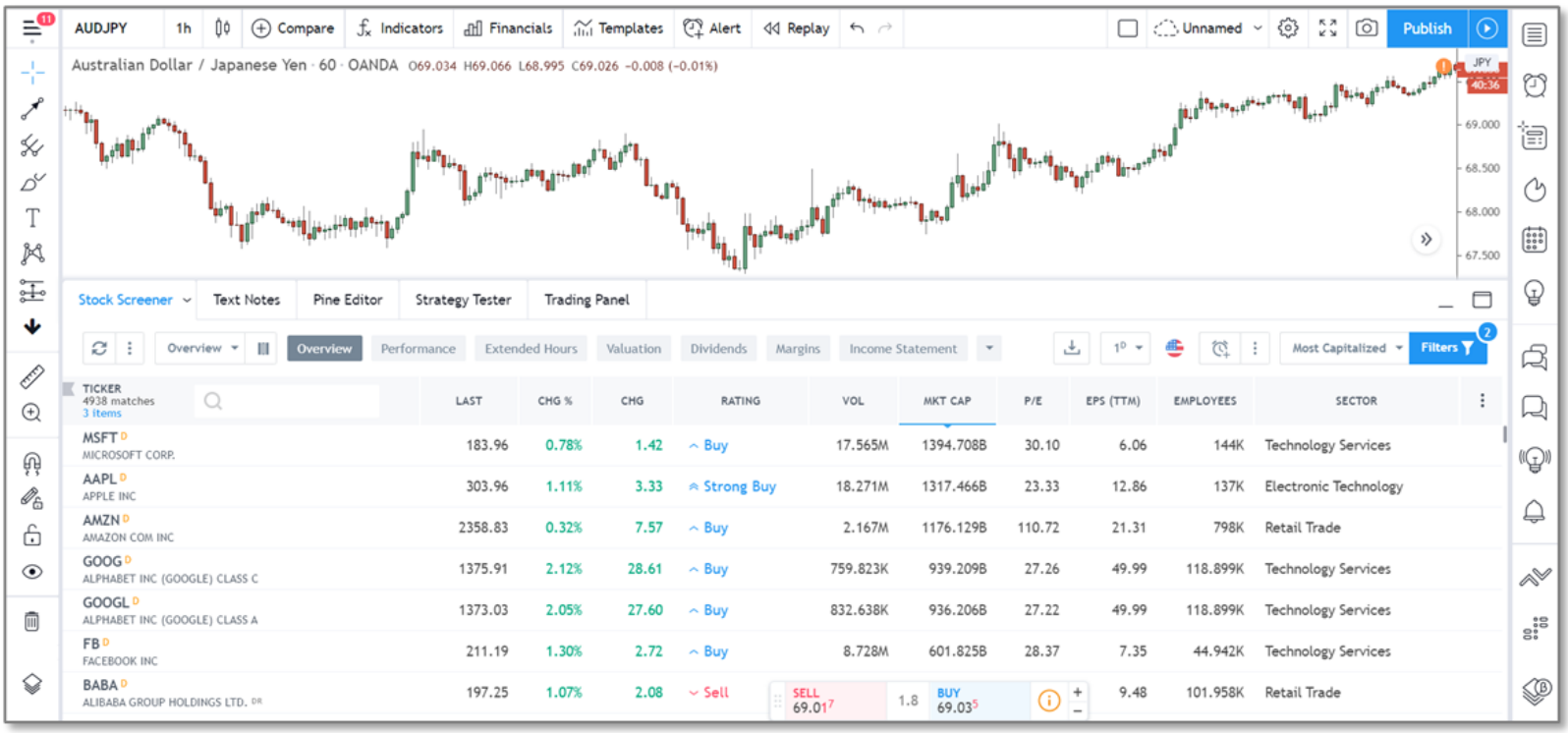
Tradingview has a free built-in screener that makes finding the right cryptos or stocks way easier than ever...



It lets you screen stocks, currencies, and crypto using all sorts of different metrics, making it easy to find EXACTLY the right one to trade or invest in.

A huge variety of metrics are supported, too!

Screen using new highs and lows, biggest percentage gains, changes in indicators, and much, much more. It's all high-level stuff, especially considering you don't have to pay a penny for it.



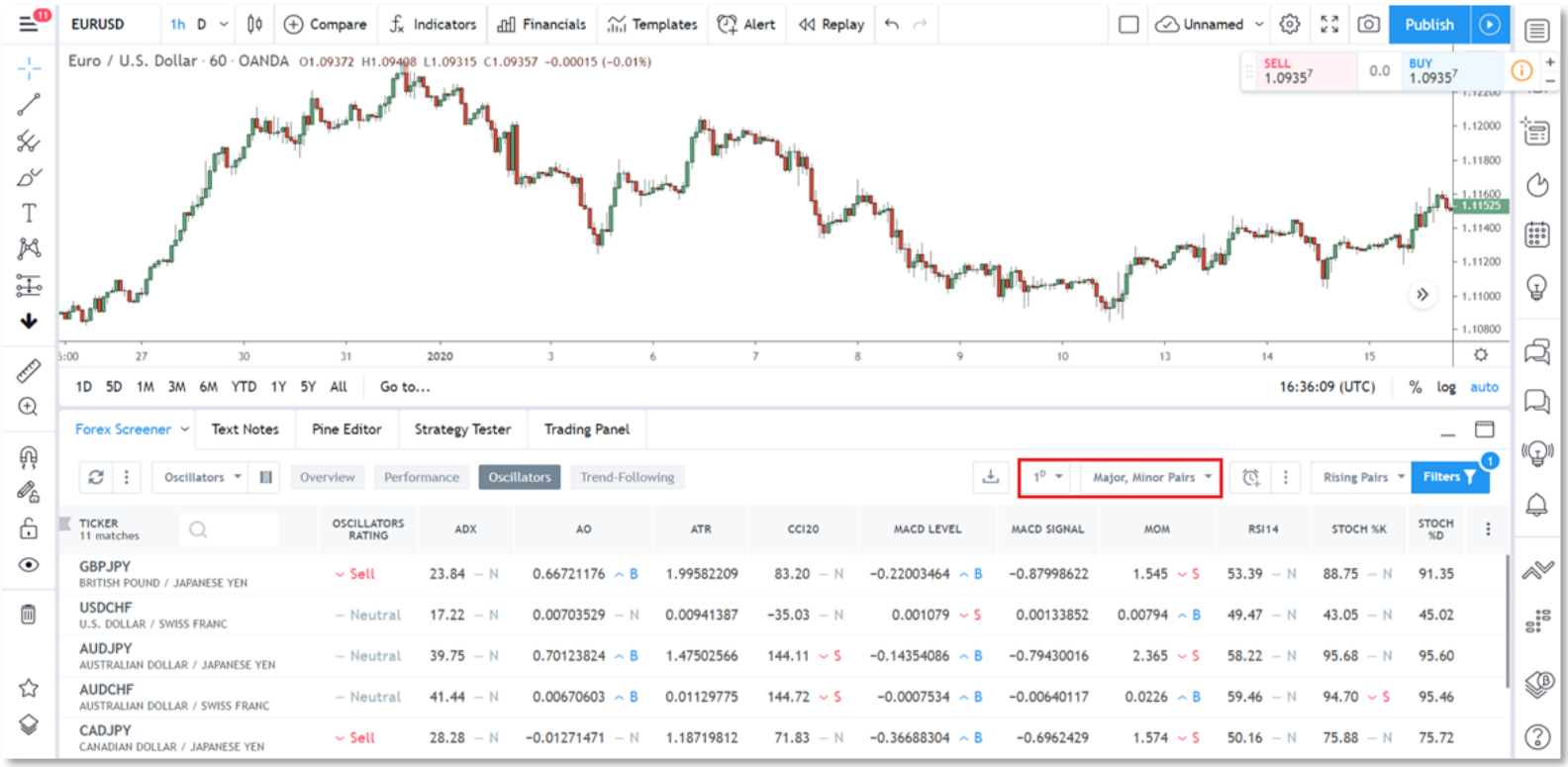
Want to switch up how you're looking at the assets?

It's a breeze!

Just click the tabs inside the box: "Overview", "Performance", "Extended Hours", "Valuation", "Dividends", "Margin", and so on.

And if you want to tweak these even more, hit the "**Filters**" button on the right.

It's that simple!



If you're keen on filtering out certain stocks and currencies, just click the box above.

You can even filter according to specific timeframes, but this feature is part of the paid-only version.

Text Notes

And just when you think Tradingview couldn't get any better, it throws a fully edged text editor into the mix - take that MT4.

The text notes tab is there for you to, well, keep notes.

Jot down short reminders and save them to check out later.

I often use it to scribble quick notes about what's happening with the price just in case I need to jot something down pronto. But you could also use it to plan your trades or even as your personal trading diary.

And the best part?

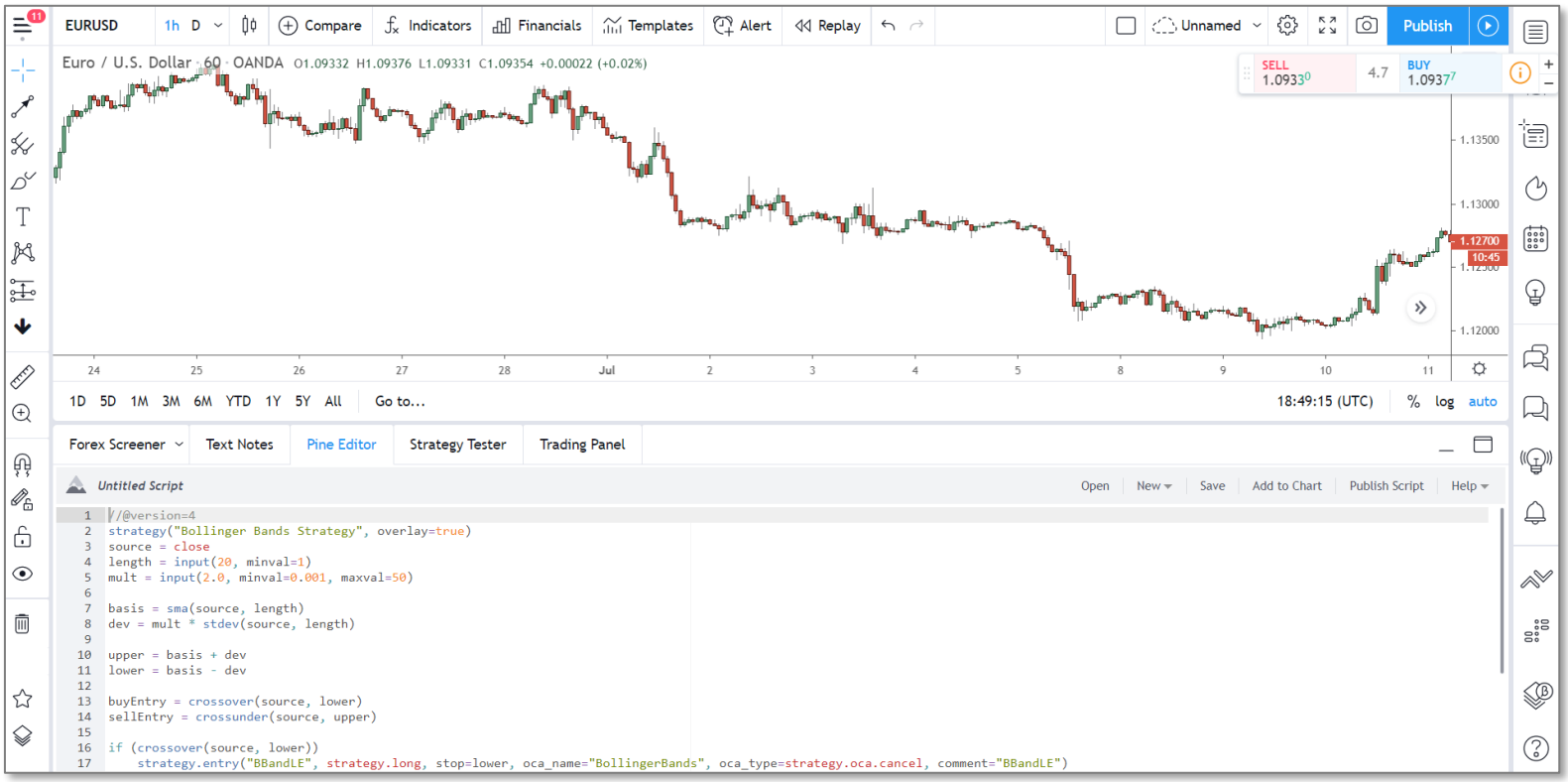
All your notes are saved to the cloud.

So, you don't need to fret about losing them every time you leave the site.

It's no Microsoft Word, but it does what you need, right?

Pine Editor

If you're into fiddling with indicators or crafting new trading strategies, you'll find yourself hanging out a lot in Tradingview's Pine Editor.



Think of the Pine Editor like your own private tinkering lab.

This is where you can mess around with indicators and strategies, making them just how you want them.

Fancy changing how MACD calculates price?

Just pop it into the editor and tweak it.

If the standard RSI interval isn't quite cutting it for you, drop it in the editor and adjust it to your liking. You've got the power to change pretty much anything and can even whip up your own strategies if you're feeling inventive.

And here's an awesome part:

Once you've created your own indicator or trading strategy, you can send it over to Tradingview for validation.

If it passes their test, they'll put it up in the custom indicators folder for everyone else to see and use.

Cool, huh?

Just a heads up: Tradingview has some strict rules your indicator or strategy needs to follow. So, make sure you check out those rules carefully before sending your creation over.

Now, let's talk about the Strategy Tester.

Strategy Tester

As traders, we've got to test our strategies - otherwise, how do we know if they're any good?

Tradingview gets how important testing is.

That's why they've included a full-on strategy tester (which is FREE, by the way) which lets you test strategies and gives you all sorts of information about how well they're performing.

Even though it's a free tool, this tester is super detailed.

I've tried a few paid testers in my day, like Ninjatrader and Forextester 4, and this one almost does a great job. It might not contain all the special features they have, but it's close, and it even does some things better, I think.

This tester shows all the key stuff you need to know in a simple box at the bottom of the screen.

You can check:

- Net profit.
- Highest total draw-down.
- Sharpe ratio.
- Winning trades vs losing trades.
- Average risk to reward ratio.
- Much, much more...

If you click on **'List of Trades'** on the right, you can even see details about each trade, which tells you more about your strategy.

If you're a price action trader like me, this tester might not be that helpful - our strategies are too subjective for automated back-testing. But if you use strategies based on indicators, you should give it a look.

Trading Panel

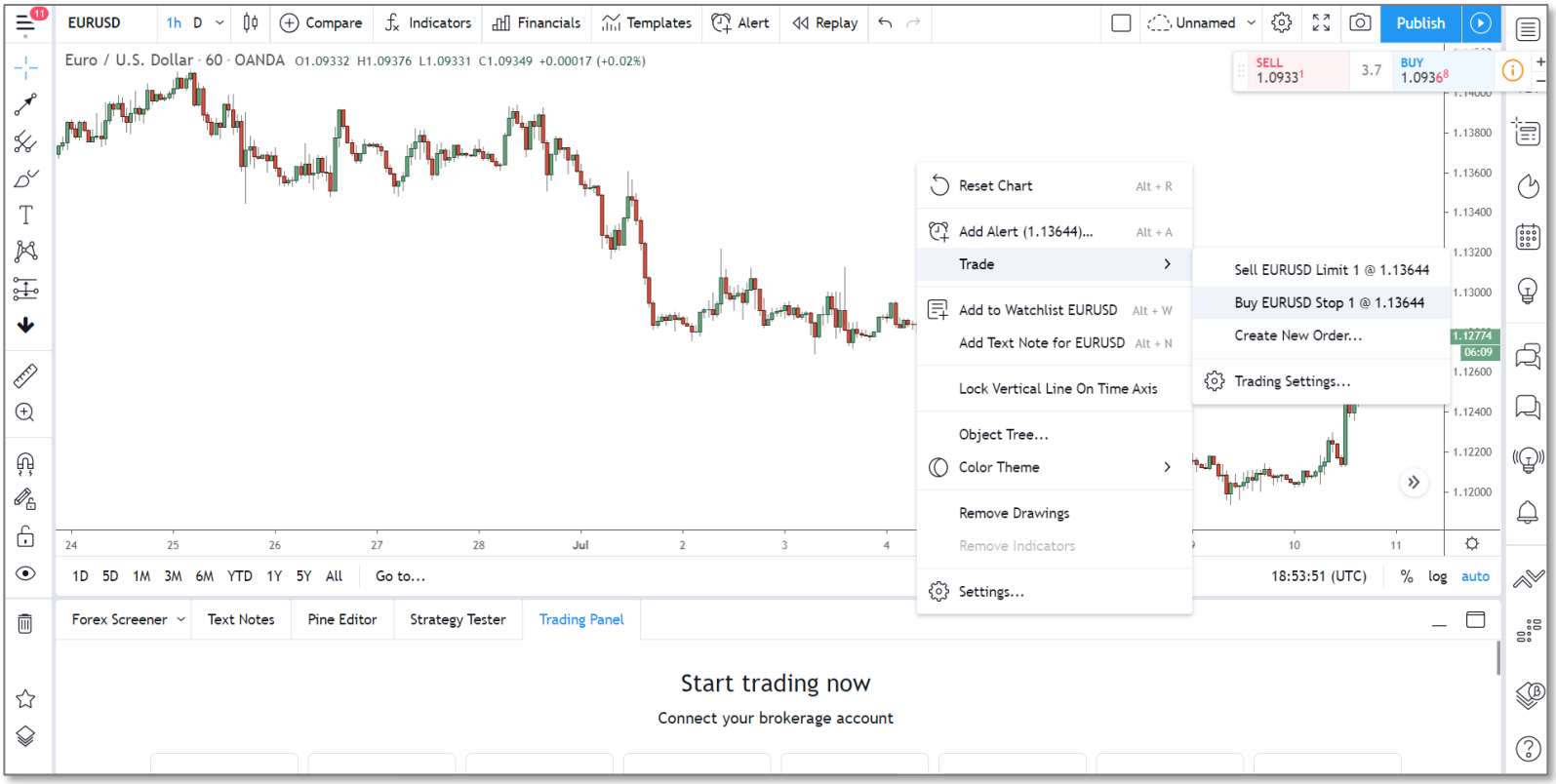
If you're a fan of MT4, you're going to love this tool.

It's one of the few things that makes MT4 stand out compared to most other charting platforms. Jumping back and forth between your broker and charting platform can be super annoying.

But with Tradingview, it's no problem at all.

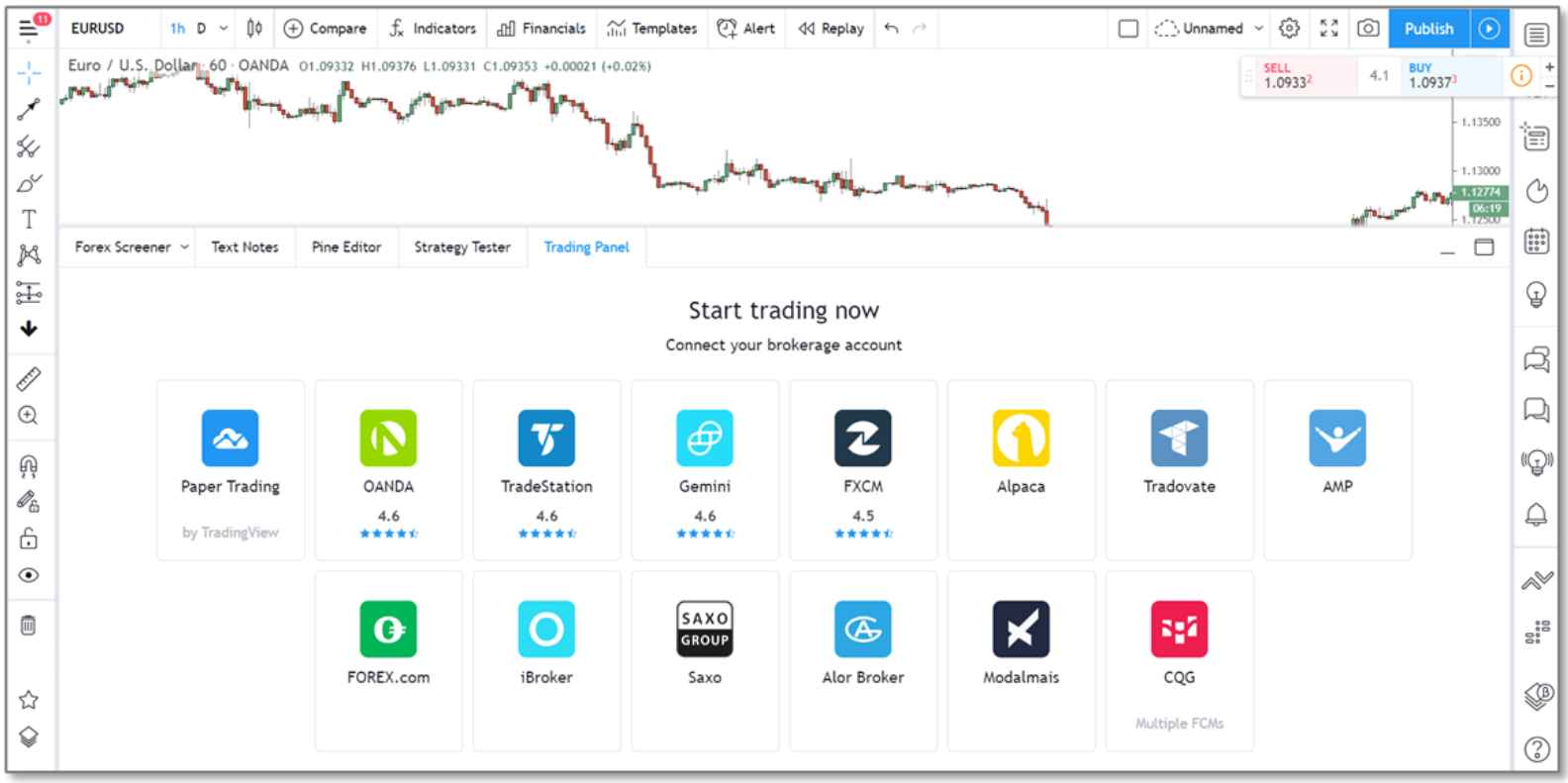
Like MT4, you can link your broker to trade directly through the chart screen.

Just head over to the trading panel, find your broker or exchange, and connect it to your account.



Once connected, right click anywhere on the screen, and select "trade" to place a trade at that price.

You can then manage the trade through the trade menu at the bottom.



Admittedly, the list of supported brokers isn't huge, which might pose problem for some people. However, all the top brokers and exchanges - Oanda, FXCM, IG etc - are fully integrated, so you shouldn't have too many issues.

How To Set Up Your Charts Like A Pro

Ask any professional trader, and they'll tell you the same thing:

How you set up your charts is essential to making consistent profits from the market. It's almost as important as your trading strategy and managing risks.

So, it's a no-brainer to set them up right, isn't it?

Before, I showed you guys how to do the basic chart setup.

That was for beginners just starting to dip their toes into trading. Now, I'm going to show you how to setup like the pros, just like how I do mine. For the most part, the settings are the same, so don't ignore what I said earlier.

The stuff here is mostly things to help remove information we don't really need.

No matter how you decide to set up your charts, always stick to the default settings I explained at the start.

So, let's get started.

Step 1: Remove ALL News Tabs And Boxes

I like my charts to be super clean and straightforward.

I don't want anything distracting me or taking my focus away from what's most important: **the price.** I always remove the watch-list, details, and headlines tabs from the right side of the chart window.

These 3 tabs provided great information, no doubt, but it isn't necessary to have on the screen when we're trading.

If you want them back - just click the button in the top right corner.

Step 2: Remove ALL INDICATORS

I'm a price action trader, so I had to put this on the list.

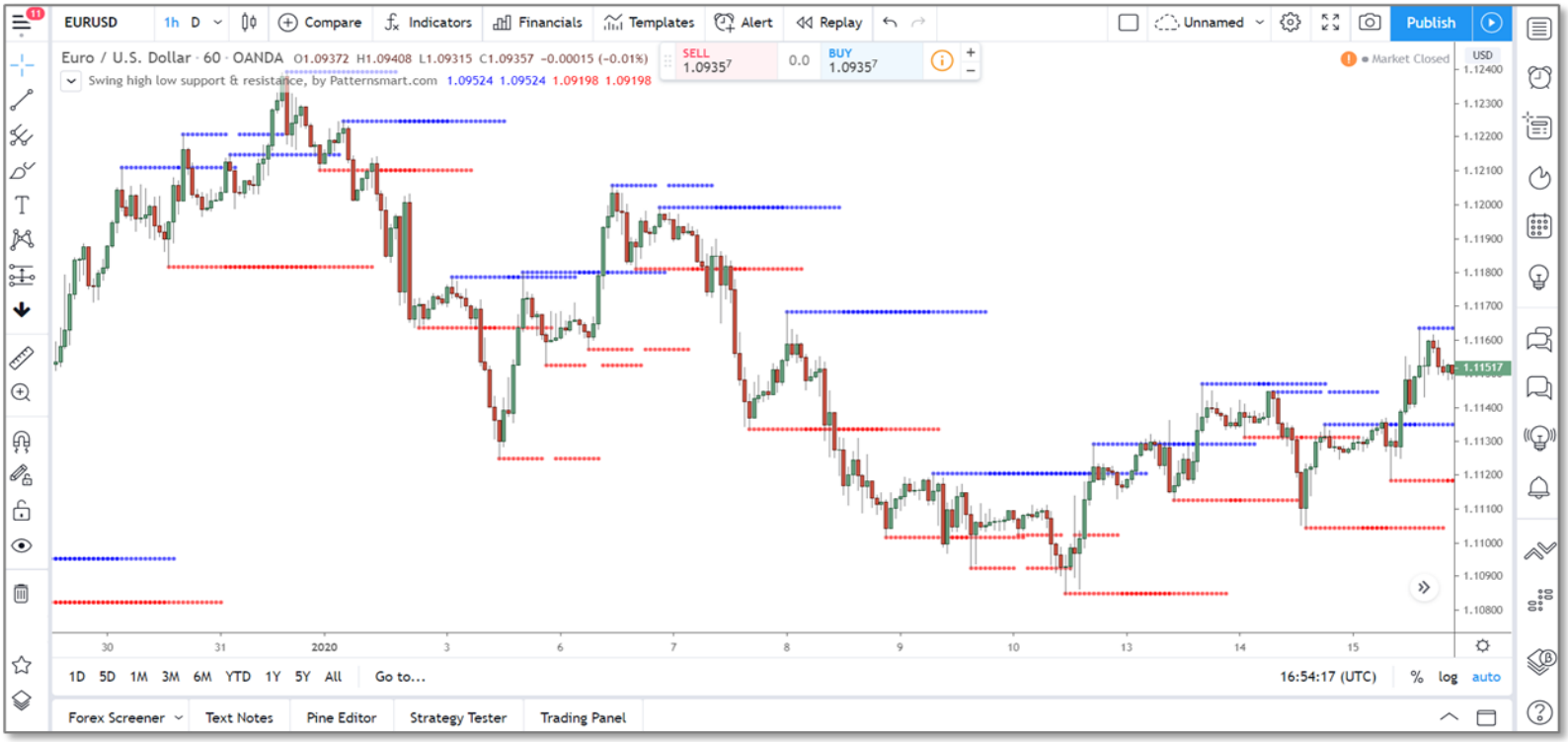
Unless an indicator helps you make decisions based on the price, it doesn't deserve to be on your chart.

Period.

Not all indicators are bad news, however.

Some actually give us useful information or help see things that would be pretty hard to see with the naked eye.

A cool example is the swing high/low indicator by Patternsmart...



This custom indicator is a real helper.

It automatically finds and marks all swing highs and lows on the chart, no experience required. For us experienced traders, maybe not a game-changer, but for newbies, it's a massive help.

Tradingview has a bunch of useful custom indicators like this one.

Step 3: Switch To A Candlestick Chart

When you first pop open a chart on Tradingview, it'll show you a line graph - sometimes a bar chart.

Let's get rid of this and switch to a candlestick chart.

Line graphs have their uses, but for everyday trading, they just don't provide enough information about price.

Candlestick charts, however, tell us everything.

Make sure to switch to them whenever you open a new chart.

Step 4: Remove Volume And Change Background To White

A disclaimer...

If you know how to use volume, DO NOT remove it from your charts.

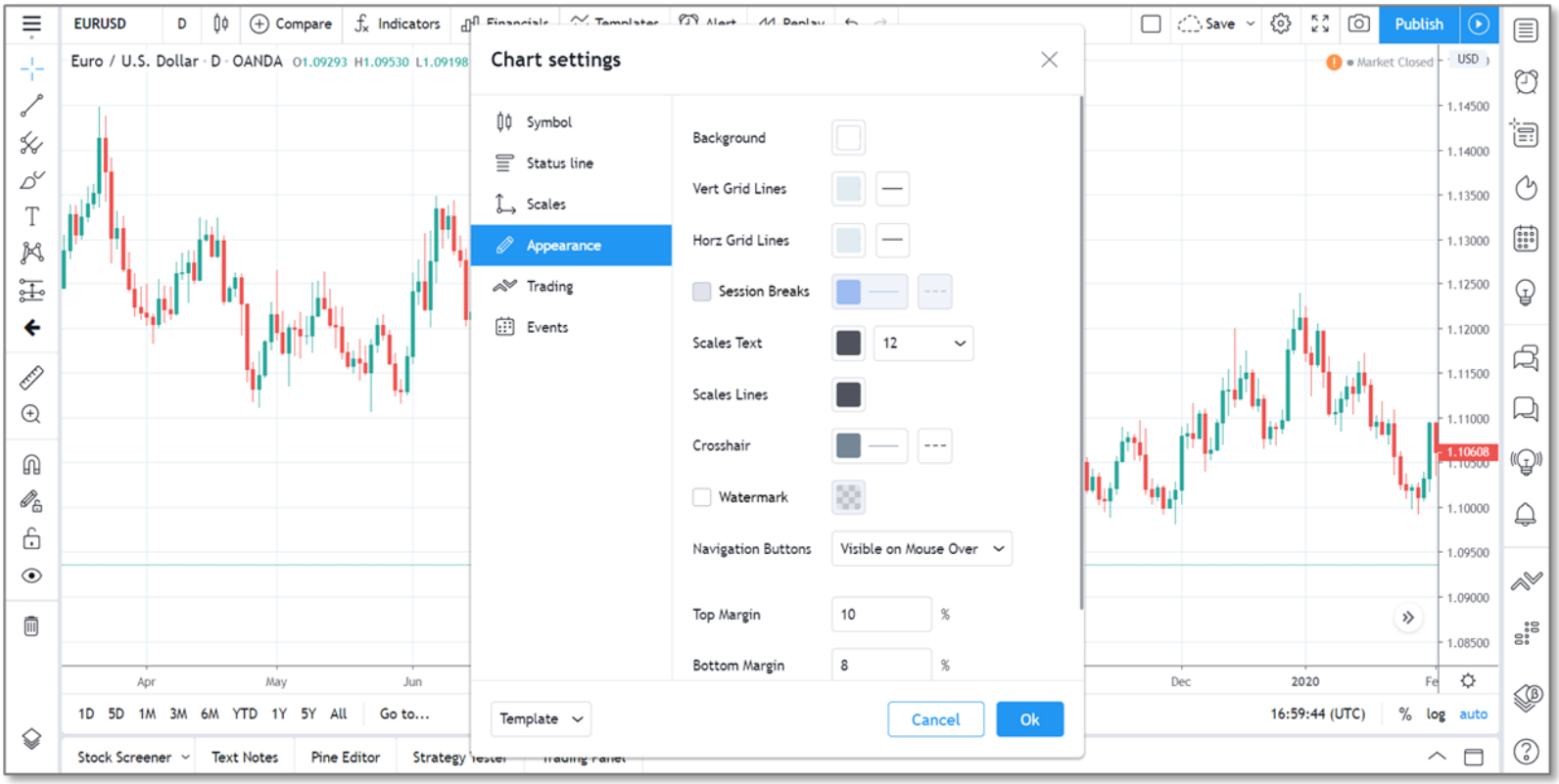
I'm not exactly a master at using volume, so I skip it. But if you understand it at a deep level and it's like second nature to you, absolutely keep it on. It'll help you make more sense of the price changes.

Also, consider changing your chart's background to white.

Why?

Well, white gives the best contrast with the other colours we've been talking about, making everything pop out more and much easier to see.

To change the colour, it's super easy.



Just head over to the '**Appearance**' menu in the chart settings (right-click anywhere on the chart to bring up the menu), and switch the chart colour to white.

With that, you're ready to rock and roll.

Final Thoughts On Tradingview And What To Do Next

Well, that concludes my guide on how to use Tradingview - phew, what a read!

Mastering the platform might take some time - I mean, it took me a few weeks, and I was already used to MT4! But don't worry, with this guide, you'll get the hang of it sooner than you think.

And if you run into any problems, just drop a comment below or send me an email.

I'm here to help you out.

Don't forget to check the FAQ section below, too.

Oh, I almost forgot...

If you're curious about the Pro features Tradingview offers, like the market replay function, the volume profile indicator (I'll be posting about this soon), and the strategy tester, you can sign up for a 30-day FREE trial.

This trial gives you access to all the Pro account perks, some of which I listed at the start (you can see the full list here).

The trial is an awesome opportunity to check out some cool features Tradingview has to offer, without spending a dime.

That's what convinced me to upgrade to a Pro account.

But here's a heads up: After the 30 days, the trial will automatically switch to a paid account. So, make sure to cancel it before then, or you might get a not-so-pleasant surprise when you check your bank account next.

So, why wait?

Head over to Tradingview today and see what all the hype is about!

Tradingview

Tradingview FAQ: Your Questions Answered!

Have some questions about Tradingview? Here's a short list of common questions people often ask, along with my answers.

Q 1: **Is Tradingview Free To Use?**

Totally, yes!

Almost everything on the site, from charts and social tools to most analysis features, is free.

You don't need to pay a penny or even have an account.

But, having a free account would be a good idea, really.

Without an account, all your analysis disappears when you open a new chart or leave the site. Plus, some cool features won't be available. And after about 15 minutes, a pop-up will lock you out the chart until you make a free account.

Q 2: Is Tradingview A Broker?

Great question.

Tradingview might seem like a broker, but it's actually a charting platform. But, here's the cool part: **It can connect to brokers.**

Just head to the Trade tab at the bottom, pick your broker from the list, and connect it to your Tradingview account. Now you can trade right through the Tradingview chart screen without having to switch between the site and your broker.

Pretty neat, right?

Q3: Does Tradingivew Have An App For Download?

Yes!

It's on my phone as we speak.

The app is free to download and provides the same features as the web platform. You can check out charts, analyze them, and chat with other traders all from your phone or tablet.

It's available for both Android and iOS.

Just find it in the app store on your device and hit download.

Once it's installed, log in with your account details, and your chart will open with all your analysis intact.

Simple as that!