

# The Art of TradeStation **Futures Trading Tools and Utilities**

Presented by

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# Learning Points

- Reducing Trading Errors
- Measuring Price Moves
- The Cost of the Bid Ask Spread
- Volatility Valuation

# Reducing Trading Errors

## What you need to know:

- Dollar Risk to Trade
- Front Month Contract – Month Codes
- Expiration and First Notice Dates
- Session Start and End Times
- Margin Rates
- Price, Volume, and Open Interest Patterns

Chart Study: [@ArtTS Futures Info CH](#)

# Measuring Price Movement Potential

**Each Futures market has unique point value**

- Calculate and display the dollar value of a price level to the current price
- Ability to adjust the trade size (long or short)
- Measure the dollar price potential of a price range

**Chart Study: @ArtTS Levels Calc CH**



# Bid/Ask Spread Reporting

## Know the bid/ask spread cost of a market order

- Display the bid/ask spread in minimum moves
- Visual alert if the bid/ask spread is greater than some number of minimum moves – set with an input
- Calculate the dollar value of the bid/ask spread for any trade size – RadarScreen

RadarScreen Study: [@ArtTS BidAsk Spread Dollars RS](#)

# Volatility Valuation

What is the dollar value of the volatility for a futures contract?

Measuring Volatility in Dollars:

## Average True Range (20 Bars)

Multiply the ATR times the point value of the Future

## Price Channel Range (20 Bars)

Multiply range from highest high to lowest low, over some number of bars times the point value of the Future

RadarScreen Study: [@ArtTS Dollar Range](#)

# Bang for Your Buck

**What is the most volatility my margin dollar can buy?**

Measuring Bang for Your Buck as a percent of Futures margin

## **Average True Range (20 Bars)**

Multiply the ATR times the point value of the Futures, divided by the initial margin

## **Price Channel Range (20 Bars)**

Multiply range from highest high to lowest low, over some number of bars, times the point value of the Futures, divided by the initial margin

RadarScreen Studies: [@ArtTS BangForYouBuck RS](#) & [@ArtTS Futures Margin RS](#)

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