

A Fidelity Investments Webinar

# Trade with the trend: Understanding price movement

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# About Our Co-Author

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Charles D. Kirkpatrick II, CMT, is president of Kirkpatrick & Company, Inc., a technical analysis research firm that publishes the Market Strategist investment newsletter. A past instructor in finance at the School of Business Administration, Fort Lewis College and Adjunct Professor of Finance at Brandeis University International Business School, he is a two-time winner of the Market Technicians Association's prestigious Charles H. Dow Award for research in technical analysis, winner of the MTA Annual Award in 2008 for "outstanding contributions to the field of technical analysis," and winner in 2012 of the Mike Epstein Award from the MTA Educational Foundation for "long-term sponsorship of Technical Analysis in Academia."

He is a Chartered Market Technician, a past member of the board of directors of the Market Technicians Association, past editor of the Journal of Technical Analysis, past board member and vice-president of the

Market Technicians Association Educational Foundation and a member of the American Association of Professional Technicians (AAPTA). He co-authored Technical Analysis: The Complete Source for Financial Market Technicians, the primary textbook for the CMT program and for university graduate courses on technical analysis, authored Beat the Market, and most recently, Time the Markets: Using Technical Analysis to Interpret Economic Data.

He is a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy, Harvard College (AB) and the Wharton School (MBA) and lives with his wife in Maine.



Best Practices for Trend Traders

Basics of Trend Analysis



Charts, Chart Types, and Chart Construction

Agenda

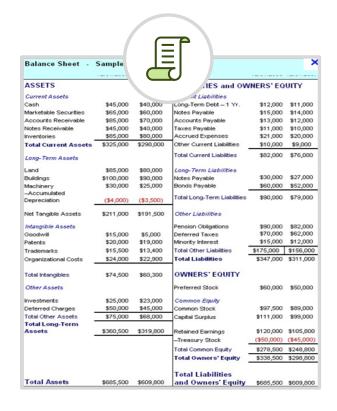




# Fundamental Analysis & Technical Analysis



#### Two Common Types of Analysis



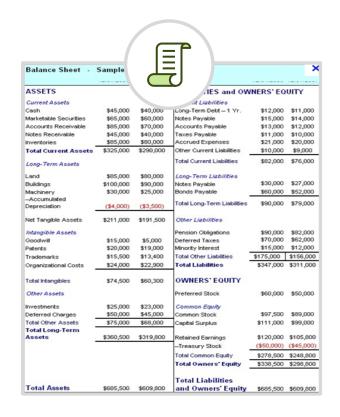
Fundamental Analysis



**Technical Analysis** 

# Defining Fundamental Analysis





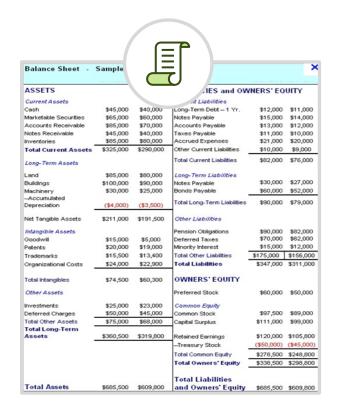
#### **Definition**

# Fundamental analysts study companies using measures such as:

- Quality of management
- Labor relations
- Inventory control
- PE ratio and EPS growth rates
- Return on equity and assets

# Defining Fundamental Analysis





#### Limits

Fundamental analysis does not help you with:

- Timing of the investment
- Making the selling decision
- Quantifying the risk vs. reward





#### Definition

# Technical analysis primarily studies historical market data. It also:

- Focuses on the supply-and-demand dynamic expressed via stock prices
- Visualizes shifts in supply-and-demand which can be seen in chart patterns
- Accounts for the emotional aspects of the marketplace
- Quantifies the capital risk of trading and investment decisions
- Does not try to predict the future





### Limits

# Technical analysis is still not a perfect investment method and has limits:

- Patterns, trends, and indicators are never precise, and charts require human interpretation
- Technical traders are susceptible to the same emotions and cognitive biases as all other investors





# Assumptions

- Prices in freely traded markets are determined by the economic principles of supply-and-demand
- Price discounts everything
- Prices are nonrandom but not necessarily predictable
- Prices have direction and tend to travel in observable trends
- Behavior and history in the marketplace will repeat itself
- Price patterns summarizing behavior are "fractal"



# Charts, Chart Types, and Chart Construction



# Charts, Chart Types, & Chart Construction



#### Overview



Analyze price behavior



Easily visualize the patterns and trends within data

# Charts, Chart Types, & Chart Construction



#### Overview



Line Chart



Bar Chart



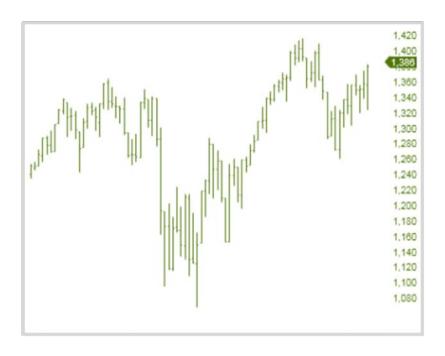
Candlestick Chart



Point & Figure Chart

# Chart Types





### **Bar Charts**

#### Visualizes

- Open, High, Low, Close
- Volume for a specific time interval

#### Advantages

- Most common
- Easy to read
- Provides full range of trading for time interval

# **Chart Types**





### **Candlestick Charts**

#### Visualizes

- Open, High, Low, Close
- Volume for a specific time interval

#### Advantages

- Gaining popularity
- More visual than a bar chart
- Uses color to show differences between open and close prices

#### **Chart Construction**





#### Reversal Points

When a price is rising, stops, and then declines, the price at which the rise halted is a "reversal point."

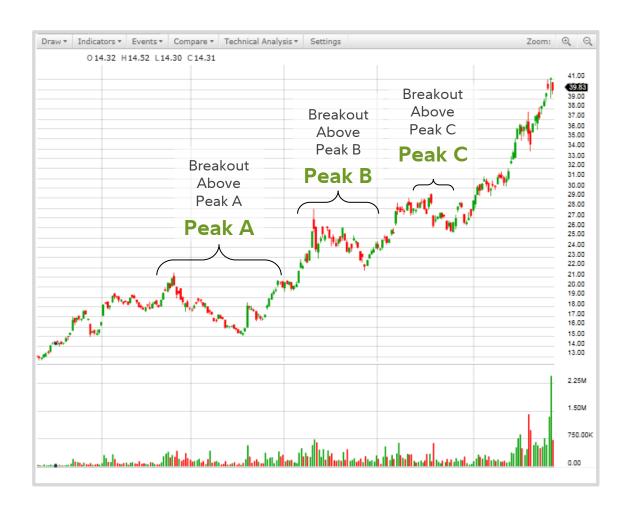
- In this situation, the reversal point is called a "peak" and is important because it is where buyers were overcome by sellers.
- When a price is declining, stops, and then rises, the price at which the decline halted is a reversal point called a "trough." It is the price at which sellers were overcome by buyers.
- Reversal points are the foundations of trends, trend lines, channels, patterns, and support and resistance.

#### The Value of Reversal Points



#### The longer the trend, the more important the reversal point

Reversal point importance is determined by the length of the trend before and after the peak or trough.



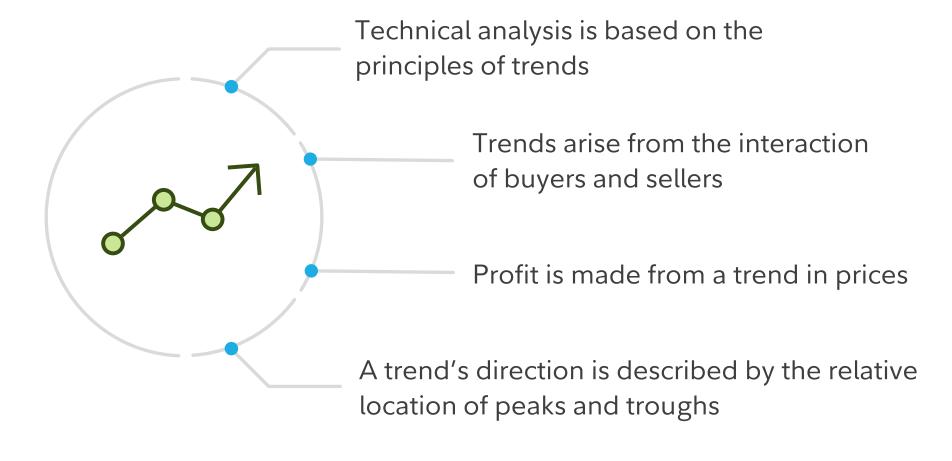


# Basics of Trend Analysis



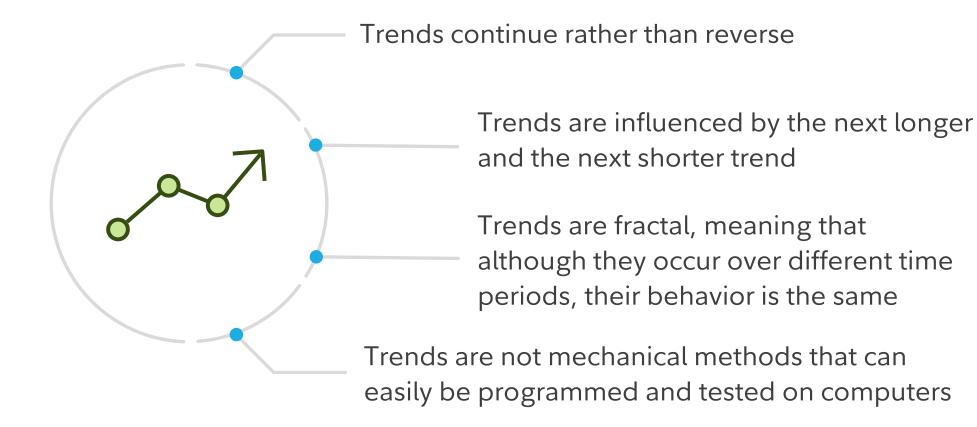
#### The Value of Trends





# Assumptions about Trends

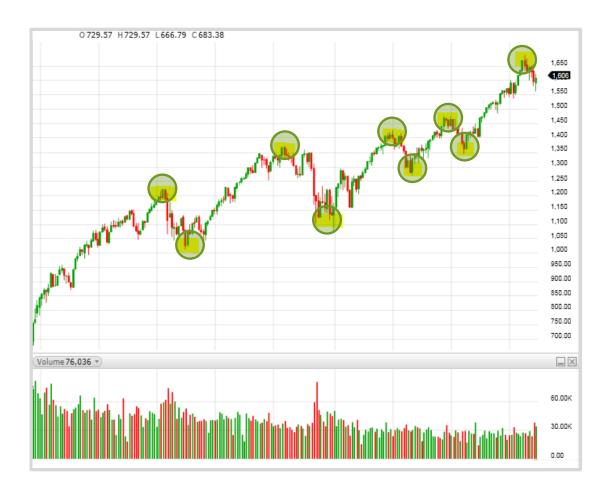




## Uptrend



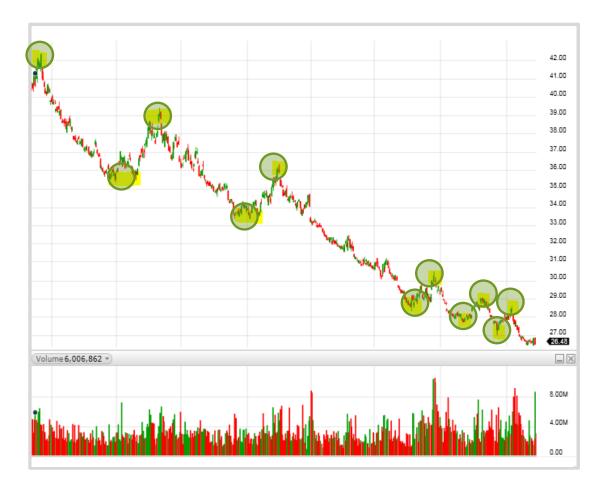
An uptrend has successively higher peaks and higher troughs.



#### Downtrend



A downward trend has successively lower peaks and lower troughs.



# Sideways Trend



A sideways trend is a period with no clear direction in prices.



### Trend Influence



Keep time frame in mind while considering the importance of a trend.



#### From Trend to Trend Line



#### **Definition**

A trend is a direction; a trend line is an attempt to define and use that direction.

#### How do we draw trend lines?

- From peak to peak
- From trough to trough

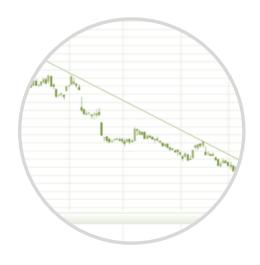
# Types of Trend Lines

### **Fidelity**

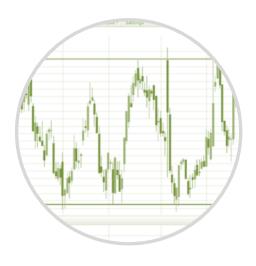
#### Overview



Upward Sloping



Downward Sloping



Support and Resistance

# **Upward Sloping**



A line connecting trough to higher trough



# Downward Sloping



A line connecting peak to lower peak



## Support and Resistance



### Support

Horizontal line drawn through troughs at the same price level

#### Resistance

Horizontal line drawn through peaks at the same price level



# Profiting from a Trading Range



Green points are candles that hit support and resistance levels on close.

Red are intraday and do not close at support and resistance.



## When Support Becomes Resistance



Once the price breaks through support, that support becomes future resistance.

When the price eventually rallies back to that level, it hits selling pressure and reverses back down again.



# When Resistance Becomes Support



When resistance is penetrated, it can become support





# Best Practices for Trend Traders



# **Trend Trading**





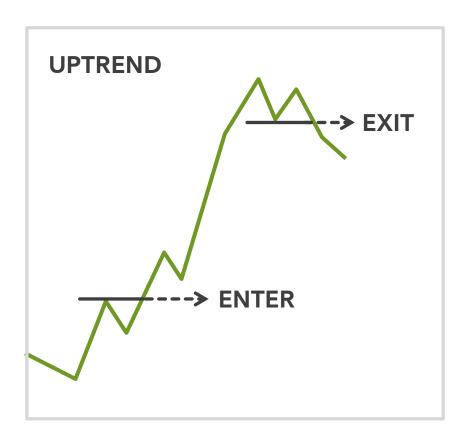
#### **Best Practices**

#### Determine:

- Strategy and conditions for entering/exiting trade
- Need of confirmation
- Triggers that will cause the entry to be executed
- Specific risk involved

# Strategies for Trend Investors





# Entry and Exit Strategies

#### Entry strategy

 Consider buying when chart patterns demonstrate a new trend

#### Exit strategy

 Consider selling when the trend reverses or appears to have ended

When investors using technical analysis execute these two strategies successfully, they may make a profit.

# **Entry Strategy**





## **Exit Strategy**



The trend line crosses previous troughs.

A trigger could be a breakout below the rising trend line.





# Visit the Fidelity Learning Center



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# Thank You



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Investing involves risk, including risk of loss.

Technical analysis focuses on market action – specifically, volume and price. Technical analysis is only one approach to analyzing stocks. When considering what stocks to buy or sell, you should use the approach that you're most comfortable with. As with all your investments, you must make your own determination whether an investment in any particular security or securities is right for you based on your investment objectives, risk tolerance, and financial situation. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

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