

THE ULTIMATE CRYPTO TRADER'S GUIDE



This eBook is designed to guide you through the world of cryptocurrencies. You will learn the fundamentals of crypto trading and investing, discover how to analyze markets, identify opportunities, and manage risks. It brings together everything you need to become active in the markets quickly.

WRITTEN BY QUENTIN TRADING

DISCLAIMER

This document is for educational purposes only and does not constitute investment advice. The information provided here is meant to inform you about cryptocurrency concepts and should not be interpreted as a recommendation to buy, sell, or make any financial investment. Cryptocurrency investments carry risks, and it is essential to conduct your own research before making any investment decisions. I disclaim any responsibility for any loss or damage resulting from the use of this document.

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1. INTRODUCTION TO CRYPTOCURRENCIES

Cryptocurrencies have revolutionized the financial world since Bitcoin's emergence in 2009. They have become more than just a technological curiosity, transforming entire industries and offering new investment opportunities. But why pay attention to cryptocurrencies?

First, the decentralized nature of cryptocurrencies sets them apart from traditional currencies. Unlike fiat money, cryptocurrencies are not controlled by a central entity like a bank or a government. This means they provide an alternative to conventional financial systems, especially in regions where those systems are failing.

Moreover, the potential for profit in the cryptocurrency market draws many investors. Although this market is highly volatile, that volatility can create opportunities for those willing to take calculated risks.

Cryptocurrencies pave the way for a new era of innovation. Technologies like smart contracts introduced by Ethereum allow the creation of decentralized applications that can automate complex transactions without any intermediary.

2. UNDERSTANDING THE BLOCKCHAIN: THE TECHNOLOGY BEHIND CRYPTOS

Blockchain: the fundamental technology behind all cryptocurrencies. To fully understand cryptocurrencies, you need to understand how the blockchain works.

Imagine a ledger that everyone can see, but no one can alter once a transaction is recorded. That ledger is the blockchain. Each time a transaction occurs, it is verified by a network of participants (called nodes) and added to a block. Once a block is filled with transactions, it is sealed and linked to the previous block, forming a chain, hence the name blockchain.

The blockchain ensures transparency and security. All transactions are visible to every participant in the network, preventing any tampering. Furthermore, once a transaction is recorded, it cannot be changed, making the blockchain extremely reliable.

The blockchain also has applications beyond cryptocurrencies:

Domain	Application	Description
Traceability	Supply chain	Tracking the origin of products, from production to consumption.
Insurance	Smart Contracts	Automating payments according to predefined conditions.
Video games	Digital Asset Ownership	Owning and trading virtual items in online games.
Real estate	Simplified Transactions	Buying/selling via smart contracts without intermediaries.
Healthcare	Medical Records	Secure storage of records accessible by authorized parties.

3. KEY CONCEPTS TO START IN CRYPTOCURRENCIES

Diving into the world of cryptocurrencies can be confusing at first, especially with all the technical jargon. Here are a few essential concepts that every new investor must understand.

- **Airdrop:** Free distribution of tokens to promote a project.
- **Bull & Bear Market:** A bull market is when prices are rising, and a bear market is when prices are falling.
- **ICO (Initial Coin Offering):** A fundraising method for cryptocurrency projects where investors buy tokens in hopes that their value will increase.
- **Pump & Dump:** A fraudulent scheme in which prices are artificially inflated before a large sell-off.
- **HOLD:** Holding onto one's cryptocurrencies long-term despite market fluctuations, believing their value will rise.
- **FIAT:** Traditional government-issued currencies such as euro or dollar.

Bitcoin VS bitcoin

Bitcoin: The blockchain.

bitcoin: The cryptocurrency.

- **Whales:** Large cryptocurrency holders capable of significantly influencing the market.

- **Hashrate:** The computational power of a cryptocurrency network, indicative of its security.
- **Faucet:** Websites or apps that offer small amounts of free cryptocurrency to onboard new users (e.g., Coinbase Earn).
- **Scalability:** A blockchain's ability to support a large number of users and transactions.
- **Mining:** The process by which new units of cryptocurrency are created and transactions are validated on the blockchain. There are two main types:
 - **Proof of Work (PoW):** Miners solve complex mathematical problems to validate transactions and create new blocks. This process requires substantial computational power, making it energy-intensive. Bitcoin is an example of a cryptocurrency using PoW.
 - **Proof of Stake (PoS):** Instead of solving mathematical puzzles, validators are chosen based on the amount of cryptocurrency they hold and are willing to "stake" (lock up). This system is more energy-efficient than PoW. Ethereum, for example, transitioned to PoS with its Ethereum 2.0 upgrade.

These concepts are fundamental for navigating the world of cryptocurrencies. By mastering them, you'll be better equipped to understand market dynamics and avoid common pitfalls.

4. STABLECOINS: STABLE VALUE IN A VOLATILE MARKET

Stablecoins are cryptocurrencies designed to maintain a fixed value, usually by being pegged to a fiat currency such as the US dollar (USD). Unlike other cryptocurrencies, stablecoins offer stability, making them very useful in certain situations.

For example, when you make a profit from trading, you can convert your gains into stablecoins to protect them from market fluctuations. This allows you to preserve your profits while staying within the crypto ecosystem, which is convenient for those who want to avoid the tax complications of converting back to fiat currency.

Stablecoins are also useful for transferring funds between different trading platforms. Many exchanges do not allow direct trading with fiat currencies like the euro or the dollar. By using stablecoins, you can easily move funds between exchanges without worrying about conversion fees.

A popular example of a stablecoin is Tether (USDT), which is pegged to the US dollar. For each USDT in circulation, the issuing company is supposed to hold one dollar in reserve, thereby ensuring the coin's stable value.



Stability of USDT/USD

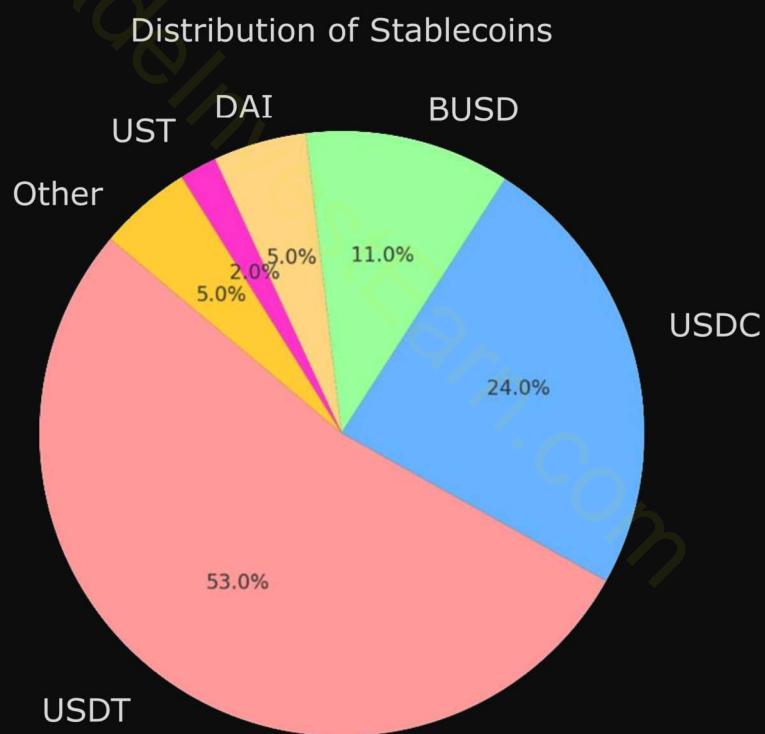
Other stablecoins, such as USDC or DAI, offer similar options with variations in their collateral mechanisms.

Why Use Stablecoins?

- *Reduced transaction fees.*
- *Stable price.*
- *Security of gains.*

💡 Tip: Holding your profits in stablecoins lets you avoid conversion fees and save time when reporting your income!

⚠️ Warning: Keep in mind that the value of stablecoins relies on external reserves (such as the dollar). Make sure the stablecoin you choose is adequately backed by real assets.



5. COINS VS TOKENS: UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCE

In the world of cryptocurrencies, it's important to distinguish coins from tokens, as they do not operate in the same way.

- **Coin:** A coin is a cryptocurrency that has its own blockchain. For example, Bitcoin (BTC) and Ethereum (ETH) are coins. These cryptocurrencies are created on and operate within their own networks, giving them complete autonomy.



- **Token:** A token is a cryptocurrency that relies on the blockchain of another cryptocurrency. For example, Tether (USDT) is a token that runs on the Ethereum blockchain. Tokens are often used for specific applications, such as smart contracts, decentralized applications (dApps) that allow users to play games and earn rewards, or to represent assets in crowdfunding projects.



It's important to understand this difference, as coins and tokens serve different purposes and offer different prospects. Investing in a coin means investing in the entire blockchain infrastructure, whereas investing in a token often means betting on the success of a specific project or application.

6. ADVANTAGES AND RISKS OF CRYPTOCURRENCIES

Cryptocurrencies offer many advantages, but they also carry significant risks. It is important to fully understand them before diving in.

Advantages +

- **Transparency**: All transactions conducted on a blockchain are public and can be verified by anyone. This prevents fraud and ensures that transactions are genuine.
- **Security** 🔒: Blockchain technology is extremely secure. Data is stored in a decentralized manner, making it nearly impossible to hack.
- **Accessibility**: Accessible to anyone with an internet connection. This opens new opportunities for unbanked populations in regions where financial infrastructures are underdeveloped.
- **Trading opportunities**: They provide attractive trading opportunities due to their volatility. Markets are open 24/7, allowing you to act at any time.

Risks ⚠

- **Scams**: The market is not regulated like traditional financial markets, making it a target for fraudsters. It's important to conduct thorough research before investing in any cryptocurrency or project.
- **Market manipulation**: The market is still young and can be easily manipulated by powerful actors, causing extreme price swings.
- **Loss of private Key** 🔑: If you lose the private key associated with your crypto wallet, you permanently lose access to your funds.

- **Volatility** : Cryptocurrencies are known for extreme volatility. Prices can skyrocket or crash within hours, which can lead to significant losses.



By weighing these advantages and risks, you can make informed decisions and maximize your gains in the markets.

7. EXCHANGES: BUYING AND TRADING PLATFORMS

Exchanges are online platforms where you can buy, sell, and trade cryptocurrencies. Before you get started, it's necessary to understand how they work and the types of exchanges available.

Create your trading wallet

Your trading wallet is your digital vault where you store your crypto. To begin, choose a reputable exchange, register an account, and secure it with two-factor authentication.

Examples of exchanges: [Binance](#), [Coinbase](#), [OKX](#), [Kucoin](#).

Placing orders

An order is an instruction you give to the exchange to buy or sell a crypto. You can place market orders, which are executed immediately at the current price, or limit orders, where you specify the price at which you want to buy or sell.

Buying crypto with FIAT

You can purchase cryptocurrencies directly with fiat currency (such as euros or dollars) using your bank card, a bank transfer, or other payment methods offered by the exchange.

Mastering your platform

Each exchange has its own interface and features. Take the time to learn how to place orders, monitor your positions, and manage your assets.

Here are detailed guides to help you get familiar with Binance and Coinbase:

[Binance Beginner's Guide | Binance Support](#)

[Buy and sell your crypto | Coinbase](#)

8. SECURING YOUR CRYPTOCURRENCIES

Securing your crypto is an essential step to avoid losses due to hacks or personal mistakes.

Use Hot Wallets

Hot wallets are wallets connected to the internet, such as those on exchange platforms. They are convenient but more vulnerable to hacks. For greater security, enable two-factor authentication (2FA).

Prefer cold wallets

Cold wallets, like Ledger devices, are offline devices that store your private keys. They offer superior protection against online attacks.



Public Key vs Private Key

- **Private key:** This is your account's password. If someone has it, they can access your funds. Never share it.
- **Public key:** It's derived from your private key and is used to receive funds. You can share it safely.

Protecting Your Keys

Store your private keys in a secure place and use a strong password to safeguard your accounts.

By following these tips, you'll maximize your chances of keeping your crypto safe.

9. CRYPTOCURRENCY INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

To properly structure your cryptocurrency investment, it is important to understand the market capitalization categories of crypto assets:

- **Big Caps:** Market capitalization over \$1 billion.
- **Mid-Caps:** Between \$200 million and \$1 billion.
- **Small Caps:** Under \$200 million.

The Dynamic Portfolio

A dynamic portfolio aims for high returns by accepting higher volatility and risk. This type of portfolio is designed for investors who want to maximize their potential gains, even if it means exposure to larger price swings.

Allocation:

- 10% in bitcoins (BTC)
- 10% in Ethereum (ETH)
- 35% in "Big Caps"
- 15% in "Small Caps"
- 10% in stablecoins (USDT, USDC)
- 5% in presales, ICO (Initial Coin Offerings)

Use multiple exchanges to diversify and secure your assets.

Advantages +

- Strong portfolio diversification.
- Potential for significant gains.

Disadvantages -

- High potential drawdown (large fluctuations in portfolio value).
- Increased exposure to market volatility.

The Conservative Portfolio

This type of portfolio is aimed at investors who already have substantial capital and prefer to limit their risk while ensuring moderate growth.

Allocation:

- 45% in bitcoins (BTC)
- 10% in Ethereum (ETH)
- 20% in Big Caps (3 to 7 crypto)
- 10% in stablecoins
- 7% in Mid Caps
- 5% in PAX Gold (PAXG) an asset backed by gold
- 3% in Small Caps

Advantages +

- Strong exposure to Bitcoin, considered a more stable asset in the crypto world
- Reasonable drawdown, with less volatility

Disadvantages -

- Potential returns are lower compared to a dynamic portfolio

10. INVESTING WITH DCA (DOLLAR COST AVERAGING)

Dollar Cost Averaging (DCA) is an investment strategy where you buy a small amount of cryptocurrency at regular intervals, regardless of price. There is no technical analysis involved.

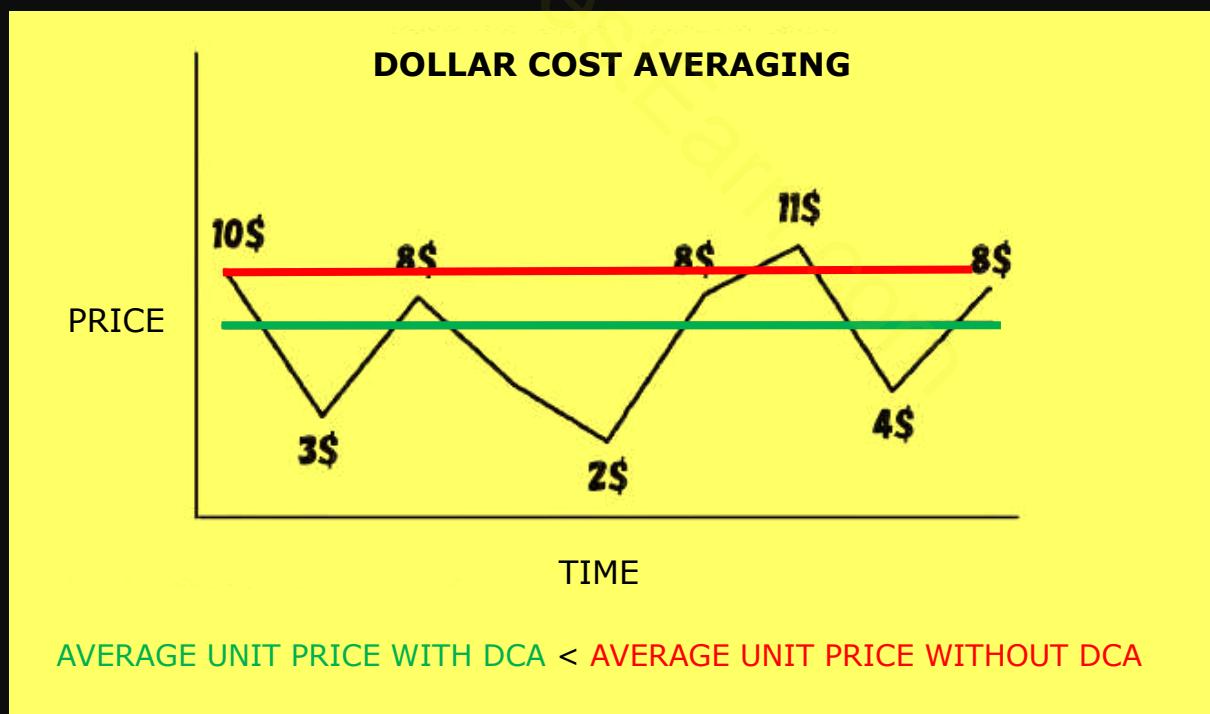
Why use DCA?

DCA reduces the risk of buying at the wrong time. By investing regularly, you smooth out your acquisition cost, which lessens the impact of market volatility.

How to apply it?

Choose an amount you're willing to invest each month. Purchase the cryptocurrency of your choice on the same date every month, without worrying about price fluctuations.

DCA is a simple and effective strategy for those who want to invest for the long term without fretting over short-term market movements.



[Simulate DCA on BTC](#)

11. THE INDEX YOU OVERLOOK BEFORE INVESTING IN A CRYPTO

The importance of Token Supply

Before investing, it's useful to understand Token Supply. Each cryptocurrency has a Maximum Supply, the maximum number of tokens that will ever be in circulation. This figure directly influences supply and demand dynamics.

Why use Market Cap?

Market Cap is calculated by multiplying the number of tokens in circulation by their current price. It's a key indicator for assessing a cryptocurrency's size and comparing it to others.

Relevance of Market Cap

Market Cap matters because it's based on supply and demand. For two cryptocurrencies with the same price, the one with a lower supply will have higher growth potential due to its scarcity.

Watch for increases in Token Supply

Monitor possible increases in Token Supply, which can dilute the value of existing tokens. Check [CoinMarketCap](#) or [CoinCheckup](#) regularly to track these changes.

Circulating Supply: Beware of very low prices

Cryptocurrencies with very low prices may hide an extremely high Circulating Supply, limiting their upside potential. However, a low price combined with a low Market Cap can indicate an interesting opportunity. Proceed with caution.

12. STAKING AND SAVINGS ON BINANCE

One way to grow your cryptocurrency holdings without risking market fluctuations is to use staking or savings products.

Flexible Savings

- **How it works:** You earn interest on the cryptocurrencies you hold without any constraints. You can allocate and withdraw your funds at any time.
- **Interest:** Interest is calculated starting the day after you subscribe. You can choose between a quick withdrawal (no interest) or a standard withdrawal (interest included after two days).

Fixed Savings

- **How it works:** You lend your tokens for a defined period in exchange for higher interest rates.
- **Risk:** The risk is low, especially with staking, but your funds are locked until the end of the lock-up period.

Staking on Binance

Some Essential Rules for Investing in Crypto

- **Stay Liquid:** Always keep a portion of your portfolio in stablecoins to seize opportunities or protect yourself against volatility.
- **Don't accumulate too many cryptos:** Diversify but avoid overfragmenting your portfolio with an excessive number of cryptocurrencies.
- **Correlation:** Most cryptocurrencies are correlated with each other. Diversify not only within cryptos but also with non-correlated assets (such as stablecoins or PAX Gold).

13. PREPARING FOR THE NEXT ALT SEASON

Alt Season, or the altcoin season, is a period when cryptocurrencies other than Bitcoin (BTC) experience a significant increase in value relative to BTC. Here's a guide to help you prepare effectively for the next Alt Season.

Understanding Altcoin Movements

Altcoins include all cryptocurrencies that are not Bitcoin. During Alt Season, these coins gain value against Bitcoin, but it's important to understand the specific fluctuations that characterize this market:

- **Bitcoin rising:** When Bitcoin's price goes up, altcoins tend to lose value. This is due to capital flowing from altcoins into bitcoins, which is perceived as safer.
- **Bitcoin falling:** When Bitcoin's price drops, altcoins also plunge, often more severely.
- **Bitcoin in a range:** When Bitcoin trades within a price range, altcoins often take advantage and rise. These periods are when Alt Season is most likely to occur.

To track these movements, it's also useful to consider Bitcoin dominance:

Bitcoin dominance = Bitcoin's market capitalization / (market capitalization of all other cryptocurrencies)

Bitcoin Dominance Index	Bitcoin Dominance Index	Signal
Bullish Trend	Bullish Trend	Bitcoin outperforms altcoins. Buy Bitcoin.
Bullish Trend	Bearish Trend	Altcoins outperform Bitcoin. Buy altcoins.
Bearish Trend	Bullish Trend	Altcoins outperform Bitcoin. Buy altcoins.
Bearish Trend	Bearish Trend	Bear market likely. Sell and take profits.

Which Altcoins to Position Yourself On?

Not all altcoins perform equally during an Alt Season. Here are some criteria for choosing the best projects:

- **Top altcoin:** Ethereum is often the leader among altcoins. Its movement can influence the general direction of other altcoins. Watch for chart patterns such as "double bottoms" on the weekly chart to anticipate a rise. Don't rush into a position without confirmation.

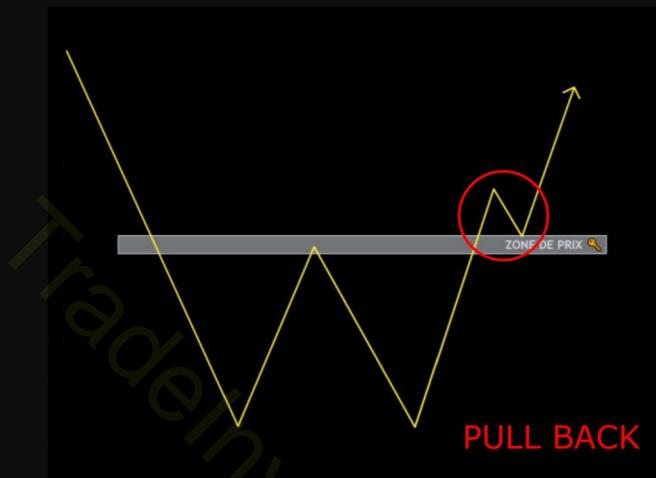


Chart pattern : double bottom with pull back

- **Other Promising altcoins:** Look for altcoins with a strong technological foundation, an engaged community, and strategic partnerships. Read the white paper (the detailed project report) to understand the project, and check sources like [CoinMarketCap](#) to analyze technical details and trading volume.

Checklist to evaluate a project

- Credible team?
- Detailed white paper?
- Engaged community?

Bitcoin Accumulation Strategy via Altcoins

An effective strategy is to use altcoin performance to accumulate more bitcoins. Here's how to proceed:

- **Take Advantage of Bitcoin's Movements:** When Bitcoin is trading in a range or dipping slightly, altcoins tend to rise. This is your opportunity to buy altcoins and then sell them back into bitcoins.
- **Choose Altcoins with Interesting Volatility:** Select altcoins that have significant but manageable volatility. The idea is to capitalize on quick price movements and sell at a higher level.
- **Take-Profit Strategy:** Don't hold altcoins for too long. Set take-profit levels (for example, 2x, 3x, or 4x your entry price) and let volatility work in your favor. Altcoins can surge quickly but also drop just as fast, so it's crucial to place stop-loss orders.

Portfolio Allocation for a Bull Run

Here is a sample portfolio composition to maximize gains while minimizing risk during a Bull Run:

- 55% in bitcoins (BTC)
- 25% in Large-Cap Projects (Ethereum and other major cryptocurrencies)
- 15% in Small Promising Projects (emerging cryptocurrencies with high potential)
- 5% in Shitcoins (high-risk cryptocurrencies—only include if you're willing to accept potential losses)

Risk Management and the Importance of Timing

- **Technical Analysis:** Wait for candlestick closes before entering a position. To confirm a breakout, look for a pullback retest.
- **Personalized Risk Management:** Your risk profile will determine how you weigh these different categories. Adjust your portfolio as the market evolves.

By closely monitoring market signals, you'll be better prepared to take advantage of the next Alt Season. This strategy requires a clear understanding of market dynamics and sound risk management, but it can yield excellent returns if executed properly.

14. LEVERAGE AND RISK MANAGEMENT IN CRYPTO TRADING

Leverage is a popular strategy in cryptocurrency trading that allows traders to multiply their market exposure by borrowing additional funds. However, this strategy carries significant risks and requires careful management to avoid major losses.

What is leverage?

Leverage allows you to increase the size of your positions by borrowing funds from the exchange. For example, 10x leverage means you can control a position ten times larger than your initial capital. If you invest \$100 with 10x leverage, you control a \$1,000 position.

Advantages of leverage +

- **Multiplier of potential gains:** With leverage, even a small price movement can generate substantial profits. For example, a 5% price increase with 10x leverage results in a 50% gain.
- **Capital optimization:** Leverage allows you to use a smaller portion of your capital to open larger positions, freeing up funds for other investments or trades.

Risks Associated with Leverage ⚡

- **Amplified Losses:** Leverage boosts not only gains but also losses. If the market moves against your position, your losses will match the leverage used. With 10x leverage, a 5% drop could wipe out 50% of your capital.
- **Liquidation:** Exchanges automatically liquidate positions that suffer large losses to prevent traders from losing more than their initial capital. The liquidation price depends on the leverage: the higher the leverage, the closer that price is to your entry point.

Risk Management

To limit risks when using leverage, it is important to adopt strict risk management practices:

- **Use stop-loss:** Place stop-loss orders to limit losses in case of adverse market movements. A well-placed stop-loss (SL) helps you

exit a position quickly if it goes against you. It is recommended to set the SL just below the most recent swing low, with some margin.



- **Limit leverage:** Do not use excessive leverage. For beginners, it is recommended to start with low leverage (e.g., 2x, 3x, or 5x) to minimize risk.
- **Diversification:** Do not put all your capital into a single position or a single cryptocurrency. Diversifying your trades helps reduce overall risk.
- **Constant monitoring:** Trading with leverage requires continuous attention. Crypto markets are extremely volatile, and sudden moves can have a dramatic impact on leveraged positions.

Example of effective risk management

Suppose you want to trade with 5x leverage.

Let's say Ethereum worth \$2,500.

Set your TP (Take Profit, the price at which you decide to close your position and lock in gains) at €3,000

If the TP is hit:

$$Gain = 5 * \left(\frac{3000 - 2500}{2500} \right) * 100 = 30\%$$

The price movement is 17%.

Gain of 30% thanks to leverage.

Leverage can therefore significantly increase your profits, as in this example where a 17% rise in Ethereum's price translates to a 30% gain thanks to 5x leverage. However, it is important to remain attentive to market movements and define clear strategies, such as using stop-loss orders to secure your profits. With proper management, leverage becomes an ally to maximize your opportunities in the market.

Here is a platform that will allow you to calculate your gains and losses:

[Crypto profit calculator](#)

15. WHICH MARKETS TO TRADE CRYPTO ON?

Spot: The Most Classic

The Spot market is simple and straightforward: you buy and sell cryptos without leverage, with fees limited to transactions. You own the crypto. It's the ideal market for beginners or for those who want a simple, direct trading environment.

Futures: A Higher-Risk Market

The Futures market allows you to trade with or without leverage. Fees are calculated based on the leverage used and are charged multiple times a day. *Leverage * fees* (maker or taker). Makers generally pay lower fees because they add liquidity to the market. Futures are suitable for experienced traders, as they require deep knowledge to understand how they work.

Taker vs Maker

- **Taker:** Buys or sells at the market price, consuming liquidity.
- **Maker:** Places an order at a specific price, creating liquidity.

CFD (Contracts for Difference)

CFDs let you speculate on the rise or fall of cryptocurrency prices without owning them. This can be done with leverage, which increases both potential gains and risks.

- **Fees:** CFD trading fees typically include spreads (the difference between the buy and sell price) and financing fees for positions held overnight.
- **Advantages and Disadvantages:** They offer high flexibility and allow you to profit from cryptocurrency volatility without owning the asset. You can also trade CFDs on stocks, indices, commodities, currencies, and more. However, they come with high financing fees and high risks due to leverage.

Margin: Trading with Collateral

Margin trading lets you trade with borrowed funds by locking up collateral. This allows you to take larger positions than your initial capital would permit. However, these funds are held as collateral, and you must pay interest on the borrowed amount. Margin trading fees are calculated based on *leverage * daily interest * the duration of holding the position*. This trading method is complex and carries higher risks due to the interest payments.

Choose your market and strategy based on your objectives and risk tolerance. For cryptocurrency trading, the CFD market is recommended over Futures.

Choose the Right Market

- *Spot: For beginners and investors*
- *Futures and Margin: For more experienced traders*
- *CFD : For an intermediate level*

Here is a non-exhaustive list of cryptocurrencies that may be interesting to watch:

ADAUSDT.P	DYDXUSDT.P
APEUSDT.P	ETHUSDT.P
ATOMUSDT.P	LINKUSDT.P
AXSUSDT.P	LTCUSDT.P
BNBUSDT.P	NEARUSDT.P
BTCUSDT.P	OPUSDT.P
CHZUSDT.P	SOLUSDT.P
DOGEUSDT.P	TAOUSDT
DOTUSDT.P	THETAUSDT.F
	XRPUSDT.P

USEFUL LINKS

News and General Information

- [CoinDesk](#)
News site covering cryptocurrencies and blockchain.
- [CoinTelegraph](#)
News, analysis, and information on blockchain and cryptocurrencies.

Market Data and Pricing

- [CoinMarketCap](#)
Tracking cryptocurrency prices and ranking by market capitalization.
- [CoinGecko](#)
In-depth analysis of cryptocurrency prices and trading volumes.
- [TradingView](#)
Charts and technical analysis for cryptocurrencies.

Wallets and Security

- [Ledger](#)
Manufacturer of hardware wallets to secure your crypto.
- [Trezor](#)
Another popular and secure hardware wallet provider.
- [MyEtherWallet \(MEW\)](#)
Online wallet for managing your Ethereum and ERC-20 tokens.

Tools and Calculators

- [CryptoCompare](#)
Comparisons, portfolio analysis, and profit calculators.
- [CoinTracking](#)
Tracking crypto transactions and calculating capital gains.
- [CryptoTaxCalculator](#)
Tool to calculate taxes related to your crypto transactions.