Technical Indicators and Overlays

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Technical Indicators are the often squiggly lines found above, below and on-top-of the price information on a technical chart. Indicators that use the same scale as prices are typically plotted on top of the price bars and are therefore referred to as **"Overlays"**.

If you are new to stock charting and the use of technical indicators, the following article will help you get going:

- **Introduction to Technical Indicators and Oscillators** – An in-depth introduction to the various kinds of technical indicators and oscillators out there. A "must read" article for StockCharts users.

Technical Overlays

- **Bollinger Bands** A chart overlay that shows the upper and lower limits of 'normal' price movements based on the Standard Deviation of prices
- **Chandelier Exit** An indicator that can be used to set trailing stop-losses for both long and short position
- **Ichimoku Cloud** A comprehensive indicator that defines support and resistance, identifies trend direction, gauges momentum and provides trading signals
- **Kaufman's Adaptive Moving Average (KAMA)** A unique moving average that accounts for volatility and automatically adjusts to price behavior
- **Keltner Channels** A chart overlay that shows upper and lower limits for price movements based on the Average True Range of prices
- **Moving Averages** Chart overlays that show the 'average' value over time. Both Simple Moving Averages (SMAs) and Exponential Moving Averages (EMAs) are explained
- **Moving Average Envelopes** A chart overlay consisting of a channel formed from simple moving averages
- **Parabolic SAR** A chart overlay that shows reversal points below prices in an uptrend and above prices in a downtrend
- **Pivot Points** A chart overlay that shows reversal points below prices in an uptrend and above prices in a downtrend
- **Price Channels** A chart overlay that shows a channel made from the highest high and lowest low for a given period of time
- **Volume By Price** A chart overlay with a horizontal histogram showing the amount of activity at various price levels
- **Volume-Weighted Average Price (VWAP)** An intraday indicator based on total dollar value of all trades for the current day divided by the total trading volume for the current day
- **ZigZag** A chart overlay that shows filtered price movements that are greater than a

given percentage

Technical Indicators

- **Accumulation/Distribution Line** Combines price and volume to show how money may be flowing into or out of a stock
- **Aroon** Uses Aroon Up and Aroon Down to determine whether a stock is trending or not
- **Aroon Oscillator** Measures the difference between Aroon Up and Aroon Down
- **Average Directional Index (ADX)** Shows whether a stock is trending or oscillating
- **Average True Range (ATR)** Measures a stock's volatility
- **BandWidth** Shows the percentage difference between the upper and lower Bollinger Band
- **%B Indicator** Shows the relationship between price and standard deviation Bollinger Bands
- **Chaikin Money Flow (CMF)** Combines price and volume to show how money may be flowing into or out of a stock Alternative to Accumulation/Distribution Line
- **Chaikin Oscillator** Combines price and volume to show how money may be flowing into or out of a stock. Based on Accumulation/Distribution Line
- **Chande Trend Meter (CTM)** Scores the strength of a stock's trend, based on several technical indicators over six different timeframes
- **Commodity Channel Index (CCI)** Shows a stock's variation from its 'typical' price
- **Coppock Curve** An oscillator that uses rate-of-change and a weighted moving average to measure momentum
- **Correlation Coefficient** Shows the degree of correlation between two securities over a given timeframe
- **DecisionPoint Price Momentum Oscillator (PMO)** An advanced momentum indicator that tracks a stock's rate of change
- **Detrended Price Oscillator (DPO)** A price oscillator that uses a displaced moving average to identify cycles
- **Ease of Movement (EMV)** An indicator that compares volume and price to identify significant moves
- **Force Index** A simple price-and-volume oscillator
- **Mass Index** An indicator that identifies reversals when the price range widens
- **MACD (Moving Average Convergence/Divergence Oscillator)** A momentum oscillator based on the difference between two EMAs
- **MACD Histogram** A momentum oscillator that shows the difference between MACD and its signal line
- **Money Flow Index (MFI)** A volume-weighted version of RSI that shows shifts is buying and selling pressure
- **Negative Volume Index (NVI)** A cumulative volume-based indicator used to identify trend reversals
- **On Balance Volume (OBV)** Combines price and volume in a very simple way to show how money may be flowing into or out of a stock
- **Percentage Price Oscillator (PPO)** A percentage-based version of the MACD indicator

- **Percentage Volume Oscillator (PVO)** The PPO indicator applied to volume instead of price
- **Price Relative / Relative Strength** Technical indicator that compares the performance of two stocks to each other by dividing their price data
- **Pring's Know Sure Thing (KST)** A momentum oscillator from Martin Pring based on the smoothed rate-of-change for four different timeframes
- **Pring's Special K** A momentum indicator from Martin Pring that combines short-term, intermediate and long-term velocity
- **Rate of Change (ROC) and Momentum** Shows the speed at which a stock's price is changing
- **Relative Strength Index (RSI)** Shows how strongly a stock is moving in its current direction
- **RRG Relative Strength** Uses RS-Ratio to measure relative performance and RS-Momentum to measure the momentum of relative performance
- **StockCharts Technical Rank (SCTR)** Our relative ranking system based on a stock's technical strength
- **Slope** Measures the rise-over-run for a linear regression
- **Standard Deviation (Volatility)** A statistical measure of a stock's volatility
- **Stochastic Oscillator (Fast, Slow, and Full)** Shows how a stock's price is doing relative to past movements. Fast, Slow and Full Stochastics are explained
- **StochRSI** Combines Stochastics with the RSI indicator to help you see RSI changes more clearly
- **TRIX** A triple-smoothed moving average of price movements
- **True Strength Index** An indicator that measures trend direction and identifies overbought/oversold levels
- **Ulcer Index** An indicator designed to measure market risk or volatility
- **Ultimate Oscillator** Combines long-term, mid-term and short-term moving averages into one number
- **Vortex Indicator** An indicator designed to identify the start of a new trend and define the current trend
- **Williams %R** Uses Stochastics to determine overbought and oversold levels

We also have a large collection of Market Indicators documented on this page.