

LANCE BEGGS

YTC

Price Action Trader



**Intraday Swing
Trading for the
Forex, FX Futures
and Emini
Futures Markets**

www.YourTradingCoach.com

Volume One - Introduction

YTC Price Action Trader
by Lance Beggs

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About the Author



Lance Beggs is a full time day-trader with a current preference for forex, FX futures and emini-futures markets. His style of trading is discretionary, operating in the direction of short-term sentiment within a framework of support and resistance.

As an ex-military helicopter pilot and aviation safety specialist, Lance has an interest in applying the lessons and philosophy of aviation safety to the trading environment, through study in human factors, risk management and crew resource management.

He is the founder and chief contributor to <http://www.YourTradingCoach.com>, which aims to provide quality trading education and resources with an emphasis on the 'less sexy' but more important aspects of trading – business management, risk management, money management and trading psychology.

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**“Develop a passion for learning.
If you do, you will never cease to grow.”**

...Anthony J. D’Angelo

Table of Contents

Volume One – Introduction

Chapter One – Introduction

1.1 – Introduction.....	15
1.2 – Scope – Strategy, Markets & Timeframes.....	17
1.3 – Acknowledgments.....	19
1.4 – Prerequisites.....	19
1.5 – Feedback.....	20
1.6 – Contents Overview.....	20

Volume Two – Markets and Market Analysis

Chapter Two – Principles of Markets

2.1 – Principles of Markets.....	15
2.2 – The Reality of the Markets.....	16
2.2.1 – <i>Trading the Shadows</i>	16
2.2.2 – <i>Cause and Effect</i>	19
2.2.3 – <i>What is Price?</i>	22
2.2.4 – <i>How Does Price Move?</i>	23
2.2.5 – <i>What are Markets</i>	32
2.2.6 – <i>Summary – The Reality of the Markets</i>	37
2.3 – The Reality of the Trading Game.....	38
2.3.1 – <i>How Do We Profit?</i>	38
2.3.2 – <i>Analysis for Profit</i>	39
2.4 – Effective vs Ineffective Trading Strategies and Systems.....	43
2.4.1 – <i>Principles of my Effective Strategy</i>	50
2.5 – Conclusion.....	52

Chapter Three – Market Analysis

3.1 – Introduction to Market Analysis.....	54
3.1.1 – <i>The Aim of our Market Analysis</i>	54
3.1.2 – <i>Subjectivity vs Objectivity in Market Analysis</i>	55
3.2 – Past Market Analysis.....	57
3.2.1 – <i>Support and Resistance</i>	57

3.2.2 – <i>Multiple Timeframe Analysis</i>	72
3.2.3 – <i>Market Structure</i>	79
3.2.4 – <i>Trends</i>	90
3.3 – <i>Future Trend</i>	113
3.3.1 – <i>Strength and Weakness</i>	113
3.3.2 – <i>Identifying Strength and Weakness</i>	116
3.3.3 – <i>Principles of Future Trend Direction</i>	145
3.3.4 – <i>Visualising the Future</i>	153
3.3.5 – <i>What Happens After S/R Holds?</i>	156
3.4 – <i>Initial Market Analysis Process</i>	160
3.4.1 – <i>Initial Market Analysis Process Summary</i>	160
3.4.2 – <i>Initial Market Analysis Checklist</i>	161
3.4.3 – <i>Initial Market Analysis Example</i>	165
3.5 – <i>Ongoing Market Analysis – Theory</i>	172
3.5.1 – <i>Determine Candle Pattern Sentiment</i>	173
3.5.2 – <i>Consider the Context</i>	180
3.5.3 – <i>Does it Support our Premise?</i>	184
3.6 – <i>Ongoing Market Analysis Process</i>	186
3.6.1 – <i>Ongoing Market Analysis Process Summary</i>	186
3.6.2 – <i>Ongoing Market Analysis Checklist</i>	186
3.6.3 – <i>Ongoing Market Analysis Example</i>	189
3.7 – <i>Practice</i>	200
3.7.1 – <i>Market Structure Journal</i>	201
3.8 – <i>Conclusion</i>	202
3.9 – <i>Addendum to Chapter 3 – Alternative Questions for the Conduct of Price Action Analysis</i>	203

Volume Three – Trading Strategy

Chapter Four – Strategy – YTC Price Action Trader

4.1 – <i>Strategy – YTC Price Action Trader</i>	15
4.2 – <i>Setup Concept</i>	15
4.2.1 – <i>The Expectancy Formula</i>	15
4.2.2 – <i>Principles behind the YTC Price Action Trader Setup Locations</i>	17
4.3 – <i>YTC Price Action Trader Setups</i>	25
4.3.1 – <i>Setup Definition</i>	25
4.3.2 – <i>Setups Appropriate for each Particular Market Environment</i>	41
4.3.3 – <i>Revisiting the Initial Market Analysis Process and Checklist</i>	54
4.3.4 – <i>More Action – Trading In-between Setup Areas</i>	56
4.3.5 – <i>When Price Enters Setup Areas</i>	56

4.4 – Trading the Setups.....	57
4.4.1 – <i>Stop Placement</i>	57
4.4.2 – <i>Targets</i>	64
4.4.3 – <i>Entry</i>	70
4.4.4 – <i>Trade Management</i>	99
4.5 – The Trading Process.....	119
4.5.1 – <i>Trading Process Diagram</i>	119
4.5.2 – <i>Trading Process Checklist</i>	120
4.6 – Practice.....	123
4.7 – Conclusion.....	123
 Chapter Five – Trade Examples	
5.1 – Trade Example 1 – BPB – T1 & T2 Achieved.....	126
5.2 – Trade Example 2 – PB – T1 Achieved – Part Two Worked Exit.....	138
5.3 – Trade Examples 3 – BOF, BPB, TST – Sideways Trend within another Sideways Trend.....	152
5.4 – Trade Example 4 – CPB – T1 Achieved – T2 Trailed.....	167
5.5 – Trade Example 5 – TST – Part 1 Stopped Breakeven - Part 2 Trailed.....	177
5.6 – Trade Example 6 – BOF – T1 & T2 Achieved.....	189
5.7 – Trade Example 7 – TST – Part 1 Scratched, Re-entered & Stopped Out – Part 2 Stopped Out.....	200
5.8 – Trade Example 8 – PB – Scratched – No Re-entry.....	213
5.9 – Trade Example 9 – CPB – T1 & T2 Achieved.....	225
5.10 – Trade Example 10 – TST – Scratched & Reversed - PB – T1 Achieved – Part 2 Stopped (Trail).....	235
5.11 – Trade Example Summary Notes.....	250
 Chapter Six – Other Markets, Other Timeframes	
6.1 – Other Markets, Other Timeframes.....	253
6.2 – Examples – Forex.....	255
6.2.1 – <i>Additional Forex Considerations</i>	261
6.3 – Examples – Emini Futures.....	264
6.3.1 – <i>Additional Emini Futures Considerations</i>	269
6.4 – Examples – Stocks & ETFs.....	271
6.4.1 – <i>Additional Stock & ETF Considerations</i>	275
6.5 – Conclusion.....	276

Volume Four – Your Trading Business

Chapter Seven – Money Management

7.1 – Ensuring Survival.....	15
7.2 – Financial Survival.....	15
7.3 – Money Management.....	15

Chapter Eight – Contingency Management

8.1 – Contingency Management.....	26
8.1.1 – Contingency Management.....	26

Chapter Nine – Goals & Targets

9.1 – What Win% Should You Expect?.....	30
9.2 – Ok... If I Absolutely Must!.....	31
9.3 – Stats.....	31
9.4 – Another Option – For the Consistently Profitable.....	32

Chapter Ten – Trading Psychology – A Practical Approach

10.1 – Personal Survival.....	37
10.2 – Prerequisites for Survival.....	37
10.3 – Mastery of Trading Psychology.....	42
10.3.1 – Focus on Process.....	42
10.3.2 – Peak Performance Mindset.....	45
10.4 – Maintenance of Peak Physical Condition.....	53
10.5 – Psych Wrap-Up.....	58
10.6 – Additional Study.....	58

Chapter Eleven – Trading Platform Setup

11.1 – Trading Platform Setup.....	60
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Chapter Twelve – Trading Plan

12.1 – Trading Plan.....	65
12.2 – Trading Plan Template.....	67
12.3 – Trading Plan – Explanatory Notes.....	69
12.3.1 – Cover Page.....	69
12.3.2 – Preface.....	69
12.3.3 – Introduction.....	70
12.3.4 – The Trader.....	70
12.3.5 – The Trading Business.....	71
12.3.6 – The Trading Process.....	74

12.3.7 – Annexes.....	76
Chapter Thirteen – Procedures Manual	
13.1 – Procedures Manual.....	78
13.2 – Sample Procedures Manual.....	78
Chapter Fourteen – Additional Documentation	
14.1 – Additional Documentation.....	106
14.2 – Trading Journal Spreadsheet.....	106
14.3 – Trading Log.....	106
14.4 – Motivation Journal.....	108
14.5 – Lessons Learnt Journal.....	108
14.6 – Market Structure Journal.....	109
14.7 – Trades Journal.....	110

Volume Five – Trader Development

Chapter Fifteen – The Journey	
15.1 – FACT: Most Readers Will Fail to Achieve Consistent Profitability.....	15
15.2 – The Journey.....	17
Chapter Sixteen – The Learning Process	
16.1 – Effective Learning.....	20
16.2 – Deliberate Practice.....	20
16.3 – Trade-Record-Review-Improve.....	21
16.4 – Deliberate Practice Tools and Techniques.....	22
16.4.1 – Defined Trading Procedures.....	22
16.4.2 – Trading Logs and Journals.....	22
16.4.3 – Documented Review Process.....	22
16.4.4 – Market Replay.....	23
16.4.5 – Market Replay Alternatives.....	26
16.4.6 – Peer Review.....	26
Chapter Seventeen – Taking Action	
17.1 – Taking Action.....	29
17.2 – The Development Stages.....	29
17.2.1 – Stage 1 – Establish Your Foundation.....	30
17.2.2 – Stage 2 – Simulator Environment.....	33
17.2.3 – Stage 3 – Live Environment – Minimum Size.....	34

17.2.4 – Stage 4 – Live Environment – Increasing Size.....	35
17.2.5 – As You Progress.....	35
17.3 – Taking Action – Alternate Strategies.....	36
17.4 – Challenges and Difficulties.....	37
17.5 – The Target.....	41
17.6 – Additional Study.....	41

Volume Six – Conclusion

Chapter Eighteen – Conclusion

18.1 – Summary.....	15
18.1.1 – Principles of Markets –Summary.....	15
18.1.2 – Market Analysis –Summary.....	17
18.1.3 – Trading Strategy –Summary.....	20
18.1.4 – Setups Poster.....	29
18.1.5 – The Learning Process –Summary.....	30
18.2 – For Those Concerned That It Appears Too Simple.....	31
18.3 – And For Those Who Perceive It As Too Complex.....	32
18.4 – Take Action.....	32
18.5 – Wrap Up.....	33
18.6 – Supplementary Resources.....	33

VOLUME ONE

INTRODUCTION

Chapter One - Introduction

1.1 - Introduction

Welcome to the YTC Price Action Trader.

I have two primary aims for this book.

- 1) To share with you the way that I view the financial markets and the way that I use price action to identify and manage trade opportunity.
- 2) To share with you the development process that I believe you need to follow in order to become a consistently profitable and professional trader, regardless of the strategy you choose to implement.

Of these two primary aims, the second is by far the most important.

New traders mistakenly believe success is all about the right knowledge and the right strategy. While this is important, they fail to understand that becoming a trader is really a process of growth and development. Success is not a result of one day finding the right combination of indicators or parameters and the right set of trading rules. Success comes through a process of learning to trust yourself as you operate within an environment of uncertainty. Trusting your ability to make effective decisions, to manage risk, and to identify and manage opportunity.

In drafting this book I initially placed this material at the beginning, prior to any discussion of strategy. My fears though, were that too many would be tempted to skip over this information in an attempt to get to what they perceived to be the higher value material – the strategy.

So, right or wrong, I've reworked the text to place this material at the end. And to be honest I feel it works better this way.

The real learning begins beyond the final pages of this book as you gain exposure to the uncertain nature of the markets. By structuring the book as I have, the routines and procedures required to ensure an effective learning process will be freshest in your mind.

If I have done my job well, you'll clearly understand the path that lies ahead of you and be approaching that journey well prepared for the challenges it will provide. You'll have a newly discovered interest in learning theory, decision making, trading psychology, as well as risk and money management.

But don't worry... we will discuss markets and strategy as well.

While not unique to me, you'll find the way I view the markets to be different to the way the majority approach this game. It was this change in perspective which resulted in one of the greatest advances in my own development as a trader. I hope it has the same impact on you.

The strategy shared within this book is a discretionary method of trading. It is not a simple "*buy on trigger A and sell on trigger B*" system. Such simple systems do not work, no matter how much we wish they did. Spend a day surfing any of the numerous systems forums and you'll see this for yourself. Many systems are presented which appear to offer great potential, generating excitement amongst the forum participants and a flurry of posting activity. Ultimately they fade away to nothing as the participants discover the system fails to deliver consistent results, or they become frustrated as it morphs into a completely different system as filter after filter is applied to try to overcome its limitations.

As you discover the way I view the markets you'll understand why these systems don't work. Typically they're based upon a false premise; a false understanding of the market environment and a false understanding of the reality of the trading game.

In the chapters which follow, you'll discover the reality of the market environment and finally understand what this game is really all about. And you'll be free from the illusion that leads to so many traders being stuck on the seemingly never-ending search for the Holy Grail trading system.

Unfortunately though, discovering reality doesn't make this an easy game. But at least you'll finally be on the right path.

I will be sharing the strategy that I use. However I can't guarantee that it will suit your needs and provide you with consistent profitability. It is a discretionary strategy. Hence the importance of understanding the key points within the disclaimer at the start of this document; understanding that trading does expose you to risk and that you'll most likely lose money as you progress through the growth and development process.

In applying the strategy, you'll be required to use your own discretion and intuition. Results will therefore depend on your own level of growth and development. You can't learn to ride a bike through reading a book; it requires experience. Trading is the same. This book will provide you with the underlying theory of the markets and a strategy which is designed to operate within that market reality. This is a starting point only; the real learning comes through exposure to the market environment.

Ultimately, I don't expect to create carbon-copies of myself. The reality is that we are all different people operating with different perceptual and decision making abilities. Your application of my strategy will be uniquely yours. So don't be afraid as you progress through the trader development phase to experiment with changes to the strategy. Take what works for you,

and discard what doesn't; blending my approach with your previous knowledge and experience to create your own work of art. Provided the end result is based upon the reality of the markets, as we'll discuss in Volume Two, and the application of your strategy has been developed via the trader development process we'll discuss in Volume Five, you'll be on the right path.

1.2 – Scope – Strategy, Markets & Timeframes

The strategy presented in Volume Three of this book is simply called the YTC Price Action Trader.

It is a discretionary based, swing trading strategy, which involves analysis across three timeframes, in order identify and trade the swings on the intermediate timeframe.

Although the strategy is adaptable to any market and timeframe (provided sufficient liquidity), the examples and discussion will primarily focus upon one market and one set of timeframes. This will ensure simplicity as you will always know whether a particular chart relates to the higher, intermediate or lower timeframe.

The chosen market and timeframes for demonstration of the strategy are:

- 6B (British Pound FX Futures, equivalent to the GBP/USD)
- 30 min, 3 min and 1 min charts

Why this combination? Simply because it's one of my favorites!

Is it the only market and timeframe which works? Absolutely not!

Do not be too concerned if you wish to trade other markets and other timeframes.

Chapter Six will discuss the factors which need to be considered in adapting this strategy to alternate markets and timeframes, as well as offer chart and setup examples. In particular we'll look at the forex market, the emini futures markets, and stocks, as it's a simple process to adjust and adapt to these markets. And we'll look at higher timeframe considerations.

Where there are other considerations that go beyond the scope of this book, and I'm able to provide expanded and detailed information related to these markets or timeframes (essentially making the adaptation for you), I'll do so via a small supplementary ebook such as the currently planned:

- YTC Scalper

The strategy is the same; it's just the application in these environments which has a few unique characteristics. I've kept them separate from the main book as they're not going to be of interest to the majority of readers, who will simply trade the standard YTC Price Action Trader.

For those of you not too familiar with my website, and wondering what markets and timeframes I currently trade...

The majority of my trading over recent years has been in applying the YTC Price Action Trader strategy as follows:

- GBP/USD (spot forex) using 60 min, 5 min and 1 min charts

Then upon discovering the cost and execution advantages of FX futures over spot forex, this changed to:

- 6B (British Pound FX currency futures, equivalent to the GBP/USD) and the YM (emini Dow futures) using 30, 3 and 1 min charts

More recently though, my trading has undergone a further evolution, as I move away from my standard timeframes towards shorter scalping timeframes (5 min, 1 min and 20 tick charts) on the YM and TF. This has become known as the YTC Scalper variation.

Although scalping is where my current trading lies, and where I will likely have my focus for the immediate future, I have chosen to present the original YTC Price Action Trader markets and timeframes as the primary method discussed within this book.

The reasoning is simple - I recognize that the majority of readers will not be interested in scalping the markets. And those that are will still get value in learning the standard approach, prior to studying the scalping variation.

1.3 - Acknowledgments

Unfortunately I never found one person to act as a mentor. I consider myself to be self-taught, having developed my trading approach through trial and error.

That being said, I expect there is nothing new in my approach to trading that hasn't been discovered before by others. This is just my unique interpretation of a blend of information, which has been gained from exposure to many others throughout my trading journey.

Numerous traders and educators have had significant influence in my own trader development. There are too many to mention in full, however I would like to offer a special thanks to the following people:

From my earlier days; Dr Alexander Elder, Dr Van Tharp, Mark Douglas, Linda Raschke.

And those who currently provide inspiration and new insight: Mike Reed, Denise Shull, Davin Clarke, Don Miller, Sam Seiden, Toni Hansen and Dr Brett Steenbarger.

Study everything you can find that was written by these people.

Charting

Charts throughout the book have been produced using Ninja Trader (www.ninjatrader.com) and Think or Swim (www.thinkorswim.com).

1.4 - Prerequisites

This book is not written for a complete novice. It will not explain the basics of charting and technical analysis, which should be considered prerequisite knowledge.

If you are new to this game and are not familiar with charts, the creation of price bars or candles, or the use of common charting patterns and technical analysis indicators, then you need to delay reading this book until you've established this base-level of knowledge.

The following webpage will provide you with some recommended sources of this prerequisite knowledge, some low-cost and some free:

- <http://www.yourtradingcoach.com/Trading-Resources.html>.

1.5 - Feedback

Feedback is greatly appreciated, whether positive or negative. In fact, I absolutely encourage feedback if you disagree with anything presented in this document. I make no claims of being a Guru Trader who knows it all. I see myself as someone who's perhaps been where you are right now and who may be able to help you take the next step. I believe that no-one will ever master this game; rather it provides us with a never-ending process of learning. While I look back at my view of the markets even just five years ago, with a laugh at how naive I was, I would similarly be delighted to look back at this work in another five years and see further progress and growth. We can learn from each other.

Please send all feedback to: support@YourTradingCoach.com

I'd love to hear your thoughts.

1.6 - Contents Overview

The following provides a quick summary of the material to come...

Volume Two – Markets and Market Analysis

Chapter 2 of the series is where we discover the reality of markets and the trading game. We'll see the true nature of price movement and the way that I view markets that allows me to identify areas of trade opportunity. You'll come away with not only a new understanding of the markets, but also an understanding of why most traders lose and why most other systems are ineffective.

Chapter 3 of the series covers market analysis. You'll learn how I analyze price action within a framework of support and resistance. You'll learn to develop a bias for future price action, and update that bias as the market data unfolds bar by bar.

Volume Three – Trading Strategy

In chapter 4, we'll discover the YTC Price Action Trader. We'll find out where the opportunity for profit exists within the market structure we have created and analyzed in chapter 3. And we'll work through examples showing how to identify, execute and manage these trade opportunities.

In chapter 5, we'll review a number of trade examples, from start to finish. A common complaint with trading books is that authors always seem to show the best trade examples; those that move immediately from the entry trigger to great profits. Interestingly, I have also felt this temptation – ego is an amazingly powerful force. However I've seen enough trading books to know that this does not serve you well. Reality is never as neat as the textbook examples. I have therefore attempted to show you trades based on the reality of the markets – a mixture of different setups – some which do move to profits – but others which will stop me out, or even cause me to scratch the trade at or around breakeven due to doubt about future profitability. Hopefully this will provide greater benefit.

Chapter 6 will discuss implementation of the strategy in other timeframes; as well as other markets such as forex, emini futures and stocks.

Volume 4 – Your Trading Business

Volume 4 is where we approach our trading in a business-like manner. Chapter 7 and 8 ensure our financial survival, through establishment of our money management and contingency management plans. Chapter 9 discusses our goals and targets.

Chapter 10 aims to ensure our personal survival, through a practical application of trading psychology tools and techniques.

Chapter 11 sets up our trading platform.

Chapters 12 and 13 discuss the two primary documents used in our trading business – the Trading Plan which outlines our strategy for profiting from the markets; and the Procedures Manual, which establishes our daily pre-session, during-session and post-session routines, contingency management and review processes.

Chapter 14 will complete our discussion of documentation, outlining the numerous journals and spreadsheets that will be required, should you approach this challenge in a professional and business-like manner.

Volume Five – Trader Development

This is where we discuss the process of becoming a trader.

In Chapter 15 of the series we will reinforce the point that becoming a professional (and consistently profitable) trader is not an end-state, but a journey of growth and self-development.

Chapter 16 will talk about the learning process – the principles, tools and techniques needed to ensure efficient progress through your trader development journey. This is something you won't find in most trading books, but which I believe is of great importance.

Chapter 17, Taking Action, will provide you with some direction for the way forward, and will establish a plan for your progression through the four stages of trader development.

Volume 6 – Conclusion

Chapter 18 wraps up the series with a summary of the main concepts.

Before you begin, I recommend spending some time skimming through the six volumes in order to provide yourself with a bigger-picture overview and familiarize yourself with the structure of the contents.

Enjoy!

Resources

Trading Website: www.YourTradingCoach.com
Trading Course: www.YTCPriceActionTrader.com
YouTube Videos: www.youtube.com/YourTradingCoach

'Because You'd Rather Be Trading For A Living...'