

THE FUNDED TRADER ROADMAP

A simple guide to trading with patience, rules, and control

What this guide is about

Funded trading is not a shortcut to easy money. It is a test of decision-making. This guide shows you how to prepare, trade smaller, and build the habits that help you stay in the game.

The account is not the goal. The process is.

Most new traders begin by thinking about the payout. That is understandable, but it puts pressure on every trade. A better starting point is to focus on the process: follow your plan, protect your account, and collect useful information from each session.

A funded account is usually an evaluation. You trade under a set of rules, and the firm checks whether you can manage risk while reaching a target. The exact rules differ from firm to firm, so never assume that one account works like another.

The real skill is not predicting every move. It is knowing what you will do before the move happens. When your plan is clear, a loss becomes information instead of a personal failure.

A calmer definition of success

A good trading day is one where you respected your rules. Profit is welcome, but discipline is the result you can repeat.

Reminder: Read the full rules of any firm before paying for an evaluation. This guide is general education, not financial advice.

Pick rules you can actually live with

Before choosing a firm or account, write down the rules that matter to you. Look at the total loss limit, daily loss limit, profit target, minimum trading days, news restrictions, weekend rules, and payout conditions. If a rule is unclear, ask the firm before you start.

Do not choose an account only because the headline size looks impressive. A larger account can create larger emotional pressure. The best account is the one whose rules match your normal style and whose risk limits leave you room to think.

A simple comparison table can help:

Check	Your answer
Maximum loss	Write the number
Daily loss rule	Write the number
Trading days	Write the number
Payout conditions	Write the number

Do not rush the choice.

If the rules feel confusing today, they will feel even more confusing after a loss. Clarity is part of risk management.

One good setup is enough to begin

You do not need ten indicators or a new strategy every week. Start with one setup that you can explain in a few sentences. Define the market, the time window, the entry signal, the stop-loss location, and the reason you will exit.

A setup should answer five questions:

1. **Where do I trade?** Choose one or two markets and a session that fits your schedule.
2. **What am I waiting for?** Describe the price behavior, not a feeling.
3. **Where is the trade invalid?** Place the stop where your idea is proven wrong.
4. **Where will I take profit?** Decide this before entering.
5. **When will I stay out?** A no-trade condition is part of the setup.

Test the idea in a journal or demo environment before risking evaluation money. Your first job is not to find a perfect system. It is to find a system you can follow without improvising.

Quality over variety

Learn one repeatable pattern deeply. More strategies can come later, after your behavior is stable.

Small risk keeps your mind useful

Risk is the part of trading you control most directly. Choose a fixed amount or percentage that feels small enough to accept. If one loss makes you want to win the money back immediately, your position is probably too large.

A simple rule can be written like this:

$$\text{Risk per trade} = \text{account risk limit} \div \text{number of planned attempts}$$

This is not a magic formula. It is a reminder to leave room for normal losses. Never increase size just because you are close to a target. Being close can make traders careless.

Set a daily stop before the session begins. For example, you might decide that after a certain number of losses, the platform closes for the day. The exact number is personal, but the decision should be made while calm.

Protect the next decision.

The purpose of a loss limit is not to punish you. It gives you a clear exit from a bad emotional state.

Use a routine instead of chasing a feeling

A simple routine removes many unnecessary decisions. Before the session, mark important levels, check your calendar, and write the one setup you are willing to trade. During the session, wait for the conditions. After the session, record what happened.

A calm trading day can look like this:

Time	Action
Before	Review plan, levels, risk, and schedule
During	Wait, execute, and avoid changing rules
After	Save a chart and write a short review

The goal is not to trade every day. Some days offer no clean opportunity. Staying out can be a correct decision when the market does not match your plan.

A missed trade is not a loss.

A real loss comes from breaking your own limits. Patience protects both your account and your confidence.

Your journal turns experience into evidence

Memory is selective. After a win, you may remember the exciting part. After a loss, you may remember only the mistake. A journal gives you a more honest record.

For every trade, save the entry chart and write a few lines about the decision. Include the setup, direction, entry, stop, target, result, and your emotional state. Also write whether you followed the plan. A planned loss and a careless loss are not the same lesson.

At the end of each week, look for repeated behavior. Are you entering early? Moving stops? Trading after your limit? Taking trades outside your best time? One useful change is better than ten vague promises.

Weekly review question

“What is the one behavior I will make easier to follow next week?” Write the answer in a single sentence and keep it visible.

Most account failures are behavior problems

Revenge trading. After a loss, you enter quickly to recover the money. The fix is simple: leave the screen for a set amount of time and return only if your plan still gives a valid signal.

Forcing a target. When you are close to the goal, every candle can look like an opportunity. The fix is to keep the same risk and the same selectivity. A target does not change the market.

Changing systems after two losses. A small losing streak is normal. The fix is to review a meaningful sample before deciding that a method needs to change.

Ignoring the rules after a win. Confidence can become carelessness. The fix is to treat a winning day as a reason to protect your process, not to increase size without evidence.

Trading while tired or angry. Your strategy cannot repair a poor state of mind. The fix is to use a clear no-trade rule for sleep, stress, or distraction.

The best defense is a written rule.

If the rule exists only in your head, emotion can negotiate with it.

Start slowly and collect proof

Days	Focus
1-2	Read the firm rules. Write down every limit and condition in your own words.
3	Choose one market, one session, and one setup. Define the invalidation point.
4	Create a journal. Review a small sample of past charts or demo trades.
5	Build your pre-trade checklist and daily stop rule.
6	Practice waiting. Take only trades that match your written setup.
7	Review the week. Keep one strength and choose one behavior to improve.

The first seven days are not about proving that you can make money. They are about proving that you can follow a simple plan. That proof is more valuable than a lucky result.

Your quiet promise

I will not measure myself by one trade. I will build skill through small decisions, clear records, and respect for risk.

FX GARVIT

Trade with patience. Review with honesty. Grow with time.

FINAL NOTE

Keep the process simple

Funded trading can offer a structured way to practice, but it does not remove risk. Rules can change, losses can happen, and no method wins all the time. Use only money you can afford to lose, understand the terms before purchasing an evaluation, and take a break when your decisions stop being calm.

The traders who last are not always the ones with the most exciting entries. They are often the ones who know when to wait, when to stop, and when to review. Your edge is built from those ordinary actions.

Slow is still progress.

— FX Garvit

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