

ADVANCED GUIDE TO LEARN

21

# GOLDEN RULES OF TRADING



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# ABOUT



## **INTRODUCTION TO "21 GOLDEN RULES OF TRADING" BY GANESH MEHETRE**

WELCOME TO 21 GOLDEN RULES OF TRADING, A CONCISE AND PRACTICAL GUIDE CRAFTED FROM MY 7+ YEARS OF TRADING EXPERIENCE IN THE STOCK MARKET. THIS BOOK IS DESIGNED TO BE YOUR COMPASS IN THE DYNAMIC WORLD OF TRADING, EMPHASIZING THE ESSENTIAL PILLARS OF SUCCESS: CAPITAL PRESERVATION, EFFECTIVE RISK MANAGEMENT, PRACTICAL TRADING STRATEGIES, AND MASTERING TRADING PSYCHOLOGY. WHETHER YOU ARE A BEGINNER LOOKING FOR FOUNDATIONAL GUIDANCE OR AN EXPERIENCED TRADER AIMING TO REFINE YOUR APPROACH, THESE 21 GOLDEN RULES WILL EQUIP YOU WITH TIMELESS PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONABLE INSIGHTS TO NAVIGATE THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE MARKET WITH CONFIDENCE AND DISCIPLINE. REMEMBER, SUCCESSFUL TRADING IS NOT JUST ABOUT MAKING PROFITS—IT'S ABOUT PROTECTING WHAT YOU HAVE AND GROWING STEADILY OVER TIME. LET THIS BOOK BE YOUR TRUSTED ALLY IN ACHIEVING CONSISTENT AND SUSTAINABLE TRADING SUCCESS. HAPPY TRADING!



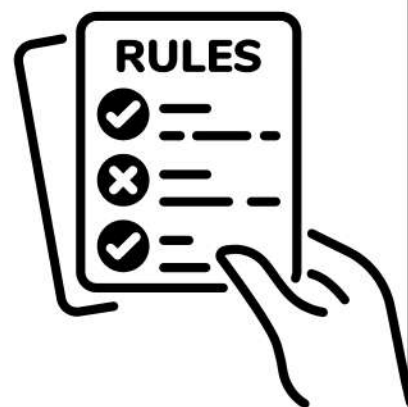
**RULE  
BOOK**

# RULE 1 : EMPHASIZE LEARNING

In the ever-evolving world of trading, continuous learning is not just an option; it is a necessity. The market is dynamic, influenced by countless factors, and staying updated with new trends, strategies, and tools is critical for long-term success. Every trade—whether profitable or not—offers a lesson. By maintaining a trading journal and reflecting on decisions, traders can turn mistakes into valuable insights that sharpen their approach over time.

Understanding market fundamentals is the cornerstone of effective trading. Mastering concepts like market structure, supply and demand, and technical analysis provides a solid foundation. Equally important is staying informed about global macroeconomic events that influence price movements. A curious and open-minded approach allows traders to explore various strategies, adapting to different market conditions and finding what aligns best with their goals and risk tolerance. Education should always take precedence over the pursuit of profits. A well-informed trader is better equipped to navigate risks and seize opportunities. Leveraging resources such as books, webinars, podcasts, and courses ensures a steady flow of knowledge.

**Engaging with experienced mentors can also accelerate the learning process, offering practical insights and helping avoid common pitfalls.**



## **RULE 2 : DEVELOPE A METHODOLOGY BASED ON FACTS**

Successful trading is not about guessing market movements; it's about building and adhering to a well-defined methodology. A solid trading methodology acts as a roadmap, guiding traders through the uncertainties of the market with discipline and consistency. It combines a clear set of rules, strategies, and processes that align with the trader's goals, risk tolerance, and market understanding. Without a methodology, even the most experienced traders are prone to emotional decision-making, which can lead to costly mistakes.

Defining your entry and exit criteria is the heart of your methodology. These rules should be based on sound technical analysis, fundamental insights, or a combination of both. For instance, you might use moving averages, candlestick patterns, or economic data as triggers for your trades. Equally important is deciding when to exit a trade—whether to lock in profits or minimize losses. Clear exit rules protect your capital and prevent you from falling prey to greed or fear.



# **RULE 3 : UNDERSTANDING AND IDENTIFYING YOUR TRADING STYLE**

Understanding and identifying your trading style is one of the most critical steps toward becoming a successful trader. Your trading style defines how you approach the market, the timeframes you operate in, and the strategies you employ. It should align with your personality, risk tolerance, financial goals, and the amount of time you can dedicate to trading. Choosing a trading style that fits you ensures consistency and reduces stress, helping you stay disciplined in the long run.

## **HERE ARE THE MOST COMMON TRADING STYLES TO CONSIDER :**

### **1. DAY TRADING:**

Day traders execute multiple trades within a single trading day, aiming to profit from short-term price movements. This style requires active monitoring of the markets, quick decision-making, and a deep understanding of technical analysis. It's suitable for those who can dedicate significant time to trading during market hours and thrive in fast-paced environments.

### **2. SWING TRADING:**

Swing traders hold positions for several days or weeks, aiming to capture price swings within a trend. This style strikes a balance between short-term and long-term trading, making it ideal for individuals who cannot monitor the market constantly but still want to engage actively. Swing traders often rely on both technical and fundamental analysis to time their trades.

### 3.POSITIONAL TRADING:

Position traders take a long-term approach, holding trades for weeks, months, or even years. This style focuses on major market trends and is heavily reliant on fundamental analysis, such as economic data, company performance, and global events. Position trading is suitable for those who prefer a less frequent trading schedule and are patient enough to wait for significant returns.

### 4.SCALPING:

Scalping is a high-intensity trading style where traders aim to make small profits from numerous trades throughout the day. Scalpers rely on extremely short timeframes and high trading volumes. This style requires focus, quick reflexes, and access to advanced trading tools. It's best suited for experienced traders who can handle the pressure of rapid decision-making.

### 5.ALGO TRADING:

Algorithmic trading involves using computer programs and algorithms to execute trades automatically. This style is data-driven and often used by traders with a strong background in programming and quantitative analysis. Algorithmic trading is ideal for those who prefer a hands-off approach and can rely on technology to execute their strategies.

**BY UNDERSTANDING YOUR TRADING STYLE, YOU CAN TAILOR YOUR STRATEGIES, TOOLS, AND RISK MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES TO FIT YOUR STRENGTHS AND PREFERENCES. REMEMBER, THERE IS NO ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL SOLUTION IN TRADING. THE KEY IS TO CHOOSE A STYLE THAT RESONATES WITH YOU AND COMMIT TO MASTERING IT.**



## **RULE 4 : TREAT TRADING LIKE A BUSINESS**

To achieve consistent success in trading, approach it as a professional business. Start with a clear trading plan outlining your goals, strategies, and risk management rules to maintain discipline and direction. Manage your capital wisely by avoiding over-leveraging and limiting the risk per trade, focusing on consistent returns rather than quick gains.

Maintain a trading journal to record and review your trades, identifying areas for improvement. Continuously invest in learning to stay updated with market trends and tools, just as businesses innovate to remain competitive. Keep emotions in check; treat every trade as a calculated business decision, and view losses as learning opportunities rather than personal failures.

Understand and manage trading costs, including fees and taxes, to protect your profits. Finally, set realistic goals that align with your financial objectives and risk tolerance. By treating trading like a business, you build a foundation of discipline, consistency, and long-term growth.



## **RULE 5 : ALWAYS USE A TRADING PLAN**

A trading plan is the foundation of consistent and disciplined trading. It acts as a roadmap, guiding your decisions and helping you navigate market uncertainties. Without a plan, trading often becomes impulsive, driven by emotions like fear or greed, which can lead to costly mistakes. A well-crafted trading plan ensures you approach the market with a clear strategy and a defined set of rules, minimizing emotional interference.

Your trading plan should outline your goals, preferred trading style, risk management rules, and criteria for entering and exiting trades. It should also include guidelines for position sizing and the maximum capital you are willing to risk on any given trade. These parameters help protect your capital and ensure consistency in your approach.

Using a trading plan not only promotes discipline but also provides a framework for evaluating your performance. By comparing your actual trades with your plan, you can identify areas for improvement and refine your strategies over time. Remember, successful trading is not about guessing market moves but about executing a well-thought-out plan with precision. Always trade with a plan—your success depends on it.

# **PLAN**



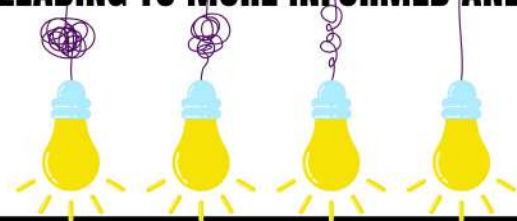
# **RULE 6 : IDENTIFY COMPONENTS IN WHICH YOU ARE COMFORTABLE**

As a trader, focusing on specific stocks or indices can help you develop a deeper understanding of their behavior, trends, and market influences. Identifying the stocks or indices you are comfortable with allows you to specialize and refine your strategies for better decision-making.

Start by selecting a set of stocks or indices that align with your trading style and goals. For instance, if you prefer more stable, large-cap stocks, you might focus on indices like the **NIFTY** or the **BITCOIN**. These indices represent major sectors of the economy and offer less volatility compared to smaller stocks. On the other hand, if you thrive on volatility and have a higher risk tolerance, you might focus on smaller-cap stocks or more volatile indices like the **MIDCAPNIFTY**.

It's also important to consider the liquidity and trading volume of the stocks or indices you choose. Highly liquid stocks or major indices allow for smoother execution of trades and minimize the impact of slippage. As you gain experience, you can identify the specific sectors or industries (e.g., **BANKNIFTY**, technology, healthcare, or finance) that you are most comfortable with, enabling you to capitalize on sector-specific trends and news.

**BY NARROWING YOUR FOCUS TO STOCKS AND INDICES YOU ARE COMFORTABLE WITH, YOU CAN BUILD EXPERTISE IN UNDERSTANDING THEIR PRICE MOVEMENTS, NEWS IMPACTS, AND SEASONAL PATTERNS, LEADING TO MORE INFORMED AND CONFIDENT TRADING DECISIONS.**



# **RULE 7 : USE TECHNOLOGY AT YOUR ADVANTAGE IN TRADING**

In today's fast-paced trading environment, technology plays a crucial role in improving efficiency, accuracy, and decision-making. Leveraging advanced tools and resources can give you a competitive edge in the market. Start by utilizing charting and analysis software that provides real-time data, technical indicators, and customizable tools to help you spot trends and make informed decisions. Platforms like MetaTrader, TradingView, or ThinkorSwim offer powerful features for technical analysis and backtesting strategies.

Automated trading systems, including expert advisors (EAs) or algorithmic trading, can also enhance your trading efficiency. These systems can execute trades based on predefined rules and help you manage trades without emotional interference. They can also backtest strategies, allowing you to refine your approach using historical data before risking real capital.

Furthermore, keep up with news feeds, economic calendars, and financial platforms like Bloomberg or Reuters to stay informed about market-moving events and trends. Social media platforms, such as Twitter and StockTwits, can provide insights from experienced traders and real-time market sentiment.

**UTILIZING MOBILE TRADING APPS ENSURES THAT YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE MARKETS ANYTIME, ANYWHERE, GIVING YOU FLEXIBILITY AND CONTROL OVER YOUR TRADES. BY USING TECHNOLOGY TO AUTOMATE ROUTINE TASKS, IMPROVE YOUR ANALYSIS, AND STAY INFORMED, YOU CAN TRADE MORE EFFECTIVELY AND FOCUS ON REFINING YOUR STRATEGY FOR LONG-TERM SUCCESS.**



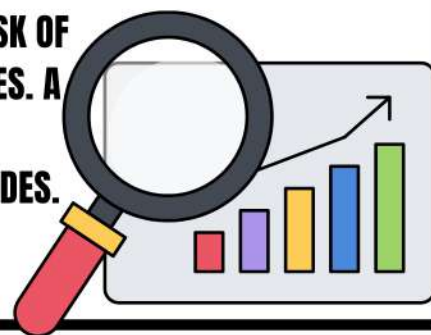
# **RULE 8 : ALWAYS IDENTIFY TREND OF MARKET**

Identifying the market trend is a fundamental aspect of successful trading. Whether you are a short-term trader or a long-term investor, understanding the direction of the market is crucial to making informed decisions. Trends can be classified as upward (bullish), downward (bearish), or sideways (neutral), and each requires a different approach.

To identify the market trend, start by using technical analysis tools such as moving averages, trendlines, and indicators like the Average Directional Index (ADX) or Moving Average Convergence Divergence (MACD). These tools help smooth out price movements and reveal the underlying trend. Additionally, it's important to analyze price patterns, support and resistance levels, and volume, as these can provide confirmation of the trend's strength or potential reversal.

Recognizing the trend early allows you to align your trades with the prevailing market momentum, increasing your chances of success. For example, in an uptrend, you may want to focus on buying opportunities, while in a downtrend, short-selling or avoiding new long positions may be prudent. In sideways markets, look for range-bound strategies or wait for a breakout.

**BY ALWAYS IDENTIFYING THE TREND OF THE MARKET, YOU MINIMIZE THE RISK OF TRADING AGAINST THE PREVAILING MOMENTUM, WHICH CAN LEAD TO LOSSES. A SOLID UNDERSTANDING OF MARKET TRENDS HELPS YOU MAKE STRATEGIC, INFORMED DECISIONS THAT INCREASE THE PROBABILITY OF PROFITABLE TRADES.**



# **RULE 9 : PICK INDEX FOR TRADING WHOSE NEWS YOU CAN ANALYSE WELL AND FAST**

When selecting an index for trading, choose one with strong news coverage and that you can analyze quickly. Major indices like the Banknifty, Nifty, GOLD (XAU), Bitcoin, S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average, and NASDAQ-100 are ideal due to their broad market representation and frequent news coverage. Focus on indices whose components or sectors you are familiar with, as this allows you to better interpret news that impacts them.

Additionally, select indices that are influenced by economic data or events you can easily monitor, such as employment reports or Federal Reserve decisions. By staying informed through trusted news sources like Bloomberg or Reuters, you can make faster, more confident trading decisions.



# **RULE 10 : DONT TRADE IN MARKETS WHEN MARKET IS STUCK BETWEEN SMALL RANGE**

Trading in a market that is stuck between a small range can be risky and unproductive. In such conditions, prices are moving within tight boundaries, and volatility is low, which often leads to false breakouts and erratic price action. This type of market is unpredictable, making it difficult to establish clear trends or reliable entry and exit points.

When markets are range-bound, it's challenging to achieve significant profits because the price movements are typically minor. Additionally, the risk of getting caught in a false breakout increases, where price moves out of the range temporarily only to quickly reverse, leading to losses.

It's generally more effective to wait for the market to break out of the narrow range, signaling a potential new trend. By staying on the sidelines during periods of low volatility and range-bound conditions, you can avoid unnecessary risks and wait for clearer opportunities in trending markets.



# **RULE 11 : DONT TRADE BREAKOUTS WITHOUT MULTIPLE CONFIRMATIONS**

Trading breakouts without multiple confirmations can be risky, as many breakouts turn out to be false signals, leading to losses. A breakout occurs when the price moves beyond a key support or resistance level, but not all breakouts lead to sustained trends. To increase the probability of success, always seek confirmation from additional indicators or factors before entering a trade.

Use tools like volume analysis, trend confirmation, or momentum indicators (e.g., RSI, MACD) to verify the strength of the breakout. A high volume breakout, for example, can indicate greater conviction and a higher likelihood of continuation. Additionally, look for confirmation from price action, such as retests of the breakout level or the formation of bullish or bearish candlestick patterns.

**BY WAITING FOR MULTIPLE CONFIRMATIONS, YOU REDUCE THE RISK OF ENTERING ON A FALSE BREAKOUT AND IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES OF CAPTURING PROFITABLE MOVES. PATIENCE AND CONFIRMATION ARE KEY TO SUCCESSFUL BREAKOUT TRADING.**



# RULE 12 : RISK ONLY WHAT YOU CAN AFFORD TO LOOSE

One of the core principles of successful trading is to never risk more capital than you can afford to lose. This mindset helps protect your financial health and ensures you can continue trading even after facing losses. Before entering any trade, assess the amount of risk you're willing to take and ensure it aligns with your overall financial situation and trading strategy.

A good rule of thumb is to limit the amount you risk per trade to a small percentage of your total trading capital—typically 1-2%. This approach helps safeguard your account from significant drawdowns, allowing you to stay in the market over the long term. By managing risk effectively, you avoid emotional stress and ensure that a few losing trades won't derail your overall trading journey. Always remember: risk what you can afford to lose and protect your capital first.



# RULE 13 : PROTECT VYOUR TRADING CAPITAL

Protecting your trading capital is essential for long-term success in the markets. Without capital, you can't trade, so preserving it should be your top priority. To safeguard your capital, always set strict risk management rules, such as using stop-loss orders and limiting the amount you risk on each trade. A common approach is to risk no more than 1-2% of your total capital per trade, ensuring that even a series of losses won't significantly impact your account.

Additionally, avoid over-leveraging, as it can amplify losses and quickly deplete your trading capital. Regularly review and adjust your trading strategies based on market conditions to ensure you're not exposed to unnecessary risks. Stay disciplined and protect your capital, as it's the foundation of your trading journey, allowing you to continue learning, adapting, and profiting over time.



# RULE 14 : ALWAYS USE TAKE PROFIT AND STOP LOSS TOOLS

Using take profit and stop loss orders is essential to effective risk management in trading. A take profit order helps you lock in profits at a predetermined level, ensuring you exit the trade once it reaches your target, preventing you from getting greedy or emotional in the heat of the moment. On the other hand, a stop loss order automatically closes your position if the market moves against you, limiting your losses and protecting your capital from significant drawdowns.

These tools help you stay disciplined, maintain consistency, and reduce emotional decision-making. By setting both take profit and stop loss levels, you create a clear exit strategy for each trade, allowing you to stick to your plan and protect your gains while minimizing risk. Always use these tools to safeguard your trading capital and ensure you stay on track toward your financial goals.



# RULE 15 : BECOME STUDENT OF MARKET

To succeed in trading, you must approach the market with a mindset of continuous learning and curiosity. Being a "student of the market" means committing to constant education, observing market behavior, and refining your strategies. Understand that the markets are dynamic, constantly evolving with new patterns, trends, and tools emerging.

Study various aspects of market analysis, including technical analysis, fundamental analysis, and trading psychology. Learn from your trades—both the successes and the failures—by keeping a trading journal to track your decisions, mistakes, and improvements. Stay updated on financial news, market events, and economic reports that impact the markets.

Adopting this mindset allows you to adapt to changing conditions and stay ahead of the curve. A student of the market never stops learning, and with time and effort, you can turn knowledge into profitable trading decisions.



# RULE 16 : KNOW WHEN TO STOP TRADING

Knowing when to stop trading is just as important as knowing when to enter a trade. It's crucial to recognize when your emotions, fatigue, or market conditions are clouding your judgment. If you've experienced a string of losses, it may be a sign to step back and reassess your strategy, as continued trading in such a state can lead to impulsive decisions and bigger losses.

Similarly, if you're feeling stressed, distracted, or overly emotional, it's best to take a break. Trading requires focus, patience, and clear decision-making, so avoid trading when you're mentally exhausted. Set daily or weekly goals, and once you've reached them, or if market conditions become unpredictable, it's wise to stop for the day.

By knowing when to stop, you protect your capital and prevent emotional overtrading, which is a key factor in sustaining long-term success in the markets. Always remember that there will always be another opportunity, and sometimes the best decision is to simply walk away.



## **RULE 17 : KEEP TRADING IN PERSPECTIVE**

It's essential to maintain a balanced perspective on trading to avoid the emotional rollercoaster that often comes with market fluctuations. Trading is not a get-rich-quick endeavor; it's a long-term pursuit that requires patience, discipline, and consistent effort. Keep in mind that losses are a natural part of the process, and the key is to manage risk effectively and learn from them rather than being discouraged.

Focus on the bigger picture—building sustainable profits over time rather than chasing short-term gains. Avoid letting a single loss or a few bad trades define your success. Instead, view trading as a journey of continuous improvement, where each trade offers a learning opportunity.

It's also important to separate your personal life from your trading. Don't allow the stress or excitement of trading to spill over into other areas of your life. By keeping trading in perspective, you can stay grounded, make better decisions, and ultimately achieve more consistent results in the long run.

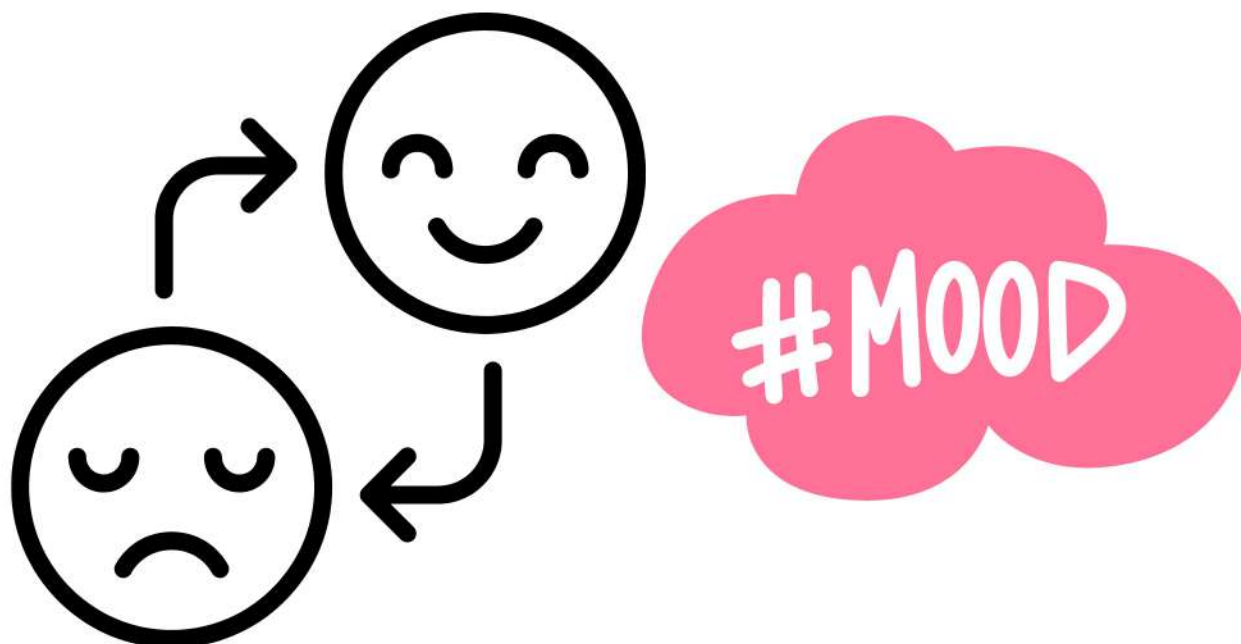


## **RULE 18 : KEEP YOUR MOOD FRESH**

### **DON'T TRADE IN BAD MOOD**

Trading requires clear thinking, focus, and emotional control. When you're in a bad mood—whether due to personal issues, stress, or frustration—your judgment can be clouded, and you may make impulsive decisions that go against your strategy. Emotional trading often leads to poor risk management, overtrading, and taking unnecessary risks, which can result in losses.

It's essential to recognize when you're not in the right mindset for trading. If you're feeling angry, stressed, or upset, it's best to step away from the markets and take a break. Trading with a calm, fresh perspective allows you to stay disciplined, stick to your plan, and make more objective decisions. Prioritize your mental well-being, and only trade when you're in a positive, focused state. Keeping your mood fresh helps ensure better decision-making and long-term success in the markets.



# RULE 19 : MANAGE TRADING PROFITS WISELY

Managing your trading profits is as important as generating them. To build long-term success, it's essential to be disciplined with how you handle the money you make from trading. One key principle is to avoid becoming overconfident after a series of profitable trades. Instead, protect your profits by setting aside a portion for reinvestment and another portion for savings or personal use.

Consider using a portion of your profits to gradually increase your capital, while maintaining proper risk management rules. Reassess your risk tolerance regularly and adjust your position size accordingly. It's also wise to have a withdrawal plan, where you take profits out of your trading account periodically to ensure you don't lose everything in case of a downturn.

**BY MANAGING YOUR PROFITS WISELY, YOU SAFEGUARD YOUR CAPITAL, ENSURE STEADY GROWTH, AND MAINTAIN A BALANCED APPROACH TO TRADING, PREVENTING EMOTIONAL DECISION-MAKING DURING BOTH GOOD AND BAD TIMES.**



## **RULE 20 : DONT SHOW OFF PROFITS**

Displaying your trading profits can lead to unnecessary pressure, both from others and within yourself. While it's natural to feel proud of a successful trade, flaunting your gains can create unrealistic expectations and encourage impulsive decisions, especially if you're trying to impress others. Overconfidence and pride can cloud your judgment, making you more prone to risk-taking and emotional trading.

It's important to remain humble and focused on your long-term goals rather than seeking external validation. Trading is about consistent success, not momentary wins. By avoiding the temptation to show off profits, you can maintain a disciplined approach, stay grounded, and protect your capital. Keep your achievements personal, stay focused on improving your skills, and let your trading results speak for themselves over time.



## **RULE 21 : DONT LOSE YOUR MINDSET IN LOSS PHASE**

Losses are an inevitable part of trading, but how you handle them is what separates successful traders from others. During a loss phase, it's crucial not to lose your mindset or let emotions take control. Reacting emotionally to losses, such as becoming frustrated or trying to "revenge trade" to recover losses quickly, can lead to poor decisions and further losses.

Instead, maintain a disciplined approach and stick to your trading plan. Treat losses as learning opportunities rather than setbacks. Reflect on the trades, identify mistakes, and adjust your strategy accordingly. It's also important to recognize that no trader wins all the time; losses are part of the process. By maintaining your mindset, staying focused on long-term goals, and managing risk effectively, you can navigate through loss phases without losing confidence or deviating from your plan.





Most of the rules outlined above have one thing in common: attention to risk or losing money. That's because you're in the business of making money in the markets. Losses will inevitably occur. The trick is to keep the losses small enough to keep trading until you find more winning trades.

Experienced traders know when it's time to take a loss and have incorporated that into their trading strategy. Traders also know when it's time to take profit, so they may move their stop loss in the direction of the trade to lock in some profit or take profit at the current market price. Either way, there will always be another trade setup down the road.



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