

Can you describe your typical trading day?

For daytrading, my typical day starts in the evening [Melbourne, Australia time]. This is the morning session of the European markets. I spend around an hour to prepare my premarket journal. The journal consists of chart analysis of the euro, the US dollar, and British pound. I note the key technical levels, trend direction, upcoming important economy reports, and my own thoughts and expectations of today's session. The journal will always be displayed on one of my trading screens to remind me of what I am supposed to focus on for the trading day.

I prepare my swing trades during Sunday evening, and review them after I am done with my daytrading during weekdays. I hardly work on Saturday. That's the time for me to spend with my family.

What do you like most about trading? What do you like least?

I like trading because I see it as a thinking game. You need to constantly analyze and plan your next step. Just like everything in life, I like to plan my next trading move. However, things will not always go your way, but that is part of the game. And conquering the unexpected is what I find fun.

What I like least is keeping the numbers! Keeping a trading log is the most boring job in this business. But it is also the most important task so you really do not want to be lazy about it. It has to be done.

What led to your decision to start a trading blog?

It was around 2006 when I first started blogging. Initially, I used the blog to keep my trading preparations. I would analyze charts at home and post them on the blog. I can access my blog from my office. Since then, I have revamped the blog to become my trading journal. I posted my opinions about those trades I made because I thought that might be useful for my readers. I do this to keep myself disciplined and accountable for my trading as well as open up topics for discussion with readers. Over the years,

I have gotten acquainted with quite a number of traders online, and we have exchanged ideas and market views. I have found this to be very valuable.

What do you think has contributed to your success as a trader?

I would not claim to be a successful trader. I am still in the early stages of this business, even though I have been trading for years. I started to see consistency in my trading, and feeling comfortable developing my own views and approaches to market. There is a lot of effort and hard work in becoming a profitable trader. It does not happen in one day. I have passed the beginner phase and am now working on improving myself, and I hope to do it as a full-time profession.

What would be your advice to traders who want to trade their own account?

Instead of giving advice, it would be better if I share my experience with

you: Trade small and grow your account gradually. Never rush to start. Get a lot of practice and sharpen your skills. Like any other profession, make sure you develop your skills and are able to work independently. If you do this, opportunities will come to you.

Thank you, Gavin!

SUGGESTED READING

Murphy, John J. [1999]. *Technical Analysis Of The Financial Markets*, New York Institute of Finance.

Penn, David [2007]. "MaoXian.com," Websites for Traders, *Technical Analysis of Stocks & Commodities*, Volume 25: February.

Tharp, Van K. [1999]. *Trade Your Way To Financial Freedom*, McGraw-Hill.

- <http://868347.blogspot.com>
- www.tradergav.com

S&C

Presenting TradeStation MATRIX

FREE DEMO: tradestation.com/matrix

**Call 800.264.7538 now
for our special offer for new accounts**

 **TradeStation Securities**
THE LEADER IN RULE-BASED TRADING

Member NYSE, FINRA, NFA and SIPC.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: No offer or solicitation to buy or sell securities, securities derivative or futures products of any kind, or any type of trading or investment advice, recommendation or strategy, is made, given or in any manner endorsed by TradeStation Securities, Inc. or any of its affiliates. • Past performance, whether actual or indicated by historical tests of strategies, is no guarantee of future performance or success. • Please visit our website for restrictions, terms and conditions and relevant risk disclosures. • All proprietary technology in TradeStation is owned by TradeStation Technologies, Inc., an affiliate of TradeStation Securities, Inc. The Leader in Rule-Based Trading tagline is based on industry awards and reviews. © 2009 TradeStation Securities, Inc. All rights reserved.

For more information, visit the S&C ad index at Traders.com/reader/ or circle No.14