



Simple 4-Step Guide to Your First \$1,000 Trading Stocks.



(1) Set Up a Brokerage Account

Setting up a brokerage account is the first step to stock trading since you can't buy and sell securities without one. It's not a difficult process, but it does require some research in order to find the best fit (and special deals). Some of the main players are ETrade, Interactive Brokers, TradeKing, and TD Ameritrade, among many more.

Things to consider before committing to one over another are commissions & fees, complementary tools, customer service, mobile trading capabilities (apps), and the layout of the overall platform. Some require a minimum deposit (usually \$500-1,000) that needs to be taken into account as well. "Sign Up Bonuses" and "30-Day Commission-Free Trading" are also common offers and vary from broker to broker.

As a complete beginner, virtual trading is extremely important in order to practice strategies and gain experience with a "fake" account. This is also known as paper trading. Some brokers offer this within their platform, but Investopedia's Stock Simulator is a popular option. I highly recommend a paper trading approach for beginners lacking experience in the stock market.

Bonus Brokerage Recommendation: [Robinhood \(\\$0 Commissions\)](#)

Most Realistic Paper Trading Platform: [StocksToTrade \(\\$1 7-Day Trial\)](#)



(2) Choose an Educational Service

The high quality newsletters and educational services on Wall Street are tough to come by, but the right one can take you farther

than you've ever imagined. In my opinion, there's no better opportunity to learn the intricacies of trading than from a mentor like Jason Bond or Kyle Dennis. Taking my #1 recommended newsletter, [Jason Bond Picks](#), for example, you won't typically find a small cap swing trading strategy being taught by someone who backs it up with real money.

Small cap stocks can tend to be volatile, and swing trading, in essence, involves capturing rather large (5-25%+) gains per trade within just a few days. This is my preferred strategy because it protects you from long-term market downturns, yet the profit-potential is high. It's the perfect middle-ground between day trading and long-term value investing. But of course, everyone's preferred trading strategy will differ depending on availability during market hours, risk tolerance, portfolio value, etc.

Overall, a top-notch newsletter or educational service should provide expert video lessons, actionable watch lists, live trading sessions, interactive chat rooms, and real-time buy & sell alerts. People tend to think that these types of services are expensive, but the education alone is worth the subscription fee in most cases. Any additional gains in your portfolio are an added bonus. If you have an experienced mentor, have the support of an entire community of traders, and access to expert video lessons that will teach you the critical trading concepts, then your chances of success will skyrocket.

Where to Find the Best Trading Newsletters: [RagingBull.com](#) - [Join For Free](#)



(3) Study and Learn Concepts

While a great trading newsletter will do much of the overall market, sector, and even individual stock research for you, you should still be aware of current events happening on a daily basis and how they may impact your current and future positions. Being well-versed in essential trading concepts like proper portfolio allocation, risk vs. reward, support & resistance levels, stop losses, etc. are critical to your trading success. In the end, you're in complete control of your portfolio and need to take accountability for that. Blindly mirroring another trader without an educational foundation is a dangerous (and much too popular) approach.

You need an advantage on Wall Street, and a quality education paired with extensive research is what will give you that edge. Most people don't have the time to perform extensive research, which is why the previous step of finding a high quality newsletter is so important. Even veteran traders subscribe to them for the watch lists, which help narrow their daily focus, as well as the communities, which they can leverage for additional trading ideas. Even if you work full-time and aren't available to monitor your trades all day, a service like [BioTech Breakouts](#) can help even the busy professionals boost their portfolios.

The simplest way to follow individual stocks is to "Google" them and click on the news tab. From there, you can read up on various news-related topics, such as earnings releases, acquisitions, reverse splits, offerings, analyst upgrades, etc. As mentioned above (as a paper trading tool), [StocksToTrade](#) is also a great platform for researching stocks all in one place: company profile, key statistics, SEC filings, filterable Twitter feeds, press releases, and more.

Ready to Start Building Your Foundation? [Check Out These Free Resources](#)



(4) Start Capturing Profits

The culmination of having a brokerage account that fits your needs (your platform for buying & selling stocks), finding a newsletter/educational service that fits your ideal strategy (your source for training and trade ideas), and doing your part to educate yourself as opposed to blindly mirroring, is a highly successful strategy that can increase not only income, but your lifestyle as well.

Focus on creating trade plans ahead of time with clear entry and exit points, establish profit goals on a consistent basis, and exercise discipline with each and every trade. Try to keep your losing trades small and lock in winners when you have the chance. There is no doubt that trading can be both thrilling and rewarding when approached with the correct strategy and mindset, but as with any trading/investment undertaking, there are risks. Nobody can get every trade right, not even experts. But educating yourself and applying the right concepts can allow you to enter high-potential trades

that will work far more often than they don't. Your knowledge will allow you to consistently "fish in the right pond".

"Give a Man a Fish and Feed Him For a Day. Teach a Man to Fish and Feed Him For a Lifetime".

Written By Matt Thomas

Featured Educational Services at EliteSwingTrading.com:

[Jason Bond Picks](#)

[BioTech Breakouts](#)

[Top Stock Picks](#)

[Penny Pro](#)

[StocksToTrade](#)

[Finviz](#)