



An Overview of Trading Platforms

In the simplest terms, a trading platform is software used for opening, closing, and managing market positions through a financial intermediary. [Online trading platforms](#) are provided by brokers for maintaining a funded account and to perform your trading operations. Traders can place trades and monitor accounts through their accounts in a trading platform. Trading platforms come with features such as real-time quotes, charting tools, news feeds, etc. Whereas, some platforms may also be specifically tailored to specific markets such as stocks, currencies, or futures markets. In common, there are two types of trading platforms including prop platforms and commercial platforms. While commercial platforms are targeted at day traders and retail investors, Prop platforms are customized platforms developed by large brokerages to suit their specific requirements.

On the other hand, there are currency trading platforms which are software interfaces provided by currency brokers to their customers to give them access as traders in the Forex markets. This may be an online, web-based portal, mobile app, a standalone downloadable program, or any combination of the three. Currency trading platforms provide tools to traders for executing buy and sell orders in the Forex markets.

One of the most widely adopted and accepted currency trading platforms is the MetaTrader 4 (MT4—an openly extensible and customizable platform that allows trading system developers the ability to create scripts and automated trading algorithms that execute within its framework. The MT4 platform is widely used among retail traders. Many brokers also offer MT4 integration so that retail traders familiar with the broker's platform will have the ability to migrate their tools to the new brokerage with ease.

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CFDs are complex instruments and come with a high risk of losing money rapidly due to leverage. **76.92% of retail investor accounts lose money when trading CFDs with this**

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