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# **Bonus Module:**

# **SPX Trading Plan**



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# **Some background...**



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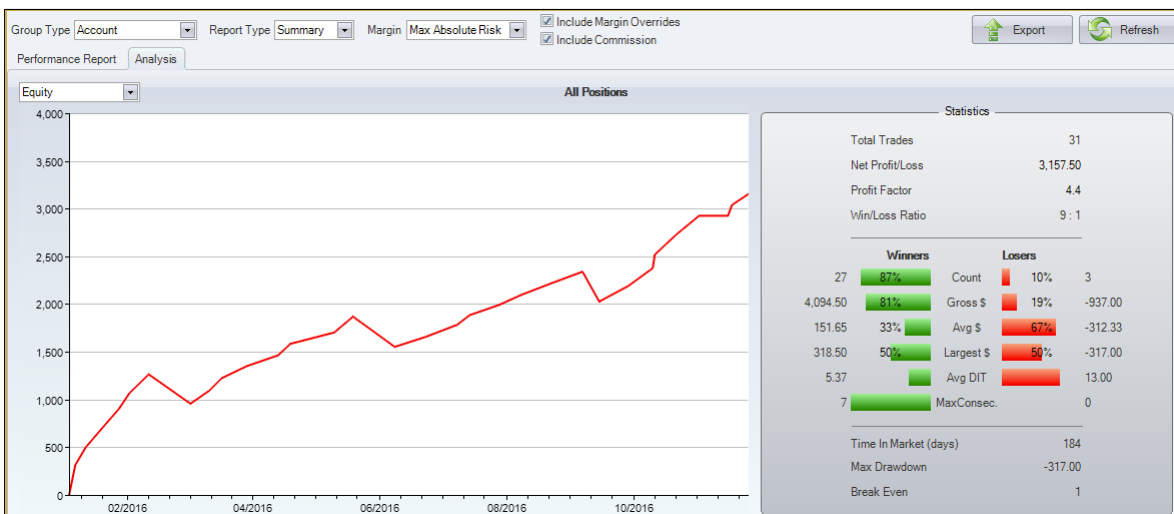
# Why the SPX?

- Higher Credits
- Less analysis
- Broad Market Based
- Tax advantages
- High Liquidity



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# Backtesting Results



6

# General Trade Rules

- Trades done on Monday
- DTE always to 25, (except holidays)
- Only 1 trade at a time



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# General Trade Rules

We place our trades on Monday mornings for this system.

However, placing them on any day during the week should have a limited, if any, change in overall profitability.



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# General Trade Rules

If you place the trade on another day, make sure the expiration is between 21 – 25 days.



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# What if?

# No What if!



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# Step # 1

## Check the DEW On Monday



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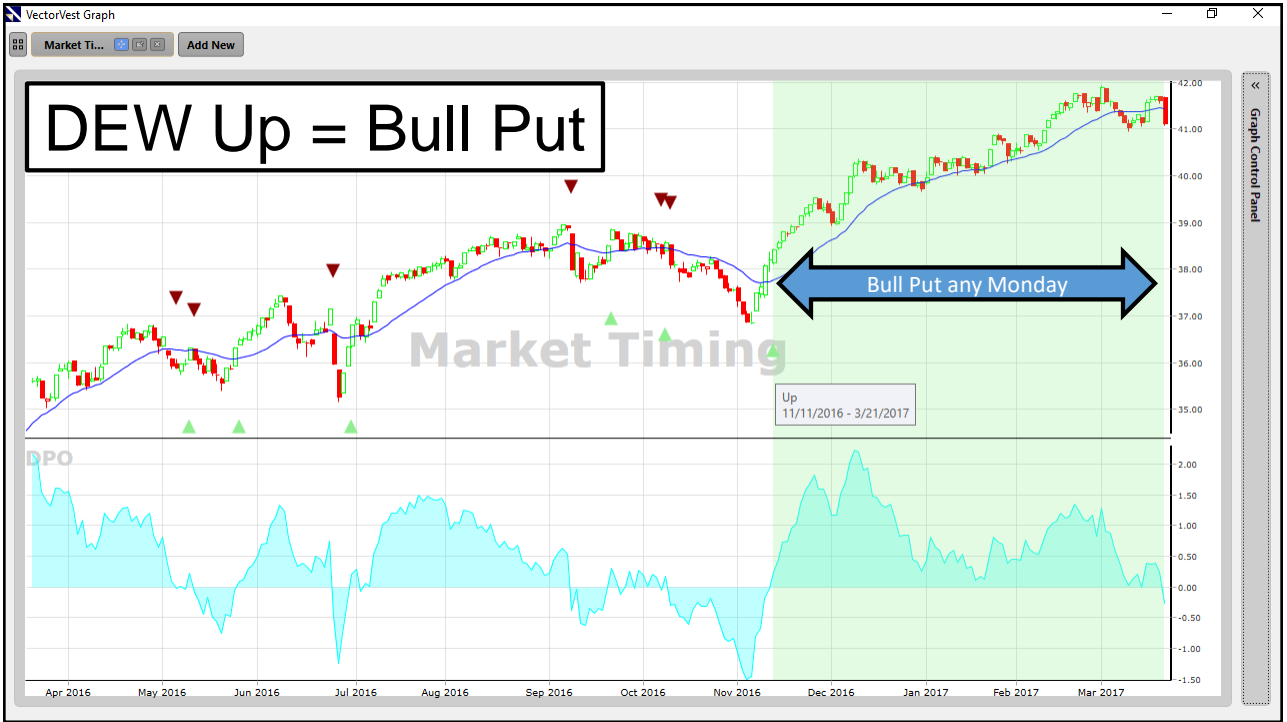
## DEW Considerations

- DEW Up – Bull Put
- DEW Dn – Bear Call
- Trade can be placed any Monday
- No rule for higher highs
- No rule for afternoon trading like we have for stocks.

That's why this is so simple!



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# Step # 2

## Select the Expiration



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## Expiration Considerations

- Choose the Friday expiration
- 25 Days to Expiration \*(Monday Trade)



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On Monday, in OptionsPro (or with your broker) select the Friday expiration 25 days away.

Position	Expiration	Strike	C/P	Price	Bid	Ask	IV	Delta	Gamma	Theta	Vega	Rho	ITM	BrkEven
Sell	1 Apr 13, 2017	2320.00	Put	Mid: 7.35	7.20	7.50	11.12	-0.1937	0.0041	-0.3739	1.6691	-0.3063	0.0%	0.0%
Buy	1 Apr 13, 2017	2300.00	Put	Mid: 5.45	5.30	5.60	12.16	-0.1421	0.0030	-0.3368	1.3669	-0.2249	0.0%	0.0%
Totals:					-1.90	-1.90	-1.90		0.0517	-0.0010	0.0370			

Calls										Puts									
OI	Volume	Net	Bid	Ask	Last	Strike	Last	Bid	Ask	Volume	OI	IV	Delta	Gamma	Vega	Theta	Prob ITM	Prob BrkEven	
Apr 13 (24 days to expiration)																			
617	0	0.00	98.20	99.80	107.50	2280.00	4.28	4.10	4.30	-0.22	22	988	13.25	-0.1069	0.0023	1.1206	-0.3021	0.0%	0.0%
387	0	0.00	93.50	95.10	105.70	2285.00	4.50	4.30	4.60	-0.28	107	1057	12.96	-0.1142	0.0025	1.1749	-0.3095	0.0%	0.0%
247	0	0.00	88.80	90.30	89.12	2290.00	5.05	4.60	4.90	0.35	26	486	12.69	-0.1226	0.0026	1.2350	-0.3182	0.0%	0.0%
81	0	0.00	84.10	85.80	78.70	2295.00	5.25	5.00	5.20	-0.26	109	1336	12.44	-0.1321	0.0028	1.3008	-0.3282	0.0%	0.0%
563	0	0.00	79.50	81.00	86.55	2300.00	5.50	5.30	5.60	-0.35	45	14050	12.16	-0.1421	0.0030	1.3669	-0.3368	0.0%	0.0%
86	0	0.00	74.90	76.40	81.95	2305.00	6.35	5.70	6.00	0.07	2	3794	11.90	-0.1531	0.0033	1.4374	-0.3460	0.0%	0.0%
116	0	0.00	70.40	71.80	79.11	2310.00	6.50	6.10	6.40	0.20	2	17172	11.60	-0.1647	0.0035	1.5075	-0.3534	0.0%	0.0%
75	0	0.00	65.90	67.30	73.51	2315.00	7.00	6.60	6.90	0.51	10	2574	11.35	-0.1783	0.0038	1.5854	-0.3629	0.0%	0.0%
204	10	-7.01	61.50	62.90	62.30	2320.00	7.40	7.20	7.50	-0.65									
280	1	-5.55	57.70	58.30	57.10	2325.00	8.23	7.80	8.10	0.00									
91	0	0.00	53.40	54.10	60.99	2330.00	9.35	8.50	8.80	0.00									
83	0	0.00	49.20	49.90	56.65	2335.00	9.90	9.20	9.60	0.52									
215	0	0.00	45.10	45.70	49.65	2340.00	10.63	10.10	10.50	-0.07									

Note: The expiration shown above is 24 days since Friday the market was closed for Good Friday.

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# Step # 3

## Select the Short Strike

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# Short Strike Considerations

- Delta < 20 (-.20 for puts, .20 for calls)
- No exceptions
  
- Choose 1<sup>st</sup> Strike < 20 Delta
  - Tip: This helps you remember when you need to adjust the trade.



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The 2320 Strike meets the criteria is the 1<sup>st</sup> strike with Delta less than 20.

Position	Expiration	Strike	C/P	Price	Bid	Ask	IV	Delta	Gamma	Theta	Vega	Rho	ITM	Brkeven
Sell 1	Apr 13, 2017	2320.00	Put	Mid: 7.35	7.20	7.50	11.12	-0.1937	0.0041	-0.3739	1.6691	-0.3063	0.0%	0.0%
Buy 1	Apr 13, 2017	2300.00	Put	Mid: 5.45	5.30	5.60	12.16	-0.1421	0.0030	-0.3368	1.3669	-0.2249	0.0%	0.0%
Totals:				-1.90	-1.90	-1.90		0.0517	-0.0010	0.0370				

OI	Volume	Net	Bid	Ask	Last	Strike	Last	Bid	Ask	Net	Volume	OI	IV	Delta	Gamma	Vega	Theta	Prob ITM	Prob Brkeven
Apr 13 (24 days to expiration)																			
617	0	0.00	98.20	99.80	107.50	2280.00	4.28	4.10	4.30	-0.22	22	988	13.25	-0.1069	0.0023	1.1206	-0.3021	0.0%	0.0%
387	0	0.00	93.50	95.10	105.70	2285.00	4.50	4.30	4.60	-0.28	107	1057	12.96	-0.1142	0.0025	1.1749	-0.3095	0.0%	0.0%
247	0	0.00	88.80	90.30	89.12	2290.00	5.05	4.60	4.90	0.35	26	486	12.69	-0.1226	0.0026	1.2350	-0.3182	0.0%	0.0%
81	0	0.00	84.10	85.80	78.70	2295.00	5.25	5.00	5.20	-0.26	109	1336	12.44	-0.1321	0.0028	1.3008	-0.3282	0.0%	0.0%
563	0	0.00	79.50	81.00	86.55	2300.00	5.50	5.30	5.60	-0.35	45	14050	12.16	-0.1421	0.0030	1.3669	-0.3368	0.0%	0.0%
86	0	0.00	74.90	76.40	81.95	2305.00	6.35	5.70	6.00	0.07	2	3794	11.90	-0.1531	0.0033	1.4374	-0.3460	0.0%	0.0%
116	0	0.00	70.40	71.80	79.11	2310.00	6.50	6.10	6.40	0.20	2	17172	11.60	-0.1647	0.0035	1.5075	-0.3534	0.0%	0.0%
75	0	0.00	65.90	67.30	73.11	2315.00	7.00	6.60	6.90	0.51	10	2574	11.35	-0.1783	0.0038	1.5854	-0.3629	0.0%	0.0%
204	10	-7.01	61.50	63.00	73.11	2320.00	7.40	7.20	7.50	-0.65	13	993	11.12	-0.1937	0.0041	1.6691	-0.3739	0.0%	0.0%
280	1	-5.55	57.70	58.30	57.11	2325.00	8.23	7.80	8.10	0.00	0	3259	10.86	-0.2099	0.0044	1.7509	-0.3822	0.0%	0.0%
91	0	0.00	53.40	54.10	60.99	2330.00	9.35	8.50	8.80	0.00	0	1642	10.62	-0.2280	0.0047	1.8363	-0.3912	0.0%	0.0%
83	0	0.00	49.20	49.90	56.65	2335.00	9.90	9.20	9.60	0.52	1	1664	10.37	-0.2475	0.0050	1.9212	-0.3985	0.0%	0.0%
215	0	0.00	45.10	45.70	49.65	2340.00	10.63	10.10	10.50	-0.07	1	717	10.15	-0.2696	0.0054	2.0082	-0.4068	0.0%	0.0%

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# Step # 4

## Select the “Insurance” Strike



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## “Insurance” Strike Considerations

- Choose insurance leg 4 strikes away
- \$20 spread between strikes
- Example: 2320 and 2300



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# “Insurance” Strike Considerations

## Why 20 points? Because it works.



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The 2300 Strike is 4 strikes below the Short Strike. Notice the \$20 spread. (2320 - 2300 = 20)

Position	Expiration	Strike	C/P	Price	Bid	Ask	Volume	OI	IV	Delta	Gamma	Vega	Theta	Prob ITM	Prob Brkven
Sell	1 Apr 13, 2017	2320.00	Put	Mid: 7.35	7.20	7.50	109	1336	12.44	-0.1321	0.0028	1.3008	-0.3282	0.0%	0.0%
Buy	1 Apr 13, 2017	2300.00	Put	Mid: 5.45	5.30	5.60	45	14050	12.16	-0.1421	0.0030	1.3669	-0.3368	0.0%	0.0%
Totals: -1.90 -1.90 -1.90 0.0517 -0.0010 0.0370															

OI	Volume	Net	Bid	Ask	Last	Strike	Last	Bid	Ask	Net	Volume	OI	IV	Delta	Gamma	Vega	Theta	Prob ITM	Prob Brkven
617	0	0.00	98.20	99.80	107.50	2280.00	4.28	4.10	4.30	-0.22	22	988	13.25	-0.1069	0.0023	1.1206	-0.3021	0.0%	0.0%
387	0	0.00	93.50	95.10	105.70	2285.00	4.50	4.30	4.60	-0.28	107	1057	12.96	-0.1142	0.0025	1.1749	-0.3095	0.0%	0.0%
247	0	0.00	88.80	90.30	89.12	2290.00	5.05	4.60	4.90	0.35	26	486	12.69	-0.1226	0.0026	1.2350	-0.3182	0.0%	0.0%
81	0	0.00	84.10	85.80	78.10	2295.00	5.25	5.00	5.20	-0.26	109	1336	12.44	-0.1321	0.0028	1.3008	-0.3282	0.0%	0.0%
563	0	0.00	79.50	81.20	73.10	2300.00	5.25	5.30	5.60	-0.35	45	14050	12.16	-0.1421	0.0030	1.3669	-0.3368	0.0%	0.0%
86	0	0.00	74.90	76.40	81.10	2305.00	6.35	6.70	6.00	0.07	2	3794	11.90	-0.1531	0.0033	1.4374	-0.3460	0.0%	0.0%
116	0	0.00	70.40	71.80	79.11	2310.00	6.50	6.10	6.40	0.20	2	17172	11.60	-0.1647	0.0035	1.5075	-0.3534	0.0%	0.0%
75	0	0.00	65.90	67.30	73.10	2315.00	7.00	6.60	6.90	0.51	10	2574	11.35	-0.1783	0.0038	1.5854	-0.3629	0.0%	0.0%
204	10	-7.01	61.50	63.00	73.10	2320.00	7.20	7.50	7.50	-0.65	13	993	11.12	-0.1937	0.0041	1.6691	-0.3739	0.0%	0.0%
280	1	-5.55	57.70	58.30	57.10	2325.00	8.23	7.80	8.10	0.00	0	3259	10.86	-0.2099	0.0044	1.7509	-0.3822	0.0%	0.0%
91	0	0.00	53.40	54.10	60.99	2330.00	9.35	8.50	8.80	0.00	0	1642	10.62	-0.2280	0.0047	1.8363	-0.3912	0.0%	0.0%
83	0	0.00	49.20	49.90	56.65	2335.00	9.90	9.20	9.60	0.52	1	1664	10.37	-0.2475	0.0050	1.9212	-0.3985	0.0%	0.0%
215	0	0.00	45.10	45.70	49.65	2340.00	10.63	10.10	10.50	-0.07	1	717	10.15	-0.2696	0.0054	2.0082	-0.4068	0.0%	0.0%

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# Step # 5

## Target Your Entry Price



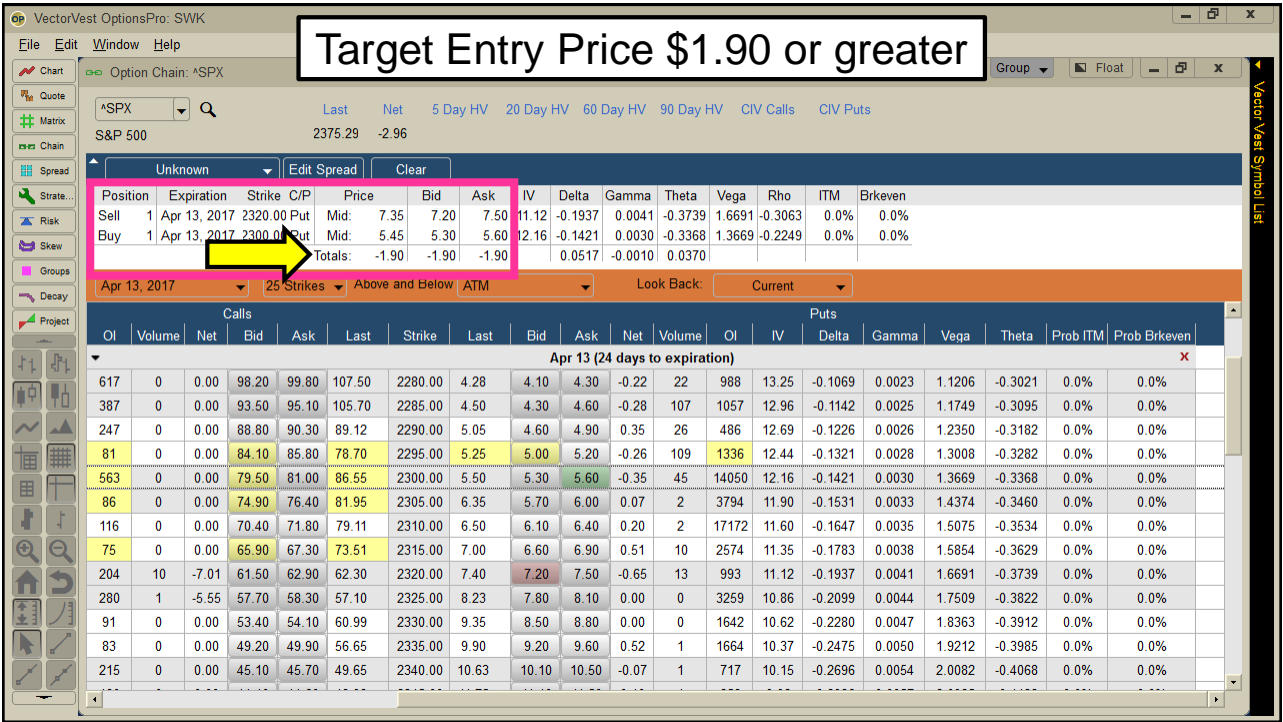
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## Entry Price Considerations

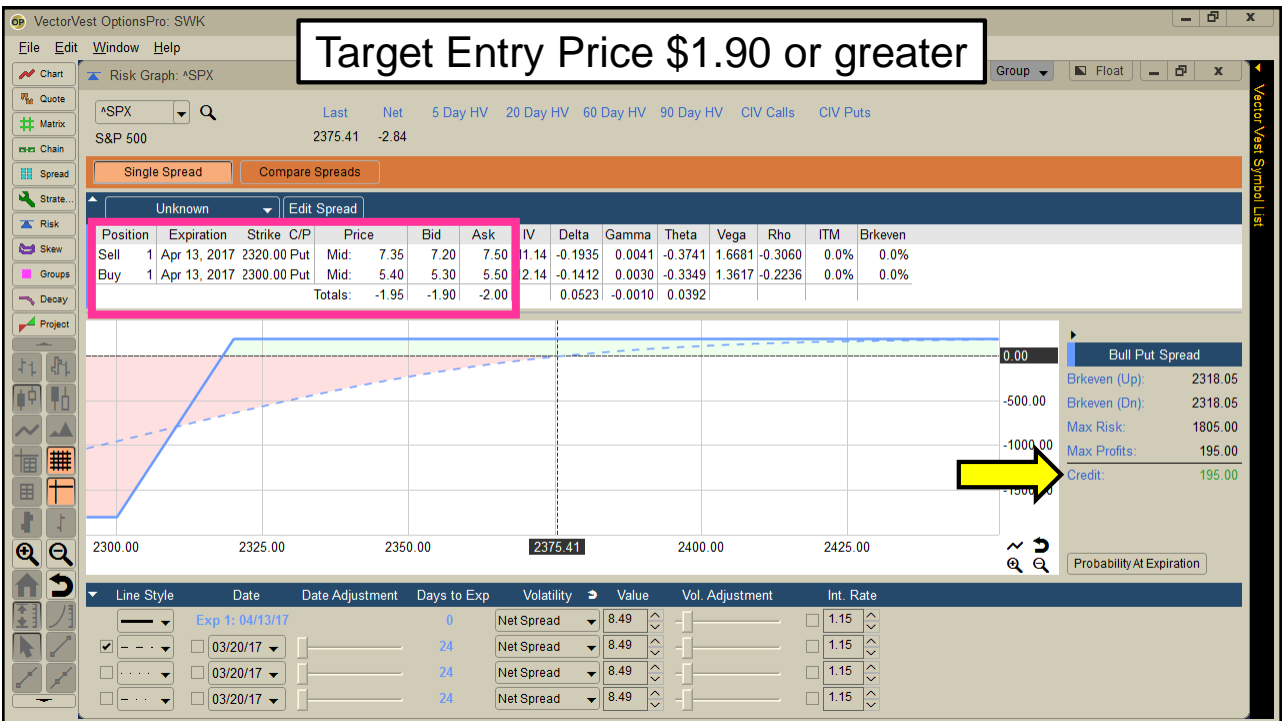
- Entry Price \$1.90 or greater
- If the price is below this, skip the trade.



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# Step # 6

## Trade Management Preparation



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# ***3 Techniques*** to ***Manage Your Credit Spreads***



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# Technique #1

## Take Profits At 50% of Credit Received



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VectorVest OptionsPro: SWK

File Edit Window Help

Risk Graph: ^SPX

Quote: ^SPX Last: 2375.41 Net: -2.84

Matrix S&P 500

Chain

Spread: Single Spread Compare Spreads

Strate...

Risk

Skew

Groups

Decay

Project

### Initial Credit = \$1.95

### Profit Target is $1.95 / 2 = 97.5$

### Round up to 1.00 or down to .95

Position	Expiration	Strike	C/P	Price	Bid	Ask	IV	Delta	Gamma	Theta	Vega	Rho	ITM	Brkven
Sell	1 Apr 13, 2017	2320.00	Put	Mid: 7.35	7.20	7.50	11.14	-0.1935	0.0041	-0.3741	1.6681	-0.3060	0.0%	0.0%
Buy	1 Apr 13, 2017	2300.00	Put	Mid: 5.40	5.30	5.50	12.14	-0.1412	0.0030	-0.3349	1.3617	-0.2236	0.0%	0.0%
Totals:				-1.95	-1.90	-2.00		0.0523	-0.0010	0.0392				

Line Style	Date	Date Adjustment	Days to Exp	Volatility	Value	Vol. Adjustment	Int. Rate
---	Exp 1: 04/13/17		0	Net Spread	8.49		1.15
---	03/20/17		24	Net Spread	8.49		1.15
---	03/20/17		24	Net Spread	8.49		1.15
---	03/20/17		24	Net Spread	8.49		1.15

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**When a credit spread  
goes against you...**



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**Use Delta to guide you!**

**Once the trade is on, you manage  
by Delta. No reason to ever go  
back to the graphs.**



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## **Technique #2**

Add the other side if the Delta changes by 20.



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## **Technique #2 (cont)**

- ✓ Use the same Exp Date
- ✓ Select the 1<sup>st</sup> Delta < 20
  - ✓ *Use \$20 spread*



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# **Technique #3**

When the short strike is hit, always exit that side of the trade.



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## **Case Study of Trade Hitting Profit Targets**

Monday Sept 19, 2016  
SPX Bear Call

History has shown 87% of trades will hit the profit target.



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**DEW Down on Monday, Sept 19, 2016**  
**Sold 2200 / 2220 Bear Call for 3.65**  
**Profits on Sept 26 even though the DEW Changed**



Side	Qty	Expiration	Strike	Type	Price
Sell	1	14 Oct 16	2200	Call	5.55
Buy	1	14 Oct 16	2220	Call	1.925

Mkt 3.40      Mid 3.625      3.85

Price  Credit

2220	1.925	8.76	8.58		+1
2215	2.55	8.93	10.68		
2210	3.40	9.18	13.23		
2205	4.35	9.37	15.88		
2200	5.55	9.63	18.87		-1

Side	Qty	Expiration	Strike	Type	Price
Buy	1	14 Oct 16	2200	Call	2.425
Sell	1	14 Oct 16	2220	Call	0.675

Mkt -1.90      Mid -1.75      -1.60

Price  Debit

Analysis	MaxMargin	Cost	Curr Cost	Com	Profit/Loss	PnL%
Position	1,639.50	360.50	-175.00	2.00	185.50	11.31%



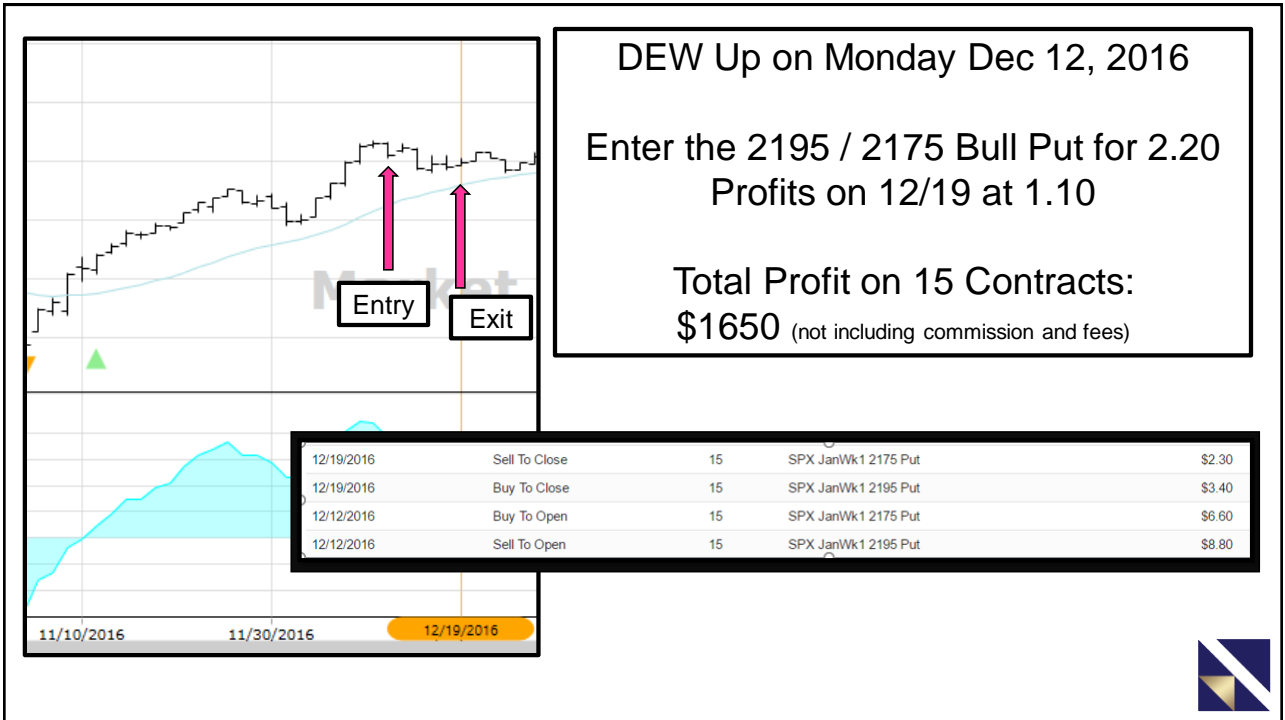
39

# Case Study of Trade Hitting Profit Targets

Monday Dec 12, 2016  
**SPX Bull Put**



40

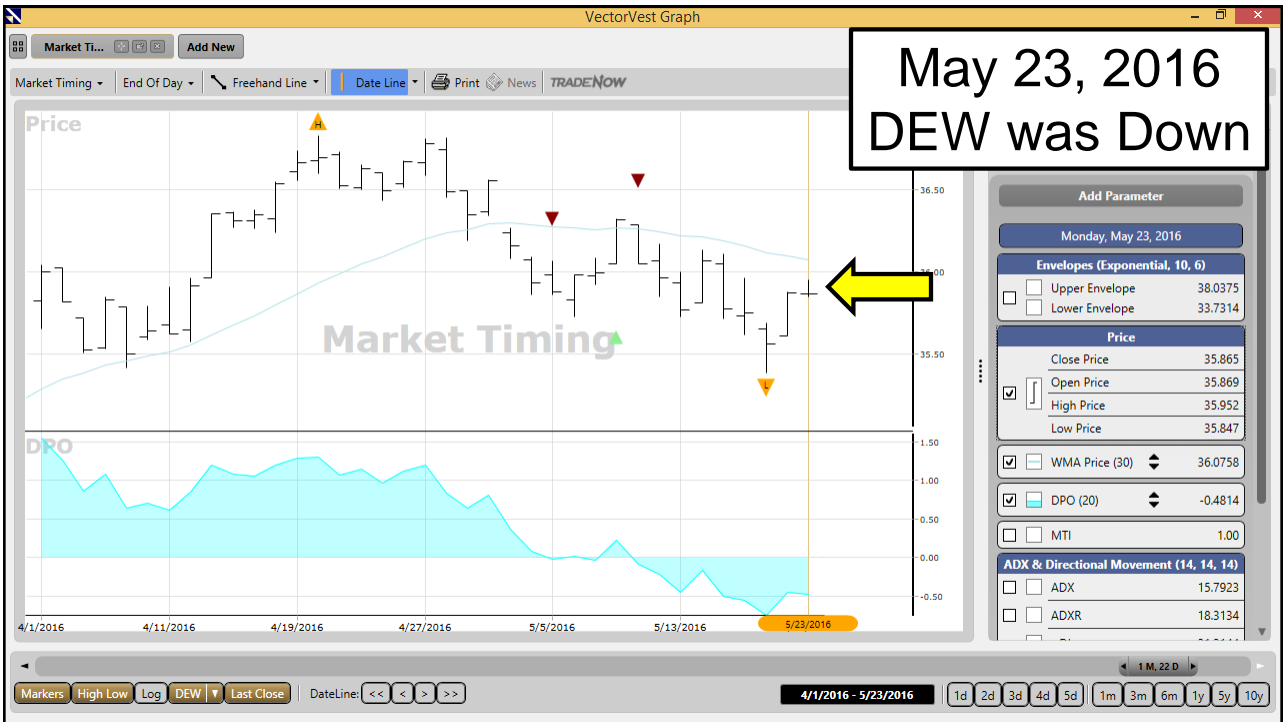


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# Case Study of Trade Going Against You

May 23, 2016  
SPX Bear Call

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# The Trade...

Mon 23 May 2016 10:00

CALL	Mid	IV	Delta	Model	Pos
2130	1.625	9.41	7.28		
2125	2.075	9.49	8.89		+1
2120	2.675	9.63	10.85		
2115	3.40	9.77	13.06		
2110	4.30	9.95	15.57		
2105	5.35	10.13	18.28		-1

Analysis	MaxMargin	Cost	Curr Cost	Com	Profit/Loss
Position		325.50	-327.50	2.00	-2.00

- ✓ 2105 is 1<sup>st</sup> strike with delta < 20.
- ✓ 2125 is \$20 above the short call.
- ✓ Credit is \$3.25 which is well above the \$1.90 minimum.
- ✓ 25 days 'til expiration

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# Management

Entry Price: 3.25 Credit

Profit: 1.65 Debit

Add the other side (Put) if the Short Delta increases to 38  
(Delta started at 18)



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# Management

Wed 25 May 2016 09:50 Exp

CALL	Mid	IV	Delta	Model	Pos
2130	4.55	8.53	18.74		
2125	5.75	8.67	22.21		+1
2120	7.25	8.87	26.06		
2115	9.00	9.09	30.08		
2110	10.90	9.27	34.10		
2105	13.05		38.18		-1

At 9:50AM, May 25 the Delta of Short Strike has increased by 20



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# Management

Position	1,674.50	325.50	-730.00	2.00	-404.50	-24.16%
----------	----------	--------	---------	------	---------	---------

The Trade is down 24% or \$404.  
We need to hedge.



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# Add the Other Side

PUT	Mid	IV	Delta	Model	Pos
2035	9.15	13.79	-21.77		
2030	8.35	13.98	-20.05		
2025	7.65	14.20	-18.50		-1
2020	7.10	14.49	-17.16		
2015	6.50	14.69	-15.82		
2010	5.95	14.90	-14.57		
2005	5.45	15.11	-13.42		-1

Sell the 2005 /  
2025 Bull Put for  
2.20

Side	Qty	Expiration	Strike	Type	Price
Buy	1	17 Jun 16	2005	Put	5.45
Sell	1	17 Jun 16	2025	Put	7.65

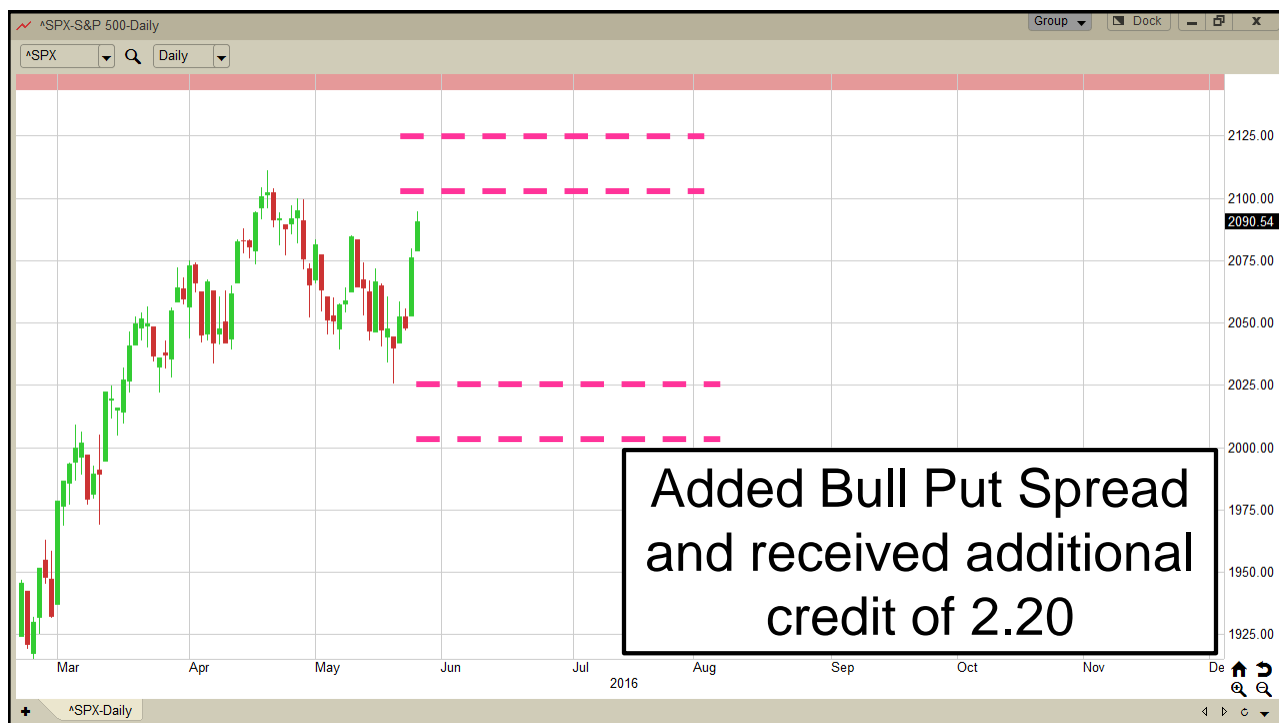
Mkt 1.60      Mid 2.20      2.80

Price  Credit

*Same Expiration*



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# Management

The trade is now an Iron Condor and can be managed using the 25% target from the Iron Condor Profit Taking Rules.



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# Management

Analysis	MaxMargin	Cost	Curr Cost	Com	Profit/Loss	PnL%
Position	1,674.50	543.50	-950.00	4.00	-406.50	-24.28%

We have a combined credit of 5.45.

Our New Profit Target is: 4.05  
25%



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# Management

Be sure to cancel the original profit target order and enter a new one for the Iron Condor.



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# Management

If a short side is hit,  
exit that side only.

Treat the other side as a  
Directional Credit Spread.



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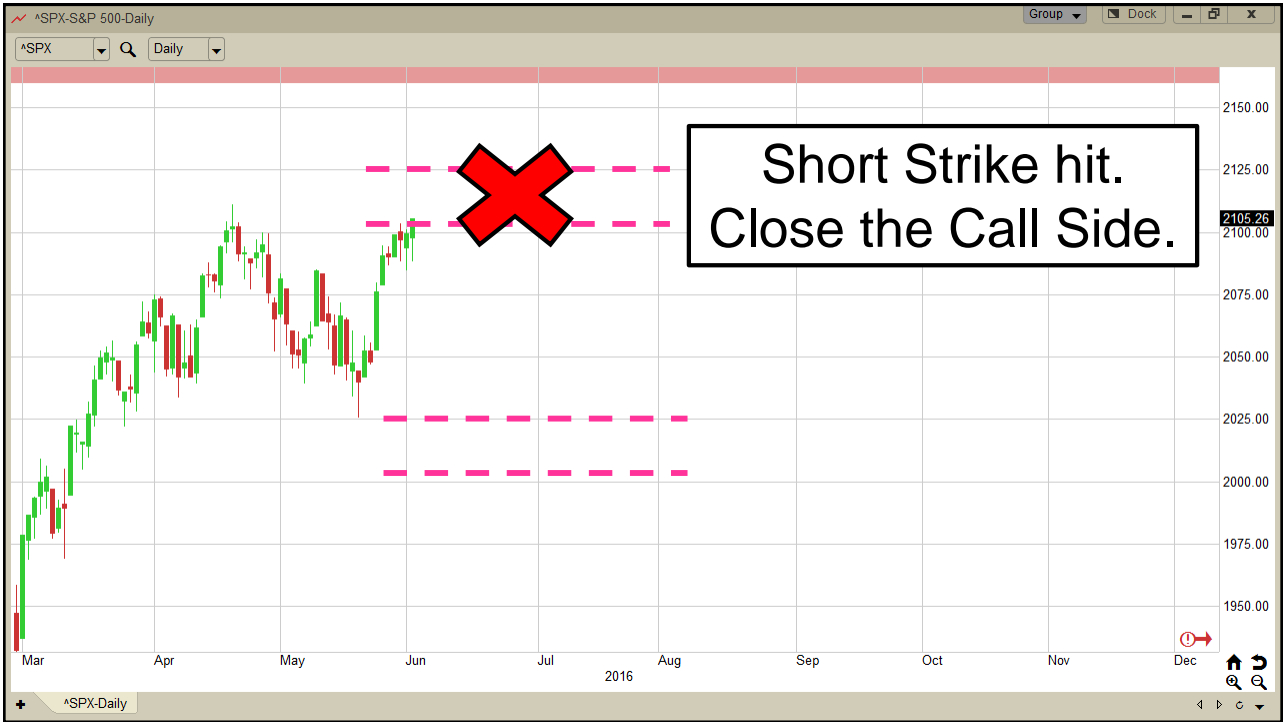
# Management

Thu 02 Jun 2016 15:55					
2125	7.05	8.76	30.01		+1
2120	9.10	9.05	35.27		
2115	11.40	9.32	40.46		
2110	13.80	9.50	45.47		
2105	16.50	9.70	50.39		-1

On June 2 at 3:55 the  
Short Strike was hit.



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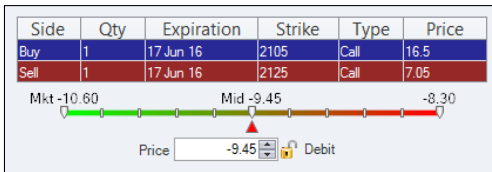


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# Management

Analysis	MaxMargin	Cost	Curr Cost	Com	Profit/Loss	PnL%
Position	1,674.50	543.50	-1,035.00	4.00	-491.50	-29.35%

The Trade is down 29%



Exit the Call side of the trade for 9.45



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# Management

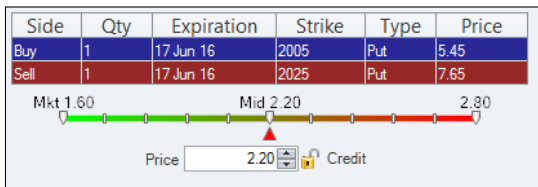
We sold the Calls for 3.25 and buy them back for 9.45

Net Loss is 6.20 or \$620 on the Call Side

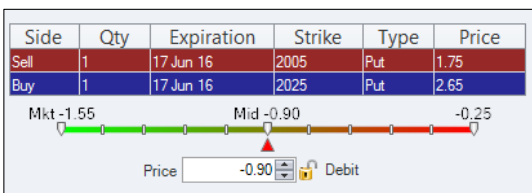


59

# Management



When we added the other side we sold the Puts for 2.20

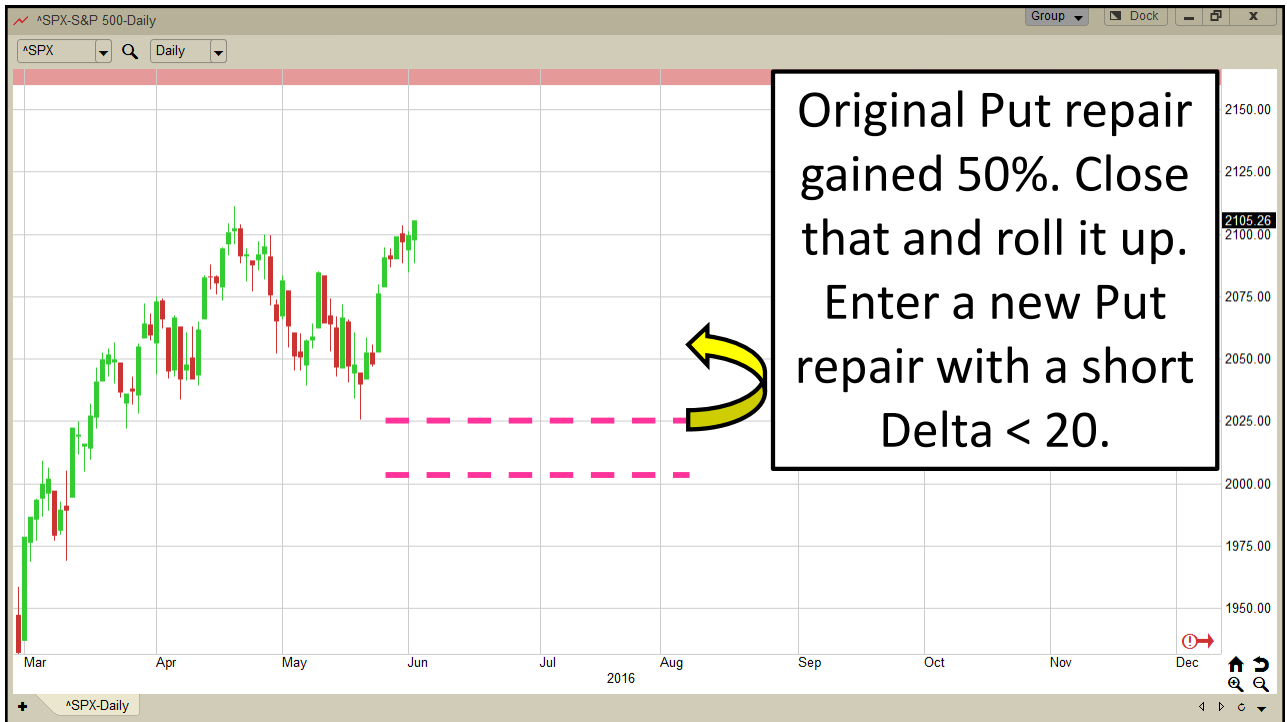


They are now worth .90, our profit target on that side is 1.10

You can now roll the puts



60



61

# Management

Remember, all you'd have left is the Bull Put. If you're 50% profitable you can roll them up as long as you have more than 7 days to expiration.

Never add time!



62

# Rolling the Trade

Select a new <20 Delta Spread with the same expiration as the original trade.

Reminder... Never add time. The trade was done with the June 17 expiration. Use the same expiration.

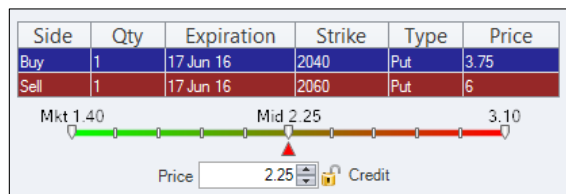


63

# Rolling the Trade

2060	6.00	12.70	-19.69			-1
2055	5.35	12.97	-17.69			
2050	4.75	13.23	-15.84			
2045	4.20	13.46	-14.15			
2040	3.75	13.73	-12.70			+1

The new < 20 Delta Put Spread  
2060 / 2040



We get 2.25 in new Credit.  
Profit Target is 1.10



64





65

# Management

Exit the Roll at 50%

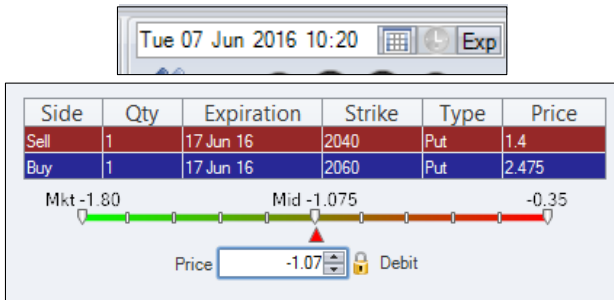
If short Delta goes to 39  
add the other side and you're back to  
an Iron Condor

This is very infrequent...



66

# Management



On June 7 the profit target of 1.10 was hit.

We added another \$115 to offset the loss on the calls.



67



68

# Management

To keep it simple, in the back testing I did 1 Roll.

After that, it's time to do a new trade with 25 DTE.



69

# Management

This means the trade started as a Bear Call. We then added a Put Spread, and rolled the Put Spread once.



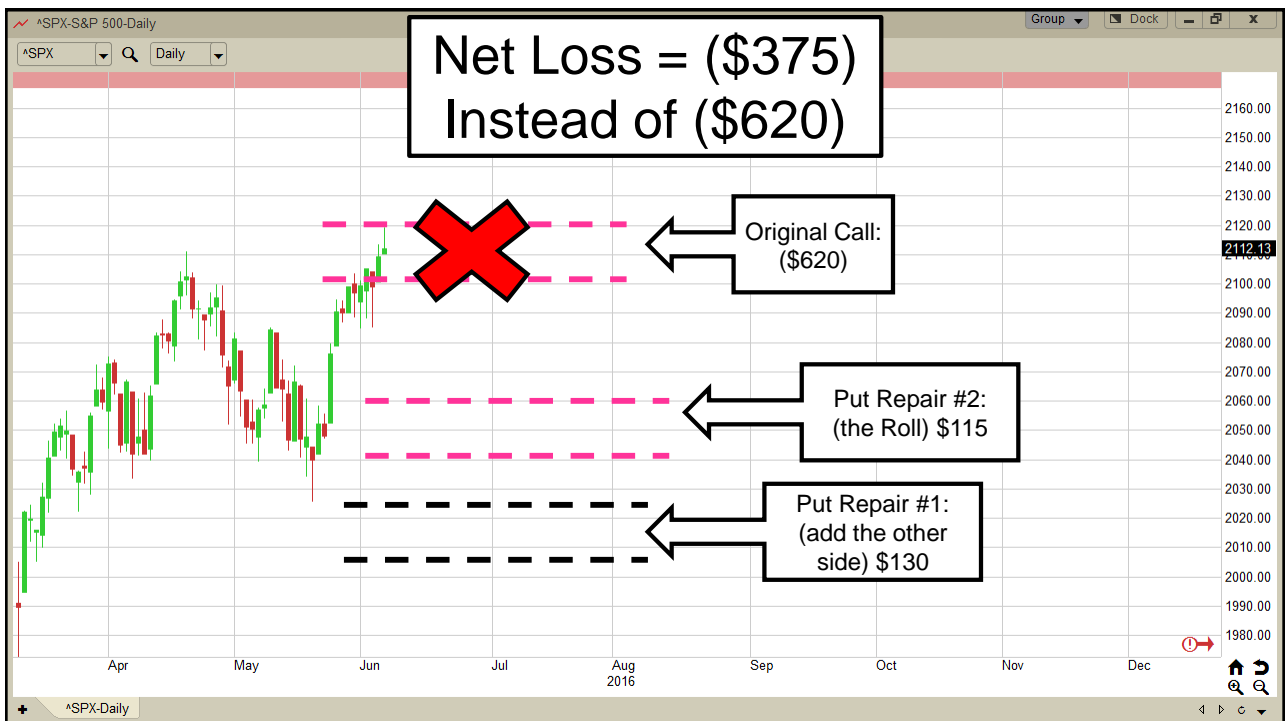
70

# Breakdown...

Original Call Trade : (\$620)  
Adding the other side : \$130  
The Roll : \$115  
  
Total Loss: (\$375)



71



72

# Management

The goal is to manage risk and mitigate loss.

We did so. If left alone the original trade would have lost \$620.

Adding the other side and rolling reduced it to \$375.



73

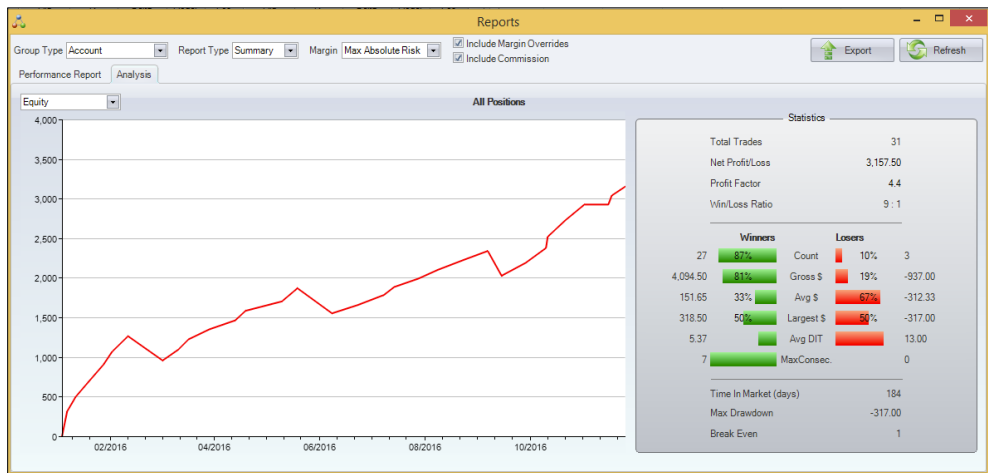
# What if?

# No What if!



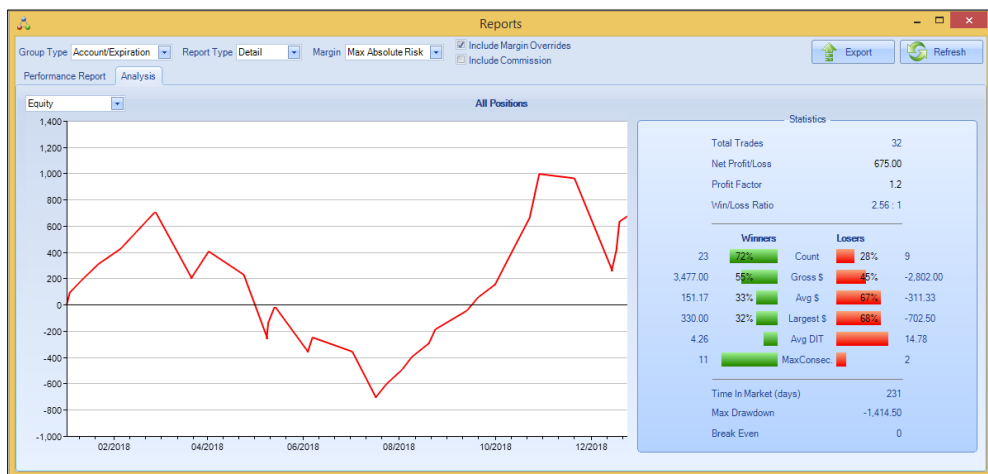
74

# Further Backtesting



75

# Further Backtesting



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