

# COMPLETE GUIDE *to* LAPTOPS *for* TRADERS



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## 2026 Edition

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# Introduction

Hello, my name is Eddie Z. I'm a 39-year Wall Street veteran and a lifelong computer geek. I started on Wall Street in 1987, and I've watched this business go from runners sprinting orders into the pit, to green-and-black Quotron machines, to the lightning-fast, multi-screen setups traders run today — many of them from a single laptop.

As a full-time trader and a tech nut, I've spent decades — and plenty of trial and error — figuring out exactly what works and what doesn't when it comes to building a super-fast, trouble-free **laptop** for trading. I started EZ Trading Computers because I got tired of watching good traders get taken advantage of by computer companies that have never placed a live trade in their lives.

My goal with this guide is simple: to share what I know so **YOU CAN SUCCEED AS A TRADER**. Read it, and you'll pick up tips that sharpen your trading, cut down your frustration, and save you a ton of money.

## Why Trust This Guide?

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Let's get real. There are tons of companies online selling "trading laptops" with thousands of dollars in profit baked right into the price. They've got flashy websites and slick marketing, and they're selling you machines that are nothing special — often underpowered portables dressed up with a trading sticker.

On the flip side, you might get tempted by some rock-bottom price at Costco or Best Buy and end up with a laptop that overheats, throttles, and can't drive more than one screen of live market data.

Worse yet, these companies aren't run by traders like us. They don't speak our language. They've never had a data feed freeze on them while they were short into a Fed announcement. But don't worry — there's a better way.

In this guide, you'll learn how to get a trading laptop with higher-quality components, rock-solid reliability, a real warranty, and better technical support — all for less than most of these outfits are charging. Whether you buy from me or go somewhere else, you'll walk away knowing how to make the right call for your situation. That's the deal. Just straight talk from someone who's been in your seat.

## What Is a Trading Laptop?

A trading laptop is a high-performance machine built to do one thing: put you face-to-face with the markets in real time — at your desk, on the road, or anywhere you happen to be. It's your window into the action. It's not a gaming rig, it's not a general-purpose office machine, and it's definitely not something you grab off the shelf at a big-box store.

A real trading laptop stands on four legs:

**Speed** — the raw horsepower to handle live data, indicators, scanners, and order execution without lag.

**Reliability** — components and cooling that don't crash, throttle, or quit on you during market hours.

**After-sale support** — real help from people who understand trading when something goes sideways.

**Portability with muscle** — the power to drive multiple external screens at your home base, then fold up and trade from anywhere.

Knock out any one of those legs and the whole table wobbles. Get all four right, and you've got a machine that disappears into the background so you can focus on the trade.

## Why Do Traders Need a Trading Laptop?

**One word: slippage.**

Slippage is when you place an order expecting one price, and it fills at another. And it almost always works against you. One trade, it's no big deal. But do that hundreds or thousands of times a year, and it adds up to real money — money that belongs in your account, not bled out to a machine you outgrew three years ago.

Here's why it happens. On an underpowered laptop, your machine is trying to swallow a flood of tick data, redraw your charts, run your indicators, refresh your scanners, and fire your orders — all at once. When the hardware can't keep up, you get a data bottleneck: a tiny delay between what the market is doing and what you see. Even a fraction of a second is enough to throw off a good setup. A properly built trading laptop eliminates that bottleneck — clean data, real-time charts, and orders that go out the instant you hit the button.

## The CNBC Analogy: Understanding Delays

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Here's an easy way to picture it. You're watching CNBC and they've got a guest joining remotely. The anchor asks a question, and there's that awkward two- or three-second pause before the guest answers. You can practically see him waiting for the sound to reach him.

That lag is exactly what's happening inside a slow trading laptop — except now it's happening between the market and you. The market moves, your machine is still catching up, and by the time your screen shows it, the move is gone, or the trade you just put on is already underwater. A fast trading laptop is the anchor in the studio: instant, no pause, no waiting. And for a trader, that little pause is expensive.



## The Problem with Mass-Market Laptops

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I get asked this all the time: "Eddie, why can't I just grab a laptop from Best Buy, Office Depot, or Walmart? Why can't I just order an HP or a Dell off the website?"

Here's the honest answer. Mass-market laptops are built to a price point and to one priority above all others: thinness. To hit the number on the sticker and shave off millimeters, the manufacturer cuts corners everywhere — weak cooling, cramped airflow, low-grade components, no-name memory, and graphics built into the processor instead of a real dedicated card. And the tech support? Let's just say I hope you enjoy calling a call center overseas and explaining what a trading platform is to someone reading off a script.

You won't actually save money with these machines. Once you factor in slippage, setup hassles, downtime, and pure frustration, they cost you more. Most of them come with a one-year warranty and a phone tree. And the kids working the floor at those stores? They have no idea what a trader like you actually needs.

## The Better Solution: A Custom-Built Trading Laptop

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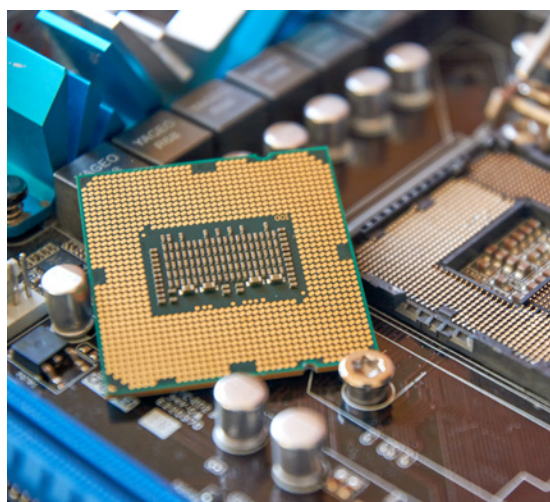
Here's the truth: a custom-built laptop designed specifically for you doesn't cost more than a mass-market machine once you account for slippage, downtime, and wasted time — it costs far less. The ultimate trading laptop isn't about flashy marketing — it's about what's under the hood: top-quality components, serious cooling, and a configuration built around how you trade. Pick the right components, and have the system professionally built, tested, and optimized. That's it.

But you might be wondering: How do I pick the right components? And who's going to build this thing and stand behind it? Don't worry — I'll walk you through every bit of it, in plain English. No tech degree required.

### The Processor (CPU): The Engine Under the Hood

#### Why Speed Matters Most

If you take only one thing away from this entire guide, make it this: speed is the single most important feature of a trading laptop. Everything else — the screen, the keyboard, the slim design — comes second to raw horsepower. And the component that delivers that horsepower is the processor, or CPU.



Here's the thing most people don't realize: trading software is brutal on a computer. You've got real-time market data streaming in, Level 2 data, complex charting indicators recalculating on every tick, scanners churning through thousands of symbols, order routing that needs to fire instantly, and multiple charts on multiple time frames — all running at once.

And that's before you add everything else. Most traders also have Zoom open for a trading room, CNBC or Bloomberg streaming in a window, Chrome with twenty tabs of news and research, maybe Discord, plus their broker's order window. Every one of those is fighting for the same processor. If your CPU can't keep up, you get lag — and lag in trading isn't a minor annoyance. It's the difference between getting filled at your price and chasing the market.

#### The Processor: Your Laptop's Engine

Think of your laptop like a car, and the processor is the engine. You can have the nicest aluminum body, a gorgeous screen, and a backlit keyboard, but if there's a four-cylinder under

the hood, you're not winning any races. Same with a trading laptop. A pretty chassis means nothing if the engine can't deliver the power.

So how do we measure that power? With something called a **CPU Benchmark Score**. It's a standardized test that loads the processor up the same way a real workload would, pushes every core hard, and gives you back a single number you can use to compare one chip against another — apples to apples, no marketing fluff. Think of it like taking your car to a dyno shop: you strap it down, run it hard, and the dyno tells you exactly how much horsepower you've got. The higher the CPU Benchmark Score, the more horsepower your trading laptop has. Simple as that.

## The Minimum Benchmark Score for Trading

Here's the number to memorize. In 2026, the absolute bare minimum CPU Benchmark Score for a trading laptop is **45,000**. Anything below that, and you're going to feel it — slow chart loads, laggy scrolling, and that spinning wheel right when you need to execute. And yes, that's the same number I demand from a desktop. The old days of telling traders a laptop could scrape by at 25,000 are over. That's a dead number. The markets are faster, the data feeds are heavier, and a real trading laptop has to keep up.

But I don't recommend building to the minimum. The markets only get faster and the platforms get more demanding every year. If you want a machine that's still screaming three or four years from now, shoot for the high-50s and up. That's the sweet spot where you stop thinking about your computer and just trade.

## Test Your Current System

Before you do anything else, find out where your current machine stands. It takes about a minute.

[Click here to run your FREE benchmark test](#)

Fair warning — you're probably going to be surprised. Most store-bought laptops from the big-box retailers are wildly underpowered for trading. They're built to run Word, check email, and stream Netflix on a thin battery — not to drive multiple screens of live market data. I've had traders tell me their \$1,500 ultrabook benchmarked at 12,000. That's not going to cut it.



**WATCH**

**Is Your Trading PC Fast Enough? The Benchmark Test That Proves It**

[Click here to watch the video](#)



## Can a Laptop Really Be Your Primary Trading Machine?

I get this question constantly, so let me settle it right here: **yes**. For years the knock on laptops was that they ran hot, throttled themselves, and couldn't drive a real multi-monitor setup. That was true of cheap, thin retail machines — and it's still true of them today. But a properly built trading laptop, with a desktop-class mobile processor, real cooling, a dedicated graphics card, and the right ports, can absolutely be your one-and-only trading machine.

That's the whole point of this guide. If you travel, trade from more than one location, work from a smaller space, or just want the freedom to fold your whole operation up and take it with you, the right laptop doesn't ask you to compromise. You get the horsepower of a desktop and the freedom of a portable. At home base you dock it and run multiple big screens; on the road, you trade off the built-in display or plug in a travel monitor. One machine. Everywhere.



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**Day Trading: Desktop or Laptop in 2026**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

## My Top Laptop Processor Recommendations for Traders

Here's what I'd actually put in a trading laptop right now. Three tiers, three budgets — and all three clear the bar with room to spare. I'm a Corvette guy, so bear with me on the analogies.

Mobile Processor	Benchmark	Tier	The Corvette Analogy
Intel Core Ultra 9 275HX	57,107	Entry / Minimum	Base-model Corvette — legitimately fast, no shame in the game.
AMD Ryzen 9 9950HX	58,444	Performance	Corvette Z06 — serious horsepower for traders who push their machines hard.
Intel Core Ultra 9 290HX Plus	63,649	Grand Champion	Corvette ZR1X — the fastest trading laptop CPU we've ever tested.

Notice something? Every one of these clears 57,000 — well above the 45,000 floor. That's on purpose. A trading laptop should start where a lot of "fast" laptops top out.

So which brand should you choose? Years ago the answer was simple: Intel. For a long time they were the gold standard for power, speed, and quality — right up until the end of 2018. Back then, AMD was mostly focused on the lower end of the market.

Then everything changed. AMD came out swinging with a line of high-performance processors that went straight at Intel, offering serious speed and power at very competitive prices. We've tested these AMD mobile chips extensively in our shop, and I can tell you they're now an excellent choice for traders — the Ryzen 9 9950HX in our Odyssey is proof.

If you're old-school or brand-loyal, Intel still makes phenomenal mobile processors — in fact, the fastest trading laptop chip we've ever benched, the Core Ultra 9 290HX Plus, is Intel. The honest answer in 2026 is that both brands make outstanding silicon. Pick the machine, not the logo.

## **Know Your Score Before You Buy**

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After looking at that table, here's what I want you to do right now if you haven't already: check the benchmark score of your current laptop. It's one of the most important things you can do before you spend a single dollar.

If your processor scores under 45,000, you're below the minimum for serious trading in 2026. It doesn't matter how much you paid or how new it looks. The benchmark score is the truth. Thin retail ultrabooks — even ones that felt fast a few years ago — routinely fall well below that line, and any chip with a "U" at the end of its name (built for battery life, not performance) is almost always too slow. You can [test your CPU benchmark score here](#).

If your score comes back under 45,000, give us a call at **800-387-5250**. We'll walk you through exactly what you need — no pressure, no sales pitch, just straight talk from someone who trades for a living.



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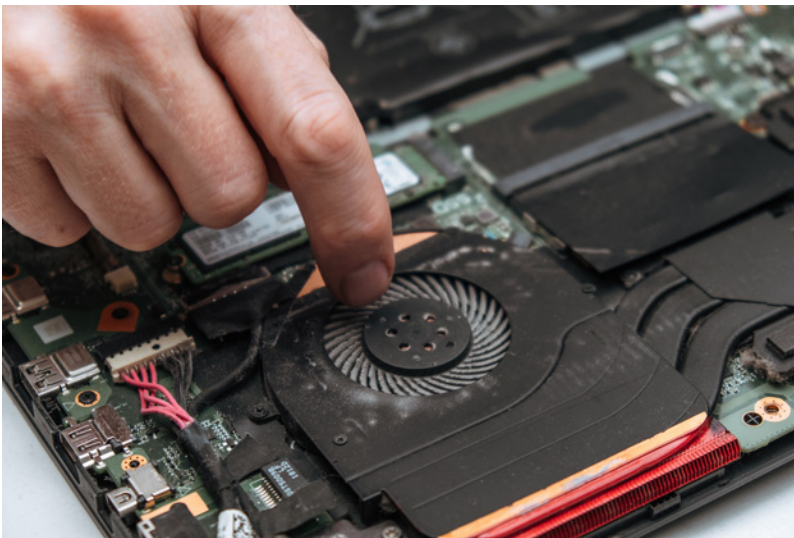
**Fastest Laptop CPUs for Trading 2026 (Tested!)**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

# Heat: The Laptop Killer Nobody Warns You About

This is the section that separates a real trading laptop from a pretty paperweight, and almost nobody talks about it. Here's the problem in one word: **throttling**.

A processor generates heat when it works hard — and trading works it hard, all day. When a laptop gets too hot, it does something sneaky to protect itself: it quietly slows the processor down. That's called thermal throttling. Your benchmark score might say 58,000, but if the cooling can't keep up, an hour into the session that chip is running at a fraction of its rated speed. You paid for a race car and you're stuck in traffic.



**A cheap laptop overheats an hour into the session. A real trading laptop runs at full power all day and never breaks a sweat.**

This is exactly why thin, light retail laptops fail traders. There's no room inside for proper heat pipes, big fans, and real airflow, so the moment you load it up with platforms and charts, it cooks itself and slows down. The machine that looked great in the store becomes the machine that freezes at the open.

When we build a trading laptop, cooling is a first-class design decision, not an afterthought. Bigger chassis where it counts, multiple heat pipes, dual fans, and vapor-chamber cooling on the flagship — all so the processor can hold its full speed through an entire trading day. When you're shopping, don't just ask about the benchmark score. Ask what keeps that score from collapsing under heat. If the salesperson stares at you blankly, you have your answer.



**WATCH**

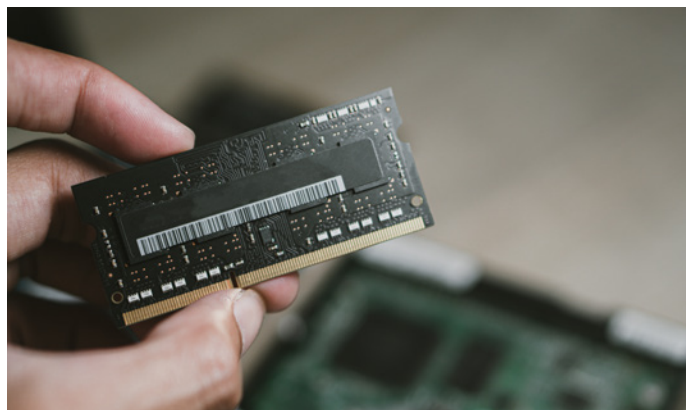
**98% of Trading Laptops Fail This One Test**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

# Memory (RAM)

## The Role of RAM

Let's talk about RAM, because this is one of the most misunderstood components in a trading rig. RAM stands for Random Access Memory, and it's where your applications actually run while your computer is on.



The easiest way to understand it is this: think of your storage drive as a filing cabinet where everything is stored long-term, and think of RAM as your desk. When you want to work on something, you pull the files out of the cabinet and spread them out on the desk. The bigger the desk, the more files you can have open at once without shuffling things back and forth.

When you fire up your trading platform, your broker software, your charting package, a dozen browser tabs, Excel, Discord — all of that gets loaded into RAM and runs there. And here's the key thing to remember: RAM is volatile memory. The moment you shut your computer off, everything in RAM gets wiped clean. It's a temporary workspace. The more RAM you have, the more you can run at once without your system choking.

**RAM is your computer's desk space — the bigger it is, the more you can run at once.**

## How Much RAM Do You Need?

Straight answer for 2026: **32GB is the minimum I'd put in any serious trading laptop.** Sixteen used to be acceptable; it isn't anymore. If you're running one platform with a few charts and some light browsing, you could maybe get by on less — but why would you build your business on "maybe"?

If you're running more than one platform — multiple monitors, Level 2 data, news feeds, scanners, Excel models, an AI tool or two — **bump up to 64GB or more.** That's the difference between a machine that shrugs off a heavy session and one that starts swapping to disk and crawling right when the market gets interesting. RAM is cheap insurance against the worst kind of slowdown.

## A Word on RAM Prices (Buy It Now)

Here's something happening right now that you need to know about. RAM prices have gone through the roof — and it's not normal inflation or a temporary spike. The driver is artificial intelligence. AI data centers are gobbling up memory at a staggering rate, and all memory starts on the same limited supply of silicon wafers. When the AI giants buy up that supply, there's less left for everyone else, and prices climb fast. RAM has already jumped dramatically over the past year, with forecasts calling for more of the same and new manufacturing capacity not coming online until 2027 or 2028.

What does that mean for you? Simple. **If you're having a laptop built, max out your RAM at the time of the build.** Going from 32GB to 64GB or 128GB is far cheaper as part of the original build than as an add-on down the road — and on a laptop, memory is often soldered or tucked behind the bottom panel, so "I'll upgrade it later" can mean a service call instead of a five-minute swap. This is the one component where putting it off genuinely backfires.

## The Quality of RAM

RAM is one of the best upgrades you can make for the money. Going from 32GB to 64GB, or swapping generic memory for high-quality memory, makes a real, noticeable difference in how your system feels day to day. Apps open faster, switching between platforms is snappier, and your machine handles a heavy load without hesitating.

But not all RAM is created equal. Stick with the top brands: G.Skill, Kingston, Crucial, Corsair, and Team Group. These makers produce RAM that's rock-solid stable and usually backed by a strong warranty. Avoid generic, no-name RAM at all costs — and be very wary of any builder who won't tell you what brand they're using. If they won't name it, there's a reason.



WATCH

**16GB of RAM Can't Handle NinjaTrader + ThinkorSwim + Webull**

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## Graphics Card (GPU), AI, and Monitors

A quick note on terms before we dive in: you'll hear three names for the same part — graphics card, video card, and GPU (graphics processing unit). They all mean the exact same thing, and I'll use them interchangeably.

## Why You Need a Dedicated Graphics Card (GPU)

Let me be straight with you: if you're trying to trade on a laptop with integrated graphics, you're handicapping yourself before the opening bell even rings. And this is where most laptops fall down — the vast majority ship with no dedicated graphics at all.

Integrated graphics means the graphics are built right into the processor itself — there's no separate card doing the work. That means every time your charts redraw, your CPU is getting pulled in two directions at once: it's trying to process your market data and handle all the graphics at the same time. It's like asking one guy to answer the phones, write the research report, and make the coffee all at once. Something's going to suffer, and on a fast-moving day, that something is your P&L.

A dedicated graphics card has its own processor and its own memory, completely separate from your system RAM. That means your charts, your Level 2 windows, your DOMs, and your scanners all get handled by a chip built for exactly that job. No stutter, no lag, no frozen tick chart when the Fed drops a surprise.

For trading, I recommend sticking with the **Nvidia RTX 5000 series**. Period. AMD makes fine cards for gaming, but in the trading world, the driver stability, the multi-monitor support, and the software compatibility are all dialed in around Nvidia. The major platforms — TradeStation, NinjaTrader, Sierra Chart, thinkorswim — are all built and tested on Nvidia hardware. Why fight the current?

One more thing on which card: in a laptop, an **Nvidia RTX 5060 is the floor, and 5060-and-higher is the rule**. A 5060 or 5070 with multiple display outputs will drive your charts, your external monitors, and the new wave of AI trading tools without breaking a sweat — without paying for horsepower built to render video games in 4K.

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**Gaming PC vs Trading PC — The Specs Don't Match**

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## AI Is Here to Stay — And It's Changing Trading

I've been doing this for 39 years, and I'll tell you straight: AI is the biggest shift in retail trading since direct market access came along in the late '90s. It's not a fad, it's not going away, and if you're not getting your setup ready for it, you're going to be the guy still using a flip phone when everyone else is on 5G.

Here's why the graphics card matters so much for AI. Artificial intelligence — whether it's pattern recognition, predictive modeling, or chart analysis — runs on a kind of math called parallel processing. A CPU does things one after another, very fast. A GPU does thousands of things at the same time. That's exactly what AI workloads need. Running AI on a CPU is like filling a swimming pool with a garden hose. A GPU is the fire hydrant.

Nvidia RTX cards have a special kind of hardware built in called Tensor Cores — dedicated AI accelerators, sitting right there in your trading laptop, ready to crunch AI workloads. This matters because the major platforms are already rolling out AI modules. WealthCharts has AI-driven chart analysis. NinjaTrader is building AI-powered tools into its ecosystem. Thinkorswim is layering in AI-assisted features.

And that's just the start. Within a couple of years, every major platform is going to have an AI co-pilot — and when those fire up, they're going to look for Tensor Cores first. You want to be on the top rung of that ladder, not the bottom. AI is also transforming backtesting: running AI-powered backtests across years of historical data takes serious horsepower from both your CPU and GPU. The more powerful your machine, the faster you can test ideas — compressing what used to take days into minutes.



## Multi-Monitors: My Favorite Topic

Now we're talking about something I could go on about all day. And here's the myth I want to kill right now: **most traders have no idea you can run a full multi-monitor setup off a laptop.** You absolutely can — and a properly built trading laptop does it beautifully.

Here's the analogy I always use. Trading on the laptop's single built-in screen is like looking at the ocean through the porthole on a cruise ship — you can see a little piece of the view, but to see anything else, you've got to walk to a different porthole. Trading on a proper multi-monitor setup is like standing in front of a floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door with the whole ocean in front of you. You see everything at once — charts, news, order book, scanners, P&L, broker windows — all visible, all at the same time. No clicking around, no alt-tabbing, no "wait, where did that window go?"

When you're managing a position in real time, every second you spend hunting for a window is a second the market is moving against you. Multi-monitors get rid of that. Your eyes do the work instead of your mouse. And this is another place the Nvidia RTX series shines — these cards are built to drive several high-resolution screens at once without screen tearing or stutter.



## How to Connect Monitors to a Laptop

This is the part that trips traders up, so let me make it simple. A powerful trading laptop gives you several ways to add external screens, and stacking them together is how you get to a real trading wall.

**Built-in display + HDMI** — Every serious trading laptop has at least one HDMI port. Pair one external monitor with the laptop's own screen and you've already got two.

**Thunderbolt & USB-C** — Modern trading laptops include Thunderbolt / USB-C ports that can drive additional high-resolution monitors right out of the box. One catch: not every USB-C port supports video, so always check the spec sheet on the exact machine.

**A monitor adapter or docking station** — Our 4-port external monitor adapter for EZ laptops lets you fan out to several full-size screens from a single connection — dock once at home base and drive four, six, or more monitors.

One more thing that matters more than people think: **use the right cable**. Cheap, mismatched cables cause flicker, dropouts, and resolution problems at the worst possible time. Use proper DisplayPort and HDMI cables rated for the resolution and refresh rate you're actually running. It's a \$15 fix that saves a lot of mid-trade panic.

WATCH



### I Tested 6 Trading Laptops — Most Can't Run 4 Monitors

[Click here to watch the video](#)

WATCH



### HDMI vs DisplayPort For Trading — Stop Using The Wrong Cable

[Click here to watch the video](#)

## Choosing the Right Monitors

Monitors are highly personal — what feels right to one trader drives another one crazy — so take this as hard-earned opinion, not gospel. For a home-base setup, **27-inch monitors are the sweet spot**. When you're running several screens, 27 inches gives you the perfect balance of screen space and a comfortable field of view. Stick with brand-name, flat-panel, LED-backlit **IPS** monitors from makers like ASUS, Samsung, or MSI, and buy them all at the same time from the same model line so they match in size, resolution, and color. And don't trade on 60Hz if you can help it — at least **120Hz, with 144Hz** the sweet spot — so price movement glides instead of stutters. A lot of high-refresh monitors ship set to 60Hz out of the box, so check.



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**The Trading Monitor Setup Most Traders Get Completely Wrong**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

## Screens on the Road: Travel Monitors

Here's where the laptop really flexes its muscle. When you're trading away from home base, you don't have to squint at one screen. **USB-powered travel monitors** fit right in your laptop bag, weigh about two pounds each, and pull power and video straight from the laptop over a single cable — no wall outlet, no separate power brick. They've got a built-in fold-out stand like a picture frame, so they set up on any desk, hotel room, or kitchen table in seconds.

Our 15.6-inch, 1920×1080 USB travel monitor is exactly this — add one or two and you've turned a single-screen laptop into a three-screen mobile trading desk. This is the kind of thing that sounds like a luxury until the first time you trade a volatile open from the road with your full layout in front of you.



# Storage

## Where Your Data Actually Lives

Let's talk about where your data actually lives. Your storage drive is the permanent memory of your trading laptop. Unlike RAM, which wipes clean every time you shut down, your storage drive holds onto everything even when the power's off — your operating system, your trading platforms, your chart templates, your indicator libraries, your tax records, all of it.

Go back to that filing-cabinet analogy from the RAM section. RAM is the desk where you do the actual work; your storage drive is the filing cabinet where everything lives when you're not using it. And just like with everything else in a trading laptop, the speed of that storage matters more than most people realize.

## Magnetic Hard Drives Are Dead (for Trading)

For years, computers used traditional magnetic hard drives — those old spinning-platter drives with a little arm zipping around inside like a record player. They were cheap and held a ton of data, but they were painfully slow. This is decades-old technology, and if you're still running one as your main drive in 2026, you're essentially driving a horse and buggy on the interstate. They're obsolete for trading. Period.



## Solid State Drives (SSDs)

The Solid State Drive was the first big leap forward. An SSD is basically a high-performance version of the flash memory in a USB thumb drive or your smart-phone — just far more sophisticated and built to handle constant reading and writing. There are no moving parts, no spinning platters, no mechanical arm. That makes them faster, more durable, and more reliable than the old magnetic drives. When

SSDs first hit the mainstream, boot times went from two minutes to fifteen seconds and platforms that used to crawl popped right open. But technology marches on — older SATA SSDs, while still faster than any spinning drive, are now the middle-of-the-road option, held back by the old SATA connection.

## NVMe M.2 Drives — The 2026 Standard

Here's the deal: for 2026, an **NVMe M.2 drive** is the absolute requirement. Not a nice-to-have — a must-have.

Without getting too deep into the technical weeds, NVMe drives plug directly into your motherboard and ride the same high-speed data superhighway your graphics card uses. They're much smaller and dramatically faster than older SSDs. Specifically, you want a **PCIe Gen 4 or Gen 5** NVMe drive. To put the speed in perspective: a Gen 4 NVMe is roughly fifty times faster than that original SATA SSD, and hundreds of times faster than a spinning hard drive. Gen 5 pushes those numbers even higher.

Why does this matter for trading? Because every time your platform loads a historical chart, saves a workspace, or pulls up your indicator library, that drive speed directly affects how responsive your machine feels. On a slow drive, you get hiccups, stutters, and delayed chart loads. On an NVMe Gen 4 or Gen 5, everything feels instant.

So when you're shopping, look specifically for **PCIe Gen 4 or Gen 5 NVMe** in the specs. If it just says "SSD," keep asking questions. For trading in 2026, NVMe M.2 is the standard, and if your laptop doesn't have one as its primary drive, you're already behind.

For brands, stick with names you can trust: **Samsung, SanDisk, Crucial, and Corsair**. A 1TB drive is plenty for the vast majority of traders — your platforms and data take up far less room than you'd think — but it's nice to know you can step up to 2TB, 4TB, or more if you ever need it.

One laptop-specific tip: keep your storage from filling up completely. A drive crammed to the last gigabyte slows down and can cause stutters and missed entries. Leave yourself headroom, and offload old recordings, screenshots, and downloads you don't need on the machine that runs your trading day.



WATCH



**The Wrong Drive Handicaps Trading — NVMe vs SATA vs HDD Explained!**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

# Trading Platforms and Your Connection

## What Your Platform Actually Demands

Here's something most traders don't appreciate until they switch platforms: they all lean on your hardware differently. Some are CPU hogs. Some eat RAM for breakfast. NinjaTrader loves raw single-core speed and gets hungry when you're backtesting. Thinkorswim is Java-based and a notorious memory hog — it's one of the only platforms that actually leans on your graphics card for data crunching. Bookmap is the heaviest of the bunch on both RAM and CPU. TradeStation wants more memory the second you load up tick charts.

But notice none of that changes the advice. Whatever you run, the answer is the same: a benchmark over 45,000, at least 32GB of RAM, and a dedicated Nvidia RTX card. That covers every platform on the market with headroom to spare — and it's exactly why the published "minimum specs" are a trap. Those minimums tell you the bare level where the software will launch. They say nothing about whether it'll perform when the market is moving and you've got six things open at once. This is why I tell traders not to take buying advice from their broker. Ask your broker what computer you need and he'll say "any modern laptop is fine" — because he's reading off a minimum spec sheet, and his job is to get you funded, not to build you a machine that holds up under fire.

WATCH



**Your Broker Is Lying About Trading Computers**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

And a quick word on the cloud, because somebody always asks: "Can't I just rent a VPS and trade from anywhere?" Be careful. A VPS is a sliver of a shared server you're splitting with strangers — when everyone slams their platform at the open, you get the slippage and freezes you were trying to avoid. A real trading laptop you own beats a rented slice of someone else's computer every time.

## WiFi vs. Ethernet (Yes, Even on a Laptop)

Here's a mistake I see traders make constantly: they spend serious money on a high-performance trading laptop, then trade the open over WiFi from across the house. The whole appeal of a laptop is that it goes anywhere — but at home base, when you're trading for real money, you still want a wire in the back of that machine.



WiFi is a radio signal. It has to be broadcast, received, and decoded, and every step adds a little delay. Worse, that delay isn't consistent. Your connection can spike from a few milliseconds to a couple hundred in the blink of an eye the moment your neighbor fires up a video call, the microwave kicks on, or somebody starts streaming Netflix on the same channel. In trading, that kind of inconsistent lag is a killer — it shows up as stale quotes, slow fills, and disconnects at the worst possible moment.

That's why a serious trading laptop ships with a real **Gigabit (or 2.5 Gigabit) Ethernet port** built in — a direct, shielded, physical pipeline between your machine and your router. No interference, no dropped packets, no random disconnects. So the rule is simple: **when you're trading at home base, plug in**. Run a cable straight from your router to your laptop. Save the WiFi for when you're genuinely mobile — and even then, lean on the most stable connection you can find.

If your laptop is thin enough that it dropped the Ethernet jack entirely, that's a tell about what it was built for. A trading machine keeps the wire.

WATCH



**Your WiFi Is Killing Your Trade Fills**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

# Battery and Power Management

This is a laptop-only chapter, and it matters more than you'd think. A trading laptop lives two lives: plugged in at the desk, and unplugged on the move. You need to manage both.

## Trade Plugged In Whenever You Can

Here's the part nobody tells you: most laptops **throttle the processor down when they run on battery** to save power. That benchmark score you paid for? On battery, with the default Windows power settings, you may only be getting a fraction of it. So rule number one is simple — when you're trading serious size at your desk, stay plugged into the wall and set Windows to its highest-performance power plan. Battery is for mobility, not for your main session.

## When You're Mobile, Manage the Clock

When you do trade unplugged, treat battery like an oxygen tank — know how much you've got before you start, and don't let it cut out halfway up the mountain. Dim the screen a notch, close the twenty browser tabs you're not using, and keep a charger in your bag. A few simple habits buy you hours.

## One Small Thing That Saves Trades

A practical tip from decades of doing this: keep a spare set of batteries (or a charged backup) for your wireless mouse within arm's reach. It sounds trivial, but that mouse battery has a way of dying right when you're in the middle of a trade. Little stuff like this is the difference between a smooth session and a scramble.

WATCH



**INCREASE BATTERY LIFE of your LAPTOP!**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

# Backup and Security: Bulletproofing Your Setup

Your laptop can be a \$3,500 beast, but if your internet drops during a breakout, your power flickers at the open, or a virus locks up your machine on expiration Friday, none of that horsepower matters. This section is about making sure you can actually use your setup when it counts. You need redundancy. Trading without backups is fine right up until the one day it isn't — and that day can wipe out everything the good days built.

## Battery Backups (UPS)

"But Eddie, a laptop has its own battery — why would I need a UPS?" Two reasons. First, your laptop's battery protects the laptop — it does nothing for your **monitors, your modem, and your router**, which all go dark the instant the power does. A trading session with a live laptop and a dead internet connection is no session at all. Second, a good UPS does more than provide backup power: a **line-interactive** unit actively cleans up the short-lived brownouts that stress your gear and corrupt drives. (Ever had your router randomly reboot for no reason? That's often a brownout.)

So don't grab the cheapest box on Amazon. Get a line-interactive UPS with an equipment protection warranty that covers surge and lightning damage, and plug your primary monitor, modem, and router into it — anything

you need to stay online and exit cleanly. When the power goes out completely, it buys you ten to twenty minutes: plenty to place tight stops or get flat, then shut down without missing a beat.



### WATCH



### Best UPS Battery Backup (Traders Watch This Before Buying One)

[Click here to watch the video](#)

## Surge Protectors

A surge protector guards everything — not just your laptop and monitors. Here's the part most people miss: a surge doesn't only come in through the wall outlet. It can travel in over the coax cable line or phone line that runs into your house from outside and fry your modem or network gear in an instant. So get a surge protector with inputs for your coax and phone lines, not just power outlets — and make sure the whole thing is plugged into a properly grounded outlet, because that's what makes surge protection actually work. I've personally lost a cable modem and two routers to lightning strikes over the years. My rule: if a wire comes into your house from the outside world, run it through surge protection.

## Internet Redundancy

If you've ever had your internet go down in the middle of a trade, you know the special kind of panic that comes with it. The fix is simple: two separate internet connections, from two different providers. Cable plus fiber is the gold standard, because they come into your home over completely different infrastructure — when one goes down, the other



is almost always still up. Here the laptop has a built-in edge: **your phone's hotspot is a ready-made backup**. A dedicated 5G backup modem or Starlink works too. One internet connection isn't a plan — it's a prayer.

## Backup Computer

Last piece of the redundancy puzzle: keep a backup machine on hand. The good news is that with a laptop, your whole trading desk is already portable — but you still want a second machine ready to go if the main one dies mid-session. When you upgrade, don't sell the old one. Keep it configured, keep it updated, and keep it in a drawer ready to log on. A backup that gets you back in business in minutes beats being dead in the water for days waiting on a repair.

WATCH



**The \$40 Backup Plan That Saves Your Account When Your Internet Dies**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

# Operating System and Security

## Operating System

For 2026, **Windows 11** is the only choice for serious traders. That's the whole conversation, but let me tell you why.

First, Windows 10 reached the end of its life in October 2025. Microsoft has stopped issuing security patches for it, which means every day you keep trading on Windows 10 is another day of piling up vulnerabilities with nobody minding the store. On top of that, your broker's software and your hardware drivers will slowly stop supporting it. If you're still on Windows 10, upgrading is job number one.

Second, Windows 11 is simply faster and better built for modern hardware. It's optimized for the way today's Intel and AMD mobile processors split their work across performance and efficiency cores — which means it gets more out of the exact chips I recommended earlier. Every trading platform I've tested runs clean on it: thinkorswim, TradeStation, NinjaTrader, Sierra Chart, TradingView, Interactive Brokers.

A couple of you will ask about the alternatives, so let me head it off. Some very advanced traders run Linux — but it's not for the average trader; not every platform runs on it, and setup takes real technical know-how. And macOS? I'll cover that in the mistakes section, but the short version is that a Mac is not the machine for a serious multi-monitor trading setup. The platform support just isn't there.

One last point: getting Windows 11 installed is only half the job. Out of the box, Windows is loaded with background settings — telemetry, notifications, automatic updates, power-saving features — that quietly work against a trader. A properly optimized trading laptop has all of that tuned or turned off so the machine's full horsepower goes to your charts and your fills. This is a big part of what separates a professionally built trading laptop from a box you set up yourself.

**WATCH**



**Every Windows 11 Fix Traders Need (Complete Walkthrough)**

[Click here to watch the video](#)



## Anti-Virus Software

Here's where a lot of traders overcomplicate things and end up hurting their own performance. They install some big-name security suite that hooks into every process, runs constant background scans, and eats a chunk of the very horsepower they paid for. Your charts slow to a crawl, and the "protection" is causing more problems than it solves. You don't need that.

For most traders, the best anti-virus is the one already built into your machine: **Windows Defender**. It comes free with Windows 11, Microsoft has poured serious resources into it over the last several years, and today it's genuinely excellent. For the vast majority of traders, it's all you need. Keep it turned on, keep it updated, and don't disable it.

If you want an extra layer and you're willing to pay for it, the one I recommend is **ESET**. It's lightweight, it doesn't bog down your system, and it's consistently rated among the best in the industry for catching threats without the performance hit that comes with the bloated big-name suites. You can learn more at [eset.com](https://eset.com).

A word of caution on the household names. I don't recommend the big retail security suites like Norton or McAfee for a trading laptop. It's not that they don't detect threats — it's that they're heavy. They dig deep into your system, run constantly, and drag your performance down, which is the last thing you want on a machine where speed is everything.

And please — don't run free third-party antivirus either. There's an old saying that applies perfectly here: when the product is free, you are the product. Several free antivirus programs have been caught quietly collecting and selling their users' data, and that's not a risk worth taking on the same machine that holds your brokerage logins and financial information. Keep it simple: Windows Defender if you want free and excellent, ESET if you want a paid upgrade that won't slow you down. That's the whole list.

# The Excalibur 18": Our 2026 Flagship Trading Laptop

If you've read this far, you know exactly what separates a real trading laptop from a glorified ultrabook or a bargain-bin office machine. So let me show you the machine I've been waiting years to build — our 2026 flagship, the **Excalibur 18" EZ Trading Laptop**.

This is the no-compromise portable I'd put in front of any serious trader who wants desktop power that folds up and travels. It's not a thin retail laptop with a trading sticker slapped on it. It's built from the silicon up — and cooled — for what we actually do.



## The Heart of It: The Intel Core Ultra 9 290HX Plus

The Excalibur is built around the **Intel Core Ultra 9 290HX Plus** — a 24-core processor that hits 4.7 GHz in Turbo Boost and posts a CPU Benchmark Score of **63,649**. That's the fastest trading laptop CPU we have ever tested in our facility, and it's a number a lot of *desktops* can't touch.

But the score isn't the whole story — the engineering around it is. A fast chip in a thin chassis just cooks itself and throttles, as we covered earlier. The Excalibur pairs that 24-core processor with serious cooling so it holds its speed through a full trading day, not just the first ten minutes of a benchmark run.

On graphics, it carries an **Nvidia RTX 5080 with 16GB of video memory** — AI-ready, with the Tensor Cores that the next wave of trading platforms will look for first, and more than enough muscle to drive your external monitor wall. The 18-inch 2560×1600 QHD IPS display gives you a genuine workspace to trade on when you're away from your desk, not a cramped postage stamp.

It comes standard with **32GB of DDR5** (upgradeable all the way to 128GB), a **1TB NVMe SSD** (upgradeable to 8TB), and the ports that make it a real trading machine: HDMI, dual Thunderbolt 5, USB 3.2, and — this is the one that matters — a built-in Killer 2.5 Gigabit Ethernet jack plus WiFi 7. Plug it in at home base, fan it out to a wall of monitors, then unplug and trade from anywhere. If you're running an AI trading bot alongside a live platform and a backtest, this is the machine that does all three at once without flinching. And when you fold it up, your entire trading operation goes in a bag.

## What's Under the Hood

Component	Specification
<b>Processor</b>	Intel Core Ultra 9 290HX Plus — 24-core @ 4.7 GHz Turbo — Benchmark 63,649
<b>Display</b>	18" 2560×1600 QHD LED-backlit IPS
<b>Graphics &amp; AI</b>	Nvidia RTX 5080 — AI-Ready — 16GB Video RAM
<b>RAM</b>	32GB DDR5 — upgradeable to 128GB
<b>Storage</b>	1TB NVMe M.2 SSD — upgradeable to 8TB
<b>Connectivity</b>	Killer 2.5 Gigabit Ethernet • Intel Wi-Fi 7 BE200 • Bluetooth
<b>Ports</b>	HDMI • 2× Thunderbolt 5 (Type-C) • 2× USB 3.2 Gen 2 (Type-A) • 2× RJ-45 LAN
<b>Operating System</b>	Windows 11 — professionally optimized for trading, no bloatware
<b>Support &amp; Warranty</b>	1-Year Warranty + Lifetime EZ Superhero Technical Support — U.S.-based

**See the full Excalibur 18" build**

or call us at 800-387-5250

## Not Running AI Bots? Let's Talk About That

Maybe you read all that and thought, "Eddie, I'm not running AI bots — I just want a fast, reliable laptop for a couple of platforms and a few charts." I hear you, and that's most traders. The Excalibur is our top-of-the-line machine — but it is not the only laptop we build.

Everything you learned in this guide still applies, just scaled to your trading. You still want a CPU benchmark over 45,000 — ours all clear 57,000 — a dedicated Nvidia card, an NVMe drive, real cooling, and Windows 11 properly optimized. We build two more laptops that hit every one of those marks at a lower price than the flagship, without cutting a single corner:

Model	Processor	Benchmark	Best For
<b>Voyager 16"</b>	Intel Core Ultra 9 275HX	57,107	The fast, portable everyday trading laptop.
<b>Odyssey 18"</b>	AMD Ryzen 9 9950HX	58,444	Big screen, big power, multi-platform headroom.
<b>Excalibur 18"</b>	Intel Core Ultra 9 290HX Plus	63,649	The no-compromise flagship.

The components are still top-tier, the build is still professional, and the warranty and support are exactly the same. The smartest thing you can do is spend two minutes on the free benchmark test, then give us a call. Tell us what you trade and how you trade it, and we'll point you to the right machine for your needs — not oversell you on horsepower you'll never use, and not stick you with something that'll choke in a year. That's the whole point of this guide.

**Call us at 800-387-5250 and we'll match you to the right build**

# The 7 Deadly Trading Laptop Mistakes

If you want to dominate the markets, you need the right tools — and that means avoiding the costly mistakes I see traders make over and over. Here's my countdown of the seven deadliest, from bad to worst.

**7. Buying a thin ultrabook that thermal-throttles.** The machine looks gorgeous in the store and benchmarks fine for ten minutes — then it overheats an hour into the session and quietly slows the processor down. Cooling is not optional on a trading laptop.

**6. Running on an outdated or low-power processor.** If your CPU benchmark is under 45,000, you're behind before the bell rings — and any chip with a "U" at the end of its name was built for battery life, not trading. Slower processing means slower trades, and in this game speed is everything.

**5. Settling for integrated graphics.** No dedicated card means your processor is drawing every chart on every screen *and* crunching your market data at the same time. On a fast-moving day, something gives — and it's usually your fills. A trading laptop needs a dedicated Nvidia RTX card.

**4. Skipping backup systems.** Power outage? Internet failure? A laptop battery covers the laptop and nothing else. Without a UPS for your network gear, a second internet connection, and a backup machine, you're leaving your trades to chance. Redundancy is cheap insurance against an expensive disaster.

**3. Underestimating RAM.** Sixteen gigabytes used to be plenty. In 2026 it's below the floor. With modern platforms, Chrome tabs eating memory like candy, news feeds, scanners, and chat apps all running at once, 32GB is the baseline and 64GB is smart — especially since laptop memory is a pain to upgrade later.

**2. Choosing a system with weak support and warranty.** When something goes wrong — and eventually it will — you need expert help from people who understand trading, not a call center overseas reading off a script. A one-year warranty from a company you can't get on the phone is worthless when your machine goes down during earnings season.

**1. Overpaying for an underpowered laptop.** This is the deadliest of them all. Getting talked into a \$4,000 machine loaded with features you'll never use but missing the ones that actually matter for trading — or worse, buying a cheap machine that looks impressive on paper and falls apart under real trading conditions. Fancy marketing doesn't mean better performance. Know your components, know your benchmark score, and make sure every dollar goes toward something that actually helps you trade.

## Bonus Mistake: Trying to Trade on a Mac

I know, I know — Macs are beautiful machines, and the Apple faithful are going to send me angry emails. But here's the reality for traders: macOS is a constant headache for a serious setup. The platform support is fragmented, multi-monitor setups are a struggle, and many of the most powerful trading tools — NinjaTrader, Sierra Chart, and others — are Windows-only or badly crippled on a Mac. You end up running workarounds, emulators, and compromises just to do what a Windows trading laptop does right out of the box. If you're on a Mac right now and wondering why your setup feels like a constant fight, this is why.

WATCH



**NinjaTrader Won't Run on Your Mac — Here's the Fix**

[Click here to watch the video](#)

## Warranty and Technical Support

Let's be real for a second. Most traders aren't computer geeks — and you shouldn't have to be. You're in the business of making money in the markets, not troubleshooting Windows errors or figuring out why your second monitor suddenly went dark five minutes before the open. That's exactly why warranty and technical support might be the single most underrated feature of any trading laptop you buy.

We all like to believe we'll never need support — but the reality is that stuff happens. And when your machine goes down with the market moving against you, the last thing you want is to be stuck in a call-center queue, listening to elevator music while somebody in another time zone reads off a script and asks you to explain what a trading platform is.

Picture it: you're pumped for the trading day, the market's about to move, and suddenly you're staring at the dreaded Blue Screen of Death. In that moment, you don't want a stranger. You want someone who knows you by name, speaks your language, understands your exact setup, and will pick up the phone when you need them most.



That's why my recommendation is simple: buy your trading laptop from **EZ Trading Computers**. Here's what you get:

- **Lifetime technical support.** Every EZ laptop ships with Lifetime Technical Support - for as long as you own the machine.
- **Real, U.S.-based help.** All of our Technical Support Superheroes are based right here in the United States, work exclusively for EZ Trading Computers, and are professionally trained to handle even the toughest issues.
- **People who actually trade.** We don't support gamers and we don't do corporate IT. Every technician specializes in one thing — keeping traders like you online, fast, and in the game.
- **A real warranty.** Every EZ laptop comes with a full 1-year parts-and-labor warranty.

Think of it like having a mechanic on speed dial who actually knows your car, versus rolling the dice at a chain shop that's never seen it before. When the pressure's on, that's a world of difference. With EZ Trading Computers, you're not just buying a machine — you're gaining a partner who's genuinely invested in your success.

## Conclusion


If you take nothing else away from this guide, take this: a trading laptop isn't a luxury or a gadget — it's the single most important tool in your business, and it deserves to be treated like one.

We covered a lot of ground. The engine that drives everything is the processor — aim for a benchmark over 45,000, and higher if you want to stay ahead. Back it with at least 32GB of RAM, a dedicated Nvidia RTX card for your monitors and the wave of AI tools coming fast, a Gen 4 or Gen 5 NVMe drive, real cooling so it never throttles, and Windows 11 properly optimized. Wire it to the internet with Ethernet at home base, not WiFi. Build in redundancy — a UPS for your network gear, a second internet line, a backup machine — so one bad morning doesn't take you out of the game. And whatever you do, don't get talked into overpaying for a thin machine that's loaded with the wrong features and short on the ones that matter.

But here's the thread that runs through all of it: the best components in the world don't mean much without the right people standing behind them. The machine has to be professionally built, cooled, optimized, and tested — and when something goes wrong, you need an expert who knows trading and answers the phone.

That's the whole promise: the right machine, the right price, and a real expert in your corner for the long haul. Get these details right, and your laptop disappears into the background — exactly where it belongs — so you can focus on the only thing that matters: the trade.

So here's what to do next. First, run the free benchmark test, see where your current machine stands, then pick up the phone and call us at **800-387-5250**. You'll reach a real trader who'll match you to the right build — no pressure, no script, no AI salesperson. Not ready to call yet? Head to **EZTradingComputers.net** to see our full lineup and read what other traders have to say. And wherever you are in the process — **subscribe to my YouTube channel**. I put out new videos all the time, breaking down the latest hardware and showing you exactly what works and what doesn't for trading. It's the best way to stay ahead, and it won't cost you a dime.

 **Call us: 800-387-5250**

 **See the full lineup: [EZTradingComputers.net](https://eztradingcomputers.net)**

 **Subscribe on YouTube**

## Who Is Eddie Z?

My name is Eddie Z, and I'm a full-time day trader and total computer geek. I think it's important for you to know a little about my background — in both the markets and in computer technology — so you understand where my passion for all this comes from.

The link between technology and Wall Street is pretty incredible. Many of the major innovations of the last 200 years were driven by the need for faster price information and quicker transactions. Wall Street has been a force behind the development of the telegraph, the telephone, and the computer.

## How It All Started

My love for trading began in the mid-1970s, when I was just 7 years old. My father was a commodity futures trader on the floor of the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX). He'd take me to work, and I was mesmerized by the shouting, the hand signals, and the raw energy of the trading floor. As I got older, he taught me to draw point-and-figure charts by hand, with a pencil and graph paper, and explained how different chart formations could predict market moves. He was one of the purest day traders and swing traders of his era, before those terms even existed. No computer. Just charts by hand and a spot in the pit. Old-school original.

My interest in computers started right around the same stretch of my childhood, in 1980, when I was 11. A friend had an Apple II, and I was instantly hooked. Not long after, I got my first computer — a Commodore VIC-20. But I was so disappointed in its performance that I pried it open to see what was wrong, determined to figure out how to make it more powerful. What I found was that my machine had only 5 KB — yes, kilobytes — of memory. Today, a basic coffee maker has more! That was my first deep dive into the guts of a computer, and it sparked a lifelong obsession.



## Wall Street Beginnings (1987–Present)

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I landed my first full-time Wall Street job in 1987, starting on the NYMEX floor the Monday after I graduated high school. One of my main jobs? Keeping those point-and-figure charts updated for the brokers — pencil and graph paper. Within a few years, computer-generated charts took over and hand-charting disappeared forever. One of my wildest memories happened on January 15, 1991 — the day the Gulf War deadline for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait expired. I watched crude oil rocket from \$27 to over \$40 a barrel in just two minutes. The pit went absolutely berserk.

## Hard-Won Lessons as a Stockbroker

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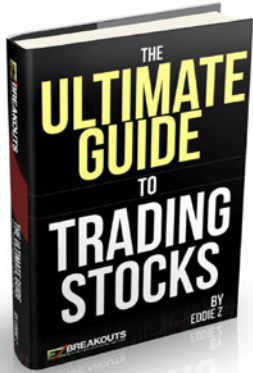
After college, my plan was to become a floor trader on the NYMEX, like my dad. But a friend who'd graduated a year ahead of me talked me into becoming a stockbroker instead — and it turned out to be the right place at the right time. In the 1990s, picking stocks was easy. If you held almost anything long enough — especially anything tech — it went up. I rode the early stages of the dotcom boom, and the six months from October 1999 to March 2000 were unlike anything I'd ever seen: I'd buy a stock for clients at 9:45 in the morning and sell it for a 10% to 25% gain by 3:00 that afternoon. My daily commissions topped what I used to make in a month. It felt too good to be true — and it was.

When the bubble burst in March 2000, I happened to be on my honeymoon in Hawaii. I'd pulled all my clients out before I left — not because I was a genius, but because I didn't want to babysit accounts on my honeymoon. The trouble came when I got back: I figured the correction was over and put everyone right back in. Big mistake. Over the next nine to twelve months I fought the market and lost — some clients were down as much as 80%. I had an MBA, and I still realized I was missing a real understanding of how market cycles work.

## The Book That Changed Everything

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So I did what you did back then: I went to the library and read every stock market book I could get my hands on. Dozens of them. The one that stood out above all the rest was William O'Neil's *How to Make Money in Stocks*. Nobody explained the market's wild swings better than O'Neil — his system was built on research, facts, and, most importantly, charts. I got my clients out, saved my business, and reignited my passion for charts all over again. Over the next couple of years, I watched the brokers around me drop like flies — ninety-five percent of the guys I knew back then are no longer in the business.



As time went on, I began applying the system to my own account, with great success, and finetuned O'Neil's methodology down to shorter and shorter time frames. These days I rarely hold a stock overnight — which means I no longer lie awake worrying about what the rest of the world is doing after the close. That hard-won knowledge is what I share every day with members of EZBreakouts.com, and it's all laid out in my eBook, *The Ultimate Guide to Trading Stocks*.

## Wall Street and Trading Computers

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Ever since 1987, I've been building my own trading computer systems to stay ahead of the competition. In the mid-1990s, I was the first stockbroker at my firm to connect multiple monitors to a single machine. My colleagues were so jealous they started offering me money to build multi-monitor systems for them. Over the last 39 years, I've built and tested hundreds of trading setups — desktops and laptops alike — to figure out which components work best together for maximum stability and reliability. I did it for years just to keep my trading buddies on the cutting edge, never thinking about turning it into a business — until a friend told me to Google "trading computers." I nearly fell off my chair when I saw what some builders were charging.

That's when my lifelong hobby became a mission: educate traders about trading technology, and give them the highest-quality computers at the lowest prices — with the best customer service in the business. As a full-time trader and computer nerd, I speak your language. I'm here to help you find the best possible trading setup for your needs. Feel free to call me at 800-387-5250, email me, or click chat — I love talking about computers and trading!

May the trend be with you,



### Russ "Eddie Z" Hazelcorn

*(Eddie Z is how I'm known in the trading computer world. My real name is Russ Hazelcorn.)*