



The Financial Times Guide to Options: The Plain and Simple Guide to Successful Strategies (The FT Guides)

Lenny Jordan

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The Financial Times Guide to Options, will introduce you to the instruments and markets of options, giving you the confidence to trade successfully. Options are explained in real-life terminology, using every-day examples and accessible language. Introducing three key options markets – stocks, bonds and commodities, the book explains options contracts from straight vanilla options to strangles and butterflies and covers the fundamentals of options pricing and trading

Originally published as *Options Plain and Simple*, this new edition includes:

- How the options industry operates and how basic strategies have evolved
- Risk management and how to trade safely
- Inclusion of new products such as exchange traded funds
- A glossary of key words and further reading
- Addition of market scenarios and examples

Like all investment strategies, options offer potential return while incurring potential risk. The advantage of options trading is that risk can be managed to a greater degree than with outright buying or selling.

The Financial Times Guide to Options is a straightforward and practical introduction to the fundamentals of options. It includes only what is essential to basic understanding and presents options theory in conventional terms, with a minimum of jargon. This thorough guide will give you a basis from which to trade most of the options listed on most of the major exchanges. *The Financial Times Guide to Options* includes:

- Options in everyday life
- The basics of calls
- The basics of puts
- Pricing and behaviour
- Volatility and pricing models
- The Greeks and risk assessment: delta
- Gamma and theta
- Vega
- Call spreads and put spreads, or one by one directional spreads
- One by two directional spreads
- Combos and hybrid spreads for market direction

- Volatility spreads
- Combining straddles and strangles for reduced risk
- Combining call spreads and put spreads
- The covered write, the calendar spread and the diagonal spread
- The interaction of the Greeks
- Options performance based on cost
- Trouble shooting and common problems
- Volatility skews
- Futures, synthetics and put-call parity
- Conversions, reversals, boxes and options arbitrage

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