technical analysis books

technical analysis books serve as essential resources for traders and investors seeking to understand market behavior through price action, volume, and chart patterns. These books provide comprehensive insights into the principles and tools used to analyze securities, enabling readers to make informed decisions in stock, forex, and commodities markets. By studying technical analysis literature, individuals can learn to identify trends, forecast market movements, and develop effective trading strategies. This article explores the top technical analysis books, their core concepts, and how they contribute to mastering market analysis. Additionally, the discussion covers key technical indicators, chart patterns, and advanced techniques highlighted in these publications. Whether a beginner or an experienced trader, understanding the content of these authoritative works can significantly enhance market analysis skills. The following sections detail the best technical analysis books, essential concepts, and practical applications.

- Top Technical Analysis Books
- Core Concepts in Technical Analysis
- Popular Technical Indicators Explained
- Chart Patterns and Their Significance
- Advanced Techniques in Technical Analysis

Top Technical Analysis Books

Several technical analysis books have established themselves as classics in the field, offering fundamental knowledge and advanced insights. These books cover a broad range of topics from basic chart reading to complex trading systems. They are written by experienced traders and analysts who have contributed significantly to the discipline. Below are some of the most influential technical analysis books that every trader should consider reading.

"Technical Analysis of the Financial Markets" by John J. Murphy

John J. Murphy's book is often regarded as the definitive guide to technical analysis. It covers a wide range of topics including chart construction, trend analysis, support and resistance levels, and various technical indicators. The book is comprehensive and suitable for beginners and intermediate traders alike, providing foundational knowledge necessary for mastering technical analysis techniques.

"Japanese Candlestick Charting Techniques" by Steve Nison

Steve Nison introduced Japanese candlestick charting to Western traders through this influential book. It explains the history, formation, and interpretation of candlestick patterns, which are now integral to technical analysis. The book details various patterns that signal potential market reversals or continuations, enhancing traders' ability to time entries and exits effectively.

"Encyclopedia of Chart Patterns" by Thomas Bulkowski

This book is a comprehensive reference focused exclusively on chart patterns. Bulkowski provides statistical analysis and practical advice on pattern reliability and performance. It is valuable for traders seeking to deepen their understanding of price formations and their predictive power in market movements.

"Trading for a Living" by Dr. Alexander Elder

Dr. Elder's book combines technical analysis with trading psychology and risk management. It covers essential technical tools and strategies while emphasizing the importance of discipline and emotional control in trading success. This holistic approach makes it a must-read for traders aiming to develop both technical and psychological skills.

Core Concepts in Technical Analysis

Understanding the fundamental concepts behind technical analysis is crucial for effective application. These core concepts form the basis of analyzing price charts and forecasting market trends. Technical analysis books often begin by introducing these principles to provide a solid foundation for more advanced topics.

Price Trends and Market Phases

Price trends are central to technical analysis, representing the general direction of market prices over time. Books discuss the identification of uptrends, downtrends, and sideways trends, as well as the phases of accumulation, markup, distribution, and markdown. Recognizing these phases helps traders anticipate potential reversals and trend continuations.

Support and Resistance Levels

Support and resistance are key price levels where buying or selling pressure tends to emerge. Technical analysis books explain how to identify these levels using historical price data and chart patterns. These areas are critical for setting entry and exit points, stop-loss orders, and profit targets.

Volume Analysis

Volume is an important complement to price analysis, indicating the strength behind price movements. Books on technical analysis emphasize the role of volume in confirming trends and chart patterns. Increased volume during price advances or declines suggests stronger conviction among market participants.

Popular Technical Indicators Explained

Technical analysis books introduce numerous indicators that help quantify market behavior and improve decision-making. These indicators can be classified into trend-following, momentum, volatility, and volume-based categories. Understanding their calculation and interpretation is essential for effective use.

Moving Averages

Moving averages smooth out price data to identify trends and minimize noise. Simple moving averages (SMA) and exponential moving averages (EMA) are commonly discussed in technical analysis books. They assist in generating buy and sell signals through crossovers and trend confirmations.

Relative Strength Index (RSI)

RSI is a momentum oscillator that measures the speed and change of price movements. It helps identify overbought or oversold conditions, signaling potential reversals. Technical analysis literature often includes guidelines on using RSI alongside other tools for optimal results.

Bollinger Bands

Bollinger Bands consist of a moving average with upper and lower bands based on standard deviations. These bands indicate volatility and potential price breakouts or reversals. Books explain how to interpret the bands in various market contexts to enhance trading strategies.

Chart Patterns and Their Significance

Chart patterns are graphical representations of price movements that suggest future market behavior. Technical analysis books classify patterns into continuation and reversal types, detailing their formation, implications, and reliability. Mastery of chart patterns is vital for predicting market direction.

Head and Shoulders

The head and shoulders pattern is a reversal pattern signaling a change in trend direction. Books describe its structure, including the left shoulder, head, right shoulder, and neckline, and explain how to trade the pattern effectively.

Triangles

Triangles are consolidation patterns indicating potential breakout directions. Symmetrical, ascending, and descending triangles are commonly covered in technical analysis texts, which provide guidance on identifying breakout points and volume confirmations.

Double Tops and Bottoms

Double tops and bottoms represent strong reversal signals. Technical analysis books explain how to spot these patterns, their psychological significance, and strategies for trading the breakout or breakdown that follows.

Advanced Techniques in Technical Analysis

Beyond basic concepts and tools, technical analysis books explore advanced techniques to refine market analysis and trading strategies. These include Elliott Wave Theory, Fibonacci retracements, and algorithmic trading approaches. Such methods require deeper study and practice.

Elliott Wave Theory

Elliott Wave Theory analyzes market cycles through wave patterns, identifying impulsive and corrective phases. Books discussing this theory provide detailed explanations on wave counts and trading implications, aiding in forecasting complex price movements.

Fibonacci Retracements

Fibonacci retracements use mathematical ratios to identify potential support and resistance levels within trends. Technical analysis literature explains how to apply these retracements to predict market pullbacks and continuation points effectively.

Algorithmic and Quantitative Analysis

Some advanced technical analysis books address algorithmic trading and quantitative methods, integrating statistical models and computer algorithms. These approaches enhance precision and objectivity in market analysis, catering to experienced traders and institutional participants.

- John J. Murphy's comprehensive guide provides foundational knowledge.
- Steve Nison's work introduces crucial candlestick techniques.
- Thomas Bulkowski offers an exhaustive chart pattern encyclopedia.
- Alexander Elder combines technical skills with psychological insights.
- Core concepts such as trends, support/resistance, and volume underpin analysis.
- Indicators like moving averages, RSI, and Bollinger Bands aid decision-making.
- Chart patterns provide visual signals for market direction.
- Advanced methods enhance predictive accuracy and strategic depth.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the best technical analysis books for beginners?

Some of the best technical analysis books for beginners include 'Technical Analysis of the Financial Markets' by John J. Murphy, 'A Beginner's Guide to Charting Financial Markets' by Michael N. Kahn, and 'Japanese Candlestick Charting Techniques' by Steve Nison.

Which technical analysis book is considered the most comprehensive?

'Technical Analysis of the Financial Markets' by John J. Murphy is widely regarded as the most comprehensive book on technical analysis, covering a broad range of topics from charting basics to advanced indicators.

Are there any technical analysis books that focus on candlestick patterns?

Yes, 'Japanese Candlestick Charting Techniques' by Steve Nison is a classic book that focuses specifically on candlestick patterns and how to use them effectively in trading.

Can technical analysis books help in stock trading success?

Yes, technical analysis books provide knowledge about market trends, chart patterns, and indicators that can help traders make informed decisions, although success also depends on experience and risk management.

Which technical analysis books cover both theory and practical application?

Books like 'Technical Analysis of the Financial Markets' by John J. Murphy and 'Encyclopedia of Chart Patterns' by Thomas Bulkowski cover both theoretical concepts and practical applications with real market examples.

Are there technical analysis books tailored for cryptocurrency trading?

While many traditional technical analysis books apply to cryptocurrencies, books like 'Crypto Technical Analysis: A Beginner's Guide to Trading Cryptocurrencies' by Aimee Vo offer tailored insights for digital asset markets.

What are some must-read advanced technical analysis books?

Advanced readers may benefit from 'Encyclopedia of Chart Patterns' by Thomas Bulkowski, 'Technical Analysis Using Multiple Timeframes' by Brian Shannon, and 'Trading Systems and Methods' by Perry J. Kaufman.

Additional Resources

1. Technical Analysis of the Financial Markets by John J. Murphy

This comprehensive guide is considered a foundational text in technical analysis. It covers a wide range of topics including chart construction, trend analysis, and various technical indicators. The book is suitable for both beginners and advanced traders looking to deepen their understanding of market behavior through price and volume patterns.

- 2. Japanese Candlestick Charting Techniques by Steve Nison
- Steve Nison is credited with popularizing candlestick charting in the Western world. This book explains the origins and applications of candlestick charts, helping traders identify market trends and reversals. It includes practical examples and strategies that enhance traditional charting methods.
- 3. *Encyclopedia of Chart Patterns* by Thomas N. Bulkowski
 This detailed reference work catalogs a wide variety of chart patterns and their statistical
 performance. Bulkowski provides insights into pattern recognition, success rates, and trading tactics.
 The book is a valuable resource for traders seeking to refine their pattern-based trading strategies.
- 4. Trading for a Living by Dr. Alexander Elder

While focusing on trading psychology, this book also delves into technical analysis tools and risk management techniques. Elder's approach combines chart analysis with mental discipline, making it a holistic guide for traders. It is especially helpful for those aiming to develop a sustainable trading plan.

5. Market Wizards: Interviews with Top Traders by Jack D. Schwager Although not exclusively about technical analysis, this book features interviews with successful traders who often rely on technical methods. Readers gain insights into different trading styles, risk management, and market psychology. The practical wisdom shared helps aspiring traders understand real-world applications of technical analysis.

6. How to Make Money in Stocks by William J. O'Neil

O'Neil introduces the CAN SLIM system, which blends fundamental and technical analysis. The book emphasizes chart patterns, volume analysis, and timing strategies for stock selection. It's a well-regarded resource for investors who want to use technical analysis to boost their stock market returns.

7. Technical Analysis Using Multiple Timeframes by Brian Shannon

This book teaches readers how to analyze charts across different timeframes to improve trading accuracy. Shannon explains how to identify trends, support and resistance levels, and entry/exit points using a multi-timeframe approach. It is particularly useful for day traders and swing traders who need to align short-term and long-term perspectives.

8. Charting and Technical Analysis by Fred McAllen

A practical guide to understanding and applying charting techniques, this book covers trendlines, moving averages, and oscillators. McAllen offers clear explanations and real-world examples to help traders identify profitable setups. The book serves as a solid introduction to various technical tools and concepts.

9. The New Trading for a Living by Dr. Alexander Elder

An updated version of his classic work, this book integrates modern trading tools and technology with traditional technical analysis. Elder discusses trading psychology, money management, and system development alongside chart techniques. It's designed to help traders build a disciplined and effective approach to the markets.

Technical Analysis Books

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technical analysis books: Technical Analysis of the Financial Markets John J. Murphy, 1999-01-01 John J. Murphy has now updated his landmark bestseller Technical Analysis of the Futures Markets, to include all of the financial markets. This outstanding reference has already taught thousands of traders the concepts of technical analysis and their application in the futures and stock markets. Covering the latest developments in computer technology, technical tools, and indicators, the second edition features new material on candlestick charting, intermarket relationships, stocks and stock rotation, plus state-of-the-art examples and figures. From how to read charts to understanding indicators and the crucial role technical analysis plays in investing, readers gain a thorough and accessible overview of the field of technical analysis, with a special emphasis on futures markets. Revised and expanded for the demands of today's financial world, this book is essential reading for anyone interested in tracking and analyzing market behavior.

technical analysis books: <u>Technical Analysis Trading Methods and Techniques (Collection)</u>
Richard A. Dickson, Tracy L. Knudsen, Quint Tatro, 2011-12-30 Three indispensable books reveal little-known technical and psychological techniques for outperforming the market — and beating the

traders you're up against! Three remarkable books help you leverage powerful, little-known insights from technical analysis and behavioral economics to consistently outperform the market! In George Lindsay and the Art of Technical Analysis, Ed Carlson resurrects the nearly-forgotten technical analysis techniques created by the eccentric genius who called the beginning and end of history's greatest bull market, within days! Carlson reveals why George Lindsay's techniques are especially valuable right now, demonstrates their power visually, simply, and intuitively – and shows how to make the most of them without strong mathematical expertise. Next, Mastering Market Timing combines the powerful, long-proven technical analysis methods of Richard D. Wyckoff with the world-renowned analysis of Lowry Research — sharing deep new price/volume insights you can use to uncover emerging trends faster, even if you're entirely new to technical analysis. Finally, in Trade the Trader, Quint Tatro focuses on the real zero-sum nature of trading, helping you understand the traders you're up against, anticipate their moves, outwit them – and beat them! From world-renowned investing and trading experts Ed Carlson, Richard A. Dickson, Tracy L. Knudsen, and Quint Tatro

technical analysis books: Technical Analysis of Stock Trends, Eighth Edition Robert D. Edwards, John Magee, W.H.C. Bassetti, 2001-06-08 DID YOU FALL PREY TO INTERNET MANIA? Many investors were lured into the feeding frenzy of Tech stocks, Internet stocks, and dot-coms, but those who followed the proven methods of Edwards and Magee were prepared for a market adjustment. When nothing else seems to work, technical analysis does. Based on extensive research and experience, Technical Analysis of Stock Trends gives you proven trading and investing techniques for success, even in today's seemingly uncertain and unpredictable market. Get the new edition of the trader's bible. Completely revised and updated, the Eighth Edition is the newest testament to the bible of stock market timing. Edward's practical clarification of the Dow Theory, explanations of reversal and consolidation patterns, trendlines, and support or resistance are still the most useful tools you can have. Magee's proven methods remain the most effective measures ever developed for determining reliable buy or sell signals. Easy to follow examples explain how to construct and use charts to monitor trends and project with confidence when prices will fall; how far they will drop; when to buy; and how to calculate and set up stops that protect your investment. PLAY THE STOCK MARKET THE RIGHT WAY - USE THE APPROACH THAT HAS STOOD THE TEST OF TIME As a trader, portfolio manager, or long-term investor, you need information that will give you the edge. There are plenty of so-called short cuts out there, but nothing beats rolling up your sleeves, getting your hands dirty, and learning how technical analysis works. This book gives you more than a formula for trading and investing, it gives you a formula for long term success. Old market, new market - technical analysis is the only way to go. Technical Analysis of Stock Trends, Eighth Edition shows you how to do it right. SEE WHAT'S NEW IN THE EIGHTH EDITION: Coverage of options Futures Options on futures ishares Long-term investing Hedging and tax avoidance Portfolio risk management and analysis Controlling trade risk Rhythmic investing Current technology and software Managing speculative frenzies (tulipomanias and Internet crazes) Critical new investment instruments such as DIAMONDS and SPDYRS Current finance theory and practice Pragmatic portfolio theory and practice Current record of Dow Theory Extensive bibliography Appendix of resources such as: Internet sites, professional risk and profit analysis, gambler's ruin analysis, volatility formula, sharpe ratio, software packages ...and much more!

technical analysis books: Technical Analysis and Stock Market Profits (Harriman Definitive Edition) Richard Schabacker, 2021-02-15 With a new foreword by Peter Brandt. Richard W. Schabacker's great work, Technical Analysis and Stock Market Profits, is a worthy addition to any technical analyst's personal library or any market library. His pioneering research represents one of the finest works ever produced on technical analysis, and this book remains an example of the highest order of analytical quality and incisive trading wisdom. Originally devised as a practical course for investors, it is as alive, vital and instructional today as the day it was written. It paved the way for Robert Edwards and John Magee's best-selling Technical Analysis of Stock Trends - a debt which is acknowledged in their foreword: 'Part One is based in large part on the pioneer researches

and writings of the late Richard Schabacker.' Schabacker presents technical analysis as a totally organized subject and comprehensively lays out the various important patterns, formations, trends, support and resistance areas, and associated supporting technical detail. He presents factors that can be confidently relied on, and gives equal attention to the blemishes and weaknesses that can upset the best of analytical forecasts: Factors which investors would do well to absorb and apply when undertaking the fascinating game of price, time and volume analysis.

technical analysis books: Technical Analysis: Modern Perspectives Gordon Scott, Michael Carr, Mark Cremonie, 2016-11-14

technical analysis books: Technical Analysis of Stock Trends, Tenth Edition Robert D. Edwards, John Magee, W.H.C. Bassetti, 2012-11-28 Sixty-three years. Sixty-three years and Technical Analysis of Stock Trends still towers over the discipline of technical analysis like a mighty redwood. Originally published in 1948 and now in its Tenth Edition, this book remains the original and most important work on this topic. The book contains more than dry chart patterns, it passes down accumulated experience and wisdom from Dow to Schabacker, to Edwards, and to Magee, and has been modernized by W.H.C. Bassetti. Bassetti, a client, friend, and student of John Magee, one of the original authors, has converted the material on the craft of manual charting with TEKNIPLAT chart paper to modern computer software methods. In actuality, none of Magee's concepts have proven invalid and some of his work predated modern concepts such as beta and volatility. In addition, Magee described a trend-following procedure that is so simple and so elegant that Bassetti has adapted it to enable the general investor to use it to replace the cranky Dow Theory. This procedure, called the Basing Points procedure, is extensively described in the new Tenth Edition along with new material on powerful moving average systems and Leverage Space Portfolio Model generously contributed by the formidable analyst, Ralph Vince., author of Handbook of Portfolio Mathematics. See what's new in the Tenth Edition: Chapters on replacing Dow Theory Update of Dow Theory Record Deletion of extraneous material on manual charting New chapters on Stops and Basing Points New material on moving average systems New material on Ralph Vince's Leverage Space Portfolio Model So much has changed since the first edition, yet so much has remained the same. Everyone wants to know how to play the game. The foundational work of the discipline of technical analysis, this book gives you more than a technical formula for trading and investing, it gives you the knowledge and wisdom to craft long-term success.

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a Time? Chapter 6 Risk Control: How to Stop Losses and Protect Your Gains Why Some Traders Don't Use Stop Losses Stop Loss General Rule Trailing Stop Loss Stop Losses for Volatile Stocks Using Stop Losses to Protect Your Profits Stop Losses When Markets Open with Gaps Stop Losses When a Stock is Being Manipulated Chapter 7 The Art Of Reading Charts Candlestick Charts Overbought/ Oversold Overload Gaps in Candlestick Charts Breakaway Gaps: Continuation Gaps: Exhaustion Gap: Weekly Charts-- For a Longer Trading Position Using Hourly Charts 41 Be With the Stock On the 'West Side' and Let it Go On the 'East Side'. Chapter 8 Trading Strategies Never Fight the Market Don't Trade When You Don't Have Any Edge Trading Pitfalls-- and How to Avoid Them How much should you trade? Buy High, Sell Higher Going for the Jugular Trade Trade With What You Can Afford to Lose When Day Trading, Be a Fruit Vendor. Winning the Game of Odds Secrets of Open Interest Riding the Longer Cycle Consensus Indicators Channel Trading Systems Improving Your Odds Trading the Different Types of Rallies Short Covering Rally Long Term Rally Sectoral Rally The Successful Trader's Psychology Trading Replicates the Behaviour of Fish Stop Blaming Others Don't Have Preconceived Notions About the Market's Direction Reading the Mind of Others Who are Trading Your Stocks Beware the Trading Minefields Trading Secrets from the Masters

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incorporating technical analysis into your overall trading strategy and increasing your predictive accuracy and potential profit with every trade you make.

technical analysis books: Technical Analysis Charles D. Kirkpatrick II, Julie R. Dahlquist, 2010-11-08 Already the field's most comprehensive, reliable, and objective guidebook, Technical Analysis: The Complete Resource for Financial Market Technicians, Second Edition has been thoroughly updated to reflect the field's latest advances. Selected by the Market Technicians Association as the official companion to its prestigious Chartered Market Technician (CMT) program, this book systematically explains the theory of technical analysis, presenting academic evidence both for and against it. Using hundreds of fully updated illustrations, the authors explain the analysis of both markets and individual issues, and present complete investment systems and portfolio management plans. They present authoritative, up-to-date coverage of tested sentiment, momentum indicators, seasonal affects, flow of funds, testing systems, risk mitigation strategies, and many other topics. This edition thoroughly covers the latest advances in pattern recognition, market analysis, and systems management. The authors introduce new confidence tests; cover increasingly popular methods such as Kagi, Renko, Kase, Ichimoku, Clouds, and DeMark indicators; present innovations in exit stops, portfolio selection, and testing; and discuss the implications of behavioral bias for technical analysis. They also reassess old formulas and methods, such as intermarket relationships, identifying pitfalls that emerged during the recent market decline. For traders, researchers, and serious investors alike, this is the definitive book on technical analysis.

technical analysis books: Technical Analysis for Beginners A.Z. Penn, 2021

technical analysis books: Technical Markets Indicators Richard J. Bauer, Julie R. Dahlguist, 1998-11-26 The use of technical market indicators has long been a controversial subject, highly regarded by some and treated with great skepticism by others. Yet, the number of indicators-and the number of individual investors and finance professionals using them-continues to grow. Now, more than ever, there is an urgent need for objective testing to determine the validity of these indicators. Technical Market Indicators is a unique study of the performance of many of the most widely used technical analysis indicators. The authors explore in an unbiased, rigorous manner whether these indicators consistently perform well or fail to do the job. They explain which indicators work best and why, providing a clear picture of what the investor is likely to experience when using technical analysis. Unlike other books on the subject, Technical Market Indicators provides a comprehensive testing of indicators that uses a large sample of stocks over a twelve-year time period, encompassing varying market conditions. Instead of using the traditional technical analysis charts, this detailed analysis takes a different approach, calculating numbers based on various relationships and letting the numbers dictate the decisions. This allows the investor to use technical methods without ever consulting a chart. From an objective standpoint, the authors address both the pro and con arguments of using technical analysis and attempt to shed additional light onto the controversy through their systematic testing. They also alert the investor to the many different issues that must be addressed when using technical indicators, including performance measurement criteria, consistency of results, combining indicators, portfolio considerations, and leveraging. This indispensable resource features: * Comprehensive testing of sixty different technical indicators, fully described, including Trading Band Crossover, Relative Strength Peaks, Random Walk Breakout, Candle Belt Hold, and Volume Trend * An explanation of the underlying concepts behind the indicators and their methods of calculation * In-depth results of tests on each individual indicator, with over 250 pages of detailed tables * An examination of trading rules that combine two or more indicators and a report of a sampling of the best combinations * An annotated bibliography. For those new to technical analysis or for the experienced analyst looking for some fresh angles on the subject, this one-of-a-kind resource is the only one you'll need to navigate the increasingly complex maze of technical market indicators. Can technical analysis be used as an effective tool to enhance investment performance? This question is currently on the minds of many investors and traders. The answer can be found in this invaluable, comprehensive resource, which provides a detailed analysis of the most commonly used indicators, explaining in detail which indicators seem to work best, why,

under what conditions, and with which kinds of financial instruments. Do technical market indicators provide useful information to the stock trader or is it impossible to beat a buy and hold strategy? Bauer and Dahlquist tackle this controversy by rigorously testing 60 indicators on 878 stocks over a 12-year period. Their explanations of the indicators, the testing process, and the results are clear and concise. The 12 major conclusions based on this extensive research will provide the reader with plenty of opportunities to follow Bauer and Dahlquist's final advice: 'Keep learning and keep thinking.' - Tom Bierovic Manager, System Trading & Development Education Omega Research, Inc. Who says a technician has to use charts? Here is a book that sidesteps traditional technical analysis and describes how tabular data can be more informative. - Ralph Acampora Managing Director Prudential Securities.

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technical analysis books: Technical Analysis of Stock Trends Robert D. Edwards, John Magee, W.H.C. Bassetti, 2018-07-24 This revised and updated version of the best-selling book, Technical Analysis of Stock Trends, 10th Edition, presents proven long- and short-term stock trend analysis enabling investors to make smart, profitable trading decisions. The book covers technical theory such as The Dow Theory, reversal patterns, consolidation formations, trends and channels, technical analysis of commodity charts, and advances in investment technology. The book also includes a comprehensive guide to trading tactics from long and short goals, stock selection, charting, low and high risk, trend recognition tools, balancing and diversifying the stock portfolio, application of capital, and risk management. This sharpened and updated new edition offers patterns and charts that are tighter and more illustrative, including modifiable charts. Expanded material will be offered

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