



FOREX SPECIFICATIONS

ECN LIQUIDITY

October 15th, 2021

Market Hours

The foreign exchange market trades 24 hours a day, 5 days a week, from 5pm New York time (ET) on Sunday (Market Open) through to 5pm New York time (ET) on Friday (Market Close). Mt.Cook quotes on most FX pairs straight through from the open to the close, minus a few minutes right at market open, market close and “rollover”. The daily break time (“rollover”) for Forex is at 00:00 - 00:01 server time. During this time you are unable to trade. During the rollover hour spreads are generally wide, and erratic from the low liquidity during this time at most major trading banks.

Currency Swaps

A financing debit or credit will be applied to a Forex position held overnight (through 00:00 server time). This is referred to as a swap charge. There is a triple swap charge on Wednesday across all forex pairs. This is to account for the ‘rolling’ of positions over the weekends. The swap rates are levied by financial institutions and determined by the overnight interest rate differential between the two currencies involved in the forex pair, and whether the position is long or short.



General Product Specification

FEATURE

FOR ALL ECN ACCOUNTS

REGULATION	FSCA
TRADEABLE BASE CURRENCIES OFFERED:	USD, EUR, GBP, AUD and ZAR
EXECUTION / CLEARING MODEL:	ECN / STP / NDD (No Dealing Desk)
SPREADS:	Inter-bank / Variable (from 0.0 pips)
STANDARD LEVERAGE:	100:1 *
STANDARD MARGIN REQUIRED:	1% **
MAXIMUM LEVERAGE:	500:1
TRIPLE SWAP CHARGE:	Yes – on Wednesdays ***
DEFAULT COMMISSION (PER STD LOT ROUND TURN):	\$7.50 USD ****
MINIMUM CONTRACT SIZE:	0.01 lots (1,000 units)
TRADE SIZE INCREMENT:	0.01 lots (1,000 units)



DECIMAL PRICING (FX):	5 digit default (3 for JPY pairs)
MINIMUM TAKE PROFIT:	No (0 pips)
MINIMUM STOP LOSS:	No (0 pips)
AGGREGATED PRICING:	Yes (multi-point liquidity)
LIQUIDITY TYPE:	Bank + non-bank sourced
EA/ALGO COMPATIBLE:	Yes
SCALPING PERMITTED:	Yes
HEDGING PERMITTED:	Yes
MARGIN ON HEDGES:	Deemed "flat" with no margin required
MARGIN CALL / NOTIFICATION LEVEL:	120%
MARGIN STOP OUT / LIQUIDATION LEVEL:	70%
CURRENT SERVER GMT OFFSET:	GMT +2 (Winter time), GMT +3 (Summer time)
PLATFORMS AVAILABLE:	Metatrader4, FIX API, Social Trading Platforms



CLOSE BY OPPOSITE POSITIONS (IN MT4):	No
DAILY EMAIL MT4 STATEMENTS:	No
STANDARD PAM AVAILABILITY:	No
HYBRID PAM AVAILABILITY:	Yes
BACK OFFICE LOGIN INTEGRATION:	Yes
IB MANAGEMENT AND MERCHANT ACCOUNTS:	Yes
ROLLOVER DISCONNECTION:	Yes - Daily at 5:00pm NYC Time (2-3 mins approx)
LIVE SERVER LOCATION:	New York (Equinix NY4 datacenter)
LIVE SERVER NAME:	AtlanticPearl-Live 1

* The specified margin requirements and leverage are default. They can be changed on certain accounts based on client requirements.

** Margin usage depends on leverage, the instrument being traded, and the front currency quoted. Certain instruments require different (higher margin), which can be checked in MT4 Client Terminal under Market Watch, Specification.

*** Most instruments have triple swap on Wednesdays. Certain exotic pairs have triple spread on different days. Please check the back office swaps section for more info.

**** Commission rates vary based on the deposit size or volume traded. \$7.5 USD/lot is the default and highest rate. Commission depends on the front currency quoted. Our FX pricing is notional (USD), and per standard ROUND TURN lot (inclusive of both sides) – which is \$100,000 USD in contract size. For example the Mt.Cook ECN Account pricing of \$7.50 USD per standard round turn lot, and is often as (and is the same as) \$37.5 USD per million, per side (or 0.00375% notional).



Quick Tips (Good to Know)

- In order to view instrument specifications in the MetaTrader client terminal, you can right click on any instrument in the Market Watch window, and select “Specification”.
- The MT4 chart bars/candles show the Bid price.
- Margin is always calculated in the base currency of a pair (the front currency quoted).
- Long/buy trades enter via the Ask price, and exit via the Bid price. On the contrary, short/sell trades enter via the Bid, and exit via the Ask price.
- Pip value and swaps are always calculated in the terms currency (the back currency quoted).
- Commission is calculated based on the base currency (see Commission in USD column *Forex Specification Table*).
- Spreads are especially high within an hour, either side of rollover: 5pm EST, during high impact news releases, and during market open and close.
- Swap rates are found in the backoffice. Please see *Calculating swap/financing fee* section below that will help with the calculation.
- Swap rate is based on the actual net exposure. A hedged trade will not be charged any Swap fee.



Calculating Swaps

The swap rate is determined in the ECN backoffice (client portal) as follows:

- Backoffice > Reports > Swap History > Choose date > Show History (choose account currency and trade direction in the column, and the instrument traded in the row)
- Swap calculation = lot size x swap rate

SWAP AMOUNT			
Currency Pair	USD Long	USD Short	EUR Long
EUR/USD	-3.860	1.040	-3.348
GBP/USD	-1.990	-1.210	-1.726
USD/JPY	-0.396	-2.060	-0.344

Example swap calculation:

- 1) Your account is in USD, and a hypothetical trade was placed on the GBP/USD pair, with a volume of 2.5 standard round turn lots, and in a short (sell) direction.
- 2) In the ECN backoffice (client portal), you would first choose the date, then look under the column USD Short (as your account in USD, and because you had a short/sell directional trade). See the screenshot above.
- 3) Then look at the row GBP/USD. That rate in this example is -1.210 (screenshot above). As this is the Swap fee for 1 lot, you would multiply this by 2.5, as your trade was 2.50 standard round turn lots.



4) The calculation: $2.50 \text{ (lots traded)} \times -1.210 = -3.03 \text{ USD}$

- **Note:** In case you have multiple trades open which carry over through rollover, your Swap fee that is either debited or credited will be the sum of all swap fees.

Calculating Position Value

Gross Position Value = contract size (100,000 base/front currency for all FX pairs) x lot size

Example:

Long 1.5 lots of GBP/USD; GBP/USD rate is 1.35555;

- 1) GBP/USD is quoted in GBP
- 2) Calculation: $100,000 \text{ (contract size)} \times 1.5 \text{ lots} = 150,000 \text{ GBP}$
- 3) In case the account is USD denominated, the position on an USD account would be: $1.35555 \text{ (GBP/USD rate)} \times 150,000 \text{ GBP} = 203.332.50 \text{ USD}$



Calculating Margin Requirement

Margin requirement = Position value (contract size x lot size) x Margin Percentage / Leverage

Example:

Long 1.5 lots of GBP/USD: Ask price 1.35555; Leverage is 100:1; Margin percentage is 100%.

** You would see Margin Percentage in MT4 Client terminal if you right click on Market Watch and select Specification.*

Position value:

- 1) GBP/USD is quoted in GBP. Margin is always calculated in base/front currency
- 2) Calculation: 100,000 GBP (lot size) x 1.5 lots = 150,000 GBP
- 3) In case the account is USD denominated, the position on an USD account would be: 1.35555 (GBP/USD rate) x 150,000 GBP = 203,332.50 USD;

Margin requirement:

- 1) Margin requirement: 203,332.50 USD (position value) x 100% (Margin Percentage) / 100 (Leverage) = 2,033.33 USD
- 2) If account's currency is not USD, margin will be automatically converted to account currency.



Calculating Trade Commission

Our default account commission at Mt.Cook is \$7.50 per standard round turn lot. This is the same as \$37.5 USD, per million, per side (or 0.00375% notional). This is for all USD based pairs (i.e., USD/xxx pairs).

Because this is notional ECN pricing (i.e., institutional pricing and the same way banks quote prices), it means that all other pairs (i.e., EUR/xxx, GBP/xxx, CHF/xxx, CAD/xxx, NZD/xxx, AUD/xxx) are calculated by multiplying the \$7.50 x each other pair's exchange rate with USD.

Commission = "Commission in USD per lot (Forex Specification Table)" x Standard Commission rate x lots traded

Therefore, some pairs may actually work out to be a bit more than \$7.50 USD per standard round turn lot. While other pairs may work out to be a bit cheaper than this. While all USD/XXX pairs are exactly \$7.50 USD per standard round turn lot. Below are 3 possible examples showing how to calculate commission:

- 1) Pair traded is USD/xxx (for example USD/CHF). The commission is default \$7.5 USD/lot round turn. If you check out *Forex Specification Table* at the bottom, column "Commission in USD (std rate x)", you would multiply the standard commission by x1.

Example: You are trading 1 lot of USD/CFH pair. Your default commission is \$7.5 USD/lot, the column "Commission in USD (std rate x)" reads "x1". Formula: \$7.5 USD/lot (standard commission) x1 (from the table below) = 7.5 USD



- 2) Pair traded is xxx/USD (for example AUD/USD). The commission is default \$7.5 USD/lot, multiplied by xxx/USD rate. If you check out *Forex Specification Table* at the bottom, column “*Commission in USD (std rate x)*”, you would multiply the standard commission by the indicated pair.

Example: You are trading 1 lot of AUD/USD pair, rate is 0.72111. Your default commission is \$7.5 USD/lot, the column *Commission in USD (std rate x)* reads “x AUD/USD”, therefore you would multiply the commission by AUD/USD rate. Formula: \$7.5 USD/lot (standard commission) x 0.72111 (AUD/USD rate) = 5.41 USD

- 3) Pair traded does not have USD anywhere (for example NZD/CHF). The commission is default \$7.5 USD/lot, adjusted for USD exchange rate of front/base currency. If you check out *Forex Specification Table* at the bottom, column “*Commission in USD (std rate x)*”, you would multiply or divide the standard commission by the indicated pair.

Example: You are trading 1 lot of NZD/CHF pair, rate is 0.63333, while NZD/USD rate is 0.69999. Your default commission is \$7.5 USD/lot, the column *Commission in USD (std rate x)* reads “x NZD/USD”, therefore you would multiply the commission by NZD/USD rate. Formula: \$7.5 USD/lot (standard commission) x 0.69999 (NZD/USD rate) = 5.25 USD

Note:

- If the account is not in USD base currency, the commission is automatically converted to the account currency.
- The commission is charged per side, meaning half of the commission is charged on the open, and half on the close.



Mark-to-Market Profit/Loss (MTMPL)

MTMPL stands for Market-To-Market Profit/Loss. Mark to Market is a method of measuring the fair value of accounts that fluctuate in value over time. It aims to provide a realistic appraisal of an institution or company's current financial situation based on current market conditions. This method is mostly used on institutional trading platforms, and it helps to show the current value of an asset. In the case of FX trading, this happens on true ECN platforms, but in our case, only occurs on non xxx/USD trades that are held across rollover. It happens because such trades are closed on rollover, and then reopened right after, at the same price. While xxx/USD pairs have a fixed pip value, the prices of USD/xxx pairs' pip values fluctuate with their corresponding exchange rates.

Here is an example on a long 1 lot USDCAD trade; A trade was opened on Day 1 at a price of 1.2188, and closed on Day 2 at price 1.2344. This means a 156 pip profit. The pip price on the retail platform is calculated only once, which is on the close price, therefore the pip price was 8.10 USD/pip, and total profit at 1,263.60 USD.

True ECN trading is a bit more complex, as it adds another step to the calculation. The pip value is calculated across every rollover. In this case the trade was held only through one rollover, which means the trade was subject to a Market To Market calculation only once, while this made the trade consist of two parts, P/L on Day 1, and P/L on Day 2.

The trade opened on Day 1 at price 1.2188 (same as on the retail platform). In the ECN back office that trade is automatically closed and reopened at rollover at a price of 1.2272. On Day 2 it automatically opened at the same price as it closed before (1.2272). Then the trade finally closed on Day 2 at the price of 1.2344. This part was again the same as on the retail platform.

This automatic close and reopen on the rollover changed the pip value. On Day 1 the pip value was determined by the rollover close price (1.2272), and on Day 2 it was determined by the actual close price (1.2344).



To break down this trade, it made 84 pips on the pip value 8.15 USD/pip, and 72 pips on 8.10 USD/pip. The P/L on the retail model only considered one pip value for the whole 156 pips, where total P/L was 1,263.60 USD. The True ECN model that considered the change in pip value made 1,267.80 USD profit. The difference is 4.20 USD, which in this example would be credited to the MT4 trading account as and “MTMPL” credit. **A visual calculation is represented below.**

Figure 1



Figure 2

Retail calculation:

Open Day 1	1.2188
Close Day 2	1.2344
Pips	156
Pips value	8.10 USD/pip
(based on close price 1.2344)	
Lots traded	1
Tot PL	1,263.60 USD

Institutional calculation:

Day1		Day2	
Open	1.2188	Open Rollover	1.2272
Close Rollover	1.2272	Close	1.2344
Pips	84	Pips	72
Pips cost	8.15 USD/pip	Pips cost	8.10 USD/pip
(based on close price 1.2272)		(based on close price 1.2344)	
Lots traded	1	Lots traded	1
PL Day 1	684.60	PL Day 2	583.20

PL Day 1 + PL Day 2 => 684.60 USD + 583.20 USD = 1,267.80 (Institutional calculation)
1,263.60 (Retail calculation)
4.20 (Difference = MTMPL)



Forex Specification Table 1/3

Symbol	Instrument Name	Contract Size (Per Lot)	Base/Margin Currency ***	Pip Value Currency	Pip Value (1 lot)	Commission in USD (std rate x)	Min & Max Lots (per trade)	Decimals	Trading Hours	Daily Break
AUDCAD	Australian Dollar / Canadian Dollar	100,000	AUD	CAD	10.00 CAD	x AUD/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURUSD	Euro / US Dollar	100,000	EUR	USD	10.00 USD	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
GBPCAD	British Pound / Canadian Dollar	100,000	GBP	CAD	10.00 CAD	x GBP/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
GBPCHF	British Pound / Swiss Franc	100,000	GBP	CHF	10.00 CHF	x GBP/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
GBPNZD	British Pound / New Zealand Dollar	100,000	GBP	NZD	10.00 NZD	x GBP/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
GBPJPY	British Pound / Japanese Yen	100,000	GBP	JPY	1,000 JPY	x GBP/USD	0.01 - 1,000	3	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
AUDCHF	Australian Dollar / Swiss Franc	100,000	AUD	CHF	10.00 CFH	x AUD/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
AUDJPY	Australian Dollar / Japanese Yen	100,000	AUD	JPY	1,000 JPY	x AUD/USD	0.01 - 1,000	3	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
AUDNZD	Australian Dollar / New Zealand Dollar	100,000	AUD	NZD	10.00 NZD	x AUD/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
AUDUSD	Australian Dollar / US Dollar	100,000	AUD	USD	10.00 USD	x AUD/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
CADCHF	Canadian Dollar / Swiss Franc	100,000	CAD	CHF	10.00 CHF	/ USD/CAD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
CHFJPY	Swiss Franc / Japanese Yen	100,000	CHF	JPY	1,000 JPY	/ USD/CHF	0.01 - 1,000	3	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURAUD	Euro / Australian Dollar	100,000	EUR	AUD	10.00 AUD	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURCAD	Euro / Canadian Dollar	100,000	EUR	CAD	10.00 CAD	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01



Forex Specification Table 2/3

Symbol	Instrument Name	Contract Size (Per Lot)	Base/Margin Currency ***	Pip Value Currency	Pip Value (1 lot)	Commission in USD (std rate x)	Min & Max Lots (per trade)	Decimals	Trading Hours	Daily Break
EURCHF	Euro / Swiss Franc	100,000	EUR	CHF	10.00 CFH	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURJPY	Euro / Japanese Yen	100,000	EUR	JPY	1,000 JPY	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	3	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURGBP	Euro / British Pound	100,000	EUR	GBP	10.00 GBP	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURNZD	Euro / New Zealand Dollar	100,000	EUR	NZD	10.00 NZD	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
GBPAUD	British Pound / Australian Dollar	100,000	GBP	AUD	10.00 AUD	x GBP/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
GBPUSD	British Pound / US Dollar	100,000	GBP	USD	10.00 USD	x GBP/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
NZDCAD	New Zealand Dollar / Canadian Dollar	100,000	NZD	CAD	10.00 CAD	x NZD/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
NZDCHF	New Zealand Dollar / Swiss Franc	100,000	NZD	CHF	10.00 CFH	x NZD/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
NZDJPY	New Zealand Dollar / Japanese Yen	100,000	NZD	JPY	1,000 JPY	x NZD/USD	0.01 - 1,000	3	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
NZDUSD	New Zealand Dollar / US Dollar	100,000	NZD	USD	10.00 USD	x NZD/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDCAD	US Dollar / Canadian Dollar	100,000	USD	CAD	10.00 CAD	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDCHF	US Dollar / Swiss Franc	100,000	USD	CHF	10.00 CHF	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDCNH	US Dollar / Chinese Yuan	100,000	USD	CNH	10.00 CNH	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
CADJPY	Canadian Dollar / Japanese Yen	100,000	CAD	JPY	1,000 JPY	/ USD/CAD	0.01 - 1,000	3	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01



Forex Specification Table 3/3

Symbol	Instrument Name	Contract Size (Per Lot)	Base/Margin Currency ***	Pip Value Currency	Pip Value (1 lot)	Commission in USD (std rate x)	Min & Max Lots (per trade)	Decimals	Trading Hours	Daily Break
USDHKD	US Dollar / Hong Kong Dollar	100,000	USD	HKD	10.00 HKD	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDMXN	US Dollar / Mexican Peso	100,000	USD	MXN	10.00 MXN	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDNOK	US Dollar / Norwegian Krone	100,000	USD	NOK	10.00 NOK	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDJPY	US Dollar / Japanese Yen	100,000	USD	JPY	1,000 JPY	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	3	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDSEK	US Dollar / Swedish Krona	100,000	USD	SEK	10.00 SEK	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDSGD	US Dollar / Singapore Dollar	100,000	USD	SGD	10.00 SGD	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDTRY	US Dollar / Turkish Lira	100,000	USD	TRY	10.00 TRY	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDZAR	US Dollar / South African Rand	100,000	USD	ZAR	10.00 ZAR	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURSGD	Euro / Singapore Dollar	100,000	EUR	SGD	10.00 SGD	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURTRY	Euro / Turkish Lira	100,000	EUR	TRY	10.00 TRY	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURSEK	Euro / Swedish Krona	100,000	EUR	SEK	10.00 SEK	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
EURNOK	Euro / Norwegian Krone	100,000	EUR	NOK	10.00 NOK	x EUR/USD	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDPLN	US Dollar / Polish Zloty	100,000	USD	PLN	10.00 PLN	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01
USDBRL	US Dollar / Brazilian Real	100,000	USD	BRL	10.00 BRL	x 1	0.01 - 1,000	5	Mon 00:05 - Fri 24:00	00:00 - 00:01