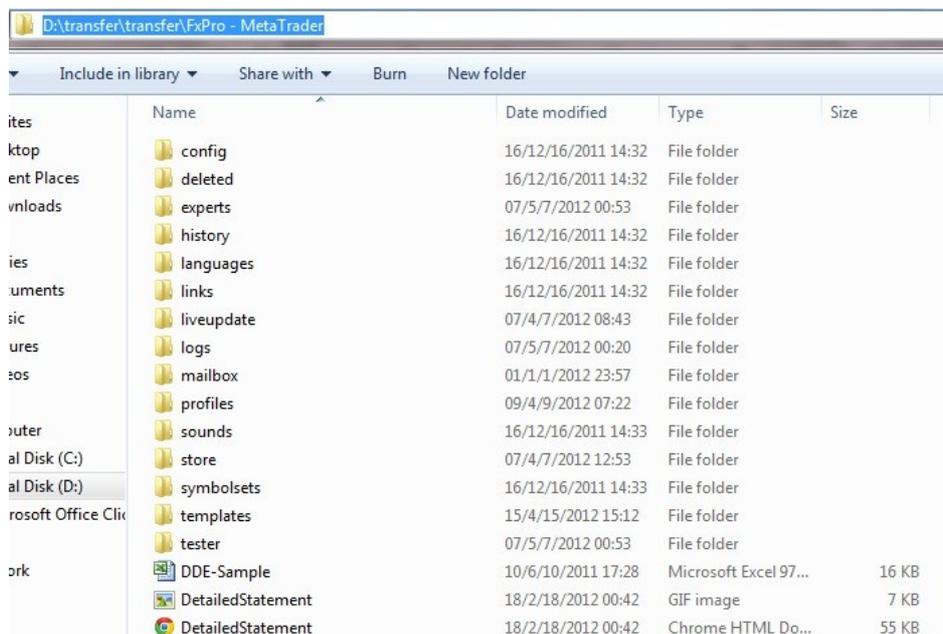


Line Order Guide

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Getting Started/Installation

Okay, this is how you install this EA(Expert Advisor). In the .zip file which you have just opened there is a single folder called 'expert'. In this folder is include files(.mqh) and the EA it's self(.mq4 for the source code and the .ex4 for ease of use). Copy this folder to where MetaTrader is installed, here's mine:



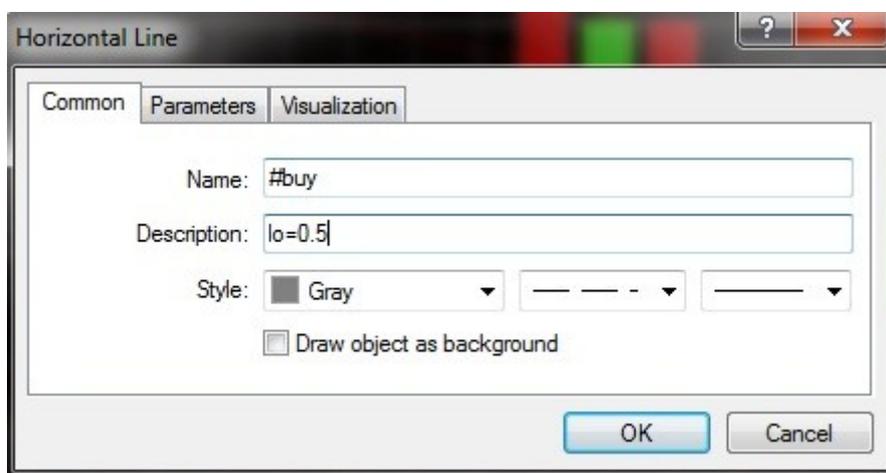
When you copy the folder into this directory, Windows will ask you if you want to merge the folders (Sorry for all the non-Windows people, it's what I have and I'm sure it's similar in your OS). If MT4 (MetaTrader 4) was open when you merged the files then chances are it won't be in the

navigator bar yet, all that you need to do is open the .mq4 file in MetaEditor and re-compile (F5) and once successfully re-compiled it will show in the navigator and you can drag it to the relevant chart.

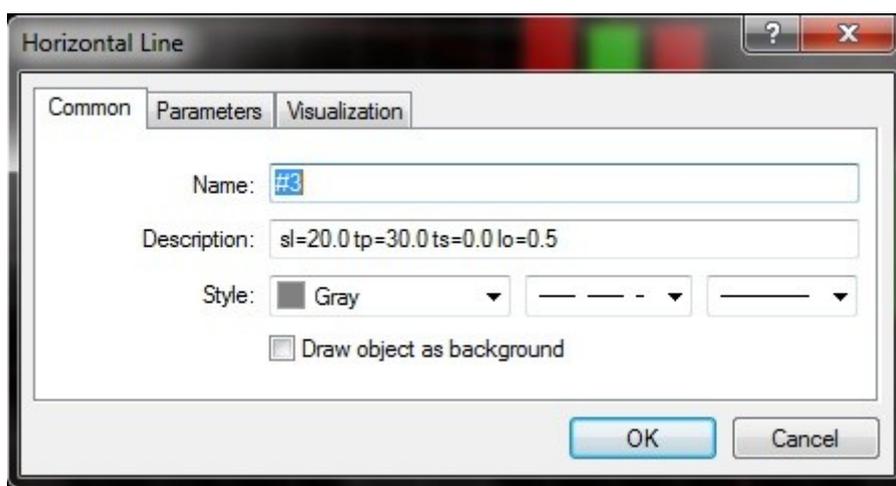
First Line

Okay now that you have it installed, it's time for your first line. After you have attached the EA to the chart there is various inputs which I hope for the most part are self-explanatory, but you'll have plenty of chance to look at those later. For your first time, I would recommend using the Strategy Tester until you have a good grasp of using the EA and it's capabilities.

Okay, on the chart create a new horizontal line. Place it anywhere because for this line we will be making a market trade. Double click the line to select it then right-click it and select 'Horizontal Line Properties'. After the properties box has popped up, change the name to “#buy” or “#sell” (the “#” is one of the inputs but should only be changed when there is no line on the chart). Now we could just leave it at that and it will open a trade with the default settings or we can modify various variable before hand using the description box. Lets make this a 0.5 lot trade:



The lo=0.5 means that we want the trade to open with 0.5 lots. After you click OK and the EA has found your order and then executed it, the properties box will look something like this:



“#3” means that this is the trade information for ticket number 3, “sl=20.0” means that the Stop loss line is 20.0 pips away from the open price (I have a 5 digit broker), “tp=30.0” means that the Take Profit is 30.0 pips away, “ts=0.0” means I currently don't have a trailing stop and “lo=0.5” means that 0.5 lots are open.

Your chart should look something similar to this:



With a grey line representing the open price, the green line representing the take profit and the orange red line as the stop loss (Colours can be changed in the inputs). You can click and drag these lines around to modify the stop loss/take profit levels. Drag one of them now and then check the grey lines description. You will notice that it's changed.

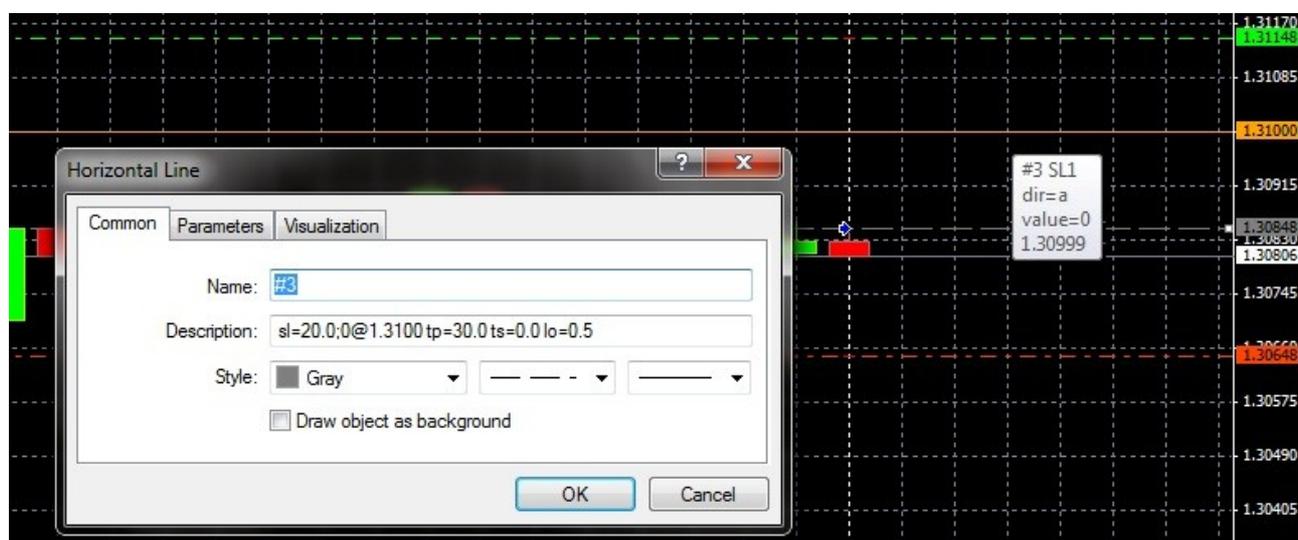
Congratulations you've made and adjusted your first line using the Line Order EA. You may just want to use these features and save you typing out values in the modify order pop-up for this is trading straight of the chart, but if you wish to find out what else the EA can do read on.

First Future-line

The EA can also be used to modify the trade in the future, say if you wanted to move your stop-loss to break even or introduce a trailing stop once you've reached a certain level, then this is for you. You're able to see your trading plan on the chart and plan accordingly (At this moment the EA doesn't support the adding of lots, but once I'm able to link orders together then this will be added).

Okay, I must point out a downside to the current system: the limited space in the description box means that there is a limited number of future-lines.

The current value and future-values are separated by a “;”. For every future-line they must be separated by this. The format for the future-line is this: “value@level”. For example to set the trade to break-even at 1.3100, I would type “0@1.3100”. Once the market reaches 1.3100 in this case, the stop loss will be moved to 0 pips.



First indicator usage

This feature I'm sure will help you tremendously, it allows you to set levels at various indicator levels. The levels will refresh every-time there is a new M1 bar. This is just for computer resources for most indicators don't change radically minute to minute. To use indicators all you need to do is replace the number with a function defined in the “LineOrderStringLibrary” include file. This is a separate file so everyone can customise to how they want it. One of the pre-included functions is the simple moving average function which works as following: SMA(time-frame, Moving average period, Moving average shift, Price mode(open,high,low,close), shift). The values which I personally use quite often are SMA(0,50,0,close,0). Another indicator which I use quite a lot is the Average True Range indicator, which I use with trailing stops: ATR(0,28,0)*3. There should be a description of the needed variables in the LineOrderStringLibrary file. Please note that with the last example it will take the ATR value and multiply it by 3 (*3). Simple maths is supported within the EA. An untested feature is nested functions such as ATR(0,Bars(240),0) (Bars being how many bars there are in a certain time period. Currently not coded), so if someone could test it out and send me a message back with the answer that will be great.

Definitions

Line terms and uses

“buy” and “sell” are both market terms. This will open a trade at either the 'Ask' or 'Bid'.

“buypend” and “sellpend” are both pending orders. The opening price will be where the line is but can be moved(modified) after the trade has been accepted but before it has been filled by the market. The order type is determined by the EA.

“buysl” and “sellsl” are market orders which use the line to set the stop loss.

“buytp” and “selltp” are market orders which use the line to set the take profit.

“sl” is the main interaction with the trades stop loss. It is measured in pips or can be set to an indicator value. Negative values means that your locking in profit.

“tp” is the main interaction with the trades take profit. It is measured in pips and can also be set to a indicator value. Negative values means that your locking in losses.

“ts” is the trailing stop. Can only a few indicators can be used for this converts the indicator value back to a pip value. ATR is the only one recommended for use. Set to 0 to disable. Negative values aren't allowed.

“lo” is the main interaction with the trades lots. At the moment the only features supported are fixed numbers and “-” numbers ie. “lo=-0.5” which will close 0.5 lots. See Possible Updates for ideas.

The 4 above are fixed, if they are missing then the EA will fill them in with known values for “sl”, “tp” and “lo” and default values for “ts”. The variables below are temporary and will be removed from the description as soon as possible.

“sq” means stop loss quote, a direct value which will override any indicator values. *Not yet implemented.

“tq” means take profit quote, a direct value which will override any indicator values. *Not yet implemented.

“alert” indicates what do you want to do when the order closes. *Not yet implemented.

Inputs

As you can probably see just from looking at the input box, this EA calls for a lot of inputs. Most of which be made none external and so tidy up the input pop-up, the colours of lines come to mind. I shall list all of the external variables here and have a short summary of what it does.

string LO_PREFIX="#"; This determines what the EA will look for in a line and keeps from interfering with other objects

double LO_LOTS=0.1; This is default lots amount to open if a value isn't specified at the start

double LO_PIPPROFIT=30; This is the default take profit. Only applied when

LO_AUTO_INCLUDE_SL_TP = 1

double LO_PIPSTOPLOSS=20; Default stop loss, same as PIPPROFIT

double LO_PIPTRAIL=0; This trail acts like the default MT4 trail, once you are in profit by this much then the trail will start

bool LO_AUTO_INCLUDE_SL_TP = 1; If no values entered then default values used

bool LO_CLOSE_ORDER_ON_DELETE = 1; Close order on deleting the main line else will re-

create line next time

bool LO_PROMPT_DESCISIONS = 0; Launches a message box when certain actions are taken such as removing a stop loss or take profit. For including in EA's should be 0 *Not implemented

bool LO_CHECK_CLOSE_ORDER = 0; When main order line is closed and LO_CLOSE_ORDER_ON_DELETE = 1 do you want to check that you want to close the order. For including in EA's should be 0. *Not implemented

int LO_ALARM=1; Default values for "alarm" (0 = No alarm, 1 = Alert, 2 = Email, 3 = Send file)*None implemented

bool LO_ECN=0; Is the broker a ECN? Takes special action if so.

int MAGIC_NUMBER = -1; Set at -1 to apply to all currently open trades, >0 for specific EA

color LO_ORDER_CLR=Gray; Colour of open price line

int LO_ORDER_STYLE=STYLE_DASH; Style of open price line

color LO_STOPLOSS_BUY_CLR=Red; Colour of buy order's stop loss

color LO_STOPLOSS_SELL_CLR=OrangeRed; Colour of sell order's stop loss

int LO_STOPLOSS_STYLE=STYLE_DASHDOT; Style of order's stop loss

color LO_MOVE_STOPLOSS_CLR=Teal; Colour of line which moves stoploss a specified stoploss when hit

int LO_MOVE_STOPLOSS_STYLE=STYLE_DASHDOT; Style of line which moves stoploss a specified stoploss when hit

color LO_STOPLOSS_MOVE_CLR=Orange; Colour of line to which to move stop loss to

int LO_STOPLOSS_MOVE_STYLE=STYLE_DASHDOT; Style of line to which to move stop loss to

color LO_STOPLOSS_CLOSE_CLR=Red; The colour of line which closes at a stop loss

int LO_STOPLOSS_CLOSE_STYLE=STYLE_DASHDOT; The style of line which closes at a stop loss

color LO_TAKEPROFIT_BUY_CLR=Green; Colour of the final take profit

color LO_TAKEPROFIT_SELL_CLR=Lime; Colour of the final take profit

int LO_TAKEPROFIT_STYLE=STYLE_DASHDOT; Style of line of final take profit

color LO_TAKEPROFIT_MOVE_CLR=Green; Colour of the move take profit

int LO_TAKEPROFIT_MOVE_STYLE=STYLE_DASHDOT; Style of the move take profit

color LO_TAKEPROFIT_CLOSE_CLR=Green; Colour of the close take profit

int LO_TAKEPROFIT_CLOSE_STYLE=STYLE_DASHDOT; Style of the close take profit

bool UseLines = true; *Not implemented see Future Ideas

Indicator

The Indicators all have descriptions of the variables in the String Library file. In future editions of the guide I will include those here.

Appendix

Known Bug List

1. Trouble with "sl=0"

Can't think of many at the moment though I'm sure there are a few.

Possible Updates

1. Setting pending orders at indicator values
2. Alarms for orders – Alerts, e-mails and FTP (send image of chart)
3. Alarm lines – Separate from orders
4. Better support for money management ie. \$ amounts for risk and reward
5. Order cancels Other orders
6. Increase lots by linking orders