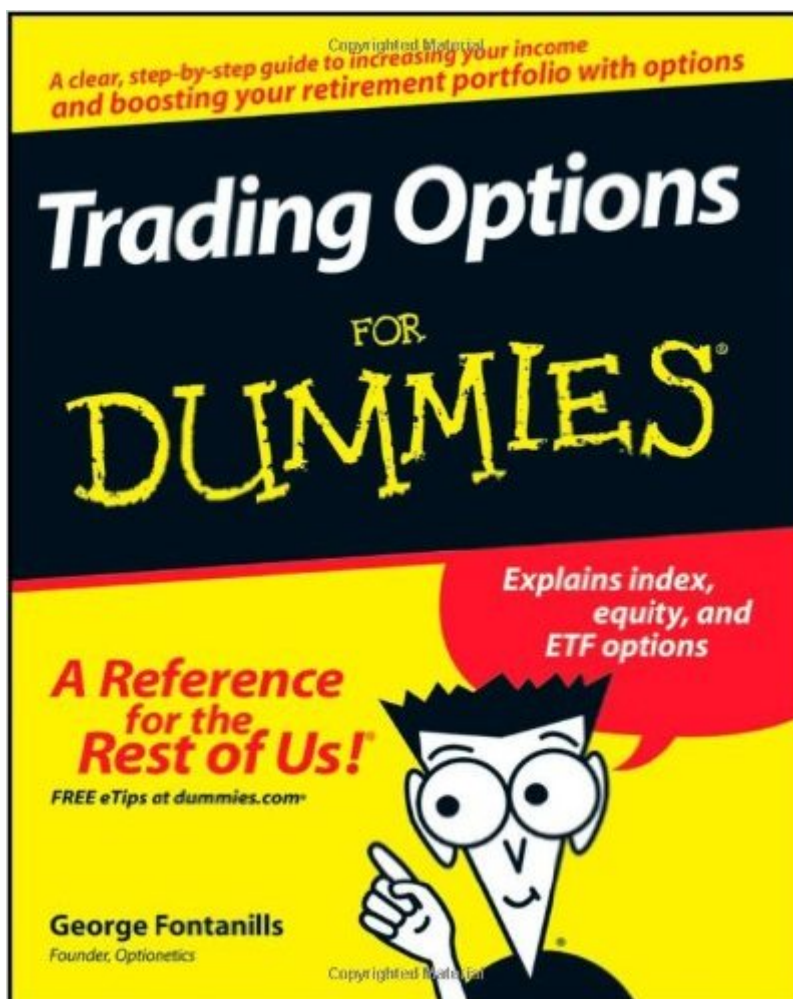


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# Trading Options For Dummies



## Synopsis

Thinking of trading options, but not sure where to start? *Trading Options For Dummies* starts you from the beginning with clear, step-by-step advice on how to use top option strategies to reduce your risk while boosting your income and enlarging your retirement portfolio with index, equity, and ETF options. This plain-English guide explains the common types of options and helps you choose the right ones for your investing needs. You find out how to weigh option costs and benefits, combine options to reduce risk, and build a strategy that allows you to gain no matter what the market may bring. You'll learn the basics of market and sector analysis and what to look for when trying out a new option strategy. You'll also find what you need to know about options contract specifications and mechanics. Discover how to:

- Understand option contracts and orders
- Determine and manage your risk
- Guard your assets using options
- Trade options on securities exchanges
- Protect your rights and satisfy your contract obligations
- Target sectors using technical analysis
- Minimize potential losses and optimize rewards
- Map out your plan of attack
- Limit your downside when trading the trend
- Combine options to limit your position risk
- Benefit from exchange traded funds
- Key in on volatility for trading opportunities
- Capitalize on sideways movements

Trading options is serious business. *Trading Options For Dummies* gives you the expert help you need to succeed.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book assumes that the reader already have familiarity with stocks, and would like to move further, to options. The author doesn't take into account the fundamental analysis of the underlying

security, however, there is a chapter about the technical analysis. In my point of view, it is a drawback: a reader already familiar with the stock market may be aware of the technical analysis, so either both technical and fundamental need to be covered or none. The book covers three types of options: stock options, index options, and ETF options. There is a separate chapter devoted to ETFs, but a reader already familiar with a stock market will get no benefit from this chapter. The book is printed with quite a large font have quite much space around the text, so it is quick to read. This may be a good introductory book to options. It is pretty basic and easy to understand, however, it fails to address an important technique of selling puts as a way of buying the underlying security. Warren Buffett obtains most of his stock holdings through selling puts. He got most of his Coca-Cola Holdings this way, and, recently, Burlington Northern Santa Fe. If you need a much deeper book on options, I would recommend "The Options Course" by the same author. It doesn't have the drawbacks above mentioned, very friendly and easy to understand, although it is a much lengthier read.

What this book lacks in detail, it makes in subject completeness. There are dozens and dozens of great websites out there describing options and trading strategies in far better depth and completeness than this book. So, if you're looking for complex spreads or techniques, this book will not satisfy you. However, online searches are so saturated in trading strategies that it's actually difficult to become aware of real world transactional details (like, "who are the market makers? how does assignment work?"). this book nicely wraps up those "loose ends" that are hardly ever mentioned on your favorite search engine.

Options is an area that is very complex, and, if anything, the author dumbed it down too much. There are a lot of ways to make mistakes with options. This book does a good job of covering the basics and beyond. If you are having trouble understanding parts of it, don't blame the book. The subject matter is difficult for those new to it. Take your time with this material. Unlike other areas of study, being wrong in options can cost you money. While the author lists some pros and cons with paper trading, I found it to be useful for my own learning. Look for a brokerage that offers this. This will also help you get used to the mechanics of opening and closing positions without risking actual money. Also, you do not have to master the numerous strategies discussed in the book to make use of options. You can buy single calls and puts and gain leverage while keeping things simple. The author has written more advanced books when you are ready to dig into the statistics more deeply.

I've read many books written for the Dummies series and this one is by far the worst. Fontanills seems to have a very strong personal understanding of options and what it takes to trade them successfully but NO idea of how to teach the basics successfully to others through the written word. I've spent entirely too much time going back to reread pages as he glosses over important information, information that is then required to continue to understand the following concepts. After barely highlighting key terms he often then only refers to them by their acronyms, again requiring you to page backward to find the info. Charts are frequently impossible to read and very few walk-through examples are given. He never stops to gather and go over the important information in a chapter or section and often leaves you clueless as to how things apply to the average day trader sitting at home in front of his computer. I like to think that I have more than a basic knowledge of the stock market and how it works but, with that said, way too much prior knowledge is assumed on his part for this to be an introductory book into anything. These books are not cheap and, as far as I'm concerned, Fontanills owes me some money back!

I wanted a book which would explain buying and selling options in a thorough way for someone who knew very little about options. This is not the book. The author seems to have the intent to throw in as many complex terms without every explaining the simple things. Never once in this book is a walk through on how to buy a call, how to sell the option, or on how to exercise the underlying contract. The same goes for simple puts.

I wanted something that took me from 0 to 60 in a couple of hours, to explain options in plain english. This book goes from 20 to 120 then back to 40 and up to 80 then back to 10, very poorly constructed and organized. (My review for Dummies: This book is difficult to follow, jumps around a lot, and rarely satisfies the curiosity at hand)

OK...any time I see a book with "For Dummies" in the title, I assume it is a "Beginner's" book. This author clearly wrote a different book. While the information in this book is probably accurate and useful to those with options experience, it is absolutely useless to anyone with no experience. I admit it...I'm a "Dummy"...who was looking for a book that would walk me through the basics. You know, "square one" kinda stuff. With that in mind, I purchased this book. After all, that's what the title suggests...right? So, my suggestion to anyone who is looking for a real beginner's book on options is to stay clear of this one. It's a complete loser as it fails miserably in delivering what the title promises. It may be a great book for those with experience...but, what would I know? Like I said, I'm

a "Dummy".Bottom line...don't waste your money.

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