

Golden Gate University
FI 498 S
W.H.C. Bassetti
Adjunct Professor
Finance and Economics
Ageno School

Steps in Constructing : TRADER'S NOTEBOOK

1. Define your own character: Gambler, Speculator, Investor...
Time horizon, return goals, risk profile
2. Choose the markets congenial to your character—e.g.
Volatile markets for shooters, Averages for investors
3. Specify a method or system to deal with the instruments chosen
e.g.: Moving averages for Averages, Momentum system for scalper
Trend identification or overbought/oversold, or momentum exhaustion
4. State any other systems considerations or models
e.g. as Teresa Joyce's presentation
or, e.g., breaking 6 month trendline suspends trend strategy
5. State Portfolio Composition Procedures
e.g. long and short per MEI, or Pragmatic Portfolio Theory
6. State Risk Management Procedures
% capital risked per trade, etc
how initial stops are computed and raised to follow market
7. State Portfolio Analysis Procedures
Risk/return ratios
Computation of risk
8. System Evaluation Procedures
Maximum Drawdown—in %, in time etc
9. Summarize testing done on system
e.g.—as Faris Hitti's presentation