Color Bars



Click the Color Bars button on the chart toolbar to display the Color Bars panel. Color Bar studies scan bars on a chart for the selected test criteria and Color the chart bars depending on the results. A Bullish color (up) or Bearish color (down) will be assigned to bars that match the test criteria. Select Normal from the Color Bars drop down list to change the chart bars back to the normal bar color. The Color Bars list will highlight the Color Bar study that is currently in use on the chart.

Properties - Click the Properties button to configure which color bar studies are to be shown or hidden on the Color Bars panel. You may want to display only those studies that you use. Click the Save button (that replaces the Properties button) to save the changes.

Hide - Check the Hide box (top-left) to specify auto-closing of the Color Bars panel after an item is selected. Uncheck the box to have the panel remain open so that additional Color Bar studies can be quickly accessed.

Check the Price bullet to color the chart bars. Check the Ask/Bid bullet to color the Ask/Bid volume bars. Check the Volume bullet to color the volume bars.

The default colors can be changed by selecting Set-Up | Charts.

The following color bar selections are available:

4-Minutes by 4-Minutes: This study is best used on a 1-minute chart. The color of the bars will alternate at the completion of each 4-minute period. This is used to guickly see what bars are included in each 4-minute time span.

Ask/Bid Volume: Chart bars will be colored with the bullish color when the Ask Volume exceeds the Bid Volume, and with the bearish color when Ask Volume is less than the Bid Volume.

Buy/Sell Pressure: Buy Pressure and Sell Pressure are similar to Ask Volume and Bid Volume. However, the Pressure values are derived from bar prices using proprietary formulas. Chart bars will be colored with the bullish color when the Buy Pressure exceeds the Sell Pressure, and with the bearish color when Buy Pressure is less than Sell Pressure.

Candle Doji: Colors bars that form a Doji Candlestick. Open = Close.

Candle Marubozu: Colors bars that form a Marubozu Candlestick. Open and Close are in the opposite ends of the bar's range, in the outer 15% of the range.

Candle Spinner: Colors bars that form a Spinner Candlestick. Both Open and Close are in the middle third of the bar's range.

Close Outer 10%: Chart bars that have a closing price in the top 10% of the bar will be colored with the bullish test color. Bars that have a closing price in the bottom 10% of the bar will be colored with the bearish test color. All other bars will be colored with the normal bar color.

Close Outer 25%: Chart bars that have a closing price in the top 25% of the bar will be colored with the bullish test color. Bars that have a closing price in the bottom 25% of the bar will be colored with the bearish test color. All other bars will be colored with the normal bar color

Close Price Reversal: Colors bars where a Closing price reversal is occurring. Example, a reverse to the downside occurs when bar High >= Prior High, Close < Prior Close, and Close is in bottom 1/3rd of bar range. Use the reverse logic for a reverse to the upside.



Close vs. Open: Chart Bars that have a Close price that is higher than the Open price will be colored with the bullish test color. Chart Bars that have a Close price that is lower than the Open price will be colored with the bearish test color.

Day by Day: This study should be used with intra-day chart times. The color of the bars will alternate at the completion of each day. This is used to quickly see what bars are included with each calendar day.

Day of Week: Each day of the week is a different color. Useful with the Weekly Price Histogram.

Dunnigan: This study will color bars that have a Higher High and Higher Low with the Bullish color. Lower Lows and Lower Highs will be colored with the Bearish color. Outside bars will be colored with the 3rd Color Bar color. Inside bars will be colored with the 4th Color Bar color.

Full Moons: This study will color the bars from Full Moon to Full Moon with the same color.

Gap: Chart Bars will be colored with the bullish test color if the Low of the bar is greater than the previous bar's High. This creates an unfilled gap. Chart bars will be colored with the bearish test color if the High of the bar is less than the previous bar's Low. This also creates an unfilled gap.

Gap Open: Chart Bars will be colored with the bullish test color if the Open of the bar is greater than the previous bar's High. However, the gap may have been filled by the bar's Low. Chart bars will be colored with the bearish test color if the Open of the bar is less than the previous bar's Low. The gap may have been filled by the bar's High.

Hour by Hour: This study should be used with intra-day chart times. The color of the bars will alternate at the completion of each hour. This is used to quickly see what bars are included in each hour of trading.

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Island Reversal: Chart Bars that have been stranded by a gap up and then a gap back down on the next bar will be colored with the bearish color. Chart Bars that have been stranded by a gap down and then a gap back up on the next bar will be colored with the bullish color.

Key Reversal Pair: Chart Bars that close near the High of the bar, and are followed by a bar that closes near the Low are called a reversal pair. These bars will be colored with the bearish color. Chart Bars that close near the Low of the bar, and are followed by a bar that closes near the High will be colored with the bullish test color.

Large/Small Range: Chart Bars that have a range (High-Low) greater than 1.618 times the average range of the last 5 bars will be colored with the bullish test color. Chart Bars that have a range smaller than .382 times the average range of the last 5 bars will be colored with the bearish test color.

Large/Small Volume: Chart Bars that have a volume greater than 1.618 times the average volume of the last 5 bars will be colored with the bullish color. Chart Bars with volume less than .382 times the average volume of the last 5 bars will be colored with the bearish color.

Major Trends: Chart Bars that are included in a Major up trend will be colored with the bullish test color. Chart Bars that are included in a Major down trend will be colored with the bearish test color. A Major Trend High turning point is determined by having four bars before and four bars following that all have lower highs than the turning point. A Major Trend Low turning point is determined by having four bars before and four bars following that all have higher lows than the turning point. A turning point cannot be identified until 4 bars after the fact. Once a top and bottom turn are identified, all bars between the two turns are colored as a trend.

Minor Trends: Chart Bars that are included in a Minor up trend will be colored with the bullish test color. Chart Bars that are included in a Minor down trend will be colored with the bearish test color. A Minor Trend High turning point is determined by having two bars before and two bars following that all have lower highs. A Minor

Trend Low turning point is determined by having two bars before and two bars following that all have higher lows.

Minute by Minute: This Color Bar study should be used with 'Tick' charts. The color of the bars will alternate at the completion of each minute. This is used to quickly see what trades are included in a minute of trading.

Month by Month: This Color Bar study should be used with Daily, Weekly, or Monthly charts. The color of the bars will alternate at the completion of each month. This is used to quickly see what bars are included with each month of trading.

Moon Phases: This study will color the bars based on the Phases of the Moon (New Moon, First Quarter Moon, Full Moon, Third Quarter Moon). This is most useful on a daily chart.

Narrow Range 7: This will color the bars that have a price range that is either the largest or the smallest in comparison to the preceding 6 bars.

Net Change: Chart Bars that have a Close price that is higher than the previous bar's Close will be colored with the bullish test color. Chart Bars that have a Close price that is lower than the previous bar's Close will be colored with the bearish test color. If the closing price is the same, then the normal color for the bar will be used.

Normal: Remove the Color Bar study and change the chart bars back to the normal bar color.

Open Outer 20%: Chart bars that have an Opening price in the top 20% of the bar will be colored with the bearish test color. Bars that have an Opening price in the bottom 20% of the bar will be colored with the bullish test color. All other bars will be colored with the normal bar color.

Outside/Inside Bars: An outside bar's High price is higher than the previous bar's High, and has a Low that is lower than the previous bar's Low. An inside bar's High is lower than the previous bar's High, and its Low is higher than the previous bar's Low. Outside bars will be colored with the bullish color. Inside bars will be colored with the bearish color.

Quarter by Quarter: This should be used with Daily, Weekly, or Monthly charts. The color of the bars will alternate at the completion of each quarter. This is used to quickly see what bars are included with each quarter of trading.

Small Trends: Chart Bars that are included in a Short term up trend will be colored with the bullish test color. Chart Bars that are included in a Short term down trend will be colored with the bearish test color. A Small Trend High turning point is determined by having one bar before and one bar following that both have lower highs. A Small Trend Low turning point is determined by having one bar before and one bar following that both have higher lows.

Trends: Chart Bars that are included in an up trend will be colored with the bullish test color. Chart Bars that are included in a down trend will be colored with the bearish test color.

Tweezers: Colors bars where current High = Prior High and Prior High > Prior High 2 bars back. Also Colors bars where current Low = Prior Low and Prior Low < Prior Low 2 bars back.

Volume Increase/Decrease: Chart Bars that have an increase in volume when compared to the previous bar will be colored with the bullish color. Chart Bars that have a decrease in volume will be colored bearish.

Week by Week: This study should be used with Daily charts. The color of the bars will alternate at the completion of each week. This is used to quickly see what bars are included with each week of trading.

Weekly High/Low: The bar that contains the high for the week will be colored with the bearish test color. The bar that contains the low for the week will be colored with the bullish test color. If one bar contains both the high and the low for the week, then it will be colored with the overlay color.

Year by Year: This should be used with Daily, Weekly, or Monthly charts. The color of the bars will alternate at the completion of each year. This is used to quickly see what bars are included with each year of trading.