

Andrew Pitchfork

To draw the Andrews Pitchfork on a chart, click the Andrews Pitchfork button. The cursor will change to a pencil while in the draw mode. The Pitchfork uses three points on a chart to create a triangle. The three points should be constructed from a key High or Low price, and the next two swings in the market that form a correction. Pitchfork lines extend from the triangle at specified intervals to dissect the market. The Pitchfork shows possible price levels where the market could extend to. Watch for support and resistance on the Pitchfork lines.



Drawing the Pitchfork

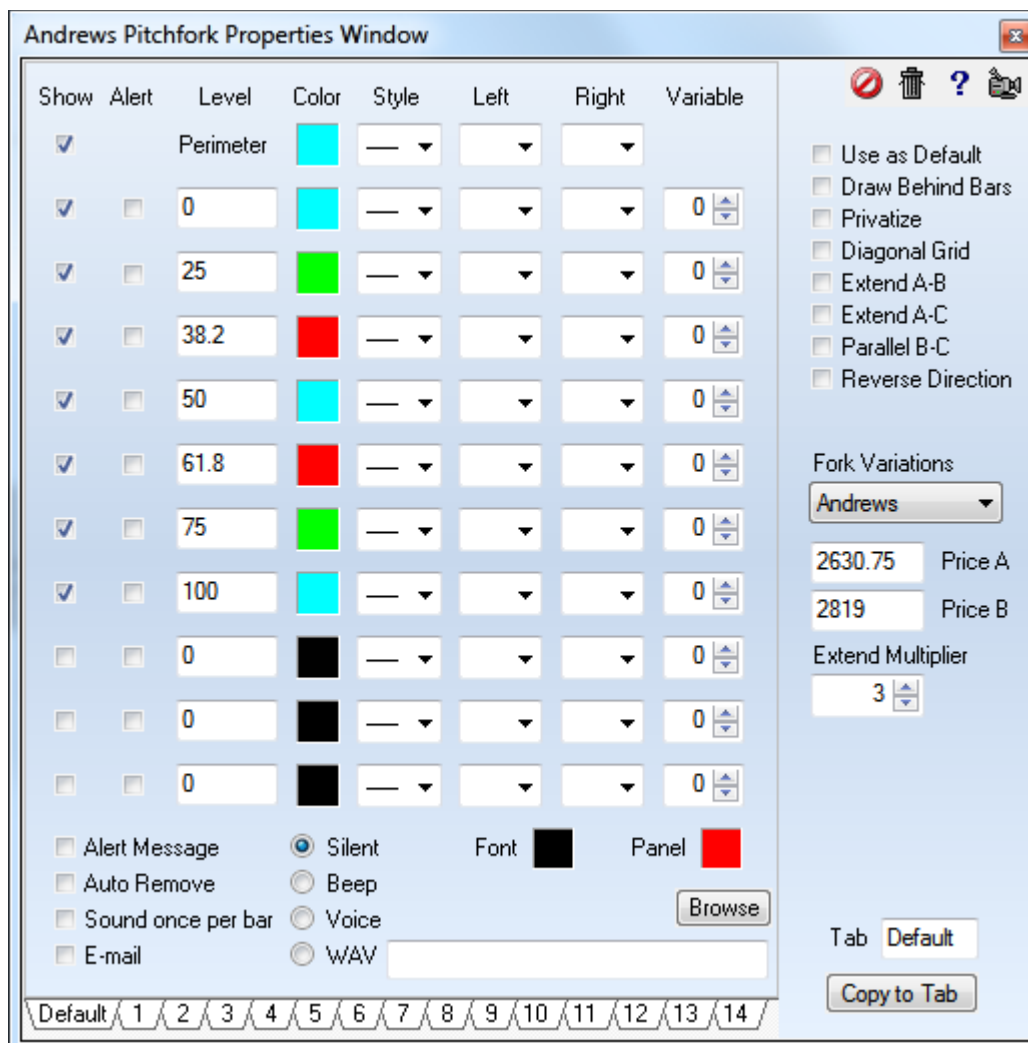
Select the 1st point from an important High or Low price by moving the cursor to the point, then hold down the left mouse button and drag to the 2nd point. The 2nd point should be the High or Low of the subsequent correction. Release the mouse and then move to the 3rd point. The 3rd point will complete the triangle, and is generally the ending point of the correction. Click the left mouse button to mark the 3rd point. The Andrews Pitchfork lines draw to the screen as the three points are selected.

Adjusting the Pitchfork

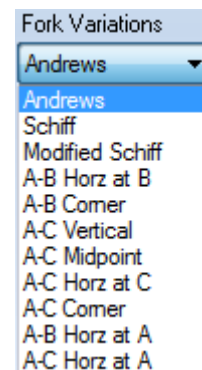
Reselecting the Pitchfork will activate the ability to move and adjust the lines to a different location. Click the mouse on one of the first two original points (or the main Andrews lines) to activate the Pitchfork. Square Bullet marks will highlight the three corner points. Place the mouse on any of the square bullet marks and drag the Pitchfork to a new location. The whole Pitchfork can be moved by dragging the line that connects the first two selected points.

Properties

To open the Properties window, click the Chart Objects button, select Andrews Pitchfork, and then click Properties. The Properties window can also be opened by re-selecting the Pitchfork lines and then right-clicking the mouse. The Properties window is used to change the Colors, Line Style, and other Defaults.



- **Diagonal Grid** - Place a check mark here to plot diagonal grid lines in the pitchfork.
- **Extend A-B** - Check the Extend A-B box to extend the Pitchfork lines from points A and B.
- **Extend A-C** - Check the Extend A-C box to extend the Pitchfork lines from points A and C.
- **Parallel B-C** - A check mark in the Parallel B-C box will draw Parallel lines using the distance between the vertex point and the B-C midpoint line.
- **Reverse Direction** - Fork lines are drawn in the opposite direction. Additional lines are drawn when the Diagonal Grid box is also checked.
- **Fork Variations** - Select Schiff in the list box to draw the pitchfork handle from the vertical mid-point of the first 2 selection points. Select Modified Schiff in the list box to draw the handle of the fork for Modified Schiff Lines from the midpoint of the A-B line. Ensign offers 11 variations for the Andrews Pitchfork handle location.
- **Price** - The Price of the starting point can be manual adjusted if necessary.



- **Extend multiplier** - The multiplier allows you to control the length of the fork lines.
- **Show** - Check the box to have a pitchfork line shown at the Level percentage.
- **Alert** - Check the box to trigger an Alert when price action crosses this pitchfork line.

Cloning a Draw Line from the Pitchfork

With the Pitchfork selected, move to a new location and hold down the Shift key while pressing the Spacebar key. A draw line with the same slope will be created.

Schiff Pitchfork and Modified Schiff Pitchfork

Some traders use the modified Schiff about 90% more than the regular one.

For Modified Schiff Lines, the handle of the fork is drawn from the mid point the line from A-B. The regular Schiff Lines are drawn from the midpoint of a vertical line draw from the A to B price levels. The modified Schiff lines are most often used in congestion or if the regular Andrew's fork is "too steep".

Schiff was apparently one of Andrew's students. He was a floor trader on the NYSE and came up with these versions of the Andrew's Median Lines. I think it was in the early 80's.

This is a regular Schiff Median Line picture. I drew in the vertical to show the Schiff handle location. MP is the mid-point of the vertical segment there. I did not draw the vertical white line all the way to the A point, as it would cover up the price bar. The purple line marks the full length of that vertical.



In Ensign 10, select the Andrew's Pitchfork draw tool and locate the tool's 3 construction points at A, B and C. On the tool's property form, check the Schiff Lines box to have the pitchfork handle change to the MP location as shown above. Check the Modified Schiff check box to have the pitchfork handle change from the MP location to the midpoint of the A-B line.