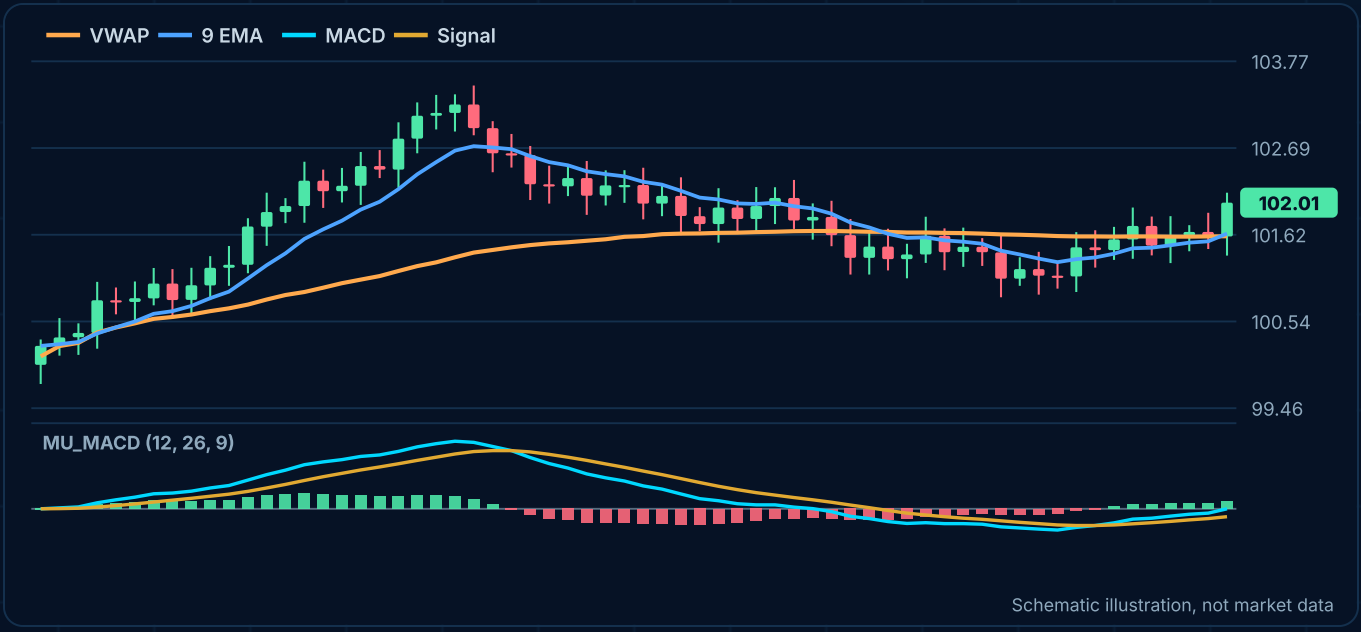
MarketUnclouded

PLATFORM SETUP GUIDE · 2026 EDITION

The thinkorswim Setup Guide

Every setting, color, study and watchlist column you need to make thinkorswim look and work like the charts in our books.



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HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Work through the chapters in order with thinkorswim open. Each setting is listed **in the order it appears on screen**, so you can go down the list from top to bottom. Plan on 30 to 45 minutes for the full setup.

CHAPTER 2

The Market Unclouded palette

Thirteen colors that do all the work. Keep this page open while you set up.

thinkorswim's color picker has an **RGB** tab where you type the red, green and blue values. Some dialogs also accept a hex code. Both are listed for every color.

Used for	Hex	RGB	Notes
Chart and table background	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		The deepest navy; behind charts and tables
Panels and static headers	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		One step lighter, for frames and headers
Grid, symbol bars, marked rows	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		Subtle structure lines
Second-level headers	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		Between panel and grid
Selection	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		Highlighted row
Up / price up	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		Up candles, gains, bullish states
Down / price down	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		Down candles, losses, bearish states
VWAP	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		Volume-weighted average price
9 EMA	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		9-period exponential moving average
MACD line, cursor, focus	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		The brand accent
Signal line, price updates	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		Targets and alerts
Text and values	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		Main text on dark backgrounds
Labels, doji, zero line	Hex & RGB values in the full guide		Secondary text and neutral marks

WHY THESE COLORS

Navy keeps the screen calm over a long session. Mint and red are bright enough to read at a glance but softer than pure green and red. Orange and blue were chosen so VWAP and the 9 EMA never get confused with each other or with the candles.

Symbol	% Chg	RVOL	MACD 30m	MACD 15m	MACD 5m	VWAP %	OR Status
AAPL	+0.42%	1.27	Bullish	Bullish	MIXED DN	+0.31%	Above OR
AMD	-2.24%	1.71	Bearish	Bearish	BEAR	-0.84%	Below OR
META	+0.88%	2.36	Bull cross	Bullish	MIXED UP	+0.52%	Above OR
MSFT	-0.15%	0.92	Bearish	Bull cross	BULL	-0.11%	Inside
NVDA	+1.94%	3.40	Bullish	Bullish	BULL	+1.12%	Above OR
XOM	-0.31%	0.61	Bear cross	Bearish	BEAR	-0.22%	Inside

Figure 3.1: A watchlist on the Market Unclouded scheme, with the custom columns from Chapter 7. Illustration; symbols and values are examples only.

MACD 30m — **Aggregation: 30 min, extended hours off**

```
# Market Unclouded - MACD bias, 30 minute
input fastLength = 12;
input slowLength = 26;
input MACDLength = 9;
input closedBarOnly = yes;
def m = ExpAverage(close, fastLength) - ExpAverage(close, slowLength);
def s = ExpAverage(m, MACDLength);
def h = m - s;
def d = if closedBarOnly then h[1] else h;
def dPrev = if closedBarOnly then h[2] else h[1];
plot State = if d > 0 and dPrev <= 0 then 2 else if d > 0 then 1 else if d < 0 and dPrev >= 0 then -2
else -1;
State.Hide();
AddLabel(yes,
    if State == 2 then "Bull cross" else if State == 1 then "Bullish" else if State == -2 then "Bear
cross" else "Bearish",
    if State == 2 or State == -2 then CreateColor( full guide )
    else if State == 1 then CreateColor( full guide ) else CreateColor( full guide ));
AssignBackgroundColor(
    if State == 2 then CreateColor( full guide )
    else if State == -2 then CreateColor( full guide )
    else CreateColor( full guide ));
```

For **MACD 15m**, use the identical code with aggregation **15 min**. To see crosses the moment they happen, set `closedBarOnly` to `no` in the column's settings; the tradeoff is that a cross can appear and then disappear before the bar closes.

MACD 5m: trend state

The 5-minute column times the entry. Instead of flagging the cross itself, it reads where MACD sits against both its signal line and the zero line, using the same four states as the dashboard on the Pullback Continuation study, so the watchlist and the chart always agree:

State	Looks like	Meaning
BULL	**BULL**	MACD above its signal line and above zero: momentum is with the trend
MIXED UP	**MIXED UP**	MACD above its signal line but still below zero: momentum turning up
MIXED DN	**MIXED DN**	MACD below its signal line but still above zero: momentum cooling
BEAR	**BEAR**	MACD below its signal line and below zero

WATCH FOR MIXED UP

In an uptrend, a pullback usually turns the 5-minute column MIXED DN or BEAR. The first MIXED UP after that is often the earliest sign the pullback is ending; a move to BULL confirms that momentum is back.