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Trading with Vacuum Blocks in ICT Strategy - Guide

Categories: Forex Education ICT (Inner Circle Trader) Education

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Vacuum Blocks (Liquidity Gaps) in **ICT trading** refer to **gaps formed during high market volatility**, often caused by major **economic news releases, geopolitical events, supply and demand imbalances**, or the **opening of new trading sessions**.



Vacuum Blocks in ICT Strategy

What is a Vacuum Block?

A **Vacuum Block** is a **gap in price action** that occurs due to **major economic events** (e.g., **FOMC, NFP**), the **opening of the market**, or the **start of a new session**.

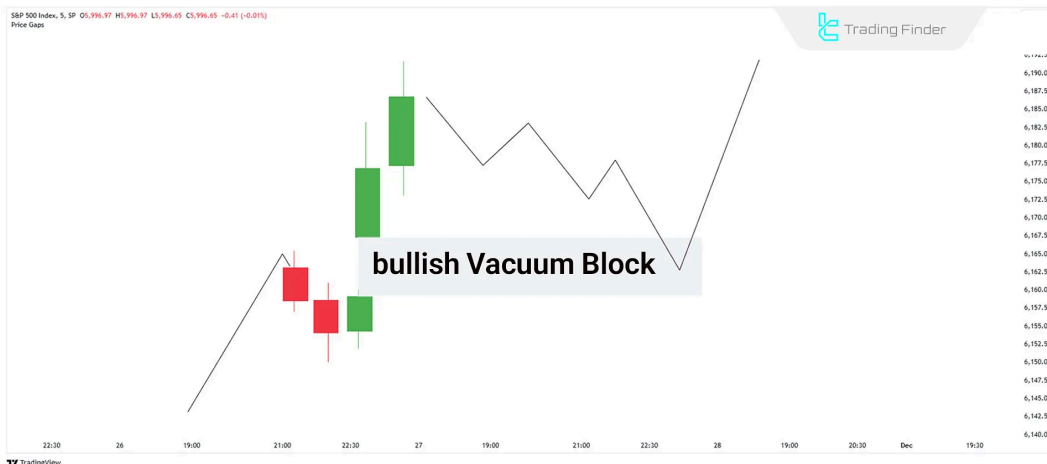
Since no trades take place in these gaps, they are known as **liquidity voids**. Price typically returns to fill this gap before continuing in the original direction.



Formation of a Bullish Vacuum Block

A **Bullish Vacuum Block** forms when **price gaps up above the current market level**, creating a price gap.

This scenario **indicates strong bullish momentum** but also a **liquidity void** that price is likely to revisit. Price tends to return to this area to fill the liquidity gap before resuming its upward movement.



Schematic illustration of how a bullish vacuum block forms in an uptrend

How to Trade a Bullish Vacuum Block?

To trade a **Bullish Vacuum Block**, first analyze the cause and impact of the event that led to the price gap. If the event has a **long-term impact**, wait for **price to return to the vacuum block** before looking for trade confirmations.

- ⚡ Once price **retraces to the gap**, look for **bullish confirmation signals**, such as a **Market Structure Shift (MSS)** on lower timeframes or confluence with **OTE levels**.
- ⚡ After confirmation, **enter a buy trade** and **place the stop-loss below the lowest point of the vacuum block**.

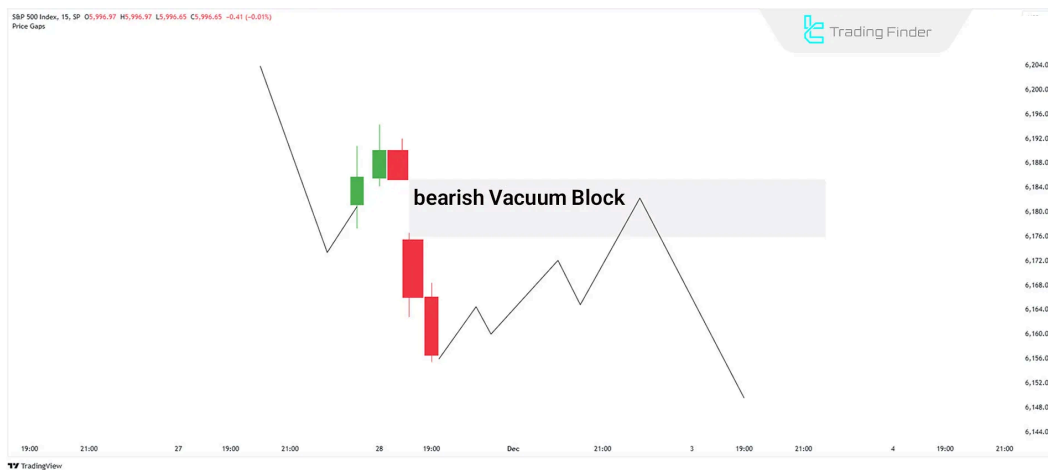


How to enter a long trade using a bullish vacuum block in ICT

Formation of a Bearish Vacuum Block

A **Bearish Vacuum Block** forms when **price gaps down below the current market level**, creating a liquidity void. This often occurs due to **major economic** or **geopolitical events**, causing a **sharp decline** in **asset prices**.

⚡ A **bearish vacuum block** indicates **strong bearish momentum**, but price tends to **retest the gap** before continuing downward.



Schematic representation of a bearish vacuum block in a downtrend

How to Trade a Bearish Vacuum Block?

To trade a **Bearish Vacuum Block**, first **identify the cause** and significance of the **price gap**. If the **event has a lasting impact**, wait for **price to return to the liquidity void** before looking for trade confirmations.

- ⚡ Once price **retraces to the vacuum block**, look for **bearish confirmations**, such as **Market Structure Shift (MSS)** on lower timeframes or reaction to **OTE levels**.
- ⚡ After confirmation, **enter a sell trade** and **place the stop-loss** above the **highest point** of the vacuum block.



How to enter a short trade using a bearish vacuum block in ICT

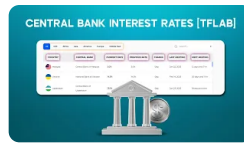
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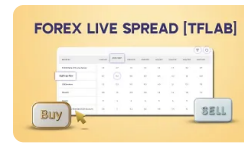
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Identifying Vacuum Blocks with Indicators

To simplify **Vacuum Block detection**, traders can use the **[TFlab] free indicator**, available on different platforms:

- ⚡ [MT4 Version of the Vacuum Block Indicator](#)
- ⚡ [MT5 Version of the Vacuum Block Indicator](#)
- ⚡ [TradingView Version of the Vacuum Block Indicator](#)

Which Assets Experience Liquidity Voids More Frequently?

Vacuum Blocks typically occur in assets **sensitive to economic news** and **macro events**, including:

- ⚡ **Major forex pairs** (e.g., EUR/USD, GBP/USD)
- ⚡ **Stock indices** (e.g., S&P 500, NASDAQ)
- ⚡ **Commodities** (e.g., gold, crude oil)
- ⚡ **Cryptocurrencies**, which are known for **high volatility**

Does Price Always Fill a Vacuum Block?

Price **does not always** fully fill a vacuum block.

- ⚡ Sometimes, **only part of the gap is filled** before the trend resumes.
- ⚡ Other times, **price completely fills the gap** before continuing in the same direction.
- ⚡ There is no guarantee that a vacuum block will be filled entirely.

Conclusion

A **Vacuum Block (Liquidity Gap)** is a price gap caused by **high volatility** or **economic events**. These gaps tend to be **filled**, making them useful for identifying **key trading levels** and **risk management strategies**.

FAQs

What is a Vacuum Block in ICT Trading? ∨

A Vacuum Block refers to price gaps formed due to events like major economic reports, FOMC decisions, or geopolitical news. These gaps represent liquidity voids in the market. ∨

No. Price may partially fill the vacuum block, fully fill it, or not return to it at all, depending on the strength of the trend and the event that caused the gap.

Do Vacuum Blocks Only Occur in Forex? ∨

No. Vacuum Blocks occur in all financial markets, including forex, stocks, commodities, and cryptocurrencies.

How Can You Identify a Bullish Vacuum Block? ∨

A Bullish Vacuum Block occurs when price gaps up above the current market level, typically after positive economic news or events that strengthen the market.

Can You Trade Based on Vacuum Blocks Alone? ∨

No, trading solely on Vacuum Blocks is not recommended. It is best to combine them with other technical tools, such as Fibonacci retracements and market structure shifts, for higher accuracy.

What is the Most Important Factor in Analyzing a Vacuum Block? ∨

The most important factor is understanding the fundamental event that caused the gap.



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What is a Vacuum Block?

Formation of a Bullish Vacuum Block ∨

Formation of a Bearish Vacuum Block

How to Trade a Bearish Vacuum Block?

Identifying Vacuum Blocks with Indicators

Which Assets Experience Liquidity Voids More Frequently?

Does Price Always Fill a Vacuum Block?

Conclusion

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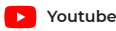
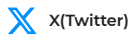
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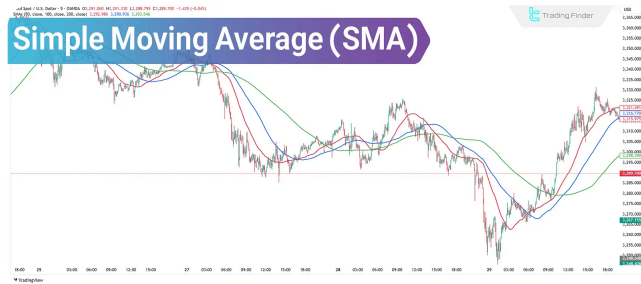
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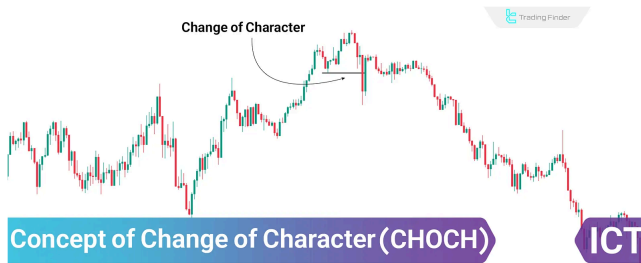
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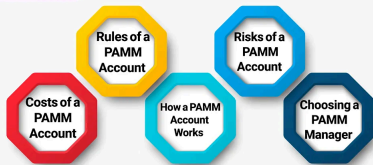


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