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Scalping Strategy in ICT Style: Optimal Trade Entry (OTE) & Liquidity Sweep

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Writer: Arjun Mandal | Reviewer: Davit Kvaratskhelia | Fact checker: Rajesh Sharma | Modified: May 20, 2025

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The scalping strategy in **ICT style** allows traders to capitalize on **short-term market fluctuations** by understanding liquidity raids and utilizing **Optimal Trade Entry (OTE)** setups. It can also enhance the **accuracy** of **entry** and **exit** points.



Scalping Strategy Using OTE Levels in the ICT Method

How to Design an ICT Scalping Model?

To design an ICT scalping model, three main criteria must be defined:

Entry Conditions

- ⚡ **Stop Loss Placement**
- ⚡ **Exit Points [Take Profit]**

In this model, "**liquidity raids**" serve as entry criteria, while OTE provides **optimal entry points**.

The **Stop Loss** is typically placed **above** the **recent high** or **below** the **recent low**, with the first Take Profit or move to break-even occurring after breaking a **key level**.

Advantages and Disadvantages of ICT Scalping Based on OTE

This section examines the pros and cons of using this strategy for **short-term** trading:

Advantages	Disadvantages
Highly accurate entry points	Requires constant chart monitoring
Improved risk-to-reward ratio	High sensitivity to market noise
Suitable for algorithmic implementation	Complexity in initial setup
Flexible settings adjustments	Limited effectiveness in higher timeframes
Ideal for volatile markets	Requires experience
Reduced time spent in losing trades	Potential for Take Profit not triggering due to minor fluctuations
Utilizes multiple confirmations	Necessitates rapid analysis in limited time

How Does the ICT Scalping Model Form?

For clarity, identify a short-term low or high where the price aggressively breaks through or **Displacement Move** and then returns. The OTE zone is determined when the **price revisits** this marked area. The stop loss is set **below or above** the previous pivot (based on trade direction), and the initial target is set at the opposite **structure level**.

Bullish ICT Scalping

This example uses a 1-minute chart of USDCHF to illustrate the ICT scalping strategy:

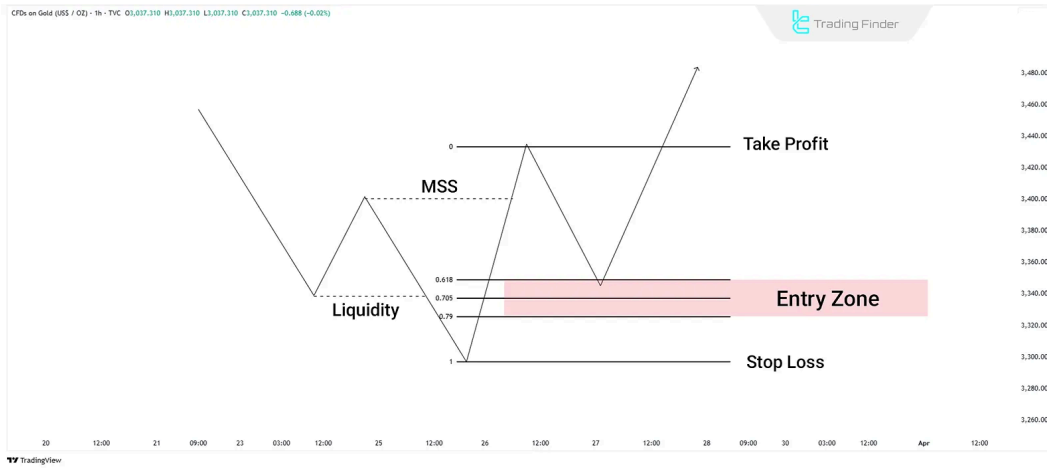


Illustration of all components in a bullish ICT scalping strategy

First, identify recent **highs and lows**, as these are critical points for **liquidity raids**. Follow these steps:

1. Price initially breaks below a recent low, perceived by many traders as support, collecting **accumulated liquidity**;
2. After liquidity collection, the price makes a **substantial upward displacement**;
3. This upward displacement breaks the previous high, confirming a **Market Structure Shift** (MSS);
4. After MSS confirmation, apply **Fibonacci retracement** (OTE settings) on the displacement leg;
5. Upon price return, the **entry zone** occurs between 0.62 and 0.79 Fibonacci levels. Set the **Stop Loss** below the recent low and the first Take Profit at the **new high**.

Below is a real example of this strategy:



Price returns to OTE levels after liquidity collection and structural break, forming a bullish ICT scalping setup

Bearish ICT Scalping

This example uses a 1-minute chart of GBPUSD to illustrate ICT scalping:

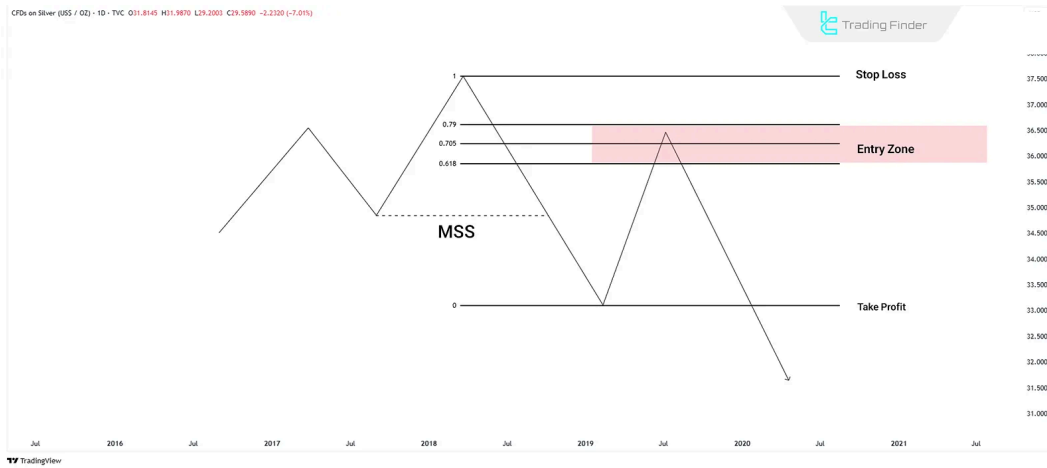


Illustration of all components in a bearish ICT scalping strategy

Again, first identify **recent highs** and **lows** for **liquidity targeting**, then:

1. Price initially breaks above a **recent high**, seen by traders as **resistance**, collecting liquidity;
2. Following liquidity collection, a substantial **downward displacement** occurs;
3. The downward displacement breaks the **previous low**, indicating a Market Structure Shift (MSS);
4. After MSS, apply Fibonacci retracement (OTE settings) to the **displacement** leg;
5. Upon retracement, entry occurs between the **62** and **0.79 levels**. The stop loss is placed above the **recent high**, and the **initial Take Profit** is at the new low.

Below is a real example of this strategy:

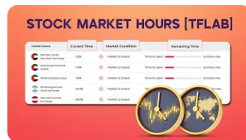


Price returns to OTE levels after liquidity collection and structural break, forming a bearish ICT scalping setup

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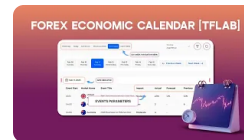
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Summary

The ICT scalping strategy relies on precisely identifying market key points such as **liquidity raids** and **optimal trade entry (OTE)** zones.

Defining straightforward entry, stop loss, and target criteria enables accurate short-term **market analysis**. Key features include optimal OTE entry **identification** and **exit decisions** based on **market structure shifts**.

FAQs

What key concepts underpin the ICT scalping strategy? ∨

Liquidity raids and optimal trade entry points (OTE) form the foundation.

How are entry points identified? ∨

Entries are determined by short-term highs/lows and retracements to identified structural zones.

Where is the Stop Loss placed? ∨

Typically, above recent highs or below recent lows.



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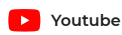
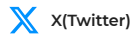
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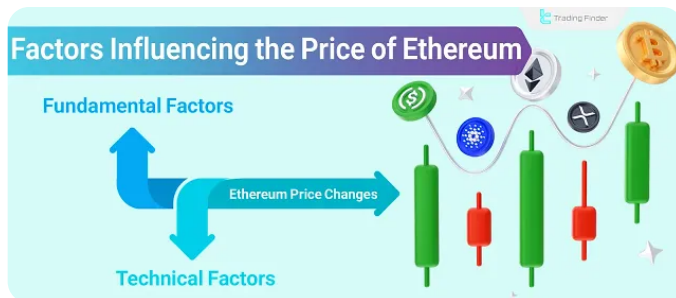
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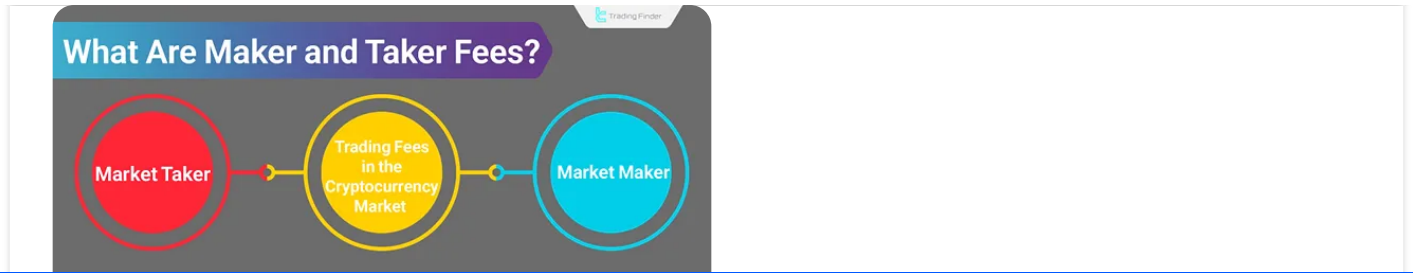
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