

TradingFinder > Education > Forex Education > Impulse Wave Elliott; Terminal an...

# Impulse Wave Elliott; Terminal and Trending Impulse Patterns

Categories: [Forex Education](#) [Elliott Wave Education](#) [Technical analysis Education](#)

Article Level: Intermediate 



Writer:  
Nino Gogochashvili




Reviewer:  
Rajesh Sharma



Fact checker:  
Davit Kvaratskhelia



Modified: Aug 26, 2025

 Comments: 0

 Views: 2,479

 6 Min

Impulse Wave Elliott (also called Elliott impulse waves) represent the basic structure of price movement in the market and act as a powerful tool for predicting future price trends.

Using these waves as part of a **trading strategy** in **technical analysis** enables traders to identify entry and exit points with greater accuracy.



Impulse Wave Elliott or Impulse Patterns (Five-Wave Progressions)

## What are Impulse Waves?

Impulse wave Elliott illustrates the main structure of price movement in the direction of the dominant market trend.

These waves play a key role in identifying phases of price increase or decrease and form the foundation of many traders' analysis.

The five-wave impulse structures follow specific rules. By recognizing them correctly and combining with support and resistance or **Fibonacci levels**, traders can capture high risk-to-reward opportunities.

## Types of Impulse Waves

Elliott wave impulse patterns consist of 5 sub-waves and are divided into two main types:

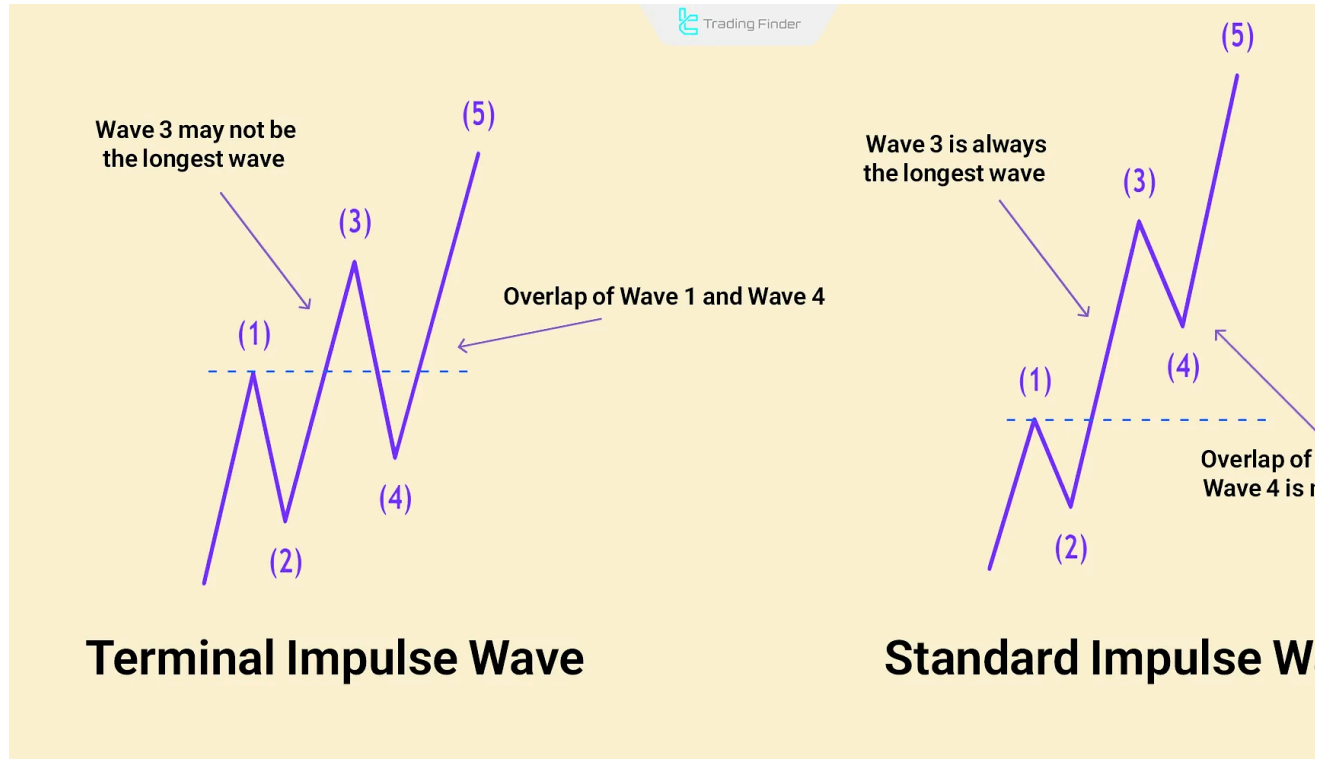
- ⚡ Terminal Impulse Wave
- ⚡ Standard (Trending) Impulse Wave

## Differences Between Terminal and Standard Impulse Waves

Both terminal and standard impulse wave Elliott belong to the category of leading or driving waves. However, the most notable difference lies in the behavior of wave 4.

If wave 4 does not enter the territory of wave 2 and begins before wave 5 is reached, the impulse wave in question is classified as terminal; Otherwise, it is considered standard.

In the following, we will examine the differences between terminal and standard Elliott wave impulse patterns.



Differences Between Standard and Terminal Elliott Impulse Waves

Differences Between Terminal Impulse Waves and Standard Impulse Waves:

Feature	Terminal Impulse	Standard Impulse
Structure	May appear as zigzag (5-3-5 substructure)	Usually one flat/sideways and the other zigzag
Corrective Waves (2 & 4)	With overlap	Without overlap
Wave 1 & 4 Overlap	Possible overlapping	No overlap

Wave 3	Can be the shortest	Never the shortest
Location in Trend	Appears at the end of main wave or corrective wave C	Appears in waves 1, 3, or 5 of the main trend
Market Behavior	End of a strong trend; often with divergence and weakening momentum	Continuation of main trend; strong with higher volume
Chart Appearance	Dense, diagonal, with slower progression	Strong, clear, directional without overlaps

## Rules and Structure of Impulse Wave Elliott

Impulse wave Elliott are formed by 5 smaller sub-waves following this sequence:

- ⚡ **Wave 1:** Start of price movement in a new trend direction;
- ⚡ **Wave 2:** Partial retracement of wave 1;
- ⚡ **Wave 3:** The strongest and longest wave with the highest volume and momentum;
- ⚡ **Wave 4:** Correction of wave 3;
- ⚡ **Wave 5:** Final movement in the main trend, sometimes accompanied by divergence.

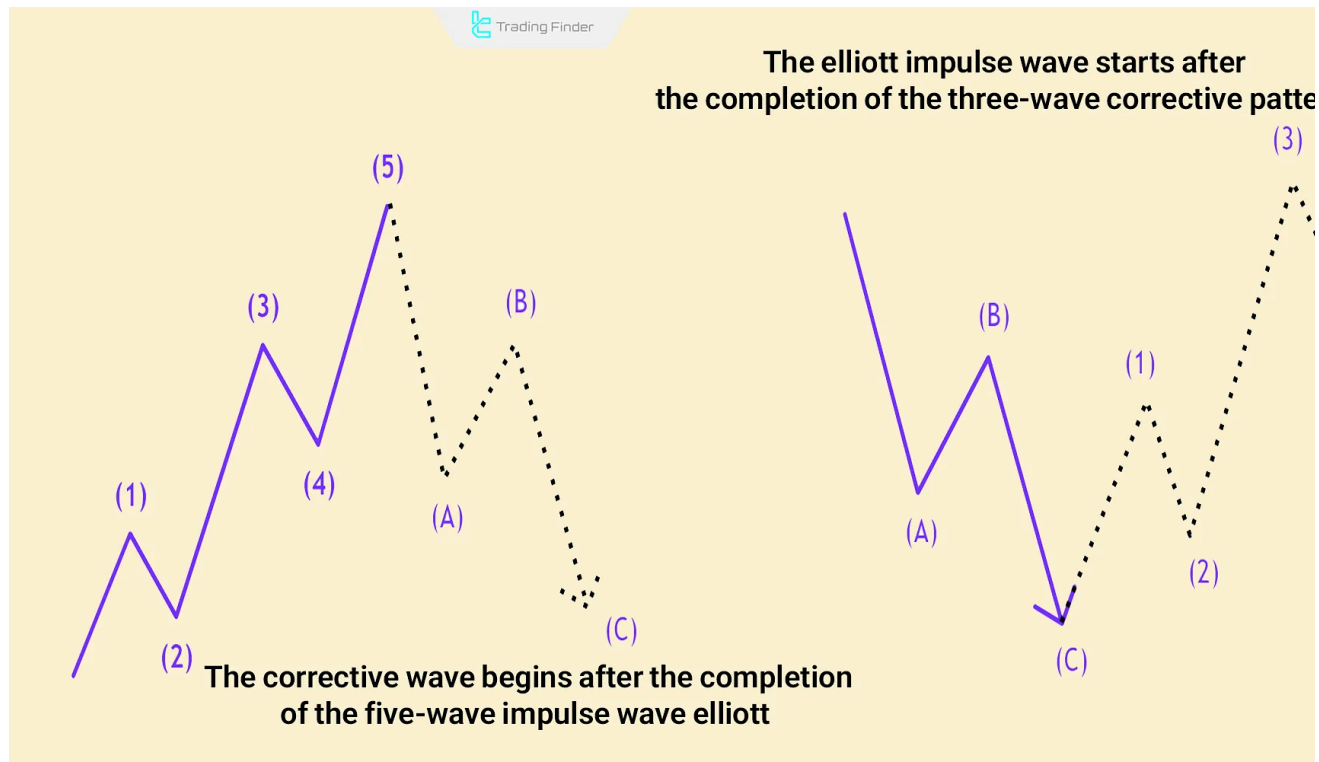
## Identifying Elliott Impulse Waves on Price Charts

Identifying Elliott impulse wave on charts is a key skill in technical analysis. The first step is to determine the main trend, usually by looking at higher time frames.

Then, look for price patterns with 5 waves in the trend direction and 3 waves against it. Correct recognition and interpretation require deep understanding of price dynamics and precise chart analysis.

**Note:** To anticipate future price moves, recognize the completed impulse waves and corrective waves. For example, after the end of corrective waves, a five-wave impulse

sequence begins.



How to Identify Elliott Impulse Waves After Corrective Patterns

## Advantages and Disadvantages of Using Elliott Impulse Waves

In the following, we will address the advantages and disadvantages of using Elliott impulse waves or leading waves:

Advantages	Disadvantages
Identifies the main market trend	Wave counting is complex and requires expertise
Provides understanding of core Elliott structure	Potential for multiple interpretations among analysts
Enables Fibonacci ratio targeting	High dependence on technical confirmations

Can be combined with indicators to enhance accuracy	High risk if wave endings are misidentified
Applicable across multiple time frames	Possibility of incomplete fifth wave

## Conclusion

Impulse Wave Elliott (elliott wave impulse patterns) are five-wave price structures that follow strict rules.

They are divided into **Standard Impulse** and **Terminal Impulse**, with the main difference lying in the correction behavior of wave 4.

By recognizing the cycle of impulse and **corrective waves**, traders can forecast future market movements. Once a five-wave impulse sequence completes, a three-wave corrective structure typically follows.



### Impulse Wave Elliot PDF

Click to download Impulse Wave Elliot PDF

[Download PDF](#)

## FAQs

What are impulse wave Elliott? ∨

They are waves that illustrate the main price movement in the direction of the dominant market trend.

What are the types of Elliott impulse waves? ∨

They are divided into two main types:

Terminal Impulse Wave  
Standard Impulse Wave

What is the key difference between terminal and standard impulse waves? ∨

The main difference lies in the behavior of wave 4. If wave 4 does not enter wave 2's territory and starts before wave 5, it is terminal; otherwise, it is standard.

How are Elliott Impulse waves identified? ∨

By recognizing the completed impulse and corrective waves to predict future price actions.

How many waves are included in Elliott impulse waves? ∨

They include 5 waves, each following specific rules.

Which is the strongest and longest wave in an impulse sequence? ∨

Wave 3, which carries the most volume and momentum.

How to identify the end of the final impulse wave? ∨

Usually, the last wave forms along with price divergence.

### Table Of Content ✕

What are Impulse Waves? ∨

Rules and Structure of Impulse Wave elliott

Identifying Elliott Impulse Waves on Price Charts

Advantages and Disadvantages of Using Elliott Impulse Waves

Conclusion



### Top Posts



**Break of Structure (BOS) on ICT**

Eda Kaya | Dec 22, 2024

**ent**

16,093 Views

[Write a comment](#)



### What is an ICT Order Block and How to Trade It?

Ram Nisha | Dec 23, 2024

18,947 Views

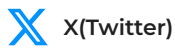


### Turtle Soup Strategy from ICT Style

Arjun Mandal | Dec 23, 2024

16,484 Views

## Our Social Media



X(Twitter)



Telegram



MQL5



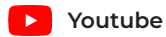
TradingView



Facebook



Instagram



Youtube



Tik Tok

## Latest Articles



### Types of Binary Options Oscillators: Identifying the Probability of Reversal

Interesting Financial Articles

Nino Gogochashvili | Sep 3, 2025



### Trailing Stop – Methods of Calculate Trailing Stop [Percentage, Indicators]

Forex Education

Arjun Mandal | Sep 2, 2025



Complete training in financial markets such as "Forex," "Stock Market," and "Cryptocurrencies" only becomes comprehensive with tested trading tools and strategies. "Trading Finder," with its experience, aids traders and investors in gaining a correct understanding and deep learning. The training programs are designed based on tools for traders of all levels, from "beginner to advanced."



 English (EN)
▼

About Us

Contact Us

Forex Methodology

Our Team

Jobs

Report a Bug

Advertisement

Affiliates

Our Scores

Indicators & Oscillators

Products

Financial Market  
Education

---

Trading Tools

---

---

Trading Tools

---

**Risk Disclosure:**

Participating in financial markets involves high risk, which can result in the loss of part

[Show More](#) ▼

**Disclaimer:**

[TradingFinder.com] assumes no responsibility for any potential losses or damages. All

[Show More](#) ▼

**Disclosure of revenues and advertisements:**

The "TradingFinder" platform offers various services, some of which, like introductions,

[Show More](#) ✓

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Risk Warning](#)

[Cookies Policy](#)

[Copyright and Idea Submissions](#)

[Terms and Conditions Agreement](#)

© 2025 TradingFinder, Inc. All rights reserved.