read this thread https://www.forexfactory.com/thread/1399628-dance-of-the-wick and distill the teachings of ghbdr

I reviewed the thread and the posts from the author, ghbdr. The thread is still relatively new, but a fairly consistent methodology emerges. (Forex Factory)

Dance of the wick

Core Principle

The "Dance of the Wick" is not really a wick-pattern strategy.

It is a **price rejection at pre-identified levels** strategy.

The wick is simply the evidence that the level is working.

His repeated theme is:

> "Trade what you see."

The process is:

1. Find important levels.
2. Wait for price to revisit them.
3. Watch for rejection.
4. Enter on the rejection.
5. Scale out quickly.
6. Leave runners for large R:R. (Forex Factory)

What Levels Matter?

From his comments and charts, he focuses on:

- Supply zones
- Demand zones
- Previous highs/lows
- HTF reaction areas
- Session extremes
- Areas that have previously generated strong rejection

He repeatedly stresses that the level is more important than the wick. (Forex Factory)

Multi-Timeframe Process

This is probably the most important teaching.

Step 1: Find levels on higher timeframes

He specifically says:

> "Best way is to spot good levels on HTFs (I use M5 a lot for that)." (Forex Factory)

Notice he is not talking about H4 or Daily.

For him:

- M5 identifies the battlefield.
- M1 provides the trigger.

Step 2: Drop to M1

Wait for price to reach the level.

Then watch how price behaves.

Step 3: Wait for rejection

He explicitly states:

> "Wait M1 candle close showing the wick rejection."

> (Forex Factory)

Not anticipation.

Not prediction.

Wait for proof.

What Makes a Good Rejection?

From the examples and comments:

Strong Rejection

- Long wick into level
- Close back away from level
- Immediate response
- Prior rejections visible nearby

He specifically likes seeing:

> previous rejection on M1 candles before taking the trade. (Forex Factory)

This is important.

He wants evidence that participants are already defending the area.

The Retest Concept

One of the best pieces of information in the thread:

When price revisits a level:

- It may reject immediately.
- It may reject several times.

- It may eventually break.

He says:

> He would never trade more than two or at most three rejections of the same level. (Forex Factory)

This is critical.

Why?

Each test consumes liquidity.

Each rejection weakens the level.

After enough tests:

- probability of failure rises
- probability of breakout rises

So he avoids overtrading exhausted levels.

Risk Management

This may actually be the real edge.

His example:

- 30 pip stop
- 5 positions
- partial profits at roughly 11-20 pips
- leave runners open (Forex Factory)

The goal is not huge win percentage.

The goal is:

Quick cash flow

Take profits early.

Free trade

Move remaining positions to BE+1.

Catch the occasional monster move

Those runners produce enormous R:R.

He repeatedly praises the runners ("gumpies") because one large trend can pay for many ordinary trades. (Forex Factory)

The Management Philosophy

Many traders over-manage runners.

His approach is surprisingly simple.

When discussing runners he essentially says:

- If they survive, great.
- If they stop out, fine.
- Close at end of day or week. (Forex Factory)

This removes emotional decision making.

What He Avoids

The thread suggests he avoids:

Forcing levels

He specifically says:

> "The key lies in not forcing the levels." (Forex Factory)

Chasing

Wait for price to reach your area.

Endless retests

Two or three tests maximum.

Predicting

He waits for rejection evidence.

Distilled Rules

If I condensed ghbdr's method into a checklist:

1. Mark important HTF levels

- Supply
- Demand
- Previous reaction zones

2. Wait

- Let price come to you

3. Drop to M1

- Observe actual behavior

4. Require rejection

- Wick through level
- Close back away
- Prefer prior rejection evidence

5. Enter

- Tight defined risk

6. Scale out

- Take early profits

7. Move to BE+1

8. Leave runners

9. Do not repeatedly trade the same level

- Usually 2-3 attempts maximum

10. Let statistics work

- Small wins
- Occasional huge winners

The Deeper Lesson

The deeper lesson isn't really about wicks.

It's about understanding that:

A wick is visible evidence of order flow rejecting a price level.

ghbdr's edge comes from combining:

- Quality levels
- Confirmation by rejection
- Multiple-position scaling
- Aggressive risk reduction
- Large runners

The wick is merely the trigger. The real trade is the level. (Forex Factory)