

# PIVOT KILLER

Version 1.80

Professional Breakout Trading System for MetaTrader 5

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## USER MANUAL

Complete Guide to Installation, Configuration & Best Practices

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

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Pivot Killer is a professional-grade Expert Advisor designed for serious traders who understand that sustainable profitability comes from robust, well-tested strategies rather than curve-fitted systems or dangerous money management schemes.

This EA implements a portfolio of three complementary breakout strategies that work together to identify high-probability trading opportunities across different market conditions. Each strategy operates independently with its own Magic Number, allowing for precise tracking and management.

## Key Features

- Three independent breakout strategies working in synergy
- **NEW:** Dual Distance Mode - Choose between ATR multiplier or percentage of price
- **NEW:** Configurable Break Even - Protect trades with automatic break-even
- **NEW:** TP Decay System - Time-based Take Profit reduction
- **NEW:** Cooldown System - Prevent over-trading after closes
- Dynamic Stop Loss and Take Profit based on ATR (volatility-adjusted)
- Professional risk management with percentage-based position sizing
- Intelligent trailing stop system to lock in profits
- Flexible trading schedule with session filters
- Friday exit option to avoid weekend gaps
- Modern visual dashboard for real-time status monitoring
- Built-in indicators (no external dependencies required)

## 2. TRADING PHILOSOPHY: WHY ROBUST STRATEGIES WIN

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*"The goal of a trading system is not to maximize backtested profits, but to maximize the probability of future profitability."*

### The Problem with Over-Optimized Systems

Many Expert Advisors on the market show impressive backtesting results with astronomical returns. However, these results often come from over-optimization (curve-fitting) – a process where the system is adjusted to perfectly match historical data, but fails miserably in live trading.

### The Pivot Killer Approach

- **Fixed Risk Per Trade:** Every trade risks only a predetermined percentage of your account
- **Volatility Adaptation:** Stop losses and profit targets adjust to current market conditions
- **Portfolio Diversification:** Three strategies provide natural diversification
- **Realistic Expectations:** Designed for consistent, sustainable returns

## 3. STRATEGY OVERVIEW

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Pivot Killer implements three distinct breakout strategies that work together as a portfolio. Each strategy monitors price action relative to key technical levels and enters positions when specific breakout conditions are met.

### Strategy 1: Pivot Killer 1

Focuses on identifying breakouts from established price ranges using highest/lowest price channels and volatility filters. Entries are placed as pending orders (Buy/Sell Stop) at key levels.

### Strategy 2: Pivot Killer 2

Incorporates momentum analysis through rate of change indicators and cycle detection. Seeks to capture moves when momentum aligns with price structure, filtering through Bollinger Bands.

### Strategy 3: Pivot Killer 3

Utilizes Keltner Channel analysis combined with Kaufman's Efficiency Ratio to identify high-probability breakout scenarios during trending conditions.

### Common Elements

- Entry via pending orders (Buy Stop / Sell Stop)
- ATR-based or percentage-based Stop Loss and Take Profit levels
- Dynamic trailing stop to protect profits
- Optional Break Even functionality
- Order expiration to cancel unfilled orders
- Percentage-based risk management
- Independent cooldown periods after trade closes

## 4. INSTALLATION GUIDE

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### Requirements

- MetaTrader 5 (Build 2450 or higher recommended)
- Minimum account balance: \$250 (recommended: \$500+)
- Broker with low spreads and fast execution
- VPS recommended for 24/5 operation

### Installation Steps

1. Purchase and download Pivot Killer from the MQL5 Market
2. Restart MetaTrader 5 or refresh Navigator panel
3. Open XAUUSD H1 chart
4. Drag Pivot Killer onto the chart
5. Configure parameters and click OK
6. Enable AutoTrading

### Verification

Once properly installed, you should see the Pivot Killer panel displaying 'EA READY TO TRADE' with a green status indicator. If you see red or orange, check AutoTrading and account balance.

## 5. PARAMETER REFERENCE

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### 5.1 Strategy Control

Parameter	Values	Description
Strategy1_Enabled	true/false	Enable/disable Strategy 1
Strategy2_Enabled	true/false	Enable/disable Strategy 2
Strategy3_Enabled	true/false	Enable/disable Strategy 3

### 5.2 Risk Management

Parameter	Values	Description
UseMoneyManagement	true/false	Enable percentage-based position sizing
mmRiskPercent	0.1 - 5.0	Risk % per trade (recommended: 1-2%)
mmLotsIfNoMM	0.01+	Fixed lot size when MM disabled
mmMaxLots	0.01+	Maximum lot size safety limit
InitialCapital	0+	Starting capital (0 = actual balance)

## 5.4 Dual Distance Mode

### NEW IN v1.80

One of the most powerful features in v1.80 is the ability to choose how exit distances are calculated. Each strategy can independently use either ATR-based or percentage-based calculations.

Parameter	Values	Description
S1_DistanceMode	ATR / % of Price	Distance calculation for Strategy 1
S2_DistanceMode	ATR / % of Price	Distance calculation for Strategy 2
S3_DistanceMode	ATR / % of Price	Distance calculation for Strategy 3

### ATR Multiplier Mode (Default)

Distance = Coefficient × ATR Value. Example: TP Coef 3.9 × ATR \$15 = \$58.50 distance. This method automatically adapts to market volatility.

### Percentage of Price Mode

Distance = Price × (Coefficient / 100). Example: 1.5% × \$2,700 = \$40.50 distance. This maintains proportional distances regardless of volatility.

## 5.5 Break Even System

### NEW IN v1.80

Automatically moves Stop Loss to entry price (plus optional profit lock) once the trade reaches a specified profit level. This protects capital while allowing winning trades to continue.

Parameter	Default	Description
UseBE_S1/S2/S3	false	Enable Break Even per strategy
Sx_BE_Mode	ATR	Distance mode (ATR or %)
Sx_BE_ActivationCoef	20.0	Profit distance before BE activates
Sx_BE_LockCoef	1.0	Additional distance above entry to lock



## 5.6 TP Decay - Time-Based Take Profit

### NEW IN v1.80

Automatically reduces Take Profit over time. The longer a trade stays open without reaching its target, the lower the probability of a full hit. By gradually reducing TP, you increase win probability.

Parameter	Default	Description
TP_DecayEnabled	false	Enable/disable TP Decay
TP_DecayPerHour	10.0	% of ORIGINAL TP to reduce per hour
TP_MinimumPercent	20.0	Minimum TP as % of original (floor)

**Example: Original TP = \$50, Decay = 10%/hour, Minimum = 20%**

Hour	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+
TP	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10

## 5.7 Cooldown System

### NEW IN v1.80

Prevents immediate re-entry after closing a trade. Helps avoid over-trading during choppy conditions. Cooldown is independent per strategy - closing S1 doesn't affect S2 or S3.

Parameter	Default	Description
CooldownBars	0	H1 bars to wait after close (0 = disabled)

### Recommended Settings:

- Aggressive: 0-2 bars - Minimal waiting
- Balanced: 3-5 bars - Avoid immediate re-entries
- Conservative: 6-12 bars - Significant pause

## 5.8 Trailing Stop

Parameter	Values	Description
TrailingOnEveryTick	true/false	Update TSL every tick vs bar open only
MinTrailingStepPips	0+	Minimum step distance to prevent over-modification

## 5.9 Trading Schedule

Parameter	Values	Description
LimitTimeRange	true/false	Enable trading time restrictions
SignalTimeRangeFrom	HH:MM	Trading start time
SignalTimeRangeTo	HH:MM	Trading end time
ExitOnFriday	true/false	Close positions Friday (recommended)
FridayExitTime	HH:MM	Friday close time
ExitAtEndOfDay	true/false	Daily position closure
EODExitTime	HH:MM	Daily exit time

## 6. UNDERSTANDING STAGNATION PERIODS

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*"All trading systems will experience periods of stagnation or drawdown. Understanding and accepting this is crucial for long-term success."*

### What is Stagnation?

Stagnation refers to periods when a system neither makes significant profits nor losses – the equity curve moves sideways. This is normal for any legitimate trading system. Pivot Killer performs best during trending conditions and may experience stagnation lasting weeks or months during ranging markets.

### Why Stagnation is Actually Good

- **Capital Preservation:** Going sideways protects your capital
- **System Integrity:** Shows the system isn't curve-fitted
- **Opportunity:** Good times to add capital before profitable cycles
- **Proof of Robustness:** Real systems have flat periods

## 7. BEST PRACTICES & RECOMMENDATIONS

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### Starting Out

1. Run on demo account for 2-4 weeks first
2. Begin with 0.5-1% risk per trade
3. Choose broker with tight spreads and reliable execution
4. Use VPS for optimal 24/5 operation

### What NOT to Do

- Do NOT increase risk after losses to 'recover'
- Do NOT disable the EA during stagnation
- Do NOT manually close trades unless emergency
- Do NOT run multiple instances with same Magic Numbers
- Do NOT expect instant profits
- Do NOT enable all new features at once

## 9. RISK DISCLAIMER

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**IMPORTANT: Please read this section carefully before using Pivot Killer.**

Trading foreign exchange (Forex), Contracts for Difference (CFDs), and other financial instruments involves substantial risk of loss and is not suitable for all investors. The high degree of leverage can work against you as well as for you.

Before deciding to trade, carefully consider your investment objectives, level of experience, and risk appetite. The possibility exists that you could sustain a loss of some or all of your initial investment. Do not invest money you cannot afford to lose.

Past performance is not indicative of future results. Backtesting results do not guarantee future profitability. Market conditions change, and what worked in the past may not work in the future.

The developers of Pivot Killer make no guarantees regarding performance or profitability. By using this software, you acknowledge that you understand and accept these risks.

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Thank you for choosing Pivot Killer.

*Trade responsibly and may your equity curve climb steadily.*