NEXUS BREAKOUT — User guide

MetaTrader 5 Expert Advisor · version 2.16

1. Installation

1. Buy or rent the EA on the MQL5 Market; it installs in `Navigator > Expert Advisors > Market`.
2. Enable **Algo Trading** in the terminal toolbar.
3. Download the set files from the product comments and unzip them into `MQL5\Presets` (File > Open Data Folder).

The EA needs no DLL and no external web request. News dates come from the built-in MT5 economic calendar.

2. Charts and set files

Open one **M15** chart per engine, attach the EA, then click **Load** in the Inputs tab and choose the matching set file. Each engine has its own magic number: keep them different.

Chart (M15)	Set file	Strategy	Default risk
XAUUSD	`Nexus_2.16_L1_CORE_XAU_BOX.set`	Session box breakout	0.25%
US30	`Nexus_2.16_L1_CORE_US30_BOX.set`	Session box breakout	0.20%
US30	`Nexus_2.16_L1_CORE_US30_REVERSION.set`	Mean reversion	0.25%
US100	`Nexus_2.16_L1_CORE_US100_ORB.set`	Opening range breakout	0.40%
AUDUSD	`Nexus_2.16_L1_CORE_AUDUSD_REVERSION.set`	Mean reversion	0.20%
NZDUSD	`Nexus_2.16_L1_CORE_NZDUSD_REVERSION.set`	Mean reversion	0.20%

These six sets are the **Core** profile (Level 1, `intraday, flat every evening`). You can run any subset; gold alone is the main engine. The **Trend** and **Aggressive** sets (channel breakouts, Chande Kroll exit, Donchian, internal bar strength) are described in the supplement *Strategy profiles*, with their results year by year.

Symbol names, broker suffixes (e.g. `US30.cash`) and the broker server time are detected automatically.

> **The sets adapt to your account size.** Risk is a percentage of the balance at the start of each day (`InpRiskBase` = 1). Nothing to change between a 5,000 USD and a 200,000 USD account.

3. Account mode (`InpAccountMode`)

Mode	Use	Risk
0 – **Standard**	Funded or personal account	× 1
1 – **Challenge**	Prop-firm challenge: closes all and stops at the target (`InpChallengeTargetPct`, 10%)	× 1.25
2 – **Risky**	Small personal account accepting deeper drawdowns	× 2
3 – **Challenge dynamic**	As mode 1, with the risk raised to × 2 after +3% profit and reduced when below the start balance	× 1.25 → × 2

Set the same mode on every chart of the account.

> **Risky mode: raise the drawdown stop.** The sets stop the EA at 9% of drawdown (`InpTargetMaxDDPercent`). At twice the risk the historical drawdown is about twice as deep, so the EA would stop early. In mode 2 set `InpTargetMaxDDPercent` to 20–25 on every chart.

> **Challenge modes.** Set `InpChallengeStartBal` to the challenge start balance on every chart. The maximum loss is then measured from that balance (prop-firm rule), not from the equity peak. When the target is reached the EA closes everything and **stops for good**, also after a restart. **Phase 2 or a new challenge**: remove the EA from every chart, attach it again on the new account, and set `InpChallengeStartBal` to the new start balance, `InpChallengeTargetPct` to the new target (5 for a typical phase 2) and `InpBoostAtPct` to 1.5 in dynamic mode. Section 4 gives the full table for one-step and two-step challenges.

> **Preset (`InpPreset`).** The supplied set files use **Custom**: every input you change is applied. With **Automatic**, the EA detects XAUUSD or US30 and sets its own values for max lot, spread limit, entry filters and pyramiding; editing those inputs then has no effect. US100, AUDUSD and NZDUSD have no automatic preset: always load their set file.

4. Prop-firm challenge

The risk of every set is a percentage of the account balance, so the same sets serve every account size. What does change the settings is the **type of challenge**, because a one-step challenge usually has a tighter daily loss limit.

Rules assumed here (check your own firm, they differ): two-step = 10% target then 5%, 5% maximum daily loss, 10% maximum loss. One-step = 10% target, 3% maximum daily loss, 10% maximum loss.

Input	Two-step, phase 1	Two-step, phase 2	One-step
`InpAccountMode`	3 · Challenge dynamic	3 · Challenge dynamic	1 · Challenge
`InpChallengeTargetPct`	10	5	10
`InpBoostAtPct`	3.0	1.5	not used
`InpMaxDailyDDPercent`	4.0	4.0	2.5
`InpTargetMaxDDPercent`	9.0	9.0	9.0
`InpChallengeMaxLossPct`	10	10	10
Engines	The six Core sets. The channel sets of the supplement can be added for diversification, at half risk (*FRIDAY* variants if weekend holding is forbidden).		

- **Two-step**: Challenge dynamic trades at ×1.25, moves to ×2 once a 3% cushion is made (1.5% in phase 2) and cuts the risk when the account is below its start balance.
- **One-step**: stay on the plain Challenge mode (×1.25, no boost). At ×2 the worst day of the backtest portfolio comes within a few tenths of a percent of the 3% daily limit.
- When the target is reached the EA closes everything and stops. Load the phase 2 values on the new account.

By account size. Set `InpChallengeStartBal` on every chart, so that the target and the risk reduction are measured from the true start balance even after a restart. Leave everything else unchanged.

Challenge	`InpChallengeStartBal`	XAU box risk per trade at ×1.25	at ×2	Daily limit 3% / 5%	Max loss 10%
25K	25000	78 USD	125 USD	750 / 1250 USD	2500 USD
50K	50000	156 USD	250 USD	1500 / 2500 USD	5000 USD
100K	100000	312 USD	500 USD	3000 / 5000 USD	10000 USD
200K	200000	625 USD	1000 USD	6000 / 10000 USD	20000 USD

- On 100K and 200K accounts the lots are 4 to 8 times those of the 25K backtest: check the maximum volume per order of your broker and expect a little more slippage on gold at the session open.
- Below 25K the 0.1 minimum lot on indices can exceed the planned risk: the index sets then skip trades, and the results will differ from this table.

What the backtest suggests. The 2020–2026 trades were replayed from about 1,500 different start dates, with the rules above. Days are calendar days until the challenge is passed (both phases for a two-step).

Challenge and mode	Core (6 charts)			Core + both channel sets (Friday variants)		
	Median days	Passed in 180 days	Failed	Median days	Passed in 180 days	Failed
2-step · Challenge ×1.25	306	11%	0.0%	271	19%	0.0%
2-step · Challenge dynamic (recommended)	233	30%	0.0%	229	35%	0.0%
2-step · Challenge dynamic, base risks ×1.5	178	51%	0.0%	149	59%	0.0%
1-step · Challenge ×1.25 (recommended)	193	44%	0.0%	164	56%	0.0%
1-step · Challenge dynamic	155	60%	0.0%	124	64%	0.5%
1-step · Challenge dynamic, base risks ×1.5	100	75%	0.1%	86	73%	3.8%

> **This is a replay of a backtest, not a forecast.** It only sees closed trades, so intraday floating losses are not counted, and it assumes the market behaves as it did from 2020 to 2026. Use it to compare settings, not to predict a date. Raising the base risks shortens the challenge and is where the simulated failures appear.

5. Key inputs

Input	Role
`InpRiskPercent`	Risk per trade in % of the risk base, before the account mode factor.
`InpRiskBase`	Capital used for the risk %: 0 = current equity, 1 = balance at the start of the day (sets), 2 = the fixed amount in `InpCustomBalance`.
`InpMaxDailyDDPercent`	Daily protection: no new trade and positions closed when the account loses this % in the day (4% in the sets). Trading resumes the next day.
`InpTargetMaxDDPercent`	Stops the EA for good when the drawdown reaches this % (9% in the sets): from the equity peak, or from the start balance in challenge modes.
`InpMagicNumber`	Unique per chart. Do not change it while positions are open.
`InpUseLiveCalendar`	Reads CPI, NFP and FOMC from the MT5 economic calendar (keep true).
`InpTradeJournal`	Writes one line per entry and exit in `MQL5\Files\Nexus_Journal_<magic>_<symbol>.csv`: requested price, fill price, slippage, spread, exit reason, result. Live only.
`InpShowDashboard`	On-chart panel; set false on a VPS to save CPU.

> **What the drawdown protections measure.** Both protections read the equity of the **whole account**, not the result of one chart: when the limit is reached, every chart that runs the EA stops. They do not add up the risks in advance: with several charts, the sum of the risks per trade is yours to check against your account limits.

6. Recommended conditions

- Raw spread / ECN account, broker with GMT+2 / +3 server time (New York close at midnight); others are handled automatically.
- VPS with low latency to the broker.
- From 5,000 USD for gold alone, 10,000 USD with the index engines (minimum lot 0.1 on indices).
- Accounts that forbid weekend holding: the Core sets are flat every evening; for the channel engines use the *FRIDAY* sets of the supplement.

> **Do not** restart or swap set files while positions are open. Change settings at the weekend.

7. Restart and VPS move

The EA saves its state (drawdown references, stop flags, open trade references) and restores it after a terminal restart. After a move to a new VPS without saved state, it rebuilds the day's references from the account history. Equity protections act on every tick, also while trades are open; a close rejected by the broker is retried once per second.

8. FAQ

No trade for days? Normal: the engines skip CPI and FOMC days, low-volatility days and boxes that are too small. Gold trades most days, the other engines a few times a week.

"Not enough money" or lot refused? The EA never forces the minimum lot above 1.5× the planned risk. Raise the balance or the risk, or drop the index engines.

Journal shows "events file deserialization failed"? MT5 calendar cache issue: close the terminal, empty `bases\Default\Calendar` in the data folder, restart and open the Calendar tab once.

9. Risk

Backtests ran on real ticks 2020–2026 on three brokers. The edge was measured in the volatile regime that followed 2020; earlier years were weaker. Past results do not guarantee future results. Trading leveraged products can lose all your capital. Start on a demo account.

© 2026 Emmanuel PIERRE · All rights reserved · Support: MQL5 private messages