

How to Spot 90% Winners Instantly...

*With Your Phone
And Yes, It Really Is That Simple*

By Don Fishback

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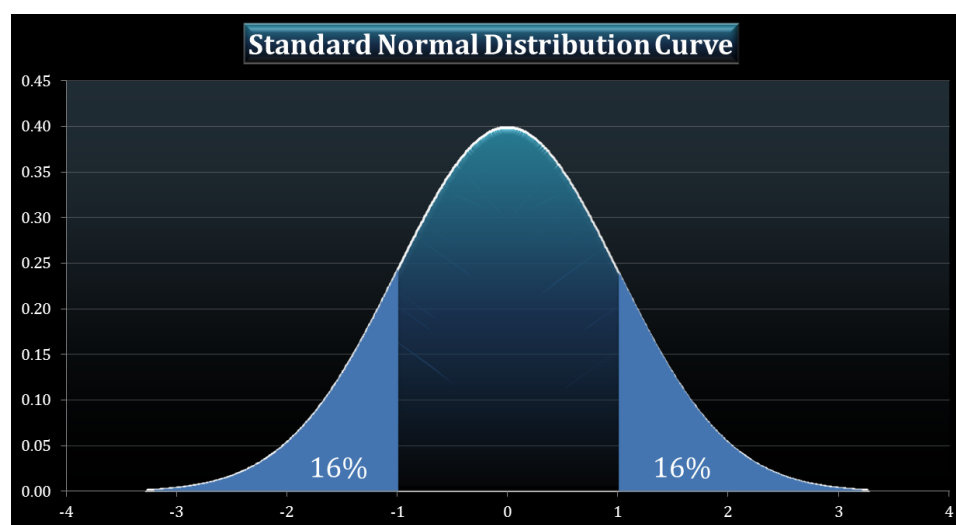
When someone asks me what separates the professional from the novice, one thing comes to mind – the professional tries to keep it simple, while the novice tends to make things far more complicated than necessary. The pro, for example, looks for trades that will win consistently, and then implements the appropriate strategy. The key is finding those trades that are likely to be consistent winners. To find them, many professionals use volatility.

As demonstrated in the accompanying course, volatility provides you with everything you need to calculate probability. If you want to win consistently, it naturally follows that you would look for trades that have a high probability of success.

This special report reiterates the simplicity for spotting trades that have a 90% chance of success. Basically, you reverse the process. Instead of finding a trade and then calculating the probability of profit, you determine the probability you want to achieve, and then find the trade. Once you've done that, you determine an appropriate price. The best part is that this 3-Step Process is so easy, it will shock you!

Before embarking on the path toward finding 90% winners, recall from the video that probability is equal to the area under the bell curve.

In this chart, we have the bell curve, with the areas below -1 standard deviation, and above +1 standard deviation highlighted.



The shaded area comprises approximately 32% of the entire area under the bell curve line: 16% below -1 standard deviation and 16% above +1 standard deviation.

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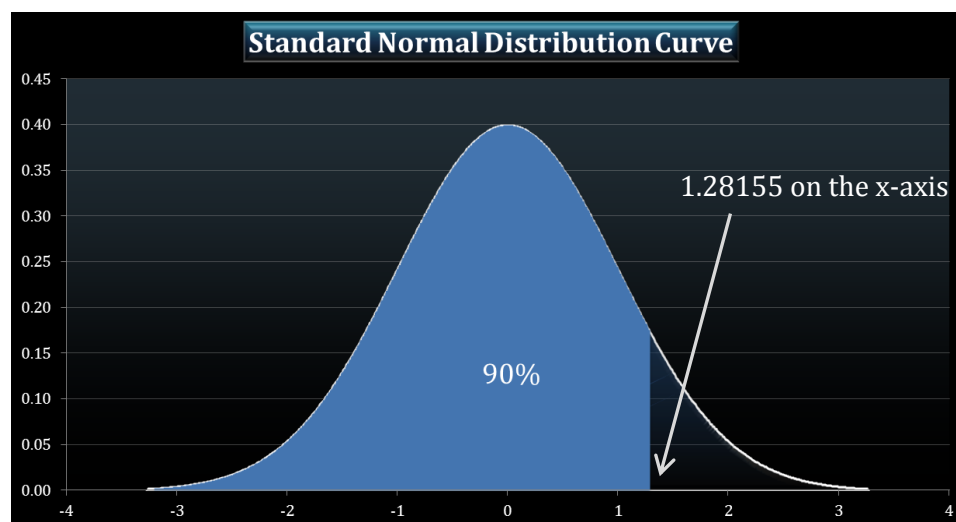
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If we are looking for a trade that has a 90% chance of success, then we need to find a trade whose profit range will comprise 90% of the area under the curve.

Let's take a look at the graph below to show you what we mean:



The highlighted area identifies 90% of the area under the curve. The 90% boundary is 1.28155 standard deviations.

We can use that 1.28155 standard deviation boundary to find a trade with a 90% of success. Because any options strategy whose profit range is less than 1.28155 standard deviations from the current price will have a 90% chance of being profitable.

The problem is, 1.28155 standard deviations isn't useful to a trader. After all, I can't pick up the phone and say, "I'd like to buy the 1.28155 standard deviation call."

We need to turn the standard deviation into a usable price.

In your course, we showed you how to turn a price into a standard deviation, and then turn the standard deviation into probability. Well, we turned probability into standard deviation: 90% into 1.28155. Now we need to turn standard deviation into price. This is Step 1 of our 3-Step Process.

To do that, you'll want to use the very first ODDS® formula I came up with back in 1993.

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Here it is:

$$X = Se^{z\sigma t}$$

Where,
X = Target Price
S = Current Price
z = Standard Deviations
 σ = Volatility

$$t = \sqrt{\frac{\text{periods}}{\text{periods in a year}}}$$

Although it may *look* complicated, it's not nearly as bad as it seems. In fact, this is easily done using a calculator, or even your phone. I'll prove it to you.

Let's take a look at a generic example of a stock or ETF. Let's say that the ETF is priced at 400 and it has a volatility of 10%. (You can get stock and volatility data from our software, ODDS OptionApps software www.optionapps.com.)

Remember, we're looking for the asset price that is 1.28155 standard deviations above the current price, so $\mu = 1.28155$. The only additional piece of information we need to use the ODDS Formula is the number of days, which is typically the duration of the trade. Let's say we're looking at a trade that will last three weeks (21 calendar days).

We now have all the factors to calculate our boundary. Let's plug the numbers into the equation:

$$X = e^{1.28155 \times 10\% \times \sqrt{\frac{21}{365}}} \times 400 = 412.49$$

This means that there is a 90% chance that the ETF will be below 412.49 in 21 days.

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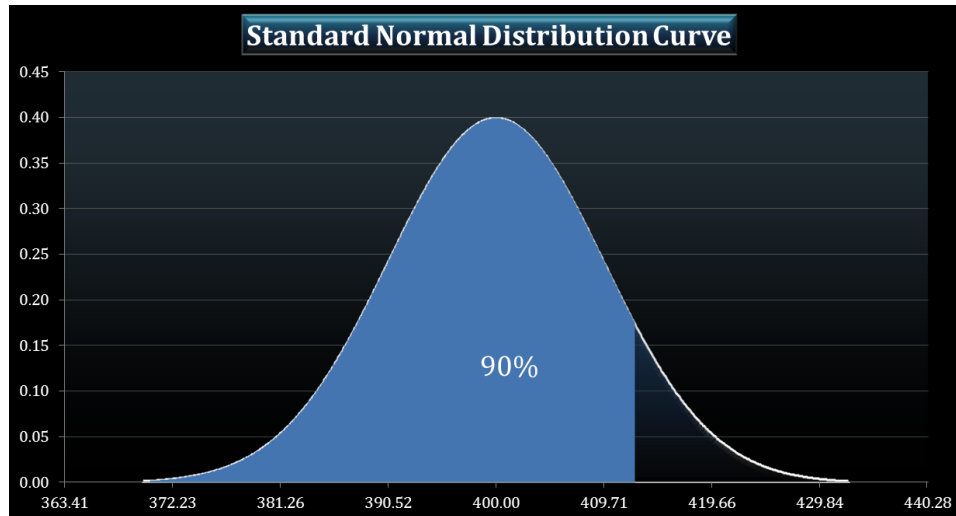
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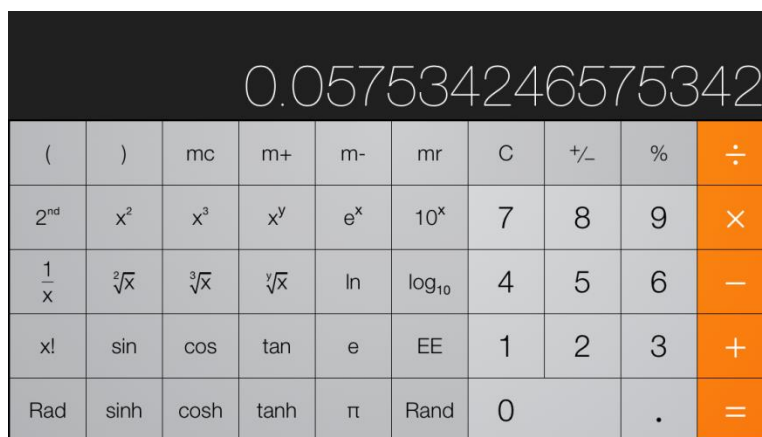
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The next graph illustrates what we mean.



To prove to you that this calculation can be done using nothing more than your phone, I am going to show you a few screen shots taken directly from my iPhone. The calculator app in the iPhone comes standard. You can easily do the same thing with an Android phone or Windows phone.

First, you divide 21/365:



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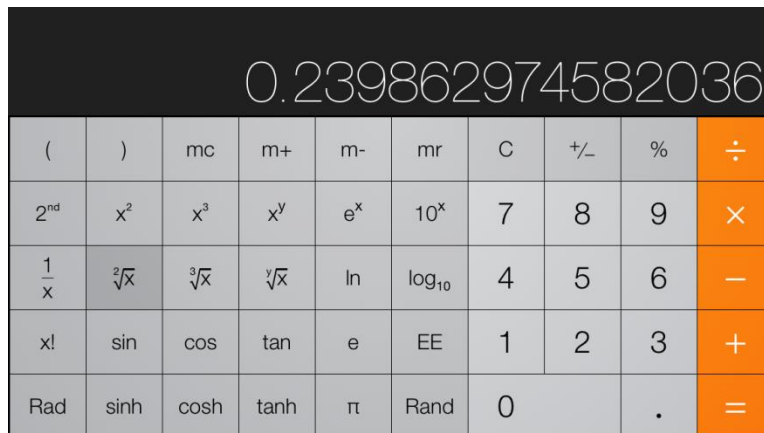
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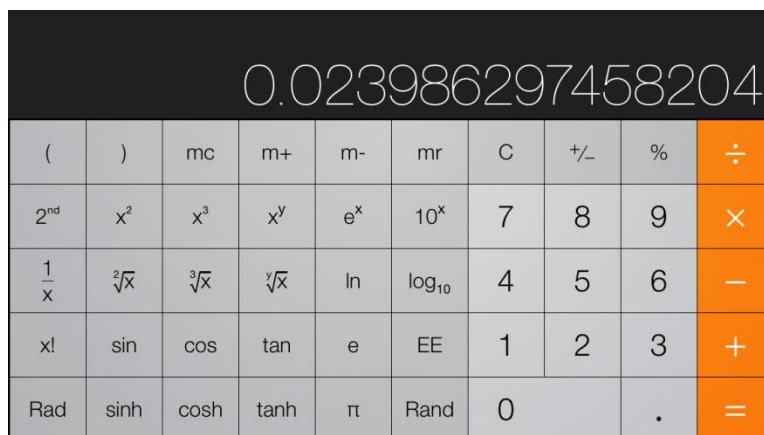
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Then you take the Square Root of that:



A screenshot of a calculator interface. The display shows the number 0.239862974582036. Below the display is a grid of calculator buttons. The buttons are arranged in five rows and ten columns. The first row contains: (,), mc, m+, m-, mr, C, +/-, %, and a division button (÷). The second row contains: 2nd, x², x³, x^y, e^x, 10^x, 7, 8, 9, and a multiplication button (×). The third row contains: 1/x, $\sqrt[2]{x}$, $\sqrt[3]{x}$, $\sqrt[y]{x}$, ln, log₁₀, 4, 5, 6, and a subtraction button (-). The fourth row contains: x!, sin, cos, tan, e, EE, 1, 2, 3, and an addition button (+). The fifth row contains: Rad, sinh, cosh, tanh, π, Rand, 0, a decimal point button (.), and an equals button (=).

Next, you multiply the Square root by 10%, or 0.10:



A screenshot of a calculator interface. The display shows the number 0.023986297458204. Below the display is a grid of calculator buttons, identical to the one in the previous image. The buttons are arranged in five rows and ten columns. The first row contains: (,), mc, m+, m-, mr, C, +/-, %, and a division button (÷). The second row contains: 2nd, x², x³, x^y, e^x, 10^x, 7, 8, 9, and a multiplication button (×). The third row contains: 1/x, $\sqrt[2]{x}$, $\sqrt[3]{x}$, $\sqrt[y]{x}$, ln, log₁₀, 4, 5, 6, and a subtraction button (-). The fourth row contains: x!, sin, cos, tan, e, EE, 1, 2, 3, and an addition button (+). The fifth row contains: Rad, sinh, cosh, tanh, π, Rand, 0, a decimal point button (.), and an equals button (=).

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You then multiply that product by 1.28155:

0.030739639507561									
()	mc	m+	m-	mr	C	+/-	%	÷
2 nd	x ²	x ³	x ^y	e ^x	10 ^x	7	8	9	×
$\frac{1}{x}$	$\sqrt[2]{x}$	$\sqrt[3]{x}$	$\sqrt[y]{x}$	ln	log ₁₀	4	5	6	-
x!	sin	cos	tan	e	EE	1	2	3	+
Rad	sinh	cosh	tanh	π	Rand	0	.		=

Here's where it might get tricky. You input that product into what's called the Exponential Function. That is, you are raising e to the power of that product:

1.031216980770709									
(	)	mc	m+	m-	mr	C	+/-	%	÷
2 nd	x ²	x ³	x ^y	e ^x	10 ^x	7	8	9	×
$\frac{1}{x}$	$\sqrt[2]{x}$	$\sqrt[3]{x}$	$\sqrt[y]{x}$	ln	log ₁₀	4	5	6	-
x!	sin	cos	tan	e	EE	1	2	3	+
Rad	sinh	cosh	tanh	π	Rand	0	.		=

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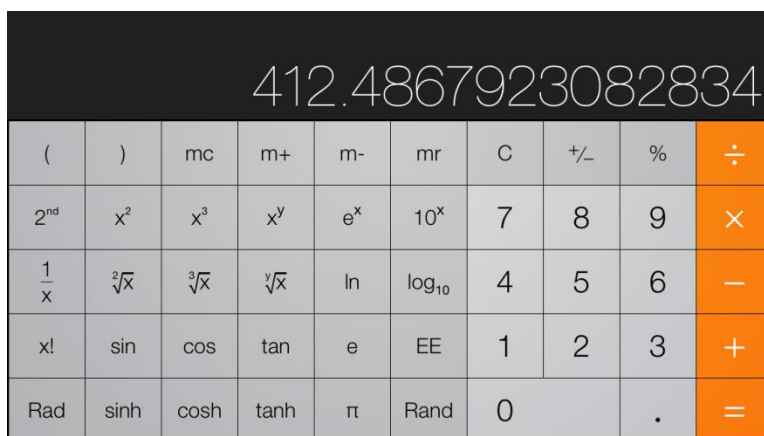
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Last, you multiply that result by the current price of the ETF (or whatever asset you might be trading, such as a stock or an index):



412.4867923082834									
(	)	mc	m+	m-	mr	C	+/-	%	÷
2 nd	x ²	x ³	x ^y	e ^x	10 ^x	7	8	9	×
1/x	\sqrt{x}	$\sqrt[3]{x}$	$\sqrt[x]{y}$	ln	log ₁₀	4	5	6	-
x!	sin	cos	tan	e	EE	1	2	3	+
Rad	sinh	cosh	tanh	π	Rand	0	.		=

Rounded to two decimals, that is 412.49.

Realize it's much easier if use a spreadsheet. And it's *even easier* if you have software that performs this calculation for you! The point is, you can do this on your phone if you choose. You don't need to buy another thing. [If you don't have a smart phone, just follow the steps using a scientific calculator.]

So that's Step 1, converting the probability factor into an asset price, in this case 412.49. The fact that we now know that the index has a 90% chance of finishing below 412.49 leads us to Step 2, which is to select our option strategy. All we need to do now is select a strategy that will be profitable as long as the index remains below 412.49.

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The simplest strategy that would accomplish this is to sell a 415 call, which is *more* than 1.28155 standard deviations away from 400. Because 415 is further away from 400, selling a 415 call would have an *even higher* probability of profit than 90%! Because it's selling a call, however, it also means that, theoretically, you'd be subject to unlimited risk.



A far safer strategy would be to sell a 415 call and simultaneously buy a 425 call (otherwise known as the 415/425 call credit spread).

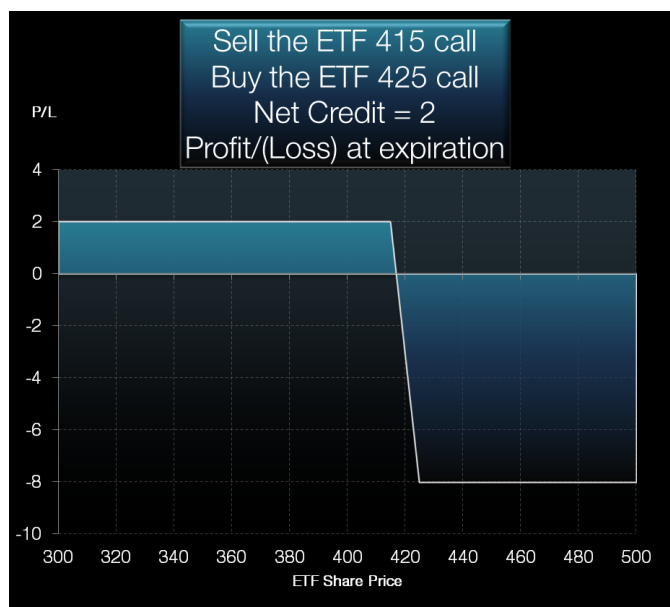
Although we did not cover credit spreads in the What Are Options - Basic course, they are quite simple. You simultaneously sell one option and you buy another. The option you sell is more expensive than the option you buy.

You can implement call credit spreads and put credit spreads. You can even do both at the same time! These types of spreads are one of our favorite options strategies.

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When selling the 415/425 call credit spread, your breakeven is still above 415, so the odds of making money are better than 90% and your risk is limited.



The question that you need to ask here, however, is the reward potential sufficient to offset the risk. Even though that risk is limited, it could still be substantial.

This leads us to Step 3. If you have a trade that wins 90% of the time, your risk to reward ratio needs to be more favorable than 9 to 1.

For example, if you win 9 times out of 10 (90% of the time), and when you win, you win one and when you lose, you lose 9, Your profit after 10 trades will be zero. That's because 9 times you won 1, for a total of +9, and 1 time you lost 9, for a total of -9. You broke even.

That means that for a 90% winner, you need the profit-to-loss ratio to be better than 1 to 9. In our example, we are looking at a 10 point wide credit spread (415/425 call credit spread). Our risk potential is the difference between the strike prices minus the credit received.

Our reward potential is the credit received. We now need to figure out just how big that credit needs to be, in order to justify implementing a position. I'm going to show you a shortcut that you can use for most credit spreads.

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Realize that this shortcut has a huge margin of safety built in. You may not need to get a credit as large as this. We're showing it to you so you can spot and find trades without a computer. If you have a computer, you can do more sophisticated modeling and find trades with smaller credits. With that in mind, here is the shortcut formula:

$$\text{Minimum credit} > \text{Difference in strike prices} \times \text{probability of loss}$$

In our example, the difference in strike prices is 10 points, the probability of profit is some number greater than 90%, so the probability of loss is equal to some number less than 10%. We'll just use 10% for now. Simply multiply 10 times 10%. That is equal to 1. That's how big our credit needs to be just to break even. Therefore, to earn a profit, we need the credit to be some number bigger than 1. That's it.

In this hypothetical example, the net credit is 2, which is much higher than required. So this trade meets our guidelines. Realize that the market does not provide guideline-meeting trades all the time!

That's *Step 3*.

Let's review everything we've determined via Steps 1, 2 & 3. We wanted to implement a limited risk trade with a 90% chance of winning. The trade is: Sell the 415 call and buy the 425 call for a net credit of 1 or better. That's what we've got -- a 90% winner whose risk and reward potential are properly balanced so that we *should* make money.

This is what I mean by keeping it simple! The professional option trader uses volatility to determine his objective and then finds an option strategy that meets that objective. Above all, they go about this process with the goal of keeping things as simple as possible. By doing nothing more than following this simple 3-Step Process, you will automatically put your expected odds of winning at 90%!

For more details on how this simple systematic approach works, please review the video and accompanying guide.

If you'd like a more comprehensive discussion of probability and its application to the financial markets, check out our course, *The Casino Secret to Profitable Options Trading*.

If you'd like to investigate software that searches for trades, finds them, and calculates probability automatically, you'll want to investigate our software: *ODDS OptionApps*. There is no obligation.

Please read page 11 for important disclosure information.

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